

Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement

Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 570

A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



February 2024

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:

The dues for 2024 are to be collected starting January 1st, and the deadline to pay is by March 31st. Beyond that date members who have not paid will be removed from our branch roster. The dues will be \$30 per year. Cash or a check made out to SIR 51 will work. The golfers NCGA and Northern California golf association dues have been paid and are separate from the branch membership dues. Luncheon meals are still at \$30 per person. For more information and who to send your check to is Kevin Wheaton, Treasurer 620 Sand Hill Road, Apt #213G, Palo Alto, CA, 94304. If need be, one can e-mail Kevin at krwheaton@gmail.com.

New Members

Please welcome new member Art Rinsky. Art and his wife Sue live in Palo Alto. He is a retired lawyer specializing in Tax Law.

Also welcome Lyle Johnson who is transferring from another SIR Branch. Lyle will join our golf group.

As always, try to 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, social activities, and entertaining speakers. Possibly, we can get your

friend or neighbor to join our branch, and ultimately, keep our branch growing.

If you have any changes to your profile in the roster, please inform our Assistant Membership Chairman. When we get a replacement Membership Chairman, that person will be the one to receive your changes. This allows us to keep the roster file up to date. Currently, e-mail your updates to the Assistant Membership Chairman, Art Roberts, at Aroberts4202@gmail.com.

Travel Opportunity

Prague to Budapest River Cruise November 2024

Travel News from State SIR is meant as a useful service to all Sirs.

We recognize that for many SIR members or branches it's difficult, if not impossible, to organize a cruise or major travel adventure. Therefore, as a benefit to its members State SIR occasionally organizes cost-effective trips which we will promote and you can sign up and join without the hassle of having to make all the arrangements yourself.

Here is information about a river trip Prague to Budapest 11/6-11/20 2024, discounted by \$1000 if booked by 12/31/23; also pre and post trips are available, see below. I have attached a video at the end. Do not pay attention to those prices in the

video the prices I have listed in the email body are correct for SIRs. Along with the group number etc.

This trip has an additional \$1000 off my listed prices if you book by December 31. So act now, If you have any questions call or email Milt Smith State Travel Chair. Br 146, 925-285-2897c miltsmith549@gmail.com

Take a look let us know what you think. We can give you chapter and verse on shipboard life, cabins, weather, air etc. I am sending this to all SIRs statewide, we could get a large group. Also, excellent prices for solo travelers.

Dates: 11/6 thru 11/20
Pre-trip to Dresden and Berlin US departure date: 11/1/24
Pre-trip to Warsaw and Krakow US departure date: 11/1/24
Post-trip to Budapest return date: 11/23/24

Per person pricing, by cabin level: \$1000 OFF IF CONFIRMED BY 12/31/23
Serenade A: \$3995
Serenade B: \$3895
Sonata C: \$3795
Sonata D: \$3695
Cantata E: \$3595
Cantata F: \$3495
Prelude G: \$3395
Prelude H: \$3195

Air from SFO: \$1100

Dresden and Berlin: \$995
Warsaw and Krakow: \$1095
Budapest: \$745

The group code for the trip is G4-23630. This is fully linked to the cruises date - all set for registrations to come through at 1-800-221-2610 once travelers are ready.

Travelers can mention the promotional code EUEM 101 for the additional \$1000 off. I'll be auditing all reservations over time to ensure the discount is

applied correctly for all those who register by 12/31/23.

A link for more information:
<https://www.gct.com/trips/river-cruises/europe/romantic-blue-danube-budapest-to-prague/2021/itineraries?year=2024&jobcode=010-1514>

This one is time-critical to get a great discount!
Cheers,
Milt Smith
SIR State Travel Chair
925-285-2897

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 Richard Jamison

Well, it's a new year and along with it is a new effort to improve our branch by increasing our growth with new members, by more member participation, and by enhancing our social ties with new and old members. Please remember to think of whom you know in your community that is not a SIR member and try to invite them to see what our branch can provide for them should they chose to join. In addition, current members should consider helping our branch with volunteering to serve on our board, to join or start activities or look to help in recruiting members. In fact, the board is looking for a member to be our Membership Chairman for this year. If you are interested, do contact me or any board member. Please share any inputs you have with board members that can help improve our branch in any way possible.

Richard

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SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

Our next SIR General Membership meeting will be held in-person on Wednesday, February 7th, 2024, 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.

January Luncheon attendance had a total of 25 members plus guests. As of January month-end, our branch members totals 64.

SIR 51 Board Meetings

The next Board meeting will occur in-person this coming Wednesday, February 7th at 11:00 a.m.

For more details, please contact Big SIR, Richard Jamison at email address: rsjamison@aol.com

The lists for elected 2024 officers and committee chairmen are located at the end of this newsletter.

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Monthly Presentation for Members

February 7, 2024 Speaker Topic:

Topic Description:

Our speaker for our 2/7 SIR luncheon will be Dr. Elisabeth Ward, Executive Director of the Los Altos History Museum. Her topic will be “Place based storytelling”. Ray Klinke will introduce her and read a short bio at the meeting. She will use audio/visual for her presentation.

Future speakers:

March 6, 2024 Speaker and Topic:

TBD

Topic Description:

TBD

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: February 2024

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

Former Big SIR...very important guy. This column is being written by AI (Chat GPT) so forget that guy that used to write for you. You can call me "Mr. AI" or just "The Man". I'm cheaper, you don't have to feed me and I don't wear a sports coat to the monthly meetings...I'm omnipresent.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER:

Doctor: "Relax David, it's just a small surgery"
Patient: "My name's not David"
Doctor: "I know. I'm David".

Husband (to no one in particular): "I don't normally cook. Does anyone know how much vodka you add to mashed potatoes"?

Taking a dog named shark to the beach is not a good idea.

I was lonely until I glued a coffee cup to the top of my car. Now everyone waves at me.

Professor: "You're currently failing your ethics class."

Me: (slides a \$20 across the table)... "how about now"?

UPS: "Your package is in your city on a truck being driven by Mike. It will arrive at 6:27PM today"

FedEx: "Your package is coming. You'll get it when we get there"

USPS: "What package"?

Amazon: "We are already inside your residence. Check the bathroom".

Facebook: "We know you were thinking about getting a toaster oven yesterday. Here are 20 ads for toaster ovens".

QUESTION: "If Joe is 64 & his girlfriend is 23, how much money does Joe have"?

GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

"Hitler's Aristocrats" by Susan Ronald. The secret players in Britain and America who supported the Nazis, 1923-1941.

"The Daughters of Yalta" by Catherine Grace Katz. The Churchills, Roosevelts, and Harrimans: a story of love and war.

"Best of Rivals" by Adam Lazarus. Joe Montana, Steve Young and the inside story behind the NFL's Greatest Quarterback Controversy.

"The Wingmen: The unlikely, unusual, unbreakable friendship between John Glenn & Ted Williams", also by Adam Lazarus.

STUFF TO WATCH (BINGE WATCHING EDITION):

"Friday Night Lights" on Netflix...76 episodes over 5 seasons...2006-2011. My wife & I were very sad when we came to the last episode. The characters and actors are superb. Set in the small town of Dillon, Texas, where winning the state championship in football is prized above all else. The show is about much more than football though.

"Parenthood", also on Netflix...2010-2015 & set in Berkeley, CA. 103 episodes. Family and town-stuff without the football. Just a great series.

"The Good Wife"...an American legal & political drama series set in Chicago 2009-2016. It focuses on Alicia Florrick, the wife of the Cook County State's Attorney, who returns to her career in law after the events of a public sex and political corruption scandal involving her husband.

"The Hill", 2023, with Dennis Quaid, on Netflix. In this film based on a true story, young baseball hopeful Rickey Hill chases his major league dreams while living with a degenerative spinal condition.

Personal Note: Many thanks to Gerry Shebar for all his hard work over the past few years to make our SIR chapter even more outstanding.

Well, I guess that's it. See, AI does great...no overtime, worker's comp cost & I work 24/7. Perhaps you'll see me again next month if Elon lets me out to play.

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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.

JAN	Baylands 8:30 AM	Los Lagos 10:00 AM	Poplar Creek 10:00 AM	Shoreline 10:00 AM	Spring Valley 10:00 AM
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	Feb 06, Tue	Feb 14, Wed	Feb 21, Wed	Feb 28, Wed
FEB	San Jose 10:00 AM	Sunnyvale 10:00 AM	Los Lagos 10:00 AM	Poplar Creek 10:00 AM

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 January, and February 2024.

TOTAL TOURNAMENTS: 51

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

Jan 02, Tue	Jan 10, Wed	Jan 17, Wed	Jan 24, Wed	Jan 31, Wed
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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.

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:

Lawn Bowling is available every Friday from 10 AM to noon at the Senior Center in Los Altos. Contact Bob Taggart.

BOB TAGGART (Br 35)
(650) 321-2654

CYCLING: (SIR Branches 35, 51, others)

Meet on 2nd Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM

Next ride will be on February 8, 2024.

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

Date: 2nd Thursday, February 8th, 2024

Start Time: 11:00am

Wives and guests welcomed; Helmets required and Face masks optional.

Foster City Bay Trail

Ride: We will ride the scenic and picturesque Foster City Bay Trail from the Oracle Corporate Headquarters to the Poplar Creek Golf Course at Coyote Point. There is another 4 mile extension that would take us to the very Southern edge of the SF International Airport for a total round trip of 22 miles. The trail is paved and level but there is some on-going construction that will detour us on to some city streets that have well designated bike lanes. We can decide on whether to ride the 4 mile extension on the day of the ride. There are lunch options along the trail. It might be windy, so bring a jacket or windbreaker. Directions: Take I-101 North towards SF and exit at Marine Parkway/ Ralston. Turn right on Marine

Parkway, then an immediate left onto Oracle Parkway. The meeting point is a tree-shaded parking lot with restrooms to the left of this intersection. If the parking lot there is full, backtrack over the creek to 401-501 Island Parkway and park in the Oracle lot. Ride your bike across the pedestrian bridge to the meeting point. If you plan to ride or have questions, please contact Gordon Tong at 408- 242-0557/ gordy6850@gmail.com or Hank Bottino at (650) 207-4320/bottinoh@comcast.net.
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

Art Roberts

(650) 279 5560

alroberts4202@gmail.com

2024 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big SIR: Richard Jamison 868-3723
Little SIR: Steve Tremulis 598-9790
Secretary: Pete Sorenson 868-6804
Asst. Secretary: (Open)
Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276
Asst. Treasurer: Mike McMahon 493-7392

DIRECTORS

Sam Meredith 325-4152
Steve Tremulis 598-9790
Jim Cummings 207-3609
Gerry Shebar 868-6124

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
Compuser: 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: (Open)	
Website: Gerry Shebar	868-6124	Asst. Membership: Art Roberts	279-5560
Asst. Website: (Open)		Greeter: Al Runge	592-1345
Newsletter: Art Roberts	279-5560	Special Events: Ray Klinke	924-0734
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey	593-3496	Nominating Committee: Richard Jamison	868-3723
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey	593-3496	Gerry Shebar	868-6124
		Jim Cummings	207-3609

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,
Assistant Membership Committee Chairman:

Art Roberts
4202 Manuela Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 279-5560
Alroberts4202@gmail.com

“All the news that fits we print”

Anonymous