



# Bulletin

SIR 101  
LIVERMORE, CA

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION,  
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BRANCH, PLEASE  
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## The Big Sir Message from Terry Tikalsky

**H**appy New Year! I'm excited to step into the role of Big SIR this year and enjoy some fun and friendly activities with the SIR members. I hope you're as excited as I am!

I'd like to express my gratitude to our outgoing Big SIR, Bob Johnson, and the Branch Executive Committee for their dedication to keeping our branch organized and thriving. And I'd like to welcome Brent Dixon to his new role as Little SIR.

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the Holiday Dinner last month! I'd like to thank Santa and Mrs. Claus (Bob Johnson and Janet Brehe-Johnson), their Elf (Katie Johnson), Ted and Sophia Schaefer, John Didlake, Martha Tikalsky, and our Treasurer, Roger Grimm. It was a wonderful event with good food and drink, great music, and fun entertainment. Some photos are [here](#)

As we welcome the New Year, it's time to settle our annual dues for 2026! Just a friendly reminder that the dues are still only \$30 for the whole year. Please make sure to pay them by our February luncheon meeting on February 19th. You can use the same payment method you use for the monthly lunch to pay for the annual dues.

I'm so sorry to let you know that I won't be able to host the first lunch-



eon of 2026 as Big SIR. I'll be traveling to Indonesia with my wife and her siblings on a trip we've been planning for ages. In my absence, Bill Leach, Bob Johnson, and Brent Dixon will be taking over for me.

Our speaker at our January 15th luncheon will be Michael Campbell, who will be sharing fascinating stories and photos of Walt Disney and his early life, as well as his incredible obsession with trains. We'd love for you to join us for this presentation, and please bring a guest along! We're always looking to welcome new members, and a great way to start is by inviting someone you think might be interested to a free lunch.

## January Speaker

**Speaker: Michael Campbell**  
**Topic: Walt Disney + Trains**

**Time and Location:**  
 Thursday, January 15, 2026, 11:30AM  
 Asbury United Methodist Church  
 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, CA

Michael Campbell is a recognized authority on Walt Disney's love of trains and how it influenced the modern world.

Campbell has curated this inspiring story through exhibitions at Disneyland, The Walt Disney Family Museum, and the State Railroad Museums of California and Nevada. A noted speaker, Campbell shares Walt's tale through national media, his YouTube series "Once Upon a Train," and at venues including Disney parks, Pixar Ani-



mation Studios, colleges, universities, and charities.



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

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$12,474.35 **Jan 1:** \$7116.59  
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash),,,,,,Line 8: Month: \$7,731.80

**Membership and Attendance**

**Contact:** Scott Henderson, Chairman  
[SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com)



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:**

**New Members: 2**

Thom Birbeck, Rob Comstock

- ◆ **Visitors: 2**
- ◆ **Guests: 1**

**MEMBER CARE GIVERS:**

- ◆ Care Givers: 0.

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:**

- ◆ Deleted: 0
- ◆ Passed: 0

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS:**

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of January 3, 2026 is **135** members

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

- ◆ November: 63 attendees .

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

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

**IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE** who wants to become a member of SIR 101 and is ready to fill out an application, please assist the quest in legibly filling out the application by having him print all of the requested information.

Return the completed application by  
 A) mail to 1171 Sherry Way, Livermore 94550  
 B) email to to Scott at [scottwendh@yahoo.com](mailto:scottwendh@yahoo.com).



**Future Speakers**

***Our Planned Speakers :***

**February**-Three Giants off the California Coast (whales)

**TBD** — Ricky Deutsch, *HEXAGON Spies in the Skies—Reconnaissance Technology During the Cold War.*

Speakers are a great attraction for attracting potential new **members to attend our SIR meetings.** Do you have ideas for speakers? Let Brent Dixon, [SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101LittleSIR@googlegroups.com), know.

### Bocce

**When:** 2nd and 4th Thursdays 10:00am  
**Next:** January 23, February 13, 27, 2026

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

**Contact:** Chuck Molenkamp, Chairman, 925-413-1414  
[SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com)



The SIR bocce players were on the court twice during December and not at all during November with dates dodging the holidays, special events, and the rain. The game on December 4 was on a very cold and breezy day, probably one of the coldest for SIR bocce ever, and we all left after an hour. On December 18 most of us were thinking more about Christmas, but we still had a lot of fun. Now that January is here, we are back on our normal schedule playing bocce

on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. We have a wonderful time being together and the bocce is a fun activity.

If you have trouble remembering these dates and would like an email reminder a couple days before we play, make sure Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com) has added you to the bocce email reminder list.



SIR bocce players on December 18, 2025. The players are Chuck Molenkamp, Dom Sacullo, Dale Schauer and Bruce Henry.



SIR bocce players on December 4, 2025. Notice the menacing skies and the heavy jackets on a very cold day. The players are Chuck Molenkamp, Dom Sacullo, Scott Henderson, Dale Schauer, and Werner Schlapfer. Raul Pomares also played, but he left before the picture was taken.



I've opened a can of worms. They just sit there, the worms, Hardly the chaos that's been advertised

Those who confuse burro and burrow don't know their ass from a hole in the ground

## Dining Out

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

**Next:** January 13, 2026

**Where:** Beeb's Sports Bar and Grill, Livermore

**Contact:** Ted Schaefer, Chairman,

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



We're going to ring in the New Year of Dining Out gatherings by heading to a Livermore favorite with many in the SIRS group! Join us on January 13th at Beeb's Sport Bar and Grill, 915

Clubhouse Drive in Livermore (at the golf course). We're looking forward to seeing everyone and catching up on all your holiday fun and hearing your New Year's resolutions!!

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

**When:** Tuesday, February 3 at 11:30am

**Where:** Cooks Seafood, near Pleasanton Fairgrounds

**Contact:** Vic Wheatman, Chairman

[SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com)



Seven ROMEOs participated in our first Lunch of the New Year at Lavash Mediterranean across from the Livermore Outlets.

The Mediterranean meals we ordered were tasty, ample and delicious. The added shared sides of olives and hummus whet our appetites up front. Except for one couple and one take-out, this place was rather quiet this Tuesday afternoon, as were the many near-by restaurants in what's being called Republic Square.

As usual, the discussion around the table varied widely from an aversion to cilantro, family trips with Florida snow-birds, visiting Australia and New Zealand, beautiful and colorful ice sculptures in Nashville, double-decker buses in Victoria, British Columbia, taking the ferry to the BC capital hauling a trailer, meeting singer Jackson Browne backstage, tracking down old friends (is it stalking?) and visiting Seattle's Museum of Illusions. Members thought the SIRS Christmas Party was one of the best and we heard how the contracts with the venue were negotiated.



Confession: Since it's been so long since our last meet-up, I guess I forgot to get a picture! However, those participating were: Ken Nuger, Chuck Molenkamp, Bob Johnson, Marcos Contreas, "Jani" Janakiraman, Bruce Henry, Vic Wheatman.

## Hiking and Walking

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

**Where:** South L St. and Railroad Ave.

### Contact

Larry Wiley, Chairman, 925-443-5479

Jani Janikiraman, Amblers

[SIR101Hiking@googlegroups.com](mailto:SIR101Hiking@googlegroups.com)



The SIR Hikers have been actively hiking in November and December. In the last 2 months, the Scramblers and Ramblers, who hike in the hills of the East Bay Regional Parks, have hiked at Pleasanton Ridge, Brushy Peak, Del Valle, Lake Chabot, Sunol and Sycamore Grove. The Amblers have hiked mostly in Livermore, Springtown, Holdener Park, and Sycamore Grove Park. The Amblers take mostly "level" hikes.

We usually have about 15-25 Scramblers and Ramblers, who most often start out for their hikes together at 8:00 AM, while the 5-10 Amblers start later (8:30 AM), usually from their trailhead/starting point. Pictures from some of the hikes appear below.

Ramblers and Scramblers carpool to their trailheads, leaving at 8:00 AM from the parking lot at the SE corner of L Street and Railroad Avenue. If Ramblers and Scramblers wish to meet at the trailhead, they time it accordingly, and they do not need to report in to the group.

Amblers leave at 8:30 AM from either the L Street and Railroad Avenue parking lot, or they meet at the trailhead. All Ambler participants are asked to please enter their name in the online spreadsheet to report their intention to join the hike using [this link](#).

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

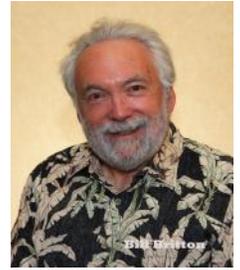




## SIR 101 Travel

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

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



### Happy New Year

We have three couples signed up for the Christmas on the Danube cruise for November 27 to December 8, 2026. You can find more details on the trip in previous month's newsletters.

I no longer have reserved cabins, so if you are interested it would be best to let me know as

soon as possible. Booking is now based on space availability. You can also find out more, or reserve a cabin at:

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1271367>.

## Wine Tasting

**When:** January 23 or 30, 3:30pm

**Where:** Chez Skedz

**Contact:** Steve Skedzielewski, Chairman, 925-455-5579

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



We're going to have a blind tasting of a selection of one varietal (cab sauv?) at Chez Skedz at the end of the month. More details will be sent to our wine email list next week. If you would like to be added to the list, just send a request to [Steve](mailto:Steve).

## SIR 101 Kayaking

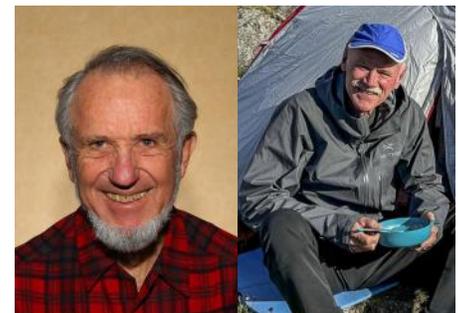
**When:** *Second Tuesday of the month (usually)*

**On hiatus**

**Contact:**

Dick Ryon, Chairman 925-447-8907

Kim Grandfield, Asst. Chairman



Dick's recovery is taking longer than hoped and Kim is recovering from his second knee surgery, so we don't have an update about the kayaking activity this month. However, an informal set of outings is happening—if you're not receiving

invitations and would like to join them please let Dick know.

Paddle and live long!

**Dues are due. Please pay them by the February meeting**

### 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.

### Investments

**When:** Friday January 9, 10-11am  
**Where:** Zoom meeting  
**Contact:** Bob Dashner  
[sir101investmentschairman@gmail.com](mailto:sir101investmentschairman@gmail.com)



The next online meeting will be on Friday, January 9, from 10-11. Subsequent monthly meetings will be held on the 2nd Friday of the month.

If you are interested, send your name, email address, and phone number to: [sirinvestmentschairman@gmail.com](mailto:sirinvestmentschairman@gmail.com). ZOOM meeting links will then be sent to you.

I just fired myself from cleaning my house. I don't like my attitude and I got caught drinking on the job.

### Sunshine

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



I think no news is good news, unless like me, everybody else has been too busy to let me know of problems.

If you hear of someone needing a word of encouragement from all of us, or hear good news

of someone's recovery, please let me know. I'll spread the news and get a card out to them.

A police officer came to my house this evening and asked me where I was between 5 and 6. He seemed irritated when I answered "Kindergarten" .

# Holiday Dinner December 11th 2025





## Birthday Boys\*

### December Birthday Boys

Rob Comstock  
Brent Dixon  
Lloyd Garbutt  
Phillip Garbutt

Bill Hoppes  
Rick Knowles  
Dwight Lang  
Bruce Langdon

Bob Lormand  
Bill Moran  
Nile Runge  
Mike Telang

### January Birthday Boys

Leo Bennis  
Dale Berven  
Roger Brown  
Delmas Robert Buckley  
Bob Cowgill

Patrick Epperson  
Marcus Libkind  
Ralph Moir  
Mark Palajac  
Tom Parham

Tarry Schmidt  
Steve Skedzielewski  
Scott Smith  
Rick Vistnes

## November Birthday Boys Winners

Bill Nebo and Vic Wheatman

### Lunch Prepayment Instructions / Yearly Member Dues Reminder

Prepay your \$35 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 lunches. 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](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. Two names are drawn each month, however, the member must be present at the monthly meeting when the names are drawn to receive the credit

### 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:**  
***Vic Avila, Thom Birbeck, Bob Comstock, Phillip Garbutt, Bill Hoppes, Dick Lear, Marcus Libkind, Bob Lormand, Tim Meier, Tom Parham, Kelly Rogers, Mike Telang, Gary Tompkins, Rick Vistnes, Jeff Walsh, John Whitehead***

### **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 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.

