



Sonora Branch No. 136

Branch Executive Committee Meeting March 10, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance:

BEC Board Members: Big Sir Jim Johnson, Little Sir Dale Decker, Asst. Treasurer Eddie Toews, Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille

Not present: Treasurer Frank Taylor, Asst. Secretary Angelo Costanza

Directors: Danny Laureta, Jake Parsons, Mariano Garces, Dick Aberle

Not Present: Rex Page and Ray Bailey

Committee Chairmen: Bowling Bert Abreo, Chaplin Paul Bullman, Fishing Jim Nuzum, Golf Danny Laureta, Luncheon Rick Bacon, RV Travel and Bulletin Jim Botto, Pinochle Bob Morrison, Internet Jerry Bellefeuille

Not Present: Membership Angelo Costanza, Public Relations Ray Bailey, SIR Item Sales Cecil Steen, Travel Rich Lundin, House Jerry Erath, Photography Steve Belochi

Past Big SIRs: Al Limon, Jim Nuzum, Bill Dunlavy, John Bristow

Area Governor: Not Present

Visitors: Paul Padavana

Big Sir Jim Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Jerry Bellefeuille informed the Board that a quorum was present.

Jim Johnson made an addendum to the agenda. He added an item under old business. We need to send a refund check for overpayment for the directory.

Jim Johnson asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda. A motion was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Dick Aberle. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Jim Johnson opened a discussion about luncheon meeting attendance. 155 to 160 members attend our luncheons lately. We have 216 active members. This seems to be down about 10 to 20 members. Jim Johnson said some meetings were running long but Twain Harte's meetings run long and they don't have an attendance problem. Bill Dunlavy suggested lowering the luncheon cost. Jim Johnson said that the current \$13 lets us break even. Jim Johnson said that we haven't had any new member applications for a couple of months, which is unusual for us.

Jim Johnson reported that he and Dale Decker along with Jerry Morrow will meet with the other local Big and Little SIRs to exchange ideas about what is working and what isn't. Bert Abreo asked Jim Johnson to ask the Twain Harte Big Sir to promote the bowling league. Jim said it was on his agenda. Jim will ask them if Bert can come to one of their meetings to pitch the bowling league.

Jim Botto said he noticed in SIR Happenings that some branches had a woodworking group and he thought that it was a good idea. Several members were mentioned that were involved in woodworking.

Danny Laureta said that there were about 32 golfers each month.

Jim Johnson reported that Elks are considering waiving the initiation fee for one month of the year to attract new members.

Jim also reported that Baci's memorial was well attended.

Little SIR - Little SIR Dale Decker reported that new Member Directories were available and that each one has the members name on it. There are 3 sponsors to the Directory this year with ads on the back cover.

Ladies Day tickets go on sale today.

The April guest speaker will be Jeff Jardine a columnist for the Modesto Bee.

Secretary - Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille presented the revised minutes, which were previously distributed, to the BEC for the February Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dale Decker and seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Treasurer – Assistant Treasurer Eddie Toews presented the Treasurer's Report for February which showed a monthly ending checking account balance of \$7777.20 and cash on hand of \$200. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jerry Bellefeuille and seconded by Dick Aberle. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Jim Johnson reported that he sent out invoices to the members who hadn't paid their dues as of last month. He also indicated that the names of those that haven't paid their dues will be included in the April Bulletin as a further reminder. He said he would announce it at today's luncheon meeting. There were no objections.

Attendance/Membership - Attendance & Membership Chairman Angelo Costanza was absent so Dale Decker presented the February report, which was previously distributed, to the BEC. Dale reported that we lost 6 members. 4 passed away, one transferred to Branch 77 and one resigned. The resignation was from Steve Happel, #327, and he was not included in the previously distributed report.

An idea was presented that we send notices by mail or email to those who don't call in when they miss a meeting.

A motion was made by Eddie Toews and seconded by Mariano Garces to approve the Attendance & Membership Report. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Bulletin - Jim Botto reported he was out of town on an emergency and that Dale Decker took over the bulletin for him and that he appreciates it. He asked for reports to in before the April 5th deadline, preferably April 1st.

Activity Reports:

Golf - Danny Lauretta reported that Paul Padavana will join the golf group as a new assistant chairman. Danny has asked the Arnold branch to join our golf group. There are now 2 tournaments a month. The first Tuesday is a skins game. On the last Tuesday of the month is the regular tournament. There are 2 members from Twain Harte Branch 172 and about 12 from Branch 77 that join our branch for golf.

Old Business – Jim Johnson reported that Heuton Memorial Chapel over paid for their 1/3 share of the new Directory. They paid \$200 up front before we got the final bill. The final bill was 155.40 per sponsor, so we owe Heuton \$44.60. A motion was made to pay the refund by Mariano Garces and seconded by Danny Laureta. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Bowling - Bert Abreo reported Sonora SIR will host the SIR State Tournament May 4th, 5th and 6th of this year. The Carson City Tournament is scheduled for April 13-16 at Gold Dust West in Carson City. Sonora SIRS Branch 136 is also hosting a branch tournament which is open to any SIRS member and guest and this tournament is scheduled for July 26-27-28 and will be a team-doubles/singles and all events format.

Hotel accommodations were arranged for out of area guests at a rate of \$99.00 per night for the May tournament and \$109.00 per night for the July tournament. The latter one is higher due to seasonal changes.

Senior Member Awards - John Bristow reported that he needs updated rosters to keep up on the Senior Member Awards. Jerry Bellefeuille got an updated roster from Dale Decker and gave it to John later in the meeting. Jerry also asked Dale to provide John with a roster that includes notations for seniors birthdays. John was also reminded there is an updated roster on the Branch 136 web site.

Chaplin - Chaplin Paul Bullman reported that he called on Donald Utt and Baci before their passing. Jerry Erath was mentioned as having an operation for carotid artery repair.

Fishing - Jim Nuzum reported that he has decided to put a trip together, with Branch 77, to the delta to fish for stripers and sturgeon. A midweek trip is being considered. A guided trip is what is being considered.

Jim also reported that he is a member of the Tuolumne County Historic Preservation Committee and that they need new members. He asked to inform our members at the general meeting about this shortage. Jim Johnson asked for objections, nobody objected so Jim approved his request.

Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille reported that the website was running smoothly. We had only one complaint last month and that member figured out he was not waiting long enough for the bulletin to appear.

Jim Johnson announced that there will be another luncheon drawing. Last month we gave \$30, \$25 & \$20 for winning. This month we will give \$30, \$25, \$20 & \$10. We made \$72 last month.

Pinochle - Bob Morrison reported that they had 12 to 18 members playing Pinochle last month.

RV Travel - Jim Botto reported that in March their group will go to the Jackson Rancheria. They have 18 rigs going. They will have a corned beef and cabbage meal as well as a visit to Theresa's Restaurant in Jackson. Also in April the RV Group will go to Pismo Beach. There the RV Park is right on the beach and they have the clubhouse for 4 full days. A member from the Marin County Branch 47 will join them.

House - Jerry Erath was not present.

SIR Merchandise - Cecil Steen was not present.

Travel - Rich Lundin was not present.

New Business – no new business

The next Branch BEC Board Meeting will be on April 14th at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Minutes prepared by Branch 136 Secretary
Jerry Bellefeuille March 11th 2015

Copy to: Russ Salazar, Regional Director
Jerry Morrow, Area Governor