

# Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

## Branch #51

Website: [www.sirinc2.org/branch51](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch51)

No. 533  
A Non-Profit Organization  
For Retired Men



December 2020  
Devoted to the Promotion of  
Independence and Dignity of Retirement

LUNCHEON: 12 PM – FIRST WEDNESDAY – FREMONT HILLS CC, 12889 VISCAINO PL., LOS ALTOS, CA

### **Please Note:**

Next SIR General Meeting for Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2020 will be via Zoom with a meeting time of:

**12:30 PM**

(Start logging in at 12:15 PM)

The General Membership (all members) Meeting times for the rest of the 2020 year and the beginning of 2021 year are the following dates and times: every month on the first Wednesday, until Feb 3, 2021, three occurrences.

- Dec 2, 2020 12:30 PM
- Jan 6, 2021 12:30 PM
- Feb 3, 2021 12:30 PM

For more information on our Zoom video conference meetings, check within this newsletter for details.

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### **Big SIR Notes:**

*From the computer of Jim Cummings*

Fellow SIRS,

Our normal Wednesday ZOOM meeting has General H. R. McMaster as our speaker. Please google, or click the following link, to catch up on H. R. McMaster, our former National Security

Advisor. There is a lot of information there which should help you be prepared for his talk which will mainly address his latest book "BATTLEGROUNDS".

You all should pay special attention to H. R. McMaster's *Battlegrounds* and read the PREFACE to get an understanding of what the new book is about.

Most of our members are able to handle Zoom, but if you are having problems, please let me know.

As most of you know the state leadership does not want any group in-person meetings or events, so until the vaccine gets released and distributed, we will have to meet via ZOOM. We are now at the mercy of the CDC and FDA to approve release of the vaccine. The distribution methods are in place and we can only hope all will go well.

On the first Wednesday in January, we will have a social hour starting at 12:30 with a 1 PM start to our meeting. Hopefully, this will give us all a chance to touch bases with our fellow SIRS. All depends on my ability to manage the new normal regarding computer meetings and procedures.

Have a wonderful holiday season and may 2021 return us soon to normal.

Jim  
cell:650-207-3609  
home:650-328-2168

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**Monthly Presentation for Members**

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker Topic:**

*Battlegrounds: The Fight to Defend the Free World*

**Topic Description:**

Discussion of H.R. McMaster’s new book on the topic of *Battlegrounds: The Fight to Defend the Free World*

**Speaker Biography:**

**H.R. McMaster**, retired U.S. Army 3-Star Lt. General, former National Security Advisor to President Donald Trump, Hoover Fellow, author of two books. For a complete and detailed biographical background, click the link below. You will be surprised how accomplished he is.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/H. R. McMaster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/H._R._McMaster)

*Courtesy of wikipedia.org*

Latest book is:

*Battlegrounds: The Fight to Defend the Free World*

For one review of this book, click the link below.

<https://www.npr.org/2020/09/21/913856903/latest-tell-all-by-former-national-security-advisor-mcmaster-is-not-all-about-tr>

*Courtesy of npr.org website.*

Prior book is:

*Dereliction of Duty: Lyndon Johnson, Robert McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Lies That Led to Vietnam*



**H. R. McMaster**

26th [United States National Security Advisor](#)

February 20, 2017 – April 9, 2018



H. R. McMaster in 2018

*Courtesy of wikipedia.org*

**Future speakers for the coming months:**

**January 6, 2021**– To Be Determined

**FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING  
SPEAKERS**

**PLEASE CONTACT:  
Walt McCullough  
(650)-303-8194**



## SIR 51 Website

SIR Branch 51 website provides helpful information on our activities and archives our news. Should you have inputs for our website, please contact our website masters, Gerry Shebar at (650) 868-6124 or Art Lewis at (650) 964-3223.

[www.sirinc2.org/branch51](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch51)

## State SIR Website

See State SIR website: [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)

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## ACTIVITIES



### GOLF

**With the state and county re-imposing COVID-19 restrictions, uncertainty now exists as to when and where we will be able to play golf.**

**For reference, the following text was the news from last month's Golf section.**

Golf is being restarted informally. Each course has its own methods of dealing with the "China" virus, but we have been able to get some play. There has been approximately 16 – 20 golfers now enjoying golf.

Each course has to be dealt with individually. We are currently following the schedule developed for this current year, and hopefully, we will be able to play weekly. If you have lost the schedule, please check our website shown on page one of the golf newsletter and watch your emails for updates.

At this point it is not practical for us to post your scores or to have competitions so our games are mostly just for fun and exercise. If you have not downloaded the NCGA app please do so. It is fairly easy to use, and you can easily post your scores and

gather other info regarding your index and course handicaps.

Keep it in the short grass!

*Courtesy of Jim Cummings, Big SIR*

Watch your e-mails to determine when our county bosses will let us play again and have lunch together. We will be "paroled" eventually from jail.

All of the golf courses we play require a player count 7-14 days prior to play date.

If your play or no-play commitment changes, please call:

**JIM CUMMINGS**

home: (650) 328-2168

cell: (650) 207-3609

Kai Johansen, golf course coordinator, has reported that the 2020-2021 golf schedule is in place and four of nine contracts are complete. More news to come. Stay tuned.

Golf course coordinator:

**KAI JOHANSEN**

(650) 853-2493

**Check if the following activities are going to occur while under COVID-19 state, county, or municipality restrictions.**



**COMPUSIR** is a self-help Computer discussion group. Meets monthly at the PALO ALTO ELKS LODGE 4249 EL CAMINO REAL, PALO ALTO. For entry, use the announce button on the pedestal to the left of the Front door. **COMPUSIR** is now part of SPAUG (the Stanford – Palo Alto User's Group). SPAUG Meetings are still held the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month at 7:00 pm. at PA Elks Lodge (address above). The meeting is upstairs (elevator available past the stairway). More information at [www.spaug.net](http://www.spaug.net).

## MACINTOSH USERS

Contact Skip Ross to join this e-mail group where SIR members in all branches can exchange MAC-related news, get answers to questions and share experiences.

**SKIP ROSS** (541) 857-6224



## INDOOR BOWLING: (BRANCHES 5, 35 & 51)

We bowl on a handicap system, so all have an equal chance. Each season teams are revised and always have a mix of players by ability. **Tuesdays at Homestead Lanes: Homestead and Stelling in Sunnyvale from 1-3 PM.** Be there by **12.45 PM.** New bowlers are always welcome at any level of experience. If you're new, it's easier if you call me in advance so we will be prepared. Spouses, women friends are welcome – there are now 10 co-ed teams.

### **YOU CAN JOIN ANYTIME**

A ball and shoes are available at the bowling lanes. Looking for some exercise that does not rely on good weather? Indoor 10-pin bowling is a fun low-impact activity. Most SIR bowlers are surprised at how fast bowling skills come back to them after a long lay-off. Many have not bowled since they were youngsters. For more information, contact:

**BOB TAGGART** (650) 321-2654, Br 35



## LAWN BOWLING: Tuesday,

Thursday, and Saturday at 9:30 AM at Palo Alto Lawn Bowls Club, 474 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Players need to be 15 minutes early to be entered into the draw for teams. Free coaching is available for new players. Contact:

**DON HUGHES** (650) 323-9916



**TENNIS:** Our tennis group meets Mondays and Thursdays at Rinconada Park in Palo Alto. Please be there by 8:30 AM when doubles teams will be formed. Late arrivals will play as sets are completed. We play an open spin-in doubles format. Play level is about 2.5. We welcome non-SIRS, so bring a friend.

**BILL KAMIN** (650) 322-4300

## CYCLING:

### SIRS ON BIKES:



The SIR bicycle group is not riding in December. State SIR has given the order that all outdoor activities are to be suspended. We take this to mean that protocols have to be resubmitted at the appropriate time. So, as for now, there are no SIR bicycle rides for December and January. We have complete trust in our protocols and hope to be back riding again. We have made it this far, so keep safe and enjoy the holidays and live to tell your grandchildren about the year 2020

If you have questions, please contact Jim Lunt or Gordon Tong as per below.

**JAMES LUNT** (408) 252-6804, Cell: (408) 921-5085  
**GORDON TONG** (408) 242-0557

### NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION:

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement, Inc., and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Inc., and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

### STATE SIR TRAVEL INFORMATION



For information on State SIR travel, go to the State SIR website listed below, and click on "Region and Area Info", click on "Resources", click on "More Information", then look for "Travel Management Information" section which has sub-links to travel agencies, bus companies, and a travel handbook. Also, one can use "Search Here" box at the base of the page using the word "travel".

### STATE SIR WEBSITE

[www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)

## **SIR BRANCH 51 NEWSLETTER**

If you have any inputs, suggestions or feedback to add or improve the newsletter, please let me know.

Also, if you wish to add material to the newsletter, inputs for the next newsletter should be submitted between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next newsletter.

## **Newsletter Editor:**

Richard Jamison  
(650) 868-3723

To all, have a happy Thanksgiving, a merry Christmas, an enjoyable Hanukkah, and a happy New Year.

## 2020 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big SIR: Jim Cummings 328-2168  
Little SIR: (Open)  
Secretary: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Treasurer: Kingsley Wood 799-8420  
Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276

### DIRECTORS

Director: Joe Grippo 948-2130  
Director: Sam Meredith 325-4152  
Director: Craig Carpenter 325-4152

### ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

Indoor Bowling: Bob Taggart (Br 35) 321-2654  
Lawn Bowling: Don Hughes 323-9916  
Cycling: Jim Lunt (Br. 35) (408) 252-6804  
Tennis: Bill Kamin 322-4300  
Golf: Kai Johansen 853-2493  
Jim Cummings 328-2168  
Travel: State SIR Travel: [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)  
Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group [www.spaug.net](http://www.spaug.net)  
Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224  
Historian: (Open)

### ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN

Attendance: Kingsley Wood 799-8420  
Audit: Sam Meredith 325-4152  
Russ Porter 234-1212  
Website: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Art Lewis 964-3223  
Newsletter: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey 593-3496  
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey 593-3496  
Luncheon Programs: Walt McCullough 303-8194  
Acting Membership: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Membership Assistant: (Open)  
Greeter: Al Runge 592-1345  
Special Events: (Open)  
Nominating Committee: Jim Cummings 328-2168  
Steve Tremulis 598-9790  
Craig Carpenter 325-4152

All telephone numbers are in the 650 area code, except where noted differently.

All changes in address, telephone number, and e-mail address needs to be reported to the SIR Branch 51,  
Acting Membership Committee Chairman:

Gerry Shebar,  
3345 Stockton PL.,  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
(650) 868-6124

“All the news that fits we print”

*Anonymous*

# Preliminary 2021 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group [www.spaug.net](http://www.spaug.net)  
Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224  
Historian: (Open)

## **Potential New Board Members**

Jeff Gardiner 561-9661  
Ray Klinke 924-0734  
Mike McMahon 493-7392

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