



BULLETIN

October, 2024

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, Oct. 8th

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:

Oct. 3, 2024

Menu: Roast Beef, Mashed

Potatoes, Green Beans, Green Salad and Peach Cobbler.

Guest Speaker:

Christina with APS—Adult

Protective Services.APS



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:

Oct. 31, 2024



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner

(408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

I recently attended the SIR State Summit meeting held on Tuesday the 24th at the Lafayette Veterans Hall in Walnut Creek. It started with a brief history of how SIR got started way back in 1959. It was the vision of one man, Damien Reynolds. We've come a long way since then with over 100 chapters and over 8000 members. However, we are now at a crucial point in that the last few years have seen a decline in our membership. The State Board has been working on several ways to improve and create new opportunities going forward. Here are a few of the suggestions;

- 1.) Change our nonprofit status to a 501c3. We are currently a 501c4. By changing to a C3 it would be a tax-deductible event for contributions.
- 2.) Update our mission statement and Slogan.
- 3.) Increase our presence in our communities.
- 4.) Change our branches to chapters and change our Titles of Big and Little SIR to President and Vice President.
- 5.) Update our name and Logo-This would be an expensive and doubtful change.
- 6.) Remove the word retirement from all our documents. Many of our members are still working
- 7.) Hiring an outside marketing and technology expert.
- 8.) Change to a gender-neutral organization. This is already up to the individual branches.
- 9.) Address the issue of our age-related culture. Currently the median age of an SIR member is 79. Yes, that means HALF of our members are 79 or over.

The board is establishing a special committee to deal with these issues and will be working on these over the next 6 months. We should have a major update early next year. The board is also looking for volunteers to step up and help out. There are several positions where a vice chair would really help out.

Here is the link to our SIR state website for any of you that want to get more information;

<https://sirinc.org/members/>

Our past president Dale Decker has been working on a special president's award to be given to the one who represents the finest in our SIR organization. It was quite a surprise to Dale that the board unanimously decided that Dale should be the first to receive the award. Dale couldn't be there in person but he was online via zoom. To say the least Dale was quite taken back by the award and very gracious to have received it. We can all be proud of Dale and all he has done for the betterment of SIR

Rick Bronner



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom

(209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

Our guest speaker this month will be Christina with APS. Adult Protective Services. APS goal is to prevent or correct conditions which cause elder adults to be mistreated by means of physical, sexual, financial, mental, neglect, isolation and or abandonment. She is happy to share all of this with our group and can't wait to be here with us.

This is October already. The time continues to speed on by. Next month we will be talking about preparing for winter with our outdoor power equipment. Some of us, including me, will still be using some equipment until winter. Proper storage is the key to keep our tools out of the shop to avoid expensive repairs and of course long wait times. I will see you in October.

Mike





Raul



Santana



October Birthdays

Thomas , Mark	10/01
Flores, Rudy	10/02
Souza , Edmund	10/11
Kraft, Jeff	10/11
Simons, Charles (Chuck)	10/11
Lundin, Rich	10/11
Feldman, Raymond	10/16
Simmons, Jim E.	10/23
Morrison, Bob	10/24
Kehr, Fred	10/26
Guenza, Bill	10/26

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>.

RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 770-3776



lcoinlady@aol.com
[No input for this issue]

Eddie Toews Past RV Chairman



CHAPLIN'S CORNER

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

No activity this month
Steven Gregory



GOLF CLUB NEWS

Raul Santana - (925) 451-7351



rsantana01@yahoo.com

The September golf tournament was held
at Pine Mountain Lake GC in Groveland.
The weather and course were great for the
24 participants. The format was a 2-man
Scramble with Stableford scoring. Due to
unforeseen circumstances, the final scoring
results were not available in time to make
this news bulletin.

The next to last tournament is scheduled
for October 15 at Teleli GC.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

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

[No report this issue due to our picnic]

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!





BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Ray Di Basilio **Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**

rdibasilio@gmail.com **bronnerrick@gmail.com**

Striking up Friendships

FROM RAY:

The tournament season is coming to an end with only two events remaining this year. Participation has been increasing and we are working to keep a similar schedule for next year. On September 9-10th, several SIRs traveled over the hill to Carson City for the Branch 160 tournament at Homegrown Lanes. The Dunbars, new owners of Homegrown Lanes, have done extensive remodeling over the summer months to give the center a fresh welcoming look. Tim Hall (formerly of Branch 113) and his committee pulled off a successful tournament with added prize money and a \$5 coupon toward lunch. Great job Tim!

I just got home from the Branch 73 Pacheco tournament on September 25-26th at Paddock Bowl. We have not held a tournament here for a couple of years and it was nice getting back to such a clean, friendly center. Wiley Bobo graciously took the helm as tournament manager. 63 bowlers joined the competition over the two days. Results are being tabulated as you read this and will be available on the SIR website soon.

Cindy and I will be attending the last two tournaments of the year. Let me know if you would like to join us.

Upcoming tournaments:

October 22 – Brentwood, Bowlero Brentwood

November 7-8 – Modesto, McHenry Lanes

For more information about SIR bowling, the full calendar, and applications, check out our website:

<http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>

Ray Di Basilio

FROM RICK:

There is an upcoming SIR Bowling tournament on Tuesday October 22nd. For most of us the one we're all looking forward to is the one in Modesto on the 7th and 8th of November at McHenry Lanes. Applications for Brentwood are already posted the SIR bowling website. As always, all your bowling information and applications are at:

<https://sirbowling.org/>

Rick Bronner



CAR CLUB NEWS



Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

I had the pleasure of hosting a BBQ for Santa Clara Corvettes on Friday night the 27th. While we enjoyed a wonderful meal mostly prepared by my wife Liz the real fun began the next day. This was our second annual Lube Room Run. The plan is to go up and over the Sonora pass and come back over Ebbetts pass and stop for lunch at the Lube Room in Dorrington. We started off about 8am in Sonora and our first stop was at the Donnell Vista lookout. What a spectacular view as the weather was perfectly clear. We then headed over the pass and took a brief stop at Walker. Our next stop was a lookout off of highway 89. Just as we finished pulling in the turnout down the road is another caravan of Corvettes. It's the Lake Tahoe Corvette Club. It was quite a scene to see all the Corvettes parked together. We had fun speaking with our fellow corvetters. We then proceeded on to the Lube Room where all enjoyed a fantastic lunch. A truly great time was had by all.

Rick Bronner



Rick helped us pack 10 Corvettes in his driveway



Fall colors were brightly displayed on the eastern slopes [see more pictures on pages 5-6.]

Our September guest speaker was

Sid Gordon – Agent



Sid has been with State Farm for 41 years, most of that time headquartered in Sonora.

State Farm is the largest writer of homeowners policies in CA, but they haven't written a new fire policy since may of 2023.

Every insurance company in CA must have enough funds on reserve to cover expected claims.

Tuolumne County is a high risk area. Risk and renewal decisions are based on individual address.

The CA Fair Plan is about the only option for someone needing new fire coverage—e.g.: a new home. However, the Fair Plan does not include liability, theft, and water damage and is not as good as a traditional homeowners policy.

The situation with CA fire insurance is supposedly being looked into at the state level, but so far, little is known about what changes may be implemented.

Sid also spend a little time covering the recent surge in automobile insurance rates. Insurance companies are for profit, and recent increases in the cost of automobiles, the cost of repairs, and hospital rates have eaten heavily into their margins.



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.



Our Corvette group at Donnell overlook—see Rick's Car Club article





By sheer coincidence, this group from Lake Tahoe joined us at an overlook -
See Rick's Car Club article





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	588-1345
		moderate hike every Friday	
Horseshoes	172	Rich Brandau	352-4320
		Last Thursday of the month	
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!**

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

Two Brokers serving you with an unparalleled level of service and a combined 56 years experience.

BLUEBIRD REALTY
www.BlueBirdRealty.com

Residential • Luxury Homes • Ranches • Land



Dot Popovich
Agent, Lic. #0B12959
558 S. Washington St.
Sonora, CA 95370-5116
Bus 209 532 4120
www.dotpopovich.com
dot@dotpopovich.com



Providing Insurance and Financial Services



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
California Insurance License OC24309

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

TAMARA M. POLLEY

242 S. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

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



Estate
Planning
Attorney

Sierra HEAVY DUTY
RV & TRUCK CENTER INC.

Steve Henley
Owner
(209) 532-7994
(209) 559-3840
After hours/Emergency
shop@sierraheavyduty.com
www.sierraheavyduty.com
18968 Waylon Way Sonora, CA 95370

Hairy's Family Haircuts
20999 Spanish Grant Dr Ste C, Sonora CA 95370

Jill Huckaby
209.533.0600

RJ Summit Electric Inc.
Lic# 881021
Industrial • Commercial • Residential
Emergency Services

*"High Quality...
for the High Country"*

James Moreda Jr.

Phone: (209) 588-8031
Fax: (209) 533-4350
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 - Dale D. Decker
Vice-President - Leland Lamp
2nd Vice President - Rich Carlston
Secretary - Rich Carlston
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 Banchero
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

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: Steve Holt (713) 842-0083

Asst Sec: Gene Zanoni (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).

STAMP

ADDRESS LABEL