

Traveling Times

Vol. 11 No. 12

Boeing Employees' Travel Club

Newsletter

December 2004

2005 Elected Board Officers

Your elected officers for 2005 are: Judy Bosnake-President; Jane Bentley-Vice President; Mary Lou Call-Secretary and Barbara Elliott-Treasurer. Members for the appointed Board positions will be announced by Judy in a subsequent Newsletter.

December Program (Christmas Party)



December 9, 2004 at 6:30 PM

The December meeting will start one half hour early at 6:30 PM and SANTA will visit us. We need to have a head count so we can better estimate the amount of food to buy for our buffet tables. If you have not already signed up, please call Blanche at 253-833-0795.

The dessert table will await all the goodies the members bring to share with each other. (Please tape your name to the bottom of your plate, dish or container so none get lost).

This Magical Christmas Party is one you don't want to miss. Our entertainer for the evening has won numerous awards in his field, including 2002 1st Place in an International Competition.

Silent Auction

There will be a donation box for Northwest Harvest on the Silent Auction table (cash or checks only please). Les Brooks will bring his 19th hand made clock for our silent auction. All proceeds collected from the auction will go to Northwest Harvest. Paula and Darrell Gaston will conduct our silent auction and Bill Jury will auction off any remaining unsold items at the end.

We will have tables set up in the front of the room for your donated items so don't forget to bring your donations to the Christmas party to make the silent auction a success.

Badges

Please wear your Boeing badge during the meetings. If you have a retirement badge or card, please carry it with you to the meetings. This helps us to avoid security issues.

Lost and Found: If you lost a "Trip of the Year Dangle" at the November Regular Meeting, please contact Mavis LaBounty. She has it.

December Greeters: Jo and Bill Jury will greet our members and guests at our December Christmas Party. Jim Ewing will be our door monitor. Thank you to Jane and Paul Bentley for welcoming our members and guests at the November Regular Meeting. Thank you, also, to Jim Ewing for being our November door monitor.

Programs for 2005

January 13 Dick Mills of World Discovery Safaris will present details of the planned trip to India in March.

The Black Sea/Danube River and France/ Rhone River cruise videos which were not shown at the November meeting due to time constraints will be shown by Alex Henschel.

We welcome member ideas for other 2005 programs.

LET'S GO!!!

Club Sponsored Trips for 2004

Please Note: *Expression of interest in trips sponsored by the club helps our vendors and us tremendously in planning for these trips. Please call or e-mail the BETC Focal or another Board member, or put your name on a sign-up sheet at the meeting. Let us know even if you "might" be interested. Thank you.*

Acronym Definitions: ppdo = per person, double occupancy pps = per person, single occupancy

Miracle on 34th Street - December 12 Auburn Dinner Theater- Wait List

Rekindle the joy of Christmas with Valentine Davies' classic story. Sit back and enjoy a wonderful meal followed by a moving production by a talented cast. We'll attend the matinee with lunch being served at 2:00PM. There will be a choice of 3 entrees; capered chicken breast, pork loin or ravioli. Dessert is not included. The Auburn Dinner Theater is located at 10 Auburn Ave.

Rate: \$32.50 p.p. for meal, play and gratuity. The quoted price of \$32.50 **does not include gratuity**. The two previous times that BETC attended the Auburn Dinner Theater, the tip was included but the rate was \$35.50. This is consistent with a \$3.00 suggested tip. One of the people answering the phone at the theater misspoke and we apologize for the misunderstanding.

BETC Focal: Jane Bentley 425-271-6237 or hjbphb@comcast.net.

Mystery Trip II - December 29 (Wednesday) thru January 1 (Saturday).

5th Clue: What do chocolate, trains, history and boats all have in common? You'll have to take this mystery trip to find out.

Transportation by Deluxe Bus for a 3 night stay at the same hotel with deluxe view rooms, indoor/outdoor entertainment, an optional wine tasting event (\$15 additional), shopping, local tours, and a Happy New Year's Eve to all.

Rate: \$499 ppdo (credit cards are accepted at a \$15 fee). Single rate is \$180 more and Triple available at \$60 less per person. **There are still openings for this trip!**

Tour Agent: Kathleen Tansey, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, contact at 800-935-0454 or KathleenTansey@TRAVELCENTER4U.com

BETC Focal: Judy Bosnake, 425-432-0789 or judy.a.bosnake@boeing.com

BETC TRIPS for 2005

The following are the trips and activities being planned for 2005. Trips for the time period April through December 2005 are subject to approval of the 2005 BETC Board. If you are interested in any of these trips/activities please call or email the BETC Focal your expression of interest. If trips do not have a sufficient level of interest, they will be dropped and other trip ideas considered.

Steel Magnolias at the Issaquah Village Theatre, January 30th

Enjoy this Sunday Afternoon Matinee play by Robert Harling. The play is full of life and brimming with laughter as it weaves wit, wisdom and winning drama into a shining celebration of the incomparable female spirit. Through the joys of weddings to the woes of marriage to sorest trials a woman can face, six friends sit in a Louisiana beauty shop and gossip, giggle and give each other the steely resolve they need to survive the best and worst life can give.

Estimated Cost: \$30 for seniors at group rates (20), plan lunch or dinner on your own. Some of us plan lunch at Fin's Bistro adjacent to the Theatre. Tickets will be distributed at the January meeting.

BETC Focal: Alex Henschel 425-277-4017 or alexhenschel@msn.com

The Best of Vancouver and Whistler Too, British Columbia, February 13-16

Take Amtrak's Cascade Train from Seattle to Vancouver and spend 3 nights at the Granville Island Hotel. Dine together in Chinatown, the 2nd largest in North America. Tour the city and see "Hollywood of the North" Television and Movie production locations as well as other points of interest. Attend the Valentine's Day dinner and theater production of "Enchanted April". Journey to Whistler via the Sea to Sky Highway with a stop at Shannon Falls. Enjoy the day at Whistler and a dinner at Whistler Village before returning to Vancouver. Our return to Seattle will be by motorcoach with a Duty Free shopping stop at the border. Trip is fully escorted and narrated.

Cost: \$469 ppdo, single supplement available at \$169. Deposit of \$150 per person is required to make a reservation. **We need a minimum of 30 travelers to make this trip a go, so contact me to sign up.**

Tour Agent: Alki Tours 800-895-2554 or 206-935-6848

BETC Focal: Alex Henschel 425-277-4017 or alexhenschel@msn.com

Frasier Downs/Cloverdale Harness Races, British Columbia, TBD

This harness race track is undergoing renovation and we will finalize plans for this trip once the reopening date is established.

Cost Goal: TBD

BETC Focal: Blanche Arbogast 253-833-0795

India with Singapore option, March 18 through April 3

The India tip is on now. *Cultures and Wildlife of India* A 17 day expedition led by Dr. D. Schaaf. Departs March 18, 2005 and returns April 3. All-inclusive from Seattle.

An optional 3-day extension to Singapore for \$1295 is available.

We are limited to 25 on this trip. A down payment of \$500 is required to hold your place. All meals and travel insurance are included. A visa is required to enter India. We have an itinerary available showing the places that will be visited. If you are interested in going on this trip of a LIFETIME get in touch with me.

So far over 20 members have expressed interest in this trip.

Cost: \$5095 ppdo

Tour Agent: World Discovery Safaris, Dick Mills

BETC Focal: Rod Call 425-255-8550 or rfcall@aol.com

Ocean Shores/ Lake Quinault/Rain Forest/Pacific Ocean, April 3 to 6

This will be a member car pool trip similar to the September 2004 Holden Village trip. We will drive to Ocean Shores and spend an afternoon and evening there. Activities will include walking the beach to experience the sights, sounds and smells of the springtime Pacific Ocean. Our evening will include a member reception to share our beachcombing experiences, followed by a group dinner at a local restaurant. After breakfast the next morning we will travel to the Lake Quinault Lodge where we will spend two days and nights. Activities there will include walks in the rain forest, a visit to the local Indian Salmon Hatchery, nature walks, fishing in Lake Quinault, an Olympic Peninsula history discussion by a local expert, and group dinners both nights. Lunches will be on our own. All breakfasts are included. Our return to Seattle will include a rest stop picnic where we will share food surprises that we acquired during the trip.

Cost Goal: \$300 to \$400 depending on duration/activities. Final cost to be determined for the January 2005 Newsletter.

BETC Focal: Alex Henschel 425-277-4017 or alexhenschel@msn.com

April 23- May 12 Osaka to Seattle on the Sapphire Princess

Spend 19 days cruising between Osaka, Japan and Seattle aboard the brand new 113,000 gross tons Sapphire Princess. The ports are Nagasaki, Pusan, Vladivostok, Sapporo, cross International Date Line, Dutch Harbor, Seward (Anchorage), cruise College Fjord and Glacier Bay; Juneau and **includes:** 19 day cruise, port charges, Examples of group base rates are: Cat JJ inside \$2595., Cat. FF outside obstructed view \$2845., Cat. DD outside unobstructed view \$2960., Cat BB balcony \$3095. and Cat. BA Balcony \$3145. Add to the base \$808.40 for air, taxes and transfer in Osaka.

Excludes: insurance, gratuities, shore excursions. Air deviation fee is \$75.00

Pretrip: 2 nights in Kyoto approximately \$430.ppdo

BETC Focal: Jane Bentley 425-271-6237 hjbphb@comcast.net .

Travel Agent: Lisa Caulfield or Mary Jacob - Professional Travel Services at 1-800-275-9876 or Mary at grouptravelspecialist@comcast.net; Lisa at caulfields@earthlink.net

Southern Heritage Tours (Georgia & South Carolina) , May 20-27, 2005

Trip includes Plantations, Gardens and Southern Hospitality. Tour Atlanta, CNN Studios, Underground Atlanta shopping plaza, historic Charleston and the City Market, Fort Sumter and Boone Hall, historic landmarks in Savannah, Jekyll Island (where we stay 2 nights) and St. Simons Island.

Cost: \$1799 ppdo, which includes 7 breakfasts and 5 dinners as well as round trip airfare.

BETC Focal: Barbara Elliott 425-228-8665 or barbara.r.elliott@boeing.com

Travel Agent: Collette Vacations, Ryan Hadley 206-218-5669

Skagit City Light Tour, June 4

Motorcoach via I-5 to the North Cascades Highway to Newhalem. Visit the National Park Service Visitor's Center and then cruise Diablo Lake to the Diablo Dam Tour. We will be able to view the antique incline railway and take a stroll through the wooded trails surrounding the dam. On our return trip to Seattle we will stop at a local North Cascades restaurant for a late afternoon Chicken BBQ.

Cost: \$69 per person

BETC Focal: Blanche Arbogast 253-833-0795

Tour Agent: Call Alki Tours at 1-800- 895-2554 to make reservations.

The Music Man at the Issaquah Village Theatre, June 26

This event will include the matinee performance following by a potluck picnic at the Lake Sammamish State Park, More details if our members show interest.

Cost Goal: \$30 per person for seniors at the group rate.

BETC Focal: Alex Henschel 425-277-4017 or alexhenschel@msn.com

Mystery Trip, July TBD

Cost Goal: \$300 to \$500 range

BETC Focal: Rod Call 425-255-8550 or rfcall@aol.com

North of 60 - Canada's Northwest Territories, July 7-24, 2005

This unique tour will take you to places well off the beaten path and include Calgary, Peace River, Highlevel; Fort Smith and Wood Buffalo National Park, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site; Fort Providence; fly from Yellow Knife, fly over the Arctic Circle to Inuvik to enjoy the Great Northern Arts Festival; fly to Tuktoyaktuk where you can try a Polar Bear Swim; Fort Simpson; Fort Nelson where you'll find yourself in the "Tropics of the North"; Grande Prairie; Jasper including Maligne Canyon; and Banff with a Sno-Coach ride on the Columbia Icefields. **Includes** 16 nights accommodations, 19 meals, locally guided tours in Jasper, Banff, Columbia Icefields, Wood Buffalo National Park. **Does not include** RT air from Seattle to Calgary, you may wish to use some of those frequent flyer miles. Current airfare is approximately \$350 per person via Alaska Airlines.

Rate: Approximately \$3200. - \$3260. Including insurance

Tour Operator: Cardinal Travel Tours, Calgary

BETC Focal: Blanche Arbogast - 253-833-0795

Oshkosh Airshow/Chicago, July/August TBD

More information to be provided in future Newsletters if we are able to make suitable arrangements.

Cost Goal: \$1500 to \$2000 range depending on duration/activities

BETC Focal: Bill Forde 425-337-4179 or wildfire@geminico.com

**Russia/Mongolia and the Trans-Siberian Railway with a Korea pre trip extension.
August 15-31**

This custom tour is perfect for a small group of friends traveling together. The highlight is the cross-cultural opportunities: meeting Chinese, Mongols, Buryats and Russians as we cross three continents and thousands of miles; tracing the old tea route from Beijing to Moscow. In Beijing, we spend the afternoon exploring the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square. In Mongolia, we sleep in gers as nomadic Mongolians do, and see the ancient capital of Genghis-Khan. In Buryatia, we visit a remote village located between the Mongolian border and Ulan Ude, where hospitable locals greet us. We experience the beauty and size of the deepest lake in the world, Lake Baikal. We conclude our Trans-Siberian Rail journey in Moscow, the political heart of Russia.

Cost: \$5955 ppdo includes processing and visas for China/Mongolia and Russia. A deposit of \$300 per person will be required by December 15,2004 to hold your reservation. We need a minimum of 20 travelers for this trip so inform me of your plans to go.

A pre-trip option to Seoul, Korea is available for approximately \$500 per person for a 2 day/2 night stay. Travelers would depart Seattle on August 12th. Post trip options are still being investigated.

BETC Focal: Alex Henschel 425-277-4017 or alexhenschel@msn.com

Eastern Washington Wine Trip (Yakima, Toppenish, Prosser, Richland, Wenatchee), September TBD

This will be a BETC arranged trip by members who grew up in Eastern Washington

Cost Goal: \$300 to \$500 range depending on itinerary

BETC Focal: Darrell and Paula Gaston 206-232-1655 or dandp@bigzoo.net

New Zealand with post trip to Fiji Islands, October TBD

Not enough interest has ben expressed by our members to continue planning for this trip.

Galapagos Islands with Peru post trip, November TBD

Not enough interest has been expressed by our members to continue planning for this trip.

Branson and the Ozarks, December TBD

More information to be provided in future Newsletters

Cost Goal: in the \$1500 range per person

BETC Focal: Blanche Arbogast 253-833-0795

BETC Christmas Party. December 8
BETC Focal: Hospitality Chairperson for 2005

Post Christmas/New Years trip, December TBD

Cost Goal: in the \$1000 range per person

BETC Focal: Judy Bosnake 425-432-8665 or judy.a.bosnake@boeing.co

SUNSHINE: Darrell & Paula Gaston 206-232-1655

Our thoughts and best wishes for speedy recovery are with the following club members:

Jim Morrow

Ron Cline

Deanna Fortkort

Alice Goddard

June Floth

Etta Lewis

POLICIES FOR CLUB-SPONSORED TOURS

Tour escort costs may be defrayed. BETC cancellation policies are negotiated with carrier(s) and vendor(s) at the time of contract and will vary with each trip or event. Portions of a trip may not be refundable. BETC will continue to encourage "wait lists" to help find replacements for cancellations.

Non-Members are welcome to come as BETC member guests on any trip. For most trips, a small fee for non-members will be added: \$2 for short trips (1-2 days), \$5 for medium (3-6 days) and \$10 for trips lasting seven days or more. Also, the Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement form must be signed.

Remember: Your only guarantee of a place on any trip is to put down a deposit.

Boeing Employees' Travel Club Board of Trustees 2004

President **Alex Henschel** Home: 425-277-4017; alexhenschel@msn.com

Vice President **Mavis LaBounty** Home: 206-878-3514; m_labounty@msn.com

Treasurer **Barbara Elliott** W: 206-662-5961; H: 425-228- 8665;
barbara.r.elliott@ boeing.com

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judy.a.bosnake@boeing.com

Membership **Jiin Chen** Home: 425-255-1865; ac1239@msn.com

Hospitality **Blanche Arbogast** Home: 253-833-0795

Sunshine **Paula Gaston** Home: 206-232-1655; dandp@bigzoo.net

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Newsletter Editor **Bill Forde** Home: 425-337-4179; wildfire@geminico.com

Meeting Master/Audio-Visual **Rod Call** home: 425-255-8550; rfcall@aol.com

Past President **Jane Bentley** Home: 425-271-6237; hjbphb@comcast.net

Boeing Recreation Advisor Evelyn Alexander W: 206-655-1952;
evelyn.l.alexander@boeing.com

BETC WEB site: <http://www.betravelclub.com>

News items and editorial comment in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Boeing Company.

Newsletter items for the January 2005 issue are needed by December 17th.

Membership expiring?

If the date on your address label is **December or January**, please renew your membership today. Complete and sign the membership renewal form and the Indemnification agreement which is included in your Newsletter, enclose a check and mail it to BETC or give it to our Membership Chairman, Jiin Chen or our Treasurer, Barbara Elliott. Every member is important and is someone's favorite traveling companion. If you know of a former BETC member who has ceased their membership, please give them a call to inquire if they would like to rejoin. Also, if you have Boeing friends who are in "lay-off status" let them know that they can be Associate members. **Please don't let your membership lapse!**
Use the Renton P.O. Box 3546 if you mail in your membership renewal and signed Indemnification Form

If undeliverable, return to Barbara Elliott, MC 35-72

Boeing Employees' Travel Club

P. O. Box 3546

Renton, WA 98056

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 9, 2004 (Annual BETC Christmas Party)

Time: **6:30 p.m.**

Place: 25.01 Cafeteria

Boeing Longacres Park

Oakesdale Rd, Renton

Directions: Go to SW Grady Way in Renton between West Valley Highway and Rainier Ave S. From SW Grady Way, turn South onto Oakesdale going under Interstate 405 and continue past SW 16th St. Turn right into the first Boeing parking lot off Oakesdale (there is a small sign directing you to the 25-01 building). Enter the door on the East side to the left of the loading dock. Travel Club signs will also be visible.