



BULLETIN

January, 2025

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, Jan. 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:

Dec. 5, 2024

Menu: Sirloin Tips, Noodles, Carrots, Green Salad and Chocolate Pudding



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@wsccpubs.net

The deadline for the next bulletin is:

Jan. 31, 2025



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner

(408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Happy New Year Fellow SIR's members. 2024 went out with a bang at our year end Holiday Banquet. We had quite a turnout with over 100 members and guests attending. Our meal provided by Dino and staff was fantastic. My wife had the salmon and I had the prime rib of which both were excellent and the proportions were quite large. I think I saw quite a few members with to-go containers. I especially want to thank all the volunteers that helped set up for our event. It goes without saying that without our volunteers all these special events and our monthly meetings couldn't happen. I was pleased to award the SIR of the YEAR award to Eddie Toews. Since we had a seven-way tie for rooster booster I had to come up with a way to acknowledge everyone. With help from Sue at Clint's Trophies I was happy to present each winner with a Rooster Trophy. This also was my first attempt at doing a power point slide show. I want to thank everyone that sent pictures to Don Herzer so he could put them in power point for me. I'm hoping next year we have lots more. Anytime you can take pictures at a SIR's event, please forward them to Don Herzer.

I personally want to thank my fellow BEC board members for all their hard work during the year. Each one of you are an integral part of making SIR Branch 136 such a well-run organization. I'm looking forward to a working all of you and with couple of new BEC members for 2025. Last year our BEC agreed to make 2024 a year of giving back. So, for 2025 we have all agreed to freeze our price of monthly meals and our membership renewal fee. Remember we will be collecting dues at our January meeting. A large part of how we were able to do this was the generous raffle donations at our all three of our special events during the year.

I'll also be looking forward to see what direction the State Board takes on the many issues we covered at last year's state meetings.

Here's to 2025!

Rick Bronner



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom

(209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

I wish everyone a very Happy New Year. Please be safe and watch out for the other guy.

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





GOLF CLUB NEWS

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

Golf will start up again in March 2025.

Raul Santana



RV CLUB NEWS

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

The RV group had a wonderful Christmas dinner at the Peppery Family Restaurant. We had a great turnout with several guests and delicious food. I want to thank Steve and Mary Finigian along with my wife, Linda, for a great job setting everything up and all the decorations for a festive evening. {see pictures starting on page 10}

The only business that was conducted was to discuss and announce a new chairman and co-chair. After a year without a chairman or co-chairman, Eddie Toews has stepped up to be chairman again and Steve Finigian has stepped up to be co-chairman.

Our next get together will be for our kickoff breakfast in February, 2025. Anyone wanting to visit the RV group and participate in the future outings needs to contact Eddie Toews and 209-770-3776 and he will work with you on getting into the club.

Have a great New Year and stay safe.

Eddie Toews



CHAPLIN'S CORNER

Steven Gregory - (209) 728-5707
discogregory@aol.com

It is with regret I must share the news that Monty Youngborg, SIR #111, died December 11 at Serenity Home Care in Modesto. He is survived by his wife Dana. St Matthews church will hold a Service Saturday January 18,2025 at 12:00 o'clock. May he RIP

Steven Gregory Chaplain



MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

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

No update due to Dec. Luncheon.



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com

No fishing in Dec.

Chuck Simons



January Birthdays

Grimm, Robert (Bob)	01/02
Lobdell, Bill	01/03
Jeppson, David (Dave)	01/10
Foret , Gerald	01/13
Bulich, Otto	01/19
Dentino, Richard (Dick)	01/26
Bettencourt , Gene	01/27



KAYAKING

No Report this month
Chairman Position now open

PINOCHLE REPORT

No Report this month
Chairman Position now open



BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Ray Di Basilio **Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**
rdibasilio@gmail.com **bronnerrick@gmail.com**

CAR CLUB NEWS

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

Striking up Friendships

FROM RAY:



Happy New Bowling Year! The 2025 SIR bowling calendar is looking exciting. The calendar has us in quite a few locations this year with many of our old friends. Bill Bumbaca, formally of Branch 113, will be a new tournament manager for both tournaments in Carson City (April and late August). We are reviewing locations for the SIR State tournament in May, hoping for a central location. All other tournament dates are set. Applications will be available as dates are closer. Cindy and I hope to see you at the first tournament of 2025 in Napa on January 21-22. Applications for this one and the Sacramento tournament at Country Club lanes in February are available online now.

For more information about SIR bowling and the full 2025 calendar, applications, and results of past tournaments, check out our website: <http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>

Ray Di Basilio

FROM RICK:

The 2025 SIR Bowling calendar is now on the SIR bowling website.

<https://sirbowling.org/>

The first event in 2025 will be on January 21st and 22nd at Napa bowl. The 2025 annual SIR State tournament will be in May. The time and exact date are still TBD.

Rick Bronner

(No Report this month)

Rick Bronner

[Begin scenes from Christmas Luncheon:]

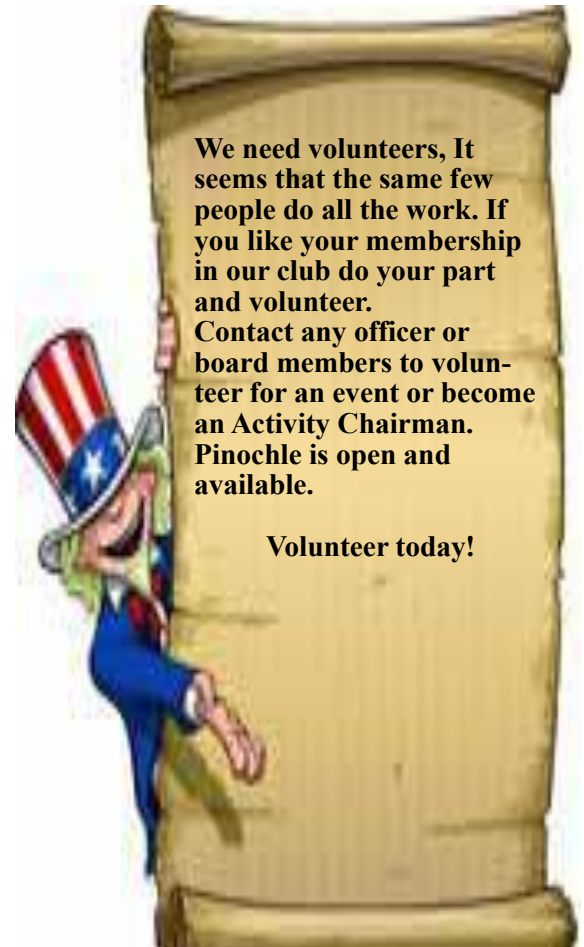


Rick Presents Sir of the Year Award to Eddie Toews



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.



We need volunteers, It seems that the same few people do all the work. If you like your membership in our club do your part and volunteer. Contact any officer or board members to volunteer for an event or become an Activity Chairman. Pinochle is open and available.

Volunteer today!













**RV Club's
Christmas Dinner
2024**









2025 Sonora SIR #136 Annual Dues Notice

November 1, 2025

Dear Fellow SIR Member,

Below is your Annual Sonora SIR Dues Notice for 2025.

The dues for 2025 will stay the same at \$30.00

The amount of dues covers the cost of the State SIR assessment and normal operating costs of the branch. **Annual Dues are due by January 1st and considered delinquent after that date.** Dues not paid by February 28th, 2025 may result in your loss of membership (extenuating circumstances will be considered).

I encourage you to Send in Your Dues now.

Send checks to:

SIR #136 at John Salmon, 10844 Countryside Ct., Sonora, CA 95370

We appreciate your timely remittance so that your Board can budget and plan for our in-person activities in the new year.

Thank You for being a loyal SIR member.

John Salmon, Treasurer

PRINT and DETACH with your Remittance

Sonora SIR #136

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$30.00, made out to Sonora SIR #136. For my 2025 Annual Dues.

Name: _____

Check No: _____ **Checks made payable to Sonora SIR #136**

Send to: SIR #136 at John Salmon, 10844 Countryside Ct., Sonora, CA 95370



The Rooster Crows!

The Scoop from the Coop

January 2025

Board of Director

Rich Carlston

President

Lee Lamb

Vice President

Jeff Chin

Secretary

Carl Mason

Treasurer

Kevin King

CIO

Andy Danver

Dir. Mktg/Comm.

Jim Gragg

Dir. Br. Support

Bruce Corwin

Dir. State Docs.

Michael Lee

Dir. Activities

Fred Serena

AR Coord., AR

Jerry Morrow

AR

Bruce Corwin

AR

Derek Southern

State Advisor

Roy Hodgkinson

Parliamentarian



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Welcome to another exciting year of fun and activities. We are so lucky and thankful for all of the many leaders that make this organization work.

A big **THANK YOU** to each of you!



News Of The Day From State

- The Branch Advisory Committee (BAC) is up and running. We have 25 Branches participating. The purpose of the BAC is to provide guidance from the branches to the Board of Directors on policies and procedures and other matters of common concern.
- We are refocusing on our training programs. Jim Gragg and his team will be developing an annual comprehensive training program to ensure our leaders are properly trained and to address challenges as they arise that our branches face.
- We are exploring exciting marketing approaches. Andy Danver will be spearheading our joint State and branch pilot programs. He and Jim will be coordinating the placement of an advertisement in the NCGA monthly newsletter. Andy's team will be developing and implementing this year our first State internet marketing program. We anticipate these many efforts will generate new members for our branches.



A big **THANK YOU** to Mark Stuart and Rick Kindle for their service on the Board. Both are leaving the Board this year after years of service to SIR. But, don't worry, they will still be here to help and provide guidance.



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Why do fathers take an extra pair of socks when they go golfing? In case they get a hole-in-one.



And a big **WELCOME** to our new Activities Director Michael Lee!





How to Play Spelling Bee

Create words using letters from the hive.

- Words must contain at least 4 letters.
- Words must include the center letter.
- Our word list does not include words that are obscure, hyphenated, or proper nouns.
- No cussing either, sorry.
- Letters can be used more than once.

Spelling Bee is found daily in the New York Times., which has several fun word games.



RECENT ADDITIONS TO OUR STATE SIR TEAM

Todd Berman
 Eric Bull
 Robert Fletcher
 Rich Inman
 Mark Massman
 Jerry Morrow
 Craig Ruess
 Pat Stan
 Steve Zickerman

Eugene Bettencourt
 John Farcich
 John Frierson
 Michael Lee
 Gary Medwid
 Michael Nistler
 Peter Shapiro
 Gary Wright



"I don't care if he is just trying to make a buck, following us with that defibrillator is unnerving."



Next month: News about how you might get paid for being a member of SIR.





2024 Local SIR Branches Combined Social Activities:
 All SIR members are welcome to join in any other branch activity.
 Many items are for couples so please contact the Event Chair.
 Please start and chair a new activity-if it's not listed.

Area Big Sir Roster	77 136 172	Donald Ronalter Rick Bronner Mark Knapp	(209) 984-9383 (408) 318-4826 (209) 613-7767
<u>Activity</u>	<u>Branch #</u>	<u>Activity Chair</u>	<u>Telephone (209)</u>
Biking	172	Steve Happel 2nd Tuesday of the month	532-7240
Bowling	77	Mike Coe	769-3413
Car Club	136	Rick Bronner	(408) 318-4826
Fishing	136	Chuck Simmons	532-9550
Golf	77	Danny Laureta	586-4567
	136	Raul Santana	(925) 451-7351
	172	Richard Broddie	586-3151
Hiking	77	Mike Clay moderate hike every Friday	588-1345
Horseshoes	172	Rich Brandau Last Thursday of the month	352-4320
Kayak	136	Sol Robin	(707) 315-1284
	172	Dave Kenney 4th Tuesday of the month	(650) 867-4671
Pinochle	136	Looking for a Chairman	
RV Travel	136	Eddie Toews	770-3776
Tech/Computer	172	Dick Chimenti	677-7070
		Rich Nedbal	247-6497
Theatre	172	Dave Tibbets	532-2453
Travel	143	Bill Stires (Modesto)	988-5445
	172	Charles Luke	533-3683

As of March 2024

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 online. 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!**

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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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Sonora, CA 95370
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Fax 209-694-3624
tamara@tpolleylaw.com



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Planning
Attorney

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RV & TRUCK CENTER INC.

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(209) 559-3840
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www.sierraheavyduty.com
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Jill Huckaby
209.533.0600

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Emergency: (209) 614-8344

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 - Dale Decker
(Acting)

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 Zaroni
2022 - Phil VanSwoll 2023 - Eddie Toews

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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

HONORARY LIFE EMERITUS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015
We are all so sorry for his passing on
Jan. 24, 2024

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 Cocores with a check for the amount stated on the application. George's address is 17595 Brentwood Ln. Twain Harte, CA 95383

Branch 136 Executive Committee

Big Sir: Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826
Little Sir: Mike Krom (209) 586-1533
Sec: Steve Holt (713) 842-0083
Asst Sec: Gene Zaroni (209) 532-1989
Treas: John Salmon (209) 206-6244
Asst.Tres: Eddie Toews 532-3970

Directors

Bill Burnes (209) 533-4334
George Cocores (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** 533-5315
Bulletin - **Don Herzer** 586-3078
Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 588-3978
SIR Items Sales - **Fred Kehr** 785-4358
Chaplain - **Steve Gregory** 728-5707

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 to the travel agency (Rule 429 & 421).

DATED MATERIAL

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

STAMP



DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT

ADDRESS LABEL