

Sixty Plus at San Francisco State University

Highlights

■ News ■ Programs ■ Classes ■ The Arts ■ Tours ■ Community

SIXTY PLUS

A Program for Lifelong Learning

January, 2014

MONDAY, JANUARY 13: GRAHAM J. (DES) DESVERNINE Special Agent, FBI (retired)

A very special program will be presented by Des Desvernine, a retired Special Agent with the FBI, with a specialty in organized crime matters and white collar crimes. He will talk with us about some of his interesting cases and undercover assignments.



He is a pioneer of undercover investigations, including ownership of a bar in Valdez, Alaska from 1974 to 1976. He retired from the FBI in 1980 as Supervisory Special Agent in charge of the Special Operations Group in San Francisco. At the time of his retirement he was considered the “Most Commended” Special Agent in the FBI. He then became a Homicide Sergeant in Marin County and worked closely on the investigation of the “Trailside Killer”.

The meeting will be held in the Rosa Parks Room of the SFSU Student Center at 1:00 p.m. Social time will follow. The hospitality hostess for this meeting is **Margaret Grant**. Sixty Plus members whose last names begin with the letters **Ful - Gray** are requested to bring refreshments for this meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 27: MARILYN STRAKA “Venice, the Gem of Italy”

Tour Venice and learn why “Water is Life.” See the canals, used by Venetians through the centuries for transportation and all city services — and of course by the gondoliers who are so popular with the tourists.



Walk through the city (no cars allowed) as we explore hidden passageways and courtyards. Learn the history of ship building and follow Italian art through the ages. Also see St. Mark’s Square with its dueling orchestras. This special city will come alive through Marilyn’s slides and narrative.

The meeting will be held in the Rosa Parks Room of the SFSU Student Center at 1:00 p.m. Social time will follow. The hospitality hostess for this meeting is **Aida Hom**. Sixty Plus members whose last names begin with the letters **Gre - Hom** are requested to bring refreshments for this meeting

Shuttle Bus Times: Pick-up time for the meeting will be at 12:15 p.m. at the Lake Merced parking lot at the foot of Sunset Blvd. A second bus will be available if necessary. The return trip will be at 3:15 p.m. from in front of the Creative Arts Building on Holloway Avenue.

President's Message – January, 2014

Happy New Year to all of you.

Welcome to 2014. As we enter a new year and bid the old one goodbye, my personal hope is that we receive the gift of peace this year. May the crazies, both here and all over the world, get over their hatred and realize that it only breeds still more hate and solves nothing in the long run. As a child of World War II, I find it ironic that after all that bombing and mayhem our former sworn enemies are now our best friends.



The weather has also been crazy, and many people suffered a great deal from extremes of all kinds — heat, cold, floods, winds, and general misery all round, not just in third world countries but in the US and Europe. I can't believe how lucky we are here in the Bay Area. That said, though, we do need a little rain. I loved the 70 degree weather in November and so did my visitors, but it was not right somehow. The December slide into winter, while not so glorious, felt more normal.

Sixty Plus is in good shape. We are down some membership but we have a loyal core group and marvelous volunteers who make the whole thing work: good speakers, good meals, good tours and enough in the bank to pay our bills. Do try to have your friends and family join us — I think they will agree that \$75 a year is quite a bargain for all the good times we have together.

Don't forget to let us know if anyone needs a little cheering up from our Sunshine lady.

Shelagh N. Ross, President: shelaghx@yahoo.com

p.s. Don't forget to check our website: sixtyplussf.org

Hospitality Committee

The following is the hospitality schedule for the next three months:

Jan. 13	Ful – Gray	Feb. 10	Hy – Jow	Mar. 10	Ku – Lin
Jan. 27	Gre – Hom	Feb. 24	Ka – Kn	Mar. 24	Lo – Mil

Members are asked to provide refreshments such as cookies, fruit, or other finger food for general membership meetings according to this alphabetical order. Please make a note of your turn and bring refreshments on your assigned day. In case you cannot attend your assigned meeting, please exchange with someone in another alphabetical group.

We will have a designated host from each alphabetical group for each meeting. The host is to bring the tablecloth, some paper plates for contributions, napkins and any decorations desired; help with set-up and clean-up; thank members who bring the treats; socialize; and be sure that all leftovers are removed.

Heartfelt thanks to all hosts and contributors.

Phyllis Abad, pabad@earthlink.net

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

By Bob Wrisley

Beginners Square Dance Class, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (side door) 43rd Ave. at Judah, starts Mon., Feb 3, 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. www.stpaulspresbyterian.com

Caper Cutters Square Dance Club, Mondays, 7:00 p.m.; for information: Dave Styles 751-3105. <http://www.sfcapercutters.org/>

Pacific Orchid Exposition, Fort Mason, Thu., Feb. 20 to Sun., Feb. 23. www.fortmason.org

Antiquarian Book Fair, Fort Mason, Sat., Sun., Feb 1, 2, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission \$8.00 Seniors. Rare Books on all subjects, also, posters, post cards. <http://www.sfbookandpaperfair.com/>

San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival, Mare Island, Vallejo, Fri., Feb. 7 through Sun., Feb. 9. Tours, hikes, walks. Preserve open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Nature walks from the Visitor Center. <http://www.sfbayflywayfestival.com/>

Conservatory of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, Tues. thru Sun., 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$5.00 seniors, free every first Tuesday. Butterfly exhibit through March 16. <http://www.conservatoryofflowers.org>

Silver Ride offers assisted transportation with driver escorts, door to door service for seniors and persons having difficulty walking. Phone 861-7433. <http://www.silverride.com/>

NOT - QUITE - GOURMET DINING

Prospect Restaurant

300 Spear (at Folsom)

Tuesday, January 28th, 11:30 a.m.

A more casual sister from the team behind the acclaimed Boulevard — Nancy Oakes, Pam Mazzola, and Kathy King — Prospect is a convivial dining spot where contemporary American cuisine shines. From radicchio and Tuscan kale salad to seared day boat sea scallops to slow cooked, boneless short ribs to chocolate orbit cake, the choices proclaim the gifts of this talented team. Transportation tip: the MUNI's T-car, Folsom stop.

RSVP: Marian Anderson (415) 282-8334 or marianra@comcast.net

Special Events

Many thanks to everyone who came to the holiday luncheon to make it such a success. And extra thanks to my faithful helper, Margaret Grant.

Peggy Pol mrpol@sbcglobal.net

Karen Connolly

Edited by Richard Lewis

One of our newest members, Karen Connolly was born and raised in southern California. Attending local public schools in Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach through high school, she bravely ventured as far away as USC and then UCLA during college.



Unable to find the “perfect” career track, she opted for an MRS. She and her new husband, Alex, settled down in neighboring Manhattan Beach to raise their two children, staying in the same house until both kids headed off to college — one to U.C. Berkeley and the other to U.C.L.A.

Growing up with mild asthma and watching the challenges faced by her mother-in-law who suffered from COPD inspired Karen to return to school and earn her degree in respiratory therapy. A long and very rewarding career — as a therapist, respiratory services instructor, home care company manager, and pulmonary rehabilitation and outpatient therapy manager — followed over the next 20-plus years.

In 1989, with the kids in college, Karen and Alex finally broke free of southern California and headed for the sunny shores of Honolulu, where Karen was employed at the Queen’s Medical Center, teaching pulmonary rehabilitation and managing outpatient respiratory services. The opportunity to live with people from so many countries of the Pacific as well as the native Hawaiian Islanders gave Karen a new appreciation for the great diversity of ideas, attitudes and talents that exist around the world.

The conjunction of two seemingly unrelated events changed Karen’s life completely. Her medical-student daughter and doctoral-candidate husband announced that they were “expecting.” Karen decided to change careers, becoming a nanny for the new family member, to enable her daughter and son-in-law to complete their educations.

Since leaving Hawaii, Karen has had the “opportunity” to live in 6 different locations as her daughter pursued her medical career. In 1990 Karen moved to and fell in love with San Francisco. Karen’s daughter is now a UCSF alumna MD/PhD specializing in infectious disease. Her son-in-law completed his UCSF PhD and now teaches microbiology at SFSU. Karen is still afternoon “nanny” (mostly chauffeuring) for their two children.



Being in San Francisco permanently now is wonderful! All of her favorite indulgences are right at her door! Gardening, exploring museums, attending exciting theater offerings, discovering new eateries, the sheer beauty and variety of the city, short trips to explore interesting areas near San Francisco are a few of Karen’s favorite things. Karen realized her “dream vacation” this past summer, traveling to Italy with her family to visit Florence and spend time in a lovely Tuscan villa amidst rolling fields of sunflowers.

Karen read about Sixty Plus in the newspaper and was drawn to the idea of a lifelong learning organization. Meaningful volunteer opportunities, meeting new friends, and participating in interesting classes and tours were also important draws. She enjoyed the tour to the Haas-Lilienthal House and the three speakers she has heard.

Karen is anticipating an exciting 2014 highlighted by the retirement of her husband from IBM after 46 years and many new Sixty Plus opportunities.



New Year's Tea Party

Please plan to welcome in the New Year 2014 at the Sixty Plus tea party at Lovejoy's Tea Room. The high tea New Year's celebration includes "bottomless pots of tea," a variety of sandwiches, salads, scones, petits fours, and shortbread biscuits.

After the tea, attendees who are still interested in shopping (window or otherwise) after the holidays can visit Lovejoy's Attic across the street from the tea room. The Attic has assorted tea and tea-serving items, as well as other reclaimed delights for sale.

The tea party takes place Thursday, January 9, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. Cost per person for the High Tea is \$28.50. Lovejoy's is located at 1351 Church Street, SF, CA; (415) 648-5895; www.lovejoystearoom.com

Public transportation to Lovejoy's is available via MUNI on the J Church Metro line or the 48 bus line which runs along 24th Street.

See Maryann Swazo at Sixty Plus meetings or call or send reservations and checks by mail.

Walt Disney Family Museum Tour

Located at 104 Montgomery St. in the Presidio of San Francisco, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the Walt Disney Museum features the life and legacy of Walt Disney. On January 23, 2014, attendees will gather on the front porch of the Walt Disney Museum at 9:45 a.m. to meet our greeter and begin the tour. Pre-paid tickets for \$12.00 each include:

- Personalized guided tour of the museum (1 to 2 hours)
- Viewing of the Disney film of the month "Mary Poppins" at 1:30 p.m. if you choose
- Entry to the exhibition of works by "Bruno Bozzetto: Animation Maestro" if you choose

Lunch is on our own at the Wolfgang Puck-owned and operated café located on the main level of the Museum which serves a variety of fresh foods made in-house daily.

Parking is available across from the Museum between Lincoln Ave. and Sheridan Ave. at \$1.00 per hour. (Be sure to use Zip Code 94129 if driving by GPS or traveling by Muni bus!)

Tour size is limited to 25 people. Checks for tickets should be turned in by the January 13, 2014, meeting or mailed to Karen Connolly of the Tour Committee by January 9, 2014.

Contact Karen Connolly (kraconnolly@gmail.com)

Valentine's Day Luncheon and Tour

Last year's Valentine's Day luncheon at the S.F. State Vista Room was such a success, the tour committee is planning to repeat the event on Friday, February 14, 2014. The lunch follows a tour of the campus gardens. More details will be forthcoming, but please mark your calendars now to reserve the date.

Tours, Continued

Cantor Arts Center

On Wednesday, February 26, 2014, join us for a day at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University. We'll have an early lunch at the museum's café, split up to view the museum's latest exhibits of the visual arts at our own pace, then re-group to join our docent-led tour of the Rodin Sculpture Garden on the grounds.

The café does not take individual or group reservations. Therefore, lunch at the café is not included in the cost. The menu prices are reasonable, and available on-line.

We will leave from the parking lot on Lake Merced Boulevard at 9:45 a.m. and plan to return around 4:00 p.m. Space on the bus is limited to 20 passengers. The cost is \$35 per person. Contact Doug Roberts at (415) 681-8845 and leave a message. Make the check payable to Sixty Plus and mail to Doug Roberts.

Special Events

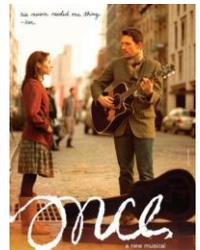
BEST OF BROADWAY

“Once, the Musical”

This winner of 2012 Tony Awards including Best Musical is emotionally captivating and theatrically breathtaking, “Once” draws you in from the very first note and never lets go. It’s an unforgettable story about going for your dreams — and the power of music to connect us all.

We will attend on Wednesday, July 9 at 2:00 p.m., at the Curran Theatre, 445 Geary St., SF, CA. Phone: (888) 746-1799; www.curran.theatresanfrancisco.com. Ticket Pricing: \$65, mezzanine; no orchestra seats available Please send your check made out to Sixty Plus to the office and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Note: There is no elevator in this theater. Use 38 Geary bus or any Muni to Market and Taylor and then walk uphill to Geary. Parking at Union Square or O’Farrell Street garages. Payment due by May 1, 2014. *Only 20 seats are available.*



Arts and Entertainment

Planning Travel, with Erwin Kelly

New Sixty Plus course offerings are planned for two sessions following the regular meetings in February. You are encouraged to attend both sessions.

Session one emphasizes tour companies and their programs, costs, itineraries, special features, differences from each other. We can discuss most major companies as well as the different travel options: independent travel, small groups, family — also land, riverboat, and small ship tours. Unfortunately, I don’t do cruise ship tours, but we’ll have plenty of information from classmates. The class uses a Q & A format.

The second session is devoted to destinations. We will cover the great and most popular attractions: London, Rome, Paris, Tokyo, Beijing, New Delhi, Colombo, Sydney, Rio de Janeiro, Cape Town, Casablanca, and more. We can also discuss some of the world’s great attractions: the Taj Mahal, Phuket, the Great Barrier Reef, Iguazu Falls — whatever you want to cover.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

January 9	Thursday	1:30 p.m.	New Year's High Tea, Lovejoy's Tea Room 1351 Church St., SF, CA 94114
January 13	Monday	10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Executive Board & Committee Chairs, Rosa Parks Room D General Program Meeting, Rosa Parks Room Cesar Chavez Student Center, SFSU
January 23	Thursday	9:45 a.m.	Disney Museum tour, San Francisco Presidio
January 27	Monday	11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Tour Committee meeting, Rosa Parks Room D Program Committee meeting, Rosa Parks Room D General Program Meeting, Rosa Parks Room Cesar Chavez Student Center, SFSU
February 14	Friday	<i>time tbd</i>	Lunch and tour of campus gardens, S.F. State University
February 26	Wednesday	9:45 a.m.	Cantor Art Center tour, Stanford University

Note: Ashland, 2014

The 2014 Ashland trip will be October 14 to 17. Details will appear in the February newsletter.

SIXTY PLUS 2013 - 2014

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Items for the **February Highlights** should be submitted by **January 13** to: Jeanne Glennon: jfglennon@comcast.net

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