



Sonora Branch No. 136

Branch Executive Committee Meeting April 8, 2014 Minutes

In Attendance:

BEC Board Members: Little Sir Jim Johnson, Secretary Dale Decker, Asst Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille and Treasurer Frank Taylor
Note: Blair Abbott was present but volunteered to work at the front table along with Bill Dunlavy.

Not Present: Big Sir John Bristow

Directors: Bob Gelber, Bert Maxwell, Maurice Rollins, Angelo Costanza and Mariano Garces

Not Present: Jake Parsons

Committee Chairmen: Attendance/Membership Angelo Costanza, Chaplin Paul Bullman, Honorary Life Membership Al Limon, RV Travel Jim Botto, Sir Item Sales Cecil Steen, Travel Rich Lundin, Pinochle Bob Morrison, and Bulletin Jerry Bellefeuille, House Jerry Erath

Not Present: Luncheon Tickets Neil Williams (inactive status), Luncheon Rick Bacon and Bowling Bert Abreo

Past Big SIRs: Al Limon, Don Banchemo, Baci Frecceri and Phil VanSwoll
Note: Bill Dunlavy was present but volunteered to work at the front table along with Blair Abbott.

Little Sir Jim Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

A Roll Call of Officers and Directors in attendance was made. A quorum was present.

Secretary - Secretary Dale Decker presented the minutes which were previously distributed to the BEC for the March 11, 2014 Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Angelo Costanza and seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Treasurer - Treasurer Frank Taylor presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2014 which showed we started the month with a checking account balance of \$4,008.51, ended the month with a checking account balance of \$4,577.89 and had \$200 cash on hand.

Treasurer Frank Taylor pointed out that the General Fund Receipts included \$810.00 in contributions and luncheon receipts for 161 meals (@\$2.00/meal) for \$322. Also that the Custodial Fund Receipts were \$1,804.00 and included \$160.00 from the Ladies Day Luncheon ticket sales. Additionally he covered supporting details of the General Fund Disbursements of \$703.10 and pointed out that to

date he had received 180 contributions which is approximately 82%. Custodial Fund Disbursements in the amount of \$1,636.52 (161 lunches and 3 badges).

A question was raised as to why \$49.14 for Sierra Printing was shown under the General Fund Disbursements since we are using Pac N Copy for our printing. Frank said he believed he had just listed Sierra Printing out of habit and would go back and review his report.

Note: Frank Taylor reviewed the receipts and found that the \$49.14 was for postage stamps used by Pac N Copy for mailing the March bulletins.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Bert Maxwell and seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Little SIR - Little SIR Jim Johnson reported that we are all set for the Ladies Day Luncheon and discussed the process for members buying tickets and the luncheon today. He also said he would be working on setting up the table reservations and would be sending that information out.

Little Sir talked about having a couple of tables of prizes for the drawing and mentioned an item that Sir Ron Long had made and donated to the branch. He also mentioned that if anyone would like to donate something, i.e., a bottle of wine, etc., to let him or any of the three committee members know.

Jim also pointed out that ticket sales for the Ladies Day Luncheon would be cut off two weeks from today.

He also said our speaker today was Justin Kroeze, manager of the Moccasin Creek Fish Hatchery and that if you had not been out there it is certainly worth the trip.

A motion was requested to approve Little Sir Jim Johnson's report. Blair Abbot made said motion which was seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille. The motion was approved by the BEC.

Attendance/Membership - Attendance & Membership Chairman Angelo Costanza presented the April 2014 monthly report which was previously distributed to the BEC. Angelo pointed out that we have two members requesting to be placed on the inactive list: Don Grover and Val Schooley. Additionally, Jere Calef who has been on the inactive list for over one year would like to remain on inactive for a while longer. Jere is 93 years old and has been in the Sirs organization for 22 years. He is working to recover from some health problems. Jere will need an extension of 12 more months since the BEC had voted last year to drop members that were inactive more the one year.

Also, for today we have four new members to be installed: Mike LaFrance, Steve Hagel, Tom Jamieson and Don Watson.

Current membership is 221 and we will be at 225 after the luncheon and installation ceremony. There were 161 members attending last month's luncheon which is 73% - excused was 55% (33 out of 60 members not attending called in).

A motion was made by Maurice Rollins and seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille to approve the two members being added to the inactive list, to extend Jere Calef's inactive status for twelve more months, and to accept the Attendance & Membership Report. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Bulletin/Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille - the bulletin got out without problems, however, there was one issue that came up: when Jerry logged onto Sonorasirs he got into the Host Monster page which is the server for us and another branch. In checking out this issue, which lasted half a day, the person running the site could not figure out why it happen. Jerry noted that if happens again to any of us we should let him know.

Phil VanSwoll asked Jerry how much we pay for the website. Jerry said it was \$9.95 per year for the domain name and that the SIRs organization pays for the server.

Little Sir Jim Johnson brought up that in the bulletin this month we have a Help Wanted section based on Al Limon suggestion last month (board meeting) that we should have backups for our key positions. A very key position is a backup for the internet in which Danny Laureta said later that he would do.

Chaplin - Paul Bullman reported that John Bristow still needs to have hip replacement surgery and that would happen in about 3 months and that Rich Rinaldi needed to have his carotid artery cleaned out. It was brought up that Rich had completed this procedure and was back to bowling yesterday (Monday) in the SIRs League.

Paul then mentioned that Bill Burnes wife Marlene was recovering from back surgery and that she was doing well.

Little Sir then asked Paul if he would think of someone that could be an assistant chaplain so we could have a backup for him.

Activity Reports:

Bowling - Bert Abreo was not present, however, Don Banchemo said that the league had finished yesterday (Monday) and that his team had won. It was mentioned that Dave Rossi had bowled a 300 game and that to our knowledge that was the first perfect game in our SIRs league. Also, it was pointed out by Don that Gerry Davis on Don's team had bowled a 288 - probably the highest game he has ever bowled.

Golf - Danny Laureta reported that he's been averaging 32 players in the golf tournaments and then mentioned that he had used Stableford scoring system where the highest points win; par gets a zero, get a birdie and you get 2 points and an eagle gets you 4 points.

Danny said that for the first time he's looking at taking the golf group to a new location - maybe twice a - year and going to Pine Mountain Lake, etc. He's gotten positive feedback from the golfers

He also said that he's been looking on the websites of the other branches and most of them have a "golf policy" and we didn't have one so Danny was working on putting one together.

Little Sir Jim Johnson said he had to leave and go out front and was turning the remainder of the board meeting over to SecDeck.

House - Jerry Erath reported that he had arranged special chairs which resulted in a lot of laughter and side comments.

Pinchhole - Bob Morrison reported that for March he was getting an average of 13 players and that he was no longer meeting here at the Elks Lodge and has been moved to the Moose Lodge.

RV Travel - Jim Botto reported that last month was their first outing and they had gone to Jackson Rancheria in Jackson and that they had had a great time. He said Mo Molinari had organized a Bocce Ball tournament and naturally he had won - it was played on grass as there was no Bocce Ball court there.

In April the RV Club is headed out to Gold Strike RV Park in San Andreas, a smaller park but Jim said he would have 15 rigs there. The RV's actually park in a big circle and that there's a clubhouse in the middle.

Jim said he would be talking to LaFrance and Watson who are being installed today and see if he can recruit them into the RV group. Also, Bill Guenza who was installed last month has a popup trailer and Jim was trying to get him in the club also.

SIR Merchandise - Cecil Steen reported that sales were still SLOW!

Travel - Rich Lundin reported that he had conducted a poll last meeting (March luncheon) to determine the level of interest for several trips and the winner was Branson, second place was Costa Rica and the third place was the rock hounding and gambling.

Rich said that he was working with the other branches to put together a unified strategy and putting it on the website and asking "okay, who's really interested?" (Note: Rich said all this information should be up on all the websites within the next two weeks).

And, for today, Jim is putting a flyer on each luncheon table (covering the top two trips) for members to add their names to stating that they 'are interested in going' - not a commitment, just telling Rich how many are really interested.

Rich said he had been asked to lead a trip to Scotland in August and so he would be actively pounding the pavement to get people to go to Scotland.

Rich expects by the next meeting, when the ladies are here, to have some real prices for the three trips mentioned above.

Old Business - None

New Business -

Bert Maxwell brought up the desire to bring back 'jokes' to our luncheons. Bert mentioned the Red Skelton and Bob Hope could tell good 'clean' jokes and we should be able to do the same. He suggested that we do this during the table calling and that only clean, non sexist non derogatory, etc jokes be allowed. We would only allow three jokes and then go by a 'vote' with the members present as to which joke was the best (winner). The table with the person having the best joke would be 'awarded' with a 'dancing rooster' to display for the remainder of the luncheon. Bert then said he would take care of the rooster and bring it to each of the luncheons.

A motion was made by Bert Maxwell and seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille to re-instate joke telling per the above. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Phil VanSwoll asked who was going to be the Joke Czar and it was mentioned that Bert should be.

Note: In a follow up discussion with Little Sir Jim Johnson and with Bert Maxwell it was decided that we would put this in the June bulletin, start the joke telling in July (3 jokes maximum) and that

Bert Maxwell had agreed to be the Joke Czar and responsible to ensure only clean jokes would be told.

SecDeck brought up a suggestion that we offer a 10% discount on SIRs merchandise in the month of June only. He asked if there was any opposition to this and if Treasurer Frank Taylor would support this proposal.

Frank Taylor said he was okay with this and didn't see any problems.

A motion was made by Angelo Costanza and seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille to have a 10% off sale of SIRs merchandise in June. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 am.

The next Branch BEC Board Meeting will be on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 10:00 am (the day before the Ladies Day Luncheon).

Minutes prepared by Branch 136 Secretary
Dale Decker
April 11, 2014.

Copy to: Jimmie Johnson, Regional Director
Jerry Morrow, Area Governor