



SIR 101

Bulletin

April, 2023

Volume 42, Number 5

SONS IN
RETIREMENT 101
LIVERMORE, CA

FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
ABOUT OUR
BRANCH, PLEASE
VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

Inside this issue:
(click the page # to go
directly to that page)

Announcements	1
Big Sir Message	1
Birthday Boys	15
Financial	3
Membership	3
Speaker's Preview	2
Sunshine	7
Backpacking	10
Bocce	4
Dining Out	5
Game Day	11
Hiking and Walking	10
Investments	13
Kayaking	8
ROMEOS	6
Travel	9
Wine Tasting	7

The Big Sir Message from John Didlake

Please join us for our next luncheon, Thursday, April 20, at 11:30 am at Asbury United Methodist Church on East Avenue in Livermore. Dwight is doing a wonderful job of finding appropriate and relevant speakers. With our drought to deluge weather, what could be more appropriate and relevant than our April Luncheon presentation of "Tri-valley Water Supply and Flood Protection Status and Future (my guess for now)" by Alexandra Bradley, Communication officer Zone 7 Water agency. You don't want to miss this presentation on our critical water resources.

Please note, if you have not paid your \$30 SIR Branch 101 dues for 2023, you are now delinquent. Please remit your dues ASAP. You can Zelle it to SIR101treasurer@gmail.com, pay at the registration table at our monthly Luncheon, or mail a check made out to Sons in Retirement, Livermore Branch to Roger Grimm at 3034 Chateau Way, Livermore 94550.

Luncheon information: Good news, we will be extending our \$5 luncheon discount (\$27 prepaid or \$30 at the door) through May. We will continue to have

two check-in-tables for prepaid and for paying at the door. Come early to visit with fellow members and so that we can start at 11:30 am. Also, remember to RSVP; so, we can let our caterer know how many lunches to prepare.



Please RSVP by the Monday before the luncheon using the "I am Attending" button or the "I cannot Attend" button in the Constant Contact email *and*

Check that you successfully clicked on one of the buttons. If successful, you should see a new webpage that either says "Thank you for your RSVP and we will see you at the luncheon" or "We will miss you, but we hope to see you at a future luncheon."

If you don't see either of these webpages your RSVP did not register. In that case please try again or email me your RSVP at sir101big-sir@googlegroups.com.

Announcements

Dues are DUE. If you have paid, *thank you!* If not, please don't delay. You must pay by June to remain on the rolls and continue to attend meetings.

This month and in May the cost for luncheon at our meeting is reduced to **\$30** at the door, and **\$27** if you pay in advance using Zelle.

Payments using Zelle for the luncheon or the annual dues should be made to Roger Grimm using the email address SIR101Treasurer@gmail.com. See our note about using Zelle on [Page 15](#)

April Speaker

April 20, 2023—Alexandra Bradley
Zone 7 Water Agency General Manager’s office
Livermore-Amador Valley Water Supply
and Flood Protection District



Alexandra Bradley is responsible for overseeing the communications and outreach programs of Zone 7 Water Agency. She employs a strategic approach in integrating various channels such as digital marketing, media relations, website, social media, public events, and school programs to ensure effective communication with constituents across the Tri-Valley. Alexandra holds a dual B.A. degree in Economics and Political Science from California State University, Stanislaus, and has garnered over 18 years of experience in business and marketing. During her free time, she enjoys hiking and foraging for wild mushrooms in the East Bay along with her husband and two furry companions.

Photos from the March Luncheon



Roger Everett and Bill Britton

Russ Greenlaw and Terry Schmidt

Our speaker, Steve McGinnis and Dave Lund

Rick Morrow and Bill Britton

Future Speakers

A great attraction for getting potential new members to come to our SIR meetings is the speakers. Click [SIR 101 Meeting Speakers-Public](#) to see available information about each presentation.

Do you have ideas for speakers? Let Dwight Lang, SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com know.

Our Planned Speakers :

May 18: SIR 101 Members Dennis Gately and John Didlake will give a talk on *Touring and cruising historic cities & rivers of Europe (Bruges, Amsterdam, the Rhine & Moselle rivers and Lucerne).*

Financial

Contact: Roger Grimm, Treasurer, 925-290-5891
SIR101Treasurer@googlegroups.com



Monthly Cash Report for March, 2023
 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$6,706.72 YTD: \$4,032.72
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash).....Line 8: Month: \$9,206.72 YTD: \$9,206.72

Membership and Attendance

Contact: Larry Wiley, Chairman, 925-443-7979,
SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

- New Members:** 0
 ♦ **Visitors:** 3.
 ♦ **Guests:** 3

MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

- ♦ Care Givers: 0.

MEMBER CHANGES:

- ♦ **Deleted:** 0
 ♦ **Passed:** 1— Bobb Smith

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ♦ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of April 5, 2023 is **145** members

MEETING ATTENDANCE— All lunch meetings are planned to be In person. BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

- ♦ March meeting: 56 attendees.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for March, 2023 is available on our website.

COVID-19 News

The State SIRs organization has adopted new guidelines that you can visit by clicking [here](#). We still encourage members to not attend events if you are feeling ill, and should you have paid for a monthly luncheon that you can't attend, we will refund the payment.

vide information about COVID exposure and what to do if you have symptoms:

[COVID Symptoms](#)
[Recommended Steps](#)
[COVID testing](#)

You may want to visit these websites that pro-

Check out our **SIR Branch 101 web site**.

Click SirInc2.org/Branch101 to see the latest edition. Click on this link to email Dennis Gately, SIR101Web@googlegroups.com or call 925-443-1953 for the member id and password.

Do you need a member phone # or email address? It's in our web site's 'Members Only' section, which has a Member Roster, Member Photo Gallery, Speaker Videos, Member Videos, and BEC Meeting Minutes.

[Index](#)

Bocce

When: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 11:30AM

Next: April 13, April 27, 2023

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

Contact: Chuck Molenkamp, Chairman, 925-413-1414,

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com

SIR 101 members are playing bocce every second and fourth Thursday of the month at Bothwell Park at Eighth and H Streets in Livermore starting at 10:00 am. Now that spring is here we are expecting drier weather and warmer temperatures; in fact spring is often the nicest time of the year for bocce. If you have not tried bocce before, now would be a great time to come out and enjoy the companionship and fun of playing with fellow SIRs. If it were to suddenly get hot, bocce starts early at 9:00 am so, if you are interested in SIR bocce, you need to get on the boc-

ce reminder list when the starting time is announced. Just send a request to Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com).



In March we were on the bocce courts twice with 6 or 7 players. On March 9, the games ended a little early when it started to rain, but it was still fun. One of the best parts of bocce is the conversations with other SIRs as we play.

There is still room on the courts for some new players. The next games are on April 13 April 27 and May 11. A few days before each scheduled game, a reminder email is sent out to those on the SIR bocce email list. If you are interested in giving bocce a try and would like to be added to this list simply email a request to Chuck Molenkamp, cmole44@gmail.com, We would love to have you join us.



Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm

Next: May TBD, 2023

Where: TBD

Contact: Doug Mansur, Chairman, 925-640-5233
SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



We held our March Dining Out at the El Charro Mexican Restaurant and Cantina, where we all enjoyed a very attentive and accommodating waiter.

As usual, all members and significant others are welcome to attend. I simply ask that I receive word of how many will attend 3 days prior to the event (i.e., April 7th) so that I can let the restaurant know how many will be coming



NEAL'S ROMEOs (Retired "O" Men Eating Out)

When: Third Tuesdays **Next:** TBA

Where: TBA

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



The men of ROMEO (Retired [O-Word] Men Eating Out) assembled on a fine, crisp, sunny April 4 to share kabobs and other tasty Afghani concoctions at Roya on First Street In Livermore. The "O" Word this month was *obligor*, a law term meaning a person who is bound to another, or a person who gives a bond.

Sighted at the dining table were grilled chicken kabobs, lamb under a mound of rice, raisins, and carrots enhanced with no-too-spicy herbs, some soup and an well received Eggplant dish, all of

which was highly rated. One member even ordered extra to take home. Conversations mostly stayed away from politics (it was Indictment Day) but included losing weight on a vegetarian diet, various cruises diners had taken (Antarctica) and will take (Croatia), finishing with a discussion about where to eat next. I'm leaning towards Vietnamese.

ROMEO lunches on the First Tuesday of the Month. The core group invites your participation. write Vic Wheatman @ VictorW318@aol.com to



Participating from the left front clockwise were Vic Wheatman, Dave Barron, Chuck Molenkamp, Ted Schaefer, Jim Hermerding, Marcos Contreras and Bob Hickman.

Restaurants drastically overestimate how much I care about which wood they smoke my bacon over.

I switched the labels on all my wife's spices. I'm not in trouble yet, but the thyme is cumin.

Wine Tasting

When: Friday April 21, 3:15pm

Where: Cuda Ridge Winery

Contact: Bill Bish, Chairman, 925-447-1266,
SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



Our March gathering at 3 Steve’s winery was in the barrel room. We enjoyed a wine-tasting flight that included Chilean wines and California wines from familiar areas and some lesser-known regions like Hollister. The wines went well with snacks that Connie brought along and we enjoyed hearty banter with our guide for the afternoon. We all took some wine home with us—it was a great way to begin the weekend.

This month we’ll visit Cuda Ridge Winery, on Arroyo Road in Livermore.

Come join us!

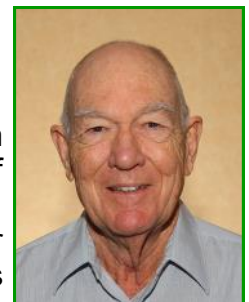


Dennis Gately, Connie Howe, Steve Skedzielewski, Bill Bish, Larry Wiley



Sunshine

Contact: Art Molvik, 925-373-8437
SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com



We were sorry to learn that Bobb Smith died on April 6, 2023, after a month on hospice. There will be a memorial service in May, time to be determined. Many of you will remember that Bobb manned the check-in desk at luncheons for years. If you hear of someone needing a word of encouragement from all of us, or hear good news of someone’s recovery, please let Art know. He will spread the news and get a card out to them.

SIR 101 Kayaking

When: First Tuesdays **Next:** TBD

Where: TBD.

Contact: Dick Ryon, 925-447-8907, Doug Mansur, 925-640-523

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com

We ventured out to Discovery Bay on Tuesday April 4th, graciously hosted by Graham Thomas. It was a beautiful and sunny day; predicted winds did not materialize and remained very light, spoiling Doug's chance to use his umbrella to fly along under sail. A few of us were very lucky to see what appeared to be a river otter—something most of us had never seen before. Prior trips gave us glimpses of a beaver and muskrat swimming in the Delta waters near Discovery Bay.

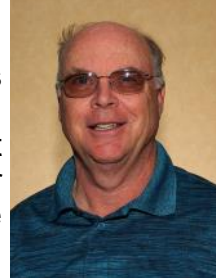
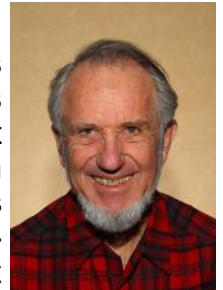
A total of 7



capped Sierras about 90 miles distant. As a group we always have a relaxed pace, and great conversations while staying in close proximity to each other. This is one of our most popular destinations, and we hope to do it again in the near future.

If you would like to join us and do not have a kayak, some of us have extras we are willing to lend. Just ask Dick Ryon at <dickryon@domcast.net>. Our regularly scheduled outings are the first Tuesday of each month. The next location on May 2nd has not been decided. If Lake Del Valle is re-opened, we likely will go there. Otherwise, it may be Big Break, Lodi Lake, or Elkhorn Slough.

Paddle and live long!



were along for this kayaking outing: Graham Thomas, Dick Ryon, Doug Mansur, Art Hull, Johnny Mulrone, Bob Ackley and Fred Coffield. The distance was moderate, a total of 8 miles. When launching from Discovery Bay, we always stop for lunch at the Orwood Resort. Another amazing thing was our ability to see the snow-





SIR 101 Travel

"The world is a great place. You should see it!"

Contact: Bill Britton, Chairman, 925-443-9913,
SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com



Here is the latest update for our September 24-October 7, 2023 **Croatia & Its Islands** SIR trip. Our yacht is almost full. It has 18 cabins (for 36 people) and we currently have 2 cabins still available if you are interested, let me know as soon as possible. I may have one SIR member on the trip looking for a roommate. So if you are interested, but don't want to go as a single, we would love to hear from you. You will find details in previous newsletters, or email me and I can send you details

Collette is very good about arranging deviations pre and post trip, should you want to do some additional exploring.

Only a few people expressed interest in the **2024 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landing with Collette**, so we'll not pursue it as a SIR group trip. However, if anyone would like to book the trip with Collette you can go through me and I can save you some money. This is true for any Collette trip that interest you.

I am going to keep looking for trips that interest me and hopefully some of you for 2024. Trips on my list are Greece, Egypt, New Zealand, Japan, and western Canada (almost a domestic trip).

Hiking and Walking

When: Wednesdays, 8:30 am
Where: South L St. and Railroad Ave.

Contact

Art Hull, Chairman, 925-443-5479, Dave Lunn, Asst. Chairman, 925-784-2624
SIR101Hiking@googlegroups.com



We meet every Wednesday at the southeast corner of South L St. and Railroad Ave. and leave at 8:30AM for our hiking destination.

Spouses, friends and family are welcome.

We form three groups of various hiking levels (Amblers, Ramblers, and Scramblers). Bring plenty of water. The Amblers do a level hike usually at a park such as Sycamore Grove, Shadow Cliffs, or Holdener. The Ramblers do a moderate hike and the Scramblers do a more strenuous hike at one of the many surrounding regional parks such as Del Valle, Sunol, Morgan Territory, Pleasanton Ridge, Vargas Plateau, Garin/Dry Creek, Coyote Hills, Brushy Peak or Lake Chabot.

Hiking is good for your heart, good for your brain, and good for making friends. I guarantee we have a group for you. Try it, you might like it!

Our Motto: Remember, there's no such thing as bad hiking weather, just inappropriate clothing.



Remember to Zoom in (Ctrl+) and out (Ctrl-) of any page.

More Hiking Photos





🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴

SIR'S SUMMER PICNIC

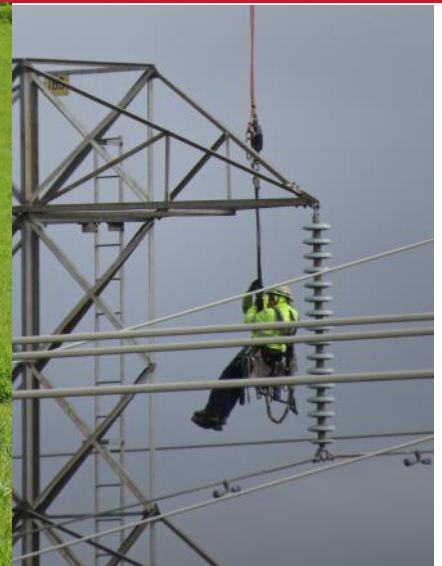


Thursday, JUNE 15, 2023
10:15 AM TO 2:30 PM - Lunch starts 11:00
SPACE IS LIMITED 150, SO SIGN UP Before June 9th.

Asbury Methodist Church Livermore, Ca.
4743 East Ave

Contact
Branch 101: Ron Saltgaver, 925-443-0693, saltgaverjob@comcast.net

🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴🌴



Activities

Contact: Ron Saltgaver, Chairman, 925-443-0693,
SIR101Activities@googlegroups.com



What: Do you want to start something new? Describe it in your own words.

Where: Please, suggest location based on your ideas with current restrictions considered.

When: How often and what duration would you think would be best to keep up interest?

Contact: Do you want to be the Chairman for this?

Please contact Activities chair Ron Saltgaver for more information.

The following groups are on hiatus.

BackPacking

Contact: Dave Lunn, Chairman, 925-784-2624, SIR101Backpacking@googlegroups.com

Game Day

Contact: Ron Saltgaver, Chairman, 925-443-0693, SIR101GameDay@googlegroups.com

If you are interested in the following activities we would welcome volunteers to chair them!

- Chess
- Domestic Travel
- Golf
- Fishing
- Investments

I went to see the doctor about my memory problem. The first thing he did was make me pay in advance.

Membership Rules: A member will be notified in writing of the pending termination of his membership should he be responsible for any of the following: (a) missing three (3) consecutive regular luncheon meetings without having been excused by contacting Werner Schlapfer, SIR101Attendance@googlegroups.com not later than the Thursday before the meeting day; (b) not attending a minimum of five (5) of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. Excused absences are not included in achieving the five (5) luncheon meeting minimum. Certification of attendance at another Branch Meeting or State SIR meeting will be considered as a credit to the attendance record.

Non-responsibility clause: 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 matter pertaining to said activities. Travel events of four (4) or more nights and all air and sea travel must be arranged and booked through a travel agency. Members and guests shall make their checks payable to the travel agency involved. Tour and travel events of three (3) or fewer nights shall require participating members and guests to make their checks payable to the appropriate Branch of Sons in Retirement, Inc., whether or not a travel agency has booked the event.

SIR 101 web information:

SIR 101: Sirlnc2.org/Branch101. Our site has a 'Members Only' section. SIR 101 members may contact our Webmaster for the User Name and Password. See the Member Roster, Member Photo Gallery, Speaker Videos, Member Videos, Form 27, Form 28 and BEC Meeting Minutes.

Is your Photo Gallery photo missing? Send a digital photo similar to the Photo Gallery pictures to Webmaster Dennis Gately and to Bulletin Editor Steve Skedzielewski. No photo? Contact the Bulletin Editor.

State SIR information: SIR Inc.: sirinc.org, **SIR Sports:** State SIR Sports Chair W. Lee Moy, HealthStudio@gmail.com (559) 709-9851. The **SIR newsletter** [SIR Happenings](#) features news about SIR and all the things that are still going on in our Branches.



What is the Green Dot Program? (Editor's note: the [Green Dot](#) program continues to recognize recent new members. Each member is assigned an identification number that appears on his lapel badge which is filed in numerical order near the Luncheon Meeting entrance. He will wear his badge at all meetings and must leave it when he departs the meeting. For about the first six months after he joins SIR 101, his badge will have a [Green Dot](#) on it which signifies he is a new member and entitles members who share his dining table, [early access to the buffet line](#). The main purpose is to encourage members to introduce themselves to the new members and help them feel comfortable and learn what SIR is all about. The badges also provide a means of noting meeting attendance.

[Current Green Dot members](#)

[Robert Buckley](#), [Bob Cowgill](#), [Brent Dixon](#), [Bruce Henry](#), [Jim Muir](#), [Jim Murray](#), [Walter Schindler](#), [Donald Sheaffer](#), [Scott Smith](#).

Birthday Boys*

March Birthday Boys Winners: Bruce DeCoursey and Don Carter

April Birthday Boys

Vaughn Draggoo
Dick Edwards
Dennis Gately
Russ Greenlaw

Robert Hoffman
Bob McGarry
Burke Nicholson
Steve Patenaude

Lunch Prepayment Instructions / Yearly Member Donation Reminder

Prepay your \$27 lunch or make your Annual Dues payment of \$30.

You can best support our branch with your yearly \$30 dues. SIR promotes entertaining and enriching our lives through many activities as well as branch meetups, like in-person luncheons, restarting now after the Covid hiatus with the new policies mentioned in the Big SIR's message. If you haven't already paid for the year, please consider doing so!

Pay online or on your cell phone or computer with Zelle ([preferred](#))!

Check with your bank to see if it provides the Zelle service. If it does, you can use their app or web site to send money *at no cost* by just adding the SIR101Treasurue@gmail.com as a payee.

If not on your computer go to the zellepay.com website.

Avoid the long lunch line: RSVP the meeting invitation online, pre-pay your lunch via Zelle and arrive early to visit at the lunch.

PayPal We currently can't accept PayPal payments.

Mail checks to: Roger Grimm at 3034 Chateau Way, Livermore 94550.

Questions or more Information? Contact Treasurer: Roger Grimm, SIR101Treasurer@googlegroups.com.

* **What is the Birthday Boys Program?** It is a program that offers each member, who is celebrating a birthday in the current month, to have a chance to receive a free luncheon credit, if that member's name is chosen in a drawing and is in attendance at the monthly meeting. Currently, two names are called each month.