

Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 567
A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



October 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:

Fall is Here

We passed the autumn equinox on September 22nd. October is here and we should begin to experience cooler weather and, maybe, some rain. The football season is on for college and professional teams which can be fun to watch, especially our local San Francisco 49ers. This year the 49ers have an excellent defensive and offensive squads. It is hoped that they will have a very good chance to make the Super Bowl – we'll see come the end of the regular season.

Do bring your friends or neighbors to our Fremont Hills Country Club and show them what we like, and enjoy, about our SIR 51 branch: tasty food, interesting members, and entertaining speakers. Possibly, we can get your friend or neighbor, ultimately, to join our branch to keep the branch growing.

Other news.

As mentioned last month, the SIR Foundation, which supports all branches for financial aid in time of need, needs to replenish its coffers due to past support for branches that received help, e.g., improvement projects, infrastructure needs, wildfire disasters, etc.

The Sons In Retirement Foundation Inc. (SIRF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your contribution is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by California law.

SIRF is currently managed by a five-member volunteer Board of Directors. We invite any SIR member with fundraising experience to help the Board obtain donations that allows us to continue providing grants where needed or requested.

If you can contribute, any amount, the SIR Foundation thanks you. To obtain a donation form, go to the link presented here.

<https://sirinc.org/wp-content/uploads/SIRF-Donation-Form-SIR-Member.docx>

Also, one can contact Jim Walton, Foundation President, jameswalton2176@gmail.com

If you have any changes to your profile in the roster, please inform our Membership Chairman in order to keep the roster file up to date. E-mail your updates to Joe Urbassik at joeu1218@gmail.com.

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

Gents,

Sons In Retirement is a nonprofit public benefit corporation for retired men, devoted to the

promotion of independence and dignity of retirement. SIR’s purpose is to assist men in renewing former friendships and provide opportunities to make new friends through association with other retirees. Membership is open to men regardless of age, race, color or religion.

We, your fellow retired men from nearly all professions including business, science, engineering, legal, medicine, and education, invite all who meet this criteria to consider joining SIR. Dues are collected to contribute to the expenses of the branch. Volunteers man all office and administrative positions from the statewide organization down through the Area and the local Branch. The SIR organization exists strictly for the enjoyment and dignity of retired men.

Branch 51 of the SIR organization provides an opportunity to participate in various activities; be as active as each of us wants; develop new associations and still be with old friends and be able to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow members. We never forget the primary purpose of SIR is to have fun. Although these activities are constantly changing depending on the desires of the members our most popular one is golf, but bowling, biking, as well as many other activities are available.

Gerry

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SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

Our next SIR General Membership meeting will be held in-person on Wednesday, October 4th starting at 11:30 a.m., for social half-hour, then at noon for lunch.

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

September luncheon attendance was a total of 28 members including the speaker. As of August month-end, our branch members totaled 63.

SIR 51 Board Meetings

The next Board meeting will occur in-person this coming October 4th, Wednesday, at 11:00 a.m.

September Board meeting had nine attendees.

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

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

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Monthly Presentation for Members

October 4th, 2023 Speaker Topic:

Filoli

Topic Description:

Filoli is a vibrant landscape of the Bay Area, situated on the unceded ancestral lands of the Ramaytush Ohlone, in Woodside, California. The estate boasts 654 acres of beauty nestled along the slopes of California’s coastal range. Originally built as a private residence in 1917, Filoli was opened to the public in 1975 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The property is considered one of the finest remaining country estates of the 20th century, featuring a 54,000+ square-foot Georgian revival-style mansion, 16 acres of exquisite English Renaissance gardens, a 6.8-acre Gentleman’s Orchard, and hundreds of acres of Natural Lands with 5 distinct ecosystems and a 1-mile Estate Trail. Filoli is dedicated to connecting our rich history with a vibrant future through beauty, nature and shared stories, so that one day all people will honor nature, value unique experiences, and appreciate beauty in everyday life.

Speaker Name and Biography:

Name to Be Announced

We will have a long-time docent and Filoli historian talking to us about the history of the property.

Future speakers:

November 1st, 2023 Speaker and Topic:

Experience Inside WWII Internment Camps

Topic Description:

My Two and Half Years Behind Barbed Wire During World War II in the United States.

Yukio Shimomura will be sharing his family’s experience during the 40s when WWII started, how Executive Order 9066 affected family. Leaving San Francisco and entering the incarceration camps in San Bruno, Tanforan Race Track and in Topaz, Utah. What his parents went through, with his older brothers and Yukio, the lifestyle in the camp, the dynamics in the camp, the significant ironies. How the family left the camp and where they settled. 110,000 people incarcerated, 110,000 stories, this is a snapshot of one family. A verbal presentation with about 60+ slides.

Speaker Name and Biography:

Yukio Shimomura

Born in San Francisco, in grade school when World War II started. Family was incarcerated and was interned to a camp in San Bruno (Tanforan Race Track), CA and to the camp near Delta (Topaz), Utah. Relocated to Ogden, Utah where he graduated high school. Attended Weber State University and Utah State University and earned a Bachelor Degree in Manufacturing Engineering. Worked at HP as an engineer and transitioned into Human Resources. Held several positions in American and Japanese electronic companies, his last position was a director of human resources. Has consulted with several companies in management coaching and team building. Presently residing in Morgan Hill, CA.

**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

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

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.

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Craig's Current Contributions:
October 2023

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

Former Big SIR...very important guy. Now the Ball Boy down the 3rd base line for the Oakland A's. Unfortunately, most balls hit in my direction are by the other teams.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER (courtesy of Walt McCullough who likely stole it from someone else):

I choked on a carrot this morning, and all I could think was, "I'll bet a doughnut wouldn't have done this to me".

Nothing spoils a good story more than the arrival of an eye witness. (Mark Twain)

I finally realize why I look so bad in pictures. It's my face.

It only takes one slow-walking person in the grocery store to destroy the illusion that I'm a nice person.

It turns out that when asked who your favorite child is. You're supposed to pick one of your own. I know that now.

I like to make lists. I also like to leave them lying on the kitchen counter, and then guess what's on the list when I'm at the store.

GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

Elon Musk by Walter Isaacson. Love him or hate him he is a force to be reckoned with. Just out.

The Reckoning by John Grisham. His latest book.

Things We Left Behind by Lucy Score. 4.5 out of 5 stars on Amazon.

Atomic Habits by James Clear. An easy and proven way to build good habits and break bad ones.

STUFF TO WATCH:

Netflix:

Transatlantic An American journalist during 13 months spent in France 1940-41, manages to arrange safe passage out of France and on to the US for more than 2,000 refugees who are in danger of losing their lives.

Apple TV+:

The Crowded Room with Amanda Seyfried

The Niners are 3-0 with lowly Arizona coming to town. Sharks & Warriors about to start pre-season. Fall weather is here. Life is good in our little part of the world! Enjoy!

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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.

For helpful information on State SIR and various Branch golf activities, contact Mark Stuart, 2023 State Golf Chair at 916 218-2287 or mss95678@hotmail.com

Also, for more information on State SIR golf activities, use the link below.

www.sirgolf.org

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 October, and November 2023.

	Oct 03, Tue	Oct 11, Wed	Oct 18, Wed	Oct 25, Wed	Oct 31, Tue
OCT	San Jose	Spring Valley	Sunnyvale	Crystal Springs	Los Lagos
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
	Nov 08, Wed	Nov 15, Wed	Nov 22, Wed	Nov 29, Wed	
NOV	Spring Valley	Shoreline	Poplar Creek	Sunnyvale	
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	

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

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.

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 2nd Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM
Next ride will be on October 12th 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>

Half Moon Bay Coastal Trail

Ride: This is one of the **best** bike rides in the Bay Area! We will ride a paved, flat trail along the ocean shore for about 6 miles from Poplar Beach, located south of Half Moon Bay, to Pillar Point, just past the town of Princeton. There is an optional ride to Mavericks Beach (1.5 miles) where surfing competitions take place and then on to the infamous Moss Beach Distillery (3 miles) on [140 Beach Way](#), HMB. There are several lunch options along our ride. We can either eat indoors or outdoors overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean. This adds about 4.5 miles for a total 22 miles with no inclines. We can decide on what ride options once we arrive at Pillar Point.

Driving Directions: Take I-280 North approximately 15 miles to Highway 92, then take the exit to Half Moon Bay. Continue on Highway 92 about 10 miles to the intersection with Highway 1, turn left. Go about one mile to Poplar St., turn right. Go to the end of Poplar St and park in the Poplar Beach parking lot, near the port-a-johns. If you park in that lot, there is an hourly parking fee that you have to prepay. There is also neighborhood

street parking on side streets off of Poplar St. If you park on the neighborhood streets, please pay attention to ALL posted parking signs. Driving time is about 40 minutes. It may be windy and/or cold, so bring a wind breaker or vest.

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

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
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: Pete Sorenson 868-6804
Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276
Asst. Treasurer: Mike McMahon 493-7392

DIRECTORS

Sam Meredith 325-4152
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: (Open)		Speaker Coordinator: Steve Tremulis	598-9790
Audit: Sam Meredith	325-4152	Membership: Joe Urbassik	714-9610
Website: Gerry Shebar	868-6124	Asst. Membership: Art Roberts	279-5560
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”