

Solo Travelers Club newsletter



August/September 2011

MESSAGE FROM SUE SMITH YOUR PROGRAM MANAGER



Summer is in full swing, and the heat is on! It is hard to believe that the Solo Travelers Club is in its 17th month and has already grown to almost 2,000 members. I hope all those that attended our sold-out Hoedown and BBQ lunch earlier this month enjoyed the fun as much as I did. It was so nice

to have all three regions of our club come together.

If you came to the Hoedown, I am sure you will agree how nice the new AAA motorcoaches are. The leather seats, hardwood floors, Wi Fi and extra leg room left many of you talking about your next – and in some cases, your FIRST – motorcoach tour with our Club. We would love to have you join us. Just visit www.AAA.com/solo for an up-to-date listing of our upcoming trips.

Are you looking for something more adventurous and off the beaten path? Consider our **Iceland Winter Adventure** trip, coming up this December. You'll see the Northern Lights, snowmobile across glaciers or just soak in the Blue Lagoon. If you'd prefer to travel in the lap of luxury, we've got your ticket! Travel with us next April on the **Tulips and Windmills River Cruise**, and don't miss the article in this newsletter about how solo travelers particularly enjoy seeing the world on Uniworld River Cruises.

So...are you ready to travel yet? Now is the time, and we look forward to traveling with you. Encourage your friends to join our Solo Travelers Club, and bring them to our meetings with you. We have something for everyone's budget!

Until our next meeting, I welcome any questions that you may have; please feel free to email me at ssmith@nyaaa.com.

Sincerely,

YOUR SOLO CLUB

JULY MEETING REVIEW:

We celebrated "Christmas in July" and highlighted several of our holiday tours. There's still time to join these festive getaways, call today for more information and to reserve your space!

NOV 10-16: Branson Holiday

NOV 20: Deck the Halls – Seneca Lake Wineries

NOV 29-DEC 4: Nashville Holiday

DEC 3: Buffalo Churches – Stained Art Glass Tour

DEC 13: Roger Williams Christmas – Riviera Theatre



August Hoedown BBQ

The days' festivities were enjoyed by all who attended! Solo Travelers Club members enjoyed a delicious BBQ lunch, followed by line-dance lessons and a tour of AAA's brand new state-of-the-art motorcoach! In addition Liz Scanlon, Trafalgar Tours Business Manager, highlighted the Solo Travelers Club trips planned in 2012:

MAR 10-17: Costa Rica Eco Adventure

MAY 13-26: Scenic Parks Explorer

JUN 24-JUL 6: Highlights of Italy & Switzerland

SEP 14-24: Greek Island Hopper



more photos on back page

UPCOMING TRIP



Solo Travelers Love Life and Price on Uniworld River Cruises

For many Americans, the thought of traveling alone can be a little frightening and expensive since most cruise lines and tour operators base pricing on double occupancy with singles paying more.

Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, AAA's Travel Partner offering discounts to AAA members, made a policy decision to focus on solo travelers.

"The ships are small, making it easy for solo travelers to meet others," said Nancy Logan, director of national accounts for Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection. "Meals are open seating allowing guests to sit with whomever they like."

"On a Uniworld ship solo travelers receive the same size stateroom without added cost," said Logan. "The waived single supplement, on select sailings, is also a great program for those that may be traveling, as part of a group but don't have or want a roommate."

Add in the feeling of safety and security that comes from knowing that even though you are traveling alone, you are still part of a "group" and have people watching out for you. Such was the case on my recent outing on Uniworld. Departing from Chalon sur Saone onboard the *River Royale* for Uniworld's Burgundy and Provence itinerary, I was fortunate to meet several people of diverse age and background traveling independently.

Chris, a single doctor who is on staff at OSU Hospital and in his fifties said "I didn't know anything about Uniworld or river cruising. All I saw was that here was a company who wouldn't charge me double for traveling alone." And once on board he became the hit of the lounge each night, taking turns spinning the ladies around the dance floor.

In between dancing, enjoying the included excursions and wonderful food and wine, Chris also made a point of looking out for Helen, a delightful 80-year-old lady from Kent, England who also was traveling alone.

"This is my fifth river cruise and my second with Uniworld," Helen said. "I had tried some other companies before finding this gem. I will only travel with Uniworld when it comes to river cruising," she said.

A perfect blend of elegance and comfort, our ship was casual yet plush. Uniworld ships offer a unique ambiance and class all their own. All of the interior design is handed down from sister company Red Carnation Hotels, which transforms these ships into floating, boutique hotels from which you can base your explorations of the day.

Many of the connections to other passengers are made during meals. Dinners on the *River Royale* were not to be missed. Most nights were casual with the exception of the Captain's Welcome and Captain's Farewell, which are just slightly more formal. Desserts

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UNIWORLD
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISE COLLECTION™

**Come Experience a
Uniworld River Cruise!**

Tulips & Windmills - The Netherlands

April 3-13, 2012

**Antwerp to Amsterdam
aboard the *River Duchess***

For more details, call 1-855-862-6651

are true French delights ranging from homemade ice creams to hand crafted Napoleons constructed from layers of puff pastry and rich cream, also known as mille feuille.

Everyone at my table would frequently order different desserts and share. There is a family type of feeling onboard that is hard to explain. I was walking through Avignon after a quick bout of shopping and heard my name called out from across the street. It was John and Karen, passengers from Lafayette, LA whom I had met on the sun deck earlier in the week. Here they were shouting across the busy street wanting to know what I bought. It was lovely to feel that comfortable and familiar with people I had only known for

a few days and the credit goes entirely to Uniworld and the environment created on their ships.

It was with a bit of sadness that I said "Au Revoir" to my floating home for the week and new friends. Uniworld and France both exceeded my expectations and provided me with cherished memories.

September 22, 2011 • 5:30 pm • AAA Amherst

Join Elyse Reilly, Uniworld River Cruises and Master Gardener Sally Cunningham as they highlight Floriade 2012.

Please RSVP to 1-855-862-6651.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Great news ~ AAA Solo Travelers Club will soon be on Facebook! Follow postings on trips, view travel photos and interact with fellow members. Join us at our September meetings to learn how to get more involved with Facebook and AAA's Solo Travelers Club. The presentation will benefit current and first time Facebook users!

MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6PM – SOCIAL HOUR 7PM

SYRACUSE

Thursday, September 8

AAA

7485 Henry Clay Blvd.
Liverpool

BUFFALO

Monday, September 12

AAA

100 International Drive
Williamsville

ROCHESTER

Wednesday, September 14

Eagle Vale Golf Club

4344 Nine Mile Point Road
Fairport

Reservations are required ~ RSVP online at AAA.com/solo or call us at 800-242-4244 today!



RECIPE

Compliments of **Billie Dietrich**
Hamlin, NY • **New** Solo Member

- ½ (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 tablespoon white sugar
- 1 tablespoon cold milk
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (9 inch) prepared brownie crust
- 2 (3.9 ounce) packages instant chocolate pudding mix
- 2 cups cold milk
- 4 peanut butter cups, cut into ½ inch pieces

Send in your favorite recipe to get published in an upcoming issue!

ssmith@nyaaa.com

Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie

Serves: 6-8 people
Time: Prep: 15 mins
Refrigerate: 4 hours

Directions

Make a 9x13 pan of brownies, as soon as they come from the oven put half of them in a greased pie pan and press to the sides and bottom. Cool completely and fill with the following. Sometimes I put a few chocolate or peanut butter chips in the brownies and/or a little sprinkle of cinnamon.

1. In a large bowl, mix cream cheese, sugar, 1 tablespoon milk and peanut butter until smooth. Gently stir in 1½ cups of whipped topping. (1½ cups is half of the 8 oz. container). Spread mixture on bottom of pie crust.
2. In a second bowl, stir pudding mix with 2 cups milk until thick. Immediately stir in remaining whipped topping. Spread mixture over peanut butter layer.
3. Scatter peanut butter cups over top of pie. Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours.





August Hoedown BBQ Photos

BITS & BITES

TRAVEL TIP: HOW TO CARRY YOUR PERSONAL DOCUMENTS (WHEN TRAVELING)

Maintain a pouch or envelope for miscellaneous travel documents, including any leftover traveler's checks from previous trips, copies of prescriptions for medications and eyeglasses, key medical information, a list of your frequent-flyer and frequent-guest numbers, and your credit-card account numbers and their emergency refund telephone numbers for your destination, as well as phone, fax and cell phone numbers and snail-mail and e-mail addresses for all the key people in your life. (This would include family members, neighbors, your doctor, your lawyer, associates at work, and your travel agent; if he or she also has a 24-hour help line, include this as well).



TRAVEL TIP: BUYING THE BEST LUGGAGE

Many factors go into your choice of luggage; sturdiness security, comfort, capacity, personal preference. Whatever you do, choose carefully and don't scrimp. Living out of a suitcase for months, you'll become acutely aware of its every shortcoming. It's worth spending twice as much to get exactly what you want.

Check out AAA's luggage at our travel stores in all AAA locations.

CALL, CLICK OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL AAA TRAVEL CENTER TODAY!

AMHERST

100 International Drive
716-633-9860

CAMILLUS

5103 West Genesee Street
315-487-2700

CICERO

5663 East Circle Drive
315-452-3282

CLARENCE

8120 Main Street
716-932-3900

DEWITT

3460 Erie Boulevard East
315-446-3134

DUNKIRK/FREDONIA

3963 Vineyard Drive
716-366-3599

GREECE

3160 West Ridge Road
Lowe's Plaza
585-227-9600

ITHACA

1284 Dryden Road
607-257-2515

KEN-TON

1737 Sheridan Drive
716-873-0111

ORCHARD PARK

3475 Amelia Drive
Quaker Crossing
716-675-4900

PENFIELD

2156 Penfield Road
585-377-8500

PITTSFORD

3240 Monroe Avenue
585-249-1390

WATERTOWN

19482 US Route 11
315-788-5250

Promo Code: 8_11SOLO-E



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