



# Springdale Traveler

## Greetings from the Editor

Hello again to our friends and family! I hope that you have made it through the summer unscathed though as I write this letter I find myself staring down the dark rain clouds of Tropical Storm Isaac wishing it to move along its path without causing any serious damage. So for those of you who may be affected by this storm you are in our thoughts and prayers.

I know many of you are still trying to adjust to going back to school but don't forget that for those of you without children one of the best and cheapest times to travel in many areas of the world is the Fall. So many children are in school and this time of year is "slow season" for so many resorts that you really should try to take advantage of some of the amazing savings if you can.

We are also revving up to talk about travel to Alaska in 2013. Late September and October are prime times to book your Alaskan cruise because many cruise lines come out with savings offers during this time PLUS you can grab some of the best availability before anyone else books.



If you're thinking of taking that Alaskan Cruise in 2013 that you've been talking about for years then I highly suggest that you attend our On Stage Alaska event on Sunday, October 28. We will host this fun and informative event in our Mobile office at 2:00 PM so

please give me a call to RSVP at 251-414-4617 so we're sure to hold your spot!

Otherwise, for those of you traveling with us this Fall, we hope you have a blast! And to everyone else we hope you have a safe and happy end of the year and we look forward to hearing from you when you're ready to plan your next fabulous vacation.

Cheers,

Maggie Hudson



## A Taste of Scotland and Ireland

Steve and Karen Deneke had been planning to visit either Scotland or Ireland for some time. Since they were torn over which beautiful destination to visit, Sue Bruno helped them find a tour with CIE Tours which would suit them perfectly and make stops in both Scotland and Ireland. You can read their story here:

*The 12 day escorted tour my wife and I recently took probably got its name because it is a fairly brief introduction to both countries. But since it also gave us a chance to sample the local foods and beverages of both beautiful countries, that may have been part of the thinking as well.*

*We had never been to either country and for many years had debated as to which we wanted to visit. When we learned about this particular CIE International motor coach tour the decision suddenly became much easier. We didn't have to pick just one, we'd see them both. ...*

See more by clicking here:  
<http://www.springdaletravel.com/testimonials/tasteofireland.html>

## D-Day Trip to World War II Museum



ON D-DAY JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> 1944, The Massive Allied Invasion took place on the beaches of Normandy which was the beginning of the end for Hitler and Nazi Germany.

On June 6, 2012 Rev. J.T. Wright and Ann Meredith accompanied a group from Dauphin Way Baptist Church to the World War II Museum in New Orleans where they took part in the D-Day ceremony honoring all Americans who were a part of this important undertaking. Three of our group were World War II veterans and received special recognition. They also saw the outstanding movie *Beyond All Boundaries* produced by Tom Hanks followed by lunch in the Stage Door Canteen and a live show of *Lullaby of Broadway* by the Victory Belles.

Springdale Travel presented each person an American Flag which can be seen in the above picture.



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## Say Hello to Abner

Abner is Springdale Travel's new traveling correspondent and the official author of our company Facebook page.

Abner will be traveling the world with your favorite agents and with our favorite clients in an effort to experience as much as possible of this fabulous world in which we live. If you're interested in having him tag along on your next vacation please mention it to your agent and we will help him pack his bags.

In the meantime, if you would like to follow the Adventures of Abner you can do so by Liking our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/springdaletravel](http://www.facebook.com/springdaletravel) or by subscribing to his blog at [theadventuresofabner.wordpress.com](http://theadventuresofabner.wordpress.com).

ENJOY!

## 2013 Ski Trip



Springdale Travel is pleased to announce Beaver Creek as our destination for the 2013 Signature Ski Trip. Our accommodations at The Charter at Beaver Creek offer you a variety of luxurious lodging options complete with first-class service, luxurious in-room and on-site amenities, and mountain side convenience.

Accommodation-only rates of \$795 per person are available based on 4 people in a 2 bedroom condo.

Check out the trip details here, <http://www.springdaletravel.com/ski/> and give us a call if you're interested in joining us this year.

Alabama Orthopaedic and Internal Medicine Center will also be hosting a Medical/Business meeting for those interested.

## Say Hello to Donna Cutrer



After 30 years of teaching in the Mobile County Public School System, Donna retired and has joined the Student and Group Travel Division at Springdale Travel. She brings with her many years of travel experiences with youth choirs, bands, and other student groups.

In her spare time, Donna sings with the Mobile Opera Chorus and teaches Children's Choir at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church. She enjoys working with students of every age and is looking forward to helping plan educational travel experiences for young people. She agrees with Debra Smith's philosophy that, "There is no substitute for travel; no app, video game, or classroom presentation that can take the place of hands-on experiences."

We are thrilled to have Donna as part of our team and we know that she will bring a valuable perspective to our Student and Group Travel Division.

## River Rafting, River Time and Beyond



Many people think a rafting trip is just river running, but it is so much more. While some days are mild whitewater and some days are big, wild rapids, every day is an

exploration of landscape and history. From pioneer homesteads to soothing hot springs and deep pools for swimming - your choices are endless. There is something for everyone out on the river. Some of our favorite activities are exploring hidden waterfalls, visiting Indian pictographs, hooking a wild cutthroat trout, stargazing, rock climbing, fun water games like King of the Duckie, and hilarious beach games. Delicious meals are cooked over the evening campfire and it's here that the tales of the day are relived.

One of the best things about being on the river is that there are no cell phones, no computers, no schedules or deadlines. We call it River Time. It's surprising how easy it is to let yourself go and live in the moment in this wilderness environment.

Two of the best all around river trips for either beginner or veteran rafters are Idaho's Middle Fork of the Salmon River and the Main Salmon River. They both have fun class III whitewater, beautiful riverside campsites, spectacular mountain scenery and lots of fun activities to choose from. The Tonsmeire family, who own and operate Wilderness River Outfitters, would be happy to introduce you to Idaho's spectacular wilderness rivers.

Call Bob Bender for more information on one of these great trips! 251-414-4610



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## Mrs. Ann's Birthday



On August 23 we celebrated a birthday at Springdale Travel. We celebrated the birthday of Mrs. Ann Meredith with a "big" bash here at the office complete with decorations, cake, gifts and a rousing round of "Happy Birthday to You"; a feat best not witnessed by many outside of our inner circle. Let's just say it's a good thing we're travel agents and not musicians!

Mrs. Ann is a special part of all of our lives who makes a real effort to make every little thing special for everyone here in the office. From birthdays to weddings to a passing of the citizenship test, Mrs. Ann always goes that extra mile to make you feel loved and important.

So if you missed your shot to tell her Happy Birthday on her big day, be sure to give her a call and tell her Happy Belated Birthday. I know that she would be so grateful to feel your love!

## Mendy's First Meeting with The Mouse Himself, Mickey!



Mendy Tanner recently returned from Walt Disney World in Orlando where she attended the Disney Masters Course to become a Disney Specialist.

She was able to check out the new Art of Animation Resort, the Richard Petty Driving Experience and even the Disney Dream cruise ship.

This was even her very first time to meet the Big Mouse Himself, Mickey, and as you can see from the photo above she was totally excited!

If you would like to check out the rest of her photos or ask her a Disney question or two, head on over to her Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/travelwithmendy](http://www.facebook.com/travelwithmendy)

## Pinterest



Did you know we're on Pinterest? With great boards like "Cool Spaces and Places" and "We LOVE The Mouse" why wouldn't you want to follow us!

Check us out at <http://pinterest.com/sdtravel/> and follow our boards. You might find something inspiring!

## First Win of the Season!



Debra Smith of our Sports Travel Department and Linda Bennett escorted a group of excited Alabama fans recently to the very first game of the season, The Cowboy Classic!

Linda and Debra are themselves MAJOR FANS and they had the pleasure of hanging out with some of the coaches and players. In the top photo Linda (left) and Debra (right) can be seen with Coach Scott Cochran.

And the second picture shows the two of them visiting with John Fulton, #10, a Defensive Back for the Tide and DeAndrew White, #2, the Wide Receiver who scored a touchdown during this fantastic game.

To read some of the rave reviews of this trip check out <http://www.springdaletravel.com/testimonials/cowboyclassic.html> and to stay on top of the latest trips to your favorite games check out <http://www.springdaletravel.com/sports/>.