



**TRAVEL BULLETIN**  
February 2016  
Chairman/Assistant Br.35: Ed Pausa/Walter Weber

COORDINATED TRAVEL COMMITTEE  
AREAS 5 & 20  
TRAVEL COORDINATOR  
Rollo Parsons (408) 268-5245

**→→→→ 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. 35, No. 02 February 2016**

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, and 114). It is sent without charge to each interested SIR in these Areas.

**\*\*\*\*\*UPCOMING EVENTS\*\*\*\*\***

**October, 2016 ♦ Fleet Week Air Show Cruise ♦**  
(Br 62) Escorts Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226) and Roy Jordan (408-735-8765). Watch the 2016 Fleet Week Air Show from San Francisco Bay on a lunch cruise aboard the iconic San Francisco Belle. The price has not been set (last year it was \$170) but will include bus transfer from San Jose (Capitol VTA Parking Lot), the cruise with lunch buffet, sparkling wine, orange juice, soft drinks, coffee & tea (wine, beer & cocktails available for purchase onboard). The exact date of Fleet Week won't be known for a while, watch future Travel Bulletins for the date and price or watch your branch travel display for a brochure.

**\*\*\*\*\*NEW TRIPS\*\*\*\*\***

**October 15-23, 2016 ♦ Paddle Wheel Cruise up the Columbia & Snake Rivers ♦** (Br 74) Escorts: Allen Daily (408-265-8140) and Don House (408-268-1703). Fly to Portland for an overnight stay prior to boarding the elegant AMERICAN EMPRESS Paddlewheeler for a 7 night cruise up the scenic Columbia and Snake Rivers to Clarkston, WA.

The price includes Group Insurance, wine with dinner, a private cocktail party, transfers and skycap tips and more. See the brochure for details. Cabins with verandas vary from \$3,850 to \$4,935pp. dbl. occ

**December 30, 2016 – Jan 9, 2017 ♦ New Year Mexico Cruise, Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Grand Princess ♦** (Br 38) Escorts Bill Rodman (408-274-4521) and Hank Clark (408-223-6466). **NO FLIGHTS....** We'll be bussed directly to the pier from your choice of The Villages or Capitol light rail station. Celebrate the **New Year at sea**. Space will be limited – please reserve early. This 10 day cruise starts and ends in San Francisco. Cruise through the Golden Gate on your way to and from Mexico. We stop at 4 ports of call: Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, Mazatlan and Cabo San Lucas. Transportation to and from San Francisco pier from The Villages & Capitol Light Rail Station. One bottle of wine per stateroom, port taxes, taxes on included items, Group Protection Plan and porter tips for 1 suitcase per person. Plus...**two private cocktail parties** on board. Prices range from \$2140 to \$3255 per person, double occupancy, depending on stateroom category. Deposit of \$800 per person; higher deposit if traveling as a single. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table. Brochure and application is also available on SIR 38 website: <http://branch38.sirinc2.org/> or by calling Bill Rodman. 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.

**February 3 - 18, 2017 ♦ Hawaii 16-day Grand Princess cruise from SF** ♦ (Br 141) Co-escorts: Brian Serpa (408-227-7658) & Rollo Parsons (408-268-5245). Cruise roundtrip from San Francisco on a 16-day cruise to Hawaii stopping at Hilo (Hawaii), Honolulu (Oahu), Lahaina (Maui), Nawiliwili (Kauai), and Ensenada (Mexico). Cruise fare includes home pick-up, gratuities for drivers and porters, port taxes, 1 bottle of wine per stateroom, all meals onboard, and shipboard entertainment, (onboard gratuities excluded) and return transfers to your home. Cruise fares range from \$1695 pp/inside to \$3095 pp/mini-suite, without insurance. Discounts and promotions may be available from Princess. Talbot Tours will confirm latest discount at time of booking. Make checks payable to: Talbot Tours Trust Account, and mail to 1952 Camden Ave, San Jose, CA 95124. Brochures available from your branch travel chairman or from tour co-escorts.

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

**Saturday April 9, 2016♦ACT OF GOD** ♦ (Br 54 &32) Escorts: Mike Console (408-246-1080) and John Pletsch (408-274-2992). A one day trip to see "Act of God" at San Francisco's Golden Gate Theater. This is a comedy starring Sean Hayes which received rave reviews in New York. The New York Times wrote:...Deliriously funny.... It's Jon Stewart Funny---Plus Stephen Colbert Funny. Vanity Fair's comment: ---"Sinfully funny! A divine comedy!" Emmy Award winner, Sean Hayes stars in the play as the Almighty, He and his Angels have finally arrived to set the record straight on some of the deepest questions that have plagued mankind since Creation---and he's not holding back! Cost of \$155 per person includes: Bus Transportation, Orchestra Seating on the main floor, Driver gratuities, No host Lunch and time for browsing at pier 39 before the show. Checks only accepted. Make Checks Payable to: Cruise Adventures Unlimited Mail checks to: Mike Console 3527 Parkland Ave. San Jose, Ca. 95117. Don't wait on this one, deadline for tickets is February 17, 2016.

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

**Feb. 12-March 2, 2016 ♦Australia & New Zealand Cruise**♦ (Br 114 Escorts, Larry Martinson (408) 528-0746 and Jim Stoner (408) 238-8458. Fly out of San Jose to L.A. to Sydney. On arrival in Sydney, we go on a guided tour of Sydney including an inside visit and tour of the Opera House. We then board the MV Sydney 2000 for a bay cruise including a Seafood Buffet lunch before we arrive at the Rydges World Square Hotel for a two night stay. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> we board the **Princess Diamond** with stops at Melbourne, Hobart (Tasmania), Fiordland National Park in New Zealand, Dunedin (Port Chalmers) N.Z, Akaroa, N.Z, Picton, N.Z, Wellington, N.Z, Tauranga, N.Z, ending this 15 night cruise in Auckland. Trip includes air, transfers, all shipboard meals, entertainment, two group cocktail parties, one bottle

of wine per cabin, all port taxes and government fees. **Also included is Trip Insurance covering pre-existing medical conditions.** Prices range from \$6,085 Interior, \$6,625 for Ocean View and \$7,315 for Balcony pp/dbl/occ. Deposit is \$1,400 per person. Send application and deposit payable to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account to Larry Martinson, 9029 Village View Dr. San Jose, CA. 95135. Brochures available at your SIR Branch travel table.

**April 16 - 25, 2016 ♦Heritage of America♦**

(Br 38) Escorts, Bill Rodman (408) 274-4521 & Hank Clark (408) 223-6464. Ten day escorted tour. Highlights... New York City, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Gettysburg, Shenandoah Valley, Monticello, Colonial Williamsburg, Mount Vernon, Washington DC, Smithsonian Institution. You'll be picked up at The Villages or Capitol Light Rail Station in San Jose. These & one optional excursion are exciting destinations with details described in our brochure – available now to view & print on the Br 38 website: <http://branch38.sirinc2.org/> Printed brochures available at your branch travel table or, call Br 38 escorts or, e-mail [brodman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brodman@sbcglobal.net). There is now a waiting list for this trip. Also covered in the \$3399 pp dbl occupancy are Cancellation & Waiver Insurance of \$240 pp, air taxes & fees/surcharges, hotel transfers, gratuities & RT air fare from San Francisco & transportation to/from the airport. First deposit of \$490 pp (which includes cancellation & waiver insurance) is due upon reservation. Make checks payable to COLLETTE or use the Credit Card Authorization Form (included in the brochure) & mail, along with your application, to Bill Rodman, 2025 Folle Blanche Dr, San Jose, CA 95135.

**May 11-21, 2016 ♦Alaska Cruise, Roundtrip from San Francisco aboard the Grand Princess**♦ (Br 74) Escorts: Don House (408-268-1703) and Allen Daily (408-265-8140). **NO FLIGHTS** ....This 10 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: Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan & Victoria, B.C. We'll also cruise beautiful Glacier Bay. Included: Transportation to and from San Francisco pier from Capitol Light Rail Parking Lot, 1 bottle of wine per stateroom, port taxes, Travelex Group Protection Plan and porter tips for 1 suitcase per person. Plus...two cocktail parties on board. Prices range from \$2150 to \$3270 per person, double occupancy, depending on stateroom category. Deposit of \$700 per person. Higher deposit if traveling as a single. Brochures available at your SIR branch travel table. Deposits payable by check or credit card to Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account. Mail deposit and application to: Don House, 6770 Crystal Springs Ct., San Jose, CA 95120.

**June 3-19, 2016 ♦ GREAT AMERICAN**

**WATERWAYS** ♦ Branch's 54 & 32 Escorted by Mike Console (408) 246-1080 and John Pletsch (408) 274-2992. A 15 night Cruise on a small Boat (88 passengers). This classic adventure starts in Chicago, Ill from the famous Navy Pier and will sail across four of the great Lakes, down the Erie Canal, to the Hudson River, through New York Harbor, past the Statue of Liberty and finally disembarking in Warren Rhode Island. We will explore many charming towns, such as the Victorian era Mackinac Island. Other port stops include: Cleveland OH, Erie PA, Buffalo, Rochester, Oswell, Sylvan Beach, Troy, Kingston and West Point (all in New York). Optional tours include: Niagara Falls, Baseball Hall of Fame, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Roosevelt Home & Museum, Ford Museum, and West Point Military Academy, plus others. The Blount Small Ships Cruise Lines features a relaxed Cruising Adventure, has excellent food with Beer & Wine included at lunch & dinner. They have a BYOB policy if you want the hard stuff. There are four cabin categories and prices range from \$5560 to \$7890 per person/dbl occ, plus Insurance. Costs include: round trip home pick-up, R/T Air Fare, all port charges and taxes, cabins and all meals on board ship. A deposit of \$500 plus insurance per person is required to reserve your cabin. Make Checks Payable to: TALBOT TOURS TRUST ACCOUNT. Mail checks to: Mike Console, 3527 Parkland Ave., San Jose, CA. 95117.

**July 11-23, 2016 ♦ Eastern Europe to Black Sea (13 days)** ♦ (Br 62) Escorts: Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226) and Roy Jordan (408-735-8765). After 2 nights in Budapest, Hungary we embark on a cruise down the lower Danube to Belgrade, Serbia, through the Iron Gates, transit the Danube-Black Sea Canal to Constanta on the Black Sea and then by bus to Bucharest, Romania. We will make stops in Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania. There will be included and optional tours at various stops along the way. There are also optional extensions to Vienna (3 nights) or Prague (4 nights) and Transylvania (3 nights) or Istanbul (4 nights). The price ranges from \$4670 to \$5670 pp/dbl. occ. including air fare, single supplement (limited availability) is \$595. Deposit is \$500. Contact Jim or Roy for a brochure, information, or to sign up.

**AUGUST 3-7, 2016 ♦ Alaska's Ultimate Fishing**

**Adventure** ♦ (Br. 114) Tour escorts Larry Martinson (408-528-0746) and Jim Stoner (408-238-8458) 4-night Fishing adventure in Ketchikan, Alaska at the Salmon Falls Resort. GUIDED EXCURSIONS DAILY, four people to a cabin cruiser going for Salmon, Halibut and Lingcod. Fine dining back at the Lodge with renowned Chefs and menu service. For those of you that have had an ultimate Alaska Fishing Trip on your Bucket list, this is a trip of a lifetime for you. Bring your Fishing Buddies, (wife, children, grandchildren and/or friends) for an unmatched bonding experience. Salmon Falls Resort offers world class fishing, magnificent

scenery, abundant wildlife, gourmet meals and unrivaled Alaskan hospitality. For those non fishermen, enjoy excursions to see Bears catching fish with Eagles flying above among other wondrous sights. (See Brochure for all that is included). Cost is \$3795 per person double occup. Single supplement \$600. Price includes round trip air for you and your vacuum packed boxed Fish. Please send your application and \$700 per person deposit payable to "Cruise Adventures Unlimited Trust Account" to Larry Martinson, 9029 Village View Dr., San Jose, 95135. Detailed brochure available at your SIR Travel Table, or call Larry or Jim.

**September 6-17, 2016 ♦ Colors of Canada & New England** ♦ (Br 32) Escorts: John Pletsch (408-274-2992)

and (408-504-1255) and Mike Console (408-246-1080). 10 day cruise from New York City to Quebec City aboard **Holland America's ms Zuiderdam** plus one night in New York City. Enjoy stops in Gloucester Mass, Bar Harbor Maine, Halifax and Sydney Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island and Quebec City. Cruise the scenic Gulf of St Lawrence and the sights of Saquenay Fjord. \$3325 to \$4125 depending on cabin choice. Deposit \$600 w/o insurance or \$921 to \$1011 with insurance. Final payment date is May 6, 2016. Send Deposit along with application payable to "Talbot Tours Trust Account" to John Pletsch, 2697 Suisun Ave, San Jose, CA 95121.

**November 12-23, 2016 ♦ Panama Canal Cruise & Panama (12 days)** ♦ (Br 62) Escorts: Roy Jordan (408-735-8765) and Jim Hohenshelt (408-394-7226). This trip is

centered on Panama itself with visits to Panama City, Chitre, and the Gamboa Rain Forest, but includes a two day complete passage through the Canal on a 24 passenger catamaran. Tour the Canal Administration building and the Expansion Project Visitor Center and cross the Canal (Gaillard Cut) on the Centennial Bridge. Spend a night anchored in Gatun Lake and see the Gatun Dam and hydroelectric plant. Walk the nature walks and if you choose, explore by kayak. Experience Panama's Spanish colonial heritage, lush rain forest, and local crafts. Become acquainted with the indigenous Embera people, shop, and try local cuisine. Optional extensions to the wild archipelago of Bocas del Toro and Cartagena, Columbia are available. The price is \$4770 pp/dbl. occ. or \$5315 single, including air fare. Deposit is \$500, but early sign up discounts up to 4% are available for full payment in advance. Contact Jim or Roy for a brochure, information, or to sign up.