

Rooster's Tale



Sons in Retirement – Branch 110

Meeting June 23, 2025 1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA

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

Program: The June 23, 2025, SIR Branch 110 luncheon program will be about the **Oser Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)**. The speaker will be **Andrew Lavin**. Andrew Lavin grew up in Chico, attending Hooker Oak, Chico Jrunior, Chico High, Butte College, and Chico State. He did an MA in philosophy at San Jose State and a PhD in Philosophy at UCLA before moving back to Chico to teach at Butte and Chico State. After classes dried up, he worked for the State and then the opportunity to be the Program Director of OLLI arose, and he jumped at the opportunity. His backgrounds in education, volunteer leadership, and media production have been instrumental in this new role.



Lunch: The price of a salad is now \$18. The price of lunch is still \$20.

Lunch Menu	Lunch Attendance Communication
Meatloaf , with mushroom gravy, scalloped potatoes, veggies, and the dessert will be a surprise.	It is important to communicate whether you will participate in the June 23rd 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 <u>by 6:01 pm on Wednesday, June 18th</u> .



Big Sir Message: Last month, we were fortunate to have Jack Hall deliver an excellent presentation on the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program at CSU, Chico. Jack highlighted the cement industry's strong commitment to the program, which is supported by more than 50 industry partners offering scholarships, internships, and valuable networking opportunities. The CIM program uniquely blends business administration with concrete technology, giving students a well-rounded foundation in both technical and managerial aspects of the industry. Impressively, it boasts a 100% job placement rate upon graduation.

We're always looking to bring engaging and informative speakers to our luncheons. If you—or someone you know—have an interesting story, professional insight, or unique life experience to share, we'd love to hear from you! Please reach out to Randy Benson with your ideas.

Our Branch Advisory Council continues to meet monthly. Attached is the summary of our April meeting for your reference.

On a health note, I want to share a reminder that came from personal experience: a couple of acquaintances recently fainted due to dehydration and ended up in the emergency room. Thankfully, they are doing well now, but it was a wake-up call. Dehydration can sneak up on anyone, especially

during warmer months or when we're active. Staying hydrated is such a simple yet crucial step in maintaining good health. I hope you're remembering to drink plenty of water, too.

Take care and stay well!. *Don S.*

Please check out our website for regular updates and some 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	Database Mgr: Rocky Rockwell
Treasurer: Charles Staser	Asst. Treas.: Jose Lopez	Parliamentarian: Ken Edson
Director: Randy Benson (3 rd term)	Director: Mike Nicholas (2 nd term)	Director: Joe Navarro (2 nd term)
Director: Mike Gross (1 st term)	Director: Dave Jones (1 st term)	Director: Jan Loring (1 st 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.

We cannot force someone to hear a message they are not ready to receive. But we must never underestimate the power of planting a seed.



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.

Piscatology		On May 28-30, six members of the fishing group traveled to Antelope Lake in eastern Plumas County. We camped for 2 nights and fished for 3 days.
The fishing was good and everyone caught some trout. A fresh caught trout dinner was cooked up on Thursday night. Our fishing group will meet again on Thursday, June 12 th , where we will discuss our upcoming trip to Bucks Lake at the end of June. The SIR Fishing group meets for breakfast the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 am at THE Cozy Diner. Stop in and join us for breakfast. Contact Dana Davis at 530-570-1687 if you want to know more about the group.		

Hiking



Our monthly hikes are suspended for now to avoid the summer heat. We'll resume hiking outings in the fall.
For information, please contact Rich Utter, Randy Benson or Jim Hertl.

May 20th Paynes Creek Point Hike



Bridge



The Bridge players played four times last month. **Bob Dinger** won once. Please come join this friendly Bridge group. They meet weekly on Thursdays at 2750 Sierra Sunrise Terrace in Chico at noon.
Call Bob Dinger at 530-892-9063 for information.

History



The next meeting will be **Tuesday, July 8 at 10 am at 6 Stratford Way.** The agenda will depend on the progress on the various projects which are underway.

If you would be interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).

Pinochle



The Pinochle winners for May are: Charlie Clayton and Patsy Stile tied for first place. Charlie's daughter Janice Zigler came IN 3rd. Next lunch and card date is June 25th at BCCC at 11 am.

Come join the fun group. **Call Joe Navarro at 343-0832 with questions.**

Wood Working



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.**

Pickleball



The Pickleball group moved to an earlier start at 10 am due to hotter weather. It may be necessary to start even earlier as the summer heat increases.

Come on out and enjoy the fun. **Jay Hanson can be reached at jbirdhanson1@gmail.com**

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



You are invited to swap books at the next SIR lunch meeting. SIR members bring books to our monthly lunch meetings to exchange with other SIR members. Please bring some books to our next lunch meeting and lay them out on the tables provided. Take some books home with you.

The book exchange starts during the social time before our lunch meeting.

Please contact Rich Utter or Randy Benson with any questions.

ABV 110



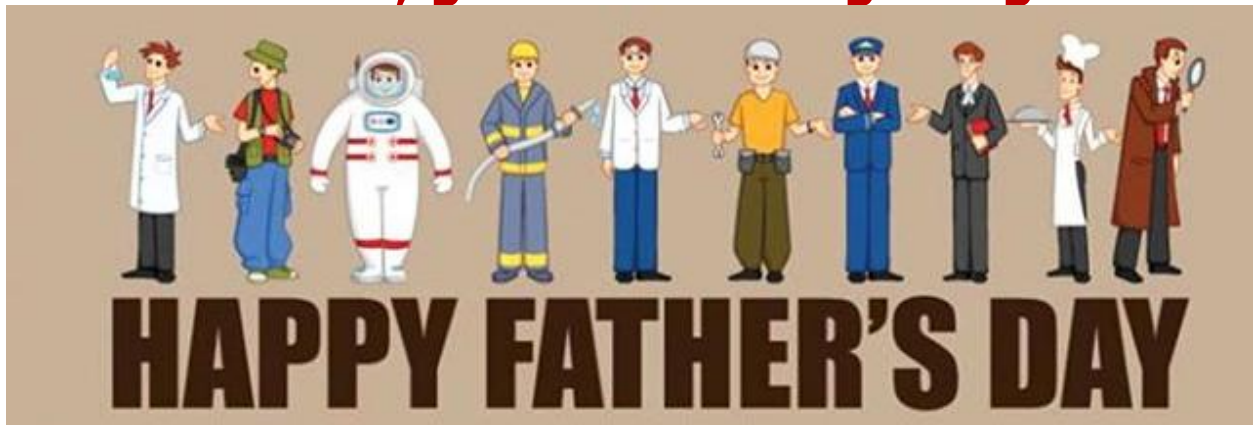
The next ABV activity is **Thursday, June 26, at 3 pm** at the **Raging Bull Winery** east of Orland followed by an optional dinner at the Farwood Restaurant in Orland. If you are not on the email list and have questions contact Don Alger.

To be added to the email list, contact Don Alger (dalger@csuchico.edu or 530-894-2452).

May 22 Wine Tasting Photos at the Jim and Carol Braziel's Home



To all the dads, granddads and great granddads



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.

On May 5th, 42 Sirs played at Plumas Lake

1 st Net = 54.8	2 nd Net = 56.9	3 rd Net = 57.7	4 th Net = 60.1	5 th Net = 61.6
BARGER, JIM	BARNUM, DAVE	HANDS, DARRELL	CAGNO, JIM	BROWNING, BOB
MABREY, BOB	HILDENBRAND, LARRY	PORTERFIELD, CAP	GALLAWAY, JOE	CAMY, DON
WHITE, GARY	WEIDERT, JIM	SHOOK, DOUG	GRAY, MARK	HERMAN, PAUL
	WESSELS, BOB		HERMAN, CRAIG	SOLOMON, DAN

CLOSEST TO PIN 3: BARNUM, DAVE - 15' 9"; CAMY, DON - 15' 10" **PIN 7:** SHOOK, DOUG - 6' 3"; HERMAN, CRAIG - 16' 0" **PIN 13:** ATKIN, NORM - 4' 7"; BARNUM, DAVE - 12' 8" **PIN 17:** PORTERFIELD, CAP - 13' 8"; WHITE, GARY - 40' 4"

On May 15th, Sirs played at Bailey Creek

1 st Net = 305.4	2 nd Net = 313.0	3 rd Net = 315.5
GIFFORD, KEVIN	ANDERSON, ED	GROSS, MIKE
LAYMAN, KIM	DAY, JEFF	MARTINSON, KEITH
MATHESON, TOM	KRISKOSKI, DON	SMITH, SAM
PETERSON, RON	HANDS, DARRELL	WOLFE, DENNIS

CLOSEST TO PIN 4: HANDS, DARRELL - 12' 0"; SMITH, SAM - 13' 0" **PIN 8:** NUSSBAUM, RICHARD - 6' 8"; VAN PATTEN, ALEX - 25' 5" **PIN 13:** BROWNING, BOB - 0' 46"; HANDS, DARRELL - 13' 7" **PIN 16:** BARNUM, DAVE - 20' 4"; GROSS, MIKE - 21' 3"

Ladies Day Luncheon Report:

We had 30 people show up at Mom's for our tribute to the ladies in our lives.



**BRANCH ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF 4/11/2025 MEETING**

Gentlemen:

The following is provided for records and reference. Please feel free to share it with your respective branches.

1. **Joint Branch Activities:** Rich began the meeting with a brief discussion of joint activities. He encouraged joint activities between branches for sports like chess, bowling and others if a branch either has low participation in the activity or lacks that activity. The use of identifying materials like t-shirts was discussed, with some branches already doing so for community service events like volunteering at food banks. Encouraging inter-mural sports and collaboration between smaller branches was highlighted as important for publicity and utilizing branch publicity allocations.
2. **Benefits/disadvantages of 501(c)(3):** The first agenda item discussed addressed the perceived benefits/disadvantages from a conversion to a 501(c)(3) and whether SIR should explore the possibility of a future conversion. Potential benefits include special mailing rates and the ability to include marketing material in companies with federal contracts. Another advantage is the availability of receiving grants and tax-deductible donations. However, there are legal uncertainties regarding the legality/feasibility of the conversion, which needs to be reviewed by counsel. Given the potential cost in terms of money, resources, time, and effort a careful cost-benefit analysis would be required before any decision on conversion could be made. The possibility of reactivating the existing SIR Foundation as a 501(c)(3) alternative was raised. The question of whether conversion would necessitate becoming gender-neutral was also a point of discussion, with no clear answer but the observation that women-only 501(c)(3) organizations exist. If conversion is an option and the cost-benefit study shows it to be beneficial, then the consensus was that each branch should have discretion to decide whether or not it wanted to make the conversion.
3. **Long-Term/Business Planning:** The second agenda item were thoughts and suggestions relative to the discussion shifted to the need for a business plan or revolving goals. Rich expressed the concern that we don't want to develop a plan only to have it sit on a shelf without implementation. Hence, the unique demographics of the organization, with a median age of 80, and the challenges of membership growth and leadership were acknowledged and must be considered in the development of any plan. The importance of social interaction provided by SIR was highlighted as a significant benefit to members.

Opinions varied on the appropriate timeframe for a plan, with suggestions ranging from one to three years. The need for a state-level plan/goal that might include a requirement for branches to develop their own plans/goals was discussed. The consistent turnover in membership, around 25-30% annually, was noted as a factor that must be considered in long-term planning.
4. **Membership Growth and Retention:** The discussion on a business plan morphed into a discussion about membership growth and retention. Several branches shared their strategies for attracting, engaging, and retaining members. Effective website presence, personal engagement with prospective members, active participation in activities, and personal follow-up for retention were highlighted. The challenges of attracting younger members and competing with other social activities were noted, especially in areas with high housing costs. The diverse levels of member engagement (leadership, participating, minimally active, inactive) were also discussed.
5. **Awards and Recognition:** The Presidential Award for significant service to SIR was discussed, and members were encouraged to nominate deserving individuals from their branches. The Honorable Life Member (HLM) award was also mentioned as an existing avenue for branch-level recognition.

The meeting was thereafter adjourned.



MEMBERSHIP

There are now 134 members including 8 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.

Roster Updates

Since the preparation and printing of the 2025 Roster, 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 2025 Roster	Mick Grey	Robert Minton	Warren Locke	Tim Hill
	Mark Frey	Scott Brogden		

New Member in May



Name: **Scott Brogden**
 Occupation: Lecturer, CSU Chico (manufacturing)
 Interests: Biking, Bowling, Singing, Photography, Hiking, Music, and Woodworking.
 Sponsored by: Randy Benson

Guests in May

Don Krysakowski - guest of Jeff Day

Announcements

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

Future Programs: The **July 28th** presentation will be an update on the Chico Airport. A program on Artificial Intelligence is scheduled for **September 22nd**. On **October 27th** a report about Bidwell Mansion will be given. A **November 17th** veterans program is scheduled.

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

Our Branch Calendar: SIR activities are included on our branch calendar which can be accessed on the Branch 110 website. We also include items of interest such as Chico State Commencement. **If you have an item to post or to update on the Branch calendar, please contact Rich Utter or Rocky Rockwell.**

Our Branch Committee Needs: The Branch is still in need of volunteers to fill a variety of committee assignments. Please Contact Big Sir Don Sturt if you can help.

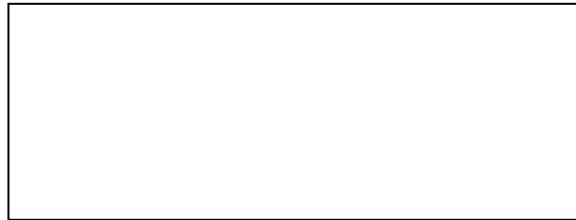
Our Branch Web Page: Are you using our website? If not, be sure to check it out. Our homepage is **http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org** and a valuable resource for all members. There's a great deal of information available about our Branch, including upcoming events, meeting summaries, photos, and more. It's a great way to stay informed and connected. Take a look and explore everything it has to offer.



Don Alger, Editor
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**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

If you have a June birthday, please join us at the June 23rd luncheon and see what you might win.

Craig	Herman	Jun	12	Darrell	Hands	Jun	19	Ralph	Skytte	Jun	22
Duncan	Way	Jun	17	Michael	Nicholas	Jun	20	Robert	Minton	Jun	23
Ken	Jensen	Jun	19	Richard	Carlson	Jun	20	Richard	Olsen	Jun	24

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

Heavens to Mergatroyd!! Why did my spell-checker not recognize the word "mergatroyd"? How come my grandson did not know what a "jalopy" was? Other than that I am feeling "hunky dory".