

SIR 101

Bulletin

Apríl, 2024

Volume 43, Number 4

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 Dwight Lang

e had a great turnout for our The equipment March luncheon, 78 total attendees! In addition to the delicious lunch, the presentation by 2 Livermore police officers "Safety and Situational Awareness and Scams" was very educational and well received. The April luncheon speaker will be "The French Resistance 1942-1945" by Michael Barrington Ph.D., who has studied the subject, and written books about it.

Mark your calendars for our summer picnic on June 20. We plan to have entertainment and great BBQ food. Hope to see you there!

We have had a few inquiries from members about attending the luncheon to hear the speaker, but not eating (or paying for) the provided lunch, due to food restrictions. The Executive Board has approved this, but the non-eating member will have to pay \$10 to cover the facility rental and other costs (e.g. speaker meals).

Our branch has an excess of electronic and video equipment that we presently don't need or use. We will be offering this equipment to be given to any interested members at our dues, please do so.

April luncheon. includes a video projector, a video camera, various adapter cables and extension cords. We will provide signup sheets to indicate your interest in anv



of these at the luncheon. If multiple people are interested in the same item, we will have a drawing after the luncheon to decide who gets it.

To clarify, we no longer have a requirement that you must attend a minimum number of luncheons to maintain your membership. I highly encourage you to attend our luncheons to enjoy the delicious food, interesting speakers, to see old friends and meet new ones!

We are looking for an assistant secretary and also an assistant bulletin editor, please contact me if you can help with these jobs.

And finally, thanks to all of our 88+ members that have paid your annual 2024 dues. If you haven't paid your

From Bill:

A postscript from our March police-department speakers: Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.

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April Speaker

April, the French Resistance 1942-1945

Michael Barrington, Ph.D.

April 18, 2024 Asbury United Methodist Church 4743 East Ave, Livermore, CA





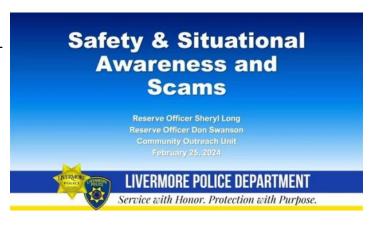
Dr. Barrington is the Past Big Sir of Branch 116 and Past Governor of Area 8. He is an author of ten books and has published more than forty short stories in the USA and UK. He is also a historian. His two novels. Let the Peacock Song and No Room for Heroes deal directly with the French Resistance. His interesting talk of facts, anecdotes, and humor, is backed by a PowerPoint presentation containing copies of original WW II photos. (http://www.mbwriter.net)

Check out our SIR Branch 101 web site.

Click <u>SirInc2.org/Branch101</u> to see the latest edition. Click on this link to email Dennis Gately, <u>SIR101Web@googlegroups.com</u> 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.

Click here to view a video of last month's talk



Financial

Contact: Roger Grimm, Treasurer, 925-290-5891 <u>SIR101Treasurer@googlegroups.com</u>

Monthly Cash Report for March, 2024 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)...Line 1: Month: \$9,334.48 JAN 1: \$8,337.78 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash)...,,Line 8: Month: \$9,559.78 YTD: \$9,559.78



Membership and Attendance

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 0

◆ Visitors: 0.

◆ Guests: 3

MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

Care Givers: 0.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ Deleted: 0
- ♦ Passed: 1—Ray Culy died on March 11.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

♦ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of March 21, 2024 is **128** members

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

♦ March: 73.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for March, 2024 is available on our website.

Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers:

May 16th- Herbert Cole, City of Livermore Emergency Manager

He will discuss the city's preparation for emergencies and what we can do in our own home to be prepared.

June 20th—Summer Picnic, no speaker.

July 18th-Terri Molano, Executive Director of Partners For Change Tri-Valley

August 15th-Joe Testa, Fire Chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

Speakers are a great attraction for attracting potential new members to attend our SIR meetings. Click SIR 101 Meeting Speakers-Public to see available information about each presentation.

Do you have ideas for speakers? Let Bob Johnson, <u>SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com</u>, know.



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Bocce

When: 2nd and 4th Thursdays 9-10:30 **Next:** April 11 & 25, May 9, 2024 Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



Members of Livermore SIRs play bocce at the Bothwell Park bocce courts at 8th and H Streets vear, there will be bocce Thursdays where we in Livermore on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month normally starting at 10:00 am. We have a lot of fun playing bocce and sharing our lives with each other, and we welcome all new players who would like to join us.

There were eight of us on the court on March 8th, which is the perfect number of players; we had beautiful weather and several good games with lots of great competition. Unfortunately on March 22nd we suffered our first and hopefully only rainout of the year.

As we move into the warmer months of the start the game at 9:00 am, an hour earlier than usual, when the predicted high temperature is greater than 92. If you might be interested in join us playing bocce you should add your email address to the SIR bocce email reminder list. Send your request to Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com). By doing so you will receive a reminder a couple days before we play, giving the starting time for that Thursday. We hope to have you join us on the court.



Dave Dunlap plans to roll the green ball closer to the pallino

Bocce Players on March 8, 2024 are Raul Pomares, Dave Dunlap, Werner Schlapfer, Mark Kelly, Bob Johnson, Dom Saccull, Dale Schauer, and Chuck Molenkamp. The photographer was Harry Levin.



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

When: First Tuesdays Next: May 7, 2024

Where: Lanna Thai, N. Livermore Ave. Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



A contingent of six Romeos lunched at downtown Pleasanton's Wild One restaurant for Nueva Latina cuisine. Everyone enjoyed the creatively prepared and displayed food before them particularly the Sangria two tablemates ordered. We carried on wide ranging conversations about Road Trips, including one to Missouri. A highlight of one excursion was visiting the State Capitol in Sante Fe which houses a museum. One spoke fondly about the rum he brought back from Cuba which used to spike his homemade fruity concoction. He confessed that he didn't even like rum! There was a brief discussion about the Francis Scott Key Bridge disaster — was it a conspiracy? Consensus: "no."

The discussion turned to other topics, including the varieties of the Spanish language found in the US, Spain and Catalonia, Puerto Rico and Cuba. There were reminisces of a Stockton concert 15 years ago featuring Bob Dylan, John Cougar Mellencamp and Willie Nelson. One participant attended, another's son was also there. And finally, discussion wound up with whether or not the FBI had files on table partners for past work in labor organizing and working for Caesar Chavez's movement. A good time was had by all.

Our next luncheon will likely be for a highly recommended Thai place in North Livermore, on Tuesday May 7



From left, Jim Hermerding, Marcos Contreras, Bob Johnson, Bruce Henry, Steve Skedzielewski, Vic Wheatman and Rick Knowles.

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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.

The promise of April and spring wildflowers is here! Hiking anywhere is rewarding. Come on out!

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.





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SIR 101 Kayaking

When: First Tuesday of the month (usually)

Next: May 7, 2024 Where: TBD

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

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com



SIR Kayakers enjoyed a perfect day around Alameda Island on April 9th. After good turnouts the last couple of months, we had a small turnout this time. Those who were absent missed a perfect day on the water, with a warm, cloudless sky, a slight breeze and flat water on the bayside of the island. We were there on either side of the high tide, so we could paddle anywhere around the SE end of the island without need to seek the low-tide channel.

We had a leisurely paddle around the SE end of the island, past the Aeolian Yacht Club, under the Bay Farm Island bridge, past Crown Beach and up to Ensenal Beach, which is within sight of the carrier Hornet, now a museum ship. We enjoyed lunch and conversation on the beach.

On the return trip along Crown Beach, it was a pleasure to see so many people enjoying the

sunshine and sea. People were seen walking the shoreline trail, children and adults were swimming, and fishermen were trying their luck. Not much wildlife was seen on this trip.

Our usual outings are the first Tuesday of the month, the 7th in May. Our next destination has not been selected yet, but likely will be somewhere on San Francisco Bay.

If you would like to join us, but don't yet have a kayak, some of us have boats and gear to lend. Contact Dick Ryon <<u>dickryon@comcast.net</u>>, and chances are, you can be accommodated. A good place to buy a new or use kayak, or to rent, is at California Canoe and Kayak (CCK) in Oakland, web site http://www.calkayak.com/.



Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm

Next: May 14, 2024 Where: TBA

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

SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



The Dining Out group checked out a new restaurant near the Bankhead Theatre called Fratello's Ristorante on Railroad Avenue. It was hosted by Ted and Sophia Schafer due to Doug's travel.

Fratello's is on the site of several Mexican Restaurants before it and has a pleasant update of the interior. Nine diners enjoyed the relatively large menu and nice wines. Conversations included plans for travel, trips recently taken and stories about kayaking. Sophia was serenaded by the table as her birthday desert ar-

rived; everyone seemed to enjoy our time together.

Afterwards a few of us checked the Mexican meat market just behind the restaurant. They had mangos, huge papayas, and something very green and spiky out front to tempt us in.

The site for next month's gathering is not yet decided, but if you want to learn where it will be, please send an email to Doug at <u>SIR101Din-ingout@googlegroups.com</u> and get on the mailing list.



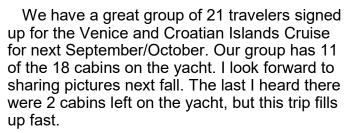
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SIR 101 Travel

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

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

Venice and Croatian Islands Cruise September 30 to October 12, 2024



I have some friends interested in a Christmas Markets Cruise on the Danube for November-December 2025. I preciously organized this trip for SIR in 2018 and it was wonderful, so I'm looking at offering it again next year. I'll keep you posted later in the year.

Here are some trips offered by other SIR groups that you might be interested in joining. Contact the leaders directly.

Princess 11 Night Inside Passage Cruise from San Francisco to Alaska: May 26 – June 6, 2024. Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway AK and Victoria, Canada. Cabins start \$2590 pp to \$3322 pp double occupancy. Contact John Cardoza (Branch 143) at 209-483-7722 or johncardoza@hotmail.com

Best of Spain and Portugal April 27 – May 12. 2024. Branch 146. Cost \$7,895pp. Madrid, Segovia, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Gibraltar, Costa Del Sol, Alhambra, Valencia, Barcelona, round-trip airfare, 15-day guided tour with Travel Director, 14 nights at centrally located 4star hotels, 5 dinners and 2 lunches including wine, all tips, transfers and baggage handling. Contact Glenn Breslin Branch 146 at 925-288-6520 or glennbreslin@gmail.com

Fall Mexican Riviera Getaway Oct. 15 – 26, 2024 11 Days. Branch 98 Cost \$844 - \$944 - \$1074 - \$1424 - \$6083pp. depending on cabin. Highlights: Departs from and returns to San



Francisco, ports of call Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlán, Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo. Contact Katherine Gervais of Branch 98 at 916-337-1623 or Kathig@shipsandtrips.com

Prague to Budapest River November 6 through 20, 2024.

Serenade A: \$3995 / Serenade B: \$3895 / Sonata C: \$3795 Sonata D: \$3695/Cantata E: \$3595 / Cantata F: \$3495/Prelude G: \$3395/Prelude H: \$3195/Air from SFO: \$1100. Ports and cities: Prague, Linz, Krems, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest.

Pre-trip US departure date: 11/01/24. Post-trip to Budapest return date: 11/23/24

Dresden and Berlin: \$995pp PRE-TRIP - Warsaw and Krakow: \$1095 PRE-TRIP. Budapest: \$745 POST-TRIP. Contact Milt Smith ASAP for more info at 925-258-2897, miltsmith 540@gmail.com or book directly with

miltsmith549@gmail.com or book directly with Group Code G4-23630. Call 1-800-221-2610

Panama Canal Cruise San Francisco to Ft. Lauderdale. Jan. 20 – Feb. 5, 2025, 17 days. Cost from \$4,185 - \$6,295 depending on cabin choice. Ports of Call: Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Puerto Quetzal Guatemala, Puntarenas Costa Rica, Fuerte Amador Panama, Full Transit through the historic locks, and Cartagena Columbia. Includes transfers from Modesto to Port of San Francisco and airfare from Ft. Lauderdale to Sacramento. For more information contact John Cordoza (Branch 143) at 209-483-7722 or johncardoza@hotmail.com.

Happy Travels, Bill Britton SIR 101 Travel Chair

Sunshine

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

Ralph Moir hopes to return to SIRs this fall. He is currently on a feeding tube following pneumonia after surgery.

Coleman Johnson got a concussion from a fall in Milan, which cut short his trip to Italy and Sicily.

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.



I've reached the age where 'Happy Hour' is when I can take a nap

Wine Tasting

When: Friday, April 26, 3pm Where: Don Carter's home

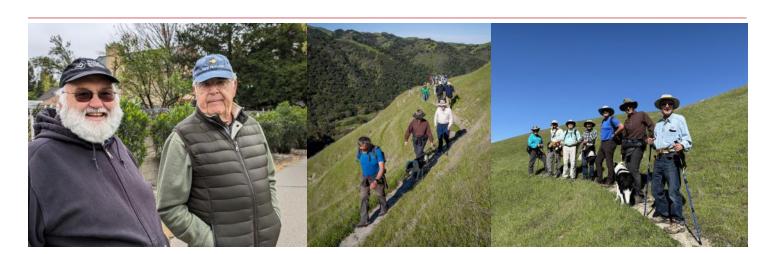
Contact: Bill Bish, Chairman, 925-447-1266

SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



Join us for a tasting of several Cabernet Sauvignons from Concannon Vineyards at Don Carter's home in Livermore. We'll taste wines from different labels (Reserve, Heritage, Mother Vines) and several different vintages. Bring a glass (although we'll have some in case you forget) and perhaps an appetizer to share. Also, if you have a Concannon Cab that you would like to share, bring it along! We also hope to have a speaker talk to us about his new experience of winemaking.

Please let us know in advance if you plan to attend by sending an email to Bill Bish or Steve Skedzielewski (skedz@acm.org) so we can send you details on how to get there.



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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 you 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 activities 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





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Membership Rules:

- A Member will be considered in good standing if his annual dues are paid up. There is no longer a luncheonattendance requirement.
- A member is responsible for replying to the RSVP alert sent via email prior to each monthly luncheon, If he responds that he will attend but later finds that he cannot, he must notify Werner Schlapfer, SIR101Attendance@googlegroups.com not less than 48 hours before the luncheon.
- Each member is responsible for confirming that we have accurate contact information for him.
- If you plan to bring a guest or caregiver, please send an email to Dwight Lang, SIR101BigSir@googlegroups.com at least 48 hours before the luncheon.

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.



There are no new sins: the old ones just get better memories.

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, Charles Caulfield,, Bob Dashner, Jim Doggett Jr., Don Faul, Kim Grandfield, Christopher Holland, Bob Horton, Mark Kelley, Ken Nuger, Scott Peters, Philip Simon, Everitt White.

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Birthday Boys*

March Birthday Boys Winners Marco Contreras and Art Molvik

April Birthday Boys

Vaugn Draggoo Dick Edwards Dennis Gately Kim Grandfield

Russell Greenlaw Robert Hoffman Bob McGarry



Lunch Prepayment Instructions / Yearly Member Dues 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 do 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.

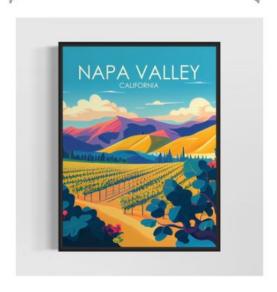
PayPal We currently can't accept PayPal payments.

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.

State SIR Golf Presents In Concert with Branches 35 & 149 A 2 Day Golf Event



2024 Spring Fling in Napa

Wednesday, April 24 at Chardonney Golf Club, a Four Man, 2-Best Ball Tournament with consecutive tee times.

Thursday, April 25 at Eagle Vines Vineyard & Golf Club, a Four Man Scramble with a Shotgun Start.

Ladies Welcome. Cash Prizes will be awarded for top teams and Closest-to-Pin. Entries can be for one or both days. Further details and Entry Forms will be posted later on SIR State Golf Website at https://www.sirgolf.org. For more information contact **Ben Gikis** (408) 802-0794, gikisben@yahoo.com.

Reserve the Dates Today!