# Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 537 A Non-Profit Organization For Retired Men



April 2021 Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

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

# **General Membership:**

# **Even More Good News!**

Currently, all bay area counties are in the orange tier restrictions for COVID-19, except Napa, Sonoma, and Solano counties. This means that orange tier county restaurants can have indoor dining at higher capacity than 25% with restrictions of social distancing and mask wearing as best as possible. Also, this allows gyms, retail stores, barbers, museums, parks, theaters, sporting events, etc. to be open under the same orange tier restrictions. In addition, California has allowed those who are 50 years of age or older can now qualify to get vaccine shots. President Biden has stated that all adults age 16 years of age and older will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccine inoculation in all 50 states starting on April 19<sup>th</sup>. As to be expected, there still will be difficulty in getting an appointment for the vaccine. The supply of multiple vaccines needed to support the increase of qualifying people for vaccination currently is under way to help the state and country meet these challenges.

As has been mentioned before. there are new, potential dangers from COVID-19 variants (CA, NYC, UK, South African, Brazilian, Indian, others) that are still a threat to us. Even if we had one or two vaccine shots, this is not the time to relax our standard guard of wearing masks and keeping appropriate social distance between us. Ultimately, we may need a booster shot or even a differently designed vaccine. Governor Newsom has announced that he expects that California will be able to open the state's full economy for business, commerce, and social activities on June 15<sup>th</sup>, provided the public stays on its current course of reduced infections, increased vaccinations, and keeping to our present health protocols.

Bottom line, get your vaccine shots, protect yourself and others as best as you can. To be continued...

Next SIR General Membership Meeting (all members) for Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2021 will be via Zoom with the General Membership Meeting starting with a half hour social meeting at 12:30 PM after which our main meeting begins at:

# 1:00 PM

May's Social and General Membership Meeting are on the first Wednesday of the month, at

> Social Mtg - May 5, 2021, 12:30 PM. Gen. Mtg - May 5, 2021, 1:00 PM.

For more information on our Zoom video conference meetings, check within this newsletter for details. Please keep your version of the Zoom application up to date with the latest changes, since the Zoom company is always upgrading their software and the improvements they make can affect your use of the app.

# **Big SIR Notes:**

From the computer of Jim Cummings

#### Fellow SIRs,

Hope all are well and able to get your vaccines despite the efforts of the powers that be to screw things up. Lack of vaccines in our state and area is inexcusable and should be remembered when election time comes. Sooner or later, we will be able to socialize more easily and can have regular luncheons again but only if we can get a vast majority of members vaccinated.

SIR sent out requests for data regarding the status of our membership in the vaccine administrations. It is important that we keep the state leaders up to date on our individual status. If you have not responded to the survey please do so now.

Our speaker in April will be discussing the demise of cars made by Studebaker, Nash, Hudson, and Packard. All of them were on the market in our early years but eventually the manufacturers dropped out of the picture. I remember them all especially Studebaker and its design which made the front and back have the same profile. There was also a newer sporty looking auto that never succeeded. Nash became American motors which disappeared in the 1970's. I remember seeing Hudsons and Packards, but whatever happened, I don't know. The usual blame is always on the big three but Japan and Germany did not have much trouble competing - lets gather on ZOOM and find out.

Speaking of ZOOM please update your software to make things as smooth as possible. ZOOM does not always let us know there is an update available. The newest version is 5.5....which can be DOWNLOADED by going to the app or zoom.us/download.; Why they do not do updates under standard procedures is unknown.

As usual we will open the meeting at 12:30 with a social hour and our speaker will start around 1 PM. Hope to see you all then.

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

### **Monthly Presentation for Members**

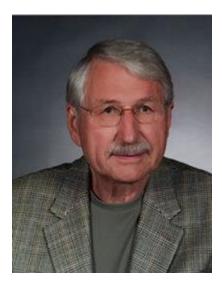
### April 7<sup>th</sup> Speaker Topic:

Studebaker, Packard, Nash & Hudson: How They Started & Where They Went

## **Topic Description:**

This presentation with visuals shows how the Studebaker Brothers, the Packard Brothers, Charlie Nash and Joseph L. Hudson were instrumental in developing these major companies.

## Speaker Biography:



### **Russell Doré**

Russ is a board member of the MotorCities National Heritage Area, a member of the Henry Ford Heritage Association and the Northville Historical Society. He holds Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in the social sciences.



Archive photo of ?

*Review the following website:* <u>https://doreproductions.weebly.com/studebaker-</u> <u>packard-nash--hudson.html</u>

© Doré Productions | Northville, MI | (248) 349-3938 |

# **Future speakers for the coming months:**

May 5, 2021 Speaker Topic:

Shifting Gears

## **Topic Description:**

Shifting Gears book is based on interviews with retirees, telling how they are shifting gears in their retirement. Sometimes they shift smoothly, sometimes they grind the gears, and often they take some time to find their groove. The stories reveal the rich abundance of retirement ventures, from the exotic to the mundane. Discover their joys, challenges, and inspirations that were part of their journey in this next stage of life.

Ranked #1, New Release on Amazon (Gerontology)

**Speaker Biography:** – To be announced.

Dick Haiduck, Author of Shifting Gears

## June 2, 2021 Speaker Topic:

Bay Area's Water Supply Issues

# **Topic Description:**

To be announced.

# Speaker Biography:



**Thomas (Tom) Francis** Water Resources Manager

Thomas (Tom) Francis is the Water Resources Manager of the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), comprising 26 utilities that purchase water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) for resale to their local service areas, that if totaled include over 1.7 million customers. The Agency represents its members' collective interests in their relationship with the SFPUC on matters related to water supply, facility reliability, operations, water quality and wholesale water rates. Mr. Francis joined BAWSCA in 2016.

In his role as the Water Resources Manager, Mr. Francis oversees BAWSCA's water supply management efforts including water reliability planning, supply acquisition and water conservation. Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, he is responsible for the implementation of the Long-Term Reliable Water Supply Strategy, and oversees the SFPUC's \$4.6 billion Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) on behalf of the BAWSCA agencies. Mr. Francis also manages the design and execution of BAWSCA's award winning regional water conservation programs and other regional supply planning activities with the SFPUC and surrounding water agencies.

#### FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SPEAKERS

## **PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Steve Tremulis** (650) 598-9790

# **General Interest**

# SIR 51 Board Meetings

Next virtual Board meeting will be held on the first Wednesday of April, the  $7^{th}$ , at 11:00 AM. Please start logging into the virtual meeting at 10:45 AM. For more details, please contact either Big SIR, Jim Cummings (cell:650/207-3609), or Secretary, Gerry Shebar (650/868-6124).

See the list of 2021 officers and committee chairmen at the end of this newsletter.

March's board meeting had 12 attendees.

# SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

A Zoom invitation will be sent for the April meeting for you to click a link to join the scheduled meeting. Last month's March General Membership Zoom meeting was attended by ? SIR members (I was absent for the main meeting).

Try to join our March General Membership Zoom meeting to see and talk with your fellow members. It is fun and interesting for all. Please remember to avoid making background noise or, easier, just mute your sound while in the meeting to help the video meeting be more enjoyable for all.

## 2021 Membership Roster

As a reminder, the SIR Branch 51 Membership Roster has been updated and is available only in electronic form. Members were sent electronic file versions of the roster. If you have any corrections to your profile data, please contact our Membership Chairman, Gerry Shebar at (659) 868-6124. Also, the roster file has been archived on our branch website.

## 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 master, Gerry Shebar at (650) 868-6124.

#### www.sirinc2.org/branch51

## **State SIR Newsletter**

Last month, the State SIR President, Stu Williams, has sent an e-mail message to all SIR members state-wide with a link to the State SIR newsletter. If you have not reviewed it yet, it is lengthy, yet informative about our greater organization.

Also, see State SIR website: www.sirinc.org

**Craig's Current Contributions:** 

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter. He used to be a big deal but was cast aside for younger Big SIR's with more personality, a better golf game and way better hair. When last seen, he was carrying Walt McCullough's golf bag at Deep Cliff.

### **GOOD READS FOR GUYS:**

*Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin - The political genius of Abraham Lincoln. "The one term Congressman & prairie lawyer rises from obscurity to prevail over three gifted rivals of national reputation to become president."

*The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah - "Set in the Texas plains in the mid 1920's, it shows how the boom & bust after 1929 devastated farm families as the drought of several years led to the Dust Bowl & the migration to the West".

*The Quiet Americans: At the Dawn of the Cold War - A Tragedy in Three Acts* by Scott Anderson -"Paints a compelling picture of the Cold War in its venues, from Berlin to Cairo, Budapest to Saigon, Manila to Tehran and the halls of Congress".

*The Law of Innocence* by Michael Connelly - a who dunnit "featuring Los Angeles defense attorney Mickey Haller (the "Lincoln Lawyer") who is the center of the story. While driving in downtown Los Angeles, he is pulled over by the LAPD and, in searching his car, the body of a man is found in the trunk". Uh oh!

## **STUFF TO WATCH ON THE TUBE:**

*The Food That Built America* on the History Channel. "For generations of Americans, food entrepreneurs like James Kraft, Milton Hershey, the Swanson family, the McDonald brothers have literally been household names, but you don't know their stories. Before they were brands, they were brilliant, sometimes ruthless visionaries who revolutionized food and changed the landscape of America forever. This series turns the lens on an iconic selection of bold pioneers behind such iconic foods as Oreos, Cheetos, pizza and more."

The Trial of the Chicago 7 on Netflix

Heartland on Netflix

Firefly Lane on Netflix

Mank on Netflix

#### RECENT COMMENTS FROM SIR MEMBERS:

Kingsley Wood to his wife - "Please bring me a screwdrive." Wife - "Flathead, Phillips or Vodka?"

Kingsley - "And that's when I knew she was the one."

Jim Cunningham - "They say we can have gatherings of up to eight people without any issues. I don't know eight people without issues."

Joe Grippo (seen standing in front of Stanford Shopping Center holding a cardboard sign) - "Not homeless. Wife at Nordstrom for 2+ hours. PLEASE HELP!"

Russ Porter commenting after his first inside dining experience during the pandemic - "Be careful when you eat at Sam & Ella's Diner."

Rand Cilton describing that awkward moment when a zombie looking for brains walks right by you.

Well...that's all folks! Catch you later.

# **ACTIVITIES**

## <u>GOLF</u>



With the state and county removing some COVID-19 restrictions, and the State SIR leadership allowing outdoor activities, golf is now allowed to be played.

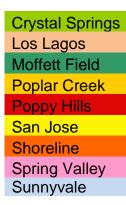
If any of you are interested in playing as individuals, you might want to check with the courses as to tee time availability.

The 2021 golf schedule has been arranged and the Excel golf file was sent out in February. Check for your file copy or at the SIR 51 website. Below are the dates, times, and locations for April and May.

	Apr 06, Tue	Apr 14, Wed.	Apr 21, Wed.	Apr 28, Wed
APR	Moffett Field	Sunnyvale	Los Lagos	Poplar Creek
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
	May 04, Tue	May 12, Wed	May 19, Wed	May 26, Wed
MAY	Crystal Springs	Spring Valley	Sunnyvale	Moffett Field
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM

Same table, but color-coded for April and May.

	Apr 06, Tue	Apr 14, Wed.	Apr 21, Wed.	Apr 28, Wed
APR	Moffett Field	Sunnyvale	Los Lagos	Poplar Creek
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MAY	Crystal Springs	Spring Valley	Sunnyvale	Moffett Field
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 A



Courtesy of Golf Course Coordinator:

KAI JOHANSEN (650) 853-2493

Also, contact Big SIR, Jim Cummings, as a mutual supporter for golf news.

#### JIM CUMMINGS

home: (650) 328-2168 cell: (650) 207-3609

Check if the <u>following activities</u> are going to occur with the recent COVID-19 stayat-home order lifted and new Orange Tier level for most Bay Area counties. Keep in mind, some restrictions are still in place.

#### **COMPUSIR**

COMPUSIR is a self-help Computer discussion group. Normally, it meets monthly at the PALO ALTO ELKS LODGE 4249 EL CAMINO REAL, PALO ALTO. Check first if meetings are being held by Zoom, or not at all. When in-person meetings can be held access is by the following method. For entry, use the announce button on the pedestal to the left of the Front door. **COMPUSIR** is now part of SPAUG (the <u>S</u>tanford – <u>P</u>alo <u>Alto Users G</u>roup). SPAUG Meetings are still held the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month at 7:00 pm, when possible in-person, at PA Elks Lodge (address above). The meeting is upstairs (elevator available past the stairway). More information at <u>www.spaug.net</u>.

#### 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)

there are now 10 co-ed teams.



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. When possible with less COVID-19 restrictions, we meet on **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 (Bob Taggart) in advance so we will be prepared. Spouses, women friends are welcome –

#### 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 bowling skill that comes back 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:



Check if Lawn Bowling is able to meet and play. We meet on 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:**



When possible during the COVID-19 pandemic, check first to see if our tennis group meets which happens on 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:

SIR Bicycle Group Ride April 8,2021

2nd Thursday, April 8, 2021, 11:00 a.m. Wives and guests are welcome. Rain cancels, Helmet required, mask required.

SIR Bicycle Ride Protocols are to be Followed.

The ride for April is the Foster City Bay Trail (The Oracle Ride). The trail is having some work done on it, and there are a few detours. It will be an adventure. The ride is close by and gets us back on the SIR master ride list.

**<u>Ride</u>**: We will ride the flat Foster City Bay Trail for about 10 miles from the Oracle Headquarters to the Poplar Creek Golf Course at Coyote Point, eat our snack or lunch along the way and then return (approximately 20 miles round trip). It might be windy, so bring a jacket or windbreaker.

**Directions:** Get off Highway 101 at Marine Parkway/Ralston. Turn right on Marine Parkway, then an immediate left onto Oracle Parkway. The meeting point is a tree-shaded parking lot with restrooms to the left of this intersection. Coordinates: 37.528476, -122.268604

If there are any questions, contact me, James Lunt at (408) 252-6804) or Gordon Tong at (408) 242-0557. Let us know it you are riding so we can wait for you.

The new, bicycle protocols are:

#### Revised SIR Branch 35 Riding Group Protocols:

1. All riders are encouraged (but not mandatory) to receive the first and second Covid-19 vaccine injections.

2. All riders are **not** to carpool to designated rides. Biking to designated starting points of rides is acceptable.

3. For the safety of all riders, ride only if one is feeling 100% healthy.

4. Riders must wear a biking helmet and some type of face mask. Riders are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer because public restrooms may not always be open.

5. We will designate a lead rider at the front of the group and a designated sweeper behind the last rider. All riders will stay between the designated lead and sweeper.

6. We will stagger riders in groups of 2 - 3 with the first group departing, followed by the next group of riders 2-3 minutes later and continue with this staggered process until all riders have departed.

7. Riders will ride single file and maintain a minimum 50' distance from the rider immediately in front. Riders can pass each other as long as there is a safe margin to pass.

8. When the designated lead rider stops for a group water or restroom break, all riders will stop and maintain a minimum 6 feet distance from each other.

9. Riders are encouraged to bring their lunch or order takeout food. The designated lead rider will find a suitable area to eat lunch and ensure proper social distancing.

10. When riders are eating lunch with their mask off, the minimum distance from each other will be 10 feet.

11. Ride back to our designated ride starting point in the same manner.

This is the riding master list for 2021. It may change as the year goes by, so the final word is in the month's newsletter.

<u>January</u> 14, 2021 Stevens Creek/Shoreline Park (Mt. View), no ride

<u>February</u> 11, 2021 Coyote Creek (South San Jose), no ride

<u>March</u> 11, 2021 <del>Coyote Hills-Alameda Creek (Fremont/Niles)</del>, <del>Michael's</del> <del>(Mt. V) to Univ Ave/Hway 84 (Menlo Park). See above.</del>

<u>April</u> 8, 2021 Foster City Bay Trail <u>May</u> 13, 2021 Brisbane Bayshore Trail

June 10, 2021 Guadalupe Trail--(Alviso to San Jose)

<u>July</u> 8, 2021 Sawyer Camp Trail / San Andreas Trail

<u>August</u> 12, 2021 San Leandro-Alameda Ride

September 9, 2021 Mt. View to Alviso

October 14, 2021 Half Moon Bay

November 11, 2021 Los Gatos Creek Trail

**December** 2021 No ride (If the weather is good, the riders may pick a ride)

Again, 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-RESPOSIBILITY 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

#### 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  $15^{\text{th}}$  and  $20^{\text{th}}$  of the month prior to the next newsletter.

Newsletter Editor: Richard Jamison (650) 868-3723

## 2021 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Member Orientation: Bob Guffey 593-3496

#### **ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN**

Big SIR: Jim Cummings Little SIR: (Open) Secretary: Gerry Shebar Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison Treasurer: Kingsley Wood Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton DIRECTORS Director: Joe Grippo Director: Sam Meredith Director: Craig Carpenter	328-2168 868-6124 868-3723 799-8420 485-2276 948-2130 325-4152 325-4152	Indoor Bowling; Bob Taggart (Br 35) Lawn Bowling: Don Hughes Cycling: Jim Lunt (Br. 35) Tennis: Bill Kamin Golf: Kai Johansen Jim Cummings Travel: State SIR Travel: Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group Macintosh Users: Skip Ross Historian: (Open) <b>New Board Members</b> Jeff Gardiner Ray Klinke Mike McMahon	323-9916 (408) 252-6804 322-4300 853-2493 328-2168 www.sirinc.org						
ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN									
Attendance: Kingsley Wood Audit: Sam Meredith Russ Porter	799-8420 325-4152 234-1212	Luncheon Programs: Steve Tremulis Membership: Gerry Shebar Asst. Membership: (Open)	598-9790 868-6124						
Website: Gerry Shebar Asst. Website: Art Lewis	868-6124 964-3223	Greeter: Al Runge 592-1345 Special Events: (Open)							
Newsletter: Richard Jamison Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey	ngs 328-2168 ulis 598-9790								
	593-3496								

Craig Carpenter325-4152

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