

# SIR

## Branch #51

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

No. 589

A Non-Profit Organization



August 2025

Enrich Your Life

LUNCHEON: 12 PM – FIRST WEDNESDAY – FREMONT HILLS CC, 12889 VISCAINO PL., LOS ALTOS, CA

## **Branch 51 News**

### **Big SIR Notes:**

Our board is an exceptional group of people. Each striving to provide the organizational support required to perpetuate SIRs.

Pete Sorenson is secretary. He provides a record of all of the board's decisions. Kevin Wheaton and Mike McMahon are in charge of the treasury. Steve Tremulis is Little Sir providing our monthly speaker. Jim Cummings and Kai Johansen are in charge of golf. Art Roberts provides us with a monthly Newsletter. Ray Klinke has special events covered. He does the picnic and holiday party as well as coordinating the monthly luncheon. Bob Guffey is the Good Samaritan. Also filling out the board with their expertise are Sam Meredith, Rich Jamison, Joe Urbassik, and Jeff Gardiner.

Please appreciate the time and effort that they put in in the furtherance of SIRs.

Gerry Shebar

### **General Interest**

If you have any changes to your profile in the roster, please inform our Membership Chairman. This allows us to keep the roster file up to date. Currently, e-mail your updates to Membership Chairman, Joe Urbassik, at [joeu1218@gmail.com](mailto:joeu1218@gmail.com)

### **SIR 51 General Membership Meeting**

Our next SIR General Membership meeting will be held in-person on Wednesday, August 6, starting at 11:30 AM for social half-hour, then at noon for lunch.

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

### **Message from our Treasurer**

Please try to arrive before 12:00 noon. Our collection team needs to close their operations desk to enjoy the meeting. If you absolutely must arrive late, find either Kevin Wheaton or Mike McMahon to pay up and register. Don't just wander in. It screws up our records.

## **SIR 51 Board Meetings**

The next Board meeting will occur in-person  
Wednesday, August 6, at 11:00 a.m.

For more details, please contact Big SIR,  
Gerry Shebar at email address:  
[gshebar@yahoo.com](mailto:gshebar@yahoo.com)

### **August Speaker**

After a lifetime of fascination with all things automobile, Patrick Kelley shares his love for cars and art. About 20 years ago, he stumbled onto what would soon be a new passion, the collection of original automobile concept art by many of the finest designers and stylists working in and around Detroit. These were drawings and paintings of what future automobiles might look like. Patrick felt that the story of this futuristic work that came out of art schools across America and ultimately the 'Big Three' automobile companies had to be told.

**FOR SUGGESTIONS REGARDING  
SPEAKERS  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

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

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### **Craig's Current Contributions:** **August 2025**

*Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter*

Former Big SIR. VERY important guy. So I joined 24 Hour Fitness in Mountain View &

I asked the very attractive trainer, "What machine should I use to attract the ladies?" She said "Try the ATM machine outside." Sheesh...as Rodney Dangerfield said, "I don't get no respect". My body is like Pop In Fresh, the doughboy.

### **THOUGHTS TO PONDER:**

"My granddaughter asked me, "Grandpa, today I watched somebody do 50 push-ups. Do you think you could do that?" I said, "Of course sweetheart. Don't want to brag, but I could probably watch someone do 100 push-ups."

"A truck loaded with Vicks Vaporub overturned on the highway. Amazingly, there was no congestion for 8 hours."

"Am I perfect? No.  
But do I try my best & keep a positive attitude? Also no."

"The Highway Patrol just pulled me over and said "Papers?" I said "Scissors, I win". And drove off.  
I think he wants a rematch. He's been chasing me for 45 minutes!

It was a sad and disappointing day when I found out that my universal remote control did not, in fact, control the Universe. Not even remotely.

Fortune teller: "I will grant you one wish and one wish only".  
Girl: "I wish I was rich".  
Fortune teller: "Very well. You used to be rich. You should have paid attention in grammar class".

Man #1: "I always wondered about the difference between Grey & Gray".

Man #2: "Grey is a color but Gray is a color".

"First time buying fireworks and I wasn't sure if I'd picked the right ones until the salesman winked and high-fouled me."

#### GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

"The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime & a Dangerous Obsession" by Michael Finkel.

The true story of French art thief, Stephane Breitwieser (born 1971) and almost defies belief. Over just eight years, Breitwieser (aided by his lookout/girlfriend) stole an estimated \$1.4 BILLION in paintings and art objects during 200 separate thefts from dozens of museums and cathedrals throughout Europe.

"The Penguin Lessons" by Tom Michell. The book recounts Michell's experiences in 1975 when he rescued a Megallanic penguin from an oil spill in Uruguay, and brought it back to a boarding school in Argentina, where he was teaching. The penguin, named Juan Salvador, became a beloved figure among the students and staff.

IMPORTANT NOTE: "The Penguin Lessons" is also a movie...you should watch it.

#### STUFF TO WATCH:

"The Penguin Lessons" (see above) on Netflix

"For The Love Of The Game" starring Kevin Costner & Kelly Preston on Netflix. This movie, while 26 years old, captures an aging baseball player & a beautiful woman who...I can't say more but think of "Harry

Met Sally" & "Sleepless in Seattle". Enough baseball to hold your interest and enough romance that your wife will love it as well.

"Sullivan's Crossing", a series on Netflix & offers a great cast & depicts the lives of a number of folks in Nova Scotia...eh.

"The Hunting Wives" also on Netflix. A 10 episode murder mystery that takes place in Texas.

"Amy Bradley is Missing", a 3 part mini series, also on Netflix. My wife and I both enjoyed it.

I now leave you with these words: Two things to make your day better:  
Do not watch the news;  
Stay off the bathroom scales.

WELL, I GUESS THAT'S IT.

### 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](mailto:mss95678@hotmail.com)

As for SIR Branch 51's golf information, see the SIR 51 2025 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 the next two months of 2025.  
**Note the switch of dates between Sunnyvale and Spring Valley on August 13 and 20.**

07/30	Wed	Shoreline	10:00 AM
08/05	Tues	Los Lagos	10:00 AM
08/13	Wed	Sunnyvale	10:15 AM
08/20	Wed	Spring Valle	11:00 AM
08/27	Wed	Moffett Field	10:00 AM
09/02	Tues	Baylands	8:30 AM
09/10	Wed	Los Lagos	10:00 AM
09/17	Wed	Crystal Springs	10:00 AM
09/24	Wed	Shoreline	10:00 AM
09/30	Tues	Moffett Field	10:00 AM

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**

Information on other SIR golfing events can be found on the SIR State Golf website at [www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org).

Ben Gikis, 2025 SIR State Golf Committee Chair

State SIR Golf Newsletter: [www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org)

**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. 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

#### **Bocce Ball:**

Lawn Bowling is available every Friday from 10 AM to noon at the Senior Center in Los Altos. Contact Richard Oehlberg. [rrntheo1@icloud.com](mailto:rrntheo1@icloud.com). (first two letters are r and n)

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

**CYCLING:** (SIR Branches 35, 51, others)  
Hi Guys,

Here's my biking input for the August 2025 newsletters. If there are any questions, pls contact me. Thx, Gordy Tong 408 242-0557.

## San Lorenzo Bay Trail Ride

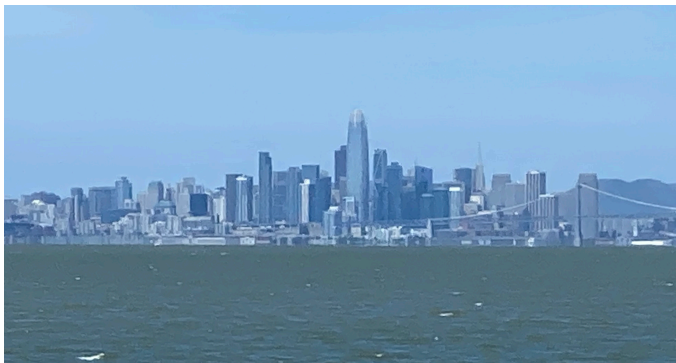
Date: Thursday, 14th August 2025

Start Time: 11:00 AM

Wives and guests welcome. Rain cancels ride.

Helmets required.

The ride starts in San Lorenzo passing by the Oakland International Airport to the breathtaking 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 all 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 Foster City Bay Trail/Oracle Redwood Shores ride, but on the East Bay. Enhanced photo of the



San Francisco Cityscape from Bay Farm Island in Alameda.



SIR Branch 35 group photo from September 2024.

Driving Directions: From Silicon Valley take I-880 heading North, exit on Hesperian Blvd (about 20 miles from Mt View/Palo Alto area) 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 Avenue, San Lorenzo. This will direct you the building next to the Hayward Regional Parking Lot (park here).

If you have questions, please contact Gordy Tong at 408-242-0557 or [gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com)).

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### 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  
Art Roberts**

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Membership: Joe Urbassik	714-9610
Website: Gerry Shebar	868-6124
Asst. Website: Joe Urbassik	714-9610
Greeter: Open	
Newsletter: Art Roberts	279-5560
Special Events: Ray Klinke	924-0734
Nominating Comm.: Richard Jamison	868-3723
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey	593-3496
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey	593-3496

All telephone numbers are in the 650-area code, except where noted differently.

All changes in address, telephone number, and e-mail address should be reported to the SIR Membership Chairman Joe Urbassik  
714-9610

**2025 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS  
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN**

Big SIR: Gerry Shebar	868-3723
Bowling: Bob Taggart (Br 35)	321-2654
Little SIR: Steve Tremulis	598-9790
Bocce Ball: Richard Oehlberg	
Secretary: Pete Sorenson	868-6804
Cycling: Gordon Tong (Br 35)(408)	242-0557
Asst. Secretary: (Open)	
Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton	485-2276
Golf Chairman: Kai Johansen	380-9493
Asst. Treasurer: Mike McMahon	380-0983
Golf Assistant: Jim Cummings	207-3609
Historian: (open)	
Travel: State SIR Travel:	<a href="http://www.sirinc.org">www.sirinc.org</a>

**DIRECTORS**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN**

