# Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement Branch #51

Website: <a href="https://www.sirinc2.org/branch51">www.sirinc2.org/branch51</a>

No. 559
A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



# February 2023 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:**

# When It Rains, It Pours

## It's a Blessing and a Curse:

January has given us much needed rain. Nine atmospheric rivers and maybe more later this winter. Unfortunately, dangerous flooding, high winds, and power outages occurred. Let's hope that we get more rain to fight our state drought, but hopefully, not all at once.

Please see the **Activities** section later in this newsletter for information on creating more mutual activities across local branches. More choices, more fun.

For golfers, please see the Golf section of this newsletter for news and details of a new golf tournament called *Friendship Golf Tournament* which will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Discovery Bay Golf and Country Club.

If you have done so yet, please pay your 2023 SIR 51 dues to our Treasurer, Kingsley Wood. You can pay in-person at our luncheon or send him a check at:

Kingsley Wood 1009 Forest Court Palo Alto, CA 94301

## **VIRUS News:**

All current viruses are still a threat to us, especially COVID-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and the Flu during this winter. Please take appropriate precautions.

## COVID-19:

#### US COVID-19 and variants:

Fully vaccinated: 69.1%

At least one vaccine shot: 80.1%

## CA COVID-19 and variants:

Fully vaccinated: 74.5%

At least one vaccine shot: 84.6%

Data from *Our World in Data* as of 18 January 2023. <a href="https://ourworldindata.org">https://ourworldindata.org</a>

#### **RSV**:

This virus affects mostly infants, young children, older adults (65+), and adults with chronic heart or lung disease or weakened immune systems.

RSV info for older adults:

https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/high-risk/older-adults.html

RSV Prevention info:

https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/about/prevention.html

#### Flu News:

Flu season is starting this year with a surge. Get this year's flu shot as soon as possible.

As always, protect yourself and others as best as you can against all these virus threats.

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



# **Branch 51 News**

# **Big SIR Notes:**

From the computer of Gerry Shebar

Gents.

When I first joined SIRs there were over 100 members in Branch 51.

In 2016 we still had 103 members listed in the Roster.

Pre-covid in 2019 the Roster listed 99 members. Sadly, last year the 2022 Roster listed 76 members. And the current 2023 Roster lists 64 members. (Although we have had several resignations since publication so the actual count is now 60 active members.)

Long story short we have lost 40% of our membership over the last 8 years. We are not alone. The same downward trend is happening statewide.

Some Branches have closed. Some Branches have merged with others in order to regain a healthy membership. I am hoping that we will not follow similar measures.

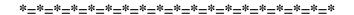
This month our Treasurer, Kingsley Wood, will be making a final call to collect this year's dues. Please, respond.

But beyond just remaining a member, attending luncheon meetings, and/or participating in other activities (golf, bowling, biking, etc) consider

**recruiting**. I know of three members bringing a guest (prospective new member) to the February luncheon. Way to go guys!

Let's all pitch in.

Gerry Big SIR



# **SIR 51 General Membership Meeting**

Our second 2023 SIR General Membership meeting will be held in-person on Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 11:30 a.m., for social half-hour, then at noon for lunch.

Please 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 <a href="mailto:bigsirfiftyone@gmail.com">bigsirfiftyone@gmail.com</a>.

Please encourage your fellow members to come to the luncheon and speaker presentation.

January Luncheon attendance was a total of 26 (members and guests). As of January 2023, our branch members totaled 60.

# **SIR 51 Board Meetings**

The next Board meeting will occur in-person this coming February 1st, Wednesday, at 11:00 AM.

January Board meeting had 10 attendees.

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

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

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# **Monthly Presentation for Members**

# January 4th, 2023 Speaker Topic:

Industrial Design – Instruction to Prototype

# **Topic Description:**

Creating and Teaching Interdisciplinary
Designing with students for Industrial
Design Applications

# **Speaker Name and Biography:**



Antonio Borja

Antonio Borja is a 2004 BFA graduate from the School of Industrial Design at Academy of Art University. After graduation, Borja went to work utilizing his vast range of skills to launch a professional freelance career, and work for General Motors as a creative designer.

He later returned to his alma mater to teach Design Drawing, Transportation Design, and Digital 3D modeling courses. At the Academy, Mr. Borja led the creation of an interdisciplinary collaborative program that gives students hands-on experience working with companies such as NASA, Samsung, Audi, Nissan, Peugeot, Citroen, General Motors, and Jaguar. In this role, he guides students from the schools of Graphic Design, Fashion, Interaction & UI/UX Design, and Interior Architecture, to create a holistic vision for the design objectives of the client.

As Director of the School of Industrial Design, he has successfully worked to integrate the latest rapid prototyping, generative design, and visualization methods into the industrial design curriculum. This has made the Industrial Design program a featured partner for companies such as Gravity Sketch, Adobe, and Autodesk.



Antonio Borja, Director of the School of Industrial Design

ACADEMY of ART UNIVERSITY®



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

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Speaker and Topic:

**TBD** 

# FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING SPEAKERS

**PLEASE CONTACT:** 

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



# 2023 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**

Public information about SIR organization for what we are as a social group and what we do is available on the state SIR developed website for informing and attracting the public to a branch. It is called **We Are SIR**.

www.wearesir.com

# **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 for overall support and various activities for 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.

# Wavier:

The link to the State SIR COVID Wavier website is given below for anyone who has not yet signed the required waiver.

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



# **Craig's Current Contributions:** February 2023

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

This is written after the Dallas game so, whatever happens in Philadelphia, HOW 'BOUT THOSE NINERS!!!

#### **PARAPROSDOKIANS:**

What's the difference between a hippo & a zippo? One is really heavy & the other is a little lighter.

I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday but couldn't find any.

Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu - you get what you deserve.

I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.

To the mathematician who thought of the idea of zero.

Thanks for nothing!

#### THOUGHTS TO PONDER:

When you're dead, you don't know you're dead. The pain is only felt by others. The same thing happens when you're stupid.

I find, these days, that most of my conversations start out with: "Did I tell you this already? or What was I going to say?"

I don't call it getting old. I call it outliving the warranty.

You never appreciate what you have till it's gone. Toilet paper is a good example.

# **GOOD READS FOR GUYS:**

*The Boys from Biloxi*. Kudos to Ray Klinke who said it's one of John Grisham's best ever.

**Team America** by Robert L. O'Connell. Generals Patton, MacArthur, Marshall, Eisenhower, and the World they forged.

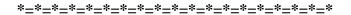
**The 6:20 Man** by David Baldacci...excellent as always.

# **STUFF TO WATCH:**

# Netflix, Amazon Prime, Apple TV+, etc.

check next month

Best wishes to all for a joyous, healthy & prosperous 2023!



# **ACTIVITIES**

# **Multi-Branch Activities:**

From John Jordan, Branch 1.

Good day fellow SIR members.

We are looking to expand participation for our Branch in various activities. Specifically:

- <u>Economics & Current Events</u>: A monthly gathering over lunch to delve into the goings on in the world. Topic(s) to be presented prior to getting together but nothing is off the table.
- <u>Computer & Technology</u>: Discover the many things our computers, laptops, smart phones, etc. can do of which you were unaware. Also, great group for self-help to solve problems and better understand how we can use technology more to our advantage.
- <u>Book Discussion</u>: Read any good books lately? Wondering what to read next? Finding you are reading less but want to get back to some good reads? This group could get you going or add more to your reading enjoyment.
- <u>Stock Study</u>: Large cap? Small cap? Options? Crypto? Meets monthly in San Mateo.

Other activities that are popular: Bocce, golf, bowling, pickleball (just getting started)

If you would like to learn more about these or have suggestions about any other groups, please call or email Branch 1 Activities Director:

John Jordan. 650-544-8893 ddbblljj@aol.com

#### **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.

A special golf event in March 2023 called *Friendship Golf Tournament* has been organized by SIR Branch 161 of Discovery Bay. It is being held at the Discovery Bay Golf and Country Club on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 starting at 9:00 a.m. Details are found via the following lengthy link.

https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Jd1uggw4thpypOUT MLcVSjf1eXYZr7QL0msxXUGVZ7PnB3Rp1HlC fVLBwh0OvgqasGm2rwK8lCcPyXS-

<u>4vJ00sIi0tpnw\_xeL1P1hSqXNLVIfBfqR8U\_mXw8aiLa3upU4\_6T2Vc8eOrsjUfo1MGV1FpdiZA4M9r6eMcb78-</u>

 $\frac{SH fo1rJIIPgsqTXmiVdweHKz3PLTAkH9y0XHfkt}{aKKMhmEaM62YHvJShP-}$ 

BKXpgEi10lexkHrqKUwyA==&c=33dy9tbM5GK WsR\_WrwMUxvElE80R-XSqegKbbdbeJzg15EdA-IFjlw==&ch=ZmoRjhGbEMB0iKy1S4KFVjBec0s zHFX9jHx\_zaYteMVx7U-ZSOeRJQ==

Branch 161 contact person for this event is listed below.

Johnny Welton 5751 Prestwick Court Discovery Bay, CA 94505

Email: johnnywelton40@gmail.com

Cell: 925-876-5844

As for SIR Branch 51's golf information, see the SIR 51 2023 golf schedule which is available via 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, February, and March 2023.

	Jan 03, Tue	Jan 11, Wed	Jan 18, Wed	Jan 25, Wed	Jan 31, Tue
JAN	Baylands	Poplar Creek	Los Lagos	Spring Valley	Shoreline
	8:30 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM

	Feb 8, Wed	Feb 15, Wed	Feb 22, Wed	Feb 28, Tue
FEB	San Jose	Sunnyvale	Los Lagos	Poplar Creek
	10:00 AM	10.00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM

	Mar 08, Wed	Mar 15, Wed	Mar 22, Wed	Mar 29, Wed
MAR	Spring Valley	Shoreline	San Jose	Crystal Springs
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM

TOTAL	TOURNAMENT:	S: 50

Baylands 2
Crystal Springs 5
Los Lagos 7
Moffett Field 3
Poplar Creek 6
Poppy Hills 1
San Jose 6
Shoreline 5
Spring Valley 8
Sunnyvale 7

All participants must be at the course at least one hour before tee time.

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

Check if the <u>following activities</u> 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 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.

#### 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)

Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM Next ride will be on February 9<sup>th</sup> 2023.

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

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

# **Coyote Creek Trail (South San Jose)**

Ride: We will ride the scenic Coyote Creek Trail starting from the Wyndham Garden Hotel at 399 Silicon Valley Rd, San Jose. The ride will be about 6 miles to the Coyote Creek Golf Course. We will ride past the golf course for another 4 miles to the Anderson Visitor Center at the end of trail, then back to the golf course club house for lunch. After lunch we will ride back to the hotel parking lot for a total of 20 miles. For those who want a shorter ride.

they can stop at the golf course restaurant, for a round trip of 12 miles.

Footnote: With the heavy rains this month, the Coyote Creek Trail may be muddy or not fit for bike riding so I will ride the trail next week. If sections of the Coyote Creek Trail are blocked, I may change the ride and send out a revised ride notice. Please stay tuned as we approach 9th February 2023. Thanks.

If you plan to ride or have questions, please contact Gordon Tong at 408-242-0557 or <a href="mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com">gordy6850@gmail.com</a> or Hank Bottino at (650) 207-4320 or <a href="mailto:bottinoh@comcast.net">bottinoh@comcast.net</a>. who is my biking group co-leader.

## **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!

We ask that all riders exhibit a positive attitude, exercise good judgment when riding such as maintaining a safe distance between riders, obey all traffic signs, stop lights, etc. There will be a designated **lead** rider and a **sweeper** (or last rider) to ensure that all riders stay on course. It's important that all riders keep the **lead** rider in their sights.

# 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**



FYI. State SIR 2023 Ireland trip is being planned. If you are interested, contact State SIR Bill Stires at <a href="mailto:bstires46@gmail.com">bstires46@gmail.com</a> or 209-988-5445 for details or Milt Smith, State SIR Travel Chair at <a href="mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com">miltsmith549@gmail.com</a>.

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

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Richard Jamison (650) 868-3723 rsjamison@aol.com

# 2023 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN**

Big SIR: Gerry Shebar	868-6124	Indoor Bowling; Bob Taggart (Br 35)	321-2654	
Little SIR: Richard Jamison	868-3723	Lawn Bowling: Don Hughes	323-9916	
Secretary: Jeff Gardiner	561-9661	Cycling: Gordon Tong (Br 35)	(408) 242-0557	
Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison	868-3723	Tennis: Syd Jacobsen (Br 35)	(408) 738-3233	
Treasurer: Kingsley Wood	799-8420	Golf Chairman: Kai Johansen	380-9493	
Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton	485-2276	Golf Assistant: Jim Cummings	207-3609	
		Travel: State SIR Travel:	www.sirinc.org	
<u>DIRECTORS</u>		Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Groupwww.spaug.net		
Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison Treasurer: Kingsley Wood Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton	868-3723 799-8420	Tennis: Syd Jacobsen (Br 35) Golf Chairman: Kai Johansen Golf Assistant: Jim Cummings Travel: State SIR Travel:	(408) 738-323 380-9493 207-3609 www.sirinc.org	

Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224 Historian: (Open)

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

#### **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