



BULLETIN

July, 2026

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, July 14th

Reserve your spot(s) with:

Jim Horan jimhoran2@yahoo.com

Or call (408) 499-8297

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

Deadline for reservations is:

July 9, 2026

Menu:

Country Pork Ribs, Mashed Potatoes with
Brown Gravy, Corn or Peas & Vanilla
Pudding for dessert.

Guest Speaker:

Dot Popovich from State Farm will talk about
health care and insurance.



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

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:

July 31, 2026



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Let's welcome our two newest members this
month. Peter Rei and John Rago. John is an
avid bowler and is already bowling in the
summer SIR league. Peter also has interest
in bowling and golf. Welcome to SIR
Branch 136!

Remember next month is our annual
summer picnic. It will be held on
Wednesday August 12th. The menu is
similar to last year which included ribs,
summer sausage and chicken. Raffle prizes
are always welcome. That's all I have for
now. See you at the meeting.

Rick Bronner

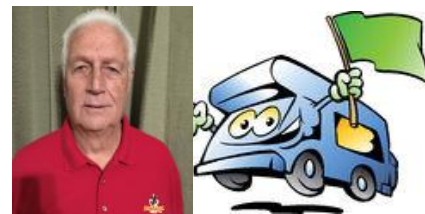


CHAPLIN'S CORNER

Steven Gregory - (209) 728-5707

(no report this month)

Steven Gregory Chaplain



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 770-3776

lcoinlady@aol.com

[no report this month, but be sure to see the
picnic flyer on page 4]

Eddie Toews

LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom - (209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

(no report this month)

Mike Krom



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jim Horan (408) 499-8297

jimhoran2@yahoo.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>.

Jim Horan





GOLF CLUB NEWS

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

The SIRS June 2026 golf tournament was held at Pine Mountain Lake in Groveland. What a beautiful course! Weather was a bit toasty, but a slight breeze cooled it down for the back nine. The format was 2-man best ball. The great conditions brought out some great scores! Once again, Branch 136s own Jim Lucia placed in the money with his partner Eddy Warzee and came in 3rd. The next tournament is scheduled for July 21st at Teleli GC. Hope to see you out on the course.

Raul Santana



MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

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

FISHING CHAIRMAN

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

After a good bout with poison oak former 136 member Sol Robin and got to fish. Had some wind and heat. Sol managed one bass to the boat and lost it. Then landed one. Other than that it was a slow day.



Chuck Simons

CAR CLUB NEWS

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

I finally made it to a car show this year after missing the two shows last month at Copperopolis and Jamestown. I attended the Twain Harte Car show on Saturday the 27th. The show this year did not combine the arts and craft show so there was room for more cars. I took a lot of pictures and saw some pretty awesome cars. There was a rare Lister Lucra, several Hot Rods and I got to speak with the owner of a 62' Vette with a blueprinted 427 and trick suspension. It was a beautiful day for a car show.
 (see more pictures on pages 6&7)

Rick Bronner



July Birthdays

Gelber, Allan (Al)	07/01
Swartz, Rodger	07/03
Hildinger, James (Jim)	07/03
Luz , Bradford (Brad)	07/11
Pope, William (Bill)	07/12
Rago ,John	07/15
Krom , Micheal (Mike)	07/18
Waters, Dennis L.	07/23
Davis, Gary	07/25
Marrs, John	07/27



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:

Bowling is alive and well – tournament season is going strong! June was sure a busy month with two more tournaments now behind us. July will also have two tournaments as we prepare (practice?) for the big one at the National Stadium in August. We'll be staying at the Silver Legacy in Reno again this year. **Reservations for discounted rooms end on July 9.** Make plans early and **be sure to use the appropriate code** when booking your room. The code and contact information are on the application.

Our Placerville Tournament, held on June 4th and 5th, brought 87 bowlers to The Apex at Red Hawk Casino. Scores were high with three near perfect games. Richard White, guest of Branch 96, rolled a 282; Jerry Butterfield, Branch 8, rolled a 267; and Cary Lemley, Branch 113, rolled a 264. Well done, gentlemen! Top honors in Singles A Division went to Brent Moffitt, Branch 59, with a 796-handicap series; Singles B Division top bowler was Jim Hammes, guest of Branch 69, with a 770-handicap series. In the Doubles A Division, Brent Moffitt and Jim Wyllie, Branch 19, took the top spot. Top honors in the Doubles B Division went to Branch 113 bowlers as Charles and Linda Schwend teamed up for a 1537-handicap series.

75 bowlers attended the Dublin Tournament on June 22nd and 23rd held at Earl Anthony's Dublin Lanes. Scoring was mixed with another near perfect 290 game by Lou Gilson, Branch 19. Lou actually rolled 15 consecutive strikes, just couldn't get the games to align. Congrats Lou for first place in the A Division. First place in the B Division went to John McGirr, Branch 142, who bowled his first SIR Tournament. John rolled a 792-handicap series with an entering average of 148. WOW. First place winners in Doubles A Division were Russ and Vicky Reid, Branch 161 with a 1518 handicap series; B division winners were Jim Erickson, Branch 128, and Dan Weller, Branch 8, with a combined 1471 handicap series.

Applications for upcoming tournaments are posted on our State SIR Bowling website: [SIR BOWLING](#).

Auburn, CA, July 9-10 – Foothill Bowl

Concord, CA, July 21-22 – Clayton Valley Bowl

Reno, NV, August 10-13 – National Bowling Stadium

Grass Valley, CA, September 2-3 – Prosperity Lanes

See you on the lanes,

Ray Di Basilio

FROM RICK:

We had two SIR Bowling Tournaments in June. The first one was at Red Hawk Casino in Placerville. I teamed up with fellow members from 136, Greg Fletcher, Btyan Sinklier and our new member John Rago. I was lucky enough to come in 3rd in singles while the team of Greg and Bryan took 2nd in doubles. Next up was the tournament at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl. Our SIR member Jim Lucia grabbed 9th overall.

July will host two tournaments. On July 9th and 10th at Foothill Bowl in Auburn. July 21st and 22nd at Clayton Valley Bowl in Concord.

Our summer SIR Bowling league at Black Oak Casino continues to roll along. I'm pleased to see my wife has joined in the fun and is teamed up with Mike Wifght. There are still openings if anyone wants to join in on the fun. We bowl every Monday at noon at Black Oak. It's just \$20!

Rick Bronner





SIRS BRANCH 136 ANNUAL PICNIC
Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Will be held at Indigeny Reserve

Social Hour will be at 11:00 A.M.
Lunch will be at approximately
12:00 PM

Menu

Buffet Style

BBQ RIBS and BBQ CHICKEN
And GRILLED GOURMET SAUSAGE (MILD)

Sides will include:

Ranch Style Beans. Corn on the Cob,
Country Potato Salad, Watermelon,
Desserts, Sweetened Ice Tea,
Lemonade and Infused Water.

Branch will provide Beer and Wine
while it lasts. Each person will
Receive two tickets when they check
In at the gate.

RAFFLE PRIZES ARE APPRECIATED

Tickets are \$30.00 per person
And will be on sale at the June
And July regular meetings. Tickets
WILL NOT be sold at the door.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Eddie Toews 209-770-3776
George Cocores, Gene Zanon
Mel Kutsch, Rick Bronner

MAXIMUM 200 TICKEYS AVAILABLE
NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER
AUGUST 5, 2026

SIR STATE HAPPENING NEWSLETTER

Michael Lee – SIR State Activities Director
(88mlee@gmail.com)



Here are your state activities for July 2026

INVESTING:

The next Zoom on Wednesday, July 22nd at 1:30pm will cover the topic, “Am I properly integrating tax planning, estate planning, wealth preservation, wealth transfer, and generational planning?”

On September 23rd, Ken Fisher: author, billionaire investment analyst, and founder and executive chairman of Fisher Investments, will address market reactions to the mid-term elections and this will be very popular so sign-up early.

Contact Mihael Levine for Zoom link:
michael.levine@sbcglobal.net

TRAVEL

Here are the upcoming trips you can join:

Oct. 23 - Nov. 8, 2026. 16 Night Hawaiian Island Cruise aboard Ruby Princess round trip from San Francisco from \$3,750 to \$6,055 pp. Ports: Hilo, Kahului, Maui, Honolulu, Oahu, Nawiliwili, Kauai & Ensenada. John@storageauctionexperts.com

Nov. 27-Dec. 8, 2026. Six-night Danube River Cruise including Christmas Markets in Vienna, Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Wachau Valley, Gluhwein Party. \$5896-\$7497 pp. bill.britton@comcast.net (925) 200-1062

May 2027: Croatia, Montenegro, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Slovenia with an optional pre-trip to Albania. This is an OAT trip, we can have our own group with as few as 12, You need not be a SIR to sign up you can also be a guest. We need to fill it by Aug. 14, 2026. Milt Smith miltsmith549@gmail.com

BOWLING TOURNAMENTS:

Auburn: July 9-10 at Foothill Bowl. Host BR 113.

Concord: July 21-22 at Clayton Valley Bowl, hosted by Branches 8, 19, and 128,

Reno: August 10-12 at the National Bowling Stadium, hosted by BR 113.

These events are open to all SIRS, spouse, partner, relative, and invited guests. Bowlers must have a USBC card and verified average.

For more information, contact Jim Erickson at 925-580-4146 or jim@jterickson.com.

FISHING:

July 7th Delta for Black Bass and Stripers

July 14th Oakley Antioch Pier for Stripers

July 14th S.F. Bay for shark, stripers, halibut

July 16th S.F. Bay for Halibut & Stripers

July 19-24 Port Hardy, Vancouver Island Canada for Salmon and Halibut

July 28th Delta for Black Bass and Stripers

For more information about fishing contact:
Brion Beetz brion.beetz@gmail.com



GOLF:

August 5-6 Hiddenbrooke--State Team Scramble Championship

Sept. 15-16 (I think--MIKE please confirm) Lincoln Hills and Turkey Creek

Oct. 1 State Individual Championship at Teal Bend

Nov. 10-11 Monterey BlackHorse and Bayonet

Contact Ben Gikis GIKISBEN@yahoo.com

If you have an activity that would be beneficial to publicize to all members of SIR throughout the state, please contact Michael Lee at 88mlee@gmail.com.

More of Rick's Twain Harte Car show pictures







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 #01389542
925-785-3785
emhunterRE@gmail.com

Michael O. Bowers
Broker/Associate
DRE #00901538
209.770.3683 or 510-919-4949
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242 S. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

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



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
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Fax: (209) 533-4350
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 SIRS 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 Cocores 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 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** 770-2592
Bulletin - **Don Herzer** 586-3078
Internet - **Jim Horan** (408) 499-8297
SIR Items Sales - **Fred Kehr** 785-4358
Chaplain - **Steve Gregory** 728-5707
(all 209 area code unless noted)

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