

Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 538
A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



May 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:

Getting Closer to Normalcy

With the latest COVID-19 news, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel and it is not the headlight of an approaching locomotive!

For fully vaccinated people, they do not have to wear masks outside, whether walking, cycling, jogging, etc. They can meet in small groups without masks with others who are fully vaccinated.

However, when mixing within large groups of people, among which individuals may be partially vaccinated or not vaccinated at all, masks are still required, e.g., places such as retail stores, gyms, sporting events, concerts or other entertainment events. Outdoor dining is still recommended, but now indoor dining is allowed with larger capacity (50%). Personal travel requires masks for flying, rail, and public transportation, etc. When cruise lines are restarted for travel, the cruise lines will require fully vaccinated travelers or be test-proof free of COVID-19. Currently, the US has 100 million-plus adults fully vaccinated. There has been a 25% drop in people getting vaccinated that should be vaccinated. If you want to enjoy the more relaxed restrictions around COVID-19, it should be a great incentive to get the complete shots of vaccine as soon as possible. Encourage your younger family members and friends to get vaccinated to help us all survive this pandemic.

Unfortunately, there are areas of the US (WA, OR, MI, plus other states) and other parts to the world (India, Brazil, South Africa, etc.) that are seeing a

surge in infections and deaths. It doesn't help that more variants are occurring in these regions as well. With the seriousness of India's massive surge in infections, the Biden administration has banned travelers from India from entering the US, although special exceptions do exist (e.g., US citizens).

Currently, all bay area counties are in the orange tier restriction for COVID-19, except for Solano County which is still in the red tier. California, as well as the federal government, has allowed those who are 16 years of age or older now can qualify to get vaccine shots. Some vaccine producers are testing and applying for CDC and FDA approval for 12 years and up, and some are testing vaccine safety for children even five-years old and up. Fortunately, the ability to get an appointment for the vaccine is getting easier with walk-in openings being allowed.

Governor Newsom announced that he expects that California will be able to open the state's full economy for business, commerce, and social activities on June 15th, 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.

Next SIR General Membership Meeting (all members) for Wednesday, 5th of May 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

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

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General Interest

SIR 51 Board Meetings

Next virtual **Board Meeting** will be held on the first Wednesday of **May, the 5th, 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.

April's board meeting had 14 attendees.

SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

A Zoom invitation will be sent for the **May** meeting for you to click a link to join the scheduled meeting. Last month's April General Membership Zoom meeting was attended by 20 SIR members.

Try to join our May 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 News

Last month, the State SIR President, Stu Williams, and Craig Hoffhines, State Insurance Chairman, held a virtual Town Hall Meeting that explained the changes to COVID-19 Re-Opening Protocols and the need for Waivers to be signed by all SIR members. The links to these State SIR documents are given below. **Please read them** to understand what is expected of all members, branches and the state organization.

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 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. 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 – 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 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 May 2021 Ride

2nd Thursday, May 14th, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

Wives and guests are welcome. Rain cancels, Helmet required, mask required.

SIR Bicycle Ride Protocols are to be Followed.

BRISBANE BAYSHORE TRAIL

Ride: We will ride the flat Bay Trail along San Francisco Bay for about 7.5 miles going south starting from the parking lot next to the empty former Walmart Tower building in Brisbane, and ending at South Airport Blvd. (next to SFO) where we will have lunch at a sandwich shop, then ride back for a total of about 15 miles.

Directions: Take 101 north past SFO to Sierra Pt. Parkway (2nd exit past the Oyster Point Blvd. exit). At the first intersection, stop, and turn right, then, immediately stop at the next intersection and turn left, which is Marina Blvd., going left. Follow Marina Blvd. around a big curve and just past the former Walmart Tower building (looks like a big ship) on the left side, turn left into a large public parking lot with a short boulevard entrance. We will meet there.

If there are any questions, contact me, James Lunt at (408) 252-6804 or Gordon Tong at (408) 242-0557. Let us know if 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.

~~January 14, 2021~~

~~Stevens Creek/Shoreline Park (Mt. View), no ride~~

~~February 11, 2021~~

~~Coyote Creek (South San Jose), no ride~~

~~March 11, 2021~~

~~Coyote Hills-Alameda Creek (Fremont/Niles), Michael's (Mt. V) to Univ Ave/Hwy 84 (Menlo Park). See above.~~

~~April 8, 2021~~

~~Foster City Bay Trail~~

~~May 13, 2021~~

~~Brisbane Bayshore Trail~~

~~June 10, 2021~~

~~Guadalupe Trail--(Alviso to San Jose)~~

~~July 8, 2021~~

~~Sawyer Camp Trail / San Andreas Trail~~

~~August 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 15th and 20th 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

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 380-9493
Jim Cummings 328-2168
Travel: State SIR Travel: www.sirinc.org
Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group www.spaug.net
Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224
Historian: (Open)

New Board Members

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

ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN

Attendance: Kingsley Wood 799-8420
Audit: Sam Meredith 325-4152
Russ Porter 234-1212
Website: Gerry Shebar 868-6124
Asst. Website: Art Lewis 964-3223
Newsletter: Richard Jamison 868-3723
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey 593-3496
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey 593-3496
Luncheon Programs: Steve Tremulis 598-9790
Membership: Gerry Shebar 868-6124
Asst. Membership: (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