



## TRAVEL BULLETIN

April 2014

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. 33, No. 4 April 2014

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.

### \*\*\*\*\*PRESENTATION\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 2:30 PM for the Jan. 13-28, 2015 Hawaii Cruise aboard the Star Princess.** At Mama Mia's Restaurant, 200 E. Hamilton Ave., Campbell, CA. A Princess Cruise Rep. will join us and offer a Special Reduced Deposit Opportunity! Please RSVP to Don House (408-268-1703) or Allen Daily (408-265-8140).

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

**MAY 2, 2014. ♦ Horse Racing at Golden Gate Fields♦** (Br 32 & 54). Escorts: Mike Console (408) 246-1080 and John Pletsch (408) 274-2992 Come watch your favorite thoroughbred cross the finish line and then collect your winnings. Also included in the trip for your enjoyment is a hosted lunch in the Turf Club, Turf Club seating, motor coach transportation and driver gratuity. Cost is \$95 per person (Check or Credit Card) payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct. Mail application to John Pletsch 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121. Deadline is April 15.

### \*\*\*\*\*OVERNIGHT AND LONGER TRIPS\*\*\*\*\*

**April 6-13, 2014 ♦California Coastal Cruise♦** (Br 141) Escorts Brian Serpa (408-227-7658) and Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245). This 8 day cruise starts and ends in San Francisco. Home pick-up and delivery so no driving is required. Ports include Santa Barbara, San Diego, Los Angeles (Long Beach), and Ensenada, Mexico. Trip cost includes home pick up, all meals and entertainment on board the Grand Princess, luggage handling of one suitcase per person, one bottle of wine per cabin, all taxes and fees. Costs range from \$1095 to \$1545 pp/dbl occ depending on cabin selection (insurance not included). Captain's circle members may qualify for a discount at time of booking. Princess Cruises has certain dates available where only a \$100 deposit is required which qualifies the traveler for a \$325 onboard coupon book as well. Also retired military will receive an onboard credit of \$100 by completing the application and returning it along with the appropriate military discharge paper. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table or contact one of the Br. 141 escorts. 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.

**June 3-14, 2014 ♦Alaska Cruise, Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Star Princess♦** (Br 38) Escorts Bill Rodman (408-274-4521) and Hank Clark (408-223-6466). NO FLIGHTS....This 11 day cruise starts and ends in San

Francisco. Cruise through the Golden Gate on your way to and from Alaska. We stop at 4 ports of call: Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway & Victoria, B.C. We'll also cruise beautiful Glacier Bay. 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. Plus...one cocktail party on board. Prices range from \$2185 to \$3785 per person, double occupancy, depending on stateroom category. Deposit of \$550 per person. Higher deposit if traveling as a single. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table. Brochure is also available 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.

**July 8-12, 2014 ♦ Oregon Shakespeare Festival♦** (Br 54 & 32) Escorts Mike Console (408-246-1080) and John Pletsch (408-274-2992). In Ashland, Oregon a five day bus tour featuring two lite comedy productions (Cocoanuts & 2 Men from Verona), and a Cabaret show "Ain't Misbehavin'." Tours of Harry & David's Country Store and Kitchens in Medford, OR, Lille Belle Farms Chocolate Shop, National Historic Village Town of Jacksonville, and the Blue Ox Millworks in Eureka, CA where we will spend one night at the Bear River Casino Resort. We will also make other stops on the way both going and coming back, such as a hosted lunch in Redding, and a stop in Napa Valley at the V. Sattue Winery, where we will enjoy a Tour followed by a Wine Tasting and Box Lunch before returning to San Jose. Costs include, insurance, tickets to shows, 9 meals, bus driver and guides tips, baggage handling, and four nights of deluxe accommodations. Cost is \$1375 pp, dbl occ or \$380 additional if single. Deposit of \$300 pp to secure your reservation. Make checks payable to: **Cruise Adventures Unlimited/Trust Account** and mail to Mike Console, 3527 Parkland Ave., San Jose, CA 95117.

**July 21-24, 2014 ♦ Festival of the Arts Featuring "Pageant of the Masters"♦** (Br 32 & 54) Escorts John Pletsch (408-274-2992) and Mike Console (408-246-1080). Pageant of the Masters is a performance of "living paintings" re-creations of classical and contemporary works with real people posing to look exactly like their counterparts in the original pieces. In addition to the pageant the trip also includes cruise to **Catalina Island**, a visit to the Hollywood Museum and the **Space Shuttle Endeavor**. Tour includes home pickup, round trip air to Southern California, 3 nights at the Buena Park Holiday Inn, 5 meals (3 breakfasts, 2 dinners). Cost \$1335 dbl occ (\$1530 single sup). Deposit \$385 with insurance, \$300 without insurance. Final payment due May 5, 2014. Send application and payment check or credit card payable to Talbot Tours Trust Acct and mail to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave., San Jose, CA 95121.

**August 18-25, 2014 ♦ Canadian Rockies♦** (Br 114) Tour escorts Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) and Larry Martinson (408-528-0746). We will be traveling in the world famous Rocky Mountaineer for two days, a sightseeing train that passes through pristine wilderness, inaccessible by any other means. You'll see towering mountain ranges, waterfalls, snow-capped glaciers and big game animals. The train travels only in daylight, so guests don't miss a thing. Renowned for its service and food, the Rocky Mountaineer is an experience of a lifetime. In addition, we will be visiting other scenic sites, such as Vancouver, Jasper, Lake Louise and Banff, staying at deluxe Fairmont Hotels (Jasper Park Lodge, Chateau Lake Louise, and the Banff Springs Hotel). Tour includes 7 breakfasts, 5 at hotels and 2 on train, 2 lunches on train and dinner at the Chateau Lake Louise. Also included: GRATUITIES and TRIP INSURANCE, transfers, baggage handling, Canadian taxes, National Park passes and AIRFARE. Costs range from \$5265 pp dbl occ (Red), \$5735 (Silver) and \$6150 (gold). Substantial savings in each category for the first 10 couples that sign up: see brochure for details. Send application and \$750 deposit per person, payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account and mail to Jim Stoner, 8458 Traminer Court, San Jose, CA 95135. Brochure available.

**Sept. 5-12, 2014 ♦ Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod and Rhode Island Mansions in the Fall♦** (Br 21) Escorts Dick Kohl (408-268-0428) and Bill Kurtz (408-268-8830). This trip to New England includes visits to Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod and Rhode Island Mansions. There are many other sights and events too numerous for this announcement. All the details are shown on the brochures at your monthly meetings. Tour price includes gratuities, many meals, hotel accommodations, tour guides, motor coach, airfare and all attractions. You also only have to unpack twice! Complete trip cost is only \$2676 pp dbl occ.

**Oct. 12-Nov. 8, 2014 ♦ Cruise the Islands of Spain & Portugal♦** (Br 141) Escorts Brian Serpa (408-227-7658) and Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245). Princess has combined two cruise segments to make this a Grand Experience you will never forget. The first is 12 days covering the Island of Madeira Portugal, three ports in the Canary Islands and Santiago Spain. If you choose this segment you will fly San Francisco to London and cruise round-trip from Southampton. On the full 25 day cruise you will also enjoy the exciting ports of Le Havre France for Paris and the "Beaches of Normandy" then Lisbon Portugal, the Azores Islands, and finally a Tran-Atlantic crossing to Bermuda, before arriving in Ft Lauderdale for your flight home. Home pick-ups, pre-night in Southampton, Sabatini's Dinner Cover charge, cocktail party, and bottle of wine per cabin are included in the cost. Also included are roundtrip air transportation, all nights aboard the Emerald Princess, all shipboard meals and entertainment, luggage handling, all

transfers between airport, ship and pier, and hotel; all taxes including air, government fees and port taxes, and all driver and porter gratuities. Costs range from \$3895 to \$4925 pp/dbl occ for the 12 day trip depending on cabin selection (insurance not included). Costs for the full 25 day cruise range from \$5395 to \$6995 pp/dbl occ depending on cabin selection (insurance not included). Captain's circle members may qualify for a discount at time of booking. Princess Cruises has certain dates available where only a \$100 deposit is required which qualifies the traveler for a \$325 onboard coupon book as well. Also retired military will receive an onboard credit of \$100 for the first segment, and \$250 for the full cruise, by completing the application and returning it along with the appropriate military discharge paper. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table or contact one of the Br. 141 escorts. 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.

**November 4-17, 2014 ♦Spain (13 days)♦** (Br 62) Escorts Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226) and Roy Jordan (408-735-8765). We plan 13 days to experience historic and culturally diverse Spain, including 6 UNESCO World Heritage sites, but we only have to pack three times. We arrive in Madrid (4 nights) with a city tour and time to explore the many cultural attractions such as the famous Prado Museum. Optional day trips from Madrid to Segovia (stunning medieval architecture) and Toledo (influences from Romans, Jews, Catholics, Muslims and more) are available. From Madrid we proceed to Valencia (4 nights) with a stop en route to explore the breathtaking mountaintop city of Cuenca. Valencia, one of Spain's oldest cities, features a rich blend of Moorish architecture, medieval squares, and contemporary avant-guard buildings. We will have a panoramic city tour, a tour of the Lladro porcelain factory and museum, and free time to explore. A half day optional tour to Manises and Lake Albufera (an expansive lagoon and nature reserve) is available from Valencia. Next it's on to Barcelona for 4 nights, with a tour of the coastal city of Tarragona (Roman constructions) en route. Barcelona is noted for Catalan Modernist architecture (notably Antoni Gaudi's Sagrada Familia cathedral) in addition to the 17<sup>th</sup> century fortress Castel de Montjuic. There is also an optional day tour of the Cordoniu Winery and the jagged Montserrat mountain range. The cost has been reduced to \$3395, and that is either pp/dbl occ or sgl. Also there is a discount for early payment. The cost includes all air fare, accommodations, tours, taxes, gratuities, all breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners, and transfers between cities. There is also an optional pre-trip to Basque Country (Bilbao and San Sebastian) and an optional post-trip to Malaga on the Costa del Sol. Each optional trip is for 4 nights and costs \$795. Call Jim for a brochure or pick one up from your Branch travel table.

**Jan 13-28, 2015 ♦Hawaiian Islands Cruise♦ Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Star Princess** (Br 74) Escorts, Don House (408-268-1703) & Allen Daily (408-265-8140). NO FLIGHTS....This 15-night 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), and Ensenada (Mexico). Special features include transportation to and from San Francisco pier, driver and stevedore tips for 1 suitcase per person, 1 bottle of wine per stateroom, two on-board cocktail parties, port taxes and Government fees. Also included Travel Guard Protection Plan to cover pre-existing medical conditions. Prices range from \$2420 to \$3875 pp/dbl occ depending on stateroom category. Deposit of \$900 includes insurance. (Ask about reduced-deposit promotions from Princess Cruises). Deposits payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account. Send deposit and application to: Don House, 6770 Crystal Springs Ct., San Jose, 95120.

**Feb. 4-19, 2015 ♦Panama Canal Cruise♦** (Br 141) Escorts Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245) and Brian Serpa (408-227-7658). This 16 day cruise starts in Los Angeles and ends in Ft. Lauderdale. It will highlight the 100 year anniversary of the canal and the completion of the canal third lane that accommodates the large ships of our time. Home pick-up and delivery so no driving is required. Ports include Cabo San Lucas, San Juan del Sur in Nicaragua, Puntarenas in Costa Rica, Cartagena and Aruba. Trip cost includes home pick up to the San Jose Airport and return from Ft. Lauderdale, 15 night luxury cruise aboard the Island Princess, all shipboard meals and entertainment, luggage handling of one suitcase per person, one bottle of wine per cabin, all taxes and fees. Costs range from \$3270 to \$4080 pp/dbl occ depending on cabin selection (insurance not included). Captain's circle members and retired military may qualify for discounts at time of booking. Princess Cruises has certain dates available where only a \$100 deposit is required which qualifies the traveler for a \$325 onboard coupon book as well. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table or contact one of the Br. 141 escorts. Deposits are 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.

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

**November 19 & 20, 2014 ♦Annual Christmas Show at Eldorado, Reno♦**(Br 74) Escorts Allen Daily and Don House.

**November 2014 ♦Branson♦** (Br 38) Escorts Bill Rodman and Hank Clark. Detailed information will be in future Travel Bulletins.