



**SIR BIDWELL BRANCH 110**  
**SIR Region 1 – Area 1**  
**Branch Executive Committee Meeting**  
Manzanita Place, Chico, CA 95926

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2023 BEC MEETING**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Big Sir Rich Utter at 9:36 AM.

**Officers and Directors Present:** Officers: Rich Utter, Dave Jones, Bob Dinger, Rocky Rockwell, Dave Rush, Jose Lopez, Charles Staser. Directors: Don Alger, Jim Braziel, Ron Braziel, Randy Benson.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the July 24, 2023 meeting were approved as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Charles Staser reported that the July 24, 2023 balance was \$4505.89, and the August 28, 2023 balance is \$4313.06. Charles reported that the annual fee for Microsoft 365 is \$60 and is now due. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to reimburse Charles Staser for the payment of this fee.

**Big Sir Report:** Big Sir Rich Utter reported that the annual meeting of the SIR State organization with representatives from each branch will take place as a Zoom call on August 31. The gathering of anyone interested in being involved in the meeting will take place in Jim Braziel's office at 1:00 PM on August 31.

**Little Sir Report:** No report.

**RAMP Committees:**

- *Attendance:* Bruce Heidemeyer reported that at the July 24 luncheon, 67 members attended. Current membership level is 125, so 54 % of members attended the luncheon.

- *Membership:* Don Levensaler reported that there are no new applicants for membership.

- *Program Committee:* Jim Braziel reported that today's meeting will feature a talk by Nichole Carter about the plans for the Meriam Park development. The programs for the remainder of 2023, and for the first two months of 2024, are unchanged from previous BEC minutes, and are summarized on the SIR 110 website. Since the November program will feature presentations by three women about the Tuskegee Airmen, the possibility of inviting women to the meeting who are interested in the topic was discussed. No decisions or motions were made or approved.

**BEC Committees:**

• *Nominations*: Dave Rush reported that nominations for all positions have been determined. The only remaining nomination not determined at the July meeting has been established: Don Sturt has agreed to be nominated for Little Sir. A vote for the approval of the nominations will be made at today's luncheon meeting.

• *Publicity*: Don Alger emphasized that submissions to the Snapshot feature in the Enterprise-Record require a photograph, and he did not receive a suitable photo from last month's luncheon. So, he hoped someone will provide a photo from today's luncheon.

• *Rooster's Tale*: Don Alger reported that the deadline for submissions for the September issue is September 7. He reported that the cost of printing and mailing the Rooster's Tale has gone up substantially in the past few months. Most copies are distributed by email, but last month, 24 printed copies were sent out at a total cost of \$56 to Office Depot and \$14 for postage. At these rates, the predicted total cost in 2024 will be \$800.00. Some alternatives for printed-copy distribution were discussed, but no decision was reached. Don Alger and Ken Edson agreed to weigh the merits of the alternatives and present their conclusions to the BEC at a future meeting.

• *Website*: Ron Braziel reported on the updates to the Branch website.

**Committee Reports:** The following committees were reported on. If a committee is not listed, either the chairman (or other representative) was not present, or there was no information to report.

**ABV 110:** Jim Braziel reported that a wine tasting of an assortment of Italian wines is planned at his house on September 28 at 2 PM. No plans have been made yet for an October event.

**Bowling:** Randy Benson reported that the drop-in league at Chico Bowl will restart on September 12. There will be a sign-up sheet at the luncheon check-in tables.

**Bridge:** Bob Dinger reported that there were two matches in August, but the winners were not members of Branch 110.

**Hiking:** Big Sir Rich Utter reported that hiking will resume in mid-October.

**History Club:** Although the history club is not officially an activity at the present time, Don Alger reported that some of the former members of the club are interested in gathering information and studying the history of several of the old buildings in Chico, such as the Collins Hardware building. Jim Braziel proposed that a presentation about the findings would make a very good program for the March 2024 luncheon meeting. Don Alger agreed to keep the BEC updated on progress.

**Pinochle:** Joe Navarro reported that the next game is scheduled for September 27 at 11

AM at BCCC.

**Piscatology:** Bob Weckerle reported that a trip to Bucks Lake is planned on August 30.

**Woodworking:** Craig Lindquist reported that the woodworking group is still meeting at 10 AM to 2 PM every Thursday.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Don Sturt proposed that an activity centered around Astronomy be considered, particularly since the telescope in Bidwell Park might be available for observations. It was agreed that Don Sturt should prepare a brief description of the proposed activity and send it to Rocky Rockwell, who would then send it to members in an email to determine interest.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Bob Dinger

Copies sent to: Branch 110 Officers, Directors and interested members via email

Posted on SIR 110 Website at [www.branch110.sirinc2.org](http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org) with any personal information removed.

