



SONS IN
RETIREMENT 101
LIVERMORE, CA

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

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The Big Sir Message from John Didlake

We are continuing to add to our membership! Please welcome are newest members, James Doggett Jr. and Paul Bauman from our April luncheon. Great job! Let's continue to invite guests as potential new members.

Our next luncheon is on Thursday, May 18, at 11:30 am at Asbury United Methodist Church on East Avenue in Livermore. Our speakers will be none other than myself and our former Big Sir, Dennis Gately, sharing about last September's SIR Magical Rhine & Moselle River Cruise, including a pre-trip visit to Bruges, Belgium, by Dennis, his wife, my wife, and myself.

Please note, June 1st is the deadline for paying your \$30 SIR Branch 101 dues for 2023.

You can Zelle it to SIR101treasurer@gmail.com, pay at the registration table at this month's luncheon, or mail a check made out to Sons in Retirement, Livermore Branch to Roger Grimm at 3034 Chateau Way, Livermore 94550.

Looking ahead: Is anyone growing weary of the cold, okay in relative terms regarding our weather, and rainy conditions? Don't get me wrong, we needed

the rain, but this has been one of the longest "winters" I can remember. We have been teased for a day or two with highs in the 70's and 80's, only to fall back into the 60's. However, spring and summer are finally arriving.



What better way to celebrate than to have a Picnic! Let's do it! The SIR June Picnic is in the planning. **The SIR Picnic will be on June 15th at 11:30 am in the courtyard of Asbury United Methodist Church – generally the same place and schedule, i.e., third Thursday of June, as our luncheons.** We are negotiating with Back 40 BBQ to provide the picnic lunch. We are also working to keep the cost between \$35 to \$40 per person. So, mark your calendars, invite your wife, significant other, or girlfriend and get ready for a fun time!

May Luncheon information: Good news, there is a \$5 luncheon discount (\$27 prepaid or \$30 at the door).

Continued...

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](#)

May Speakers

May 18, 2023

Touring and Cruising Historic Cities & Rivers of Europe Bruges, Amsterdam, the Rhine & Moselle Rivers, and Lucerne

Dennis Gately, John Didlake

John & Dennis will present 2022's Rhine & Moselle Rivers tour, with a visit to Bruges, Belgium, as well. Join them for a pictorial view of Bill Britton's Magical Rhine & Moselle Rivers Tour.

With a pre-arranged visit to Bruges, Belgium, sometimes referred to as the Venice of the North, you'll see historic vistas and learn its history! With its canals and belfry tower, Bruges exemplifies the golden age of this northern region of Europe.

Departing Bruges, the transport included a few interesting stops on the way to Amsterdam.

The presentation continues with scenic day tours of Amsterdam and on to the Rhine & Moselle cruise. More historic cities provide for excellent stops on the way to Basel Switzerland.



Departing from the ship in Basel, the tour continues to Lucerne Switzerland, nestled in some of the most picturesque mountains in Europe. Day tours include a boat tour of Lake Lucerne and an exhilarating train ride up to the top of Mount Pilatus, providing spectacular views of this mountainous region.

Big Sir Message, continued

Please RSVP to the Luncheon Invitation:

RSVP by the Monday before the Thursday luncheon using the "I am Attending" button or the "I cannot Attend" button in the Constant Contact invitation.

Check that you successfully clicked on one of the buttons, by noting that it opened a 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. Try again or email me your RSVP at sir101bigsir@googlegroups.com.

If you will be bringing a guest, email me at sir101bigsir@googlegroups.com to let me know.



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.

Our Planned Speakers :

June: *Picnic (no speaker)*

July 20: *Dick Finn-My Recent Great Trip to France*

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

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: \$9,206.72 YTD: \$4,032.72
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash).....Line 8: Month: \$9,124.72 YTD: \$9,124.7

Membership and Attendance

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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 2—Paul Bauman and James (JIM) Doggett Jr.

- ◆ **Visitors:** 3.
- ◆ **Guests:** 2

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 **146** members

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

- ◆ April meeting: 56 attendees.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for April, 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.

You may want to visit these websites that provide information about COVID exposure and what to do if you have symptoms:

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

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 website's '**Members Only**' section, which has a Member Roster, Member Photo Gallery, Speaker Videos, Member Videos, and BEC Meeting Minutes. ([need the password?](#))

Bocce

When: 2nd and 4th Thursdays
10 AM - 11 AM (cool days) OR 9-10:30 (hot days)

Next: May 23, June 13, 2023

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

Contact: Chuck Molenkamp, Chairman, 925-413-1414
SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



You can learn to play bocce with fellow SIR members on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Bothwell Park bocce courts at Eighth and H Streets in Livermore. There are usually between 5 and 8 of us at each event, and we have a delightful time visiting with each other and playing bocce.

On April 13th there were 5 bocce players, and it was a very comfortable day. On April 27th there were 7 players, and it turned out to be a very warm day. But we all had a good time being together and rolling the balls on the court. When

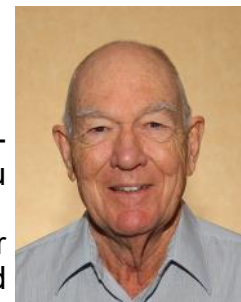
we quit playing we all decided it was warm enough; the temperature eventually hit 90°. So this summer, May through October, when the predicted high temperature is in the 90's or above, we will start bocce an hour earlier than usual or at 9:00 am.

If you would like a reminder just a few days before our scheduled bocce games just ask Chuck Molenkamp, cmole44@gmail.com, to add you to the SIR bocce email list. We always enjoy meeting and adding new players.



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.

Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm

Next: May 16, 2023

Where: Canton Village Restaurant

Contact: Doug Mansur, Chairman, 925-640-5233

SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



This month we visited The Riata Diner and Tavern, a Livermore institution harking back to the early days of the town and its ranching activities. We had a nice turnout and service was very good. We had to schedule a different day because of the ever-popular "Taco Tuesday" which I am told people should check out.

Our next event is planned for Tuesday, May 16th at 5:30 at the Canton Village Restaurant. If you can join us please let Doug know at dman-surgm@gmail.com before COB Saturday, May 13th.



Archive Photo from Polo's Corner

SIR 101 Kayaking

When: Usually First Tuesdays

Next: Thursday May 11, 2023

Where: Del Valle Regional Park.

Contact: Dick Ryon, 925-447-8907, Doug Mansur, 925-640-5233

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com



This past month some of our kayakers managed to do our very fine Discovery Bay outing not just once, but twice. Graham Thomas, one of our former Big Sirs, is always kind enough to host us at his place on the water.

Doug's brother joined us, visiting from Wisconsin, who once attempted to circumnavigate Lake Superior.

Our next adventure is planned for Thursday, May 11th, where we are heading to Lake Del

Valle. We understand the park is open, but with limited or no facilities. No matter-we should have a good time.

If you would like to join us and do not have a kayak, some of us have extras we are willing to lend to you. Just ask Dick Ryon at dickryon@comcast.net. Our regularly scheduled outings are the first Tuesday of each month.

Paddle and live long!

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

When: Third Tuesdays **Next:** TBA

Where: TBA

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



It was lunch at the Vietnamese Sai's T Restaurant in Springtown, for our monthly get together. It's in a familiar neighborhood. Our SIRS chapter formerly met at the nearby GHMG Hotel (now transitioning to a Hilton-brand) and we met at the nearby Elk's Lodge. Also, the evening

SIRS Dining Out group ate at Sai's a few years ago.

The discussion ranged from choices for our next lunch, humorous stories about childhood friends, upcoming events, travel and family. A good time was had by all.



Participating from the left front clockwise were Vic Wheatman, "Jani" Janakiraman, Jim Hermerding, Marcos Contreras and Chuck Molenkamp

A friend suggested putting horse manure on my strawberries. Never doing that again. Going back to whipped cream.

Wine Tasting

When: Friday May 19, 2023 2pm
Where: Arroyo Cellars
Contact: Bill Bish, Chairman, 925-447-1266
SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



Our April gathering was on the patio at Cuda Ridge Winery in Livermore. We enjoyed a wine-tasting flight that was a mix of Rhône and Bordeaux varietals, but did not include their sold-out flagship Cabernet Franc. We enjoyed conversations on travel, food, and the good life, leaving with several bottles to enjoy at home.

May 19 at Arroyo Winery, at 2270 Research Drive in Livermore. It's around the corner from the Altamont Brewery, on the right. The owners offered to open for us on Friday, so we'll have the tasting room all to ourselves. Their usual tasting hours are from noon to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

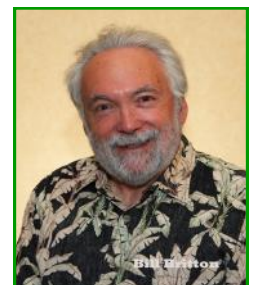
This month we'll have a private visit on Friday

Come join us!



SIR 101 Travel

"The world is a great place. You should see it!"
Contact: Bill Britton, Chairman, 925-443-9913,
SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com



2023-24 SIR 101 Trips

I'm wrapping up many details for our group of 30 travelers who are off in September and October to Croatia & Its Islands on a 36 passenger yacht.
If there is a destination or type of trip for next year that you are interested in let me know.

I've been in discussions with the SIR 146 Travel Chair, Walnut Creek area. He is looking into some local trips and is happy to open them up to our members. So far, it's just in the planning stage.

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

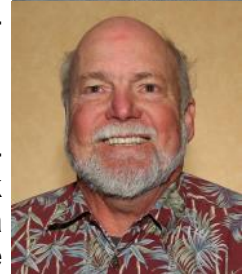
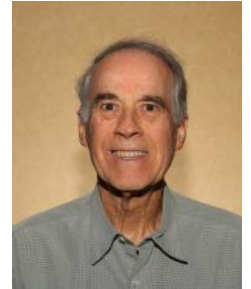
We meet every Wednesday at the southeast corner of South L St. and Railroad Ave. and leave at 8:30AM for our hiking destination.

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



What do Facebook and your fridge have in common? You know there's nothing there but you still check every ten minutes .



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



Per Bill:
 From an unhappy math student:
 "Dear Algebra -- Please stop asking
 us to find your x. She's never com-
 ing back and don't ask y."





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: SIRinc2.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*

April Birthday Boys Winners:
Dennis Gately and Russ Greenlaw

May Birthday Boys

Ben Barrientos
 Fred Coffield
 Ron Colvin

Bob Hickman
 Roger Perry
 Rick Roller

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 SIR101Treasurer@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.