



TRAVEL BULLETIN

April 2011

Chairman/Assistant Br.35: Ed Pausa/Walter Weber

COORDINATED TRAVEL COMMITTEE

AREAS 5 & 20

TRAVEL COORDINATOR

Allen Daily (408) 265-8140

→→→→ PLEASE READ! ←←←←

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS - FIRST Contact the Tour Escort!, then send him your check made payable to the listed travel agency. Make sure your phone number, address and branch number are on the check. Reservations are on a first paid, first served basis. Your reservation is firm only when the Tour Escort has received your Payment.

BROCHURES - Brochures are available for most trips ask your Branch Travel Chairman for a copy.

REFUNDS - Refunds are made as outlined in the brochures.

RESPONSIBILITY - All travel events and other activities arranged for and 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 participants or passengers, or their property, in any manner pertaining to said travel or other activities.

YOUR TRIP NOT IN THE BULLETIN? - Trips that are full or are not available for sign up are not included in the Bulletin.

HANDICAPPED? Notify Tour Escort, before signing up, so suitable arrangements can be made.

DEPARTURE - Unless otherwise specified, trips depart from the South Light Rail Parking Lot G, located at Highway 87 and Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Check Brochure for your trip!

Vol. 30, No. 4 April 2011

This Travel Bulletin is published by the Sons In Retirement Coordinated Travel Committee, representing Area #5 (Branches 39, 54, 74, 94 125, and 141) and Area #20 (Branches 21, 32, 38, 62, 114 and 153). It is mailed without charge to each interested SIR in these Areas.

*****NEW TRIPS*****

August 31, 2011 □ **The Musical Billy Elliot** □

(Br. 21) Escorts, Dick Kohl at 268-0428 or Bill Kurtz at 268-8830. Join us for an outing to San Francisco to see the award winning play "Billy Elliot". Bill is a boxer who wanders into a ballet school and it changes his life forever. The play is set in England. We start the fun filled day with a motor coach ride from the Capitol Light Rail Station at 9:30 AM. We coach to pier 39 for shopping and lunch on your own. We take the coach to the play at the Orpheum Theatre. After the play we take the coach back to the light rail station. We should be back at the light rail station no later than 6:30PM. The cost for this outing is \$144 per person. Pick up a brochure on this trip at your monthly luncheon. For more information call Dick or Bill.

Dec. 14, 2011 □ **BEACH BLANKET BABYLON** □

(Br. 114) Tour escorts Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) and Larry Martinson (408-528-0746). Beach Blanket Babylon is the longest running musical revue in theater

history. It's a zany spoof of pop culture and politics, highlighted by extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats. After the show (where we have center and side box seats), dinner with wine is hosted at nearby Capp's Restaurant—great food and service. We'll arrive early enough in San Francisco for Christmas sightseeing and shopping. Trip also includes deluxe motor coach transportation and dinner and driver gratuities. Price: \$175 per person. Please send your application and check payable to "Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account" to Jim Stoner, 8458 Traminer Ct., San Jose 95135. This one always sells out so make your reservations early. Brochure available.

Feb. 22,-Mar. 1, 2012 □ **THE WONDERS OF COSTA RICA (Nine days & eight nights)**

(Br. 32) Escorts, Mike Console (408) 246-1080, and John Pletsch, (408) 274-2992. On the 4th voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1502, the explorer and his crew discovered the Caribbean side of a beautiful territory he called, "COSTA RICA" or "Rich Coast". Costa Rica is Central America's greatest hidden gem, a haven for eco-tourism. Experience the lush forests, magnificent waterfalls, rumbling volcanoes, endless coastlines and diverse ecosystems in a place that preserves its delicate ecology for all to enjoy along with some of the most spectacular scenery you will ever experience. Tour includes: Roundtrip Air, 18 meals, MotorCoach, Hotels,

Professional Naturalist Tour Director, all Admissions per itinerary, all tips for scheduled Meals, Tour Guides, Tour Director, and Drivers are also included. Pick up a brochure for complete details of itinerary. **Cost: \$ 2579** per person, double occ. An additional **\$600** per person will be required for a single. A deposit of **\$500 per person** is required to secure reservations. **NOTE: (A \$100 per person deduction will awarded on your final payment if your deposit is received by Aug. 3rd, 2011)** An Optional Cancellation Insurance is available at \$200 per person and is payable with your deposit. Make Checks payable to: PREMIER WORLD DISCOVERY Mail Checks to: Mike Console 3527 Parkland Ave. San Jose, Ca. 95117

Mar 19 - Apr 3, 2012 □ HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISE □ Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Star Princess (Br 141) Escorts, Brian Serpa - (408) 227-7658 & Rollo Parsons (408) 268-5245 NO FLIGHTS..... This 16-day cruise starts and ends in San Francisco. Cruise through the Golden Gate on your way to and from sunny Hawaii. We stop at 5 ports of call: Hilo (Hawaii) Honolulu (Oahu), Nawiliwili (Kauai), Lahaina (Maui), Ensenada (Mexico). Special features include Home Pickup to and from San Francisco pier, 1 bottle of wine per stateroom, port taxes, taxes on included items, and porter tips for 1 suitcase per person. Prices range from \$2140 to \$3090 depending on stateroom category. Deposits range from \$381 w/o insurance to \$563 w/o insurance. (Ask about reduced-deposit promotions from Princess Cruises.) Brochures available. Deposits payable to Talbot Tours Trust Account Send deposit and registration to: Brian Serpa, 6091 Pietz Ct, San Jose, 95123

APRIL 11-16, 2012 □ NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL □

(BR 32). Escorts: John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 and Mike Console (408) 246-1080. Celebrate the beauty of spring in Washington DC as the nation celebrates the festival's **100th anniversary**. Tour includes reserved seating at the Cherry Blossom parade, tram tour of Arlington, many National Memorials, visit to the Kennedy Center, Smithsonian Institution's Stephen F. Udvar-Hazy Center displaying over 335 aircraft including the Space Shuttle Enterprise and the Enola Gay, Mt Vernon, the Newseum and Potomac River Cruise. **Included is home pick up.** Price is \$2170 per person dbl occ (single \$2470). Deposit is \$424 with insurance or \$250 w/o insurance, payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct. Mail to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121

******* ONE DAY OUTINGS *******

May 6, 2011 □ Horse Racing at Golden Gate Fields □

Branch 32 Escorts John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 and Mike Console (408) 246-1080. Come and enjoy a full day of thoroughbred racing while enjoying a luncheon buffet in the Turf Club. Enjoy the races as you watch your horse flash across the finish line (hopefully in first place). \$78 PP. Make checks payable to Frontier Travel Tours Trust

Account and Send to John Pletsch 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121

August 11, 2011 □ SF Bay Model □ – (Br 62) Tour of the Army Corps of Engineers model of the San Francisco Bay, Sacramento River, and Delta Regions followed by lunch in Sausalito before returning to the South Bay. Trip will be \$115/person. If interested call Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765.

October 20, 2011 □ USS Potomac □ (Br 62) Bus to Jack London Square in Oakland for a cruise on the USS Potomac. In 1934 the US Coast Guard Cutter Electra was converted into the USS Potomac, the Presidential Yacht for FDR, serving in that capacity from 1936 until FDR's death in 1945. She changed ownership several times during the years since then, one owner being Elvis Presley. She was briefly used as a front for drug smugglers when it was confiscated by the government. She fell into disrepair and sank. Restoration was completed in 1995 and now 3 hour Bay cruises are offered from her mooring near Jack London Square. Lunch is planned at Jack London Square after the cruise. Trip will be \$160/person. If interested call Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765.

*******OVER NIGHT AND LONGER TRIPS*******

Apr. 23-May 4, 2011 □ THE LEGENDARY DANUBE □

(Br 141) Escorts, Brian Serpa - 408-227-7658 & Rollo Parsons - 408-268-5245 Fly from San Francisco to Prague, Czech Republic for 3-night stay, then drive to Nuremberg, Germany where we board our luxurious home on the Danube River, the Avalon Tapestry for a 7-night cruise to Budapest, Hungary. As we cruise the river we stop each day for included tours of historic cities, towns, and villages, including Vienna, Regensburg, Nuremberg, Passau, Melk, and Budapest. Special features of this trip include Home Pickup in greater SJ area, beer tasting in Regensburg, wine with dinner on cruise, plus much more. Prices range from \$4395 - \$4995 pp, dbl occ, depending on stateroom category. Includes round-trip air transportation, all transfers, tips for drivers, guides, & skycaps, and travel gift. Deposit is \$600 pp, payable to Talbot Tours Trust Account. Send registration and deposit to: Brian Serpa, 6091 Pietz Ct, San Jose, 95123

May 10-17, 2011 □ ROCKY MOUNTAINEER WESTERN EXPLORER □

(Br # 32) Escorts: John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 and Mike Console (408) 246-1080. An 8 day tour of the Canadian Rockies, with one night in Calgary, one night Banff, Lake Louise, two nights in Jasper and then all aboard the Rocky Mountaineer train Red Leaf Service Jasper to Kamloops, with an overnight in Kamloops, with the train continuing the next day to Vancouver, with an overnight in Vancouver before flying back home. Daily activities and included features are detailed in our brochure. Passengers will be picked up at their home and at the conclusion of the trip returned home. Price is \$2999 pp dbl occ (single supp is \$3626 pp). Deposit is \$400 per person w/o insurance or

\$652 w/ insurance. payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct and mail to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121. Final Payment is due March 1, 2011. Brochure available

Jun. 11-23, 2011 □ RUSSIAN WATERWAYS □

(Br. 114) Tour escorts Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) and Larry Martinson (528-0746). An upscale, all-inclusive 11-night luxury cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow on the newest, best equipped riverboat in Russia: AMA's MS Amakatarina. The boat features extra large staterooms, available balconies, modern bathrooms and an elevator. This cruise is the best available; wine with dinner, gourmet meals, exemplary service and great excursions, such as a ballet performance at the Hermitage Theater. Prices range from \$5895 to \$7695 for a suite, pp dbl. occ. All meals, all gratuities, port charges, visas and transfers included! Deposit of \$740 pp payable to Around the World Travel/YTC Trust Account should be mailed with applications to Jim Stoner, 8458 Traminer Ct., San Jose, CA 95135. Brochure available for this incomparable cruise adventure.

July 11 - 23, 2011 □ Denali Explorer Cruise Tour(13 days) □ (Br 62)

The trip begins with a flight from San Jose to Anchorage, Alaska where we will be at the Captain Cook hotel for a welcome dinner. Next morning it's on to the Princess Lodge at Mt McKinley (2 nights, 1 dinner). We then take the Midnight Sun Express (Featuring Ultradome windows and open platforms) to the Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge for two nights, with the "Music at Denali" dinner show the first evening and a full day guided natural history tour into the Denali Wilderness the next day. It's on to Whittier and the Diamond Princess Cruise ship by the Midnight Sun Express. The 7 night return cruise begins with scenic cruising past Glaciers (Hubbard and Glacier Bay National Park) with stops at Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan and a day of Inland Passage cruising before arriving in Vancouver for our flight home. The costs range from \$3792 for an interior cabin to \$4695 for a balcony cabin. Costs include all transfers and air travel, all fees, taxes and land gratuities; all cruise meals; all land breakfasts, 3 land dinners, the "Music at Denali" show and the Denali Nature Tour. For questions or a brochure, call Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765.

Jul. 20-24 2011 □ ASHLAND, OR. & N. CALIFORNIA □

(Br.74) Escorts: Allen Daily 408/265-8140 & Don House 408/268-1703. A scenic tour of Northern California while traveling to Ashland, Oregon for Theatre performances of PIRATES OF PENZANCE, GHOST LIGHT and a DINNER SHOW. Includes 3 nights at ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL, ten hosted meals, Wine/Cheese Party, one night at ROLLING HILLS CASINO, wine tasting at Napa, tips and lots of fun. Price is \$1,265 pp. dbl Single Supplement: \$335.. occ. Mail \$200/p deposit payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account to Allen Daily, 1580 Trona Way, San Jose 95125 with Application.

Aug. 1 - 12, 2011 □ Grand Scotland and Ireland Tour □

Branch 39 Escorts Neil Jameson (831) 336-2476 and Wayne Dawson (408) 972-1054. 12 Days, 18 Meals Professional Driver / Guide, Ferry from Scotland to Ireland, Scenic cruise on Loch Ness, Whisky tasting and tour of Blair Athol Distillery, Voucher for open-top bus tour in Dublin, Reserved seats for Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Tours of Edinburgh and Belfast with local guides, Walking tour of Derry with a local guide, Minibus excursion to Slieve League Sea Cliffs, Visits and admissions to Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, Ben Nevis Highland Centre, Blair Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Giant's Causeway, Ulster, American Folk Park, W. B. Yeats' Grave, Strokestown House & Famine Museum and Kilmainham Gaol. The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is an annual series of Military tattoos performed by British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and International military bands and display teams in the Scottish capital Edinburgh. International military regiments and even African tribes have performed at the Tattoo over the years. The first regiment from outside the UK to take part was the Band of the Royal Netherlands Grenadiers in 1952. So far, over 30 countries have been represented at the Tattoo. Popular visiting performers include the Swiss Top Secret Drum Corps. Brochure available. Price \$3995 dbl/4650 single. Deposit is \$300 pp. Insurance is available, (\$370 dbl/459 single) to be paid with deposit. Make check payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct. and send to Neil Jameson, 390 Hallson Lane, Ben Lomond, CA 95005-9411. Email jamesons@pacbell.net

Sept. 16-26, 2011 □ WEST COAST SWING □

(Br.74) Escorts: Allen Daily 408/265-8140 & Don House 408/268-1703. Home pick up and return. Fly to Seattle for dinner at Space Needle, Underground Tour and more. After two nite stay, take the train to British Columbia. Stay two nites each, at Kelowna, Whistler and Vancouver. Attractions include several Olympic sites, mountain tram ride, Old Town, dinner at winery, scenic touring and Whistler Mountaineer train. Conclude with two nite cruise on the Coral Princess to San Francisco, and home. Price varies with cabin, from \$2,980 to \$3,220/p dbl. occ. Check or Credit Card deposit of \$400/p payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct. should be mailed to Allen Daily, 1580 Trona Way, San Jose 95125 with Application.

Oct. 9 – 28, 2011 □ Exploring New Zealand □

Branch 38 Escorts, Bill Rodman (408) 274-4521 & Tom Lamp (408) 274-0666. Twenty day escorted land tour of both New Zealand's North and South Islands, with optional 2 night post tour extension to Fiji. You'll be picked up at The Villages and possibly a second site. Highlights.... Auckland, Bay of Islands, Rotorua, Wellington, Christchurch, Tranz Alpine Train, Franz Joseph Glacier Region, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Te Anau, Mt Cook. These are exciting destinations with details described in our brochure - available at your branch travel table or, call Br 38 escorts or, e-mail

brodman@sbcglobal.net. Also covered in the \$5329 pp dbl occupancy are Cancellation and Waiver Insurance of \$225 pp, air taxes and fees/surcharges of \$130, hotel transfers, gratuities and RT air from San Francisco. First deposit of \$475 pp (which includes Cancellation and Waiver Insurance) due upon reservation. Make checks payable to COLLETTE VACATIONS and addressed to Bill Rodman, 2025 Folle Blanche Dr, San Jose, CA 95135.

Oct 16-22, 2011 □ Southern Charm□

Branch 32 Escorts John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 and Mike Console (408) 246-1080. Experience true Southern Hospitality and charm in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. Highlights include visits to Charleston, Boon Hall Plantation, Beaufort, Savannah, Jekyll Island, St Simons Island and St Augustine. Price is \$2269 dbl occ. (single supp \$2769. Deposit is \$415 with final payment due August 17, 2011. Checks, credit cards accepted. Payable to Collette Vacations Trust Acct. Send application and payment to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121. **ONLY 20 SEATS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS TRIP. COMMITMENT MUST BE MADE BY MAY 16, 2011.**

November 5, 2011 □ Mexican Riviera Cruise –(8 days) □

(Br 62) (Br 62) Escorts: Roy Jordan (408) 735-8765 & Jim Hohenshelt (408) 241-4421. Short, inexpensive and relaxing before the holidays. Cruise is a round trip out of San Diego with stops in Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, and Cabo San Lucas. Price ranges from \$1389 (interior), \$1529 (outside window), and \$1619 to \$1799 (balcony). All meals and transportation (round trip from San Jose Airport) are included. Details at trip presentation, 1 PM May 12, 2011. If interested call Roy Jordan 408-735-8765 or Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421

Nov 7-8, 2011 □ A CENTRAL COAST GETAWAY 2 Days 1 Night □

Branch #94 Escorts Bud Souza, 408-340-0082 and John Cabri (408) 356-8863. We arrive in Cambria for a hosted lunch at Linn's Fuit Bin (famous for their homemade pies) Then to Covell's California Clydesdale Ranch to see 100 horses and 200 acres of breathtaking views. Check in to La Serena Inn, Morro Bay for overnight stay and the evening we'll enjoy a hosted Yacht Dinner Cruise. WOW! The morning a continental breakfast with free time to explore Morro Bay and the afternoon will take a fun twist with a visit to Tobin James Winery and Clautiere Vinyards. This wine tour is like no other! All this for only \$327 per person double occupancy. Singles add \$70 per person' Call for brochure info: Bud Souza, 408-340-0082 or email: buds2@mindspring.com

****COMING ATTRACTIONS*******

Dec 30, 2011- Jan 2, 2012 - □ Christmas in Monterey□

Bill Kurtz (408) 268-8830 or Dick Kohl (408) 268-0428.

Jan. 10-12, 2012 - □ 15th annual Reno Amtrak□

Neil Jameson (831) 336-2476 and Wayne Dawson (408) 972-1054.