



San Jose IBM Retirement Club Newsletter



January, 2009

Volume XXIV

Number 1

PRESIDENT'S CHAT

Time flies when we're having fun, and this year has flown! More than 220 Retirement Club members and guests enjoyed seeing old friends at the Holiday Party in December. The next all-club event is the Pasta Fest on March 21 at the Almaden Research Center. The center's wisteria should be in full bloom by then, and you won't want to miss that. The sign up sheet is below. Take time to read the newsletter for all the opportunities available to you. If you have an interest that is not represented in the offerings, feel free to bring your suggestions to the board. We are open to new ideas.

Our gratitude to Art and Sharry Dill for two years of service to the club. Your hard work is appreciated. I look forward to a year full of activities and events that will be stimulating, fun and interesting. Happy New Year! May 2009 bring health and happiness.

George Walker, President

Adopt-A-Highway

Our sign has NOT been moved yet. We have NOT received our new safety vests yet. CalTrans says it will take 4-6 weeks to move the sign if the weather is good. Good weather might arrive in the spring of 2009 or some future year. We may have to be trained again, since it has been so long since we picked up litter.

Very Tentative Schedule: 2009

Contact: **Doug & Evelyn Dean, 264-9502, dougnevie@comcast.net**

IBM Quarter Century Club & IBM San Jose Retirement Club

PASTA FEST

Saturday, March 21, 2009, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Almaden Research Lab Cafeteria

\$18.00 per person

Reservation Deadline: March 14, 2009. *No Tickets Will Be Sold At the Event!!*

2:00 PM Social Hour, 3:00 PM Dinner

***Menu:* Various Pastas, Salad, Garlic Bread, Ice Cream, Wine, Coffee or Soft Drinks**

Your checks will be held until the reservation deadline before they are deposited.

Cancellations must be received by March 14, 2009, if you wish a refund!

No tickets will be mailed. You pick them up at the registration table the day of the event.

Don't forget to bring old eyeglasses to help those who need them.

Reservation Form

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Phone: _____ 2nd Guest: _____

Total number of persons who will attend _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to IBM RETIREMENT CLUB, and mark them PASTA FEST in the memo field.

**MAIL TO: Terry Milinic'
1480 Bryan Ave
San Jose, CA 95118-1705**

San Jose IBM Retirement Club

IBM Club
650 Harry Road
San Jose, CA 95120

OFFICERS (new for 2009):

President:

George Walker 268-7623
georgewalker@yahoo.com

Vice-President:

Bill Souza 356-6280
bsouza6280@aol.com

Secretary:

Marian Wisbar 224-1522
oma408@pacbell.net

Treasurer:

Dave Sloan 766-7566
dhsloan2970@yahoo.com

Membership:

Ed Mueller
membership@ibmsjrc.org

Communications:

Walt Cole 972-1178
opawalt@gmail.com

Directors-at-Large:

Jerry Bemis 779-6727
jwb12usa@yahoo.com

Betty Bradley 268-9682
ednbettyb@sbcglobal.net

Tom Clarke (831) 761-1513
clarke.tj@comcast.net

COMMITTEES:

Sunshine:

Terry Milinic' 265-5908
theresano1@yahoo.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, Ed Henschel, Bill Souza,
Glen Furlong, Terry Milinic', Ron Harlan,
George Nale, Ernie Veal, Ina Havens,
Art Dill

Membership Report

Ed Mueller

December 18, 2008

History

December, 1998: 1719

December, 2007: 2166

December, 2008: 2158

Currently reading online: 1284

Currently receiving paper copy: 321

Currently not doing either: 482

Change of Address

Send new addresses, phone numbers and requests for on-line newsletters or requests for mailed paper newsletters to Ed Mueller:

By e-mail: membership@ibmsjrc.org

By U. S. Mail:

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

In Memoriam

Joseph Aloisio
Paul Compratt
Jack Kuehler
Walter Lacey
Kenneth Murray
James Shriver

To report life-changing events, and to find answers to benefit questions, contact:
IBM Employee Services Center
1-800-796-9876

New Members

3 folks

Next Club Board Meeting:
Thursday, January 15, 2009,
10:00 AM

Meriwest Credit Union
5615 Chesbro Ave.
at Blossom Hill Road

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 Corporation.

IBM Club Discounts

Movie passes

AMC: silver \$6.00; gold \$7.50

Regal/United Artists: \$6.00

Cinelux: \$6.00 - no restrictions

Century/Cinemark: \$7.00
no restrictions

Gilroy Gardens

Gate price: \$41.99

IBM Club price: \$23.00

See's Candy

IBM Club price:

\$11.50 1 pound gift certificate

Sea World

Gate price: \$59.00 3-9 years: \$49.00

IBM Club price: \$46.50 3-9 years:

\$41.00 2-day ticket

Payment by check or money order only,
made payable to IBM Club.
No cash. No credit cards.

IBM Club Office Main Contact:

Frank Vitale - (408) 927-2106
e-mail: tcsports@us.ibm.com

IBM Club Office Alternate Contact:
Valerie Cowing - (408) 927-3059

Ticket Hours: Wednesday:
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

SVL Lobby (old STL) on Bailey Road

Sunshine Report

Jim Balistreri is undergoing chemotherapy, which will continue for 5 months. However, he reports it is going well and he hopefully will be in remission at its conclusion.

Vince (Cappy) Cappellieri is in a rehab center undergoing therapy after a two-week hospital stay. Lorraine is planning for him to return home around the first of the year.

Earl Bowers was hospitalized for a week following surgery. Nancy tells me his prognosis is good.

Thanks for the calls and e-mails, and please continue with them.

Happy New Year,

Terry Milinic'
theresano1@yahoo.com
265-5908

IBM PC Club

January 13, 5:00 PM, SVL on Bailey Road

Subject: One TV remote instead of 4 or 5. It's expensive. Is it worth it? Come find out.

www.sjpc.org

Contact: Walt Cole, 972-1178

San Jose IBM Retirement Club
web site:

ibmsjrc.org

Discount Web Site for IBM Retirees

This web site is one IBM retirees can use to obtain discounts on a wide variety of products and services from many companies.

www.beneplace.com/ibmretirees/

TRIPS & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Date	Event	TAR	Page	Contact	Phone
Jan 12, 2009	Indian Casino: Thunder Valley		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Jan 13, 2009	PC Club: Universal TV Remote		–	Walt Cole	972-1178
Jan 14, 2009	Adopt-A-Highway Canceled		1	Evelyn & Doug Dean	264-9502
Jan 15, 2009	IBM Retirement Club Board Meeting		2	George Walker	268-7623
Jan 22, 2009	Ozark Mountain Jubilee Sold Out*		–	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Jan 23, 2009	Hike: Harvey Bear Ranch		8	Gil & Julie Feller	247-6769
Feb 14, 2009	Valentine's Day Special Sold Out*		–	Bill & Madeline Souza	356-6280
Feb 27, 2009**	Hike: Año Nuevo State Reserve		8	Gil & Julie Feller	247-6769
Mar 3, 2009	New San Francisco Academy of Sciences Sold Out*	2	–	Bill & Madeline Souza	356-6280
Mar 8-10, 2009	Reno: Circus Circus		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Mar 21, 2009	Pasta Fest		1	George Nale	779-4275
Apr 6, 2009	Indian Casino: River Rock		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Apr 17, 2009	California Cashmere, Ironstone Vineyards		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Apr 18, 2009	Horse Racing at Golden Gate Fields		8	George Nale	779-4275
Apr 25-May 4, 2009	Truly Tulip Time, Europe River Cruise		4	George & Carole Walker	268-7623
May 7, 2009	A Day in the Gold Country		8	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
June 4-14, 2009	Western National Parks		4	George & Isabel Nale	779-4275
June 8-9, 2009	Chukchansi, Reedley Opera House		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
July 10, 2009	City Streets, Bay Views and Blue Skies	2	6	Bill & Madeline Souza	356-6280
July 11-18, 2009	Calgary Stampede & Canada's Rockies		5	Bud Souza	340-0082
July 13, 2009	Indian Casino: Feather Falls		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Aug 22-Sep 1, 2009	Ultimate Alaska Cruise		5	Art & Sharry Dill	831 338-3069
Sep 10-19, 2009	France & Bavaria in the Fall		5	Bob Martinez, Ron Harlan	927-1307
Sep 17, 2009	Santa Cruz Follies		–	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Sep 20-23, 2009	Golden Nugget, Las Vegas		–	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Oct 5, 2009	Indian Casino: Jackson Rancheria		6	Topsy Thompson	377-4314
Oct 12, 2009	Bees, Trees and Wine Tasting	2	6	Bill & Madeline Souza	356-6280
Oct 22-31, 2009	Discover Tuscany		5	Phyllis Souza	247-7335
Dec 2-7, 2009	Charleston Savannah Holiday		5	Pat Johns	847-3898
May 20-29, 2010	Oberammergau		4	George & Carole Walker	268-7623

*Most sold-out trips have wait lists. Call the trip host to add your name. **Approximate date.

TAR: Trip Activity Rating

- 1 Limited walking & activity
- 2 Walking limited to facilities within approximately 1 block of the bus or hotel
- 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

Truly Tulip Trip April 25 - May 4, 2009 Wine! Cheese! Flowers! *Note New Itinerary!*

Due to changes in the river boat contracts, we have a new and exciting trip which will take us to see even more **tulips** because we will be exclusively on **Holland's** and **Belgium's** waterways. Board the ship in **Amsterdam** and make it your home while we see the city including Anne Frank's home and the art museums. We'll visit **Voldendam**, a quaint cheese-making town where time seems to have stopped. We cruise on to **Arnhem**, which played a major role in WW II. Many museums are available to us here. Our cruise continues to **Middelburg**, medieval city and the center of **Deltaworks**, which teaches about the deltas and dikes. We'll see **Ghent, Belgium**, an imperial city which conveys the splendor of by-gone days. **Bruges, Belgium**, one of our all-time favorite spots, is a wonderfully preserved medieval city. It is the center of lace making and has great chocolates!

Day 7 we are in **Antwerp** with its Gothic and Baroque architecture and busy cafes. It was the home of Peter Paul Rubens. Again, the chocolates are to die for!! Time here for shopping and exploring. In **Utrecht** we'll see the working windmills and learn at the UNESCO World Heritage Site the story of the battle with the sea. Then we visit the world-famous **Keukenhof Gardens** and 70 acres of flowers. We have secured the best-anticipated time for the peak of bloom. The price of **\$3,669** includes air, insurance, all meals, and local wines on this river boat of 80 cabins.

Information meeting:

Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at 10:00 AM
at Fresh Choice on Blossom Hill Road

Contact: **George Walker and Carole Walker**
gcwalker95120@yahoo.com, or call (408) 268-7623

Once in a Decade Opportunity May 20 - 29, 2010 **Oberammergau**

The details of the **Imperial Cities Tour**, which includes the famous **Passion Play of Oberammergau**, have been released. The trip date is listed above. The cost is **\$5329**, including air and insurance. We will tour **Buda-pest, Hungary**, enjoy a Hungarian horse show, visit a lovely wine town and enjoy a Renaissance-style dinner. Next stop is beautiful **Vienna, Austria**, where we tour the lovely city of Gothic spires, quiet parks and memorable music. The evening will be in Grinzing, enjoying the wine and music. The next day we will board a river boat for a tour of the Danube and return to Vienna through the Vienna Woods immortalized by Strauss. Our next stop is **Prague, Czech Republic**, the "Golden City." We will have a city tour and have free time to shop. Our last stop is the highlight of the trip, the **Passion Play**, one of the most powerful performances on earth.

We know that May, 2010, seems long way off, but as we get older it seems time goes faster and who knows who will be around the next time Oberammergau presents the "Passion Play"?

Interested? For a brochure, call George or Carole for a mailed brochure or e-mail them for a soft copy.

Information meeting:

Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at 10:00 AM
at Fresh Choice on Blossom Hill Road

Contact: **George and Carole Walker**,
(408) 268-7623 or e-mail gcwalker95120@yahoo.com

France and Bavaria in the Fall September 10-19, 2009

Enjoy three days with us in Paris with dinner in the Eiffel Tower, a romantic Seine River cruise, the Champs-Elysees and Notre Dame. Take the TGV high speed train to Strasbourg in eastern France. We will tour the charming villages on the Alsace wine route.

We will tour Wurzburg, Germany, and the Franconia wine region with its medieval villages, homes and castles. Then on to the Romantic Road and the charming town of Rothenburg. Tour the winding cobblestone streets of the old town and feel history come alive. Next visit the World Heritage city of Bamberg with waterways reminiscent of Venice.

Price per person is **\$3899**, double occupancy. Included in that price are:

- Round trip airfare from SFO
- Transfers to and from airports and hotels
- Air taxes, fees, surcharges
- All gratuities and free parking at IBM facility
- Travel insurance plan
- Tour Director
- Eight breakfasts and four dinners

For more information and a brochure, contact your hosts,

Bob Martinez and Ron Harlan, 408-927-1307.

Western National Parks June 4-14, 2009

Tour some of the best known and most interesting national parks and monuments in the western United States at a perfect time of the year.

Starting in Las Vegas, spend 11 days in Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota and Colorado. Thrill to the natural wonders at Bryce Canyon, Grand Teton and Yellowstone, and Black Hills National Forest.

See the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, historic Jackson, the Oregon Trail, the Little Bighorn National Monument, the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, the old cattle town of Billings, the Crazy Horse Memorial, and Mt. Rushmore.

All this for **\$2826** including air. For more details, or a brochure, contact:

George or Isobel Nale at (408) 779-4275.

Travel Trips

Charleston Savannah Holiday

December 2-7, 2009

Come take an early Christmas trip to Charleston, a cultured, refined city, and a beautifully preserved treasure. Also visit Savannah, Georgia, America's first planned city. The entire restored center (more than 1000 buildings) is now a National Historic Landmark. All of these beautiful areas decked out in Christmas finery!

Tour highlights are Charleston city tour, Boone Hall Plantation tour, Fort Sumter boat tour, Beaufort, Jekyll Island trolley tour, lunch at Jekyll Island Club, horse drawn carriage and a Savannah city tour.

Tour Includes: Roundtrip Airfare - 5 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 3 Dinners - Professional Tour Director - Daily Sightseeing per Itinerary - Deluxe Motor Coach - Baggage Handling - Hotel Transfers

Total cost: **\$1899** (\$600 single supplement)

Contact:

Pat Johns, 847-3898 or patvjohns@verizon.net

Ina Havens, 847-4793 or cliffina@verizon.net

Calgary Stampede & Canada's Kootenay Rockies

July 11-18, 2009

This trip features spectacular scenery, friendly Canadian towns, festivals, great food, mountain lakes and hot springs, all at an easy pace for a practical package price: **\$2,550** double and \$3,155 single.

Highlights include Calgary chuck wagon races, Banff and Lake Louise, Kootenay Rockies National Park with a Kootenay Lake ferry ride, Kimberley (the Bavarian City of the Rockies), the Glass House in Boswell, hot springs, Sandon Ghost Town and much more.

Included in the cost are round trip airfare and transfers, deluxe motorcoach, 7 nights accommodations (Calgary 2, Banff 2, Kimberley 1, Nelson 2), 12 meals (7 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 dinners), admission to all the included attractions, tips for driver and guide, and baggage handling.

Informational Presentation

Mama Mia's in Campbell on Hamilton Ave

Thursday, January 29, 2009

3:00 - 4:00 PM RSVP please.

For brochure & detailed info, contact

Bud Souza (408) 340-0082

e-mail: buds2@mindspring.com

Ultimate Alaska Cruise

August 22 – September 1, 2009

11-day Round Trip from San Francisco

- Sail under the beautiful Golden Gate, truly a must do experience.
- One bottle of wine per cabin aboard the luxurious 5-star Sea Princess.
- Visit Icy Strait, a new cruise port for the Princess.
- Thrill to the awe-inspiring Tracy Arm Fjord for viewing glaciers and snow-capped mountains along Alaska's Inside Passage.
- Visit 5 ports including Vancouver Island and the sophisticated seaside city of Victoria, British Columbia.
- Includes all shipboard meals, entertainment and shipboard activities. Enjoy sensational movies under the stars.
- Gratuities for drivers and stevedores
- Round trip transfers: San Jose/San Francisco.
- Baggage handling – 1 suitcase per person.
- Choice of dining: traditional or anytime.
- Specialty dining: Sterling Steakhouse or try Ultimate Balcony Dining
- This is a no hassle trip. You and your luggage are picked up at SVL (old STL) on Bailey Road and driven to San Francisco harbor where you board your ship. You will find your luggage in your stateroom. You'll be glad to unpack only once!
- Inside stateroom: **\$1699** per person double occupancy. Upgrades are available.

Contact:

Art or Sharry Dill at ArthDill@comcast.net or (831) 338-3069

Discover Tuscany

October 22–31, 2009

Our vision of Tuscany -- rows of cypress trees on rolling hilltops against the blue sky; olive groves and vineyards marching tidily down a slope; hill towns overlooking land that has been carefully cultivated since Roman times. This is a place rich in culture, art, architecture, history, food and wine.

We begin with a tour of glorious, historic Rome. Then Assisi-Montecatini Terme becomes our home for the next six nights. Next comes Florence, cradle of the Italian Renaissance, and picturesque San Gimignano with its 14 towers, followed by Siena, a wonderful medieval city.

Call for a brochure to read about it all.

Trip cost is **\$3,319** per person, double occupancy.

Informational Meeting:

January 27, 2009, 3:00 PM at Mama Mia's

Call Phyllis for reservations.

Contact: Phyllis Souza (408) 247-7335

(phyllissouza@sbcglobal.net)

or Aurora Hicks (209) 223-3152

Day Trips - (more Day Trips on page 8)

Chukchansi Reedley Opera House Underground Gardens

June 8-9, 2009, a 2-day trip!

- Reedley Opera House, tour, show, luncheon
- Chukchansi, overnight hotel room plus bonuses
- Underground Gardens tour and admission
- Price: **\$158**; Bonus: \$10, EZ Play, \$10 Food Credit

Contact: **Topsy Thompson (408) 377-4314**
or e-mail: topray4314@att.net

Indian Casino Trips

Thunder Valley Casino

Monday, January 12, 2009

Price: \$ 28.00, \$5.00 Match Play, \$5.00 Food

*Circus, Circus, Reno, Sunday-Tuesday,
March 8-10, 2009*

Price: \$114.50 per person, double occupancy &
\$40.00 single supplement.

Casino bonus: \$37.00 cash & food credit

River Rock Casino

Monday, April 6, 2009

Price: \$29.00, Bonus \$20.00 Cash

Feather Falls Indian Casino

July 13, 2009

Price: \$20.00, Bonus: \$10.00 cash

Jackson Rancheria Indian Casino

October 5, 2009

Price: \$33.00, Bonus: \$10.00 cash

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

Parking: Capitol Expressway and Hwy 87
Park-n-Ride, South Lot, Section G
Depart: 8:00 AM

Contact: **Topsy Thompson (408) 377-4314**
or e-mail: topray4314@att.net

California Cashmere, Ironstone Vineyard

Friday, April 17, 2009

Learn how cashmere is harvested, graded, sorted, and de-haired. Then we will go on to Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys for a guided tour of the old wine caverns, gardens and other exhibits. The visit to the winery will include wine tasting, with canapés, and a private group luncheon. Price **\$85.00**

Contact: **Topsy Thompson (408) 377-4314**
or e-mail: topray4314@att.net

Bees, Trees and Wine Tasting

Monday, October 12, 2009

Trip Activity Rating - 2

Travel to **Marshall's Honey Bee Farm**, American Canyon, for a guided tour and honey tasting. The beekeeper, Spencer Marshall, will be your guide. You'll learn about his hand-crafted approach to traditional honey production, and you'll visit the charming country store on the site. Then you'll be treated to a private gourmet picnic in the beautiful tree-covered picnic area on the estate grounds of the **V. Sattui** winery. A winery tour and tasting are included. The marketplace at V. Sattui is not to be missed with a gourmet cheese shop offering over 200 types of cheeses, and wine/cooking gift items. The day will continue with the breathtaking drive to the **Petrified Forest** in Calistoga. Upon arrival enjoy a docent-led meadow walk which will include the history of the Petrified Forest.

Tour Includes: all gratuities, hosted lunch, & docent tour

All this for **\$80.00** per person.

These trips fill up fast so don't wait.

For reservation information, contact:

Madeline or Bill Souza at (408) 356-6280 or
bsouza6280@aol.com

City Streets, Bay Views and Blue Skies

Friday, July 10, 2009

Trip Activity Rating - 2

View the city from a **DUKW**, popularly called the **DUCK**, a six-wheel-drive amphibious vehicle developed by the United States during World War II for transporting goods and troops over land and water. **Ride** through San Francisco's historic streets and neighborhoods. **Splash** down into the bay while the captain entertains you with stories of the past and present. Hosted luncheon at **Pompeii's Grotto** at the wharf. Explore **Hiller Aviation Museum** which celebrates the history of aviation in Northern California and beyond. Through unique aircraft collections, exhibits and programs, the museum provides a stimulating environment with multiple ways for visitors to experience the adventure and innovation of flight.

Tour Includes: all gratuities, hosted lunch

All this for **\$77.00** per person.

These trips fill up fast so don't wait.

For reservation information, contact:

Madeline or Bill Souza at (408) 356-6280 or
bsouza6280@aol.com

Bowling

One More Time League at 300 San Jose (behind Oakridge) 2008-2009 Winter League December 17, 2008

1st Place Team: "Alley Sharks," team 15: Tom Higa, Beverly Higa, Paul Houghton, Rick Taormina
2nd Place Team: "Don't Stop Now," team 24: Carl Wisbar, Wyeth Falkowski, Sheila DeSorbo, Topsy Thompson

HIGH SCRATCH SERIES

582-Ann Wilson 767-Ron Bianco
581-Aloma Lazetera 697-Dan Thery

HIGH SERIES HANDICAP

719-Aloma Lazetera 806-Ron Bianco
697-Shirley Beyler 767-Jim O'Neill

HIGH GAME SCRATCH

226-Betty Cobarrubias 287-Ron Bianco
222-Aloma Lazetera 279-Luther Kekoa

HIGH GAME HANDICAP

294-Betty Cobarrubias 300-Ron Bianco
273-O'Lynda Head 288-Jim O'Neill

AVERAGE

174-Faye Fritz 202-George Zagelow
170-Jan Curry 199-Dennis Pitchford
167-Shirley Beyler 197-Ron Bianco

We bowl Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM. Come down and watch! It beats day-time TV.

Topsy Thompson: 377-4314

Sue Ehrlich: 578-8500 (at the bowling center)

Short 18-Hole Golf

Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino

December 4, 2008: Individual Golf was played by 25 players. Winners were:

MEN

1st Sam Walters 54
Dick Lake 54
2nd Les Havlow 55
Ray Jelesky 55
3rd Jerry Condensa 56
4th Don Johnson 57
Darrel Jensen 57

WOMEN

1st DeDe Corral 51
2nd Marge Condensa 61
Clara DePaul 61
3rd Helen Brock 64
4th Hughie Cabri 67

Closest to Pin #10: Jerry Condensa

The next golf date is Tuesday, January 6, 2009, and then Thursday, February 5, 2009. The price goes up to \$25 on January 9. Play starts **at 10:00 AM, sharp. Please be there by 9:30 AM to sign in and to pick up your lunch coupon from Helen.** Please send your check for \$25 **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. Make your check out to the "IBM Retirement Club" and on the memo line write Short 18 Hole Golf. If it rains, call the golf course to find out if we have canceled. Phone 253-5357, extension 5.

Happy Golfing,
Clara DePaul (294-7041)

DeDe Corral (378-6470) & Helen Wehner (264-6296)

Par Tee Golf - To see full report, go online and look for "Par Tee Golf"

Los Lagos, December 1, 2008: The "Shot(s) of the Day" go to Don Johnson and Tom Baker. On hole #9, a par 5, Don holed his third shot into the cup from 120 yards out for an "Eagle." Great shot, Don! On hole #6, a par five, Tom hit his second shot and, as luck (bad) would have it, his ball hit the smallest of trees (the trunk was about 3 inches in diameter) dead center. This tree was about 35 yards in front of him, and his ball landed about 25 yards behind him! If he had tried to hit that tree, it probably would have taken about 500 shots before he could have even come close to it! Tough break, Tom! This completes my ninth year as Tournament Director. I extend my sincerest thanks to all of you who participate in the monthly tournaments. Thanks, also to Don Johnson, for chairing the membership for the Par Tee Golf Club, and to my lovely wife, Kathy, who verifies your scorecards. The format of play was "Two Best Ball Foursome". We had a nice turnout of 47 players. Here are the results:

Place/Score**

	Team			
1 / 114	Don Johnson	Carl Mendel	Tom Siljander	Mel Rodinsky
2 / 115*	Bill Avery	Mike Kuhn	Gill Feller	Dan Thery
2 / 115*	James Taubodo	Gus Bowman	Lou Tolbert	Mike Nunziata**

* = Tie

** = "Blind" Draw

Closest-To-Pin

	#2	#3	#5	#7	#16
Men:	Carl Mendel Dan Thery Bill Avery	Gus Bowman Nestor Delevaux Don Johnson	Eric Schrader Joe Salamida Darrell Bellah	Jerry Condensa Neil Rowland Tom Siljander	James Taubodo Mike Kuhn Dick Lake
Ladies:	Jan Zemetra Dede Corral	Cathy Priest Monique Dubois	Arlene Stepovich Gwen Kaefer	Marge Condensa	Jan La Fetra

There were seven bogey golfers (gross score of 86 or better) and they are: Gus Bowman 75; Eric Schrader 77; Lou Tolbert 80; Nestor Delevaux 81; Jerry Condensa 83; Mel Rodinsky 84; and Darrell Bellah 86. Congratulations to all the winners!

Future:

January 19	Ridgemark-Gabilan	\$45.00/January 2	Includes cart-soft spikes required - Format = 2 best ball foursome
February 9	Ridgemark-Diablo	\$45.00/January 20	Includes cart-soft spikes required - Format = 2 best ball foursome
March 2	San Jose Municipal	\$TBA /January 23	Cart optional @ \$TBA ea. - Format = 2 best ball foursome

Notes: If you have not renewed your Par Tee membership for 2009, it is now due: \$50.00. Joining costs the same.

Contact Don Johnson @ (408) 997-9452, or send an email to: maxdonmar@comcast.net, for renewals.

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

Day Trips

A Day in the Gold Country **Thursday, May 7, 2009**

We will be going to the beautiful Sierra foothills to tour the Sutter Creek gold mines. We'll board the Boss Buggy Shuttle to go deep underground into the Mother Lode. Afterward we will have a hosted luncheon at the American Exchange Hotel's Bellotti's Restaurant in the heart of Amador County. We will have time to do a little shopping in downtown Sutter Creek. On the way home we will make a non-hosted stop at Chocoholics Divine Desserts in Clements.

What a wonderful day trip this will be. Come join us.
\$79.00 Per Person

Contact: **Topsy Thompson (408) 377-4314**
or e-mail: topray4314@att.net

Racing at Golden Gate Fields **Saturday, April 18, 2009**

Come with us to the races. Beautiful Golden Gate Fields is the only horse racing venue for thoroughbreds left in the Bay Area. We have reservations for Saturday, April 18. One of the winningest jockeys in the nation and a lot of other skinny little guys are aboard some of the beautiful big horses as they fly around the track. Lots of color and excitement, particularly if the horse you bet on is in the running. A fine lunch is part of the deal.

The price is only \$55 and it is usually a grand day, particularly if you pick a couple of winners.

For reservations call:

George or Isobel Nale at 779-4275 or email us at
gr4na@aol.com. **george**

Hikes

Winter Hiking at Harvey Bear Ranch **Friday, January 23, 2009, 10:00 AM**

Celebrate the New Year with an invigorating hike at this county park near Gilroy. The landscape consists of rolling hills with oaks and buckeyes and lots of wild turkey, deer, squirrels, red-tailed hawks and turkey vultures. The park adjoins Coyote Lake. On the Ridge Trail we should have spectacular views of south Santa Clara County.

Our hike will take us on a fairly strenuous loop route of almost 6 miles. We'll begin at the parking lot (about 500 feet elevation) along the Harvey Bear and Willow Springs Trail, then on the Coyote Ridge trail where we will top out at about 1200 feet. The climb will be a good cardio workout! The trail isn't rocky but could be muddy if we have had heavy rains.

To get to the park, drive south on Highway 101 toward Gilroy. Take the San Martin Avenue exit. Proceed east on San Martin Avenue for 2 miles. The entrance to the park is on the left, ¼ mile east of Foothill Avenue. We will meet in the parking area at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be somewhere on the trail. There are no facilities along the trail so we'll just spread out on the ground. Carpoolers can meet at the Cottle Park and Ride (Highway 85 and Cottle) at 9AM. See you there!

The February hike will be a return visit to Año Nuevo State Reserve on about February 27 to see the elephant seals. This is a docent-led 3-mile walk and the limit is 20 walkers. First 18 to contact Gil and Julie get to go. More details online.

Contact: **Gil & Julie Feller 247-6769, jfeller1@ix.netcom.com**