



SIR 101

# Bulletin

May, 2025

Volume 44, Number 5

SONS IN  
RETIREMENT 101  
LIVERMORE, CA

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION,  
ABOUT OUR  
BRANCH, PLEASE  
VISIT OUR  
[WEBSITE](#)

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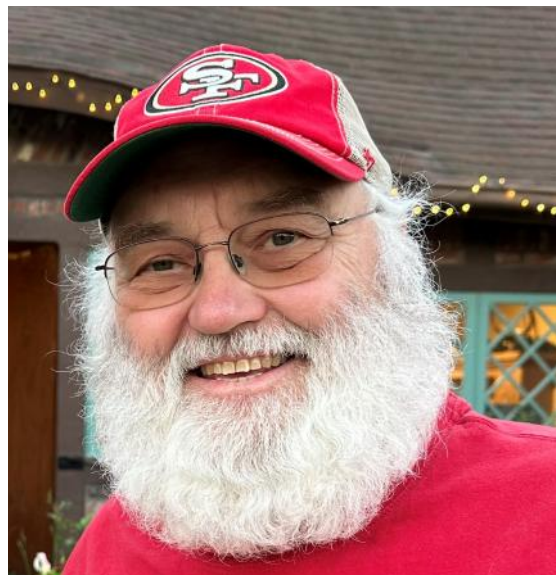
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## The Big Sir Message from Bob Johnson

The month of May reminds me of how our family spent Memorial Day when I was growing up in Central Illinois. Perhaps you had a similar experience. As you may know, what became Memorial Day began as Decoration Day in 1868 to honor Union soldiers who died in the Civil War. It was later changed to Memorial Day to honor all U.S. military personnel. At some point it evolved to also include remembering all deceased family members. That is how it was with my family when I was growing up and the tradition has continued. Along with the American flags placed on the graves of veterans by the scouts, graves of family members are adorned with flowers.

Today the flowers are plastic and cemetery rules usually require that placement of the flowers will not obstruct mowing. When I was a kid the flowers we placed were fresh cut, mostly peonies grown in our yard and that of my paternal grandmother. We started the day by cutting the peonies and arranging them in glass jars, usually mayonnaise or peanut butter jars with the labels removed, and water added. A Mason canning jar might be added if needed.

The first stop was the cemetery in town where my Dad's side of the family was buried. A jar with flowers was placed on each grave of a relative. The next stop was 10 miles east



of town to the country cemetery where my mom's relatives were buried. My great-great grandfather donated the land and started the cemetery when a hired man working for him died. After that we visited another cemetery an additional 10 miles to the east where more of my mother's relatives were buried. I particularly remember at each stop watching the flags on the graves of veterans fluttering in the warm spring breeze.

As a kid, Memorial Day also meant that school would be getting out soon and I was looking forward to summer. Speaking of summer, mark your calendar now for our annual picnic on June 19. Look [here](#) in this month's Bulletin for more details. Please note the requirement to pre-pay. (continued next page)

## March Speaker

### Speaker: Monya Lane

CEO and Board Chair of the Quest Science Center

Topic: Quest Science Center

### Time and Location:

Thursday, May 15, 2025, 11:30AM

Asbury United Methodist Church

4743 East Avenue, Livermore, CA



Monya Lane is a retired mechanical engineer whose tenure included overseeing the development of innovations in advanced manufacturing,

bioengineering and data science as the associate director of Engineering at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

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## Big Sir's Message, continued...

Speaking of veterans, the speaker at our April luncheon, John Gulick, who shared his experience as a Navy Seal during Viet Nam, gave an excellent presentation. A special thank you to Dave Arterburn for arranging for John to speak. Art also served in the Navy and has known John for over 50 years. Many of our best presentations come from members, who either give a presentation or line up someone they know. Be sure to let Little SIR Terry Tikalsky know if you have an idea for a future presentation.

Join us at the May luncheon on Thursday, May 15, when our speaker will be Monya Lane, CEO & Board Chair of the Quest Science Center. This should be a fascinating presentation. Remember doors open at 11:00 am and meeting starts at 11:30 am. Come early to chat with old friends and to make new friends. See you there!

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A man walks into a library and asks the librarian where he can find books on paranoia. She looks over the man's shoulder, leans in, and whispers "They're right behind you."

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 April, 2025  
 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$8,807.87 **Jan 1:** \$8,337.78  
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash).....Line 8: Month: \$8,814.77

## Membership and Attendance

**Contact:** Larry Wiley, Chairman, 925-337-4263  
[SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com)



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

**New Members: 3-David Pendleton, Allen House, Robert Lormand**

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

### MEMBER CARE GIVERS:

- ◆ Care Givers: 0.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ Deleted: 0
- ◆ Passed: 1—Dave Dunlap

### MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of March 06, 2025 is **133** members

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

- ◆ April : 53 attendees .

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for April, 2025 is available on our website.

## Future Speakers

### **Our Planned Speakers :**

**July 17th**-Ashley Grenier, East Bay Regional Parks

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 presenta-

tion.

Do you have ideas for speakers? Let Terry Titalsky, [SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com), know.



## Bocce

**When:** 2nd and 4th Thursdays 10:00am

**Next:** May 8 and 22, June 12 and 26, 2025

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

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

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



In April both of our bocce Thursdays were dry so we did not have a weather cancellation. Bocce is certainly more fun when the weather is right. On April 10th there were 8 players, the ideal number for two courts. We had several competitive games and lots of interesting conversations. The scores were 10-3, 10-9, 10-8, and 10-8. On April 24th there were 6 players. We were all so thrilled to welcome back Harry Levin. Harry is one of the most regular players, but he had been off for about 6 months for medical reasons. We are all so happy to have him back playing

with us. We also had a young girl stop by on her scooter and be our cheerleader for a while. Sorry, but you had to be there to fully appreciate that; sometimes bocce is not the most important thing.

Just a reminder that, as we enter the summer season, it is important to be on the bocce email list because on the very warm days we start an hour earlier than our normal 10:00 am time. If you have not played with us before we would love to have you join us.



Werner Schlapfer rolls red while Raul Pomares watches.



Walter Schindler rolls the last two reds after Bruce DeCoursey has finished up.



Bob Johnson carefully aims the green ball.

The sales guy kept pushing, although I'd already said "No" many times. So I shouted "Non!", "Nyet!", "Nein!"  
....but he wouldn't take No foreign answer.





Bob Johnson and Dale Schauer carefully determine which ball is closest to the pallino.



Roger Everett rolls green ball while Chuck Molenkamp watches.

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

**When:** First Tuesdays

**Next:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 11:30AM

**Where:** TBA

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



Six men of ROMEO gathered at Livermore's Poppy Ridge winery and golf course for a tasty lunch, beautiful weather, beautiful scenery and lively conversation. Topics covered included: Moving to Canada, replacing a 20-year old red Volkswagen convertible, auto aerodynamics,

modern car safety features, paper TripTic maps from Triple A, competition making RV reservations at state parks, the secret history of Cook's restaurant opening after 8 years (the problem was a family feud). Other topics at today's lunch were: decommissioned airfields nearby, other small fields being used for gliders and skydiving, sailing the world on board a luxury liner, and finally, the sad story of a member's brother who was killed by Pirates in Panama.



Clockwise, from left rear: Steve Skedzielewski, Chuck Molenkamp, "Jani" Janakiraman, Jim Hermerding, Marcos Contreras and Vic Wheatman.



## Dining Out

**When:** Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:30pm

**Next:** May 13, 2025

**Where:** Sansar Indian Cuisine, Livermore

**Contact:** Ted Schaefer, Chairman,

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



Dining Out will occur after the publication deadline (it happens two of seven months...) so there will be a report on two gatherings next time.

Please send an email to Ted 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

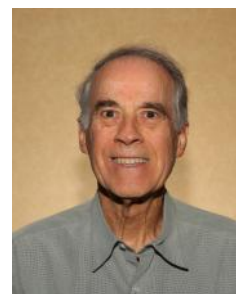
**When:** Wednesdays, 8:00 & 8:30 am (see note below)

**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)



Watch the green hills turn golden brown as the few remaining wildflowers become more visible while we hike the hills surrounding the valley under clear blue skies that is typical of May. We try to do a different trail every Wednesday forming three groups of various hiking levels

The *Ambler*s 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. To walk in nature is good medicine! I guarantee we have a group for you. *Ramblers* and *Scramblers* leave at 8:00 AM from the parking lot on the southeast corner of South L Street and Railroad Avenue and *Ambler*s leave at 8:30 AM, usually from the trailhead but sometimes from the aforementioned parking lot if carpooling is needed (check the *Ambler* signup spreadsheet which is emailed every week). Spouses, friends and family are welcome. Bring plenty of water and hiking poles if needed.

**Our Motto:** Remember, there's no such thing as bad hiking weather, just inappropriate clothing.



My wife found a letter I'd been hiding.  
Now she knows I've been cheating on her.  
She won't play Scrabble with me anymore.









Told my wife that I wanted to be cremated.  
She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

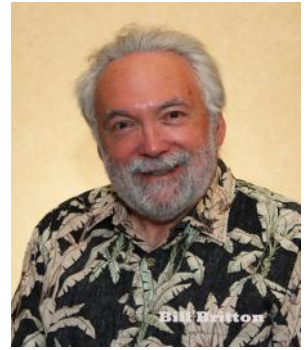




## SIR 101 Travel

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

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



I will miss the May meeting as I will be in LA for my retired teacher's convention. I am still working on the Christmas on the Danube river cruise starting late November **2026** 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've requested modifications for the trip to in-

clude an additional one or two pre-nights and post-nights. I'm still waiting for Collette to send me the details with the additional days. We did this in 2018 and it was great! I will work on the proposal for BEC approval and also schedule an informational meeting sometime after I get approval.

## SIR 101 Kayaking

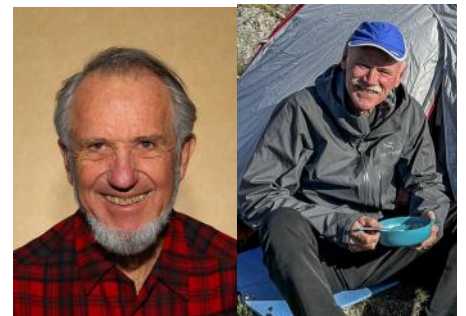
**When:** *Second Tuesday of the month (usually)*

**Next:** TBA

**Where:** TBA

**Contact:** Dick Ryon, 925-447-8907

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



If you have a preferred location for kayak trips, especially less than 90 miles from Livermore, please let me know at <dickryon@gmail.com>, and we will likely do it! Also, if you no longer wish to receive these e-mails, let me know and I will remove you from our e-mail list.

Paddle and live long!





## Wine Tasting

**When:** Friday May 16, 2025, 3pm  
**Where:** Rosa Fiero Winery, 2245 S. Vasco Rd., Livermore  
**Contact:** Steve Skedzielewski, Chairman, 925-455-5579

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



Five wine aficionados sat outdoors on the patio along "The Block" at Vasco Road on a fine April afternoon and enjoyed wines from Occasio Winery. We plan to return to the block and visit the tasting room next door, which houses both the Rosa Fierro and Favalora wineries. Each is a small operation with young winemakers who have a passion for what they make.

If you're not currently getting an email about wine events, please let Steve know and he'll add you to the mailing list.

See you on the 16th!

## June 2025 Picnic Details and Prepayment Information

Join us at 11:30 am on June 19th in the Asbury courtyard for our annual picnic. We'll have great food, a lot of fun and wonderful live music by Jack Quigley, who plays traditional Rock and Roll with some Philadelphia Blues. Bring your spouse, significant other or friend. Due to the special summer barbecue menu, the price will be \$37 per person, but it will be well worth it!

The usual invitation to RSVP will be sent in June, however we want you to know now that we will be requiring advance payment for the picnic. If you normally pay in person at the door with cash, one option is to pay for the June picnic at our upcoming May 15th luncheon. The usual methods of transfer by Zelle or mailing a check to Treasurer Roger Grimm are also avail-

able up until the deadline to be given in the email invitation.

We are asking for advance payment to avoid paying the caterer for no-shows. However, if you prepay and later find you cannot attend, **let Bob Johnson or Treasurer Roger Grimm know by 8 am Wednesday, June 18**, before they give the caterer a final count.

The menu will include: BBQ Pork Ribs, BBQ Chicken, Chili Beans, Corn on the Cob, Spinach and Strawberry Salad, Garlic Bread, Lemon Bars, Brownies and Fruit Cups, Ice Tea, Sweet Tea, Lemonade and bottled water. There will be a vegetarian option too.



## 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 needed 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.





## Sunshine

**Contact:** Art Molvik  
[SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com).



Dave Dunlap passed away April 25. The family invites the SIRs to join them at a memorial on May 17.

However, we have some good news to share about Dennis Gately. He is making excellent progress in recovery from his bypass surgery and expects to join us at the meeting next week.

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:** WAS on first Friday of the month from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

**Where:** Zoom meeting

**Contact:** TBA

[SIR101Investments@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Investments@googlegroups.com)

The Investments group is looking for a new chairman. If you might be interested in leading the investment group, please contact Big Sir Bob Johnson and he can fill you in on the duties and responsibilities.

## 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.



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### 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





## Birthday Boys\*

### April Birthday Boys Winners

Russel Greenlaw and Bob Hoffman

### May Birthday Boys

Ben Barrientos  
Fred Coffield  
Ron Colvin

Mark Kelly  
Roger Perry  
Rick Roller

Whoever determined that a one-inch candy bar is "fun-sized" should reevaluate what they think is entertainment.

**\* 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 must be present at the monthly meeting when the names are drawn. Two names are drawn each month.

### Lunch Prepayment Instructions / Yearly Member Dues Reminder

Prepay your \$33 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 your bank doesn't participate** visit the [zellepay.com](https://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 Green Dot Program?**

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:**  
**Greg Barr, Dale Berven, David Cabral, Jim Durkee, Phillip Garbutt, Allen House, Harry Levin, Bob Lormand, Thomas Parham, David Pendleton, Tarry Schmidt, Ken Simons, Gary Tompkins**

### **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 Schlaper, [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 Bob Johnson, [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, SIR, 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 SIR, Inc., whether or not a travel agency has booked the event.

### **SIR 101 web information:**

**SIR 101:** [SirInc2.org/Branch101](http://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](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.

