

# Rooster's Tale



*Sons in Retirement* – Branch 110

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

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

**Program:** The March 2025 SIR Branch 110 luncheon program will be about the **CSU, Chico Soccer Program**. Our speaker will be **Felipe Restrepo** who is the soccer coach for Cal State Chico. Felipe was named the California Collegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year in 2008 and his team has taken three expeditions to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship tournament.

His long journey as a coach stretches into the classroom with the students he teaches. Felipe focused in anthropology, sociology and identity cultural race theory for the PhD he received from Davis in 2014. He uses these badges mainly to assist students of color on campus. His specialties in these areas are a key to the soccer program's graduation success; he has helped 70 students graduate in his 10 years of coaching.



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

Lunch Menu	Attendance Communication
<b>Corn beef and Cabbage,</b> The dessert will be a surprise.	It is important to communicate whether you will participate in the <b>March</b> luncheon. <b>Please respond to the survey</b> , but if you could not do the survey, and <b>if you WILL attend</b> , contact Rocky Rockwell at 916-209-3217 or Dave Jones at 530-895-1022 <b>by Thursday, March 20.</b>



## Big Sir Message:

What a fantastic presentation at our February meeting! Jacob Gillian from Cal Fire delivered an incredibly well-prepared talk, providing valuable insights into past wildfires. His emphasis on the importance of fire preparedness, no matter where we live, was a powerful reminder for us all. Special thanks to Randy Benson for arranging Jacob's visit.

I'd also like to extend my sincere gratitude to Dave Jones for his support as I step into the role of Big Sir. Dave has been instrumental in coordinating the potential merger of our branch with the other Chico branch, and his guidance has been invaluable whenever I need advice. His dedication is truly appreciated.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding website, expertly managed by Ron Braziel. It's a treasure trove of information for all SIR members, including branch activities, announcements, meeting schedules, our history, past issues of Rooster Tales, and much more. I encourage everyone to visit the Bidwell Branch 110 site and take advantage of this valuable resource. Ron does a fantastic job keeping it up to date!

On a personal note, all of my grandkids are involved in soccer—a sport I knew little about until a couple of years ago. Since then, I've gained a deep appreciation for the strategy and skill involved. This month, we're in for a treat as Felipe Restrepo, the Head Soccer Coach at CSU, Chico, joins us for a presentation. It promises to be a great session—don't miss it!

The Branch Advisory Council was held on February 14. The topics covered included the SIR slogan, logo, and the development of a three-year to five-year strategic plan. I will forward the summary to you when I receive it. Attached is the summary of the January meeting.

On March 5th, a group of SIRs from our Branch 110 and Branch 84 met to discuss the possibility of combining our branches. The consensus was that it would be beneficial to pursue a merger. Both of our Branch Executive Committees will appoint three members to develop a possible plan for the merger. This plan will be presented at each of our general meetings for discussion and approval. If you have any thoughts or ideas regarding this matter, please let me know.

Lastly, a quick reminder: Please be sure to report your luncheon attendance accurately and in a timely manner. Last month, we came up short by two meals. Your cooperation helps ensure a smooth and efficient experience for everyone.

Looking forward to another great month ahead! *Don S.*

**Please check out our website to see what committee assignments you might have and for regular updates and some new humor.**

**Branch 110 Website: <http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org>  
Webmaster: Ron Braziel**

### 2025 Officers and Directors

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

### 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.

**Try not telling the elderly that they've already told that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane and relive their past.**

**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.**

<b>Hiking</b>		<p>Our <b>Tuesday, March 18</b> hike is in Upper Bidwell Park. We'll meet at 8:30 am at Horseshoe Lake. We're thinking a hike out along the Middle Trail and a return on the Yahi Trail along the creek but can decide on our route the day of the hike.</p>
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**MARCH 18: UPPER BIDWELL HIKE**  
**PLACE:** Horseshoe Lake, Upper Bidwell Park  
 Coffee or cool drink after, place TBD (optional)  
**DATE:** Tuesday, March 18, 2025 **TIME** 8:30 am  
**WEAR:** Layers, hat, walking or hiking shoes or boots  
**LOGISTICS:** Bring water. Bring a snack, if desired. Suggest bringing sunscreen, lip balm, walking poles or staff if desired, a personal first aid kit, and a hat. This is a bird area so binoculars could come in handy. Include in your pack the name of an emergency contact and contact information and medical insurance information. Bring money for gathering for a drink afterward (optional).  
**COMMENTS:** This hike is generally on uneven terrain with some elevation changes. Surfaces are uneven so be alert to tripping and fall hazards. We need to be aware of other trail users that may include joggers and cyclists. Temperatures are starting to climb so make sure to bring water. Participants will need to stay hydrated and watch for signs of heat stress. **For additional information please contact Rich Utter, Randy Benson or Jim Hertl**

## Previous Hike to Oroville Dam Train Tunnel



<b>Piscatology</b>		<p>On February 26<sup>th</sup>, 7 members of our Branch 110 participated in our 1 day trip to Lake Oroville. The weather was perfect and we all had a good time.</p>
<p>Tim Casaulong and Vern Hartman each caught one small King Salmon. Our next fishing trip will to Collins Lake on March 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>. The fishing group will meet for breakfast at Cozy Diner at 7 am on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in the fishing group is invited to attend.  <b>Contact Dana Davis 530-570-1687 if you want to know more about our group</b></p>		

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

<p><b>Bridge</b></p>		<p>The Bridge players played last month. <b>Bob Dinger</b> was the only Branch 110 winner. Please come join this friendly Bridge group. They meet weekly on Thursdays at 2750 Sierra Sunrise Terrace in Chico at noon. <b><u>Call Bob Dinger at 530-892-9063 for information.</u></b></p>
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<p><b>History</b></p>		<p>The next meeting will be <b>Tuesday, March 11, at 10 am at 6 Stratford Way.</b> This meeting will continue discussions about <u>Old Grocery Stores of Chico</u> and the new project on producing a book (or</p>
<p>books) of <u>Biographical Sketches of Notable 20<sup>th</sup> Century Residents of Chico.</u> A new interesting feature of this project will be presented. .</p>		
<p><b>If you would be interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Don Alger (<a href="mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu">dalger@csuchico.edu</a> or 530-894-2452).</b></p>		

<p><b>ABV 110</b></p>		<p>A visit to Feather Falls Brewery was scheduled and had to be cancelled due to the limited response. An email communication has been sent to try to determine potential interest in future activities. If you have not responded yet, please let Don Alger know of your interests.</p>
<p><b>To be added to the email list, contact Don Alger (<a href="mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu">dalger@csuchico.edu</a> or 530-894-2452).</b></p>		

<p><b>Pinochle</b></p>		<p>Pinochle results: Winners of the February pinochle day are: Tracy Vincent - 1st; Maggie Navarro - 2nd and Jenni Boles - 3rd. Next game/lunch date is Wednesday, March 26, 11 am, at the BCCC.</p>
<p>Come join the fun group. <b><u>Call Joe Navarro at 343-0832 with questions.</u></b></p>		

<p><b>Wood Working</b></p>		<p><b>Due to a lack of participation, there are no longer regular meetings.</b> If someone has a project that needs a little help, <b>call Craig Lindquist at 530-898-8483 or Bill Gebhardt at 530-879-0429 for more information.</b></p>
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<p><b>Pickleball</b></p>		<p>The Pickleball group has been enjoying good weather and getting in lots of playtime at 20th Street. New members are encouraged to join in the fun. We meet at noon on Thursdays weather permitting.</p>
<p>Come on out and enjoy the fun. <b>Jay Hanson can be reached at <a href="mailto:jbirdhanson1@gmail.com">jbirdhanson1@gmail.com</a></b></p>		

<p><b>Bowling</b></p>		<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</p>
<p>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. <b>Please contact Randy Benson with any questions at 530-513-9815.</b></p>		

<h2 style="color: blue;">Book Exchange</h2>		<p>We're getting more books brought to the SIR Book Exchange and more books taken home. That's great; the idea was to bring in some of the books we've enjoyed reading and get them circulating among our members. And for our members to find a book or books they would enjoy reading.</p> <p>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 March 24.</p> <p><b>Please contact Rich Utter or Randy Benson with any questions.</b></p>
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<h2 style="color: blue;">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 <b>Darrell Hands</b>, the Chair of the activity, at 530-966-1303 for information.</p>
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On February 17, 45 Sirs played at Bidwell

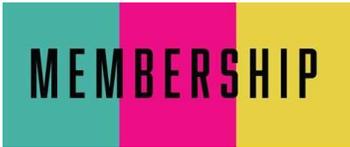
1 <sup>st</sup> Net = 60.0	2 <sup>nd</sup> Net = 61.7	3 <sup>rd</sup> Net = 62.6	4 <sup>th</sup> Net = 63.0
BARGER, JIM	GRIFFIN, RON	BARNUM, DAVE	DONAHOO, SCOTT
MABREY, BOB	LEE, LLOYD	CAMY, DON	HANDS, DARRELL
MCNAMARA, DENNIS	NUSSBAUM, RICHARD	HILDENBRAND, LARRY	PORTERFIELD, CAP
WHITE, GARY	SOMMER, BENNY	WEIDERT, JIM	SHOOK, DOUG

**CLOSEST TO PIN 2:** MCNAMARA, DENNIS - 6' 5"; VAN PATTEN, ALEX - 11' 4" **PIN 4:** VAN PATTEN, ALEX - 2' 0"; MABREY, BOB - 4' 11" **PIN 7:** MCNAMARA, DENNIS - 16' 7"; WEIDERT, JIM - 17' 1" **PIN 12:** DAY, JEFF - 14' 10"; NUSSBAUM, RICHARD - 21' 10" **PIN 16:** MCNAMARA, DENNIS - 9' 8"; SHOOK, DOUG - 16' 7"

## 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.**

<h2 style="color: blue;">History</h2>		<p>There will be an endeavor to keep folks informed about upcoming history related community events. <b>Contact Don Alger (<a href="mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu">dalger@csuchico.edu</a> or 530-894-2452) for more information about history activities.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chico History Museum Events</b></p> <p><b>Saturday, March 29:</b> Gold on the Feather River; John Bidwell and the California Gold Rush.</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 12:</b> Chico's Two Communities</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 26:</b> Yours for Equal Justice: Suffragist in the Big Pink House</p> <p><b>Saturday, May 17:</b> John Muir and the Bidwells: The Forgotten Friendship</p>		



**There are now 134 members including 7 on Attendance Relief.** Membership brochures and applications are always available at the membership table or you can call **Sam Smith** at 530-720-1041 to get one via the postal service.

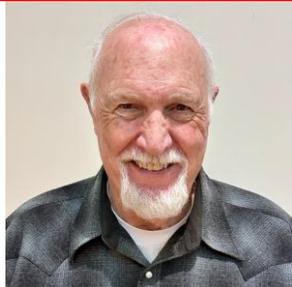
### ABC Fees

**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 March. If you will not be at the March 24<sup>th</sup> 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.**

## Roster Updates

There was a new SIR Branch 110 Roster available at the February meeting which had 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).

### New Members in February



Name: **Mick Grey**  
 Wife: Pat  
 Occupation: County Sheriff  
 Interests: Antique Cars, Biking, Golf, Travel, Woodworking  
 Sponsored by: Duncan Way



Name: **Robert Minton**  
 Occupation: Restaurant Owner  
 Interests: Bowling, Golf, Pickleball, Pool-Table  
 Sponsored by: Duncan Way



Name: **Warren Locke**  
 Occupation: Stock Broker – Ameriprise Financial  
 Interests: Astronomy, Biking, Dine Out, Golf, Hiking, Pickleball, Wine Tasting, Veterans

Sponsored by: John Janinis

### February Guests

**Mike O'Malley** - guest of Jose Lopez

## Announcements

**Editor's Note:** The deadline for the **April** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, April 10**. Send your information by email to [dalger@csuchico.edu](mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu) or phone at 530-894-2452.

**Future Programs:** 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](mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu)).

**Ladies Day Luncheon:** On Thursday, May 8, at 11:30 am, we will be holding a Ladies Day Luncheon to honor the ladies in our lives.

This year we will hold the luncheon in the back room at Mom's in downtown Chico. We will have the back room from 11am to 1 pm. We are looking at ordering off a limited menu around 11:30 so we will have time to be served and time to eat before Mom's closes at 1pm.

Tickets will be on sale at the March and April SIR meetings.

Since we are ordering off the restaurant menu and paying at the restaurant, ticket prices will be minimal. Seating in the back room is limited to 61 persons so we will limit ticket sales to 61.

**Date and time:** Thursday, May 8; 11am to gather, 11:30 to order.

**Location:** Mom's

**For more information, please contact Randy Benson or Rich Utter.**

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

Some of the needs are shown below.

There are different details for duties and requirements for the assignments listed and in particular for the "Assistant" positions. Brief indications 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.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
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. Piscatology Committee Assistant	Assistance with organizing fishing activities
5. Program Tech Assistant	Back up for computer set up for speakers and songs
6. Data Base Mgr. Assistant	Familiarity with Microsoft Access Data Base Engine
7. Rooster's Tale Assistant Editor	Familiarity with Microsoft Word

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

## **RANDOM THOUGHTS**

**When I was a child I thought a nap time was a punishment. Now it feels like a small vacation.**

**I hate it when I see an old person and then realize we went to high school together.**

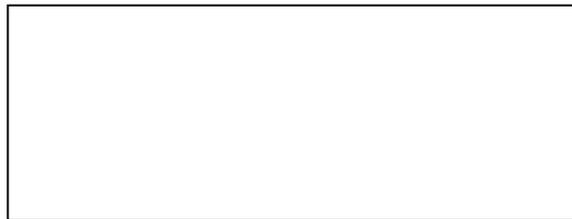
**I am starting to think I will never get old enough to know better.**



Don Alger, Editor  
6 Stratford Way  
Chico, CA 95973  
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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

If you have a March birthday, please join us at the March 24<sup>th</sup> luncheon and see what you might win.

Rocky	Rockwell	Mar	1	Larry	Hildenbrand	Mar	20	Vernon	Hartman	Mar	25
Norman	Atkin	Mar	7	James	Bondan	Mar	23	Bob	Weckerle	Mar	26
Craig	Potter	Mar	12	Scott	Donahoo	Mar	23	Leslie	Julian	Mar	26
Gary	White	Mar	17								

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 St Patrick's Day!**