

# Rooster's Tale



*Sons in Retirement* – Branch 110

**Meeting September 22, 2025 1705 Manzanita Ave., Chico, CA**  
**Luncheon at 11:30 am—Executive Committee at 9:30 am**

## Program:

The topic for the September program is about **Artificial Intelligence**. The speaker will be **Zach Justus**. Don Sturt kindly provided the following information as part of his Big Sir Message. *Thanks Don!*

"Zach Justus's upcoming presentation promises to be a fascinating deep dive into the next great technological shift. We've surfed the waves of digital transformation before, from the early days of personal computing to the rise of the internet and mobile tech. But AI? This is a whole new ocean.

Zach Justus, as you may know, is the Director of Faculty Development and a Professor of Communication Arts and Sciences at CSU, Chico. He's been deeply engaged with the intersection of higher education and generative AI, contributing to webinars, blog series, and Inside Higher Ed articles. At your September luncheon, he'll be speaking on "Higher Education and Artificial Intelligence: Present and Future"—a topic that couldn't be more timely."



## Lunch:

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

Lunch Menu	Lunch Attendance Communication
<b>Chicken fried steak</b> with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, veggies, bread and salad. Dessert will be a surprise.	It is important to communicate whether you will participate in the <b>September 22<sup>nd</sup></b> luncheon. <b><u>Please respond to the survey</u></b> , but if you could not do the survey, and <b><u>if you WILL attend</u></b> , contact Rocky Rockwell at 916-209-3217 or Dave Jones at 530-895-1022 <b><u>by 6:01 pm on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup></u></b> .



## Big Sir Message:

**Leadership** isn't about titles, it's about impact. True leaders inspire action, foster connection, and create space for others to thrive. In SIR, leadership shows up in the quiet moments: a phone call to a member who missed a luncheon, a volunteer stepping up to fill a role, or someone simply asking, "How can I help?"

As we move forward together, let's remember that leadership is a shared responsibility. Whether you're organizing an event, mentoring a new member, or offering a warm welcome at the door, your contribution matters. Every act of service strengthens our community and brings us closer to our goals. There are several opportunities to lead. Please see me or a member of the BEC.

The SIR Annual Meeting took place August 26th, and several key changes were made to the By-Laws. To keep everyone informed, I've included a brief summary of these updates with this edition of the Rooster's Tale.

We encourage all members to review the changes and stay up to date—your awareness helps strengthen our branch and ensures we move forward together. *Don S.*

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

**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.

**A closed mouth gathers no feet.**

## 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>Piscatology</b>		There was no report on recent fishing activities. The 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.
<b>Contact Dana Davis at 530-570-1687 if you want to know more about the group.</b>		

<b>Hiking</b>		Our <b>Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup></b> , hike will be in Upper Bidwell Park. We're thinking a hike out along the Middle Trail and a return on the Yahí Trail along the creek but can decide on our route the day of the hike. Coffee or cool drink after, place TBD (optional).
<p><b>PLACE:</b> Horseshoe Lake, Upper Bidwell Park</p> <p><b>WEAR:</b> Layers, hat, walking or hiking shoes or boots</p> <p><b>LOGISTICS:</b> 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).</p> <p><b>COMMENTS:</b> 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 can be warm so make sure to bring water. Participants will need to stay hydrated and watch for signs of heat stress.</p> <p><b>For additional information, please contact Rich Utter, Randy Benson or Jim Hertl.</b></p>		

**Bridge**

The Bridge players played last month. There was no Branch 110 winner. 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, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am at 6 Stratford Way.** The agenda will focus primarily on a preview of the new book "Flour Mills and Flumes of Chico". Input is appreciated.

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

**More History**

There will be an endeavor to keep folks informed about upcoming history related community events.

**Contact Don Alger ([dalger@csuchico.edu](mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu) or 530-894-2452) for more information about these history activities.**

**Chico History Museum Events**

**Saturday, September 20:** "Renegades, Cut-throats, and Cannibals: Chico and Beyond"

**Saturday, October 18:** "Loveliest of Places: A Study of Pre Bidwell Mansion Historical Resources"

**Saturday, October 25:** "Through the Lens of the Wright-Patrick Ranch"

**Saturday, November 8:** "Veterans Voices: A Celebration of Service and Community"

**Saturday, November 15:** "Rebuilding the Honey Run Covered Bridge"

**Saturday, December 6:** "Chico in the 50's"

**Pinochle**

Winners for August are: Charlie Clayton - 1st: Robin Clayton - 2nd; Patsy Stile - 3rd. The next lunch and game is Wednesday, September 24, 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 hot summer weather and vacations have slowed down the activity of pickleball play, however, looking forward to fall pretty soon and we will be gearing back up once again.

Thanks to all of the participants for making pickleball a fun choice to socialize and get some exercise. Anybody thinking about picking up a paddle, you are welcome to join us on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am at 20th Street. Come on out and enjoy the fun.

**Jay Hanson can be reached at [jbirdhanson1@gmail.com](mailto:jbirdhanson1@gmail.com)**

**Bowling**

SIR Bowling is taking the summer off and will start again in September. **Please contact Randy Benson with any questions at 530-513-9815.**





# Humor



## MEMBERSHIP

**There are now 129 members including 9 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

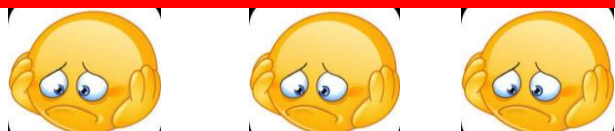
Since the preparation and printing of the 2025 Roster, some changes have occurred.

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).

<b>Members not in the 2025 Roster</b>	Mick Grey	Robert Minton	Warren Locke	Tim Hill
	Mark Frey	Scott Brogden	Mike Bates	Don Krysakowski

### No New Members in August



### Guest in August

**Bob Martin** - guest of Bob Weckerle

## Announcements

**Editor's Note:** The deadline for the **October** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, October 9**. Send your information by email to [dalger@csuchico.edu](mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu) or phone at 530-894-2452.

**Future Programs:** On **October 27<sup>th</sup>** a report about Bidwell Mansion will be given. A **November 17<sup>th</sup>** veterans program is scheduled. **December 15<sup>th</sup>** will feature Christmas music.

**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 Nominations for 2026:** The Nominations Committee proposed the following list of members to the Branch Executive Council (BEC) and they voted to accept these gentlemen as nominees for the SIR Branch 110 2026 Officers and Directors. A formal election was held at the August luncheon meeting and they were elected by acclamation.

## 2026 Officers and Directors

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

## **Changes to By Laws/Policies reviewed/accepted during 2025 Annual Meeting:**

**By Law change** - Remove all references to retired from corporate documents. **(Unanimously passed)**

Policy Updates briefed to those in attendance. These are brief summaries; please refer to Manual for complete information. FYI the manual now has hyperlinks to take you from the Table of Contents to the direct policy you wish to review.

**Policy 9A - CASH RESERVE GUIDELINES:** As a guide Branch cash reserves should be budgeted at \$40.00 per member at year end. (100 member branches should budget about \$4,000 in cash reserves at year end). At any rate, cash reserves should be adequate to reimburse the luncheon's food provider without requiring the Treasurer to quickly deposit funds to cover the amount of the bill.

**Policy 11. PARTICIPATION – MEMBERS and GUESTS:** Only members of SIR, Inc. and their guests are entitled to participate in the activities of the organization. The number of guests shall not exceed the total number of participating SIR, Inc. members plus participating wives, companions and relatives of participating members, and widows of deceased members. A "relative" is defined as a spouse, parent, sibling, child, or grandchild and they are not guests when attending SIR activities or events.

**Policy 12. MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA:** Membership shall be open to any man regardless of age, race, color, or religion who will participate in SIR activities, events, luncheon meetings, and is also willing to volunteer and bring guests for the purpose of perpetuating the organization. Except as set forth below, a guest may attend a Branch's activities, luncheons or events a total of three times. For purposes of this policy, a member's relative as defined in Policy 11, is not a "guest" and can participate without limitation. The Big Sir may, in his discretion, either directly or through his activity chair, allow non-members to participate in SIR activities, events and luncheon meetings without the requirement that they become a member of SIR. Finally, branch members can participate in joint activities with other groups provided (i) the activity has been approved by the BEC prior to participation and (ii) it is suggested that the member wear some article of clothing identifying their membership in SIR.

**Policy 13. GUEST POLICY:** A guest (non-relative) may attend a Branch's activities, luncheons, or events a total of three times. Given unusual circumstances, the Big Sir may extend this attendance to a total of five occurrences. The guest must then become a member to continue Branch participation.

**Policy 20a. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Federal compliance I-800 part of a check list of items to be done each year by the organization. The purpose of the conflict-of-interest policy is to protect SIR Inc., and chartered branches, when entering a transaction or arrangement that has a potential to result in excessive benefit to the private interest of an officer, director, committee chair or member of SIR Inc., or any of the chartered branches.

**Policy Appendix B-13 - RECORD RETENTION FOR SIR, INC. BRANCHES:** The Branch Secretaries shall retain records related to the local Branch. Those records shall be kept for a minimum period of five (5) years. The Branch Treasurers shall retain financial records for a period of seven (7) years.

**Policy Appendix B-14 – FIRST AID AND SAFETY:** Even though it is not required, each branch should make a conscious effort to provide first aid and safety to their members. The Branch should also consider having some of its members attend Red Cross training sessions in first aid and CPR. At luncheons they should confirm that, if possible, the venue providing lunch has appropriate first aid and rescue equipment available in case it is needed. If the venue cannot provide it, the Branch should consider providing it on their own.

**In Addition:** Training Sessions via Zoom are scheduled for Oct 24th and Nov 7th. Each of these sessions cover different items and are intended for President/VP, both current and incoming. Of course a focus is for those incoming (2026 officers). Detailed Zoom links will be sent to AR's, Branch Presidents and Vice Presidents closer to the dates. It is imperative that Form 20 be updated to ensure accurate distribution.



Don Alger, Editor  
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**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

If you have a September birthday, please join us at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> luncheon and see what you might win.

Ron	Imhoff	Sep	2	Dennis	McNamara	Sep	6	Marv	Smith	Sep	18
Larry	Kreider	Sep	2	John	Casaulong	Sep	7	Ray	Rolls	Sep	20
Gilbert	Jones	Sep	2	Donald	Krysakowski	Sep	9	Richard	Utter	Sep	25
Bill	Hopson	Sep	4	Alex	Lorenz	Sep	15	Bob	Wessels	Sep	28

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**

**Does anyone else have plastic bags full of plastic bags, or is it just me?**