



SIR 101

Bulletin

September, 2023

Volume 42, Number 9

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

You do not want to miss this month's luncheon as the speaker will be Andrea Kritcher, the principal experimental designer for NIF laser fusion at LLNL, who figured out how to get the first-ever controlled fusion ignition in December 2022. Ignition has since been replicated. Ms. Kritcher was chosen by Time Magazine as one of 2022's most influential women.

Regarding luncheon speakers, Dwight Lang has arranged for some very interesting upcoming speakers. October brings Charles Crohare, local olive oil producer and scion of one of Livermore Valley's early families, and in November we have a re-visit by Will Bolton from Duarte Garage with a bit of Livermore Valley history. Thank you, Dwight.

Regarding other activities:

For the investments group, Rod Kiefer will continue as the group activity chairman, even though his current health does not allow him to attend our luncheons. There was previous confusion on Rod's status as investments group chairman, my bad. If you are interested

in the investments group, contact Rod. They are meeting via Zoom.

If you are interested in golf, see the news from Dwight Lang [here](#)

We are looking for a Domestic US Travel Chairman.

See me if you have an idea for other SIR Activities.

Save the date:

SIR 101 Co-ed Christmas Luncheon will be on Thursday, December 21, 2023 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Asbury United Methodist Church

Hosted by: Ted and Sophia Schaefer and Dick Edwards

(THANK YOU Ted, Sophia & Dick)

Note: If you need a ride to the luncheon contact me, we can have someone pick you up.



September Speaker

September 21, 2023

NIF Recent Experimental Progress

Andrea Kritcher

Principal Experimental Designer for NIF Laser Fusion at LLNL



LLNL design physicist Annie Kritcher was named to TIME magazine 100, a list of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2022. She is honored for her role as principal designer of the December 2022 fusion ignition experiment, at the

LLNL National Ignition Facility that produced fusion ignition for the first time in the laboratory. In an experiment conducted on July 30, 2023 scientists repeated ignition at NIF.

Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers :

October 19th - Charles Crohare of Olivina, speaking about growing and producing Olivina Olive Oils and Vinegars in the Livermore valley.

November 16th Will Bolton, President of the Livermore Heritage Guild will provide an overview of the Heritage Guild, its history, and will describe a few of its major projects.

Speakers are a great attraction for getting potential new members to come to our SIR meetings. 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.

From the Editor's Desk

Contact: Steve Skedzielewski, 925-455-5579
SIR101Editor@googlegroups.com

Special payment information for this month.

If you are paying **by check** for this month's luncheon, please send them to Dick Crawford. Details are on [page 14](#).

Winetasting and ROMEOS are back. Check out the news [here](#) and [here](#).

We have one special SIR event that's available to all members.

SIR is sponsoring a day at the races at Golden Gate Fields to say "Goodbye" to the racetrack.

Details for this event is available at [the end of the newsletter](#).



From Dennis Atkinson: "I left the door open today and our Roomba escaped. I think it will turn up soon -- nature abhors a vacuum."

Financial

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



Monthly Cash Report for July, 2023 (no update this month)
 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$9,096.95 YTD: \$4,032.72
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash).....Line 8: Month: \$9,412.75 YTD: \$9,412.75

Membership and Attendance

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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 2—Bob Dashner and Everitt White

- ◆ **Visitors:** 0.
- ◆ **Guests:** 3

MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

- ◆ Care Givers: 0.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ **Deleted:** 3—Norm Taasevigen (resigned), Steve Patenaude (resigned), Howard McCue (health issues)
- ◆ **Passed:** 0

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of September 11, 2023 is **140** members
- ◆

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

- ◆ August meeting: 65 attendees.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for June, 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 web site's '**Members Only**' section, which has a Member Roster, Member Photo Gallery, Speaker Videos, Member Videos, and BEC Meeting Minutes.

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Bocce

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

Next: September 28, October 12, 26, 2023

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



Through the entire summer we have enjoyed very comfortable weather for playing bocce on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. There are typically 6 to 8 players, and the games are always fun and competitive even though we are certainly not experts. While we play we have a lot of really interesting conversations and just enjoy being together.

We can always accommodate more players, so if you are interested in joining us, the next games will be on September 28 and October 12.

The games are played at Bothwell Park at 8th and H Streets in Livermore. The normal starting time is 10 am, and play lasts about an hour and a half.

If we were to have a hot day, we would start at 9 am. The starting time is announced on the Tuesday before we play in an email to the SIR 101 bocce players. To get on the email list just ask Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com) to add you.



Chuck Molenkamp and Raul Pomares



July 27: Roger Everett, Bob Johnson, Chuck Molenkamp, Dom Saccullo, Werner Schlapfer. Photographed by Harry Levin

Two from Bill:

Sometimes age brings wisdom. Other times it comes alone.

Somebody complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note: "Parking Fine."

Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm

Next: TBA

Where: TBA

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



We had our gathering tonight out at Cattlemens Restaurant in Livermore and had a fantastic meal with far more food than we could handle (appetizer, salad, bread, beans, main course, and, for some, dessert!)

Our attendance was a bit light, but many folks are traveling right now.

Next month we may head over to Vic's of Pleasanton, where they have a Tuesday and Thursday night offering of tacos, quesadillas, and gringas (another form of taco.)



Hiking and Walking

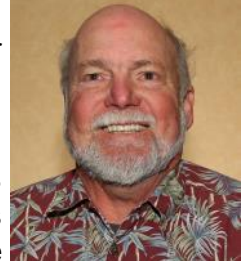
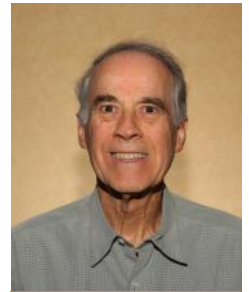
When: Wednesdays, 8:00am and 8:30 am

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 8:00AM (Ramblers and Scramblers) or 8:30AM (Amblers) 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.

This month we visited Del Valle, Brushy Peak, Coyote Hills, and walked the vineyards between East Ave. and Tesla Road and a city path starting at the Livermore Library.

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!



More Hiking Photos

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



SIR 101 Kayaking

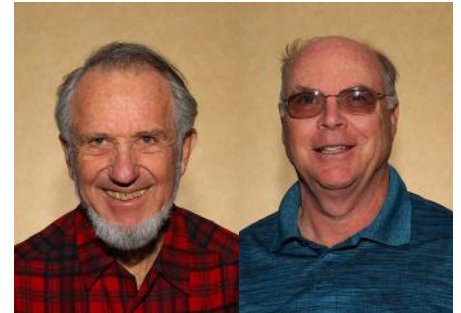
When: Usually First Tuesdays

Next: September 5

Where: TBA.

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

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com



No kayak trip was planned by the group leaders for September, as both Dick Ryon and Doug Mansur have previous commitments for early in the month. (Dick will celebrate his 63rd wedding anniversary by returning to a place the newlyweds stayed in 1960, Deetjen's Big Sur Inn, about 32 miles south of Carmel.) All members on the SIR Kayakers e-mail list were invited to initiate a trip for the group. Nobody has done so yet — except for Doug, who found time to go to Lake Del Valle on Monday, August 28th. Several people said they were unable to make that date, so just Doug and Dick went out. It was a beautiful day at the lake: cloudless sky, only a gentle westerly breeze, temperature in the low 90's. It was a leisurely paddle of about 8 miles, with a lunch break near the dam. A couple of long-distance swimmers were encountered about 4 miles from the boat ramp, their presumed starting point, and were seen again about a mile out from that point on the kayakers' return trip.

Who knows? Maybe some member will step forward to initiate another trip for September!

The October kayaking plans were discussed. Destinations considered ranged from the nearby Oakland-Alameda Estuary, to Tomales Bay, to Lake Tahoe. Doug belongs to a ski club with a house at Lake Tahoe, which is available to members and their guests for a nominal fee. The latter may become the October plan.

The November destination was decided after e-mail exchanges with Steve Hatchett to be the Cosumnes River Reserve, when sandhill cranes are expected to have returned to over-winter. We were at this place last year, with a relatively large group, for a pleasant paddle on the Mokelumne River. Several sightings of the big cranes were made.

Paddle and live long!

Dick Ryon dickryon@comcast.net



Wine Tasting

When: September 15, 2023

Where: Retzlaff Vineyards, Livermore

Contact: Bill Bish, Chairman, 925-447-1266

SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



Our next tasting will be at 3:00pm on Sept. 15 at Retzlaff Vineyards, 1356 S Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA.

Come and join us to socialize and taste some fine wines.

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

When: First Tuesdays

Next: October 3, 2023

Where: TBA

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



Four official SIRS/ROMEO members and two prospective members met for lunch at Pleasanton's Bottletaps for lunch on Tuesday September 5 to celebrate the traditional Labor Day end of summer. The conversation covered working at the GM (now NUMMI) Plant in Fremont, losing appendages from industrial acci-

dents, the role of Unions in this modern day, an accordion festival in Santa Rosa, the Scottish Highland Games in Pleasanton over Labor Day weekend, some random summer travel adventures and anticipating upcoming SIRS international excursions. A good time and a good meal was enjoyed by all.



Present, from left front were Bob Henrick (Vic's guest and prospective SIRS member), Vic Wheatman, Chuck Molenkamp, Kurt DeStigher (Vic's guest), Marcos Contreras and Jim Hermerding.

Romeo now meets the first Tuesday of the month.

To get on the interest list, please contact Vic Wheatman at VictorW318@aol.com Subject: SIRS ROMEO.

Golf

When: 7:30 Monday and/or 8:30 Thursday Mornings
How: Through the Livermore Valley Golf Club
Where: Las Positas golf course
Contact: Dwight Lang 925-784-1389



Many new SIR 101 members have expressed an interest in playing golf with a group. We currently do not have organized golf activity in Branch 101, as we do not have over 20 member golfers to form a SIR golf activity.

Many SIR 101 members now play with the Livermore Valley Golf Club, as I do, and the organizers of that club are welcoming SIR 101 members to join their club. They play on Monday and Thursday mornings at Las Positas golf course. Information about how to join this group is available from Dwight Lang.



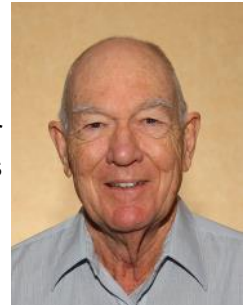
More from Bill:

Last night our Internet went down so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like nice people.

Sunshine

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

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 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

Soon our group of 30 travelers will be off on our Croatia & Its Islands trip. Several people left earlier than the main group for some additional adventures and others are staying longer to do the same. In a few months you can expect a report after we all return.

I am working on an ambitious itinerary for next fall. It will start with "The Treasures of Egypt" (starting 10/3/24) with the possibility of an added extension to Petra in Jordan. There is a separate trip "Exploring Greece and Its Islands" (starting 10/17/24) which will follow the trip to Egypt. You can choose to go on one of these trips flying round trip from SFO, or join us for both trips back to back flying out bound from SFO to Egypt and returning to SFO from Greece. Of course it will include transportation between the two trips as well.

These are in the eastern end of the Mediterranean so this would be an efficient way to see both of these ancient and historical regions. I won't be working on promoting these trips until I return from our fall trip in late October. You can always email me with questions or let me know if you might be interested in joining one or both trips. I will also be at the August SIR meeting and where can talk in person.

Happy travels,

Bill Britton

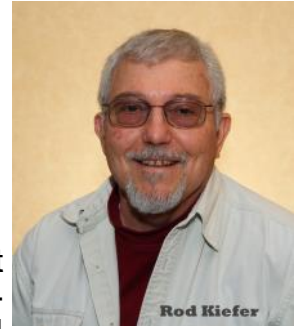


Investments

When: The first Friday of the month from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Where: Zoom meeting

Contact: Rod Kiefer, Chairman, 925-447-4173,
SIR101Investments@googlegroups.com



The goal of our activity is to share investment experiences, strategies, market research tools, and other investment topics the group may be interested in discussing. If you're interested in joining the investment group, please contact Rod Kiefer.



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

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

Paul Bauman, Robert Buckley, Bob Cowgill, Bob Basher, Jim Doggett Jr., Bob Horton, Jim Muir, Scott Peters, Walter Schindler, Donald Sheaffer, Philip Simon, Scott Smith, Everitt White.

Birthday Boys*

August Birthday Boys Winners: Dick Crawford and Dave Lund

September Birthday Boys

Dennis Atkinson
Ron Dueltgen
Ronn Gross
Paul Gubiotti
Jim Jessup
Richard Larder
Joe Lennon
John Leone
Don Meeker

David Morgan
Bill Ormond
Scott Peters
Steve Plummer
Howard Storms
Alan Throop
Jim Wells
Bill Whalen

Lunch Prepayment Instructions / Yearly Member Donation Reminder

Prepay your \$32 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 havenot 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: Dick Crawford (September only) at 4224 COLGATE 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.



Yes! WE'RE BACK
Come in, we've missed you

SIR Day at the Races
GGF-9/25/23; noon
\$76/buffet/TurfClub

Wonderful scenery!
Excellent food + drinks.
Plenty of smiles and lots
of laughter. Memories.
You can bet on it!

Lee Moy

Address/mail check to Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave, Clovis 93612;
Leehealthstudio@gmail.com; Text (559) 709-9851
Deadline 9/20/23. \$76/per person
Optional: Wear Kentucky Derby style hats

Welcome to the last-ever horse race outing at Golden Gate Fields.

It will take place on September 25, 2023. Your State SIR Board has approved this special event.

We have reserved standard seating at the race track in the Turf Club. All Sirs and their guests are welcome.

The \$76 per person is an all-inclusive amount for parking, the racing program, seating, a 3-hour all-you-can-eat private buffet, tax, and gratuity.

Please send your check with your name and the names of your guest/s, plus your phone number and Branch

number (on a separate sheet if necessary). The check must be made out to Lee Moy.

Forward your check to Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave., Clovis.

Deadline: September 20th. Q/A: Any questions please contact me at leehealthstudio@gmail.com or text: (559) 709-9851.

Physical address: GGF, 1100 Eastshore Highway, Albany 94710.

Entrance to the Turf Club by noon; races begin at 1:30 pm