

News on the <u>GO!</u>

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West Plains Bank and Trust Company

JULY 2024



Hello Friends,

Summer is upon us. I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying life. We had a wonderful time in Holland and Belgium touring the tulip fields this past April. I had no idea there were so many types and varieties of tulips. The colors were beautiful.

We also had an exciting time in Nashville and Memphis in June. We saw Dailey & Vincent, Lauren Alaina, Kip Moore, Bill Anderson, and Carrie Underwood at the Grand Ole Opry. We had the best time with our singing guides as we walked across Tennessee (a map in front of the Capitol building). The King is still alive in Memphis—we enjoyed our visit to Graceland and Sun Studios. Of course, we found good BBQ on Beale St.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I hope you will join me on some of the upcoming events.

Sincerely, Cheryl Finley Go Club Coordinator















GO Club Picnic—Sept. 21, 2024

Save the date for this fun, and free evening of food and entertainment. This is our way of saying thank you for being a loyal bank customer. The annual GO Club Picnic will be held Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024, in the exhibition hall of the West Plains Civic Center. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m., followed by entertainment by Brady Walton. Email cher-

<u>yl.finley@westplainsbank.com</u> or call 417-256-2147 to make your reservation by Sept. 10.



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TRAVEL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

We are committed to doing our best to keep everyone well and happy during GO Club events and trips. Buses are cleaned daily. Hand sanitizer will be available and you can choose to wear a mask (please bring your own). Those sick or running a fever are asked to stay home.

November 10-16—San Antonio Christmas Party

Explore the beauty of San Antonio Texas, decked out for the holidays!

Day 1 – Greenville, TX – Travel to Greenville, TX, overnight. Dinner is on your own this evening.

Day 2 – San Antonio, TX – Check into the Drury Inn Riverwalk, San Antonio, this afternoon for a three-night stay. The Riverwalk shines brighter than ever when the sun goes down as thousands of colorful holiday lights are displayed along the banks and in the tall Cypress trees. Enjoy the Christmas spirit along the Riverwalk. (B)

Day 3 – Full Day Guided San Antonio Tour—The day begins with a guided tour of the San Antonio Missions. Enjoy an insider look at what life was like in the 18th century, and how the important religious sites have earned their status in the world—The Alamo, San Antonio de Valero, and Mission San Jose. The massive complex bears witnesses to San Jose's reputation as the "Queen of the Missions".



Spend free time having lunch on your own and shopping at El Mercado, the largest Mexican market in the U. S. Hunt for bargains among the more than 25 shops and vendors. Items range from glassware, leather goods, vanilla, and other colorful treasures.

We end the day with a San Antonio River Barge Dinner. Meander down the San Antonio River as you learn the history of the beautiful area. The Riverwalk is especially beautiful at this time of the year with holiday lights and luminaries. **(B,D)**

Day 4 – Austin City Tour – LBJ Presidential Library—After breakfast at the hotel, we travel to Austin, the Capital city of Texas, for a day of sightseeing. Austin is known for its eclectic live-music scene centered around country, blues, and rock.

Tour the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library—one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. It houses 45 million pages of historical documents, which include the papers from the entire public career of Lyndon Baines Johnson and his close associates. President Johnson insisted that the library that bears his name tell future generations the story of this rich period of history "with the bark off."

You might like to spend your free time having lunch and shopping on South Congress Avenue or Second street. Both are filled with eclectic shops, restaurants, boutiques, antiques, music venues and galleries. The afternoon features a visit to the LBJ National Historical Park in Johnson City, TX. The park protects the birthplace, home, ranch, and final resting place of Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States.

This evening, celebrate the 33rd season of Johnson City's Lights Spectacular. "The Twinkliest Town in Texas" boasts over two million twinkling lights in the historic square off Main Street. Over the years, the festival has morphed from a fundraiser into an event enjoyed by families from across the United States and beyond. Spend your free time seeing the lights and having dinner on your own. Return to San Antonio for the night. (B) Day 5 – Mt Pleasant, TX—Depart San Antonio this morning and travel to the Mt. Pleasant, TX area for an overnight stay. (B)

Day 6 – Depart for Home – After breakfast at the hotel depart for home with fond memories of the southern part of Texas and laughter with friends old and new. (B)



There is still space available for this trip to San Antonio. Cost is \$1,575 per person double occupancy; \$1,375 per person triple; and \$2,075 for single. A \$250 deposit is due when making your reservation by August 6. Final payment is due by October 4, 2024.

*B=breakfast, D=dinner

December 7, 2024—Irish Tenor & Celtic Ladies at Christmas

Let's celebrate the holidays on our annual day-trip to Branson!

An Irish fusion of song & dance hits the stage at King's Castle as Dublin's Irish Tenors and the Celtic Ladies welcome a heart-pounding ensemble of Irish Dance Stars from Spirit of the Dance! Wonderful harmonies and lilting melodies will fill the air as these talented singers take you on a musical journey which includes Opera, Jazz, Pop, Swing and of course your favorite Irish classics.

Add to that the frenzied skill and military precision of these Irish dancers,

this show is guaranteed to bring you the Spirit of the Emerald Isle. NO PASSPORT REQUIRED! The second half of the show is filled with the spirit of the holidays.

This fun day will start at 8 a.m., as we depart from the north end of the West Plains Civic Center parking lot. Cost is \$140 per person and includes, a ticket to the show, dinner at SS Dockside Café, a drive through holiday lights, and gratuity for the driver. Please contact Cheryl Finley at cheryl-finley@westplainsbank.com or call 417-256-2147 to make your reserva-

tion for this exciting day in Branson. A \$25 deposit is required with reservation and final payment is due by Nov. 13.



July 11-23, 2025—Best of Alaska

We're headed backa to Alaska but this itinerary is a little different than in the past. You don't want to miss out! **Day 1 -** Fly into Anchorage – enjoy a welcome dinner this evening. **D** Day 2 – Travel south along Turnagain Arm and the Chugach Mountain Range on your way to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center—a facility for orphaned and injured animals. Next, cruise across Portage Lake to stand just 300 yards from a relic of the Ice Age. Watch for fractures of ice to break off from the glacier and crash into the water below. A delicious lunch awaits us at Alyeska Resort followed by a train ride to the top of Mt. Alyeska. Return to Anchorage for overnight. **B,L** Day 3 – Meet the champion sled dogs at Happy Trails Kennels, where veteran Iditarod racer Martin Buser will share stories of his races and give a demonstration. Then, climb aboard the luxurious domed rail cars of the McKinley Explorer as we head to Denali for a two -night stay at this magnificent national treasure. See the wide-open tundra and watch out for wildlife such as eagles and bears. The remainder of the day is yours to relax or choose an optional excursion, such as a nature walk, rafting trip down the Nenana River, a flight -seeing tour over Denali, or a Ranger talk. *B***.** *L*

Day 4 – You'll be snapping plenty of photos during a spectacular five-hour guided tour of Denali National Park, home of majestic Denali (formerly Mt. McKinley), lush forests and crystalclear waters. Be on the lookout for wildlife, such as "The Big 5" mammals; moose, caribou, Dall sheep, wolf, and grizzlies. *B,L*

Day 5 – Travel to Fairbanks for an authentic sternwheeler riverboat ride along the Chena River. Then get up close to the famous Alaska pipeline. Tonight, you're in for a treat at Pioneer Park. Enjoy generous portions of prime rib, beer battered cod and grilled salmon, grilled over an outdoor alder wood fire, and rounded out with roasted potatoes, baked beans, salad, and blueberry cake. Then sit back and enjoy songs, stories, and historical highlights of Fairbanks, also known as "The Golden Heart City". *B,L,D*

Day 6 – Fly from Fairbanks into Canada's majestic Yukon territory. This afternoon we visit MacBride Museum, a nod to all things Yukon. Learn the fascination stories, see gold rush equipment, and more. Our home this evening is Whitehorse, the capital of the Yukon. **B**

Day 7 – Travel from Whitehorse to Skagway, passing Emerald Lake and Carcross in the Yukon. Upon arrival into Skagway, enjoy an authentic barbecue lunch including ribs, chicken, and various side-dishes. Then experience a glimpse of the life of a prospector when you join a colorful cast of characters to learn the art of gold panning. Practice your technique in warmwater troughs. Gold is guaranteed in every pan. Haul your swag into the Gold Shack to have it weighted and browse among a collection of goldnugget jewelry and mining related souvenirs. We spend the next two evenings in Skagway. B,L

Day 8 – Travel on the captivating White Pass Trail aboard an old-fashioned narrow-gauge train, roundtrip from Skagway. Relax in vintage passenger coaches as you retrace the original route to the White Pass Summit, passing Bridal Veil Falls, Inspiration Point and Dead Horse Gulch. Enjoy breathtaking views of mountain, glaciers, gorges, waterfalls, tunnel, trestles, and historic sites. Afterwards, the afternoon is yours to explore more of Skagway, visit the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park. *B*, *D*

Day 9 – Stroll the wooden sidewalks of this famous gold rush town for shopping or a ranger-led walking tour before boarding the MS Zaandam to start the four-night journey home. Enjoy dinner and the evening entertainment, which includes everything from Broadway reviews to stand-up comedians. **B**,**D** Day 10 – Cruise the ice-studded fjord for a full eight hours as a Park Service Ranger narrates. Alaska's Inside Passage is a protected network of Waterways that wind through glacier-cut fjords and lush, temperate rain forests along the rugged coast of Southeast Alaska. The Inside Passage stretches through stunning landscapes, from Misty Fjords, National Monument to

famed Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve. **B**, **L**, **D**



Day 11 – Explore Ketchikan, famous for its rich native culture, salmon fishing, and scenic Misty Fjords. Ketchikan is one of the best spots along the Inside Passage to explore the rich culture sights of Native Alaskan nations like Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian. See intricately carved totem poles at the Tote Heritage Center and Totem Bight State Park. Leave time to explore the sights in the town itself, including historic Creek Street, a boardwalk built over the Ketchikan Creek, where you can shop for souvenirs. B,L,D

Day 12 – Today, glide through Alaska's spectacular Inside Passage, one of the most scenic sea-lanes in the world. See steep mountain walls on both sides of the ship, brilliantly colored forest, blue glaciers, and seaside villages dotting the coastline. Need a break? Partake in one of the ship's activities such as bingo, cooking demonstrations and naturalist talks. B, L, D

Day 13 – We say farewell as we disembark in Vancouver, British Columbia, and head for home – carrying enough "midnight sum" memories to last a lifetime. **B**

Passport is required for this amazing adventure to Alaska & the Yukon! Contact Cheryl Finley at cheryl.finley@westplainsbank.com or 417-256-2147 to make your reservations. A \$500 deposit is required with reservation. Final payment will be due April 9, 2025. Price per person: double inside stateroom \$5,989; outside stateroom \$6,189; verandah \$6,889; single inside \$9,059; outside \$9,459; verandah \$10,659.



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2023-24 Upcoming Events

<u>Bank Holidays</u>

The following list of dates represents days all West Plains Bank and Trust Company locations will be closed in 2024:

- Monday, September 2, 2024—Labor Day
- Monday, October 14, 2024—Columbus Day
- Monday, November 11, 2024—Veteran's Day
- Thursday, November 28, 2024—Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, December 25, 2024—Christmas

GO Club Events & Trips

- GO Club Picnic—Saturday, September 21, 2024
- San Antonio Christmas Party—November 10-16, 2024
- Irish Tenors & Celtic Ladies—Saturday, December 7, 2024
- **Best of Alaska**—July 11-23, 2025

Call 417.256.2147 to be placed on the waiting list if trips have filled!

All trips depart from north side of West Plains Civic Center—110 St. Louis Street, West Plains, Mo.

West Plains - 417.256.2147

Mountain View • Willow Springs • Houston • Mountain Home, Ark. 417.934.1047 417.469.5013 417.505.5110 870.701.5002

