

Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 554
A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



September 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 Interest:

Prepping for Fall

Enjoyable Time of Year:

As fall approaches, we can look forward to comfortable weather and shorter daylight. This past July the SIR organization turned 65 years old. State-wide SIR membership is approximately 9500 members. Also, we enjoyed the last month's speaker presentation about the USS Hornet aircraft carrier history and its involvement in the Apollo space program.

The Branch Executive Committee (board) proposed to the general membership last month that the current board members stay on in their role for the 2023-year board. The general membership voted in approval of this proposal.

State SIR has asked branches to remind members of a State SIR Fall Golf Tournament in September. See our prior months' newsletters for description of this event as well as a State SIR 2022 fall travel event to New England, and a 2023 Ireland trip as well. Contact State SIR Bill Stires at bstires46@gmail.com or 209-988-5445 for details or Milt Smith, State SIR Travel Chair at miltsmith549@gmail.com.

Also, there is a new, externally-focused, State SIR website for attracting and informing the public about the SIR organization called **We Are SIR**.

www.wearesir.com

Our Area 13 governor, Foster Kinney, has developed an award pin for branch members to be given out by Big and Little SIRs for excellent support of their respective branch. The award is called "I Am Doing My Part". Here is your chance to help your branch and be recognized for your support. It's never too late to pitch-in and participate with and for your branch.

We will be meeting in-person for our, Wednesday, 7th of September General Membership meeting. Please encourage your fellow members to come to our luncheon and speaker presentation. Masks are optional.

Please keep in mind for future luncheons, send a RSVP if you plan to attend so that the Fremont Hills Country Club can plan for the number of meals needed. E-mail a RSVP to Big SIR, Gerry Shebar at gshebar@yahoo.com.

As for happenings within our branch, see the respective sections later in this newsletter.

COVID-19 News:

The infection cases for the variants of COVID-19 are decreasing in the US to an average daily count of approximately 83,000 cases as of 25th of August, 2022. California data from the Mayo Clinic records for COVID-19 as of the 25th of August 2022 for fully vaccinated individuals: 73.7%. The dominant subvariant is BA.5. There will be new vaccines for this fall from Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna to cover COVID-19 Omicron and its subvariants, BA.4, and BA.5.

Monkeypox News:

In addition, new infections from Monkeypox, an African virus, are being seen in US at approximately 17,400 cases and world-wide approximately 47,650 cases as of 26th August 2022 per Mayo Clinic. Fortunately, the infection rate is low, it is much less contagious a virus, less severity of illness, and we have Smallpox vaccine that is useful to prevent infections, provided there is adequate supply for the susceptible individuals.

Bottom line, protect yourself and others as best as you can.

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Branch 51 News

Big SIR Notes:

From the computer of Gerry Shebar

Gents,

A few years back, I was recently retired and hanging around the house. My wife suggested that I get out, go join SIRs and play golf. My friend Sandy had told us about SIRS when we had couples’ dinner together in Berkeley where he had recently joined.

Little did I realize that I would be Big Sir someday. This organization has turned out to be so much more than just a golf club. I found the comradery of monthly luncheons, interesting speakers, bowling, and other activities. I found the pleasure of getting together with like-minded seniors who enjoy these social opportunities.

Lately, the challenges of COVID have made things difficult. Luncheon attendance is down to around 40% of our membership. That is not just at our branch but throughout the world of SIRS branches all over northern California. Membership has been slowly shrinking and our average age has inched upward. It seems like a delicate balance is required to stay safe and at the same time find a way to enjoy life.

Hope you are all well and see you in September.

Gerry Shebar
Big SIR 2022

Branch 51 Facebook Page/App:

We are still looking for a volunteer(s) to work on setting up a Facebook page/application for our branch. If you are interested in volunteering your help, please contact our branch Secretary, Jeff Gardiner, at jeffg@usms.com for more information regarding this activity.

New SIR Members

Three new members have joined since May-August 2022: Jim Miller, Joe Urbassik, and Dan Aguiar.

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SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

Our next 2022 SIR General Membership Meeting (all members) will be held **in-person**, on Wednesday, **September 7th** starting at **11:30 AM**. Let’s continue to meet in-person to enjoy our friends, a luncheon, and a guest speaker.

SIR 51 Board Meetings

The next Board meeting will occur **in-person** this coming **September 7th**, Wednesday, at **11:00 AM**.

For more details, please contact Big SIR, Gerry Shebar (cell:650/868-6124).

The list of elected 2022 and 2023 officers and committee chairmen is located at the end of this newsletter.

August board meeting had nine board members in attendance.

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Monthly Presentation for Members

September 7th, 2022 Speaker Topic:

Hiller Aviation Museum & CA Aviation Feats

Topic Description:

The talk will be about the Hiller Aviation Museum and the many interesting aviation feats that occurred here in Northern California.

Speaker Name and Biography:

William Turner:

Willie Turner is the Vice President of Operations for the Hiller Aviation Museum at the San Carlos Airport. He started with the museum in 1995 and is employee #1.

Willie’s flying Career started when he would sit on his father’s lap and fly the plane, he was an early instrument pilot because he couldn’t see over the panel. He earned his pilot’s license in 1984 and has flown across the country twice in an airplane that his mother built. His father was president of Repeat Aircraft that built and restored Golden Age Race Planes. Willie and his father flew the racers in the Disney movie “The Rocketeer”.



Photos courtesy of the Hiller Aviation Museum

Future speakers for the coming month:

October 5th, 2022 Speaker and Topic:

To be determined

FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SPEAKERS

PLEASE CONTACT:

Steve Tremulis
(650) 598-9790

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2022 Membership Roster

As always, if you have any corrections or changes 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. See next section.

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

The State SIR has elected new officers. See the website link below to learn more about the State SIR organization.

State SIR Website:

www.sirinc.org

The State SIR organization has a newsletter called ***SIR Happenings***, to help SIR members know what the state officers are organizing and their various activities to support the local branches. See link below.

<https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>

The State SIR group provides guidance to help branches improve their members' involvement and the growth of branch membership.

The link to the COVID Wavier website is given below.

Wavier:

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

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Craig's Current Contributions: **September 2022**

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

Former Big SIR, very important guy. Bet on the Giants to win it all this year...hey, they're only 24 games behind the Dodgers. There's still time. 😊 The 49ers have only lost one game this pre-season and the Warriors' season is on the horizon. Life is good in the Bay Area!

THOUGHTS TO PONDER:

Don't trust everything you see. Even salt looks like sugar...

"A smart person knows what to say. A wise person knows whether to say it or not". The Dalai Lama...

"Complaining about a problem without posing a solution is called whining". Teddy Roosevelt

Remember Einstein's comment: "There is a major difference between intelligence and stupidity; intelligence has its limits".

Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word? Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called 'rush hour'? Why don't sheep shrink when it rains? If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the 'terminal'? Why is the person who invests all your money called a 'broker'?

GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

THE END OF THE WORLD IS JUST BEGINNING - mapping the collapse of globalization by Peter Zeihan.

AFTER STEVE

How Apple became a trillion-dollar company and lost its soul by Tripp Mickle

IN THE GARDEN OF BEASTS: LOVE, TERROR AND AN AMERICAN FAMILY IN HITLER'S BERLIN by Erik Larson

THE HAMMER OF EDEN A novel by Ken Follett. The FBI doesn't believe it. The governor wants the problem to disappear. But agent Judy Maddox knows the threat is real. An extreme group of eco-terrorists has the means and the know-how to set off a massive earthquake of epic proportions. For California, time is running out. NYT Best Seller.

STUFF TO WATCH:

Netflix:

LOOK BOTH WAYS A lighthearted film as Natalie faces a possibly life-changing moment just as she's finishing up at college - after which we follow two different realities for her. One takes her to LA to pursue her career dreams; the other keeps her rooted to her hometown. The lesson seems to be that character, not circumstance, determines one's fate.

THE MAN FROM TORONTO An action-comedy starring Kevin Hart who copes with a mission impossible.

Apple TV:

BAD SISTERS The Garvey sisters are always looking out for each other - even, possibly, to the extent of quietly bumping off a toxic in-law. A sly Irish series.

BLACK BIRD Can Taron Egerton trick - and trap - a possible serial killer.

Amazon Prime:

THE TERMINAL LIST An action-thriller as Navy SEAL James Reece (Chris Pratt) is in a battle to find the truth.

The first day of Fall commences on September 22 so let's enjoy our last month of Summer, 2022 to the fullest! Stay healthy and active - mentally & physically.

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ACTIVITIES

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 September and October 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.

	Sep 06, Tue	Sep 14, Wed	Sep 21, Wed	Sep 28, Wed
SEPT	Baylands 8:30 AM	Shoreline 10:00 AM	Crystal Springs 10:00 AM	San Jose 10:00 AM

	Oct 04, Tue	Oct 12, Wed	Oct 19, Wed	Oct 26, Wed
OCT	Los Lagos 10:00AM	Poplar Creek 10:00 AM	Sunnyvale 9:30 AM	Crystal Springs 10:30 AM

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

Courtesy of Golf Chairman:

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

State Golf Newsletter:
www.sirgolf.org

State SIR Golf News:

Here is a **reminder** from Mark Stuart, the State SIR Golf Committee Chairman for an up-coming 2022 **fall golf classic tournament in September.**

Fellow Golfers,

The final State golf event of the year is being held at the Blue Rock Springs golf courses in Vallejo. The event will be held on September 14th and 15th. This is a 2-day event but if a golfer wants, they can play either of the days or both. I'd ask that you take

a look at the State golf website at www.sirgolf.org. for specific details for the fall golf classic. This event is open to all SIR members, their wives or significant others, and invited guests.

Many Thanks,
Mark Stuart, 2022 SIR State Golf Committee Chair

Check if the following activities are going to occur with the recent changes in COVID-19 State SIR restrictions.

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 User's 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.

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: (SIR Branches 35, 51, others)

2nd Thursday — September 8, 2022, 11:00 AM

Wives and guests welcomed; Rain cancels, helmets required and face masks optional. Read latest CDC guidance via link below:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Following Month Ride:

Thursday, 13th Oct 2022. Sawyer Camp Trail

San Lorenzo Bay Trail Ride:

Ride: The ride starts from San Lorenzo passing by the Oakland International Airport to Bay Farm Island in Alameda. It is a very scenic, bay front trail that's paved and level (including 1-2 miles of quiet residential streets and 2-3 miles of Alameda city streets securely barricaded from traffic, about 22 miles round trip. We will stop in Alameda for lunch and then ride back to our starting point. The trail can get a bay breeze so bring light windbreaker or vest. This ride is much like the Oracle Redwood Shores ride, but on the East Bay.

Driving Directions: From Silicon Valley take I-880 heading North, exit on Hesperian Blvd (about 20 miles from Mt View/Palo Alto) turning left on to Hesperian Blvd, then right on Grant Avenue and turn right into the trail parking lot (near the end of Grant Avenue). Plug Into your car GPS: 2561 Grant Road, San Lorenzo. This will direct you the building next to the trail parking lot.

Please open the link below to see Maps #8 and #9 which show the trail we'll be riding. At the top of Map #8 it shows where the paved trail starts at Grant Avenue in San Lorenzo

<https://mtc.ca.gov/operations/regional-trails-parks/san-francisco-bay-trail/map-numbers/map-8-newark-san-leandro>

<https://mtc.ca.gov/operations/regional-trails-parks/san-francisco-bay-trail/map-numbers/map-9-san-leandro-alameda>

Cycling Comment:

FYI. SIR Branch 35 monthly bicycling is a combined activity with all SIR Branches in Area 13. The objectives of the monthly rides are to continue to promote fellowship, share experiences, get some exercise and above all, have FUN!

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 search "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

2022-2023 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

Sam Meredith 325-4152
Craig Carpenter 325-4152
Mike McMahon 493-7392
Jim Cummings 207-3609
Steve Tremulis 598-9790

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 Chairman: Kai Johansen 380-9493
Golf Assistant: Jim Cummings 207-3609
Travel: State SIR Travel: www.sirinc.org
Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group www.spaug.net
Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224
Historian: (Open)

ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN

Attendance: Kingsley Wood	799-8420	Speaker Coordinator: Steve Tremulis	598-9790
Audit: Sam Meredith	325-4152	Membership: Jeff Gardiner	561-9661
	Russ Porter 234-1212	Asst. Membership: (Open)	
Website: Gerry Shebar	868-6124	Greeter: Al Runge	592-1345
Asst. Website: Art Lewis	964-3223	Special Events: Ray Klinke	924-0734
Newsletter: Richard Jamison	868-3723	Nominating Committee: Gerry Shebar	868-6124
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey	593-3496		Jim Cummings 207-3609
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey	593-3496		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