



Bulletin

SIR 101
LIVERMORE, CA

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

Inside this issue:
(click the page # to go
directly to that page)

Announcements	2
Backpacking	10
Big Sir Message	1
Birthday Boys	12
Bocce	4
Dining Out	6
Financial	3
Hiking, Walking	7
Investments	9
Kayaking	8
Membership	3
ROMEOS	5
Speaker's Pre-view	2
Sunshine	9
Travel	8
Wine Tasting	8

The Big Sir Message from Terry Tikalsky

Im back from a wonderful 3-week trip to Southeast Asia! The best part was spending a day with the elephants at the Phuket Elephant Sanctuary on Phuket island in Thailand. The sanctuary cares for elephants who have been abandoned or injured, helping them recover and allowing them to live their remaining days in a beautiful, natural setting.

For our upcoming luncheon on February 19th, we're excited to have Richard Holmboe speak about the three giant whales that call the California coast home.

Thank you to everyone who has already paid their \$30 annual dues. If you haven't yet, please make sure to do so. We'd really appreciate it if all the dues could be paid by our luncheon on February 19th.

Don't forget to watch the Olympic Biathlon events on one of the NBC



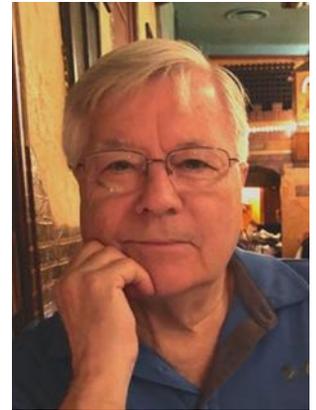
channels (or streaming on Peacock). Thanks to our member Paul McCandless who educated us about the sport at our November luncheon.



February Speaker

Speaker: Richard Holmboe
Topic: Three Giant Whales off California's Coast

Time and Location:
 Thursday, February 19, 2026, 11:30AM
 Asbury United Methodist Church
 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, CA



Richard Holmboe will present information on three giants of the sea - the gray whale (as big as a big bus), the humpback whale (bigger than a big bus) and the blue whale (bigger than two big buses). You will see how these giants of the animal kingdom survive by eating some of the smallest of animals. Then, you'll learn of a tiny animal that eats the giant whale. All of this will be accompanied by a slide deck of pictures and a video that are guaranteed to amaze you.

Richard is retired and living in San Jose with his wife Arlene. In his civilian career, he worked mostly for HP and Agilent Technologies. He spent a good part of that career writing high-tech manuals and training courses. He also spent 22 years in the navy and

naval reserve - in submarines, surface navy and naval air. He has been a popular docent at the Pigeon Point lighthouse near Pescadero for seven years. He has spoken to groups many times on the subjects of the lighthouse, on whales, on his submarine experience, and on the December holidays. Additionally, he presents popular poems in a dramatic and meaningful way.



Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers :

March 19 — Ricky Deutsch, *HEXAGON Spies in the Skies—Reconnaissance Technology During the Cold War.*

April 16 — Craig Edgerton , *Permission to Walk in Peace: Stories of Healing from Trauma as told by Combat Veterans*

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, know.

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 January, 2026
 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$7,731.80 **Jan 1:** \$7,731.80
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash),,,,,,Line 8: Month: \$9197.65

Membership and Attendance

Contact: Scott Henderson, Chairman
SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

New Members: 2

Scott Averill, Matt Fischer

- ◆ **Visitors:** 0
- ◆ **Guests:** 2

MEMBER CARE GIVERS: 0

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ◆ Deleted: 0
- ◆ Passed: 0

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ◆ The ACTIVE Membership of SIR 101 as of January 15, 2026 is **136** members

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

- ◆ January: 71 attendees .

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

The complete SIR Form 27 Monthly Branch Membership Report for January, 2026 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.



Bob Johnson's name is added to the roll of past Big SIRs

Bocce

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

Next: February 26, March 12, 26, 2026

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



During January the SIR 101 Bocce players met at the Bothwell Park Bocce courts on the 8th and 22nd. On both days there were six players, and we had good games and plenty of great visiting. In February and March we are playing on the 12th and 26th. I love February and March when the dates with the same numbers are on the same day of the week.

The normal schedule for bocce is on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. We play

at the Bothwell Park Bocce Courts at Eighth and H Streets in Livermore. Games normally start at 10:00 am, except for an occasional start at 9:00 am when we expect hot weather. If you would like to join us on the bocce court and would like a reminder a couple days before each game ask Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com) to add you to the bocce email reminder list.



Bocce players on January 8 are Chuck Molenkamp, Doc Saccullo, Bob Johnson, Werner Schlapfer, and Bruce Henry.



Bocce players on January 22 are Chuck Molenkamp, Dom Saccullo, Dale Schauer, Bob Johnson, and Bruce Henry.



Dom Saccullo rolls the green ball while Bruce Henry and Chuck Molenkamp must have spotted something happening in the playground.



Bruce Henry rolls the green ball towards the pallino while Werner Schlapfer is estimating where it will stop.

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

When: Tuesday, March 3 at 11:30am

Where: TBA

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



Nine ROMEOs travelled to Pleasanton near the fairgrounds to sample the fresh fish offered by Cooks, which finally opened a few months ago after an 8 years delay due to family issues, the Paradise fire, and Covid. The fish was fresh and the fries tasty and well-prepared. Service was exceptional. One of the chefs asked to take our picture for their Facebook page. As usual, the conversation roamed through various topics including a "get to know you" for two new members. Jeff told us he worked at FMC for many years, both in the states and in various countries

building tanks! (the military kind). Kelly worked in construction and real estate development. This led others at the table to brag about their backgrounds and careers as well. There was disappointment that the Gillig bus plant near Costco doesn't offer tours, and some remarks about the large solar energy farm off North Livermore Avenue which is set to provide power to the City of San Francisco. The group got along just fine and everyone was satisfied with their meals: no fighting, no food poisoning! Maybe next time.



From left, Chuck Molencamp, Bruce Henry, Kelly Rogers, Marcos Contreas, Steve Skedzielewski, Jim Hermerding, Jeff Walsh, Bob Johnson, Vic Wheatman.

Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:30pm

Next: March 10, 2026

Where: Cattlemen's, Livermore

Contact: Ted Schaefer, Chairman,

SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



February found the SIRS Dining Out group gathering at Melo's Pizza and Pasta in Livermore. This hometown favorite provided some excellent comfort food options for the group on a gloomy day. As always, there was plenty of laughter and good conversation to accompany the many yummy dishes chosen and shared.

Next month will find the group heading to another hometown favorite - Cattlemen's. If you're interested in joining our Dining Out group, please contact Ted Schaefer at tedschaefer@comcast.net and we'll add you to our notifications.



I do all my own stunts
but never intentionally.

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



The SIR Hikers have been actively hiking in January. In the last month, the Scramblers and Ramblers, who hike in the hills of the East Bay Regional Parks, have hiked at Los Vaqueros, Vargas Plateau, Brushy Peak, and the Patterson Ranch Trail (into Sycamore Grove Park). The Amblers have hiked mostly in Livermore, East Ave. to Tesla Road, Mocho Park to Isabel Ave., Del Valle dam to Sycamore Grove, and Dublin Library to Alamo Creek Park. The Amblers take mostly "level" hikes.

We have had about 18-26 Scramblers and Ramblers, who most often start out for their hikes together at 8:00 AM, while the 4-10 Amblers start later (8:30 AM), usually from their trailhead/starting point. Pictures from some of the hikes are attached below. My thanks to Art

Hull and Dick Crawford for many of the group pictures.

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.





Remember when plastic surgery was a taboo subject? Now you mention Botox and nobody raises an eyebrow.

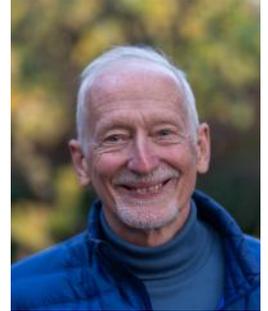
Wine Tasting

When: February 22 or 27, 3:30pm

Where: TBD

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

SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



We began the year in a big way, with eighteen SIRs and their guests enjoying an afternoon of wine with great food and conversations at Chez Skedz-Howe.

Participants brought very tasty appetizers to share as we sampled six brown-bagged bottles of cabernet sauvignon from Livermore producers. Conversations flowed as smoothly as the wine and folks enjoyed the opportunity to relax and get to know each other a bit better.

Next month we'll return to a tasting room visit. Current candidates are to places we've enjoyed in the past: Arroyo Cellars on Research Drive and Occasio on Vasco Road. Also in the mix is Rosa Fierro's tasting room, if she's back from her travels to Mendoza.

The best way to learn about our activities is to make sure that you are on our mailing list. To join, just send an email to Steve



SIR 101 Travel

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

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



Happy Valentines Day

I've no real changes from my last report. We still have 3 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 availa-

bility. You can also find out more, or reserve a cabin at: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1271367>.

My wife and I are heading off to Malta, Italy, Portugal, and France beginning on April 1 and back on June 30. I will miss 2 SIR meetings and the annual picnic.



SIR 101 Kayaking

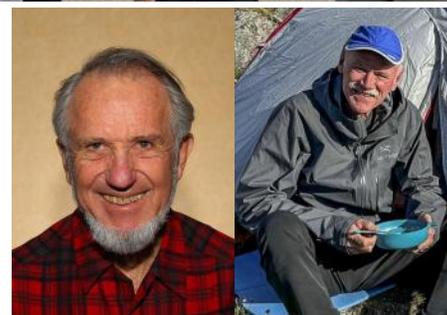
When: *Second* Tuesday of the month (*usually*)

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

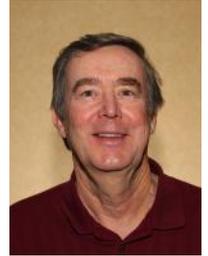
invitations and would like to join them please let Dick know.

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 February 13, 10-11am
Where: Zoom meeting
Contact: Bob Dashner
sir101investmentschairman@gmail.com



The next online meeting will be on Friday, February 13, 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: sir101investmentschairman@gmail.com and you'll receive the ZOOM meeting link.

I was the Best Man at my brother's wedding in Paris. I raised the champagne glass and said, "Eggs, cinnamon, bread, and maple syrup!" It was a French toast.

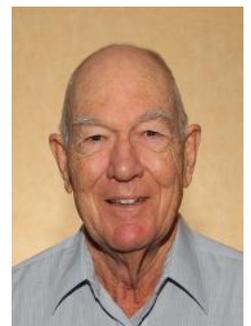
Sunshine

Contact: Art Molvik
SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com.

At the last meeting Art announced that he'd learned of three members who are not doing well: Leo Bennis, Coleman Johnson, and Carl Rosenkilde.

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.



Birthday Boys*

February Birthday Boys

Bob Ackley
Thom Birbeck

Charles Caulfield
Dick Ryon

Larry Suter
John Whitehead

December Birthday Boys Winners

Bill Moran and Lloyd Garbutt

January Birthday Boys Winners

Marcus Libkind and Tarry Schmidt



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 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, 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:** *Scott Averill, Vic Avila, Thom Birbeck, Bob Comstock, Matt Fischer, Bill Hoppes, Dick Lear, Marcus Libkind, Bob Lormand, Tim Meier, 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 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 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. 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.

