



San Jose IBM Retirement Club Newsletter



December, 2012

Volume XXVII

Number 12

PRESIDENT'S CHAT

Where did 2012 go? Here we are at the end of the year. Must be time passes quickly when you are having fun with old friends. I want to give a big **Thank You** to the 2012 Club Officers who made this past year eventful and entertaining for those who participated. Welcome to the 2013 Officers. We are looking forward to working with you to meet the challenges for the coming year.

Holiday Party: It is still in the future or has already happened, depending on when you are reading this. Club members, spouses, and friends already were, or are looking forward to, being greeted by Santa on December 4 enjoying this year's Holiday Party. If you missed it, plan to make it in 2013.

Bill Souza—President

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

November 2012 - Canceled.

Schedule: Next clean is Thursday, December 13, 2012. Meet in the VTA Parking Lot 8:45 A.M.

Caller: Barbara Pugh 408-265-2466, kenosha@juno.com

Contact: Doug & Evelyn Dean, 408-264-9502, dougnevie@comcast.net

Trip Report

South Africa, October 24 – November 8, 2012

The IBM Retirement Club travelers had a wonderful time in Africa! We went to South Africa and Zambia. There is so much to see!!

Strangely, there was a bit of a language barrier even though we all claimed to be speaking English. Diversity is both South Africa's strength and its weakness. There is a two tier (maybe more) society based mostly on race, each tier with its own separate (and sometimes opposing) set of values and customs. They desperately need intelligent, honest, capable leadership. We heard estimates of more than 30% unemployment due perhaps to an experiment in outcome based education (OBE) instead of the time honored method of teaching the 3 R's, which may have led to a lack of trained workforce. This is a country blessed with enviable natural resources, including coal, gold, diamonds and platinum. Throughout northern South Africa, we saw stick-straight, closely planted (they trim the lower branches) pine forests, regularly harvested and replaced, which supply a good share of the world's paper.

And then there is the famed wildlife in both South Africa and Zambia. On safari, we saw cape buffalo, elephants, zebras, giraffes, rhinos, impala, wildebeest, waterbuck, hyenas, jackals, baboons, warhogs, monkeys, lions, leopard and cheetah. We saw fish eagles, herons, guinea fowl, ostrich, grouse, weaver birds, buzzards, vultures and even some creepy crawlies like chameleon and one black mamba snake (one was enough). We saw whales breaching on Walker Bay in the beautiful seaside resort town of Hermanus. We were treated to a wine tasting and picnic lunch at a winery in the Cape wine region. We enjoyed cruises on Lake St. Lucia, Hout Bay and the Zambezi river, and saw hippos, crocodiles, seals and penguins. We explored the beautiful Cape Town water front, and looked out over the city from the top of Table Mountain.

In Zambia, we walked to Victoria Falls. There has been a drought there and some of the water is diverted for power purposes, so we could see a good deal of the underlying basalt rock over which water is cascading during the wet times of the year. There was enough water for us to see "the smoke that thunders" -- the mist that hangs over the falls.

We were busy!!

On our last evening together we watched a crimson sun set over the Zambezi River -- a great memory to take home.
LaNell Byram

San Jose IBM Retirement Club

IBM Club, 650 Harry Road
San Jose, CA 95120

OFFICERS (2012):

President:

Bill Souza 408-356-6280
bsouza6280@aol.com

Vice-President:

Bernie Coullahan 408-356-5311
becoul@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Ruth Price 408-356-8975
ruthprice@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Jim Riley 408-268-5482
jrriley@prodigy.net

Membership:

Ed Mueller
membership@ibmsjrc.org

Communications:

Walt Cole 408-972-1178
opawalt@gmail.com

Directors-at-Large:

Beverly Baker
bjb1950k@gmail.com
Sally Large 408-782-7422
largesj@aol.com
Pat Motta 408-264-5821
paelgin@yahoo.com

COMMITTEES:

Sunshine:

Terry Milinic' 408-265-5908
theresano1@yahoo.com

Community Service - Adopt-A-Highway:

Doug & Evelyn Dean 408-264-9502
dougnevie@comcast.net

Past Presidents/Advisors:

Mel Olsen, Ed Henschel, Bill Souza,
Glen Furlong, Terry Milinic', George Nale,
Ernie Veal, Ina Havens, Art Dill, George
Walker

San Jose IBM Retirement Club
web site:

ibmsjrc.org

Next Club Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 20, 2012, 10:00 AM
Meriwest Credit Union
Chesbro and Blossom Hill Road

IBM PC Club Meeting

Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 5:00 PM
Annual 2012 Photo Sharing
www.sjpc.org
Contact: Walt Cole, 408-972-1178

Membership Report

Ed Mueller

November 13, 2012

Total Members: 2150
Newsletters mailed: 331
Members who read online: 1327
Members we don't know about: 478

Change of Address

Send your new mailing address, your new e-mail address, your new phone number, or a request for on-line newsletters or a request for mailed paper newsletters to Ed Mueller.

By e-mail: membership@ibmsjrc.org

By U. S. Mail: Ed Mueller
1269 Peralta Dr.
San Jose, CA 95120

New Members

Claude Bastianelli
Peter Duke
Gnei Falaldeen
Mung Le
Sushil Patel

In Memoriam

Jack M. Baldwin
Iva Lee Bianchi
Jack Clemens
Marguerite Harrington
Jim F. Kelly
Edward R. Knowles, Jr.
Henry J. Kraus Jr.
Evelyn Santillan
Laura E. Walker
Marian Wisbar

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

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 \$6.25; gold \$7.75
Regal/United Artists: \$6.75
Cinelux: \$6.25
Century/Cinemark: \$7.50
Camera Cinemas \$6.30

See's Candy

Regular price: \$16.10 - IBM Club price:
\$13.25 1 pound gift certificate

See other ticket discounts at
www.ibmsjrc.org

Click **IBM CLUB ANYDAY TICKETS**

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

IBM Club Office Contact:

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

Ticket Hours:

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
SVL Lobby (old STL) on Bailey Road

Discount tickets to many places are
online at the IBM Club website:

Great America
Raging Waters
California Academy of Sciences
6 Flags Discovery Kingdom
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Computer History Museum
Universal Studios
SeaWorld
Knotts Berry Farm
Disneyland

*There is a new link on
the club web site,
"Bay Area IBM Club Discounts,"
that will get you more directly to
the discounts in the above list.
It is on left side of home page just
above the "After IBM" link*

Sunshine Report

Topsy Thompson is recovering from an accident and hoping to return to bowling in December.

To all retirees with health issues, I send best wishes on behalf of the Retirement Club board members.

Terry Milinic' 408-265-5908
theresano1@yahoo.com

TRIPS & ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Date	Activity	TAR	Page	Contact	Phone
Dec 4, 2012	Annual Club Holiday Party	2	1	Art Dill	831-338-3069
Dec 11, 2012	PC Club – 2012 Photo Sharing		2	Walt Cole	408-972-1178
Dec 13, 2012	Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up	3	1	Evelyn & Doug Dean	408-264-9502
Dec 20, 2012	IBM Retirement Club Board Meeting		2	Bill Souza	408-356-6280
Jan 15, 2013	Indian Casino: River Rock	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Jan 25, 2013	Hike: San Francisco Stairway Walk	4	8	Gil & Julie Feller	408-247-6769
Mar 6, 2013	California Academy of Science	2	6	Bill Souza	408-356-6280
Mar 6-15, 2013	Israel, A Journey to the Holy Land	3	4	George Walker	408-268-7623
Mar 10-12, 2013	Reno Casinos	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Apr 15-25, 2013	The Netherlands		4	Bob Martinez	408-778-2978
Apr 25-May 10, 2013	Hawaiian Cruise		4	Maria Stout	408-677-3909
May 13-14, 2013	Casinos: Feather Fall, Gold Country	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
June 3, 2013	San Francisco Magic Bus Tour	2	6	Bill Souza	408-356-6280
July 9, 2013	Indian Casino: Jackson Rancheria	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
July 14-27, 2013	Central and Eastern European Cities	2	5	Bob Martinez	408-778-2978
July 31, 2013	RESPECT, a Musical Journey of Women	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Aug 23-30, 2013	Islands of New England		5	Maria Stout	408-677-3909
Sep 8-10, 2013	Reno Casinos	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Sep 20-Oct 2, 2013	Portugal, the Azores and Madeira Islands	3	5	George Walker	408-268-7623
Sep 26-Oct 1, 2013	Showtime Branson	3	6	Christina Anhorn	831-438-3437
Oct 8, 2013	Indian Casino: Chukchansi	2	6	Topsy Thompson	408-377-4314
Oct 21-Nov 4, 2013	French Waterways Cruise	4	5	Art Dill	831-338-3069

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 Adventures

The Netherlands

April 15 – 25, 2013

Chocolates from Belgium, Crepes from Paris, and delicious Gouda cheese from Amsterdam.

Take a walk through the historic medieval city of Bruges, visit the seaside village of Volundam, tour through Belgium and Amsterdam, and walk the avenues of the amazing city of Paris. Cruise the canals of Amsterdam by candlelight, and visit a famous diamond-cutting artisan workshop. We will travel through the French countryside, have dinner at the Eiffel Tower and boat down the Seine River. See and smell the amazing flowers of the world-famous Keukenhof Flower Gardens, watch historic windmills turn, and visit a cheese farm.

The cost of this 11-day tour, with air, is **\$3,899** per person, double occupancy. This includes hotel, roundtrip air from SFO, excursions, transfers and a coach to and from the San Francisco airport. Also included are 13 meals: 9 breakfasts and 4 dinners.

Brochures are available upon request, and can be e-mailed. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me.

Contact: **Bob Martinez, 408-778-2978 or e-mail: bobloves2travel@yahoo.com**

Hawaiian Islands - Grand Princess Cruise

15 nights

April 25 - May 10, 2013

This wonderful relaxing cruise is round trip from San Francisco. Visit Hilo on the big island with its fields of orchids, anthuriums and papaya trees, lava fields, black sand beaches and volcanoes. In Honolulu, see Waikiki Beach, Diamond Head, Pearl Harbor and the summer retreat of Queen Emma. On the garden island of Kauai visit Nawiliwili, fern grottos, mountain waterfalls, and a sugar plantation, and zip-line over the tropical forest canopy. On Maui, see Kahului, Haleakala and the road to Hana with 600 curves and 54 bridges. On the way back, we will stop in Ensenada, Mexico, for a little shopping. Cost is **\$2175**, per person, double occupancy.

You will receive a \$25 per cabin shipboard credit!

Contacts:

Maria Stout, 408-677-3909, mariastout@comcast.net

Christina Anhorn, 831-438-3437, leswede@aol.com

Israel, A Journey to the Holy Land

March 6-15, 2013

Tel Aviv; Jaffa; Caesarea; Tiberias; Sea of Galilee; Nazareth; Jericho; Dead Sea; Qumran; Jerusalem; Wailing Wall; Bethlehem; Church of the Nativity; Mount of Olives; Mt. Zion and more!

Experience this inspirational trip to the Holy Land to visit some of the most ancient sites in the world. Our trip begins in Tel Aviv, then on to Jaffa, visiting the UNESCO World Heritage site on Mount Carmel and ending the day in Tiberius on the Mount of Beatitudes. We will sail on the Sea of Galilee, have lunch at a Kibbutz and see the River Jordan. Cana, site of the first miracle, Nazareth, and Jericho will be stops for us. We visit another UNESCO site, the Masada, and float in the Dead Sea and then on to Jerusalem. This city is the birthplace of 3 major religions and we will have 4 nights to explore this most holy place.

The cost per person is **\$3,869** (double); \$4,569 (single); and includes air, hotels, 15 meals, and transfers.

Contact: **George & Carole Walker at gcwalker95120@yahoo.com or call 408-221-2063.**

Travel Adventures

Islands of New England

August 23 - 30, 2013

New England's miles of sandy beaches, majestic coasts, and rolling surf invite relaxation. The "Islands of New England" tour spends eight days exploring New England's charms, from the cobblestone streets of Nantucket to a traditional cranberry bog. Step back in time at Plimoth Plantation. Enjoy a lobster feast and a gourmet meal on the Cape Cod Dinner Train. Visit Boston and Providence, the Gilded Age mansions of Newport, the lively artist colony of Provincetown and the beautiful islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

The cost of this 8-day tour with air is **\$2349** per person, double occupancy. This includes hotel, round-trip air from San Jose Airport, air taxes and fees, and transportation to and from the airport. Also included are 11 meals.

Brochures are available upon request and can be e-mailed.

Contacts:

Maria Stout, 408-677-3909, mariastout@comcast.net

Christina Anhorn, 831-438-3437, leswede@aol.com

Magical French Waterways Cruise Provence & Spain

October 21 - November 4, 2013 (15 days)

This tour starts with 3 nights in romantic Barcelona in Spain. Then we enjoy a deluxe 7-night cruise including wine, gourmet food and day tours in Spain and France. We will take the high speed TGV train from Lyon to Paris and spend 3 nights there with guided sightseeing tours.

Headsets will be available for guided day tours. Use of bicycles will be available to explore on your own. During our experience we will be seeing 5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites (see brochure for details).

Onboard, enjoy free Internet, hit movies, folklore dancers, lectures, theme dinners, onboard music performances, and afternoon and evening piano music.

We have blocked rooms for only 24 travelers and space is limited in each category and is available on first-come first-served basis. All cabins are 170 square feet with outside windows. There are 4 categories available.

Prices range from **\$4980** (fixed window) to **\$5685** (French Balcony). Price does not include airfare. Airline cost will be available January, 2013. It will be a good time to use your frequent flyer miles.

Contact **Art & Sharry Dill** for a brochure and/or questions.
831-338-3069 or e-mail: **arthdill@comcast.net**

Portugal, the Azores and Madeira Islands

September 20 - October 2, 2013

Visit sunny Portugal, the Azores and the Madeira Islands! Explore medieval towns as well as charming coastal villages. Included are 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, areas of regional wines and some of the world's most striking scenery. The art of the area is well represented in the famous painted tiles. The wines and foods of this Portuguese Riviera will be featured in the 18 meals which are included. An evening of the famous Fado music will be enjoyed.

Flying to Madeira Island will bring us to outstanding mountains, charming villages known for their specialty crafts and goods, and three days of discovering one of the region's most beautiful natural settings. We will stroll the fishing villages, visit colonial mansions and 15th century cathedrals, and shop at local markets. Growing on these islands are pineapples, flowers and tea. In the Azores we will tour the largest town and continue on to the beautiful twin lakes of the region's volcanic national park.

The price is **\$4199** per person, double occupancy. Save \$250 if you sign up early!

Call **George Walker** for information and fliers.

408-268-7623 or e-mail **gcwalker95120@yahoo.com**

The Magnificent Cities of Central and Eastern Europe

July 14 - July 27, 2013

*14 Days of Europe's most beautiful cities,
including Vienna, Prague, Budapest and Warsaw.*

In the 'Golden City' of Prague, we will visit the Hradcany Castle, take a walk through Prague's old town, and see the astronomical clock. Then it is on to the vibrant city of Vienna, Austria where you will see many architectural marvels as you stroll the boulevards and sip some Viennese coffee. Next we travel the picturesque Hungarian countryside to the lovely city of Budapest. In Krakow, we will visit the Wawel Castle. Then it is on to Warsaw, where we see first hand the concentration camps of Auschwitz. We will also travel to Berlin, where we get to see the remains of the Berlin Wall and pass through the area that was once Check Point Charlie.

The cost of this 14 day tour, with air, is **\$4,289** double occupancy. This includes hotel, round trip air from SFO, excursions, transfers and a coach to and from the San Francisco Airport. Also included are 18 meals: 12 breakfasts and 6 dinners.

Brochures are available upon request, hardcopy or e-mail.

Contact: **Bob Martinez, 408-778-2978** or
e-mail: **bobloves2travel@yahoo.com**

More Adventures

Showtime in Branson September 26 – October 1, 2013

We will enjoy seven world class shows: * The Twelve Irish Tenors * "Joseph," the musical, with a backstage tour * Two-hour dinner cruise on the Branson Belle Showboat; includes a musical show * Presleys' Jubilee, a four-generation family entertainment * Clay Cooper's Country Musical Express * The Legends, imitating the look and sound of famous stars * The talented music group SIX.

The Cedar Lodge Brunch is much anticipated by those who have been there before, as is a dinner at the Cracker Barrel. This time we will also enjoy Andy Williams' Moon River Grill, Plaza View and in Kansas City a genuine BBQ at Fiorella's Jack Stack.

Dogwood Canyon and a visit to the College of the Ozarks give us a peek at the lovely surroundings plus there will be leisure time for those who like to shop, both in downtown Branson and in nice shops very close to the Radisson where we are staying for the duration.

Tour Price is **\$2190** double occupancy. \$350 single supplement.

This includes round trip airfare, deluxe motor coach throughout, five nights accommodation, admission to 7 shows, all tours as listed in itinerary, baggage handling and ten hosted meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 brunch & five dinners and all tips and gratuities.

For brochure and/or questions contact:

Christina Anhorn at 831-438-3437, e-mail: leswede@aol.com
Heidi Harlan at 408-266-7639

Respect, a Musical Journey of Women Wednesday, July 31, 2013

This international hit musical tells the exciting story of women through popular music and the real adventures of women -- dreams realized, lost loves, relationships and careers. The song list includes "Won't You Come Home Bill Bailey," "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend," "I Enjoy Being a Girl," and dozens more.

Tour Includes: round-trip transportation, matinee performance of R.E.S.P.E.C.T. at the East Sonora Theater, and a hosted preshow luncheon at the historic Columbia City Hotel.

The price is **\$98** per person.

Contact: **Topsy Thompson, 408-377-4314, or topray4314@att.net**

Bowling

One More Time League at "300 San Jose" (behind Oakridge)

Winter League Standings

Topsy is recovering from an injury she suffered due to being over 25 years old. So she didn't bowl during November. She plans on returning to the bowling alley in December even though she will not be bowling. Why return, you might ask? Because bowling is a social gathering as well as being a fun sporting event for the participants.

This group bowls every Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM. You can always drop in and visit, if you are polite.

Topsy Thompson, Secretary, 408-377-4314

Magic Bus Tour -- it's a trip Monday, June 3, 2013!

Travel back in time aboard a Mobile Time Machine that blends sightseeing, film, and theater for a tour that traces San Francisco's history back to the 60's. Large screens roll down over the bus windows, revealing documentary footage, and oral histories and classic tunes give splashes of psychedelic color to each passing landmark. Singing along and dressing in brightly colored attire for this time warping tour is optional and encouraged!

Our day in San Francisco will include free time at Pier 39 and a hosted lunch at the Hard Rock Café.

Deluxe Motorcoach, hosted lunch, bus tour, All Gratuities –

All this for \$65 per person

These trips fill up fast so don't wait.

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

Casino Trips

River Rock
Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Reno Casinos
March 10-12, 2013

**Feather Fall,
Gold Country**
May 13-14, 2013

Jackson Rancheria
Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Reno Casinos
September 8-10, 2013

Chukchansi
Tuesday, October 8, 2013

All these trips will be at least a 5 hour stay.

Parking:

Capitol Expressway and Hwy 87
Park-n-Ride,
South Lot, Section G.
Depart: 7:30 AM

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

California Academy of Sciences Tuesday, March 6, 2013

Join your IBM Retirement friends for a 4 hour visit to the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, in beautiful Golden Gate Park.

Admission includes access to all museum and aquarium exhibits, including the rainforest, planetarium, and living roof. The visit will also include access to the new Earthquake exhibit that has everyone talking. Excite your senses with a new, visually stunning planetarium show that journeys through the San Andreas fault, delves into the Earth's core and explores the seismic science of earthquakes throughout our world. It's certain there will be something for everyone to enjoy! With several dining options, a no host lunch break can be made at your convenience.

Deluxe motorcoach, museum admission, all gratuities included.

All this for **\$65** per person. These trips fill up fast so don't wait.

Contact: **Bill Souza at 408-356-6280 or bsouza6280@aol.com**

Short 18-Hole Golf

Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino

November 1, 2012: We had 18 golfers signed up, but Mother Nature had other plans! It rained Wednesday night and the prospects were not looking very good for Thursday, so we cancelled. Clara called all of the golfers to let them know.

Thanks, Clara.....Good job!

The next golf dates are Thursdays, December 6, 2012, plus January 3 and February 7, 2013. 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 Clara.

Please send your check for **\$26 15 days in advance** of our golf date (or sooner) to:

Clara DePaul, 910 N. 3rd St., San Jose, CA 95112

Or call Clara 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 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 408-253-5357, extension 5.

Happy Golfing to All!
Clara DePaul 408-294-7041
DeDe Corral 408-378-6470

Par Tee Golf

Spring Valley November 5, 2012. This was our 2nd Annual "Don Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament." We had spectacular weather and a huge turnout of 80 players, plus several of Don's family who roamed the course taking photos of all the participants. The Shot-of-the-Day goes to Khanh Nguyen. On hole #4, a 158-yard par three, Khanh chipped his second shot from 20 yards out into the cup for Birdie! Great shot, Khanh! The format of play was an individual play "Sandwich Shoot." Each foursome competed for a New York Steak Sandwich. The others in the foursome received their choice of Cheeseburger, Chicken, or Italian Sausage Sandwich. Sandwiches came with a choice of French Fries or chips and a drink. Here are the results:

Closest-To-Pin	#2	#4	#7	#11	#16
Men	Cliff Norfleet 12' 2" Terry Gray 17' 10" Milton Loo 18' 11"	Tom Siljander 9' 3" Tony Scalora 14' 3" Bob Ciraulo 14' 5"	Khanh Nguyen 10' 5" Frank Gire 12' 7" Mel Rodinsky 13' 3"	James Taubodo 15' 5" Dennis Niemeyer 45' 2" John Akeley 54' 2"	Willie Abraham 12' 2" Al Carlson 14' 3" Warren Gannon 23' 1"
Women					Marge Condensa 4' 0" Claudia Cauthorn 27' 9"

Future	Course	Cost/Due Date	Notes
December 3	Los Lagos	\$48.00/November 14	Includes cart - Format = 2 best ball foursome
January 14	Ridgemark-Gabilan	\$45.00/December 26	Includes cart - Format = 2 best ball foursome
February 4	Ridgemark Diablo	\$45.00/January 16	Includes cart - Format = 2 best ball foursome

- Notes:**
- Check the IBM Retirement Club web site www.ibmsjrc.org for Par Tee Golf information, rules and results.
 - Proper golf attire is required at ALL of the courses that we play. That means "Jeans" or "Levi's" are NOT allowed.
 - **Renewals for your 2013 NCGA dues are now being accepted. The cost for reinstatement or renewals is \$42.00 from October 1 to December 25. After that, the cost is \$52.00.**
 - If you have never had an NCGA card, you may get one by joining the IBM Retiree Par Tee Golf club. The cost is \$52.00. Contact Terry Gray 408-629-8893, or send an email to tgolf18@aol.com
 - IBM Alumni, Retirees, and guests are welcome to play in the Par Tee Golf Club Tournaments. Early signups are very much appreciated. Please do not wait until the last minute to sign up. You might not get in!
 - Make all checks payable to "Par Tee Golf." 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 sign ups is
Par Tee Golf, P.O. Box 53535, San Jose, CA 95153-0535
 - Include your GHIN number, home phone number, and your e-mail address, if I don't already have them. 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).
- Contact: Andy La Scola 408-371-3329 or alascola@earthlink.net**

Hikes

San Francisco Stairway Walk

Friday, January 25, 2013, 10:00 AM

Last time we did this walk everyone said it was most enjoyable, so we are doing it again. It is an urban trek, almost all on paved streets and walkways. But oh, what walkways these are! We will use the city's stairways to navigate hills that are too steep for cars. When we scouted the walk, we counted a total of 550 stairs going up, probably about the same going down. So bring your most comfortable walking shoes and tune up your knees for this challenging walk.

We found the walk in a delightful book called "Stairway Walks in San Francisco." Our route takes us through Golden Gate Heights, an area south of Golden Gate Park. It's a quiet residential neighborhood with a lovely park and great views.

Other than the stairways we'll navigate, your other challenge will be finding a place to park. We will be meeting on the corner of 15th and Lincoln, across the street from Golden Gate Park. We noted that there was available parking on Lincoln, with no time limit. Probably your best bet to get to the city will be the 280-19th Avenue route. When you get to Lincoln (just before Golden Gate Park), turn right and begin your search for a space. Carpooling is highly recommended! Carpoolers - meet at the normal place - Camden Park and Ride (Camden at 85), at 8:30 AM.

We didn't find a great place to stop for lunch along the walk, so we recommend bringing a snack and drink for munching along the way. Once we finish the walk there is a wide variety of restaurants nearby around 9th avenue (we'll direct you) where you can replenish the calories you burned.

If you plan to join us, please let us know as we'd like to have an idea of who will be going. We'll do the walk rain or shine.

Contact: **Gil & Julie Feller - 408-247-6769 or 408-314-1546**

Krazy Kampers

We are a group of retired IBMers belonging to the IBM Camping Club, the Krazy Kampers. The club has been around for over 20 years and we would like to invite other IBM retirees who like camping to learn about and perhaps join us on our fun campouts. There is a campout almost every month in the area. The upcoming events with contacts are listed at the right.

December 9, 2012	Harry's Hofbrau	Bob Courtney	408-779-5961
January 17 – 20, 2013	Cal Expo/Sacramento	Jim Dack	408-266-6951
February 21 – 25 , 2013	Pismo Beach	Mel Rinehart	408-225-1677
March 14 – 17, 2013	Marina Dunes	Rich Haggerty	408-227-4087
April 11 – 14, 2013	Paso Robles	Dale Jelsema	408-842-1310
May 9 – 12, 2013	Smithwoods	Ted Head	408-440-7137
July 18 – 21, 2013	South Lake Tahoe	Bill Bartz	408-971-8928