

**SONS IN RETIREMENT
TWIN HARTE BRANCH NO. 172
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Meeting Date: July 7, 2011

Place: Elks Lodge, Sonora, CA

Big Sir Henry Beltran opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and welcomed Area Governor Ed Nissen, and all Branch Officers, Directors and Committee Chairmen. Secretary Dan Mohn reported that a quorum was present (See Attached Attendance Record). Secretary Mohn reported a correction to the May 30, 2011 Minutes, under **Membership**: *Paul Furiosi will be inducted at the **July 7, 2011** Luncheon Meeting rather than at the June 2nd meeting.* Big Sir Beltran called for additional corrections to and/or approval of the May 30, 2011 Minutes as electronically transmitted to all Officers and Directors. Approved (Morrow/Honeychurch).

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Dennis Honeychurch reported a beginning cash balance of \$6437.68 and an ending balance of \$6293.37 for the month of June. The main expenses for the month were: Printing & Supplies - \$21.10; Postage and Delivery - 61.99; Officers Expense - \$10; State Board Pro Rata Assessment - 150.00; and Miscellaneous Expense - \$34.65. The Treasurer's Report was approved. (Porter/Morrow).

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance Chairman Bill Anning reported that 25 Sirs had called that they would not be attending the luncheon. Sir Jim Schneider reported that 8 guests would be attending including the speaker.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Chairman Larry Bertuccelli requested approval to accept applications for membership from Greg Hodgson, sponsored by Sir Danny Villa, and Steven Happle sponsored by Little Sir Jerry Morrow. Sir Happle is transferring from **Sonora Branch 136**. Approved (Porter/Escallier). The membership stands at 149 active and 1 inactive.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LUNCHEON: Sir Jim McCracken reported that all is set for Thursday's Luncheon.

PROGRAM: Little Sir Jerry Morrow reported that the speaker for the luncheon will be Christine Daly, Executive Director of the WATCH Program, who will speak about how the program helps special needs persons and mentally challenged people in Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties.

COMPUTER USERS GROUP: Sir Dick Chimenti, by email, requested approval for a meeting on July 14 starting with dinner at 5:30 PM. Approved (Honeychurch/Granados).

WEB PAGE: No Report.

GOLF: Sir Gil Wesson reported that this month's play will be at Creekside Golf Course in Modesto.

BULLETIN: Sir Stu Heller reported that all Bulletin items should be emailed to him by July 11th.

PUBLICITY: Sir Gil Wesson reported that the luncheon meeting notice submitted to the Union Democrat had been published, twice.

MOVIE: See **NEW BUSINESS**.

TRAVEL: Sir Don Escallier reported that space is still available for the September 24 – October 2, 2011 cruise through the Hawaiian Islands. A ***Castles on the Rhine*** riverboat cruise is being planned for 2012.

RV: Sir Jim Nolan reported that the RV Club Ladies Day Picnic will be at ***Railtown 1897 State Historic Park*** on August 4th. Tickets will be on sale at the July luncheon meeting for \$14 each, and can be purchased by phone or email from Sir Nolan until July 26th.

THEATER: Sir Joe Gil reported that 31 Sirs and Spouses/Guests have signed up for The ***Ladies Man*** on August 17th at the East Sonora Repertory Theater. Dinner at ***Villa d'Oro*** in Twain Harte will follow the play. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Sir Gil or Sir Don Walton.

PINOCHLE: Sir Roland Patton reported that the game will be at the Moose Lodge on the 1st Monday of each month, and the Elks Lodge the 3rd Thursday of each month, starting at noon.

HIKING GROUP: There will be no hike this month.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: The June 29th ride , on the old RR grade, starting at Confidence and Middle Camp Roads, continuing past Lyons Dam and return, has been rescheduled for July 27th.

FISHING: Sir Herb Spierling reported that there will be no trip this month.

FELLOWSHIP: Sir Bill Bamford reported that Sir Richard Alford had passed away. An appropriate card has been sent to his wife and family. Sir Bamford further reported that he had sent cards to several other Sirs who have been ill.

PROPANE GROUP: No Report.

NEW BUSINESS: (Taken out of order)

Discussion ensued regarding approving an activity individually each month that repeats every month during the year, such as ***"Lunch and a Movie, and, Movie and Dinner"***. Some activities, such as ***RV, Golf and Theater*** are scheduled and approved at the beginning of each year. In an effort to make the BEC meetings shorter and more efficient, Sir Harold Granados moved that ***all*** activity groups that have activities recurring each month be approved for the remainder of this year by this motion. The motion was seconded by Sir Duane Porter, and passed unanimously. Big Sir Henry Beltran requested Secretary Dan Mohn obtain confirmation, in writing, from SIRinc, through Area Governor Ed Nissen, that this procedure satisfies the intent and conditions of Rule 151.1.

Rule 796 requires that each branch within an area nominate its candidate for area governor for the coming year and forward said nomination to the current area governor. Sir Harold Granada moved, seconded by Little Sir Jerry Morrow, that Branch 172 nominate Area Governor Ed Nissen to a second term. The motion was passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Big Sir Henry Beltran reported that the Branch received a letter from SIR President Robert Mannell dated June 21, 2011, denying the Branch request for a waiver of Rules 72 and 74; and giving the Branch 90 days from the date of the letter to come into compliance. Intense discussion ensued. Following the discussion, the position of the BEC, by 8 to 2, with two abstentions, was to accept the terms of President Mannell's letter. Since this matter is scheduled to be discussed with the Membership as a whole at today's luncheon, the BEC recessed at 10:20 AM and will reconvene following the luncheon.

Prior to recessing the BEC approved reimbursing Treasurer Dennis Honeychurch \$23.95 for the cost of coffee and donuts for the meeting.

The BEC meeting was called back to order by Big Sir Henry Beltran at 1:50 PM with a quorum present. During the BEC recess, the membership as a whole, discussed the alternatives available to the Branch. The discussion was contentious and heated at times. Big Sir Beltran requested that the membership vote its opinion on the following: Continue meeting at the Elks Lodge for lunch and induct all men currently on the waiting list, or return to the Twain Harte Golf Club. Considering the no-win situation that the Branch membership finds itself in, a majority of the members voted to stay at the Elks Lodge and eliminate the waiting list by inducting all men on the list.

Big Sir Beltran summarized the majority opinion of the membership to the BEC. A motion to appeal SIRinc's decision to deny the Branch request for the waiver failed. Sir Dennis Honeychurch moved, seconded by Joe Gil, to accept the majority of the

membership vote to stay at the Elks Lodge for its luncheon meetings, comply with the terms of Rules 72 and 74, and induct all men currently on the waiting list. The motion passed 9 to 2. Big Sir Beltran directed Membership Chairman Larry Bertuccelli to notify all men on the waiting list that they will be inducted at the September 1, 2011 Luncheon Meeting.

All business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

The next Branch Executive Committee Meeting will be 8:00 AM, Monday, August 1, 2011 at the Pine Tree Restaurant, next to the Best Western Motel, at 19601 Hess Avenue, Sonora, with breakfast starting at 7:00 AM. The monthly luncheons are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Sonora Elks' Lodge, with the exception of August, which is the Ladies Day Picnic, sponsored by the RV Club, at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park in Jamestown.

Dan Mohn, Secretary