



BULLETIN

May, 2026

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, June 9th

[Note: No meeting in May due to Ladies Day Luncheon]

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:

June 4, 2026

Menu: May is the Ladies day Luncheon—see flier on page 6



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:

May 31, 2026



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

I want to thank Mike Krom for taking charge at our April meeting. I was out of town at a SIR Bowling tournament in Carson City. See my bowling report for the update. Mike introduced our area rep Jerry Morrow. Jerry had a few items to cover which the most important seemed to be the photography release. The SIR State Board has recommended to all SIR branches that we get a signed photo release if we are to publish any pictures in our newsletter which is then posted online. Many branches have some reservations to this policy.

Apparently, the lawyers are pushing it. At our upcoming Ladies Day luncheon, I'm not about to have everyone sign a form. I will however make an announcement that if anyone objects to have their picture taken to let myself or any BEC member know. We will then start a list of attendees to not have their picture taken. In the future we will update our membership application and renewals to include a photo release option.

Ok enough of the legal stuff. Let's talk about our upcoming Ladies Day luncheon. The menu and info are all in the flyer included in this newsletter and has also been emailed out to everyone. Speaking of emailing, I want to thank Jim Horan for stepping up to take over the Webmaster position and taking care of emailing our members. Don't forget to bring a raffle item to the Ladies Day Luncheon. Should be an awesome time. See you all there!

Rick Bronner



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom - (209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

[No input this month]

Mike Krom



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jim Horan (408) 499-8297

jimhoran2@yahoo.com

I'd like to introduce myself first. My name is Jim Horan and I have volunteered to take over Jerry Bellefeuille's webmaster duties. Let's all wish him well on his relocation to Idaho. I'm sure he will be missed.

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



CHAPLIN'S CORNER

Steven Gregory - (209) 728-5707

Earl Randall Celebration of Life

June 20th @ the Sonora Elks Lodge

12:00 - 4:00 PM

Steven Gregory Chaplain





RV CLUB NEWS

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

The RV Group just got back from a nice outing to “Smithwoods RV Park” in Felton, CA. (Santa Cruz area). Several of us went to Sants Cruz to sightsee at the wharf and coast line. At the RV Park there was plenty of food, drinks and visiting. We had a campfire every night to sit around and visit.

The parks claim to fame is that it is the oldest RV park in California. It is in the redwoods and was very rustic.



Everyone had a great time.
(More pictures on pages 3-4)
Eddie Toews



GOLF CLUB NEWS

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

The SIRs April golf tournament was unfortunately cancelled due to rain. The next tournament is scheduled for May 19th at Teledi Golf Club.

Raul Santana

SIR State Golf 2026 Season Update:

We have two more upcoming spring tournaments in the North Bay area: Fairfield (May 20–21) at Paradise Valley and Rancho Solano. This event was extremely popular last year, so be sure to get your entry in soon—the deadline is May 9. The format will again be 4-man / 2 best ball, with both Team and Individual prizes awarded. The final Spring tournament will take place at Blue Rock Springs in Vallejo on June 24–25, featuring both the East and West courses in the same 4-man, 2 best ball format.

It was great to see the strong SIR spirit on display in Napa. Many players showed up wearing their Championship jackets or polo shirts, and several teams even sported matching “uniforms.” Socially, the week was just as enjoyable—many groups gathered for dinner on Wednesday night, including a 24-person turnout from Branch 35 and the Santa Cruz SIRs. At Eagle Vines, the shotgun start allowed everyone to finish around the same time, leading to a large group spending a couple of hours together afterward in the restaurant. It was a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

For more information and entry forms, please visit the State SIR website (www.sirgolf.org). You’ll also find the full second-half schedule posted there, including:

- Team Scramble at Hiddenbrooke
- Two-day Sacramento event in September at Lincoln Hills and Turkey Creek
- State Individual Championships at Teal Bend on Thursday, October 1
- The season finale: Monterey tournament at BlackHorse and Bayonet courses at Fort Ord on November 10–11.

Don’t miss these great opportunities to play excellent courses, enjoy camaraderie, and build lasting connections. We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming events.

P.S. The State Golf Committee is looking for additional volunteers to help run these events. If you’re interested, please contact Ben Gikis, SIR State Golf Chairman, at gikisben@yahoo.com or 408-802-0794.



MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT **APRIL 2026**

APRIL Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance	52 (45%)
Excused Absences	63 (55%)
Guests	2

Current Month Membership

Active Membership March	115
Applicants Being Installed	0
Active Members Lost	0
<u>Active Membership April</u>	<u>115</u>



CAR CLUB NEWS

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

May/ June are big car show months. Here’s what’s happening;

Saturday May 16rd-14th annual Rods to Rails Car Show. Main St. Jamestown, 9am to 3pm

Sunday May 17th—6th Annual Cars Cops and Coffee. Adventist Health Parking Lot. 8:30 to 11:30am.

Saturday June 20th —Hot Copper Car Show. Copper Valley Town Square. 8am to 6pm.

Saturday June 20th. -Annual Father’s Day Fly-In Columbia Airport. 10am -3pm

Rick Bronner



FISHING CHAIRMAN

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

[No report this month]

Chuck Simons



May Birthdays

Line, Paul	05/05
Joachim, Alan	05/06
Bronner, Frederick (Rick) *DSA	05/24
Houser, Jack	05/28
Deaver, John 'Deave'	05/30
Enos, Stanley *DSA	05/31

KAYAKING & PINOCHLE REPORT

No Reports this month

Chairman Positions now open





RV Club April Outing





BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Ray Di Basilio
rdibasilio@gmail.com

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

Striking up Friendships



FROM RAY:

The spring weather this year was certainly a challenge for our April tournament in Carson City. Bowlers braved snow, icy conditions, and trucking accidents which caused road closures over the passes leading to some folks taking 9 or 10 hours to reach Carson City. One group of cars caravanning from Brentwood found themselves being interviewed by newscasters – did you happen to catch them on the NBC news? It only proved that 120 faithful bowlers could not be stopped from reaching their destination with lots of stories to share.

Once in Carson City, the rumbles of bowling balls could be heard on the lanes for three days. I don't think we caused it, but there was a 5.7 earthquake we all felt on the second day.

Scores at Gold Dust West were all over the board. We had loads of 200's mixed in with average scores which led us to repeat the mantra, "that's bowling!" The friendships, meals, and laughs we shared during our getaway made this tournament a true SIR experience. We had nearly \$5,000 in prize money to award which was well spread out over 63 bowlers (over half cashed!). Lou Gilson (Branch 19) was our top winner with some amazing games. Be sure to ask Lou how his ride up the hill through the snow was ... wink, wink.

Applications for upcoming tournaments are posted on our State SIR Bowling website: [SIR BOWLING](#). Please note the group codes for discounted room rates in Reno; we'll be at the Silver Legacy again this year. Make plans early and **be sure to use the appropriate code** when booking your room.

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:

We wrapped up our Thursday night winter bowling leagues this past April. The Umchu Full House league had a season ending playoff between two teams of SIR Branch 136 members. The team of Jim Horan, Dave Rossi, Bob and Lilian Thomas faced off against the team of Greg Fletcher, Bryan Sinklier, Chris Maguire and myself. We split the first two games but Jim's team won the third game to take the championship. Hopefully our SIR Summer Bowling league should get started on Monday May 4th. Anyone interested in bowling this summer just needs to show up at noon at black Oak Lanes to get started.

There was a SIR State Bowling tournament held in Carson City on April 13th thru the 15th. SIR Branch 136 members Dave Rossi, Bert Abreo, Bob and Lilian Thomas placed second in division 1 teams. Jim and Sandi Lucia took 6th place in doubles. Sandi placed third in ladies' division 3 singles. I was lucky to place 3rd in division 1 singles. It was a tough shot with plenty of oil to get thru. Congratulations to our SIR Branch 136 bowlers!

Rick Bronner



Branch 136 Final PlyoffBowlers
(photo's courtesy of Ruth Abreo)





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 STATE HAPPENING NEWSLETTER

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



Here are your state activities for May 2026

INVESTING:

SIR128 is offering its monthly Zoom about investing to all branches on Wednesday, May 27th at 1:30pm. At this session they will talk about the possible upcoming SpaceX IPO along with other companies that could benefit from the space race. In addition, SIR Russ Walsh, who's an engineer, innovator, and author, and who has been a consultant to companies like Google, Apple, Facebook, IBM, and GE will talk about his experiences with Start Ups and show us how he constructs Business Plans for them. **Contact Michael Levine for Zoom link:** michael.levine@sbcglobal.net

TRAVEL

Here are the upcoming trips you can join:

June 1-5, 2026 (approximate dates). Golf in Maui, Hawaii, Maui. 5 days, 4 nights at the Outrigger Kaanapali Beach Resort. Single rates available. kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com

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 of call Hilo, Kahului, Maui, Honolulu, Oahu, Nawiliwili, Kauai, and Ensenada Mexico. john@storageauctionexperts.com

Nov. 27-Dec. 8, 2026. Christmas on the Danube with an extra 2-day Christmas Markets of Prague extension. 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

BOWLING TOURNAMENTS:

Sacramento: May 12-13 at Country Club Lanes. SIR State Tournament for SIR's only. BR 60 hosts.

Placerville: June 4-5 at Apex Lanes, Red Hawk Casino, hosted by BR 113.

Dublin: June 22-23 at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl, hosted by BR 59.

Except for May, all of these events are open to all SIRS, spouse, partner, relative, and invited guests. For more information, contact Jim Erickson at jim@jterickson.com.

FISHING:

May 5th SF Bay Potluck Trip

May 5th Delta Black Bass Trip

May 7th SF Bay Halibut Trip

May 12th San Pablo Reservoir Trout Trip

May 19th Delta Black Bass Trip

May 21st SF Bay Halibut Trip

May 21st SF Bay Shark & Striper Trip

May 26-30 Lake Almanor Trout Trip

For more information about fishing contact:

Brion Beetz brion.beetz@gmail.com



GOLF:

May 20-21 Fairfield (Paradise Valley & Rancho Solano)

June 24-25 Blue Rock Springs (East and West)

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.



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:

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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
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(209) 532-7994

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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 - **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

STAMP

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