

Rooster's Tale



Sons in Retirement – Branch 110

Meeting October 28, 2024 1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA
Luncheon at 11:30 am–Executive Committee at 9:30 am

Program: The October program will be about the services Chico State provides for the students. As we learned last month, enrollment at the University has a critical effect on the Chico economy so retention of students is critical. The featured speaker for our October 28th Luncheon Meeting is **Dr. Issac Brundage**, the Vice President for Student Affairs. In this role, Brundage provides leadership for a full range of services for Chico State students, including admissions and enrollment, financial aid and scholarships, residence life and student housing, health and counseling services, on-campus student organizations and NCAA athletics. Dr. Brundage brings more than 20 years of senior-level higher education experience to the role. He has prior experience at Western New Mexico University, Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida A&M University.



Lunch: The price of a salad will be reduced to \$18. The price of lunch is still \$20.

Lunch Menu	Attendance Communication
We will have pot roast, mashed potatoes, green beans, and bread. Dessert will be cheese cake.	It is important to communicate whether you will participate in the October luncheon. Please respond to the survey , but if you could not do the survey, and if you WILL attend , contact Rocky Rockwell at 916-209-3217 or Dave Jones at 530-895-1022 by Thursday, October 24.

Big Sir Message: Thanks to Mike Egbert the President of the Chico Chamber, our



September speaker on the activities that they provide to improve the downtown experience for the Chico community. He was recruited out of retirement by local businessmen to bring the Chico Chamber of Commerce back to life after Covid. With his background in growing businesses, it seemed a perfect fit to bring a fresh new direction for the long vacant advocate for the local businesses. Mike left his own research consulting firm that was instrumental in shaping the landscape of Radio broadcasting stations across the United States and Canada using his expertise in consumer research and planning. He indicated he had done a lot of work in Chico in the past with his consulting business and that

moving here to help the local businesses he felt it was a perfect fit. One of the first projects was to clean up the downtown experience. He said that working with the downtown ambassadors, property owners, local tenants, and the University his goal is to make our downtown experience to feel safe and comfortable. One of his first projects is that all downtown vacant store fronts (23) have some form of art that has local flair, so it reflects a positive image. He also indicated that he has been a regular attendee at the City Council meetings, become a participant in most all the local boards and focus groups. He also indicated that the very unpopular parking meters are here to stay. He has

requested that local business operators and employees help the folks that struggle in the new meter experience whenever they can. I feel we all enjoyed his talk as there were a lot of great questions. He indicated that he works hand in hand with the Downtown Chico Business Association (DCBA). They both work to clean up and improve the downtown businesses. In my mind, they should combine forces in the near future.

This month we were scheduled to have the current President of Chico State, Dr. Steve Perez, as the October speaker. Unfortunately, a conflict with a state meeting developed and he is unavailable. However, The Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr Issac Brundage, has agreed to step in for him. Please see the information above. . *Dave*

2024 Officers and Directors

Big Sir: Dave Jones		Little Sir: Don Sturt	
Secretary: Bob Dinger	Asst. Sec.: Dave Rush	Data Base Mgr: Rocky Rockwell	
Treasurer: Charles Staser	Asst. Treas. : Jose Lopez	Parliamentarian: Ken Edson	
Director: Ken Edson (3rd term)	Director: Ron Braziel (3rd term)	Director: Bill Colvin (3rd term)	
Director: Randy Benson(2ndterm)	Director: Mike Nicholas (1st term)	Director: Joe Navarro (1stterm)	



Please check out our website for frequent updates and new humor.


Branch 110 Website: <http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org>


Webmaster: Ron Braziel


SIR 110 Activities


Please remember that when planning SIR activities, it is critical that approval be obtained from the BEC and have it entered into the minutes for insurance coverage.

Hiking		<p>We scheduled a hiking activity for Tuesday, October 8. While we are past the hot temperatures of</p>	
<p>summer, fall so far has proved to be a warm weather proposition. We hiked in Upper Bidwell Park, heading out on the Middle Trail then dropping down to the Yahi Trail at Bear Hole for the hike back. We saw some of the area burned by the Park Fire but along the Yahi Trail there was plenty of shade near the creek and it was a pleasant outing. We went by the area where the Park Fire started. We stopped and thought about the acres and structures that burned, and also the remarkable fact that no one died fighting or fleeing the Park Fire. We completed our circular route at Horseshoe and headed for home. Keep an eye out for an announcement for our November hike. One possibility is hiking in the Redding area.</p>		<p>Pictured left to right is Rich Utter, Vincent Herrera and Randy Benson</p>	

Bridge		<p>The bridge players have played four sessions in the last month. Bob Dinger and Ed Matzdorff have each won a session. Please come join this friendly Bridge group. They meet weekly on Thursdays at 2750 Sierra Sunrise Terrace in Chico at noon. <u>Call Bob Dinger at 530-892-9063 for information.</u></p>
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<h2>History</h2>		<p>The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, at 10 am at 6 Stratford Way. This meeting will continue discussions about <u>Old Grocery Stores of Chico</u> and a new project on producing a book with</p>
<p>biographical sketches on prominent 20th century citizens of Chico.</p>		
<p>The History Group has been very busy and has published "<u>Post Offices of Chico 1881-2024</u>" by Don Alger and Ray Rolls. It is digitally published and available on the SIR Branch 110 website. It is On the website under Site Map, click on "Activities" and then on "Current Activities" then on "History Group". This book is also available on Amazon.com for \$5.00.</p>		
<p>The history of the Chico Brewery by Ray Wilson will soon be published.</p>		
<p>If you would be interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).</p>		


<h2>ABV 110</h2>		<p>The next tentatively planned ABV activity will be a wine tasting on Friday, November 1 at 3 pm at the La Rocca Tasting Room at 222 W. 2nd Street. More details will be provided later but please save the date for fun, food and sampling organic wines.</p>
<p>To be added to the email list, contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).</p>		

<h2>Pinochle</h2>		<p>For September, the winners are: Maggie Navarro - 1st; Charles Clayton - 2nd; Paul Zigler - 3rd. Next lunch and game date is the 4th Wednesday, October 23 at 11 am at BCCC. Come join the fun group. Call Joe Navarro at 343-0832 with questions.</p>
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<h2>Wood Working</h2>		<p>Due to a lack of participation, there are no longer regular meetings. If someone has a project that needs a little help, call Craig Lindquist at 530-898-8483 or Bill Gebhardt at 530-879-0429 for more information.</p>
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<h2>Pickleball</h2>		<p>The pickleball club will be resuming sometime in late October. When the weather cools down, we are looking at changing the time from 2:00 pm to 12 noon on Thursdays. Your feedback is welcome. Jay Hanson can be reached at jbirdhanson1@gmail.com.</p>
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<h2>Bowling</h2>		<p>SIR Bowling meets Tuesdays at 6 pm at Bowlero. This is a drop-in league that meets each week, so you can attend every Tuesday or when the mood strikes you. If you decide to show up near a holiday or as summer approaches, you might want to check to make sure the bowling night is happening. The cost is \$17 for three games plus shoe rental. There is a \$25 league enrollment fee so your first time to bowl will be \$42 then \$17 each time thereafter. Please contact Randy Benson with any questions at 530-513-9815.</p>
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<h2>Golf</h2>		<p>Branch 110 Golf is a very popular activity not only for our members but also for other local SIR Branches. There are tournaments usually twice a month on Mondays with a variety of entertaining formats at different courses. Call Darrell Hands, the Chair of the activity, at 530-966-1303 for information.</p>
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On Monday, September 9, 41 Sirs played at Rolling Hills

1 st Net = 55.5	2 nd Net = 59.8	3 rd Net = 60.1	4 th Net = 60.8
ATKIN, NORM	DAVIS, SAM	GLAZINER, KYLE	BROSSOIT, PAUL
HIMMLER, KURT	HERMAN, CRAIG	KNOWLTON, JACK	EBER, JEFF
VELASCO, STEVE	HANDS, DARRELL	PARSONS, DICK	GOOCH, JERRY
VELASQUEZ, JOE			PERTUIT, GLEN

CLOSEST TO PIN 4: STASER, CHARLES - 7' 9"; MCNAMARA, DENNIS - 16' 11" **PIN 6:** HERMAN, CRAIG - 12' 1"; QUINTO, RAY - 15' 5" **PIN 12:** HERMAN, CRAIG - 4' 8"; GRIFFIN, RON - 6' 0" **PIN 14:** LIM, MIKE - 4' 11"; VELASQUEZ, JOE - 6' .25" **PIN 16:** VELASQUEZ, JOE - 10' 2"; MCNAMARA, DENNIS - 12' 7"

On Monday, September 16, 31 Sirs played a tournament at Bidwell


1 st Net = 134	2 nd Net = 138	3 rd Net = 141
BAKER, KEN	GALLAWAY, JOE	VELASQUEZ, JOE
BARNUM, DAVE	SHOOK, DOUG	STURT, DON
BRUGGMAN, DENNIS	KEYSER, DENNIS	DAY, JEFF
DEMME, CHARLES	WESSELS, BOB	MOORE, DAVE

CLOSEST TO PIN 2: HERMAN, CRAIG - 11' 8"; HIMMLER, KURT - 12' 6" **PIN 4:** GALLAWAY, JOE - 10' 8"; KNOWLTON, JACK - 11' 11" **PIN 7:** QUINTO, RAY - 17' 0"; DONAHOO, SCOT - 19' 6" **PIN 12:** ATKIN, NORM - 19' 11"; KEYSER, DENNIS - 25' 6" **PIN 16:** BARNUM, DAVE - 15' 7"; HERMAN, CRAIG - 21' 5"

Piscatology			<p>If interested in fishing, join us for breakfast on November 14th at the Cozy Diner, at 7:30 am. Call Bill Colvin 530-521-7269, or Bob Weckerle 530-864-6698</p>
<p>The Fishing Group was fishing at Lake Almanor, staying with Don Phillips at his cabin/home on Almanor West. The weather has been perfect for 12 fishermen with 5 boats. Pictured is some of the Lake Almanor group.</p>			

SIR 110 Information Resources

This is information related to History that does not represent official Branch 110 activities, but does provide information about other history events.

History		<p>There will be an endeavor to keep folks informed about upcoming history related activities. Contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452) for more information about the following.</p>
<p><u>Chico History Museum Events</u></p>		
<p>October 19: " Entertainment Ventures In 20th Century Chico"</p>		
<p>October 26: "Chico State College Pioneer Week"</p>		
<p><u>Butte County Historical Society Events</u></p>		
<p>October 19: "Leaving, Settling, Developing, Achieving" The story of 19th and 20th century migrations and founding of the Southside Community in Oroville.</p>		
<p>November 16: "Rancho Golden in the 20th Century"</p>		



There are now 135 members including 8 on Attendance Relief. Membership brochures and applications are always available at the membership table or you can call Don Levensaler at **530-520-3291** to **get one via the postal service.**

Roster Updates

Since the preparation and printing of the 2024 Roster in January, some changes have occurred. The "Roster Updates" will help keep members informed of **current membership**. If you need to communicate with a new member, contact Rocky Rockwell (530-961-3418).

Members not in the 2024 Roster	Ralph Skytte	John Schaller	Dan Bequette	Dana Davis
	Kevin Hennessy	Bill Knudsen	Paul Tullius	Joe Gallaway
	Len Spesert	Jim Cagno	Gil Jones	Steve Miller
Vince Herrera	Duncan Way	Kurt Himmler	Jeff Owings	

New Members in September



Name: **Duncan Way**
 Wife: Bette
 Occupation: Vocational Counselor
 Interests: Book Club, Golf, Fishing, Pickleball, Yoga
 Sponsored by: Vince Herrera



Name: **Kurt Himmler**
 Wife: Sandi
 Occupation: Electrical Contractor
 Interests: Golf, Horseshoes, Book Club, Veterans
 Sponsored by: Dave Jones



Name: **Jeff Owings**
 Wife: Myong
 Occupation: Electrician – Napa Electric
 Interests: Bowling, Fishing
 Sponsored by: Dana Davis

Guests in September

Mark Chrisman - guest of Dave Rush

Gary DeYoung - guest of Jim Renlund

Announcements

Editor's Note: The deadline for the **November** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, October 31**. Send your information by email at dalger@csuchico.edu or phone at 530- 894-2452.

Future Programs: On **November 18th**, we will have a Veterans program presented by Sean Farley. The **December 16th** program will be Christmas Music by the Sounds of the Valley group.

State SIR Bulletin: (Sir Happenings) is available for review at <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>.

Christmas Dinner Party: Please see the next page for the information.

State SIR Meeting Report: Please see page 7 for the information.

Please Help! Branch 110 is in dire need of assistance.

We need to fill important positions and find back-up people for other tasks. Please contact Big Sir Dave Jones, if you are willing to help.

SIR Branch No. 110
2024 Christmas Dinner Party
will be held at

MANZANITA
Place
1705 Manzanita Ave.

Monday, December 2, 2024
5:00 PM Social -- 6:00 PM Dinner
MENU CHOICES
ROAST BEEF
TURKEY
VEGETARIAN
Cost: \$25.00 per person.
Holiday
Entertainment
Prizes!! **Happy Holidays** **Prizes!!**
to
Everyone!
Please make checks payable to
SIR Branch No. 110.

Tickets will be on sale at the **October** and **November** luncheon meetings, but **NOT** at the door.
Graphics are courtesy of Ray Rolls

State SIR Meeting Report

Gentleman: Don Sturt, Chip Merriam (Branch 84) and I went down to the State meeting in Lafayette on Tuesday September 24th. We were introduced to the new SIR State President Rich Carlston. He has a fabulous resume as 30+ years as a Real Estate litigator for the Federal Real Estate Group and the National Association of Realtors. He spoke to us about how many hours that the State officers spend on SIR. He indicated that most of them work full time as much as 50 hours a week for a non-paid position to keep this group functioning like it does. He said that 1/3 of the branches are in steep decline, 1/3 are just staying the same, and the last 1/3 are growing at a 10% growth rate a year. He indicated that they have an annual budget of almost \$80,000 and the expenses last year were about \$77,000 so there is a 2-3% at most carryover. One of the big problems he said we always have had is the Insurance costs. If we drop many more members the Insurance may be much more expensive. That doesn't appear to be a big problem from the Insurance guy in his speech. He indicated if the Insurance Company continues to do business in CALIFORNIA, we will be OK. (FYI in the long history of SIR there have been only 2 claims against the Insurance Company. One was a very frivolous charge but the second was a guest died from eating a bad piece of Corned Beef at a St. Patricks's Day lunch. He indicated the guy got out of his death bed to come to the event but nevertheless he died after lunch)

Rich Carlston indicated that the two main problems in SIR are **MEMBERSHIP** and **LEADERSHIP**. That is exactly our problem in Branch 110. When he started to talk about the States solutions, I fully expected to be in the cross hairs of State folks' bitter feelings, if not just pure distain, to the 110 and 84 branches for our recent letters in opposition of their ideas. I personally felt that our recent negative input to most all the States vision of the future SIR was going to be front and center. I again thought that by being in direct conflict on the State's direction, we were going to have to defend our position all day long. We had no idea to what degree their plan going forward would contrast with ours. During the introduction of all our membership problems and the drastic decline of SIR members and branches since COVID, the State folks did a great job with statistics graphs and personal speeches. They were well prepared to visually explain the situation in the SIR world. Actually, we now have about 6,400 members statewide and in the big picture that is down over 40% in the last 4 or 5 years or so. There is a problem, as we all are aware. One solution is our plan is in opposition to the State's plan. They did, in the narrative of the problem, mention SIR Branch 110 as to their plan and ours.

The big surprise was that our opposition was successful. We learned that our emails had been received and were taken seriously. All of the questions from the floor referenced the future and solutions rather than the State's. One member indicated women were welcomed in their branch but I figured that he lived in a Senior Living Association. We were presently surprised that there was **NO VOTE** or much talk at all about their plan (this year). We did get a speaker talking about the proposed charge to a 501c 3 but this is only a 1-year moratorium. They created a WHITE PAPER and are creating a subcommittee to create a "SIR BRANCH ADVISORY COUNCIL". This advisory council will be comprised of branch leaders, it will be charged with helping the SIR Board of Directors establish the strategic direction and develop the implementation of plans to sustain SIR. **This is a one-year delay only.** We need to stay focused on this to not be forced into these drastic changes. In the Q and A time, most of the questions pertained to the two hot topic's Women joining and the change in the tax status. They did say that they missed out on some donations recently because of the write-off provisions in the two. In the questions it sounded most everyone there was not in favor of opening it up to women except in a few branches it made sense. Rich Carlston did say that they did need to get some further legal opinions on some of these proposed changes. Most of the questions were in favor of our positions. They were asked just who will vote on any changes in the future. They were asked if it was the membership, the BEC's or just the State folks will determine the future, and the answer that I heard wasn't clear (maybe on purposes). They then went over the difficulty getting feedback from the individual branches and individual members. Kind of vague but Rich said that they didn't have a complete list of all members. (They are almost 1,550 short of emails addresses of the general membership. We are very fortunate in the work that Rocky does for our club. I bet we're in the top 2% of the State SIRs reporting). He kind of glossed over the BEC but I can't believe that they can make these changes without input from the BEC's. In summation: We were amazed at all the OLD GUY'S that showed up on Tuesday!!

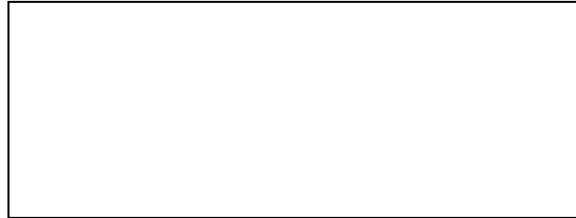
We have one year and the clock is ticking. *Dave*



Don Alger, Editor
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

If you have an October Birthday, please join us at the October 28th luncheon and see what you might win.

Robert	Huss	Oct	2	Lou	Mione	Oct	14	Jeffrey	Hartmann	Oct	23
James	Johnson	Oct	8	William	Bebensee	Oct	14	Howard	Hanson	Oct	23
Charles	Staser	Oct	9	Raymond	Schimmel	Oct	18	William	Colvin	Oct	26
Roger	Merlo	Oct	11	Jim	Barger	Oct	22	Alfredo	Romero	Oct	30
Jose	Lopez	Oct	14								

It is possible to get a free lunch. Both the sponsor and his guest will receive a free lunch when the guest joins and is inducted.

Please, be a friend and bring a friend to the next SIR meeting!

RANDOM THOUGHTS

When I say, "the other day", I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.