



San Jose IBM Retirement Club Newsletter



December, 2005

Volume XX

Number 12

PRESIDENT'S CHAT

Merry Christmas to one and all! By the time you read this, the Holiday Party will have happened (unless you are an early online reader) and I'm sure those of you who attended enjoyed the evening. We can talk about that next month, as this is the last Newsletter for the year 2005! I am really puzzled as to how we got to December so quickly.

At last Board Meeting, some of our outstanding members were recognized, including Walt Cole and Ed Mueller. They have been doing their jobs longer than the rest of the Executive Board. The jobs they do for the Club require expertise that only a few of the members have, and we do appreciate Walt and Ed very much. The next time you see them, why not pat them on the back or give them a round of applause with a hearty Thank You!!!

At next board meeting, the incoming officers will be there pushing the 2005 officers out the door and you might want to be there. If so, we meet in the West Room of the Building 11 cafeteria at 10:00 AM on Thursday, December 15. Hope to see you then. I wish for everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Full and Happy New Year.

Happy Trails, Ina Havens

Hikes

Sawyer Camp Trail Hike

January 20, 2006 10:00 AM

We had quite a large group on this hike last time, so we thought we'd do a repeat for our first hike of 2006. We will be visiting Sawyer Camp Trail, which is located just off Highway 280 in San Mateo County. The trail parallels picturesque Crystal Springs Lake and San Andreas Lake. The pristine watershed area surrounding the trail is recognized as a Fish Wildlife refuge and a Biosphere Reserve. The trail is paved and relatively flat, suitable for hikers of all levels. Restrooms and benches are conveniently located along the trail. On this out and back walk, we plan to cover about 7 miles, stopping midway for lunch at the Jepson Laurel area, where the largest and oldest known laurel tree in California stands. For those who prefer a shorter hike, there are distance markers every 1/2 mile and you can turn around at any point. Bicycles are permitted on the trail, which is paved for 6 miles.

To get to the trail, travel north on Highway 280. You will exit at Bunker Hill Road, which is the exit just after Highway 92 (about 22 miles north of the 280/85 junction). After exiting, make a left turn to cross over the freeway, then a right turn on to the frontage road. Continue on the road, crossing over the bridge. You can park anywhere close to the stop sign. We will meet at the trail entrance, which is on the left. People wanting to car pool, meet at the Camden Park & Ride (Camden & Hwy 85) at 9:00. Don't forget lunch and water.

Contact: Gil or Julie Feller, 247-6769

Quarter Century Club

The QC Club offers a variety of trips and they welcome Retirement club members and their friends on any of them. Some of these upcoming trips are listed below.

Salt Lake City/Grand Tetons/Yellowstone/ Black Hills/Mount Rushmore/Denver

July 18-26 or August 19-27, 2006

9 days plus 16 meals, \$1890

Southwest National Parks/Las Vegas/

June 4-9 or October 1-6, 2006

6 days plus 10 meals, \$995

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta/

New Mexico's "Land of Enchantment"

October 7-27, 2006

7 days plus 12 meals, \$1725

Southern Italy - Amalfi/Positano/Sorrento/

Isle of Capri/Rome/Naples/Pompeii

November 7-15, 2006

7 nights plus 21 meals, Price: TBD

Contact:

Hal Calkins

408 267-6699

calkinshouse@sbcglobal.net

San Jose IBM Retirement Club

Dept DKTA/F005 SVL
555 Bailey Ave.
San Jose, CA 95141

OFFICERS:

President:

Ina Havens 847-4793
cliffina@juno.com

Vice-President:

Art Dill (831) 338-3069
ArtHDill@comcast.net

Secretary:

Pat Alligood 779-3077
pat_alligood@msn.com

Treasurer:

Bernie Coullahan 356-5311
becoul@yahoo.com

Membership:

Ed Mueller
ibmsjrc@hotmail.com

Communications:

Walt Cole 972-1178
opawalt@pacbell.net

Directors-at-Large:

Maureen Sweet (831) 636-8851
sweetone@hollinet.com

Ruth Price 356-8975
ruthprice@comcast.net

Brian Serpa 227-7658
bserpa@sbcglobal.net

COMMITTEES:

Sunshine:

Topsy Thompson 377-4314
Topray4314@aol.com

Community Service

Adopt-A-Highway:

Doug & Evelyn Dean 264-9502
dougnevie@comcast.net

Hard Drive Fitness Club:

John Czerniec 224-6230
jzern@earthlink.net

Past Presidents/Advisors:

Mel Olsen 972-2449
molsen9878@AOL.Com

Ed Henschel 270-4142
eezyed@sbcglobal.net

Gino Bottoni 377-8593
Bill Souza 356-6280

BSouza6280@aol.com

Glen Furlong
GFurlongSr@aol.com

Terry Milinic' 265-5908
Theresano1@yahoo.com

Ron Harlan 266-7639
rharlan@sbcglobal.net

George Nale 779-4275
geoandizn@cs.com

Ina Havens 847-4793
cliffina@juno.com

Ernie Veal 224-3584
ecveal@juno.com

George Walker 268-7623
georgewalker@yahoo.com

Membership Report

Ed Mueller

e-mail: ibmsjrc@hotmail.com

November 17, 2005

Membership History

| Year | October | November |
|------|---------|----------|
| 1995 | 1555 | 1561 |
| 2004 | 2074 | 2081 |
| 2005 | 2092 | 2096 |

New Members

Connie Bonnell

Rolf Klenk

Daniel Manning

John Morris

Sue Otsuka

In Memoriam

Charles Acelin

Robert Carter

James Denholm

Marjorie Mapes

Wilmur "Mac" McMillan

William Robinson

Vincie G. "Vinnie" Seely

Next Club Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 15, 2005

10:00 am,

Hitachi/IBM Cottle Rd.

Cafeteria, Bldg 011

The San Jose IBM Retirement Club Newsletter is intended for use by members of the Club and their families. Contributions are the sole responsibility of the authors and should not be construed to represent an official position of the San Jose IBM Retirement Club or the IBM Corp.

Change of Address

If your address label is incorrect, or you have moved or are planning to move, please inform Ed Mueller, the Membership Director.

Send your new address and phone number by mail or e-mail.

Mail: send to:

San Jose IBM Retirement Club
Dept DKTA/F005 SVL
555 Bailey Ave.
San Jose, CA 95141

e-mail: ibmsjrc@hotmail.com

Sunshine Report

Robert Baker has throat cancer and is doing o-k currently. He moved to Billings, Montana, to be with his children.

Please, folks, let me know if you are ill. I would love to talk with you. The Holiday Season is upon us, and I want to take this time and wish you all well. Please stay that way.

Happy Holidays,

**Topsy Thompson,
the Sunshine Lady!!
(408) 377-4314**

IBM Retirement Club Web Site:

www.sjpc.org/sjrc

The current month's newsletter is available at the web site above **before you get it in the mail**. It is there by about the first of the month. Click on **Newsletters** when you get to the web site. The newsletter is in PDF format and can be viewed, saved and/or printed with the free Adobe Reader program.

If you think you need help to do this, consider signing up for a SeniorNet computer course in January, after the holidays. See page 12.

Contact:

Walt Cole

408 972-1178, opawalt@pacbell.net

TRIPS & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

| Date | Event | TAR | Page | Contact | Phone |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----|------|------------------------|--------------|
| Dec 6, 2005 | Holiday Dinner/Dance | | -- | Art Dill | 831 338-3069 |
| Dec 8, 2005 | Adopt-a-Highway | | 9 | Doug & Evelyn Dean | 264-9502 |
| Dec 10, 2005 | SPEBSQUSA Show | | 7 | Fred Grometer | 264-9157 |
| Dec 10, 2005 | Honky Tonk Angels Holiday Show Sold Out | | -- | Topsy Thompson | 377-4314 |
| Dec 15, 2005 | IBM Retirement Club Board Meeting | 1 | 2 | Ina Havens | 847-4793 |
| Jan 9, 2006 | Indian Casino: Thunder Valley | | 7 | Topsy Thompson | 377-4314 |
| Jan 11, 2006 | Adopt-a-Highway | | 9 | Doug & Evelyn Dean | 264-9502 |
| Jan 20, 2006 | Hike: Sawyer Camp Trail | | 1 | Gil & Julie Feller | 247-6769 |
| Jan 26, 2006 | Walking/Cultural: Calpine Power Plant | | 8 | Fred Grometer | 264-9157 |
| Feb 15, 2006 | Horse Racing - Golden Gate Fields | | 7 | George & Isobel Nale | 779-4275 |
| Mar 12-14, 2006 | Reno Circus Circus Winter Special | | 4 | Glen or Ruth Furlong | 378-8226 |
| Mar 22 - Apr 8, 2006 | China | | 4 | George & Isobel Nale | 779-4275 |
| Apr 3, 2006 | Indian Casino: Jackson Rancheria | | 7 | Topsy Thompson | 377-4314 |
| Apr 6-21, 2006 | New Zealand | | 4 | George & Carole Walker | 268 7623 |
| Apr 18-27, 2006 | America's Canyonlands | | 5 | Ron & Heidi Harlan | 266-7639 |
| May 1-20, 2006 | Russia/Eastern Europe | | 5 | Art & Sharry Dill | 831 338-3069 |
| June 4-9, 2006 Oct 1-6, 2006 | QCC: Southwest National Parks, Las Vegas | | 1 | Hal Calkins | 267-6699 |
| June 9-18, 2006 | Portland Rose Parade & Canadian Pacific Northwest | | 6 | Bill & Madeline Souza | 356-6280 |
| July 10, 2006 | Indian Casino: Blackoak | | 7 | Topsy Thompson | 377-4314 |
| July 18-26, 2006 Aug 19-27, 2006 | QCC: Salt Lake City, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Black Hills, Denver | | 1 | Hal Calkins | 267-6699 |
| Aug 23-Sep 10, 2006 | Greek Islands & Beyond | 4 | 5 | Bud & Phyllis Souza | 371-2959 |
| Oct 2, 2006 | Indian Casino: Table Mountain | | 7 | Topsy Thompson | 377-4314 |
| Oct 7-27, 2006 | QCC: Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, New Mexico's "Land of Enchantment" | | 1 | Hal Calkins | 267-6699 |
| Oct 14-22, 2006 | Mississippi River Fall Foliage Cruise | | 6 | Ina Havens | 847-4793 |
| Nov 7-15, 2006 | QCC: Southern Italy: Amalfi, Positano, Sorrento, Rome, Naples, Pompeii | | 1 | Hal Calkins | 267-6699 |

TAR: Trip Activity Rating

- 1 Limited walking & activity
- 2 Walking limited to facilities within approximately 1 block to hotels & bus
- 3 Average walking (3 blocks or more) sightseeing in museums and attractions
- 4 Very active walking, may include airport departures, climbing on and off trains and attractions, may involve high altitudes (9000+) and possible weather extremes

Travel Trips

China - Far East Treasures

March 22 - April 8, 2006

Experience 16 days seeing China and cruising the Yangtze river. Starting in Beijing and ending in Shanghai, view such wonderful sights as the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Great Wall, the Terra Cotta warriors, Three Gorges dam, Li River and the Guilin landscape, the big Wild Goose pagoda, Qutang Gorge, the Bund in Shanghai, Shanghai Museum and a Giant Panda Zoo.

Be entertained by Chinese acrobats and the Tang Dynasty opera, enjoy a delicious Dumpling Banquet and a Peking Duck dinner, plus enjoy 4 nights aboard a 5 star luxury ship. Luxury hotels throughout as you view the treasures of China, with ample time for individual shopping and sightseeing in Beijing and Shanghai.

The trip is almost all inclusive and much like that taken by some IBM retirees in 2003. Visas are required for China and can be obtained in San Francisco. A TAR of 3. Price for double occupancy is \$2949. A Hong Kong extension is available.

A second bus has been arranged so there are places remaining for this trip. Call soon to reserve your spot!

For brochures or more information:

Contact:

George or Isobel Nale

779-4275 or at geoandizn@cs.com

Highlights of New Zealand

April 7-21, 2006

A 16-day tour of New Zealand in their fall, our spring, is the perfect trip for 2006! A safe country where English, of a sort, is spoken, water is safe to drink and the natives are welcoming!

We will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Auckland and have some free time to explore this "City of Sails." On our way to experience the Glowworm Grotto we will pass through beautiful farmland and the Mamaku Range of Mountains. We will also take a tour of the Thermal Reserve and in Rotorua will visit the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and enjoy a traditional Maori hosted dinner. A ferry will take us to Wellington to tour the city on our way to Christchurch, a bit of England in NZ. Near Franz Josef the huge rivers of snow and ice from glaciers will be seen. The Trans Alpine Express will whisk us through snow capped mountains descending into lush rainforests and on into sheep, cattle and fruit growing areas. In Queenstown we will not only tour the city but also take an evening cruise across Lake Wakatipu on a vintage steamer. We will take a Milford Sound Excursion to experience the wonderful scenery of mountains, streams, waterfalls and out to the Tasman Sea. We will overnight in Twizel near Mt. Cook National Park. Spending our last night in Christchurch, we have a day of leisure to further explore this charming city.

The all inclusive price with tips, transfers and trip cancellation/medical insurance is \$3866!

Post Tour Option:

A 4 night post trip will allow us to visit Cairns for 4 nights with time to explore this city set in a magnificent background and also to experience the Great Barrier Reef! We also will take the scenic Kuranda Rail to a unique mountain village and see the Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park. \$899 for this extension.

Space is limited to 25 persons. If you are interested in seeing a video on this exciting trip, call George Walker to arrange it. For more information

Contact:

George & Carole Walker, (408) 268-7623

Reno Circus Winter Special

March 12-14, 2006

Bus Full - Wait listing

Price \$97.00 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement \$27.00
Bonus \$26.00 cash, \$2.00 Food Credit
Motorcoach Transportation, Luggage Handling,
2 Nights Accommodations at the
Circus Circus Hotel Casino, plus Area Casino Stops

Reservations are confirmed when we receive your check.
Checks are cashed after February 12, 2006

For a flyer and reservation form, Contact:
Glen or Ruth Furlong at (408) 378-8226
or GFurlongSR@aol.com

Travel Trips

America's Canyonlands,

April 18-27, 2006

Discover the wonders of our Southwest's unique sights and landscapes as we travel through several national parks. Watch the sun set upon the spectacular Grand Canyon's south rim. Admire the stunning rock formations on a tour of Monument Valley. Enjoy a breakfast cruise on sparkling Lake Powell as the sun dances on the colorful rock walls. More splendid sights await us in Utah's Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park. Watch as the sun brings out the vivid colors of the massive formations, heavily sculpted by wind, frost and water over millions of years. Our fun does not stop there...we spend one night at the famous Casa Blanca Resort and Casino in Mesquite, Nevada, and one night at the New York, New York Hotel in Las Vegas!

Tour Features Included:

- Round trip transfers and air from San Jose to Las Vegas
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- Guides, Gratuities, tips, taxes, and park admissions,
- Hosted breakfast daily, including the breakfast cruise on Wahweap Bay
- Seven hosted dinners

Price \$2185 per person, For a brochure, contact:
Ron or Heidi Harlan – 408-266-7639

RV Camping Club

The IBM Camping Club (Krazy Kampers) is open to all IBM retirees. For a review of the camping schedule go to the website: www.sjpc.org/camping/

Contact: Ernie Veal,
(408) 224-3584, ecveal@juno.com



Russia/Eastern Europe

Featuring Moscow, Novgorod,
St. Petersburg, Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius,
Warsaw, Krakow, Prague and Vienna.

May 1-20, 2006

This tour begins in Moscow, seat of the Great Russian Empire and former homes of the Czars including Catherine the Great. You will view the Kremlin, Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral. Travel northwest to St. Petersburg, often referred to as "Venice of the North." Here you will visit the Hermitage, which houses the many treasures of the Czars. Your coach will take you through Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic and finally Austria. The tour is set at a leisurely pace permitting time to enjoy the culture and atmosphere of the beautiful countries you will be visiting.

Travel Features Include:

- Airport transfers: Cottle Rd. - SFO
- Airfare: SFO/Moscow/Vienna/SFO
- 17-Night Hotel Accommodations
- 32 Hosted Meals: 18 Break, 14 Dinners
- Private Deluxe motor-coach.
- Sight seeing with local guides: Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, Warsaw, Krakow, Prague and Vienna.
- Special Features: Red Square, Citadel, Hermitage, Warsaw Ghetto, Jasna Gora Monastery, Hradcany Royal Castle, and Hofburg Palace.
- All admissions to included features.
- Russian Visa.
- Baggage handling throughout for one suitcase per person.
- Sky Cap tips included
- Pre-trip Orientation with Refreshments.

Cost: \$4250 p/p double, \$1075 single supplement,
\$3450 Land only.

TAR 4

Contact: Art & Sharry Dill
(831) 338-3069 ArtHDill@Comcast.net

Travel Trips

Portland Rose Parade and Canadian Pacific Northwest

*Featuring the other Rose Parade,
Seattle, Vancouver, Victoria,
and the New Whistler Mountaineer train*

June 9–18, 2006

Trip Activity rating-2

The trip will start in Portland with a city tour including Pittock Mansion, Chinese Gardens, International Rose Test Gardens, and an evening at the battle of the bands. Will have reserved seats for viewing the Portland Rose Festival and then it's off to the Bonneville Dam for a guided tour and a Sternwheeler Dinner Cruise. On the way to Seattle, there will be a stop at the Mount St. Helen National Park History Center. A Seattle city guided tour will include Pike Place Market, University of Washington, historic Pioneer Square, and Museum of Flight. You will visit La Conner, a 19th Century Victorian fishing village on the way to Victoria for a two day stay and a guided tour including Butchart Gardens, Victoria City tour, and a Whale Search Cruise. Next is Vancouver for a city tour that includes Stanley Park, Chinatown, Gastown, and Capilano Suspension Bridge. The New Whistler Mountaineer Train will take us to the resort town of Whistler.

Tour Includes:

- Roundtrip Airfare
- Tour Director
- Motorcoach transportation
- Ferry transportation
- Daily sightseeing
- Whistler Mountaineer Train
- Hotel transfers and baggage handling
- 9 Breakfasts-6 Dinners
- All Gratuities

Accommodations:

- 2 Nights Portland
- 2 Nights Seattle
- 2 Nights Victoria
- 3 Nights Vancouver

All this for \$1899.00 per person double;
single supplement \$700.00

For reservation information contact Madeline or **Bill Souza** at **(408) 356-6280** or **bsouza6280@aol.com**

Greek Islands & Beyond

August 23 - September 10, 2006

Land and Cruise

Land:

- * Athens, Peloponnese
- * Kalambaka, Monasteries of Meteora
- * Delphi, Oracle site
- * Olympia
- * Nauplia, Corinth, Mycenae & Epidaurus

Cruise:

- * Piraeus
- * Mykonos
- * Kusadasi (for Ephesus), Turkey
- * Patmos, Greece
- * Rhodes
- * Heraklion
- * Santorini

Price: \$3295.00 including air from SFO

TAR: 4

Options not included: ship cabin upgrade, insurance, mandatory taxes or pre and post extensions

Contact: Bud & Phyllis Souza

408 377-6094 or 371-2959

American Queen/Fall Foliage Cruise

October 14-22, 2006

Come join us for a spectacular view of the fall foliage from the deck of a majestic steamboat, while cruising down the upper Mississippi River!

Included Features:

Transfers to/from Airport

Round-trip Air

7 nights aboard the American Queen

All Meals

Contact: Ina Havens, (408) 847-4793

Day Trips

Horse Racing at Golden Gate Fields

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Off to the races at beautiful Golden Gate Fields, situated on the edge of the bay near Albany. Now that Bay Meadows is closing this will be the only thoroughbred racing venue in our area.

We will arrive in ample time for a fine lunch in the clubhouse, then settle in for the parade of the racers and the jockeys mounting for the first race. After that it is scan the tout sheets, analyze the program and head for the parimutual windows. There always seem to be some big winners in our group. Could it be you this time?

The price is \$45.50, a bargain for a great day of fine food and excitement, without the worry of driving and parking. Minimal walking on this trip. To get more information or sign up, call or e-mail.

Contact:

**George & Isobel Nale 779-4275 or
geoandzn@cs.com**

Indian Casino Trips in 2006

January 9, 2006

Thunder Valley Indian Casino

Price \$21.00, Bonus \$ 5.00 Match Play, \$5.00 Food

This trip is almost sold out. Contact Topsy soon if you want to go.

April 3, 2006

Jackson Rancheria Indian Casino

Price \$26.00, Bonus \$10.00 cash and coupons

July 10, 2006

Blackoak Indian Casino

Price \$17.00, Bonus \$ 5.00 cash and \$5.00, match play and coupons

October 2, 2006

Table Mountain Indian Casino

Price \$17.00, with bonus of \$5.00 cash

All Indian casino trips will be at least a 5 hour stay.

Contact: **Topsy Thompson 377-4314 or
Topray4314@cs.com**



SPEBSQSA

Annual Holiday Show

Heritage Theater, Campbell Center
Campbell, California

Saturday, December 10, 2005 at 3:00 PM

Take a break from your busy holiday schedule to relax and celebrate the season in song! Come join us in a sparkling holiday show of barbershop singing. The Garden City Chorus (San Jose Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society) will be joined by another men's chorus—Bay Area Metro—in a two-hour presentation of Christmas and Hanukkah music. In addition, we will feature several fabulous barbershop quartets and a youth choir from Monte Vista School.

You'll (Yule) want to hum along to such classics as "Silent Night," "Angels we have Heard on High," "Carol of the Bells." We'll even throw in a few fun things like "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and "White Christmas." And can you recall your youth with "Winter Wonderland" and "Silver Bells"? In addition, the audience will be invited to sing along with a few carols. It promises to be a fun-filled event of family entertainment and a refreshing treat for music lovers—young and old.

Tickets will be available through IBM Retirement Club member Fred Grometer who will be singing in the show. All tickets are reserved seats with preferred seating @ \$21 and the others @ \$16. This price includes a one-dollar fee imposed by the city of Campbell for historical preservation. There is a special 10% discount on the basic price for tickets bought together as a set for groups of 10 or more. The show starts at 3:00 PM; the Heritage Theater is the auditorium of the old Campbell High School, Campbell and Winchester Boulevards.

Contact: **Fred Grometer (408) 264-9157.**

IBM Club

IBM Club Discounts

Movie passes

AMC: \$5.50 each; Cinelux: \$4.50
Regal/United Artists: \$6.00
San Jose IMAX: \$7.00

Universal Studios

Gate price: \$53.00 under 48": \$43.00
IBM Club price: \$38.00 Two day ticket!

Disneyland single day-one park

Gate price: \$56.00 3-9 years: \$46.00
IBM Club price: \$44.80 3-9 years: \$36.80

Disneyland 3-day park hopper

Gate price: \$139. 3-9 years: 109.
IBM Club price: \$111.20 3-9 years: \$87.20

Disney World single day-one park

Gate price: \$63.64 3-9 years: \$51.12
IBM Club price: \$50.91 3-9 years: \$40.90

Disney World 3-day park hopper

Gate price: \$219.39 3-9 years: \$183.18
IBM Club price: \$175.52 3-9 years: \$146.55

Legoland

Gate price: \$46.95 3-9 years \$38.95
IBM Club price: \$30.95

Heavenly ski lift tickets

Gate price peak: \$73; 13-18 years: \$60; 5-12 years: \$38.
IBM Club price: \$58; 13-18 years: \$47; 5-12 years: \$28.

Squaw ski lift tickets

Gate price: \$64. all ages.
IBM Club price: \$53.

Northstar / Sierra ski lift tickets

Gate price: \$59.
IBM Club price: \$51.

Payment by check or money order only,
no cash, no credit cards.

Checks or money orders should be
made payable to IBM Club

Ticket Hours:

Wednesday & Friday: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

(San Jose Site: Bldg. 50 lobby)

IBM Club Office Contacts:

Valerie Cowing - 463-2462

Frank Vitale - 463-2455

Walking/Cultural Tour

The NEW Calpine Powerplant

Thursday, January 26, 2006
San Jose/Coyote, California

You just flip a switch, and...it's like magic—you get light, dry clothes and fans whirring. Wait a minute; it's not quite that simple. We'll discover some of the complexities on this interesting tour of the latest in power generating technology, just opened this fall. Calpine built this plant in record time to meet the energy crisis a few years ago. Building a plant on South Monterey Road (near Metcalf) was controversial, but someone had to do it if we wish to continue our lifestyle.

This plant can generate 600 megawatts of power (about 800,000 horsepower) at its peak. Picture about 4,000 cars charging up Interstate 80 near Tahoe going full bore!! That's a lot! For you technical buffs, the plant burns natural gas in a "Combined Cycle" using both steam and gas turbines. Things have changed since we went to school.

The tour will start at 1:30 PM with a film in the conference room followed by a walking tour. What about lunch? Would you like to meet first at a restaurant and then go to the plant or would you like to skip lunch. Let Fred know by phone or e-mail, and final plans will be in the January Newsletter. We may be limited to about 25 folks.

Contact:

Fred Grometer (408) 264-9157

Discount Web Site for IBM Retirees

There is a new web site that IBM retirees can use to obtain discounts on a wide variety of products and services from many companies. Included are discounts on a wide variety of IBM PCs. But everything from home electronics to auto insurance is offered. If you are interested, go to the following URL.

www.beneplace.com/ibmretirees/

IBM Retiree ID Card

IBM retirees that have lost, or never had, or just cannot find their IBM Retiree ID card can call and get one.

Call the IBM Employee Service Center:

1-800-796-9876.

Adopt-A-Highway

Wednesday, November 9, 2005

Rain was threatening but we sallied forth to conquer the litter plague. In the interest of safety, if it had started to sprinkle we would have come in immediately, but the litter fairy was with us and we finished! 17 participants collected **20** Bags of Litter...totaling **1618** bags to date. If all our bags were laid end to end in a row, we would have about a mile of bagged freeway stuff donated by the driving public.

Before a volunteer goes out to clean the highway, CalTrans requires that we give them a safety orientation. Linda Adams, Gary Adams, Tom Clarke, and Shirley Veal have had orientation and are joining our ranks. We now have a pool of 44 volunteers. We ask these dedicated people to go out at least 4 times a year.

On this cold overcast day we welcomed our newest litter warrior, Linda Adams. Linda and her husband Gary volunteered after reading the litter article in the Almaden Resident newspaper. After her litter adventure, a smiling and enthusiastic Linda said she had a "great time, with great people, and it's so well organized."

We have good news for you fellow club members. We found out our "Arthur Anderson trained treasurer,"* Bernie Coullahan, is as honest as he is hard working, because he found a dime and turned it over to the kitty. Only 32 cents was found this time.

"Do you know the way to San Jose?" was the theme of our tailgate party after our clean. We had three different requests for directions! (or maybe they really wanted some of Jack Meili's delicious cookies he baked for us). The lost people who found help from us were a driver of a big semi looking for highway 280, a couple walking and looking for Oakridge Mall, and last of all a harried man in a pickup trying to find Good Samaritan Hospital. He looked okay so we didn't ask why he was going to Good Sam but just drew him a map and wished him well.

Wow, somebody sure hit a long drive, because Bob Price found the neatest golf ball! It had the words Norfolk, Virginia underneath a super picture of a red crab.

The find of the month was a Burnsmatic Blow Torch with automatic igniter (and it works perfectly) found and adopted by Dick Sementelli.

Misc. finds: 78 gigabyte hard drive, 8" crescent wrench, expired golf course guest pass, a book of expired light rail day passes, protractor, rasp, 3 broken hub caps, painter's cap, half gallon of orange juice and a cell phone and cell phone battery about a mile apart from each other.

Schedule: meet in **VTA Parking lot 8:45 a.m.**

Thursday, December 8, 2005 2nd Thursday

Wednesday, January 11, 2006 2nd Wednesday

Contact:

Doug & Evelyn Dean 408-264-9502

dougnevie@comcast.net

Callers: Alice Czerniec 224-6230
Barbara Pugh 265-2466

*Bernie's tongue in cheek description of himself

Be a Tech Volunteer

San Jose Tech Museum of Innovation Volunteer Opportunity Open House

Friday, Dec. 9 1:30-3:30
Wednesday, Dec. 14 1:30-3:30

Do you have a few hours during the weekdays to help "Inspire the Innovator" in visitors from around the world? Visit The Tech Museum for an open house and discover how you can become part of The Tech volunteer team. Tour the galleries, enjoy refreshments and learn about the benefits of being a Tech volunteer.

Who Can Volunteer at The Tech?

- Anyone age 15 years or older. No science background or technical training is required.
- Individuals with an interest in learning about science and technology
- Individuals who enjoy meeting new people!

Please RSVP to:

Judy Sanders
at (408)795-6204 or
volunteering@thetech.org

Bowling

One More Time League at AMF Oakridge Lanes 2005/2006 Winter League November 9, 2005

1st Place: Team 8: "3 Bucks and a Doe": Tom Higa, Paul Houghton, Bill Bartz, Karen Stone

2nd Place: Team 24: Dan Thery, George Zagelow, Joanne White, Tom White

Individual Achievements

Ladies

Men

High Averages

168-Faye Fritz
164-Jan Curry
163-Chila Miller

206-Jim Balistreri
202-Ron Bianco
195-Bill Jeung

High Scratch Game

224-Marilyn Bianco
211-Kris Denholm
209-Phyllis House
209-Faye Fritz

268-Ron Bianco
257-Jim Balistreri
257-Dan Thery

High Scratch Series

587-Faye Fritz
535-Jan Curry
535-Marilyn Bianco

695-Jim Balistreri
671-Ron Bianco
662-George Zagelow

High Handicap Game

276-Marilyn Bianco
264-Phyllis House
260-Mary Jane Canavan

281-Sam Walters
279-Joel Resnick
274-Dick Lake

High Handicap Series

713-MaryJane Canavan
691-Marilyn Bianco
683-Joanne White

709-Joel Resnick
701-George Zagelow
700-Dick Nakamoto

Haven't we some good bowlers? We would sure like to see your name on our list. Won't you come down and bowl with us? We still need some bowlers. Please join us.

Contacts:

Topsy Thompson 377-4314

Sue Erlich at Oakridge Lanes 578-8500

Short 18-Hole Golf

Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino

November 3, 2005 - Individual Golf was played by 23 golfers. A fun time was had by all. Winners were.

Men

1st - Ed Klein - 53
2nd - Jerry Condensa - 55
3rd - Neil Rowland - 57
4th - Darrel Jensen - 60
Earl Bowers - 60

Women

1st - Marge Condensa - 50
3rd - Irene Rodriguez - 58
4th - Kathy La Scola - 59

Closest To Pin #10

Lupe Rodriguez - 9'

The next dates are Thursdays, December 1 & January 5 **at 10:30 am, sharp. Please be there by 10:00 am to sign in and to pick up your lunch coupon from Helen.** Please send your check for \$22 **15 days in advance** of our golf date (or sooner) to:

Helen Wehner

**1561 Park Crest Ct.
San Jose, CA 95118**

Or call Helen to let her know you'd like to play that day. Sign ups will be on a first-come-first-serve basis, since there is a limited number of players allowed. Make your check out to the "**IBM Retirement Club**" and on the memo line write "**Short 18 Hole Golf**". Handicaps will be figured out after you have golfed at Deep Cliff. If it rains, call the golf course to find out if we have cancelled. Phone 253-5357, extension 5. Also, remember golf at Deep Cliff is on a first come-first serve basis so get your checks in to Helen **right away.**

Happy Golfing from **Clara, Helen and DeDe**

Contacts: Helen Wehner 264-6296
DeDe Corral 378-6470
Clara De Paul 294-7041

Par Tee Golf

Contact: Andy La Scola @ (408) 371-3329 or alascola@earthlink.net

Coyote Creek-Tournament Course, November 7, 2005. This was our annual "Salami Shoot", and everybody wins! First place in each foursome received a 3-pound "Salami," second place received "Polish Sausages," third and fourth place received "Old Fashioned Hot Dogs." The "Shot(s)-Of-The-Day" go to two golfers. On Hole #5, (a par three), Ron Erickson chipped in his second shot for birdie from 70 yards out. And on Hole #7, (also a par three), Ray Jelesky put his tee shot to 8 inches from the pin. Great shots, guys! The format of play was "Individual Play". We had a nice turnout of 49 players. Here are the results:

| <u>Closest-To-Pin</u> | #2 | #5 | #7 | #14 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Men</u> | Tom Baker 10' 7" | Rich Hislip 6' 1" | Ray Jelesky 0' 8" | Dave Falcone 7' 9" |
| | Dan Thery 22' 11" | Phil Nielsen 7' 2" | Ron Erickson 5' 10" | Andy La Scola 15' 11" |
| | Gil Maes 23' 10" | Rich Campbell 13' 0" | Lou Tolbert 6' 5" | Frank Wilson 17' 0" |
| <u>Ladies</u> | | Marge Condensa 25' 9" | Vicki Perez 4' 8" | Gloria Nigg 15' 2" |
| | | | Sandy Redder 8' 5" | |

It was a very tough day at the "Office", because there were only two bogey golfers, (gross score of 90 or better), and they are Lou Tolbert (80), & Eric Schrader, (85). Congratulations to all the winners!

Looking ahead at our schedule:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Course</u> | <u>Cost/Due</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| Dec. 5 | Los Lagos | \$47.00/Nov. 16 | Includes cart-soft spikes required- Format = 2 best ball foursome |
| Jan. 9 | Ridgemark-Gabilan | \$40.00/Dec. 21 | Includes cart-soft spikes required-Format = Individual play |
| Feb. 13 | Rancho Canada-East | \$35.00/Jan. 25 | Soft spikes required - Format = 2 best ball foursome |

Notes:

1. The monthly golf schedule for the entire year, (2006 will be added shortly) can be seen on the IBM Retirement Club web site: www.sjpc.org/sjrc
2. **Renewals are now due for the "Par Tee Golf Club." Renewals before December 5 are \$40.00. After December 5, or no previous NCGA number, are \$45.00. Contact Don Johnson @ (408) 997-9452, or send an email to: maxdonmar@comcast.net**
3. Prices are subject to change. Be sure to check newsletter or web site for latest information.
4. Make all checks payable to **Par Tee Golf**, (not the IBM Retirement Club). Please make your checks for only one tournament at a time. (If you are signing up for two tournaments, send two checks). The mailing address for signups is:

**Par Tee Golf
P. O. Box 53535
San Jose, CA 95153-0535**

5. Include you GHIN number, and your e-mail address, (If I don't have already have them on file). Indicate which foursome you wish to play with, or I will assign you to one. (Note: If you do not sign up as a foursome, your group may be split up).

**San Jose IBM Retirement Club
San Jose IBM Club
1600 Cottle Road
San Jose, CA 95193**

2005 - 12

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SeniorNet Courses Start Again in January, 2006

A new session of computer courses given by SeniorNet starts in January. The classes are fun, tailored for seniors, with a great deal of support from the instructor and coaches. Most classes meet for about 2 hours once a week for 8 weeks. In the Fundamentals course, you learn the basics. And there are a variety of intermediate courses covering various computer applications: Internet, e-mail, word processing, file and folder management, Windows XP, using a digital camera, image editing and others.

If you are interested, call one of the phone numbers below. Your name will be added to that Learning Center's mailing list and you will receive a brochure containing course descriptions and schedule as well as instructions for registering for the courses.

Local SeniorNet Computer Learning Centers:

Cypress SeniorNet Learning Center of San Jose

408-244-1353, 403 South Cypress Ave., (south of Stevens Creek Blvd., east of San Tomas Expy,
next registration: **December 15-16, 2005**

SeniorNet Learning Center of Almaden, 408-268-1703,
temporarily in the Vineland Library, 1450 Blossom Hill Road, west of Meridian,
next registration: **Saturday, January 7, 2006**, afternoon

The Willows SeniorNet Learning Center, 408-448-6400
2175 Lincoln Ave. (just north of Curtner),
next registration: **Saturday, January 7, 2006**, morning

For more information, visit the SeniorNet Learning Centers of San Jose web site, www.snicsj.org and then click on one of the 3 center location buttons.

Contact: Walt Cole 408 972-1178 opawalt@pacbell.net