



SIR 101

Bulletin

June, 2024

Volume 43, Number 6

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

I have to say, I really appreciate nice evenings that we typically have here in Livermore during the summer. I'm sitting outside enjoying the weather, as I hope you are, and hoping that we won't get into the serious hot weather for a while.

At this point you all should have received your invitation for our annual SIRs Picnic on June 20th, it should be a lot of fun. We have already received RSVPs for 47 people who will be attending, so don't wait (see the note below if you'll pay by check).

We will have BBQ chicken, St. Louis pork ribs, a vegetarian entrée for those that order one, corn on the cob, chili beans, spinach and berry, garlic bread, great desserts and drinks. Live music will be performed by Tim Gomes and we'll have some fun games, including a trivia game and a bingo game with prizes! Wives and significant others are invited as well, so sign up now! You will enjoy it!

And now, more good news, I want to confirm the report from our treasurer that we will not need to raise the cost of our luncheons this year. As I mentioned in the March bulletin, the cost of providing the substantial meal at our luncheons has gone up by \$1.50, from \$22 to \$23.50 per meal. The increased attendance at the luncheons and the very good re-

sponse from members paying their annual dues (89%), allows us to cover the additional costs. Thank you! (But if you haven't paid your dues yet for 2024, please do so)



The May speaker at the General Meeting was Herbert Cole, Livermore's Emergency Manager, and he gave us a briefing on the City's efforts to prevent and mitigate both community and personal harm from serious events such as flooding and earthquakes. It was reassuring to hear that California is one of the best states in the nation as far as emergency preparation. This was spurred by the realization in the 80's the many counties and cities did not have compatible communication or even firefighting plumbing systems to provide help to each other. The key emergency steps are: **mitigation**, meaning pre-event preparation to lessen the impact of an event, **response** to the event, and **recovery**, which will always take longer than people expect. Cities are on their own and cannot expect help from County nor from State ("all disasters are local"). By the work done here, Livermore may become the first city

Big Sir's Message, continued...

in the state to be accredited by non-profit Emergency Management Accreditation Program. He gave out very useful pamphlets on how to prepare for these types of serious events. There will be no speaker at the picnic, but the talks will resume in July.

The July speaker will be Terri Molano, Executive Director of Partners In Change Tri-Valley, an organization that helps distressed people better manage their finances.

I will see you at the picnic!

If you plan to pay by check this month (June)

Our Treasurer will be on travel this month, so please send any checks for dues or picnic reservations to our assistant Treasurer, Dick Crawford, at 4224 Colgate Way, Livermore, CA 94550. Payments by Zelle are unchanged.



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

Financial

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



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

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$9,458.58 **Jan 1:** \$8,337.78
Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash),,,,,,Line 8: Month: \$10,021.88

Membership and Attendance

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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 1—Larry Thompson

- ◆ **Visitors: 0.**
- ◆ **Guests: 2**

MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

- ◆ Care Givers: 0.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ Deleted: 0
- ◆ Passed: 0

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of June 1, 2024 is **131** members

MEETING ATTENDANCE— All lunch meetings are planned to be in-person

- ◆ June: 65.

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

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

Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers :

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 po-

tential 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, SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com, know.

Bocce

When: 2nd and 4th Thursdays 9-10:30

Next: June 27, July 11 & 25, 2024

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



SIR 101 bocce players got together twice during May on the 9th and 23rd. There were 7 or 8 players each time and we had a great time being together and playing bocce. With a fifth Thursday in May we have a 3 week break between games which are scheduled for June 13 and 27. We normally play bocce on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Bothwell Park bocce courts at 8th and H Streets in Livermore. Regular starting time is 10:00 am, but in

the summer when the predicted high temperature is over 90° bocce starts an hour earlier at 9:00 am. Chuck Molenkamp sends out a bocce reminder 2-3 days before each game with the appropriate starting time. To receive these reminders ask Chuck (cmole44@gmail.com) to add you to the SIR bocce email reminder list. We love to have new people join us for the games and the camaraderie. No skill is required, and we always have fun!



The players in the Photo from May 23 are Chuck Molenkamp, Dale Schauer, Werner Schlapfer, Scott Henderson, and Bruce Henry. The photographer was Harry Levin.

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

When: First Tuesdays
Next: September 3, 2024

Where: TBD

Contact: Vic Wheatman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



Five ROMEOs enjoyed a tasty lunch/brunch at Calafia on June 4th. It's a family-owned restaurant up Livermore's Vasco Road a bit. The wide-ranging conversations covered perception comparisons between Tornados, Hurricanes and Earthquakes across the country. One member described driving a motor home on the narrow, cliff-side portions of Paterson Pass Road and another described commuting there after a night shift when a sleep-deprived co-worker nodded off while driving on the side of a steep cliff. The recent fires in Tracy were reviewed in the context of being close to Lawrence Livermore Na-

tional Labs (they weren't). Travel experiences in Europe touched on visiting one of the world's largest Synagogues in Budapest, going through 80 canal locks by boat, the views from other places not recorded and finally, the art of changing bicycle tires. Calafia co-owner Paula Garcia dropped by the table to give us a history of the place and her family's involvement. We all enjoyed it!

ROMEO will be on our traditional summer hiatus over the summer (July/August). See you in September.



From left: Ken Nuger, Rick Knowles, Steve Skedzielewski, Chuck Molenkamp and Vic Wheatman

Hiking and Walking

When: Wednesdays, 8:30 am* (see note below)

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. leaving at 8 or 8:30 AM (Ramblers and Scramblers) and 8:30 AM (Amblers) for our hiking destination. Spouses, friends and family are welcome.

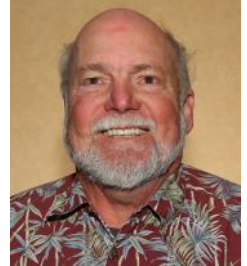
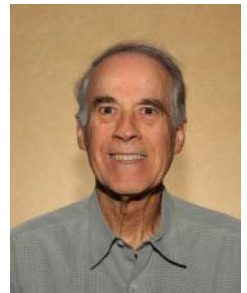
***Note:** Hiking in the month of June is always a challenge as we try to dodge the hot days leading up to summer. We may move the starting time up to 8 AM as needed.

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.



The worst part of parallel parking is the witnesses.





SIR 101 Kayaking

When: First Tuesday of the month (usually)

Next: July 2, 2024

Where: Drakes Estero (?)

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

SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com



SIR Kayakers to Elkhorn Slough Trip Report

We had a rather good turnout for our kayak trip at Elkhorn Slough on June 4th, with ten people. The original plan was to go out to sea from Moss Landing Harbor to look for whales. The whale-watch boats have reported seeing many humpbacks, a couple or orcas, and lots of Risso's dolphins, which are "mini-whales" about 15 feet long, with a large dorsal fin sticking out of the water as they swim.

However, plans changed a bit when wind gusts of 18 knots were forecast off the coast. White-caps appear at about 15 knot wind. With some of our kayakers being relative novices, we decided to break into two groups, with Kim Grandfield leading a group, as we originally planned, out to sea from Moss Landing seeking whales. Dick Ryon lead a group within Elkhorn Slough, between a place called Kirby Park to Moss Landing. People could choose which group to go with. It turns out that seven people decided to launch at Kirby Park, and only three doing the original plan.

To our surprise, those who sought whales saw none. They went about 1.5 miles off-shore along the deep Monterey Canyon, before returning to Moss Landing, where they met up with the slough kayakers just beyond the Hwy 1 bridge at a nice, sandy beach for lunch. The slough kayakers had a leisurely paddle, with just a gentle breeze in their faces on the way to Moss Landing. After lunch, both groups went up the slough about half-way to Kirby Park together, then returning to their two launch sites.

We saw several sea otters in the water, as well as harbor seals sleeping on the shore. There were lots of pelicans, some hitting the water to catch fish. There were also large flocks of smallish birds, guessing maybe terns, flying overhead.

So, all-in-all, another fine day on the water! If you wish to join us, but don't (yet) have a kayak, some of us have extra boats and gear that we would gladly share. Contact either Doug Mansur or Dick Ryon. Our usual date is the first Tuesday of the month, July 2nd next time. The place has not been decided yet, but we're thinking about Drakes Estero in Point Reyes.

Wine Tasting

When: TBD

Where: TBD

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

SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



A half-dozen wine enthusiasts visited a new winery in Livermore, JMC Cellars. It opened at the location previously occupied by Big White Winery and John Evan Cellars on Greenville Road. We were greeted by Jessica Carroll, the owner/winemaker. She made wines with John (Evan) Marion at Big White House and is now on her own. The tasting room has received a major redecoration and the patio is a great place to relax and enjoy some wine, which we did!

We don't yet have any summer plans for the group, but if you are interested in joining us, please send your email address to Bill Bish (SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com) or Steve Skedzielewski (skedz@acm.org). We will send you details of the next meeting as soon as we have them.



More Hiking Photos



Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:00pm

Next: July 9, 2024

Where: Cattleman's Steakhouse, Livermore

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

SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



The bulletin schedules are such that we have reports from both the May and June gatherings this month.

Dining Out gathered on May 14 at Dmitri's Taverna near the flagpole in Livermore. We enjoyed Greek/Mediterranean food and conversation. Several of us hadn't been there for a while and we all enjoyed our dinner and the indoor ambiance on a hot day.

We had eight attendees on June 11th at Polo's Corner, with the group enjoying a wide variety of different styles of food, including Mexican, American, and Italian.

The staff was attentive, the place was not too loud for easy conversations, and a good time was definitely had by all.

Please send an email to Doug at SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com if you plan to attend, or if you wish to be added to the mailing list.



May 14th at Dmitri's Taverna

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 been busy with the arrangements and details for our Venice and Croatian Islands Cruise. We have a great group of travelers with a variety of custom itineraries. I'm really looking forward to this trip and then hearing all the stories from our travelers on their return.

I am working on a Christmas Markets cruise on the Danube starting late November 2025 to visit many of the wonderful Christmas Markets and historic old towns along the Danube.

I am also considering a trip in North America that would visit the "Best of Eastern Canada"

featuring Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Quebec City & Montreal for some time in 2025. I know that many of our members don't want to fly across the oceans, so I hope this will a good compromise for those who want to travel, but don't want long flights.

I will have more later and would appreciate hearing your input and interests.

Happy Travels,

Bill Britton



Sunshine

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



No news is Good News!

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

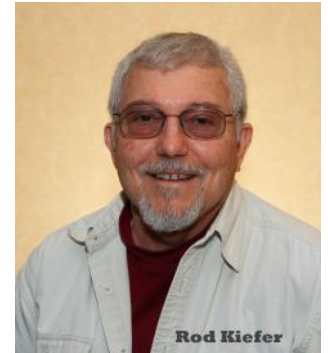
will spread the news and get a card out to them.

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 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





A big nose is not an excuse for not wearing a mask. I mean, I still wear under-wear..



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 year 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 are:** **Charles Caulfield, Bob Dashner, Don Faul, Kim Grandfield, Christopher Holland, Bob Horton, Mark Kelley, James Knecht, Mike Love, Ken Nuger, Scott Peters, Philip Simon, Larry Thompson, Everitt White.**

Membership Rules:

- A Member will be considered in good standing if his annual dues are paid up. There is no longer a luncheon-attendance 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: 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.

Birthday Boys*

May Birthday Boys Winners

Mark Kelly and Ron Colvin

June Birthday Boys

Due to the June picnic, names will be drawn at the July meeting.

Joe Clark
Gordon Cleaver
Bob Dashner
Jim Hermerding
Rod Kiefer

Bill Leach
Mike Pocha
Garry Rodrigue
Philip Simon

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. 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](https://www.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~~ Dick Crawford, 4224 Colgate Way Livermore 94550 (June)

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, a chance to receive a free luncheon credit. However, that member's must be present at the monthly meeting, when the names are drawn Currently, two names are called each month.



I married my wife for her looks...but not the ones I'm getting lately.

