

# Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

## Branch #51

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

No. 546  
A Non-Profit Organization  
For Retired Men



January 2022  
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:

### **Good By 2021, Hello 2022**

The January 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 SIR General Membership Meeting (all members) will be held via Zoom. We will have to see what February brings whether we can meet in-person on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 for our regular General Membership luncheon and speaker meeting. The Board will meet this month at 11:00 AM via Zoom.

As the Omicron variant spreads rapidly around the world since it is extremely contagious. We need to continue protecting ourselves, our family, and others. The best protection is to get the two-shot Pfizer-BioNtech, or Moderna (or one-shot J&J vaccine) **AND** the booster shot from these companies because your antibody level wanes with time. Be conservative and wear a mask in populated settings and keep your distance from each other as best as possible. If you can get a COVID-19 rapid test kit, it will help identify the presence of the virus even if you are asymptomatic. Especially do this when you may have been around people you do not know their vaccine status. If you have been in close contact with an infected person and yet you have been fully vaccinated, you may still test positive for the virus. If so, you will need to quarantine for five days and wear a mask afterward for an additional five days.

The effects of the coronavirus COVID-19 Omicron and Delta variants have caused the US to exceed,

on-average, 275,000 daily infection cases with the highest hospitalizations since September. This virus is nothing to take lightly. It just doesn't seem real!

Here is updated data from the Mayo Clinic records for COVID-19 for the US and CA as of the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 2021. Vaccinations for the nation are at 61.9% being fully vaccinated, and 73.1% having received at least one shot. For Californians 5 years or older, 66.0% have been fully vaccinated and 82.5% have at least one shot of vaccine.

Despite all the doom and gloom, may we all have a happy New Year holiday and look forward to an encouraging 2022 new year.

\*~\*

## 2021 Big SIR Notes:

*From the computer of Jim Cummings*

Gentlemen.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as big sir over the last two pandemic years. I am proud to turn over the duties and responsibilities to Gerry Shebar who will now act as Big Sir. Richard Jamison will be Little Sir. Gerry and Richard have been hard workers through these hard times.

The State SIR leaders have been very innovative in their efforts to remake the SIR organization. We can look forward to their actions in updating SIR.

It has been very difficult to recruit new members to SIR in general and our branch. We can only hope

that the influence of covid will decline in influence so we can start growing again. We do hope to bring back our luncheons. We were able to have two lunches and monthly ZOOM meetings to help keep us together. Unfortunately, at this writing we will not be having an in-person meeting on January 5. All indications are that those who have had 3 shots are fairly well protected from serious illness so we may be able to meet in the next few months.

Hope to see you all soon. Stay well and be safe.

Jim Cummings  
2021 Big SIR  
cell:650-207-3609  
home:650-328-2168

\*~\*

### 2022 Big SIR Notes:

*From the computer of Gerry Shebar*

Gentlemen,

Years ago, I joined SIR to play golf. Of course, it turned out to be so much more. I found new friends. I heard guest speakers while enjoying tasty lunches. My wife and I enjoyed playing in the bowling league. We picnicked and partied. And I accepted some minor assignments to help keep SIR rolling along. Now I am asked to take the lead in keeping SIR on track.

I look forward to the coming year. We have a significant number of challenges. We have fewer members. We are a little older. We have activities hampered by a global pandemic. Hopefully, Covid restrictions will abate in a few months. Members will feel more comfortable resuming participation.

Let's make recruiting new members a top priority. Let's preserve the comradery and activities for the next generation of retirees. We will propose details about this effort in the months ahead when robust participation has resumed.

Till then, stay safe.

Gerry Shebar  
2022 Big SIR

\*~\*

### Monthly Presentation for Members

#### January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Speaker Topic:

To Be Determined.

#### Speaker Biography:

TBD

#### Topic Description:

TBD

#### Future speakers for the coming month:

#### February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 Speaker Topic:

TBD

#### **FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SPEAKERS**

#### **PLEASE CONTACT:**

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

\*~\*

### General Interest

#### SIR 51 Board Meetings

Next Zoom **Board Meeting** will be held on the first Wednesday of **January, the 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM.** For more details, please contact Big SIR, Gerry Shebar (cell:650/868-6124).

See the list of newly elected 2022 officers and committee chairmen at the end of this newsletter.

December board meeting had 12 attendees.

## SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

Last month's December General Membership Meeting was cancelled due to concerns for COVID-19 with an outside entertainment group. Currently, we have a total of 77 members in our branch.

## 2021 Membership Roster

As always, if you have any corrections to your profile data, please contact our Membership Chairman, Jeff Gardiner, at (650) 561-9661. 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](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch51)

## State SIR News

If you have not done so yet, COVID-19 Waiver needs to be signed by all SIR members and submitted to your branch board members. The links to the Wavier, Branch Protocols are given below.

**Please read, print, sign, and submit wavier.**

### Branch Protocols:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/686f3f04701/e2662867-a239-4f89-baac-baf50ee70e2d.pdf>

### Wavier:

<https://sirinc.org/wp-content/uploads/Waiver-final.pdf>

\*\_\*\*

## Craig's Current Contributions:

*Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter*

### THOUGHTS TO PONDER:

"Thanks for teaching me the meaning of plethora...it means a lot"

"No matter how long you have traveled in the wrong direction, you can always turn around"

"No matter how talented, rich or intelligent you are, how you treat animals tells me all I need to know about you"

"Man 1 to man 2...which would you abstain from...wine or women"? Man 2...'I'd need to know the year'".

Gerry Shebar to Jim Cummings..."I found a wood that can lower my score. It's called a pencil".

My friend David just had his id stolen. Now he's just Dav"

"Maybe broccoli doesn't like you either"

"I heard the word "icy" is easy to spell. Now I See Why".

"I never finish anything. I have a black belt in partial arts".

"That awkward moment when a zombie looking for brains walks right by you".

### GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

*No One Goes Alone* by Eric Larson

*The Forgotten 500* by Gregory A. Freeman. The untold story of the men who risked all for the greatest rescue mission of WW2.

*Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl.

*Make Your Bed* by Retired Admiral William H. McRaven. Little things that can change your life and maybe the world.

*The Bucket List.* 1000 adventures big and small by Ken Stathers.

### MOVIES/FLICKS:

#### Netflix:

*The Unforgivable* starring Sandra Bullock. She gives an outstanding performance as Ruth, a woman

just out of prison. While her performance is excellent & the movie has many surprises you don't see coming, it is certainly not uplifting in any way.

**The Girl from Oslo.** A young Norwegian woman and her two Israeli friends are kidnapped by ISIS & a search ensues in Egypt's Sinai region. A series with subtitles as appropriate.

**Emily in Paris**, season 2. Mega chick flick, but your wife will think you are a very sensitive man by watching this with her. Beautiful scenery in Paris & the wine country.

**Amazon Prime:**

**Being The Ricardos.** Nicole Kidman as Lucy & Javier Bardem as Desi Arnaz.

**Side note:** The Los Angeles MAFIA had set up a hit on Desi and were going to kill him as Desi would not use the mob-controlled union for his movies. Desi found out at the last moment and averted his impending death.

**PERFORMING ARTS:**

See Hershey Felder in **Monsieur Chopin** at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts from January 19<sup>th</sup> - February 13<sup>th</sup>. The man (both men, actually), are geniuses.

Well...2020 & 2021...you can KMA! Looking forward to a great 2022. Be safe & healthy!

Your humble (deservedly so) correspondent.

\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*==\*

**ACTIVITIES**

**GOLF**



**With the state and county removed most COVID-19 restrictions, except masks, and the State SIR leadership allowing vaccinated members to be active in outdoor and indoor settings (with waivers), precautions should be taken while playing golf.**

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

The 2022 golf schedule is available. Check for an Excel or .pdf file copies either electronically sent to you or at the SIR 51 website. Below are the dates, times, and locations for January 2022 and February 2022.

Please register your intentions to play by signing “Yes” or “No” on the sign-up sheet. All participants must be at the course at least one hour before tee time.

	Jan 04, Tue	Jan 12, Wed	Jan 19, Wed	Jan 26, Wed
JAN	Sunnyvale 9:30 AM	Poplar Creek 10:00 AM	Los Lagos 10:00 AM	Shoreline 10:00 AM

	Feb 01, Tue	Feb 9, Wed	Feb 16, Wed	Feb 23, Wed
FEB	Spring Valley 10:00 AM	San Jose 10:00 AM	Sunnyvale 9:30 AM	Los Lagos 10:00 AM

- Crystal Springs
- Los Lagos
- Moffett Field
- Poplar Creek
- Poppy Hills
- San Jose
- Shoreline
- Spring Valley
- Sunnyvale

*Courtesy of Golf Course Coordinator:*

**KAI JOHANSEN**  
(650) 380-9493

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

**JIM CUMMINGS**  
home: (650) 328-2168  
cell: (650) 207-3609

\*~\*

**Check if the following activities are going to occur with the recent COVID-19 and State SIR removed restrictions. Do keep in mind, however, 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 Stanford – Palo Alto Users Group). 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 [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. When possible, with less COVID-19 restrictions, we meet on **Tuesdays at Homestead Lanes: Homestead and Stelling in Cupertino 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 (Br 35)**  
(650) 321-2654

**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 form. Play level is about 2.5. We welcome non-SIRS, so bring a friend.

**SYD JACOBSEN (Br 35)**  
(408) 738-3233

**CYCLING:**

(Branches 35, 51, others)

2nd Thursday— January 13, 2022, 11:00 AM

Wives and guests welcome, Rain cancels, Helmet mandatory, jacket or vest, with face masks optional.

**Stevens Creek Trail & Shoreline Park (Mt. View):**

**Ride:** We will ride a flat, scenic 14 mile round-trip to Michael's Restaurant in Shoreline Park, plus an optional

5-mile loop to the Palo Alto Duck Pond, next to the Palo Alto Airport (total ride 19 miles). Lunch is usually at Michael's in the Shoreline Park but it's been closed for renovations. An alternative lunch spot may be the Baylands Cafe at the Baylands Golf Link near the PA Duck Pond. We will finalize the lunch spot on the day of the ride.

**Directions:** Meet at the south end of the Stevens Creek bike path at the corner of Sleeper Ave. and Franklin Ave. From Palo Alto, go south on El Camino Real to Grant Rd; turn right. Drive past the 3rd traffic signal to Sleeper Ave.; turn left. Drive to the end of Sleeper Ave., which is the intersection of Franklin Ave. Park your car near the intersection.

If you plan to ride or have questions, please contact Gordon Tong (Br35) at 408-242-0557, leader [gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com).

or  
Hank Bottino (Br35) at (650) 207-4320  
[bottinoh@comcast.net](mailto:bottinoh@comcast.net), co-leader.

FYI. SIR Branch 35 monthly bicycling is a combined activity with all SIR Branches in Area 16. The objectives of the monthly rides are to continue to promote fellowship, share experiences, get some exercise and above all, have FUN! We ask that all participants exhibit a positive attitude, exercise good judgment when riding such as maintaining a safe distance between riders, obeying all traffic signs, stop lights, etc. There will always be a **lead rider** and a **sweeper** as the last rider to ensure that all riders stay on course. It's important that all riders keep the lead rider in their sights.

## **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



## 2022 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big SIR: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Little SIR: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Secretary: Jeff Gardiner 561-9661  
Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Treasurer: Kingsley Wood 799-8420  
Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276

### DIRECTORS

Director: Sam Meredith 325-4152  
Director: Craig Carpenter 325-4152  
Director: Ray Klinke 924-0734  
Director Mike McMahon 493-7392

### ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

Indoor Bowling: Bob Taggart (Br 35) 321-2654  
Lawn Bowling: Don Hughes 323-9916  
Cycling: Gordon Tong (Br 35) (408) 242-0557  
Tennis: Syd Jacobsen (Br 35) (408) 738-3233  
Golf: Kai Johansen 380-9493  
Jim Cummings 328-2168  
Travel: State SIR Travel: [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)  
Compuser: 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  
Asst. Website: Art Lewis 964-3223  
Newsletter: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey 593-3496  
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey 593-3496  
Speaker Coordinator: Steve Tremulis 598-9790  
Membership: Jeff Gardiner 561-9661  
Asst. Membership: (Open)  
Greeter: Al Runge 592-1345  
Special Events: (Open)  
Nominating Committee: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Jim Cummings 328-2168  
Steve Tremulis 598-9790

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,  
Membership Committee Chairman:

Jeff Gardiner,  
2152 Sand Hill Road,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 561-9661

“All the news that fits we print”

*Anonymous*