



## TRAVEL BULLETIN

September 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!

**BULLETIN** If you would like to receive your Bulletin via email, email your request to robert\_marcy@sbcglobal.net from the email address that you want your Bulletin delivered to. You will get your copy of the Bulletin monthly as opposed to the bimonthly mailed copy! If you are not interested in travel get your name taken off our mailing list by contacting Bob Shields at (408) 268-4975, email rwshields@Comcast.net, or your branch Travel Chairman.

### Vol. 30, No. 9 September 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.

### \*\*\*\*\*PRESENTATIONS\*\*\*\*\*

**Friday, September 30, 2011 2pm for the The Wonders of Costa Rica Trip** at 3527 Parkland Ave. San Jose, Ca. 95117 RSVP to Mike Console (408) 246-1080, or John Pletsch, (408) 274-2992.

### \*\*\*\*\* ONE DAY OUTINGS \*\*\*\*\*

#### **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 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.

### \*\*\*\*\*OVER NIGHT AND LONGER TRIPS\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Oct. 9 – 28, 2011 ☐Exploring New Zealand☐**

(Br 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 \$5669+ **fuel surcharges of \$340 pp** dbl occupancy are Cancellation and Waiver Insurance of \$225, air taxes and fees/surcharges of \$130, hotel transfers, gratuities and RT air from San Francisco. 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□**

(Br. 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.

**Nov 6-7, 2011 □ A Central Coast Getaway □**

(Br. 94) Escorts Bud Souza, 408-340-0082 and Darrel Jensen (408) 371-6652. 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 dbl occ \$397 Single Call for brochure info: Bud Souza, 408-340-0082 or email: buds2@mindspring.com

**Nov. 29-30, 2011 □ Christmas at the Eldorado, Reno □**

Br. 74, Escorts are Allen Daily 265-8140 and Don House, 268-1703. Our annual Christmas Show during our nite's stay at the Eldorado will be a dazzling performance of PETER PAN. Also included is our private cocktail party, buffet dinner, hosted breakfast, casino time and bonus of \$5 cash & \$5 food credit at the Nugget. Rest stops will be made at the Black Oak and Vacaville Nut Tree Center. Price is \$167/p Dbl. occ. Singles pay \$187. Mail your Reservation form and check to Allen Daily, 1580 Trona Way, San Jose, CA 95125.

**December 30, 2011- January 2, 2012 □ New Year's in**

**Monterey□** (Br #21) Escorts: Dick Kohl (408) 268 0428 and Bill Kurtz (408) 268 8830. This fun filled trip will be one you will remember with fondness for a long time. We will be taken by motor coach to the Monterey Embassy Suites Hotel and be staying there for the whole New Year's weekend celebration. The Joe Sharino Band will be providing the music at the New Year's Eve extravaganza. Included in this trip are a visit to the aquarium, the Monterey Movie Tour, lunch at Pebble Beach's Tap Room, the Steinbeck Center, a live performance at the Golden Bough Theatre and much more. The cost of this trip is only \$1103 per person double occupancy.

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

(Br. 39) Tour escort Neil Jameson (831) 336-2476 and Wayne Dawson (408) 972-1054. A great gambler and sightseeing trip. Leave from VTA/Hwy 87 and or The Villages. Board Amtrak in Emeryville for a leisurely trip through the snow-covered Sierra Nevada, arriving at the Silver Legacy in Reno. Day 2 morning is free. Depart at 2

p.m. for a visit to the Scheels Sports Shop located in Legends Mall in Sparks offering something for everyone. Then enjoy a surprise group dinner before returning to the Silver Legacy. Return on Day 3 After a hosted breakfast and late morning departure, stop at the Black Oak Restaurant for a no-host meal stop. Return home approximately 6:00 pm.by bus with a lunch stop in Vacaville. Brochure available. Price \$340 dbl/\$380 single. 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](mailto:jamesons@pacbell.net)

**Jan 21 – 27, 2012 □ Florida Keys Adventure □**

(Br 62) Escorts: Roy Jordan (408-735-8765) or Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226). Enjoy a prime time visit to Miami, Key Largo, the Florida Keys, and 4 nights in Key West. We'll be picked up from home for our flight to Miami. Following dinner and a night in Miami, we'll take a morning city tour, a short air boat ride in the Florida Everglades National Park, then an afternoon tour before moving on to Key Largo for an overnight with dinner at The Fish House. The next day begins with a ride on a glass bottom boat through the largest living coral reef off our coasts, then down the Intracoastal Highway to its end in Key West, where we have dinner at the "Top of the Conch" and a 4 night stay at the Crowne Plaza La Concha in the heart of town on historic Duval Street. Key West features President Truman's "Little White House", the Butterfly and Nature Conservancy, Shipwreck Museum, Aquarium, the Old Town Trolley, and a host of shops, restaurants, and attractions. The cost is \$3380 per person double, \$3975 single, which includes home pick up, all transfers, air and motor coach transportation, tours, hotels, thirteen meals, and all taxes and gratuities.

**Feb. 22-Mar. 1, 2012 □ The Wonders of Costa Rica □**

(Br. 32) Escorts, Mike Console (408) 246-1080, and John Pletsch, (408) 274-2992. 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** dbl occ. \$3179 single. A deposit of **\$500 per person** is required to secure reservations. 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

**Mar 22-26, 2012 □ Giants Spring Training □**

(Br 62) Escort: Jim Hohenshelt. Fly San Jose to Phoenix for 3 Giants Spring Training games. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Old Town Scottsdale, which is only a few blocks from the Scottsdale Stadium. Trip includes home pick up/return, air fare, airport transfers, accommodations, all breakfasts, and 1 dinner, with free time in Scottsdale between games. Cost is \$1295 (dbl) and \$1745 (sgl). Call Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421 or 408-394-7226 if you have questions or want to sign up.

**Apr. 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

**May 18-24 2012 □ Southern Sights & Southern Lights □**

(Br 21) Escorts: Bill Kurtz (268-8830) and Dick Kohl (268-0428). Journey with us to the Deep South to savor some Southern hospitality. This 7 day trip features the lovely and historic Southern cities of Savannah and Jekyll Island, Georgia and Beaufort and Charleston, South Carolina. We will have a riverboat ride in Savannah and a narrated carriage tour of downtown Beaufort. This tour includes a full-time tour manager, deluxe accommodations, and 13 hosted meals at some of the famous and outstanding restaurants in the area. The trip also includes group travel insurance for medical reasons. The cost of the trip is \$2695. Send application and check payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account and mail to Bill Kurtz , 1115 Olive Branch Ln., San Jose Ca, 95120.

**June 15-23, 2012 □ Harbor Hopping in New England □**

(Br 153) Tour escorts Ralph Hunt (650-967-8467) and Alan Patmore (408-867-4197). Two nights in Boston that includes 'Bean Town' touring followed by a 6-night Harbor Hopping on a New England cruise aboard the *American Star*. Ports of call include the mainland stops of Providence, Newport, and

Bristol in Rhode Island. Massachusetts' stops include New Bedford, Fall River and the storied islands of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Block Island. Many opportunities abound for thoroughly enjoying all this cruise has to offer. For starters there's the 17th Century Architecture, inspiration for Herman Melville's Moby Dick as well as soaking-up the seafaring heritage experience of New England's quaint islands and seaport villages. Trip includes home pick-ups and transfers to airport, air transportation from Bay Area to Boston, MA and return from Providence, RI as well as many other amenities. Per-person prices range from \$4408 - \$5268. Deposit is \$500 pp payable to Talbot Tours Trust Account. Please send registration and deposit to: Ralph Hunt, 13158 Diericx Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040-3916.

**Jul 13-22, 2012 □ Bermuda Plus 2 Nights in New York □**

(BR 32) Tour escorts John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 and Mike Console (408) 246-1080. 2 nights at the Best Western President Hotel at Times Square, guided tour of New York and then set sail for Bermuda aboard Holland America's MS Veendam for 7 night cruise. Ports of Call include St George with its old British charm, and Hamilton, with its pink-sand beaches, colorful cottages and British colonial charm. Staterooms aboard MS Veendam range from Large interior stateroom \$2995 per person, to Lanai Stateroom \$3460 per person, Large Oceanview stateroom \$3195 or \$3270 per person and The Verandah Stateroom \$3775 per person. ALL cabin prices are per person, double occupancy. All price categories includes Travel Guard Insurance. **Deposit of \$600 payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account.** Mail deposit and application to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121

**Aug. 4-16, 2012 □ Switzerland and The Enchanting Rhine □**

(Br. 114) Tour escorts Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) and Larry Martinson (528-0746). Start with a 2-night stay in Zurich, then spend 2 nights in Lucerne, a medieval gem. After a city tour of cosmopolitan Basel, we will embark on the luxurious river cruise ship MS Amacello for a 7-night trip up the Rhine River to Amsterdam. Highlights include Colmar, the "Capital of Alsatian Wine," a Strasbourg canal cruise, historic Heidelberg and Worms, the scenic Rhine Gorge, with dozens of castles, and Cologne, with its famous 13<sup>th</sup> century Gothic cathedral. We end with a tour of vibrant Amsterdam. River cruise includes meals and unlimited wine with dinner. Special highlights include lectures, folkloric dance programs and musical performances,. Cost is \$6425 to \$8500 for a suite, pp dbl. occ. Group medical insurance, round trip air, port charges, and transfers included. Deposit of \$1000 pp, payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account, should be mailed with applications to Jim Stoner, 8458 Traminer Ct., San Jose, CA 95135.

**Sep 1-14, 2012 □ Paris, Rhone River, and Provence □**

(Br 62) Escorts: Jim Hohenshelt 408-394-7226 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765. After our SFO – Marseille flight, we transfer to the River Royale for 8 days of cruising the Rhone River from Arles in (Provence) and up through the Burgundy Region to Chalon-sur-Saone. The cruse includes stops in

Arles, Avignon, Viviers, Tournon, Lyon, and Chalon-sur-Saone. Day trips at each stop are included. From Chalon-sur-Saone we are on to Paris, by the TGV (Bullet Train), for 5 nights. The first day in Paris will be a full day guided tour of Paris (highlighted by the Louvre, the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the Arc de Triomphe, the Opera, the Madeleine, the Champ Elsysees, and the Eiffel Tower). The next day is a guided tour of the Castle and Gardens of Versailles. Our last 2 days in Paris are still in the planning stage and are intended to revisit, in more detail, the attractions that the group found interested on the city tour. The costs range from \$5500 to \$6500 which includes all transfers, air travel, accommodations, taxes, all cruise meals, all land breakfasts, and 1 land dinner. For questions call Jim or Roy.

**Sept 6 to 14, 2012 □ Paris, Rhone River, and Provence □**

(Br 62) Escorts: Jim Hohenshelt 408-394-7226 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765. **Paris, Rhone River, and Provence – September 1 to 14, 2012 (14 days) – (Br 62)** Escorts: Jim Hohenshelt 408-394-7226 and Roy Jordan 408-735-8765. After our SFO to Marseille (France) flight, we take a motor coach to Arles where we board the luxurious UniWorld Cruise (5 star rated) Ship, the “River Royale”. The next 8 days (7 nights) we cruise the Rhone and Saone Rivers, which includes stops in Avignon, Viviers, Tournon, Lyon, and Chalon sur Saone. Day trips at each stop are included. After disembarkation at Chalon sur Saone, we board TGV (Bullet Train) to Paris. We have 5 nights at the elegant Pullman Eiffel (400 meters from the Eiffel Tower) in Paris. Our first 2 days will include a full day guided tour of Versailles followed by a full day guided tour of Paris (highlighted by the Louvre, the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the Arc de Triomphe, the Opera, the Madeleine, the Champ Elsysees, and the Eiffel Tower). Our last 2 full days in Paris are open, but with a bus and guide at our disposal. We (inputs encouraged) will decide which attractions we will visit (or revisit) those last 2 days. The cost will be \$5698 to \$6515

(without airfare) depending on the cabin category. Because airfares to Europe are currently unsettled, they are not included here. Possible arrangements include having the travel agent set up air travel at a later date or arrange it on your own, which permits the use of frequent flyer miles. What is included are all France transfers, accommodations, taxes, cruise meals, land breakfasts, the Versailles Tour, and the Paris City Tour. For questions or a brochure, call Jim Hohenshelt 408-241-4421 or Roy Jordan 408-735-8765.

**\*\*COMING ATTRACTIONS\*\*\*\*\***

**Spring of 2012 □ Southern California Adventure □**

A custom trip including Catalina Island, the Reagan Library, the Welk Resort with a performance, and other S. California attractions. Allen Daily 265-8140 & Don House 268-1703..

**Sept. 2012 □ Yosemite and Mammoth Lakes □** Including 3 nites in Yosemite over Tioga Pass to the Eastern Sierras for 3 days of spectacular sightseeing such as Devil's Postpiles, Mono Lake, Bode „etc. Allen Daily 265-8140 & Don House 268-1703.

**October 2012 □ Cruise to France in Quebec at half the price of Europe □**

Cruse north through the St. Laurence River with fall colors. And enjoy Lobster in Main Tom Lamp (408) 274-0666 & Bill Rodman (408) 274-4521.