



## TRAVEL BULLETIN

August 2012

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. 31, No. 8 August 2012

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.

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

#### August 23, 10:30 AM, 2012 ♦ Baltic Cruise: London to St Petersburg and back ♦ Mama Mia's Campbell♦

(Br 62) The Princess Cruise Sales Manager will be describing our July 10-26, 2013 trip in detail. We will also discuss the possibility of spending a few additional days in London. Please call Jim Hohenshelt (408-241-4421 or 408-394-7226) or Roy Jordan (408-735-8765) to reserve a spot.

Thursday, August 23, 1 PM, 2012 ♦ April 10 to 25, 2013 Hawaiian Islands Cruise♦ (Br 38) The Villages Cribari Conference Room, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose. Please RSVP to Bill Rodman (408-274-4521) or Hank Clark (408-223-6466).

### \*\*\*\*\*ONE DAY TRIPS\*\*\*\*\*

#### Oct. 5 & Oct. 7, 2012 ♦ Fleet Week♦

(Br 62) - We will board the Celebration on the Bay motor launch in Jack London Square for a 3 to 4 hour cruise on the bay to watch the Blue Angels perform directly overhead.

Cost will be \$160/person and include round trip bus from VTA parking lot and a catered lunch while we view the air show. The Sunday cruise is currently full. However, because there has been such an interest in the Fleet Week cruise we have added an additional cruise on Friday October 5, 2012. If you are interested or have questions, call escorts Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226 or 408-241-4421) or Roy Jordan (408-735-8765).

#### Dec. 12, 2012 ♦ 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: \$182 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 sells out so make your reservations early. Brochure available.

**January 16, 2013 ♦ ANYTHING GOES – at the Golden Gate Theatre in San Francisco ♦** (Br 21) Escorts Bill Kurtz (408-268-8830) and Dick Kohl (408-268-0428). Enjoy a happy one day trip up to San Francisco to see the Broadway hit musical "Anything Goes." This timeless classic is peppered with some of musical theatre's most memorable tunes. The theatre tickets are for a matinee performance and the trip includes lunch at the Fog Harbor Restaurant on Pier 39 and deluxe motor coach transportation. The cost of this trip is \$149. Send application and check payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account and mail to Bill Kurtz at 1115 Olive Branch Ln., San Jose, CA 95120.

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

**August 4-16, 2012 ♦ Switzerland and The Enchanted Rhine River♦**

(Br. 114) Tour escorts Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) and Larry Martinson (528-0746). Start with a 2-night stay in picturesque Zurich, then spend 2 nights in Lucerne, a medieval gem. After a city tour of cosmopolitan Basel, we will embark on the luxurious AMA Waterways 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, the scenic RHINE GORGE, with dozens of castles and fortresses (World Heritage Site), and COLOGNE, with its famous 13<sup>th</sup> century Gothic cathedral. We will also visit The Floriade, a horticultural expo that takes place once a decade. We end with a scenic canal tour of vibrant AMSTERDAM. River cruise includes superb meals and unlimited wine with dinner. Special highlights include musical performances, lectures and folkloric dance programs. 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. Brochure available.

**Aug 26-27, 2012 ♦ El Dorado Reno "Oh What A Night"♦** (Br 32) Escorts: John Pletsch 408-274-2992 or Mike Console 408-246-1080. Touring internationally since 2009, "Oh What A Night" takes a nostalgic trip down memory lane to celebrate the hit songs of Frankie Valle and the Four Seasons, whose story is told in the musical "Jersey Boys". Tour includes round trip motorcoach, one night stay at the El Dorado, buffet dinner and breakfast, casino stop at the Sparks Nugget and the performance of "Oh What A Night". All taxes, gratuities and luggage handling are included. Cost is \$165 per person double occ (\$24 additional for single occ). Make checks payable to Frontier Travel & Tours Trust Acct and mail to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121.

**Sept.18-23,2012 ♦Autumn Sierra Adventure♦**

(Br. 74) Escorts Don House 408/268-1703 and Allen Daily 408/265-8140. Three nights in Yosemite Nat'l Park, with Autumn sight seeing tours and lunches at the Tenaya Lodge,

Ahwahnee and Wawona hotels; 3 breakfasts and a dinner at Yosemite Food Court. Drive thru Tuolumne Meadows and awesome Tioga Pass for three more days of spectacular sight seeing along the Eastern Sierras including Devil's Postpiles, Mono Lake, Bodie and other Mammoth Lakes attractions, with breakfast & dinner daily. Visit Columbia State Historic Park and have wine tasting, organ music and dinner at the Ironstone Vineyards. Price is \$1,850 pp/dbl and \$450 sgl. suppl. Full payment is now due with your application and is payable to Alamo World Trust Acct. Call Allen Daily at 265-8140 for the current status before mailing any new applications. Limited space available.

**Oct. 11 – 23, 2012 ♦Spain's Costa del Sol & The Portuguese Riviera♦**

(Br 38) Escorts, Bill Rodman (408) 274-4521 & Nick Lickwar (408) 532-6992. Thirteen day escorted land tour of Spain's Costa del Sol & Portugal's Riviera. You'll be picked up at The Villages and possibly a second site. Highlights...Madrid, Prado Museum, High Speed Train, Cordoba, Costa del Sol, Granada, Alhambra, Cadiz, Seville, Cascais, Lisbon, Sintra, Estoril, Obidos, Fatima. These & other optional excursions 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. You can also view the brochure (without the options) on the Br 38 website: <http://branch38.sirinc2.org/> Book by Apr. 11, 2012 & save \$100 per person. Also covered in the \$4244 pp dbl occupancy (\$4144 until Apr. 11, 2012) are Cancellation & Waiver Insurance of \$220 pp, air taxes & fees/surcharges of \$150, hotel transfers, gratuities & RT air fare from San Francisco & transportation to/from The Villages to the airport. First deposit of \$470 pp (which includes cancellation & waiver insurance) is due upon reservation. Make checks payable to COLLETTE VACATIONS or use the Credit Card Authorization Form (included in the brochure) & address to Bill Rodman, 2025 Folle Blanche Dr, San Jose, CA 95135.

**Nov, 28-29, 2012 ♦ Christmas at The Eldorado, Reno ♦**

(Br. 74) Escorts are Allen Daily, 408/265-8140 and Don House, 408/268-1703. The annual Christmas Show during our one night's stay at the ELDORADO will be a captivating performance of ALADDIN. The trip will include our private cocktail party, buffet dinner, reserved seating for the show, breakfast buffet, play time at the Nugget, a \$5 cash and \$5 food bonus, rest stops at the Black Oak and The Nut Tree Plaza, driver's tip and loads of fun. The price is \$185/pp, dbl. occ. and \$15 sgl. suppl. Mail your Reservation Form and full payment made out to Cruise Adventures Unlimited, to Allen Daily, 1580 Trona Way, San Jose, CA 95125.

**Jan. 14-27, 2013 ♦ Tahitian Breeze Vacation ♦**

(Br. 114) Tour Escorts Larry Martinson (408-528-0746) and Jim Stoner (408-238-8458). Start with a 2-night stay at the luxurious Intercontinental Hotel in Papeete, Tahiti, breakfast included. Two days of free time to explore the boundless beauty and captivating cultures of this French Polynesian

city. Then go aboard the luxurious *Marina*, one of the newest Oceania Cruise Line ships, for a 11-day cruise exploring the islands of Moorea, Huahine, Raiatea, Bora Bora, Nuku Hiva, Hiva Oa, and Rangiroa. We'll also cruise the Tuamotu Archipelago before returning to Papeete. We will get off the ship in the a.m. and check into day rooms at the Sofitel Resort to rest up before our evening flight back to CA. Oceania Cruises offers the finest cuisine at sea, served in a wide variety of distinctive open-seating restaurants at no additional charge. Round trip transfers from the Villages and VTA station to San Jose Airport, Airfare, transfers in Papeete, 2-night accommodations plus day a room, 11 nights on board Oceania Cruise Lines "Marina" including all meals and tips, \$150 shipboard credit per cabin, \$445 per person government fees and taxes are **all included in the price, starting at \$5,850 per person double occupancy, B 4 Balcony cabin.** Deposit of \$1,000 pp, payable to Around the World Travel/YTC Trust Account should be mailed to Larry Martinson 9029 Village View Dr. San Jose, CA. 95135. Brochure available.

**Feb. 6-21, 2013 ♦ Panama Canal ♦**

(Br. 74) Escorts Allen Daily 408/265-8140 and Don House 408/268-1703. Fly to Fort Lauderdale for an overnight prior to boarding the CORAL PRINCESS for a fourteen night cruise thru the Caribbean Sea with calls at Aruba, and Cartagena before a full day of transit thru the Panama Canal. Stops also include Nicaragua and Cabo San Lucas prior to arrival at Los Angeles and a flight to San Jose. Price for dbl. occ. runs from \$3220 to \$4555 based on cabin selection. All prices include insurance, tips, taxes, baggage handling, cocktail party and much more. Mail completed application and deposit to Allen Daily, 1580 Trona Way, San Jose, CA 95125.

**March 31-April 10, 2013 ♦ Mexican Riviera Cruise ♦**

(Br 141) Escorts Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245) and Brian Serpa (408-227-7658). This 11 day cruise on board the Grand Princess starts and ends in San Francisco. With front door pickup and delivery service no driving is required. Ports of call are Catalina Island, Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas and San Diego. Costs range from \$1470 to \$1895 pp double occupancy depending on cabin selection. Included are home pickup, all taxes and fees, all tipping for drivers and porters, all shipboard meals and entertainment, pre-trip orientation, cocktail party and bottle of wine. Only \$100 trip deposit required. Retired military on board credit of \$100 available. Deposits payable by check or credit card to Talbot Tours Trust Account. Mail deposit and registration to: Rollo Parsons, 5987 Via Madero Drive, San Jose, CA 95120.

**April 10 – 25, 2013 ♦ Hawaiian Islands Cruise ♦ Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Grand Princess**

(Br 38) Escorts: Bill Rodman (408) 274-4521 & Hank Clark (408) 223-6466. NO FLIGHTS.....This 15-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: Honolulu (Oahu), Nawiliwili (Kauai),

Lahaina (Maui), Hilo (Hawaii) and Ensenada (Mexico). Transportation to and from San Francisco pier from The Villages & Capitol Light Rail station, 1 bottle of wine per stateroom, port taxes, taxes on included items, Travel Guard Group Protection Plan and porter tips for 1 suitcase per person. Prices range from \$2490 to \$3880 per person, double occupancy, depending on stateroom category. Deposit of \$800 per person (reduced to \$300 pp during Special Cruise Sale August 15-30, 2012). Higher deposit if traveling as a single. Presentation at The Villages on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 PM – Cribari Conference Room, 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table. Brochure can also be viewed on SIR 38 website: <http://branch38.sirinc2.org/> Deposits payable by check or credit card to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account. Mail deposit and registration to: Bill Rodman, 2025 Folle Blanche Dr, San Jose, CA 95135.

**June 19-26, 2013 ♦ Michigan, Mackinac Island & Chicago ♦**

(Br 21) Escorts Bill Kurtz (408-268-8830) and Dick Kohl (408-268-0428). This 8 day trip to the heart of the Midwest features a full-time Tour Manager with trip insurance included in the price of the trip. This excursion starts in Detroit where we will visit the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, the Motown Museum, and the famous Ford Rouge plant. Then off to Mackinac Island where we will stay and eat in the world-famous Grand Hotel. From there we will go to Traverse City, a great summer tourist location where we will visit Sleeping Bear Dunes National Seashore, one of the most beautiful places in America. After a stop in Holland, Michigan, we head to Chicago where we will stay right in the Loop at the Sheraton Hotel. Here we will have a guided bus tour and an Architectural River Cruise of the city, and other sights. This trip includes many more features so pick up a brochure and join us on this great excursion to the Midwest. This trip includes airfare, deluxe motor coach throughout, full-time tour manager, trip insurance, most meals, and all tips with a tour price of \$3170. Send application and check payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account and mail to Bill Kurtz, 1115 Olive Branch Ln., San Jose, CA 95120.

**July 10 to 28, 2013 ♦ Baltic Cruise: London to St. Petersburg and back ♦**

(Br 62) We transfer to SFO, fly to London and transfer to Southampton to board the Crown Princess for a 14 day cruise of the North and Baltic Seas. We call at Oslo, Norway with its rich Viking history; Gothenburg, Sweden with cobblestone streets and a wonderful coastline and archipelago; Tallinn, Estonia, remarkably unchanged since 1154 AD; then a two day call in St. Petersburg, Russia, capital of the Tsars and Venice in the North. We continue to Helsinki, Finland, center of Finnish culture and commerce; Stockholm, Sweden, on 14 islands with parks and museums including the 600 room Royal Palace; Copenhagen, Denmark a fairy tale city with copper green towers, gingerbread houses and cobblestone streets; and Brussels, Belgium whose diverse architecture ranges from medieval to

post-modern; returning to Southampton for transfer to our flight home. **Come for a trip presentation by the Princess Cruise Sales Manager at Mama Mia's, August 23, 2012 10:30 AM (please reserve).** The cost will range from \$3950 for an interior stateroom to \$4795 or \$4890 for a balcony cabin, to \$5445 for a Mini Suite. Prices are per person double occupancy, not including air fare which is not yet available, but use of air-line miles is allowed. We are considering a few extra days to see the sights of London (to be discussed at the August presentation). For information, a brochure and to reserve a spot at the presentation call escorts Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226 or 408-241-4421) or Roy Jordan (408-735-8765).

**August 10-17, 2013 ♦ Colorado Gold Mines & Ghost Towns♦** Tour Escorts (Br 153) Ralph Hunt (650-967-8467) and (Br 125) Alan Patmore (408-867-4197). Enjoy spectacular scenery throughout as you experience places in Colorado few get to see. It is off the highways and byways and into the wilderness! Tour inclusions are many and include round-trip home pickup. Seven night hotel accommodations and much more. Price for double occupancy is \$2,085 with \$2,475 for a single. All prices include admissions to all attractions, taxes, baggage handling and a Talbot Tours gift. Mail completed application and deposit to Ralph Hunt, 13158 Diericx Drive, Mountain View, CA 94040.

**October 15-26, 2013 ♦Cruise Canada & New England♦** (Br 141) Escorts Brian Serpa (408-227-7658) and Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245). This 12 day trip begins and ends in San Francisco. The first day is a flight from San Francisco to New York with an evening and the next morning in New York City. Then board the Emerald Princess for a 10 night cruise up the New England coast and into Canada. Ports of call are Newport, Boston, Bar Harbor, Saint John, Halifax, Sydney, Charlottetown and Quebec City. Costs range from

\$2985 to \$3890 depending on cabin selection. This price includes home pick-up and return, roundtrip air transportation, 10 nights aboard the Emerald Princess, all shipboard meals and entertainment, luggage handling, pre-night in New York City, all transfers between airport, ship and pier and hotel, all applicable taxes, including air, government and port taxes, all driver & porter gratuities, pre-trip orientation and a Talbot Tour gift. A retired military onboard credit of \$100 is available. Deposits are payable by check or credit card to Talbot Tours Trust Account. Mail deposit and registration to: Brian Serpa, 6091 Pietz Ct., San Jose, CA 95123.

**\*\*\*\*\*NEW TRIP\*\*\*\*\***

**Oct. 10 – 15, 2013 \* Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta & Santa Fe\***

(Br 38) Escorts, Bill Rodman - (408) 274-4521 & Hank Clark - (408) 223-6466. Coach departs The Villages & possibly Capitol Light Rail station. Fly from San Jose or San Francisco to Albuquerque, NM. Highlights..... Balloon Fiesta, Old Town Albuquerque, Nuclear Science & History Museum, Indian Cultural Museum, Turquoise Trail, Santa Fe, Loretto Chapel, Santa Fe School of Cooking with optional excursions, including Taos. Brochures available in August, 2012 with presentation to be scheduled in September, 2012.

**\*\*\*\*State 55<sup>th</sup> SIR Anniversary Cruise.\*\*\*\***

**August 28-September 7, 2013 ♦ Cruise to Alaska♦**

State 55<sup>th</sup> SIR Anniversary Cruise. The Grand Princess departs and returns to San Francisco on this 11 day cruise with ports of call at Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Ketchikan and Victoria, BC. Costs range from \$1,579 to \$3,300 pp double occupancy depending on cabin selection. See your Branch Travel Chair for brochures and sign up information.