

# Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

## Branch #51

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

No. 564  
A Non-Profit Organization  
For Retired Men



July 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:

#### Time to Celebrate USA, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Get ready to enjoy the fourth of July. BBQs with good food, drinks, and friends. Parades and fireworks occupy the day and night. Should you entertain the thought of firing off some illegal fireworks, beware some communities fine heavily for use of illegal fireworks. Do be safe and celebrate our nation's birthday together.

The annual summer picnic/BBQ occurred on Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, at pool-side in the Fremont Hills Country Club. The total attendance was 51 including fellow members, their spouses, and friends. Good fun and food were had by all.

Please welcome two new members that joined our branch. One is Richard Simko. Richard and his wife, Patricia, live in Los Altos Hills. Richard is retired electrical engineer and entrepreneur in semiconductors, lasers and has 30+ patents. He has worked for several companies such as Intel, Xicor, SpectranEpics, ISD, and GLC. He has a wide range of interests and activities, even being a golf beginner.

Also, please welcome Stuart Mckechnie. Stuart with his wife, Gina, live in San Jose. Stuart works part-time in technology product management / development. He has worked for Philips Electronics, Zoran, and AMD. His interests range from Astronomy, Photography, Computer Tech, and Golf.

Do welcome both to our branch when you meet them.

Again, as you know, we need more members to join our branch to improve our success as a growing branch that can survive and be more interesting and rewarding to our members. Diverse backgrounds of members help us know and learn more about our community, ourselves, and the world.

A new hardcopy, 2023 membership roster booklet is available. Ask for roster when you pay for your monthly luncheon. Also, an electronic roster file is on our branch website. If you have changes to your profile in the roster, please inform our new Membership Chairman in order to keep the roster file up to date. E-mail your updates to Joe Urbassik at [joeu1218@gmail.com](mailto:joeu1218@gmail.com).

This is a reminder from June newsletter. There are two new golf tournaments being held by the State SIR golf group and/or branch co-sponsored this year: **2023 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP**, and **2023 BR 116 and State SIR Reno**. Check the golf section of this newsletter for details.

As for other happenings within our branch, see the respective sections later in this newsletter. Be healthy and safe.

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### Branch 51 News

#### Big SIR Notes:

*From the computer of Gerry Shebar*



**Speaker Name and Biography:**

Dr. Michael Baker is Board Certified in General Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, and practices in Walnut Creek, CA. He served as a surgery department chair for over 20 years, teaches on the clinical faculty at two medical schools, and serves on the Editorial Board of the journal Military Medicine. Dr. Baker retired from the U.S. Navy in July 2005 with the rank of Rear Admiral, after 30 years in the uniformed service of his country. Upon retirement he was awarded his third Legion of Merit, which he proudly wears alongside his Marine Corps Combat Action ribbon and Combat Craft Riverine Warfare pin.

**FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING  
SPEAKERS**

**PLEASE CONTACT:**

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

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**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**

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 our branch. It is called **We Are SIR.**

[www.wearesir.com](http://www.wearesir.com)

**State SIR Website:**

[www.sirinc.org](http://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.

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**Craig's Current Contributions:**  
**July 2023**

*Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter*

Former Big SIR, VERY important guy. Looking for a new job as I was terminated after a stint as the public relations guy for the PGA/LIV merger. BOTH Rory & Phil were upset with me.

**THOUGHTS TO PONDER:**

Lake Superior contains ten percent of all the freshwater on planet Earth

Money will buy a fine dog but only kindness will make him wag his tail

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

No one ever says "It's only a game" when their team is winning

Whenever I try to eat healthy a chocolate bar looks at me and Snickers

After my friend turned vegan it was like I'd never seen herbivore

A book hit my head and I've only my shelf to blame.



TOTAL TOURNAMENTS: 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 SIR Golf Newsletter:**

[www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org)

**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 **S**tanford – **P**alo **A**lto **U**sers **G**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 [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:** (SIR Branches 35, 51, others)

Meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM  
Next ride will be on July 13<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Wives and guests welcomed; 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 Hills/Alameda Creek – Niles/Fremont**

**Ride:** We will begin the ride at the Coyote Hills Park and continue on the Alameda Trail to the quaint town of Niles where we will have lunch at a downtown sandwich shop. The trail was temporarily closed because of flooding and downed trees from heavy rains earlier this year. The biking trail is paved and generally flat (except at the start there are some gentle rolling hills). The trail is approximately 9 miles each way, with an optional 1 mile loop of a scenic view of the Bay (total ride of 19-21 miles depending on where you park).

**Directions:** Take Highway 101 North, exit on Highway 84 across the Dumbarton Bridge past the toll booth, take the first exit, Paseo Padre Parkway. Turn left and go one mile to Paterson Ranch Road; turn left. This is the entrance to Coyote Hills Park (there is a small sign). Go 1/2 mile to the park toll booth/parking ticket machines (\$5 per car or use your East Bay Regional Park District season pass). Continue another 1/2 mile over several speed bumps to the park office and museum; park there.

If you prefer, take I-880 North and exit on Highway 84 West. Exit on to Paseo Padre Parkway and turn right. Proceed to Paterson Ranch Road and turn left.

**Optional FREE Parking:** There is a parking lot on the corner of Paseo Padre Parkway and Paterson Ranch Road (on your immediate left). Many of the riders will park here and ride 2 miles on a paved path into the park.

If you plan to ride or have questions, please contact Gordon Tong at 408-242-0557 or [gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com) or Hank Bottino at (650) 207-4320 or [bottinoh@comcast.net](mailto:bottinoh@comcast.net). 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 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

[rsjamison@aol.com](mailto:rsjamison@aol.com)

## 2023 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big SIR: Gerry Shebar 868-6124  
Little SIR: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Secretary: Richard Jamison 868-3723  
Asst. Secretary: (Open)  
Treasurer: Kingsley Wood 799-8420  
Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276

### DIRECTORS

Sam Meredith 325-4152  
Craig Carpenter 930-0510  
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](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	Speaker Coordinator: Steve Tremulis	598-9790
Audit: Sam Meredith	325-4152	Membership: Joe Urbassik	714-9610
Website: Gerry Shebar	868-6124	Asst. Membership: (Open)	
Asst. Website: (Open)		Greeter: Al Runge	592-1345
Newsletter: Richard Jamison	868-3723	Special Events: Ray Klinke	924-0734
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey	593-3496	Nominating Committee: Gerry Shebar	868-6124
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey	593-3496	Jim Cummings	207-3609
		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:

Joe Urbassik,  
4128 Willmar Drive,  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
(650) 714-9610

“All the news that fits we print”

*Anonymous*