



SIR 101

Bulletin

November, 2023

Volume 42, Number 11

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

This month's luncheon is our last "normal" luncheon of the year; the speaker is Will Bolton from the Duarte Garage with a bit of Livermore Valley history. Will previously spoke to us when he presented the restoration of Livermore's 1920 Seagrave Fire Engine that is in the Duarte Garage. You don't want to miss this history-laden presentation about our city's past.

Save the date for our Christmas Co-ed Luncheon, which is Thursday, December 14th, at Asbury United Methodist Church at 11:30 am. Ted and Sophia Schaefer, especially Sophia and I understand several other SIR wives, are putting together a fun and exciting program. The program includes a presentation by the "Devil Mountain Chorus" a men's barbershop group that includes our own Little SIR, Dwight Lang. Also, I understand we are expecting a visit from a very special guest.

Our Christmas Luncheon is open not only to you and your significant other, but also to your family and friends. The

cost is \$45 per person. So, let's pack the hall for great food, fun, and fellowship. Watch for an invitation email in the latter half of November.

Do you (and your significant other) like to travel to interesting places within the United States? If so, we are looking for a Domestic Travel Chairman. Bill Britton has volunteered to help as a Co-Chair, but we need someone to step up to help him. If you might be interested, please see Bill about what it would entail to be the SIR 101 Domestic Travel Chair.

We are always open to trying new activities. If you are interested in starting a new activity please see me, Dwight Lang, or Dennis Gately.

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



Photos by SIRS travelers - Croatia and California

November Speaker

November 17, 2023

The Livermore Heritage Guild and its Projects

Will Bolton

President, Livermore Heritage Guild



Will Bolton is currently the President of the Livermore Heritage Guild and Curator of the Duarte Garage and Lincoln Highway Museum, which is one of the LHG facilities. Will has a background in Aerospace Engineering and retired in 2020 as manager of the Exploratory Systems Technologies Department at Sandia National Laborato-

ries/California. In this talk, he will provide an overview of the Heritage Guild, its history, and describe a few of its major projects.

Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers :

December 14th—Christmas Luncheon, with entertainment by the Devil Mountain Chorus (below)

January 18th—**Chris Carter**, Executive Director of Livermore Valley Arts, speaking about the Livermore Valley Arts organization and the upcoming performances in 2024.

February 15th – **Werner Schlapfer**, the former Livermore SIRs Travel organizer, has extensive knowledge about hiking in Switzerland, being

born there and having lead many trips for traveling and hiking in Switzerland. He will be giving a new presentation on hiking in Switzerland.

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.



Financial

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



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

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$9,561.88 YTD: \$4,032.72
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash).....Line 8: Month: \$7,697.68 YTD: \$7,697.68

Membership and Attendance

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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 2—Christopher Holland, Charles Caulfield

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

MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

- ◆ Care Givers: 0.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ **Deleted:** 19
- ◆ **Passed:** 0

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of November 5, 2023 is **126** members
- ◆

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

- ◆ September meeting: 55 members and two guests or assistants.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for October, 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* 9-10:30

Next: October 26, November 9, 30, 2023

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com

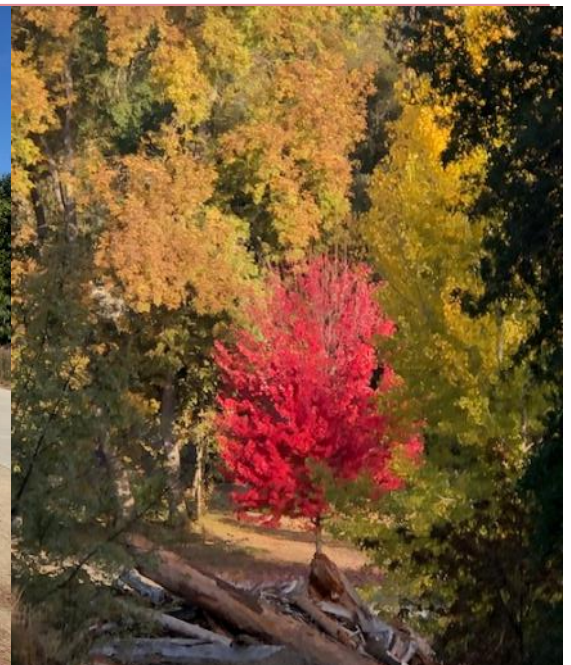


Livermore SIRs normally play bocce on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. At our most recent outing on October 26 there were six players and we had some good competitive games overshadowed only by the wonderful conversations that accompanied play. Win or lose we always have a good time.

During November and December we will be deviating from our normal second and fourth Thursdays schedule because of the holidays. For the regular bocce players and anyone interested in joining us, we will be playing on Novem-

ber 30 and December 7 and 28. We may also play on December 21 if there are enough available players. This time of year we also have the possibility of rainouts. We are a hearty bunch, but we do not like getting our balls wet.

*In January we will transition back to our regular second and fourth Thursdays schedule. If you have not played with us and are interested in giving bocce a try, ask Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com) to add you to the SIR bocce email list.



October 26: Dick Ryon, Werner Schlapfer, Raul Pomares, Scott Henderson, and Chuck Molenkamp. Photographed by Harry Levin

Who says that California doesn't have fall colors!

Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm
Next: November 14th, 5:30pm
Where: Canton Village Chinese Restaurant
Contact: Doug Mansur, Chairman, 925-640-5233
SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com

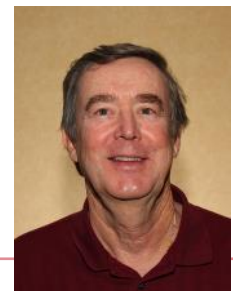


This month we'll be dining at Canton Village Restaurant near Trader Joes's in Livermore.

Please let Doug Mansur know by email if you would like to attend.

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.

Wine Tasting

When: Friday, November 17, 2023
Where: Rios Lovell Winery, Livermore
Contact: Bill Bish, Chairman, 925-447-1266
SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



We didn't meet in October, but we'll regroup in November on Tesla Road at Rios Lovell Winery. Come join us on the 17th to socialize and taste some fine wine!

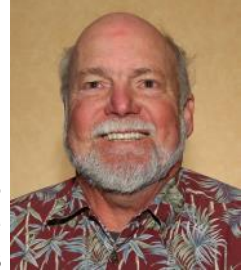
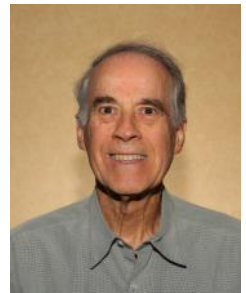


Hiking and Walking

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 8:30 am 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 Brushy Peak, Sycamore Grove and the newly opened Patterson Ranch Trail, Morgan Territory, the Mocho Trail, and more...

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!



*Diablo, Morgan Territory & Brushy Peak
In the background*

I got myself a senior's GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.



More Hiking Photos

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



SIR 101 Kayaking

When: Usually First Tuesdays

Next: December 5, 2023

Where: TBD

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

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com



At the suggestion of Steve Hatchett, our group decided to return to the Cosumnes River Reserve north of Stockton for our November outing. The weather forecast in the preceeding days was not ideal, being pretty steady at "A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 10am. Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, partly sunny, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 63. Light and variable wind becoming northwest 5 to 10 mph in the morning." Taking a cue from Art Hull's statement to SIR hikers, "There is no such thing as bad weather. There is just inappropriate clothing," we decided to proceed anyway. We encourage people to dress for immersion, so what is a bit of rain when we are prepared to capsize and be in the water anyway? It turns out that the weather was as good as it gets. It was a beautiful fall day, mostly blue sky with a few white clouds, no wind, and relatively warm. Ideal to be outside and on the water.

We had a fine group of 13 paddlers at the Cosumnes River Reserve dock, ready for a good day on the water. We encountered a bit of shal-

low water at the start, about an hour and a half past the low tide. A few of us had to drag our boats through the shallows, but most found deep enough water to paddle through. Once out of the Middle Slough and into the Cosumnes River, there were no further issues with water depth. We paddled for a bit over 3 miles, exploring a few side channels and seeing a bit of wildlife, such as a beaver, turtles, and a few birds, but no sandhill cranes. We passed our planned take-out spot, called "Tall Forest" and returned to it.

We enjoyed lunch, relaxation, and conversation in warm sunshine at the river's edge. We then returned to the starting point by the same route as going out, adding a short diversion to where the Cosumnes River joins the Mokelumne. Once back to the starting point and packed up, some of us went across the road to where there is large swampy area with open water to see sandhill cranes, both in the air and in the water. Our total paddling distance was 6.4 miles at a leisurely pace, making it another fine day on the water in good company.





A scammer called me and said they have all my passwords. I got a pencil and paper and said "Thank heaven for that. What are they?"

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

When: First Tuesdays

Next: January 2, 2024

Where: TBD

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



With the "O" word of the month *oblivescence*, meaning the process of forgetting, six members of ROMEO remembered and sampled the foodstuffs offered by Kokolo Donburi in beautiful downtown Livermore.

The discussion ranged from a recent SIRS trip to Estonia for Marcos and Rick. Jim shared pictures of his farm and some heavy farm equipment he has in Missouri where he attended a 65th year High School reunion. Rick shared some stories

as a law enforcement professional. The group had thoughts about the lack of good help at most local hardware stores, and Marcos told us about marrying after being together for one month and still together after 53 years.

Due to holiday travel and a busy social calendar, we'll be taking December off. The next ROMEO luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2 at a place to be named.



Participating from the left-front were Chuck Molenkamp, Rick Knowles, Vic Wheatman, Jim Hermerding, Marcos Contreas and Bob Hickman who reports that he's feeling much better.

Romeo now meets the first Tuesday of the month.

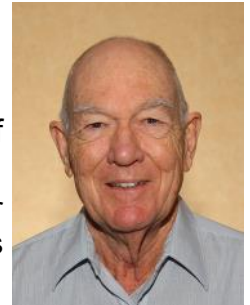
To get on the interest list, please contact Vic Wheatman at VictorW318@aol.com Subject: SIRS ROMEO.

Sunshine

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

I'm sorry to report that David Morgan has died. He was among the large group of us who retired from LLNL.

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

Croatia and 2024 SIR 101 Trips

27 of us had a very successful and unique trip visiting "Croatia and Its Islands" this past September and October. Several folks extended their trip including my wife and I who returned at the end of October. Everyone made it back safe and I think everyone has some stories to share. I have been discussing the possibility of travel-

ing to Egypt and Greece next fall, but the conflict in the Middle East has made me reconsider. I will be looking at some other trips soon and pick something to promote for next Fall. I hope to have something for next month's newsletter. Happy travels,
Bill Britton



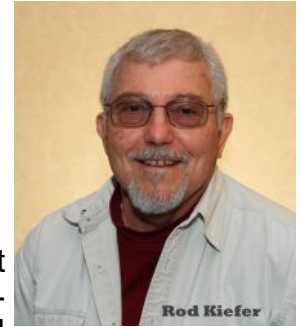
From Bill Leach : I went to the paint store to get thinner. It didn't work.

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: 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

Paul Bauman, Robert Buckley, Charles Caulfield, Bob Cowgill, Bob Dasher, Jim Doggett Jr., Christopher Holland, Bob Horton, Scott Peters, Walter Schindler, Donald Sheaffer, Philip Simon, Scott Smith, Everitt White.

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Birthday Boys*

October Birthday Boys Winners: Terry Tikalski and Hugh Gregg

November Birthday Boys

Dick Finn
Roger Grimm
Scott Henderson
Art Hull
Subramaniam Janakiraman
Coleman Johnson
Phil La Scola

Brian Mayall
Rick Morrow
Mohammed Mustafa
Bill Nebo
Ron Peterson
Don Sheaffer
Vic Wheatman

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 have not 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.

SIR Branch 101 Christmas Luncheon

Save The Date
Thursday, December 14th

(Keep a lookout for our Email Invitation)

— **Enjoy A Special Holiday Luncheon** —

Great Food & Fun!

Friends & Family are Welcome!

The "Devil Mountain Chorus"
Men's Barbershop Chorus



And a visit by a Special Guest... Ho Ho Ho!

— **Information** —

\$45 per person

11:30 am Asbury United Methodist Church
4743 East Ave, Livermore

