



BULLETIN

April, 2026

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, Apr. 14th

Reserve your spot(s) with:

Jerry Bellefeuille

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Or Call (209) 588-3978

Leave Your Name, Badge No. & Number of guests.

Deadline for reservations is:

Apr. 9, 2026

Menu:

Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn (substitute Green Beans), Green Salad and Sherbet

Guest Speaker:

Jerry Morrow—SIR Area Representative.



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE

Don Herzer Editor - (209) 586-3078

If you have any photos of your activity please attach them to your reports. If I do not receive your report by the deadline I will just report no activity for the month. Please send all bulletin input to Don Herzer at:

corvdon@wscppubs.net

Please Note: The executive board has decided to no longer mail hard copy Bulletins. Hard copies will be available at the monthly meetings.

The deadline for the next bulletin is:

Apr. 30, 2026



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Not too much to report this month. Our Annual Mother's Day banquet tickets are on sale now. Please see the flyer in this bulletin for details. Also, if you plan on coming, please try and bring a raffle prize. Typically, something in the \$25 range. And since it's Mother's Day something for the ladies is always a good idea. I'll miss you all at the April meeting since I'll be at the SIR Bowling tournament in Carson City. I believe there are several of our Branch 136 members going. Wish us all good luck!

Your guest speaker for April will be Jerry Morrow. Jerry is our SIR Area Representative. Jerry is hoping to give our members some insight on how to attract new members. Growing our branch is always a great goal. I hope to see all of you at the Mother's Day Banquet.

Rick Bronner



CHAPLIN'S CORNER

Steven Gregory - (209) 728-5707

discogregory@aol.com

Wishing all members a Happy and Blessed Easter! He is risen assuring eternal life to those who believe.

Steven Gregory Chaplain



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom - (209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

Well, I haven't had much to say these past few months. I didn't want to be repetitious as far as my medical condition. But I will say I feel stronger, my weight is heavier at 159 lbs., which means I have to be stronger. Getting the yards in shape and weed eaten and Blah Blah. I am on a 6 week cycle with Keytruda which is nice for me. I can make plans a little easier and side trips. 34 minutes to empty the bag at the infusion center and a little time setting things up and I'm out of there.

It's a good feeling to have some extra free time. The only real complaint I have is the Chemo memory, but that's supposed to pass with time. I call it the chemo memory because I could be talking to anyone or even myself and right in the middle of my thought or talking boom—completely forgot what the hell I was talking about. The Oncologist says it will go away eventually. The sooner the better. Well, that's it for now. Life is good, wife is good, kids are good, grand kids are good.

Mike Krom



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille (209) 588-3978

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Our Branch website is at sonorasirs.org. Here you can look at current as well as old bulletins, BEC meeting minutes and more. Please let me know if you have a new email address so I can get timely branch information to you. I hope to see you all at the next meeting. Our state sir bulletin can be viewed at <https://wearesir.com>.

Jerry Bellefeuille

[We need help to replace Jerry—see next page]



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 770-3776
lcoinlady@aol.com

The RV group is finally heading out on our first outing for 2026. We will be going to the Felton/Santa Cruz area the last week of April. We will be there for 4 nights, coming home on May 1st. Everyone is looking forward to the outing and visiting. Everyone have a safe trip.

Eddie Toews



My name is Jerry Bellefeuille, my wife and I are moving to the Boise, Idaho area. Our house is well into escrow and this should be my last meeting in April.

I currently manage several key responsibilities for our branch, including maintaining the branch website, sending all branch-wide emails, handling monthly luncheon reservations, and staffing the check-in table for our regular meetings. These are all important functions that help ensure the smooth operation of the branch. So far no one has volunteered to take over any of these tasks. To tell you the truth they are all easy to do and are fun also.

Volunteering is greatly appreciated and makes bonds and friendships that last in our lives. Try it out and see if that is not true.

Thank you for your support.

Jerry Bellefeuille



GOLF CLUB NEWS

Raul Santana - (925) 451-7351
rsantana01@yahoo.com

The first SIRS 2026 golf tournament was held at Teleli GC in Sonora on March 24th. The weather was perfect for golf. Sunny, but not too warm. 21 players were present for skins format. Unfortunately, the final results were not available in time to make the newsletter. The next tournament is scheduled for April 21st, also at Teleli GC. Hope to see more of you out on the course.

Raul Santana



CAR CLUB NEWS

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826
bronnerrick@gmail.com

Happy Motoring!
Time to get your cars cleaned and waxed. Here's a list of upcoming car shows:

14th Annual Rods to Rails. Saturday May 16th
Downtown Jamestown. 9am to 3pm.

5th Annual Cars, Cops and Coffee. Sunday May 17th
Diana White Cancer Center 8:30am to 11:30 am.

Hot Copper Car Show. Saturday June 20th
Town Square in Copperopolis. 8am to 3 pm.

Gearhead Revival car Show. Saturday June 27th.
Downtown Twain Harte. 7am to 4 pm.

I'll get more details in our May Newsletter.

Rick Bronner



MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

George Cocores - (209) 456-9814
greekbeak1@aol.com

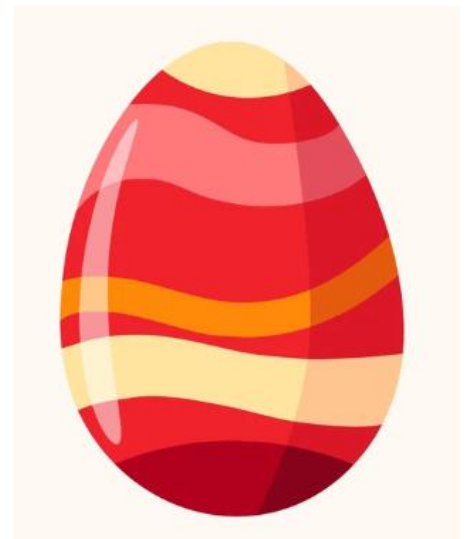
MEMBERSHIP REPORT March 2026

March Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance	75 (65%)
Excused Absences	40 (35%)
Guests	1

Current Month Membership

Active Membership February	122
Applicants Being Installed	1
Active Members Lost (Includes 1 death)	8
<u>Active Membership March</u>	<u>115</u>





FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 770-5928
simons4890@yahoo.com

[Chuck couldn't get his story straight and/or come up with the referenced picture(s), but apparently people are having luck out there]

Chuck Simons



Sonora's Fire Chief was our guest speaker at the March meeting.

The focus of his talk was on Defensible space around our homes.



Typically, 10 tables are filled at our monthly meetings. Attendees are encouraged to bring guests.



April Birthdays

Zanoni, Gene HLM	04/01
Burnes, William V. (Bill) *DSA	04/01
Bowers, Michael	04/03
Rossi, David	04/06
Wright, Michael (Mike)	04/07
Deaver, Eugene (Gene)	04/07
Avila, John	04/07
Basham, Darell	04/09
Abbott, Gerald (Blair)	04/15
Haleck, Paul	04/20
Bender, Thomas (Tom)	04/21
Warkentin, Lynn	04/21
Clawson, Tom	04/28



KAYAKING & PINOCHLE REPORT

No Reports this month

Chairman Positions now open





BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Ray Di Basilio
rdibasilio@gmail.com

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826
bronnerrick@gmail.com

Striking up Friendships



FROM RAY:

On March 24-25 our tournament schedule brought 84 bowlers to Clayton Valley Bowl for a two-day friendly competition. As you walk into CVB it seems like a step back in time, not much remodeling and in the middle of the house you see a glass enclosed smoking cubicle that is still used ... crazy.

The tournament had two handicap divisions based on entering averages for both the singles and doubles competition. Everyone had an opportunity to excel, and boy did they! In the A division, Mark Blackshere from Branch 8 Walnut Creek, bowled a high scratch game of 288. This was followed by a 278 from Raul Cienfuegos, Branch 19 Concord, and a 266 by Wilson Silva, Branch 142 San Mateo. The B division showcased Jim Lucia, Branch 136 Sonora, who bowled his second 600 series ever with a 628 for a first-place finish. Laurie Furlani, a guest from Branch 65 Napa, has only been bowling about a year, but that didn't stop her from rolling a 241 game in doubles - her highest ever! I think averages for many will be going up.

Applications for upcoming tournaments are posted on our State SIR Bowling website: [SIR BOWLING](http://www.sirbowling.com). Be sure to note group codes for discounted room rates for both Carson City in April and Reno in August. Make plans early and **be sure to use the appropriate code** when booking your room.

Carson City, NV, April 13-15 – Gold Dust West
SIR State Tournament, May 12-13 – Country Club Lanes
Placerville, CA, June 4-5 – Apex at Red Hawk
Dublin, CA, June 22-23 – Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl
Auburn, CA, July 9-10 – Foothill Bowl
Reno, NV, August 10-13 – National Bowling Stadium

See you on the lanes,

Ray Di Basilio

FROM RICK:

Congratulations to our fellow SIR Branch 136 member Bryan Sinkli-er. 5 Days prior to scheduled minor surgery Bryan toughed it out and shot a perfect 300 game at Black Oak lanes. Reportedly this was the first 300 game in almost 2 years at Black Oak. This was 140 pins over Bryans average. Quite an accomplishment. I'm proud to have Bryan as a team member on both our Thursday night league where he shot the 300 and our Monday SIR's league. Speaking of our SIR's league I'm happy to report our Team the "SIR THING" of Bryan, Raul Santana and myself have secured 1st place this year. It was a close battle with the team Friends with Debra and Derle Davis, Michael Wright and Larry Goss who won the first half. We had a playoff series where we split 2 and games which then required a 10th frame roll off. SIR THING pulled it off in the roll off beating friends 67 to 45. I'll be traveling to Carson City with Bryan and fellow SIR Branch 136 member Greg Fletcher for the annual SIR Tournament at Gold Dust West. Hopefully I'll have good news to report in next Months newsletter.

Rick Bronner



BRYAN WITH HIS NEW HAMMER BLACK BOWLING BALL THAT GOT HIM HIS FIRST 300!



Sons in Retirement #136

Ladies Day Luncheon

May 12, 2026



**RAFFLE PRIZES
APPRECIATED**

No Host Cocktails

@ 11:00 AM

Lunch @ Noon

Menu: Choice of

New York Steak w/Baked Potato
or Chicken Picatta
or Salmon with Rice Pilaf, Salad,
Vegetable
and Dessert.
Shrimp Cocktail

\$40:00 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the March & April
Luncheons

MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS

AVAILABLE

NO CANCELLATIONS

AFTER May 6, 2026

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Rick Bronner 408-318-4826
Mel Kutsch Gene Zannoni
Eddie Toews George Cocores

**Anyone wanting wine, it will
be available at the bar**



SIR – Social Activities for Men

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the lives of our members through fun activities and events while making friends for life

All SIR members are welcome to join in any branch activity.
Ladies are welcome to join in all Branch 172 activities.
Please start and chair a new activity if it's not listed.

2025 Combined Group Activity Chairmen

Activity	Branch	Chairmen	Telephone 209
Big Sir	77-Sierra	Donald Ronalter	984-9383
	136-Sonora	Rick Bronner	408 318-4826
	172-Twain Harte	Glenn Arlands	415 385 3509
Biking	172	Steve Happel 2 nd Tues of the month	768-4250
Bowling	77	Mike Coe	769-3413
	136	Rick Bronner	408 318-4826
Car Club	136	Rick Bronner	408 318-4826
Fishing	136	Chuck Simons	532-9550
Golf	77	Danny Laureta	925 997-2482
	136	Raul Santana	925 451-7351
Hiking	77	Mike Clay (moderate hike) Every Friday	588-1345
Horseshoes	172	Rich Brandau	352 4320
Kayak	172	Steve Happel (4 th Tuesday of the month)	768-4250
Pinochle	172	Bill Lewis	604-6304
RV Travel	136	Eddie Toews	532-3970
Tech/ Computer	172	Dick Chimenti	677-7070
Theatre	172	Dave Tibbets	532-2453
Travel	143	Bill Stires (Modesto)	988-5445
	146	Glenn Breslin (Walnut Creek)	925 788-6520
	172	Charles Luke	533-3683

Branch# 172, Twain Harte
PO Box 1143, Twain Harte, CA 95383
Website: SIRtwain.org

Email: SIRtwainharte@gmail.org

Revised TMF 7-02-25



SIR Classifieds

SIR Members are now invited to place ads for **items** that they want to sell—services are not allowed. A 10% fee will be charged based upon the selling price, up to a maximum fee of \$100 per item. If you are just donating an item, there is no charge.

Want Some SIRs Apparel?

Here is how to get it:

Get on your computer and go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com> and peruse the items available and order on-line. Notice that shipping and handling charges are avoided above a certain order amount. If your order is large enough to avoid these charges or you are willing to pay them, process your order. If you know of a friend who also wants SIRs merchandise, consolidate your order with him.

If you don't have a computer, find a friend who does and have him help you.





Sonora SIRs Branch 136 Advertisers:

**SAVE 25%
ON THE SALE OF YOUR HOME!**

Emily Hunter
Broker/Owner
DRE #01289542
925-785-3785
emhunterRE@gmail.com

Michael O. Bowers
Broker Associate
DRE #00901538
209.770.3683 or 510-919-4949
Michael@MichaelBowers.com

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Providing Insurance and Financial Services

TAMARA M. POLLEY

242 S. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

209-694-3622
Fax 209-694-3624
tamara@tpolleylaw.com



Estate
Planning
Attorney



Todd Simonson, AAMS®, CFP®
Financial Advisor

1311 Sanguinetti Road Ste B
Sonora, CA 95370
Bus. 209-533-1307 Fax 888-305-1959
todd.simonson@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com
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Emergency: (209) 614-8344

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RV & TRUCK CENTER, Inc.



Steve Henley
Owner

(209) 532-7994

shop@sierraheavyduty.com
www.sierraheavyduty.com
18968 Waylon Way Sonora, CA 95370



To all our members, if you frequent any of these businesses, please remember to thank them for their gracious support to our Branch.

SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

President - Rich Carlston
Vice-President - Lee Lamb
Secretary - Jeff Chin
Treasurer - Carl Mason
Area 5 Representative - Jerry Morrow

PAST BIG SIR'S BRANCH 136 SONORA

1997 - Dave Holton 1999 - Al Limon
2000 - Bob Gibbs 2002 - Jim Nuzum
2003 - Dick Nutting 2004 - Bill Dunlavy
2007 - Wil Reich 2008 - Roger Milligan
2009 - Don Nilan 2010 - Don Banchemo
2011 - Al Smith 2012 - Baci Frecceri
2013 - Phil VanSwoll 2014 - John Bristow
2015 - Jim Johnson 2016 - Dale Decker
2017 - Danney Laureta 2018 - Paul Squeri
2019 - Jim Botto
2020 & 2021 - Gene Zanoni
2022 - Phil VanSwoll 2023 - Eddie Toews
2024 - Rick Bronner
2025 - Rick Bronner

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016
Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2009 - current
Gene Zanoni - Big Sir 2020 & 2021

HONORARY LIFE EMERITUS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015
We are all so sorry for his passing on

DATED MATERIAL

Sons In Retirement, Inc
Sonora Branch #136
22295 Paseo De Los Portales
Sonora, CA 95370



DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for membership in Sonora SIR Branch #136 are to be obtained from the Membership Director at the monthly meetings, by telephoning him at 456-9814 and ask for an application form that will be mailed to you, or by downloading the form from our branch website.

www.sonorasirs.org. After the application is filled out, it is to be returned to George Cocreos with a check for the amount stated on the application. George's address is 17595 Brentwood Ln. Twain Harte, CA 95383

Jan. 24, 2024

Branch 136 Executive Committee

Big Sir: Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826

Little Sir: Mike Krom (209) 586-1533

Sec: Mark Bowden (209) 312-2267

Asst Sec: Gene Zanoni (209) 532-1989

Treas: John Salmon (209) 206-6244

Asst.Tres: Marty Samson (925) 321-8397

Directors

Bill Burnes (209) 533-4334

George Cocreos (209) 456-9814

Stan Enos (209) 533-2928

Melvin Kutsch (209) 533-0384

Marty Martin (209) 586-1886

Raul Santana (925) 451-7351

Paul Squeri (209) 586-4083

Behind the Scenes

Photographer - **Steve Belochi** 770-2592

Bulletin - **Don Herzer** 586-3078

Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 588-3978

SIR Items Sales - **Fred Kehr** 785-4358

Chaplain - **Steve Gregory** 728-5707

(all 209 area code)

DECLARATIONS NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for or by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities (Rule 345).

Checks, money orders or credit cards for Travel for one day or less (no overnight), where a bus/busses is/are used as the primary means of transportation, may be made payable to the Branch sponsoring the event. All other checks, money orders or credit cards for travel must be made payable

STAMP

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