



# BULLETIN

JANUARY 2008 Vol. 15 No.1

Twain Harte Branch #172 – P. O. Box 1143 Twain Harte, CA 95383

<http://www.sirtwain.org/>

## Don's Deliberations



My first message as Big Sir is to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. Our previous Big Sir passed on an active and successful Branch and it is my intent to keep it going that way. I would like to thank all the Directors and committee chairman for their time and commitment to the Branch and a special thanks to Henry Beltran for the excellent Christmas Dinner and the dining room presentation. Earl Nelson started off the New Year with a Branch-organized trip to the Rose Parade, and I have heard from those who attended that the whole trip was first class. I am pleased that Earl is staying on as Travel chairman for 2008. He has some exciting trips planned, so check the website regularly for details. Talking of the website, the new computer group chairman, Dick Chimenti, is taking on the task as webmaster for the site. The website is full of useful information and should be a regular site visit when you are surfing the web - [www.sirtwain.org](http://www.sirtwain.org). The new Little SIR, Ed Nissen arranged an interesting January speaker with the drug sniffing dog and I am sure he has some equally talented speakers lined up for 2008. At the next luncheon meeting you may notice a bar code on the back of your badge. This is part of a trial to streamline the checking in procedure for the monthly luncheon. The idea is to reduce some of the manual process our attendance chairman has to deal with in keeping track of luncheon attendees.

I hope to see many of you at the monthly luncheons and at the various functions our hard working committee and activity chairmen have set up for 2008.

## LUNCHEON

**Elks Club - Sonora**

**Thursday, February 7, 2008**

Refreshments - 11:00 a.m.

Luncheon at Noon

Price \$12

### MENU

**ROAST PORK/APPLE SAUCE  
BUTTERED DICED POTATOES  
GREEN BEANS  
GREEN SALAD  
COOKIES**

## OUR SPEAKER

**Rick Burkhard** of **Alternative Power Solutions** will talk about equipping homes and businesses with solar electric power systems. He is a local contractor, and has done many installations in our area. Just recently an article appeared about them in the Union Democrat.

## COMPUTER USERS GROUP MEETING

**by Dick Chimenti**

Computer User Group will meet on January 17th at 6pm at China House Restaurant, Twain Harte. The subject will be "Security (emphasis on FREE) on IBM Compatible PCs". The discussion will focus primarily on the subject matter but I intend to answer questions about security in general. Those of the Macintosh persuasion may find some of what is covered helpful although Mac users tend to have fewer security issues. Dinner at 6pm with the information portion of the meeting tentatively scheduled for 7pm.

## ATTENDANCE

**Planned Absence:** Call in to our answering service HOTLINE at 536-6333 before 12:00 Noon the day before the luncheon if you are requesting an excused absence. Anything later than that is considered an unexcused absence.

**Guests:** Please phone Bill Bamford, our Ass't Attendance Chairman, no later than the Sunday preceding the Thursday meeting if you plan to bring a guest. Your help to keep the number of meals correctly ordered is appreciated. You can contact Bill at 586-7279.

Herb Spierling, Attendance Chair  
herb@sierrasurfin.com 536-0380  
Bill Bamford, Assistant 586-7279

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

### BOYS

James	Alsup
Jerry	Ballesta
Jim	Downey
Jerry	Jensen
Van	McCown
Frank	Meckler
Vernon	Moore
Ray	Pfoutz
Bill	Smith
Herb	Spierling
Harvey	Uhl
Jerry	Van Buskirk

## WELCOME NEW SIR



**JERRY FOUNTAIN**

## WEBSITE PERSONAL PHOTOS

by Dick Chementi

We are designing a mechanism into the SIR web site that will allow viewers to click the member's name and bring up a photo of that member. It is thought that this will be particularly helpful to newer members of the organization to familiarize themselves with fellow SIRs. I was able to get 68 members' photos at the January 3rd luncheon and hope to be able to get the remaining members at subsequent luncheons. I will setup at the February 7th luncheon. If you didn't have your photo taken in January, I would ask that you come to the designated area and have your photo taken.

## DOG SNIFFING RESULTS

Rumor has it that at the conclusion of our last luncheon, long after we had all departed, the drug sniffing dog made a pass through the area as part of a training exercise, and found evidence of the following substances: ibuprofen, glucosamine, chondroitin, exlax, cortisone, ben gay, ginseng, vicodin, no doz, lipitor, claritin, anti-oxidants, omega 3, vitamin E and B 12, minoxidol, maalox, sleeping pills, caffeine, beer, wine, bourbon, scotch, brandy, whiskey, vodka, gin and vermouth, just to name a few. The most unusual of all was Cialis, that, in spite of the 36 hour "window of opportunity", went unused.

## Twain Harte Branch Officers

Big SIR	Don Denhard	536-0825
Little SIR	Ed Nissen	586-3307
Secretary	Dan Mohn	586-4430
Ass't Sec.	Dick Feaster	536-9106
Treasurer	Rich Brandau	586-3399
Ass't. Treas	Richard Robinson	588-9519

## Board of Directors

2nd Year:	Henry Beltran	586-3165
	Ray Pfoutz	533-9309
	Herb Spierling	536-0380

1st Year:	Bill Bamford	586-7279
	Paul Desrosiers	532-5754
	Dennis Honeychurch	586-2117

## Activity Chairmen

Attendance:	Herb Spierling
Ass't Attend:	Bill Bamford
To Be Absent:	536-6333
To Bring Guest:	586-7279
Bulletin:	Stu Heller
Bulletin Distrib:	Bill Anning
Chaplain:	Wayne Bolitho
Computer Group:	Dick Chimenti
Digital Photo:	Ray Pfoutz
Fellowship:	Carl Nunes
Golf:	Richard Broddie
Hiking:	Jerry Jensen
Historian:	Eddie Krause
Joke Master:	Arlen Richardson
Luncheon:	Henry Beltran
Luncheon Asst.	Jim McCracken
Membership:	Ralph Legg
Asst. Membship:	Bob Wright
Movie Group:	Ray Pfoutz
Ass't. Movie:	Gil Wesson
Publicity:	Gil Wesson
Drawing:	Rick DeSambad, Dean Squires
RV:	Harvey Uhl
RV Ass't:	Bob Becker
Song Master:	Jerry Lewis
Sound Master:	Dennis Honeychurch
Theater:	Ralph Bushnell
Ass't Theater:	Rich Brandau
Travel:	Earl Nelson
Website:	Dick Chimenti

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Bulletin is **MONDAY, February 11th**. Please send your articles to **Stu Heller**.

lakewoodancers@goldrush.com  
snail mail: 19511 Michigan Drive

Twain Harte, CA 95383



## **SIRS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY A SUCCESS**

On December 18, 2007, SIRS Chapter #172 held its annual Christmas Party at the Elks Lodge in Sonora. It was attended by 172 people consisting of members, spouses, and guests. It was a memorable evening, with wonderful food and entertainment. The room was well decorated for the holidays, as seen in the photo above, which does not do justice to the colorful table settings and lighting. Thanks to Henry Beltran and all the others who made the evening special.

## **SNOWSHOE HIKE - JANUARY 16, 2008**

by Jerry Jensen, Hiking Chairman

Our January snowshoe outing is proposed for January 16. The location will be at the Dodge Ridge Cross Country Ski Area near Pinecrest. We will meet at Epronson Park (by the golf course) in Twain Harte at **9:00 AM** and car pool to the Snowshoe/ Cross Country Area. Snowshoes can be rented at the Dodge Ridge Ski area for the day, or they can be rented from other local vendors such as SNAC on Washington Street, Sonora, prior to the hike. The snow is expected to be good after this week's storms. The terrain is flat to gently sloping and presents interesting vistas.

For new members, or those SIRs who have not yet joined us on one of our snowshoe treks, we typically walk from 1 to 3 miles round trip with only moderate elevation change. Picture taking breaks are frequent. We plan to eat lunch on the trail if the weather is good.

We will hold the snowshoe hike as scheduled unless a major weather change occurs, in which case the hike will be rescheduled. Light snow or clouds will not affect the hike. Please dress appropriately for the expected weather. Several layers of clothing that can be removed as the temperature rises and a good windbreaker should be adequate since snowshoeing is good, vigorous exercise.

Everybody is welcome and no special conditioning is needed for most members. Call Jerry Jensen for more information or if you have questions on clothing or equipment rental. Please join us, and feel free to suggest new hikes or other activities that you would like to participate in.

## **TRAVEL**

by Earl Nelson

The Rose Parade Trip was a huge success with 23 participants enjoying a champagne New Years Eve in North Hollywood. In the morning we were driven to our reserve seats on the Rose Parade route where we witnessed over two hours of pageantry and music. The afternoon was taken up by either a trip to Universal Studios, Universal City Walk or a nap. The next morning took us to the Rose Parade Float Viewing Area. These floats are very impressive when viewed close up.

I am looking at another short trip for May. I will keep everyone posted. We still have some space on the River Cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam on Sept. 25, 2008. Call or e-mail me if you want further information. Earl Nelson, 586-5661 or earlnelson@aol.com.

## BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on **Monday, February 4, 2008** at Papa's New Roost. Breakfast starts at **7 AM** and the meeting at **8 AM**. All officers, board members and activity chairmen are urged to attend. Other members of our branch are also welcome to come and sit in.

## Fellowship

Please give me a call if you know of a fellow SIR or member of his family who is ill or has passed away. An appropriate card will be sent to the member or his family.

Carl Nunes, 532-9017

## Treasurer's Report for the Year Ending 2007

by Rich Brandau, Treasurer

The year 2007 came and went without any budgetary problems. SIR Gary Bogolea has once again agreed to conduct an audit on the 2007 budget and I trust he will find that we are in sound financial order.

In summary, we ended the year with actual operating income of \$4,511 and final recurring general expenditures of \$4,035. Compared to the approved 2007 budget, we showed a net increase in income of \$646 and a decrease in expenditures of \$111, for a surplus of approximately \$757 for the year ending December 2007.

On December 28th, the Board of Directors approved the 2008 general operating budget of \$4,209 (income) and \$3,815 (expenses). These amounts are consistent with prior approved budgets. However, adjustments to the expenditure side of the budget may occur if special expenditures are approved by the Board of Directors during the course of the year. Should any fellow SIR have a question on last year's final budget or the 2008 budget, please feel free to contact me at 586-3399 or via my email address at [rbrandau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rbrandau@sbcglobal.net).

## SIR RULES & REGULATIONS

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. 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 420 & 421). Members are obligated to attend all regular luncheon meetings unless prevented by illness or absence from the branch locale. (Rule 60). **REQUIRED ATTENDANCE** - Article 8 - Required Attendance

Rule 100. A member may be notified in writing by his Branch of the pending termination of his membership (Rule 107) should he be responsible for any of the following:

a. Miss three (3) consecutive regular luncheon meetings without having been excused by contacting the designated Branch Attendance person prior to the meeting date.

b. Did not attend one-half of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. Note: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance. (Revised 6/6/06)

Rule 101. Certification of attendance by a member at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. Individual Branches may limit the number of make-ups during a 12 month period.

Rule 102. Attendance by a State elected or appointed officer, State Advisor or State Committeeman at a meeting of the State Board, a meeting of a State standing committee or a meeting required by the Bylaws or Standing Rules, shall be a credit to his requirements. The attendance by any other member at such a meeting may likewise be so credited by the Branch Executive Committee.

**State Officers:** President - Tom Ross; Director Region 3 - Ken Edwards; Area Governor - Bill Andrews; Editor, *Sir Happenings*, Dwight Sale.

**Websites:** State website - [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org) Twain Harte 172 - [www.sirtwain.org](http://www.sirtwain.org); Jackson Branch 96 website - [www.sir96.org](http://www.sir96.org); Sonora Branch 136 - [www.sonorasirs.org](http://www.sonorasirs.org).

**DATED MATERIAL**

Sons In Retirement  
Twain Harte Branch # 172  
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