



Bulletin

SIR 101
LIVERMORE, CA

FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
ABOUT OUR
BRANCH, PLEASE
VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

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The Big Sir Message from Terry Tikalsky

Wow, March is here already! That means Daylight Saving Time is in effect, and we can enjoy dinner while it's still light outside.

Our guest speaker at the luncheon on March 19th is Jacquie Williams-Courtright, the owner of Alden Lane Nursery. She'll be sharing some fascinating insights into the nursery's history with us. Unfortunately, due to an unexpected family event, our previously scheduled March speaker, Rick Deutsch, will now be presenting "Spies in the Sky — Reconnaissance Technology During the Cold War" at our May luncheon.

We've received payments from over 93 of our members for their annual dues of \$30. If you haven't paid yet, please do so soon, as they are now past due.



I'm really excited to see everyone at our March 19th luncheon!



March Speaker

Speaker: Jacquie Williams-Courtright

Topic: Spring in the Garden

Time and Location:

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 11:30AM

Asbury United Methodist Church

4743 East Avenue, Livermore, CA



Our March SIR Luncheon speaker will be Jacquie Williams-Courtright. She is the owner and operator of Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore, California. Founded by her parents, Jack and Ruth Williams, in 1955, the nursery has been a family-owned business for over 70 years.

Her talk will cover some of the history of the Nursery, as well as touch on what's available at this time of year in the garden. I expect that we'll have an interesting Q&A at the end, as well.

The nursery is known for its oak-filled, 5-acre setting and knowledgeable staff. Jacquie serves as the president and continues to manage the 5-acre nursery located on Alden Lane. Jacquie is also known for hosting The Valley Gardener on local television.

Future Speakers

Our Planned Speakers :

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

May 21 — 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, 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

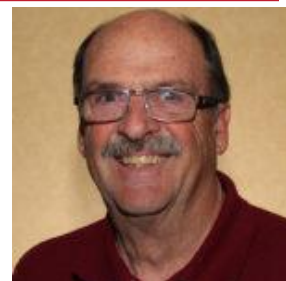


Monthly Cash Report for February, 2026
 See our web site for the complete Form 28.

Beginning Cash Balance (Total Cash)..Line 1: Month: \$9197.65 **Jan 1:** \$7,731.80
 Ending Cash Balance (Total Cash),,,,,,Line 8: Month: \$9,279.85

Membership and Attendance

Contact: Scott Henderson, Chairman
SIR101Membership@googlegroups.com



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, VISITORS and GUESTS:

- New Members: 1**
 John (JT) Torres
 ♦ **Visitors: 0**
 ♦ **Guests: 2**

MEMBER CARE GIVERS: 0

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

- ♦ Deleted: 0
 ♦ Passed: 1 Leo Bennis

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

- ♦ The **ACTIVE** Membership of SIR 101 as of March 10, 2026 is **136** members

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

- ♦ February: 70 attendees .

BEC meetings follow in-person lunch meetings.

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 receives his Distinguished Service award from State SIR Chairman Fred Serena

Bocce

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

Next: March 12, 26, April 9, 23, 2026

Where: Bothwell Park, 8th and H St

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

SIR101Bocce@googlegroups.com



In February we were on the bocce courts twice with six players on the 12th and four players on the 26th. As you can see from the background sky in the photos taken on those days, the weather was beautiful. Of course one of the best parts of bocce is the conversations with other SIRs as we play.

SIR 101 members play bocce every second and fourth Thursday of the month at Bothwell Park at Eighth and H Streets in Livermore starting at 10:00 am. Now that spring is here we are expecting dry weather and warmer temperatures; in fact spring is often the nicest time of the year for bocce. If you have not tried bocce before, now would be a great time to come out and enjoy the companionship and fun of playing with

fellow SIRs. If we suddenly have high temperatures predicted, bocce will start an hour earlier at 9:00 am. The starting time is announced in a reminder email a few days before each game. If you are interested in SIR bocce, ask Chuck Molenkamp (cmole44@gmail.com) to add your email address to the bocce reminder list.



Bocce players on February 26 are Chuck Molenkamp, Dale Schauer, Werner Schlepfer, and Bruce Henry.



The bocce players on February 12 who stayed to the end are Chuck Molenkamp, Bob Johnson, Dom Saccullo, Dale Schauer, and Walter Schindler. You gotta love those hats.

It amazes me how much exercise and extra fries sound alike.



Raul Pomares has finished playing bocce on February 12 and is leaving early.



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

When: Tuesday, April 7 at 11:30am

Where: TBA

Contact: Vic Wheatman, Chairman
SIR101Romeos@googlegroups.com



Seven ROMEO members who were not otherwise occupied joined at this relatively new place on Stanley Blvd, across from the Hospital. Meza n Moka features a variety of Mediterranean cuisines including Greek, Middle Eastern and beyond. Plus it has a variety of gourmet coffees, chai and other drinks. We were met by a charming and helpful young fella named Eren who is from Turkey.

As usual, table talk went all over the place. One member had just returned from both Australia and New Zealand. Another sadly reported that a planned trip to Portugal had to be postponed. In its place is a planned West Coast

road trip, from here to there, with "there" being San Diego (aka Sandy Ego). A member who worked overseas described living in Iran for several years, a timely revelation given current events. He was there when the Shah was deposed. Another is learning French with a group of friends (they jointly hired a private tutor) and told of binging a Netflix French series called Lupin. It's about a thief. Hope he doesn't get any ideas!

The food was pronounced "really good" with quite a variety of salads, kabobs, plates and generous portions at fair prices. We recommend it to all our friends, SIR members or not.



Pictured, from left front: Vic Wheatman, Jeff Walsh, Chuck Molenkamp, Steve Skedzielewski, Jim Hermerding, "Jani" Janakiraman, Marcos Contreras

Dining Out

When: Usually 2nd Tuesdays at 5:30pm

Next: April 14, 2026

Where: Zephyr Grill, Livermore

Contact: Ted Schaefer, Chairman,
SIR101Diningout@googlegroups.com



The SIRS Dining Out group ventured out to Cattlemen's on March 10th and enjoyed an evening of excellent down-home food (lots of steak and prime beef), fun conversations and laughter.

April will find the group visiting the newly renovated Zephyr Grill - details will be forthcoming in an email. Anyone interested in being added to the group list for Dining Out should contact Ted Schaefer at tedschaefer@comcast.net



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 February and March. In the last month, the Scramblers and Ramblers, who hike in the hills of the East Bay Regional Parks, have hiked at Del Valle, Los Vaqueros, Coyote Hills and Sunol to Pleasanton Ridge. The Amblers take mostly "level" hikes. Amblers hiked in Livermore at Sycamore Grove, and along the Arroyo Mucho, Holdener Park and in Pleasanton along the Murphy Kane trail.

Depending on conditions, we have had 10-27 Scramblers and Ramblers, who most often start out for their hikes together at 8:00 AM. The Amblers have had 5-11 members who 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, Jani Jana-

kiraman, Bill Leach, Dave Lunn 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.





Two caterpillars are munching on a cabbage when a beautiful butterfly flutters past over their heads. One says to the other, "You'll ever get me up in one of those things."



Wine Tasting

When: April 17 or 24, 3pm

Where: TBD

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

SIR101Wine@googlegroups.com



From lower left, Ken Nuger, Larry Wiley, Joe Clark, Susan and Doug Pavichich, Bruce Henry, Ted and Sophia Schaefer, Connie Howe and Georganne Nuger.

We returned to “The Block” on Vasco Road in February, with eleven SIRs and guests enjoying a visit to Rosa Fierro Cellars.

Participants brought snacks to share and we enjoyed them with a tasting flight that included several “off the menu” wines in addition to the usual menu.

Next month we might return to another winery, or have a social gathering with a Petite Sirah theme. 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



I have no new trips to announce at this time, or for the next several months. I'll see how my wife and I do on our upcoming trip to Malta, Italy, Portugal, and France. We depart on April 1 and return on June 30. I'll think about which destinations and types of trips I will plan if all goes well.

I hear from many of the group that they are more interested in domestic trips, while I have focused on international travel. Maybe I will shift my focus.

You can always email me with your trip suggestions.

Investments

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



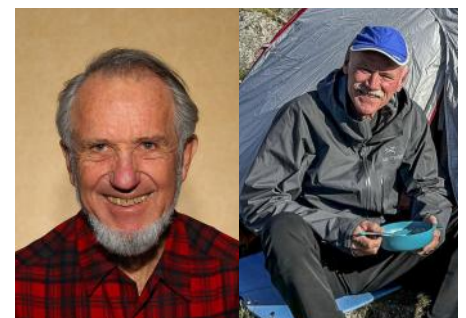
The next online meeting will on Friday, March 13, from 10-11:00 am. Monthly meetings usually are held on the 2nd Friday of the month.

If you are interested, send your name, email address, and phone number to: sir101investmentschairman@gmail.com and you'll receive the ZOOM meeting link.

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

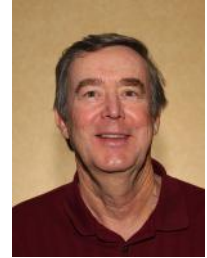
invitations and would like to join them please let Dick know.

Paddle and live long!

Dues are due. If you haven't yet done so, please pay by Zelle or at the March 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.



Dwight Lang

Ron Duetgen

Garry Rodrigue

Sunshine

Contact: Art Molvik
SIR101Sunshine@googlegroups.com.



I'm sorry to announce that Leo Bennis died on Saturday March 7, 2026. He was a long time member of SIRs and well known to many of you.

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*

March Birthday Boys

Bill Bish
 Dave Burg
 Don Carter
 Marcos Contreras
 Bruce deCoursey
 Dick Fortner

Christopher Holland
 Bob Horton
 Harry Levin
 Doug Mansur
 Tim Meier
 Art Molvik

Carl Rosenkilde
 Dom Saccullo
 Dale Schauer
 D Lynn Shaeffer
 Graham Thomas

February Birthday Boys Winners

John Whitehead and Bob Ackley



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, Rob Comstock, Matt Fischer, Bill Hoppes, Dick Lear, Marcus Libkind, Bob Lormand, Tim Meier, Kelly Rogers, Mike Telang, Gary Tompkins, JT Torres, 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.

