



CORRECTED 2/24/14

Sonora Branch No. 136

Branch Executive Committee Meeting February 11, 2014 Minutes

In Attendance:

BEC Board Members: Big Sir John Bristow, Little Sir Jim Johnson, Secretary Dale Decker, Asst Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille Treasurer Frank Taylor and Asst Treasurer Blair Abbott

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

Committee Chairmen: Attendance/Membership Angelo Costanza, Bowling Bert Abreo, Chaplin Paul Bullman, Golf Danny Laureta, Honorary Life Membership Al Limon, Luncheon Rick Bacon, RV Travel Jim Botto, Sir Item Sales Cecil Steen, Travel Rich Lundin, Pinochle Bob Morrison, and Bulletin Jerry Bellefeuille

Not Present: Fishing Jim Nuzum, Luncheon Tickets Neil Williams (inactive status) and House Jerry Earth.

Past Big SIRs: Al Limon, Don Nilan, Don Banchemo, Baci Frecceri and Phil VanSwoll.

Big Sir John Bristow called the meeting to order at 10:01 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 January 14, 2014 Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Angelo Costanza. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Treasurer - Treasurer Frank Taylor presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2014 which showed a monthly ending checking account balance of \$2,762.29 and cash on hand of \$200. Treasurer Frank Taylor pointed out that the General Fund Receipts included \$1,796.00 in contributions and luncheon receipts for 166 meals (@\$2.00/meal) for \$322.00. Additionally he covered supporting details of the General Fund Disbursements of \$813.90 and pointed out that to date he had received 89 contributions, full and partial (i.e., \$25 and \$20). A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jerry Bellefeuille and seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Little SIR - Little SIR Jim Johnson reported that the guest speaker for today would be Jim Costello and he would be telling us about the 6,000 mile trip the he and his wife Pam took in their 1932 Model A sedan in June of 2012. He said Jim's Model A would be parked out front so we could see it and ask him any questions.

Jim then mentioned that our speaker next month would be Todd Simonson from Edward Jones and he would be telling us if we're going to make any money this year. Additionally, Jim said that he had guest speakers lined up through July and that we were in good shape.

Jim also said that he had formed an activities committee to address the three (3) special events we have each year (Ladies Day Luncheon, Annual Picnic and the Christmas Luncheon) as these were just too big of a job for one person to handle. The committee consists of Maurice Rollins, Mariano Garces, Bob Gelber and himself; they would be working to finalize a plan for the Ladies Day Luncheon and a prepare draft for the picnic in August.

A motion to approve Little Sirs Report was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Maurice Rollins. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Attendance/Membership - Attendance & Membership Chairman Angelo Costanza presented the February 2014 monthly report which was previously distributed to the BEC. Angelo pointed out that we had 78% attendance and our last (January) luncheon, 48 members did not attend and 38% were excused. Additionally, our total attendance at the luncheon was 169 members and our current membership is 216.

Angelo said that he had three applications; Gary Troedson (sponsor Ken Bartlett), Steve Gaither and Bill Guenza (both sponsored by Bill Lobdell) for approval today and that we had two applicants to be installed; Mike Wright #269 and Otto Bulich #238.

Angelo also mentioned that we have one member; Darrell deNeveu, that had sent Big Sir John Bristow his letter of resignation and thus had been dropped from our membership.

A joint motion was made by Maurice Rollins and seconded by Jerry Bellefeuille to approve the new member applications and the Attendance & Membership Report. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Bulletin/Internet - Bulletin and Internet Chairman Jerry Bellefeuille reported that he had sent e-mails to all members that are receiving the bulletin by mail and also had an e-mail address asking them if they would consider receiving the bulletin electronically. He stated that five (5) members agreed to switch over and not receive them by mail.

Jerry also said that he discovered two (2) members on the list that had incorrect e-mail addresses and that he had notified Angelo Costanza (Attendance & Membership Chairman).

A general discussion then commenced among parties in attendance on how we could get more members to 'use their computers', i.e., computer training, classes, etc. but no final solution was apparent.

Big Sir John Bristow mentioned that one member he had talked to said that he only checked his e-mail once a week or so - when his granddaughter came over because she knew how to run the computer.

A point was made by Secretary Dale Decker that a special note was being added to future bulletins emphasizing the need for members to receive the bulletin electronically or via our internet site in order to help us reduce our operating costs.

A motion to approve Bulletin/Internet Report was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Maurice Rollins. The motion was passed by the BEC

Chaplin - Chaplin Paul Bullman asked if there was any news and Al Limon said that Stu Galka's wife Sherry was ill and undergoing a battery of testing and he was quite concerned. Also it was mentioned that Leonard Ruoff's wife Marge is very ill and the outlook did not look promising.

Of a disturbing note Paul mentioned that both Dusty Rhodes and his wife had fallen and they both ended up in the emergency room.

Activity Reports:

Bowling - Bert Abreo reported that on February 4 he attended the SIRs State Bowling Committee in Vallejo (with one of the largest number of branch bowling chairmen present [approx 28]).

Many items were discussed and among them was the SIRs Bowling Tournament Average Database which was eliminated; due primarily to the amount of work to prepare and maintain it. There was also a discussion about those who only bowl 'scratch' events, those who only bowl 'doubles', etc.

Sonora Branch has been asked to host the 2015 State Tournament which is scheduled for May 4-5-6 at the Black Oak Casino and is subject to State SIRs approval.

Bert said that our other tournament will be in August and we will have for the first time teams, doubles and singles this year.

Also, all branch bowling tournament managers were reminded to adhere to SIRs State Bowling Guidelines. And, it was also mentioned that some tournament managers maintain a separate checking account for tournaments as it makes audits easier.

Note: Bert stated that he works through Treasurer Frank Taylor who maintains the checking account and he does not have a separate account; he will discuss this further with Frank later. He also mentioned that State was now getting involved and will be checking all the events books - three (3) different branch tournaments and to be announced.

Travel - Rich Lundin reported that he had disappointing news: the Costa Rica trip came in at twice the expected amount and he recommended that we don't do it. He will look into again next year.

Rich also said that he was working with Paul Halek, Branch 172 and Wil Reich, Branch 77 to pool their resources and put all travel information together on the internet. This would put 14 State travel announcements together along with 6 local branch ones into a single site.

It was pointed out by Jerry Bellefeuille that Rich's phone number in the bulletin was not correct. Rich said yes and informed all present that his correct phone number is **586-5632**.

RV Travel - Jim Botto reported that January was very quiet but that the RV Travel group will be holding a general meeting on February 17, 2014 at the Pine Tress Restaurant to finalize their RV plans for the year.

He also said that they now have three (3) new members: Steve Gaither #107, Bill Guenza #114 and Otto Bulich #238.

Golf - Danny Laureta reported that he had 32 golfers in the January tournament and that he had put the Area 22 (Modesto) and Branch 136/77 Golf schedules on the SonoraSirs.Org website. When asked why Area 22 Danny replied that there are many golfers in Modesto that come up here to play golf and vice versa.

Secretary Note: I reviewed Danny's golf schedule on our website and found it to be very professional and easy to read. Nice Job Danny and Jerry! Also, Danny is now streamlining his monthly input for the bulletin which will open up space to include more items!

Fishing - Jim Nuzum not present - no report

Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille reported that he had updated our SonoraSir.Org website to include the golf schedules for Branch 136/77 and Area 22 (Modesto).

SIR Merchandise - Cecil Steen - no report, however, he received additional Rooster lapel Pins from Angelo Costanza to restock his supply.

Pinchhole - Bob Morrison reported that he was getting between 12 and 15 players over the four (4) Mondays with an average of 14. Also, that he did not enlist any new players despite the Pinchhole demonstration he held during the January luncheon social hour.

House - Jerry Erath not present - no report

Old Business - None

New Business - Secretary Dale Decker presented a proposal changing the size and format of our monthly bulletin. He distributed ten (10) copies of the proposal printed on 11" X 17" (ledger) paper utilizing three (3) columns per page with the usual and some new content headings. Previously Dale had distributed the proposed format in PDF format along with a cost analysis to all officers, directors and activity chairmen via e-mail. The new format and size provides up to 57% more space and he said that we can reduce the printers cost by supplying a formatted bulletin as a PDF file.

After significant discussion in regards to a multitude of pros and cons relative to the bulletin itself a ~~motion was made by Al Limon and seconded by Mariano Garces to implement the new bulletin format. The motion was passed by the BEC.~~ consensus was reached after Al Limon suggested that we 'just do it'. Also, that Secretary Dale Decker would assume the role of Bulletin Editor and that Jerry Bellefeuille would send an e-mail out telling all parties involved to send their monthly input to Dale.

A second new business item was brought up by Treasurer Frank Taylor in that we needed to remove Phil VanSwoll (previous Big Sir) as a check signatory and add Little Sir Jim Johnson and Secretary Dale Decker to join with the current signatories Big Sir John Bristow and Treasurer Frank Taylor.

A motion was made to this affect by Jerry Bellefeuille and seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

The next Branch BEC Board Meeting will be on March 11, 2014 at 10:00 am.

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

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