



SIR 101

# Bulletin

July, 2024

Volume 43, Number 7

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 hope you are all surviving this heatwave, a week with the high temperature over 100 degrees everyday! Hopefully, it will disappear for a while after this coming weekend.

Speaking of weather, we were blessed with a beautiful day for the SIR annual picnic on June 20. We enjoyed a day with a high of 78 degrees and a slight breeze. Delicious food, fun games by Dennis Gately, setup organized and flower centerpieces by Little SIR Bob Johnson. The attendance of 87 members and guests was one of the largest that we have had. The great background music provided by local musician Tim Gomes was enjoyed by all. See photos [here](#). If you missed it this year, plan on attending next year!

Our speaker for the July luncheon on July 18 will be Terri Molano, the Executive Director of Partners For Change Tri-Valley. The Partners for change is community-based organization that works with tri-valley individuals and families to break out of various forms of poverty including financial, spiritual, emotional, social, and relational. The presentation will cover all of the good work that they do in helping people achieve financial self-sufficiency.

The State SIR organization had a video meeting of all the branch Big SIRs, Little SIRs and other Branch Executive Committee (BEC) mem-

bers, with six Livermore Branch 101 BEC members in attendance. Their main focus was to change direction to enhance the SIR organization's outreach to the communities that we live in, to better communicate what we are about and what we have to offer, and attract more and younger members. Some of the changes are:

Dropping the word "retirement", since the name "Sons In Retirement" was dropped 6 years ago. (Our official organization name has been "SIR" since then). You don't have to be retired to join.

Stressing new slogans "Enhancing Your Lifestyle" with activities and "Enriching Your Life".

You have a chance to participate. The state organization is running a contest to develop a new name and a new logo; the winners for each will win \$500! More information will be coming.

See you at the July 18 luncheon!



## July Speaker

### Speaker:

Terri Molano

Executive Director of Partners for Change Tri-Valley

### Time and Location:

Asbury United Methodist Church  
4742 East Avenue, Livermore, CA  
Thursday, July 18, 2024 11:30AM



Partners for Change exists to equip and empower people to chart their own course out of poverty to self-sustainability through an education and mentorship program. SIR Branch 101 member Bob Hoffman, who has been involved in the program since it began, recommended that we invite Terri to speak.

Terri Molano joined Partners for Change Tri-Valley as their Executive Director in 2022. As a veteran in community care, Terri is privileged to have spent the last 18 years involved in local and global community outreach. She is a strategic thinker with a history of successful community collaborations. Her focus includes education equality, helping under-resourced families, foster/

adoptive families and children, the homeless community, safe parking program for people living in their vehicles, providing shelter to people in need, anti-trafficking, clean-water wells, feeding the hungry, child sponsorship and many other types of social justice. In addition, she brings many years of business development experience. She is fluent in both Spanish and English. As a 27 year resident of Livermore, she is excited to help elevate and empower individuals in the Tri-Valley to reach their ultimate potential and develop a strong community.



Check out our **SIR Branch 101 web site**.

Click [SIRInc2.org/Branch101](http://SIRInc2.org/Branch101) to see the latest edition. Click on this link to email Dennis Gately, [SIR101Web@googlegroups.com](mailto: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](mailto: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: \$10,021.88 **Jan 1:** \$8,337.78  
Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash),,,,,,Line 8: Month: \$13005.68

## Membership and Attendance

Contact: Larry Wiley, Chairman, 925-443-7979  
[SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com)



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

**New Members: 1—Tarry Schmidt**

- ◆ **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 July 8, 2024 is **132** members

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

- ◆ June: no meeting, 87 Attendees at picnic.

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

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

## Future Speakers

### ***Our Planned Speakers :***

**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 meet-**

**ings.** 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](mailto:SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com), know.



### Bocce

**When:** 2nd and 4th Thursdays **9 or 10 A.M.**

**Next:** July 11, 25, August 8, 2024

**Where:** Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

[SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com)



The wonderful temperate days of June this year allowed the SIR bocce players to enjoy a couple comfortable days playing bocce on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. On June 13 there were 7 players and on the 27th there were 6 players. The games are always fun and competitive even though we are certainly not expert players. 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 might be interested in joining us, the

next games will be on July 11, 25 and August 8. 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.

*In the summer on days that are hot (we have had several of those recently) we start playing 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.



Bocce Players on June 11, 2024 are Scott Henderson, Walter Schindler, Mark Kelly, Dale Schauer, Werner Schlapfer, and Bruce Henry. The photographer was Chuck Molenkamp.

Bocce Players on June 25, 2024 are Mark Kelly, Dale Schauer, Scott Henderson, Harry Levin, and Dom Saccullo. The photographer was Roger Everett.





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

**When:** First Tuesdays  
**Next:** September 3, 2024

**Where:** TBD

**Contact:** Vic Wheatman, Chairman  
[SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com)



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

## 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](mailto:SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com)



This month, the Dining Out folks visited Cattleman's Steakhouse in Livermore and had a wonderful time with a very friendly, helpful waitress, good food, and fun conversations. Our attendance was strong this time, too, with a total of 12 folks coming together.

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





## 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](mailto: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 summer 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.







It's called a 'selfie' because 'narcissistic' is too hard to spell.





## SIR 101 Kayaking

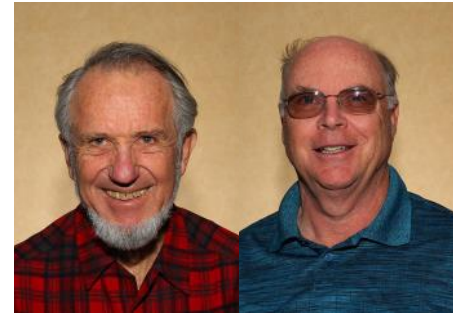
**When:** First Tuesday of the month (usually)

**Next:** August 6, 2024

**Where:** Undecided, possibly in the Delta

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

[SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Kayaking@googlegroups.com)



### SIR Kayakers at Drake's Estero

We originally had a rather large group of fifteen saying that they would come. For various reasons, six dropped out, leaving us with a still reasonably large size group of nine paddlers.

Drake's Estero is about 90 miles from Livermore in Point Reyes, about the distance limit for our group's single-day event. Heading home, three of us had a discussion about whether we had spent more time kayaking or driving, and decided it was about equal.

It was a splendid day on the water! We had only a gentle breeze from the south, flat water, and pleasantly warm temperatures that were cooler than those in the Livermore Valley.

The launch spot is where the Pt. Reyes Oyster Farm once was, across a beach of packed mud covered with oyster shells. We paddled about

4.5 miles at a leisurely pace, almost to where the estero meets the ocean. It was there that we landed for a lunch break.

There was a monument at our lunch spot to commemorate Sir Francis Drake's 1579 claiming North America to be New Albion (New England). Drake is said to have engraved a brass plaque to document and assert his claim, attached a sixpence bearing Queen Elizabeth's image, then displayed it on a large post. Giving details of Drake's visit, it claimed sovereignty for Elizabeth I and every successive English monarch.

That plate is said to have been found about 1933. After the plate came to public attention, historians raised questions regarding the plate's wording, spelling, and manufacture. A friend and colleague at U.C. Davis analyzed the plate. He



Photos by  
Kim Grandfield



## Kayaking, continued

determined the alloy could only have been produced centuries after it's supposed engraving.

So, while the plate is a fraud, it nevertheless seems reasonable that Drake's Estero (Bay) is likely to be the place where Drake landed to refurbish his ship before completing his circumnavigations of the globe.

On our return trip to our launch spot, we encountered numerous "bat" rays, some with wing-tips as wide as a person's arms can reach, at least two leopard sharks, and a large buck with

extensive antlers, still covered with velvet, plus numerous harbor seals seen at a distance.

Our next outing is scheduled to be the first Tuesday of August, the sixth. The place has not yet been determined, but it will be closer to home, perhaps somewhere in the Delta. If you don't (yet) own a kayak, some of us have extras we would be glad to share. Contact Dick Ryon if you need a kayak in order to participate.

## Wine Tasting

**When:** TBD

**Where:** TBD

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

[SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com)



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](mailto:SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com)) or Steve

Skedzielewski ([skedz@acm.org](mailto:skedz@acm.org)). We will send you details of the next meeting as soon as we have them.



.If you make a left turn from the right lane, you're probably careless -- and not what the driver behind you said you are





# June 2024 Picnic



French fries didn't come from France. They were cooked in Greece first.

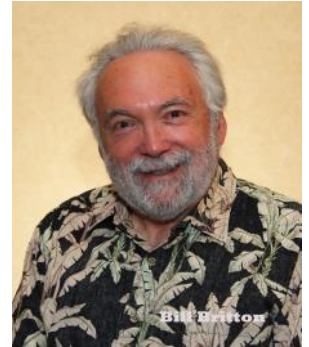




## SIR 101 Travel

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

**Contact:** Bill Britton, Chairman, 925-443-9913,  
[SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com)



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

I'm really looking forward to our Venice and Croatian Islands Cruise this September and October. All the major details have been completed. We have a great group with varied itineraries that should provide some great travel stories. I hope to share them when we return.

*I really need some input on two possible trips I'm considering for the Fall of 2025.*

First, I am considering a trip in North America that would visit the "Best of Eastern Canada" featuring Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Quebec City & Montreal for early October 2025. I know that many of our members don't want to fly across the oceans, so I hope this will be a good compromise for those who want to travel, but don't want long flights.

Second, I am considering 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 from Frankfurt to Vienna with the addition of Prague at the end. I already have some friends who want to do this trip. I did this one in 2018 and it was great!

In order to decide which trip to work on, or possibly both, I would like to know if there is interest in one or both. Just drop me an email: [SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Travel@googlegroups.com).

Happy Travels,  
Bill Britton

## Sunshine

**Contact:** Art Molvik, 925-373-8437  
[SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com).

I'm sorry to report that we've had a few deaths and illnesses in our group recently.

We lost Gene Broadman in April.

I just heard that Bruce Nevins, our longtime Membership Chairman, has died.

Coleman Johnson recently lost his wife, Bobbie. Many of you will remember Bobbie, who spoke at one of our luncheons shortly after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Coleman in addition is still recovering from a fall and subsequent surgery.

I'm also sorry to report that Leo Bennis had a stroke last month.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:SIR101Backpacking@googlegroups.com)

**Game Day:** **Contact:** Ron Saltgaver, Chairman, 925-443-0693, [SIR101GameDay@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101GameDay@googlegroups.com)

If you are interested in the following activities we would welcome volunteers to chair them!

- Chess
- Domestic Travel
- Golf
- Fishing





**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, Mark Kelley, James Knecht, Mike Love, Ken Nuger, Scott Peters, Tarry Schmidt, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://sirinc.org), SIR Sports: State SIR Sports Chair W. Lee Moy, [HealthStudio@gmail.com](mailto: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\*

### 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

### July Birthday Boys

Ron Baskett  
Bill Britton  
Bob Canning  
John Didlake  
Dennis Elchesen  
Dick Ernst  
Karl Freytag  
Bob Johnson

Ravi Dumar  
Mike Love  
John Mulrooney  
Raul Pomares  
Werner Schlapfer  
Larry Thompson  
Cal Wood

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#### 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](http://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](mailto: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.

This page is unintentionally blank