

Rooster's Tale



Sons in Retirement – Branch 110

Meeting February 24, 2025 1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA

Luncheon at 11:30 am–Executive Committee at 9:30 am

Program: The February 2025 SIR Branch 110 luncheon program will be related to the **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)**. The speaker will be **Jacob Gilliam**. Jacob Gilliam is a resident of Chico, California. With 25 years of experience in the fire service, Jacob has built a distinguished career. He has been serving as a Fire Captain since 2016, having dedicated over two decades to firefighting and emergency response.

Jacob's fire service journey began with the U.S. Forest Service Hotshots, where he spent seven years honing his skills. In 2007, he joined CAL FIRE. In 2011, Jacob was promoted to Fire Apparatus Engineer, working in the Tehama-Glenn and Butte Units.

In 2016, Jacob earned his promotion to Fire Captain. He has played a key role in the initial attack on several major fires, including the Camp Fire, Bear Fire, Dixie Fire, and most recently, the Park Fire.

Jacob's career reflects his deep commitment to protecting his community and his expertise in both firefighting and public safety

Lunch: **The price of a salad has been reduced to \$18. The price of lunch is still \$20.**

Lunch Menu	Attendance Communication
Pork chop with mandarin orange sauce, mixed vegetables, stir fry garlic rice, and lemon bars.	It is important to communicate whether you will participate in the February luncheon. <u>Please respond to the survey</u> , but if you could not do the survey, and <u>if you WILL attend</u> , contact Rocky Rockwell at 916-209-3217 or Dave Jones at 530-895-1022 by Thursday, February 20.



Big Sir Message: I want to thank Bob Ediger, Dana Davis, Mike Nicholas, and Len Spesert for the excellent talks they gave when our speaker failed to show up. We all have fascinating experiences in life. It is possible that we have many other great stories that other members could share with us. If you would like to share a life adventure with us, let me know. We might want to schedule a day where we have three or four speakers from our club, rather than an outside speaker.

Our History group is on a roll! They have published two great books... "Post Offices of Chico" and "The Brewer and the Blacksmith." Ray Rolls, Don Alger and Ray Wilson have created wonderful accounts of the history of Chico. If you have not picked up your copy of the books, see Jim Brazil.

Our next speaker is Jacob Gillian, a Cal Fire captain. After reading about his background, I believe we will find his presentation very interesting. He has a great deal of experience as a firefighter.

At the last meeting I spoke about the Grouper program, which has not been adopted yet by our state board. If it is approved and a member signs up, he will receive \$50 for signing up and then \$20 every quarter for participating in SIR, provided their secondary insurance company supports the program.

As you heard at the last meeting, there is discussion going on regarding the possibility of combining the SIR branches in Chico into one. We appointed Dave Jones to discuss this with the other branch. We have 133 members, and they have about 80 members. Several of their members participate in our programs, such as golf, hiking, bowling, and fishing. We will be meeting with them to review the pros and cons of combining the groups. In the event both branches decide to move forward with a proposal, it will be reviewed by both BEC's and by the state board then it would be presented to the membership for a vote.

As we all know, friendship, social, physical and mental engagements increase life's quality and length. Have you mentioned to an acquaintance or friend how you benefit from being a member of SIR? Invite them to lunch. Keep Smiling! *Don S.*

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

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

Webmaster: Ron Braziel

2025 Officers and Directors

Big Sir: Don Sturt		Little Sir: Ralph Skytte	
Secretary: Bob Dinger	Asst. Sec.: Dave Rush	Data Base Mgr: Rocky Rockwell	
Treasurer: Charles Staser	Asst. Treas.: Jose Lopez	Parliamentarian: Ken Edson	
Director: Randy Benson (3rd term)	Director: Mike Nicholas (2nd term)	Director: Joe Navarro (2nd term)	
Director: Mike Gross (1st term)	Director: Dave Jones (1st term)	Director: Jan Loring (1st term)	

Health, Memorials and Wisdom

In order to include information about Branch 110 members who have health issues or have passed away, **everyone's assistance is requested**. If you know of a member who has had health issues or has recently died, please provide the information to Don Alger. Let's not miss acknowledging our fellow members.

**The biggest communication problem is
people do not listen to understand.
They just listen to reply.**

The Annual Basket Collection (ABC) fee is due for 2025 by April 1.

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



Our **Tuesday February 18**, hike will take us to the Oroville Dam Train Tunnel alongside the Thermalito Diversion Pool and the Feather River

PLACE: Meet at the Park and Ride lot nearest Highway 99 along Fir Street and carpool to Oroville. Lunch afterward in the Oroville area (optional).

DATE: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 **TIME:** 9:45 am

WEAR: Layers, hat, walking or hiking shoes or boots.

LOGISTICS: Bring water. Bring a snack, if desired. Bring a headlamp or flashlight. Suggest bringing sunscreen, eye protection, lip balm, walking poles or staff if desired, a personal first aid kit, and a hat. Binoculars could come in handy to bird watch. Include in your pack the name of an emergency contact, contact information and medical insurance information. Bring money for lunch (optional).

COMMENTS: This hike is mostly along a walking path but sections are uneven. Without light the uneven train tunnel can be hazardous. The path is generally even terrain with gradual elevation changes. Surfaces can include rocks and potholes and can be slippery from rain and leaves. Be alert to tripping and fall hazards. **For additional information please contact Rich Utter, Randy Benson or Jim Hertl.**

Piscatology



The SIR 110 fishing group meets for breakfast and a monthly meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 am at the Cozy Diner on Mangrove Avenue.

We have monthly fishing trips scheduled for the spring through fall. If interested in learning more attend our meeting or talk to us at the monthly luncheon.


Past Successful Experiences





Vern Hartman




Tim Casaulong

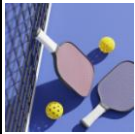
<p>Bridge</p>		<p>The Bridge players played last month. There were no Branch 110 winners. Please come join this friendly Bridge group. They meet weekly on Thursdays at 2750 Sierra Sunrise Terrace in Chico at noon. <u>Call Bob Dinger at 530-892-9063 for information.</u></p>
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<p>History</p>		<p>The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, 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 of</p>
<p>Biographical Sketches of Notable 20th Century Residents of Chico. Information on the <u>Flour Mills and Flumes of Chico</u> will also be presented. Issues related to the Bidwell Mansion fire and what might be some future plans will be introduced. If you would be interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).</p>		

<p>ABV 110</p>		<p>A visit to Feather Falls Brewery is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, at 3 pm for a tour and tasting. Yeah, Yeah, it is not the usual Thursday time but Wednesday was the only reasonable February time available.</p>
<p>To be added to the email list, contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).</p>		

<p>Pinochle</p>		<p>Pinochle results. The winners for January are: Cindy Heffren - 1st; Barbara Favilla - 2nd; Patsy Stile - 3rd. Next date is Wednesday, February 26, BCCC, 11 am for lunch and cards.</p>
<p>Come join the fun group. <u>Call Joe Navarro at 343-0832 with questions.</u></p>		

<p>Wood Working</p>		<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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<p>Pickleball</p>		<p>The Pickleball group has been enjoying good weather for most of January and continues to have fun at 20th Street. We encourage you to bring a friend.</p>
<p>There are plenty of courts available. As the leader of the group I am impressed by the progress that our members have made in their skills and understanding the rules. Come on out and enjoy the fun. Jay Hanson can be reached at jbirdhanson1@gmail.com</p>		

The Annual Basket Collection (ABC) fee is due for 2025 by April 1.

Bowling



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.

Book Exchange



We're getting more books brought to the SIR Book Exchange and more books taken home. We're delighted because our goal is to offer books to our branch that our members enjoy taking home to read and members bringing books to the monthly lunch for someone else to enjoy reading.

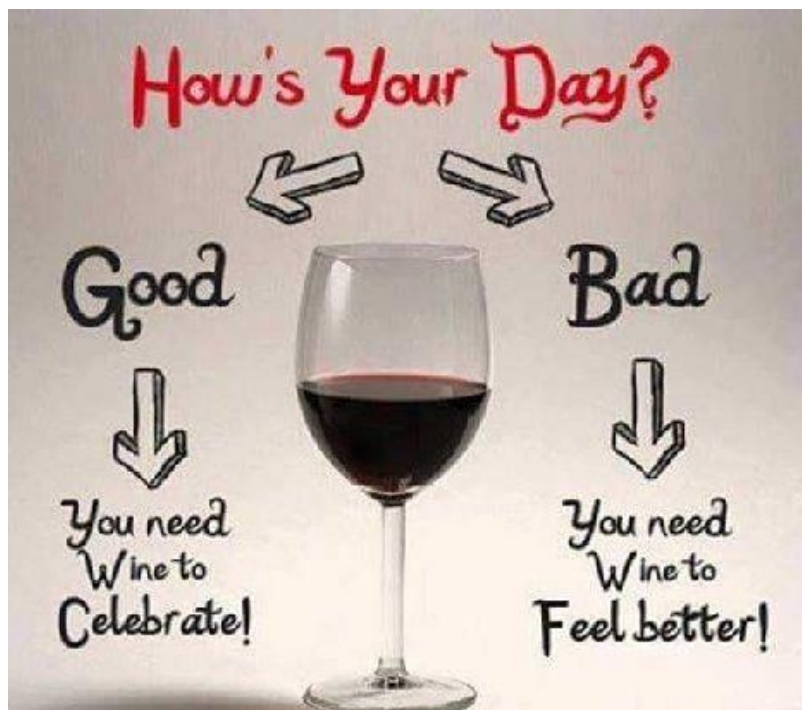
Please bring some books to exchange and lay them out on the table provided and take some books home with you. The book exchange will start during the social time before the lunch meeting. Look for the book exchange at the next lunch meeting on February 24.


Please contact Rich Utter or Randy Benson with any questions.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

Don't wear headphones while vacuuming. I just finished the whole house before realizing the vacuum was not plugged in.

Humor from Jose Lopez



Golf		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.
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On January 13, 47 Sirs played at Bidwell

1 st Net = 60.0	2 nd Net = 61.1	3 rd Net = 61.6	4 th Net = 62.6	5 th Net = 63.5
GIFFORD, KEVIN	PERTUIT, GLEN	DZWONEK, TED	HIMMLER, KURT	GLAZINER, KYLE
MAIN, ED	PETERSON, RON	HANDS, DARRELL	LEE, LLOYD	HERMAN, CRAIG
SHOOK, DOUG	PORTERFIELD, CAP	MARTINSON, KEITH	VAN PATTEN, ALEX	KEYSER, DENNIS
WESSELS, BOB	STASER, CHARLES	VELASQUEZ, JOE	VELASCO, STEVE	MOORE, DAVE

CLOSEST TO PIN 2: WHITE, GARY - 4' 9"; HILDENBRAND, LARRY - 20' 3" **PIN 4:** CAMY, DON - 44' 5"; EBER, JEFF - 49' 8" **PIN 7:** GRAY, MARK - 5"; VELASQUEZ, JOE - 22' 4"
PIN 12: STASER, CHARLES - 27' 7" **PIN 16:** WESSELS, BOB - 8' 4"; PORTERFIELD, CAP - 8' 9"

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 related events.

History		There will be an endeavor to keep folks informed about upcoming history related community events. Contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452) for more information about history activities.
<u>Chico History Museum Events</u>		
Saturday, February 15: John Bidwell- Overland To California In 1841		

MEMBERSHIP	<p style="text-align: center;">There are now <u>132</u> members including <u>8</u> on Attendance Relief.</p> <p>Membership brochures and applications are always available at the membership table or you can call <u>Sam Smith</u> at 530-720-1041 to get one via the postal service.</p>
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ABC Fees

The Annual Basket Collection (ABC) fee is due for 2025 by April 1. It will be \$25.00 for the year and it will be collected at the membership table in February. If you will not be at the February 24th meeting, and have not paid, a check made out to SIR Branch 110 can be mailed to Sam Smith, 25 Abbott Circle, Chico, CA 95973, by April 1.

For those who may be wondering what this ABC is all about. Well, we have a variety of expenses which include State SIR "dues", costs for various printing requirements, and the occasional fees for activities such as the Christmas party and music groups. Historically, this was handled by a monthly passing of "baskets" for members to pay two dollars. For a variety of reasons, it seemed more efficient to just collect the fee once a year and it was termed the Annual Basket Collection in reference to prior monthly basket collections. Now you have the "rest of the story".

Roster Updates

There will be a new SIR Branch 110 Roster available for the February meeting which will have the current membership at that time. The "Roster Updates" feature will resume as we add new members to help keep members informed of current membership.

If you need to communicate with future new members, contact Rocky Rockwell (530-961-3418).

January Guests

Warren Locke - guest of John Janinis

Mark Hill - guest of Bill Knudsen

Announcements

Editor's Note: The deadline for the **March** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, March 6**. Send your information by email to dalger@csuchico.edu or phone at 530-894-2452.

Future Programs: On **March 24**, Felipe Restrepo will present his perspective, as the coach, on the Chico State men's soccer program. For **April 28**, we will have a Neil Road Landfill presentation. Our **May 19 (Third Monday)** program will be about the CSU Concrete Program.

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

Travel Opportunities: Although our travel activity has been officially cancelled, Jose Lopez is still receiving travel information from the State SIR. If you might be interested in travel to Vietnam/Cambodia in 2025 or Australia/New Zealand or Japan/Korea in 2026 request information from Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu).

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

The list of some of the needs is shown below.

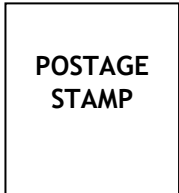
There are different details for duties and requirements for the assignments listed and in particular for the "Assistant" positions. Brief indication are listed under the requirements. The needs for the assistant positions vary from just emergency occasional backup needs to full replacement responsibilities. If you are willing to help out but have questions, please ask for more information.

Assignment	Requirements
1. Activities Oversight Chairman	Minimal time responsibilities for evaluation of SIR activities
2. Recruitment Committee Chairman	Minimal requirements for providing recruitment information
3. Attendance Committee Assistant	Familiarity with using Excel and name badge responsibilities
4. Fall BBQ Committee Chairman	Organizing the Fall BBQ
5. Piscatology Committee Assistant	Assistance with organizing fishing activities
6. Program Tech Assistant	Back up for computer set up for speakers and songs
7. Data Base Mgr. Assistant	Familiarity with Microsoft Access Data Base Engine
8. Rooster's Tale Assistant Editor	Familiarity with Microsoft Word

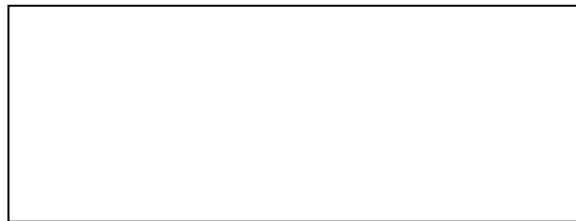
Please contact Big Sir Don Sturt, if you are willing to help.



Don Alger, Editor
6 Stratford Way
Chico, CA 95973
FIRST CLASS MAIL



FIRST CLASS MAIL



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

If you have a February birthday, please join us at the February 24th luncheon and see what you might win.

Jack	Knowlton	Feb	2	Daniel	Solomon	Feb	9	Dennis	Wolfe	Feb	21
Michael	Lim	Feb	2	Charles	Wilson	Feb	16	John	Janinis	Feb	24
William	McDermott	Feb	3	Bruce	Heidemeyer	Feb	19				

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!

Happy Valentine's Day