



Sonora Branch No. 136

## Branch Executive Committee Meeting November 11, 2014 Minutes

### In Attendance:

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

**Not Present:** Asst Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille

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

**Not Present:** Maurice Rollins

**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, Pinochle Bob Morrison, House Jerry Erath, Travel Rich Lundin and Bulletin Dale Decker.

**Not Present:** Internet Jerry Bellefeuille

**Past Big SIRs:** Al Limon, Bill Dunlavy and Phil VanSwoll

**Visitors:** Rex Page

Big Sir John Bristow called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

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

**Secretary** - Secretary Dale Decker asked if there were any updates, corrections or deletions to the minutes which were previously distributed on October 15th to the BEC for the October 14, 2014 Meeting. No updates, corrections or deletions were presented. 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 November 2014 and stated we started the month with a checking account balance of \$4,100.00 which is more than we ever had before at this time of the year and have \$200 cash on hand.

Frank said our final member had paid his dues (great cheers in room). Expenses were \$577.05; \$280 just to rent the hall, \$48.60 in postage (for mailing our bulletins), \$57.95 printing and supplies (for our bulletin) - so it takes quite a bit of money to run this branch.

We had 156 meals served last month (6 were for new member sponsors, the Chaplain and the speaker).

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Angelo Costanza and seconded by Jake Parsons. The motion was passed by the BEC.

**Little SIR** - Jim Johnson said that we only had a few Christmas luncheon tickets left (limit this year is 200 tickets) and that he would be doing reservations again for tables.

We're going to have a drawing like we did for the Ladies Day luncheon so if you have any crafts or things like that to donate let Mariano know. Dino is ready to serve New York steaks and salmon and he would be providing vegetarian meals if needed we just have to mark that on the 'sheet' and Jim would let Dino know.

At the Christmas party we're going to give out two (2) awards: Rooster Booster of the year (for the SIR member that brings in the most new members) and SIR of the year (for the member that has gone above and beyond in contributing to our branch).

Installation of new officers today (by Jerry (Morrow, Area Governor) at the beginning of the meeting and our Veterans Day Recognition day is finally here - we're going to start the luncheon meeting at 11:45 am today because we have a big program.

**Attendance/Membership** - Attendance & Membership Chairman Angelo Costanza presented the November 2014 monthly report which was previously distributed to the BEC.

Angelo reported that we have received two (2) applications for membership: Chuck Simons, sponsor Dale Decker and Manny Brager, sponsor Mike Bowers. Manny won't be back from a trip until April so we'll install him then. Simons is looking to be installed in January.

We haven't had any new requests for inactive status and we have lost or dropped any members .

We currently have 219 active members and 6 inactive. We had 146 members attending last months luncheon (67%) with a 12 month average of 72%.

We have two (2) members that have their attendance in jeopardy but we have taken care of one of those (Dominic DiFabio) (Chris Parreira) but he wasn't able to get in touch with the other. It was noted that Chris was believed to be in Arizona where he spends a couple of months each year.

Little Sir Jim Johnson mentioned that in talking with our area governor that State, Inc was looking at making some changes to the attendance requirements and hopefully this would be in place by the end of the year.

A motion was made by Mariano Garces to approve the two new applications and Angelo's membership report. The motion was seconded by Jake Parsons and the motion was passed by the BEC.

**Chaplin** - Paul Bullman reported that Archie Marston (who had a health problem at last month's luncheon was doing good now. Also, that Sandy Grover was going to the hospital Friday for a lung biopsy and that Frank Taylor (our treasurer) was going to have back surgery on 11/20.

## **New Business**

**BEC Meetings** - Little Sir Jim Johnson brought up that last August we did not have a BEC meeting because normally it is sparsely attended due to the special event work. Jim proposed that we do this again with the understanding that if something comes up we would pull the BEC members to the side for any necessary action required.

Al Limon brought up that since any of our members are allowed to attend our BEC meeting(s) that we needed to notify the membership if we will not have a meeting.

SecDeck mentioned that he would put this notice in our December bulletin if we decide not to have a BEC meeting in December.

A motion was made by Angelo Costanza to not have a BEC meeting in December and was seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC.

**Note to our Regional Director and Area Governor** - Branch #136 will not have a BEC meeting in the month of December. If such a meeting is required it will be held by 'stepping aside' the necessary board members during the Christmas Luncheon (after having announced it to the members in attendance) and handling the issue(s) as needed. Such a meeting, if held, will be documented in a BEC Board Meeting minutes and distributed as prescribed in our by-laws. On the other hand, if no meeting is held it will be documented per Rule 175 (Article 4 - Branch Secretary).

**Golf Policy** - Danny Laureta reported that Branch #77 and #136 never had a golf policy in the works. He said he talked with the golf chairman in Modesto and Jackson and asked for their input and they said basically to CYA have a golf policy and that if you bring a guest that person is not included in the prize money and the reason is that this provides an incentive for the guest to join SIRs.

Other than that the golf policy (previously distributed to the BEC) covers the overall aspects of our SIR 'golf league' and the requirements for the members to remain in 'good standing' if they wish to bring a guest. It also covers basic golf and tournament rules.

It was also clarified that a member of another SIR branch can also play in a branch 136 golf outing. Danny said he also extended an invitation to the Arnold SIR group to join branch 136 in any of its golf activities.

It was also pointed out by Danny that any SIR member who desires to participate in any State SIR golf activity must comply with the State SIR rules and regulations.

A motion was made by Mariano Garces to adopt the Golf Policy as presented and was seconded by Jake Parsons. The motion was passed by the BEC.

NOTE: It was mentioned by Little Sir Jim Johnson as a reminder that the BEC needed to see the 2015 schedules for the bowling league, golf league and RV Club so they could be approved in order to ensure they had coverage under our SIR insurance policies.

**Fishing** - SecDec reported that since we do not have a fishing chairman he had entered into a discussion with branch #77 Big Sir elect (Larry Leatham) to advertise in our bulletin their fishing events. A e-mail in regards to this had been sent to Bert Kronnick (Branch #77 fishing chairman) but no response had been received yet since Bert was on vacation. SecDec will follow up on this.

Branch #77 also has some other activities, Biking, Hiking, etc. that we should consider looking into 'joining' (Mariano Garces said he was already included in the hiking adventures).

## **Activity Reports:**

**Bowling** - Bert Abreo reported that we were almost halfway through the bowling league season and that we had lost Don Lloyd because he was moved to the Rocklin area and also that Gil Voecks would be moving after the first of the year. He pointed out that we really needed some more bowlers and that we discussed having spouses bowling with us and that we needed to do something to keep our league viable. There are now three (3) vacancies within the league.

Bert mentioned that he had sent an article to SIR Happenings in regards to Dave Rossi's 800 series during this year's local association annual tournament. We expect to see it in the next issue.

The next Branch tournament is in Concord on November 18 and 19 and is the last one for the 2014 year. 2015's first tournament will be in Stockton on January 20.

**House** - Jerry Erath reported everything was ready to go for today's luncheon and special Veterans Day Recognition event.

**Internet** - Jerry Bellefeuille was on a 'camping' trip on the coast so there was no report.

**Pinochle** - Bob Morrison reported that he is getting between 12 and 16 players and that they were having a great time. He also noted that he had proposed a later start time (1:00 pm rather than 12:30 pm) which was voted down and also he proposed changing from Mondays to some other day of the week which was also voted down.

**Travel** - Rich Lundin reported that a new outfit, Sierra Adventures, he was working with for an overnight trip to the Dickens Fair between Thanksgiving and Christmas was not yet certified by State SIRs (which has all their paperwork) so it's not clear if this will happen.

Also, that the three (3) branches (#77, #136 and #172) were working on a Snow Train Trip and one to Spring Training - Note: details are in Branch #136's November bulletin.

**RV Travel** - Jim Botto reported that unfortunately he was unable to join the RV group in its outing to Plymouth due to problems he had with the ECM (electronic control module) with his motor home's Allison transmission. However, he had heard that the group had a great time.

In November the RV Group was planning to go to the Garlic Festival in Gilroy, CA but it had been cancelled due to the low interest but they will be holding their annual Christmas party at Sonora Hills.

**SIR Merchandise** - Nothing to report.

**Old Business** - None

**New Business** - Some new items were covered earlier in the BEC meeting (see above).

One new item that was presented was that Jim Johnson requested approval by the BEC to spend \$55 to print Branch Membership Cards that will be issued to members in 2015 when they pay their annual dues. The card will contain the Member's name and Badge # on one side and our call-in phone number on the other side that members can use if they need to be excused from an upcoming regular luncheon.

A motion was made by Bob Gibbs to authorize the expenditure of \$55 for the membership cards. It was seconded by Blair Abbott. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

**Our next Branch BEC Board Meeting will NOT be held in December as previously reported in these minutes.**

Minutes prepared by Branch 136 Secretary  
Dale Decker  
November 12, 2014.

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