

Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

Happy
2017

Ingredients for a good year:

- Find something to laugh about every day.
- Love your spouse and like your friends.
- Focus on the positive.
- Pass out sincere compliments.
- Appreciate the people in your life.
- Perform an act of kindness for a stranger.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Darlene Laster

DECEMBER 1-8 Hawaii commemorated the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor with many veterans and their families attending, including 4 of the last 5 survivors of the USS *ARIZONA* ranging from 95 to 104 years of age. As you saw on TV on December 7, in his keynote speech, Admiral Harry B Harris Jr. commander of U.S. Pacific Command, elicited a standing ovation as he honored the Pearl Harbor veterans, saying they "never took a knee" when they heard the national anthem.

At our Pan Am Annual Gala on December 3, we were honored to have Admiral Harris' wife, Bruni Bradley Jr., herself a retired Naval Academy graduate, attend along with her mother, Bruni Kempf Bradley, a former Pan Am stewardess (NY based 1958-60) before she married our Pan Am Captain, Ken Bradley. Seems when their first child was born they were so sure it was a boy they did not have a girl's name picked out so they just named her, Bruni Jr. Bruni Sr. is an accomplished pilot and still works full time as an FAA Flight Examiner and Air Safety Counselor in Phoenix. They are both a joy and kept our table very lively.



PAA President Darlene Laster, standing, with Bruni Kempf Bradley (left) and her daughter Bruni Bradley (right), wife of Admiral Harris.

On December 3rd the night before our gala, as part of the 75th anniversary commemoration, the Pacific Aviation Museum celebrated its 10th Anniversary with the "For Love of Country - Pass It On" Gala in historic Hangar #79, its windows still riddled with bullet holes from the attack. The gala paid tribute to the WWII and Pearl Harbor veterans and survivors with some 1,400 guests attending. Special guests included Gary Sinise, Jim Nabors, Bob Hope's daughter, and David Hartman as emcee.

Gathering on the hallowed grounds of Ford Island, where the first bombs fell at Pearl Harbor, guests and sponsors helped support the vision to restore, steward, and protect this historic site as both a tribute to the past and a source of inspiration for the future by participating in the silent and live auctions. Guests were greeted as they arrived on the red carpet by six Pan Am stewardesses in uniform. It was amazing that most of them immediately recognized that we were PAN AM.....gone but certainly NOT FORGOTTEN!!! Thanks to the ladies on the right, L to R: Inger Hojfeldt, Susyn Miller-Fritz, Darlene (Carver) Laster, Akiko Munro, Glori Ino-Strassberg and Rita Degnan for volunteering.



CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

In the last issue, I wrote that Member Bob Lee volunteers at the Pacific Aviation Museum. He actually does volunteer work at the USS *Arizona*. I also identified Sonja Kawamoto as a former Pan Am stewardess. She is the wife of retired Captain Dave Kawamoto but was not with Pan Am.

An additional note: While checking out Pearl Harbor history relating to the December 7th attack, I came across this interesting note on the USS *Arizona*: The USS *Arizona* was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register in December of 1942. On March 7, 1950, the *Arizona* was symbolically "re-commissioned" when a flagpole was erected on the ship. The USS *Arizona* is treated as one of the current fleet, and the flag flying on the ship's mast only flies at half-staff when the other ships fly their flags at half-staff.

FORMER PAA PRESIDENT FEATURED

Our former Aloha Chapter president Ellen Shikuma was recently featured in an article in the "Spirit of Kahala Nui", the newsmagazine of the Kahala Nui Senior Living Community located in Kahala. Ellen had quite a career with Pan Am and it is no surprise that she has been an outstanding officer of our association. As president, she changed the name of the association from the "Pan Am Retirees—Hawaii Chapter" to the "Pan Am Retirees—Aloha Chapter". She also gave this newsletter its name, Aloha Clipper. Our readers will remember The Clipper which was published by headquarters monthly for the Pan Am System. Ellen was also appalled that the association had no bylaws but was operating loosely under the bylaws of the Miami retiree group, so she wrote the original set for our chapter by compiling information from various sources. The late Ed Swofford became a board member and helped her edit the bylaws and do all the follow-up revisions. She asked to step down from the position of president at the end of 2002, and Darlene Laster was elected to take her place, however, Ellen still serves on the board. The following article, edited by Linda Adamson, is from the May/June 2016 "Spirit of Kahala Nui":

Ellen was born to Nisei (2nd generation) parents in Kaimuki and attended English Standard Schools (Aliiolani, Stevenson & Roosevelt) before attending UH. She met and Married Henry Shi-

kuma who had served in the famous 442nd regiment during WWII. They moved to New York City after her graduation so Henry could attend Pratt Institute. There, Ellen taught at a nursery school and took graduate courses at NYU. They fell in love with New York during their two years in the city. After Henry's graduation, they returned to Honolulu, as planned, on the *Matsonia*. Ellen taught kindergarten and Henry worked as an artist. It did not last, however, as New York drew them back and they returned to the east coast. At NYU Ellen completed her MA in education and worked for Pan American World Airways as a sales agent. At a social event Ellen introduced Henry to Walt Kelly, the creator of "Pogo," the cartoon strip, which launched Henry into the most challenging and exciting job of his life. They now both had jobs with a future! Ellen's career with Pan Am spanned 38 years. During that time she advanced with increasing responsibility. She created the training courses for new hires and travelled to many locations to conduct training. In the 60s she had a major role in helping the company transition from a manual system to computerizing the entire airline reservation and ticketing system (Panamac). Ellen learned to use a computer and worked with IBM programmers who needed to know the detailed step-by-step procedures. Another major accomplishment was creating a training program for management staff throughout Pan Am's system. Later still she wrote the program and conducted the training for Airport Check-in Service (Panachek). Her last job was in the Corporate Offices as Manager of Corporate Personnel. A few years after Henry passed away, Ellen returned home to Kaimuki. She volunteered as a docent at Iolani Palace and Washington Place for 15 years. She watched Kahala Nui being built, and moved in when it opened. She lives here with her poodle Mele and loves it. Ellen says, "It's the best decision I've made for the rest of my life!"



Ellen Shikuma with Mele

A MEMBER'S STORY IN PRAISE OF HIS FATHER

In answer to our request for stories from members, Ohana Member James Husing, who was what we fondly call a "Pan Am Brat", sent the following memory of his purser father, Ernie Husing:

My dad, Ernest C. Husing, known to his family and friends as just "Ernie", started his career with Pan American World Airways in December 1942 in the flying boat era. He was a steward and later was promoted to purser. He flew with Pan Am until his retirement in June 1970. His last flight was aboard 707 *Clipper Climax*, a fitting name for the end of his twenty-eight year career. The captain

February 28th Meeting Alert

Our local readers will recognize our February speaker by her *Star Advertiser* photo at right, which heads her regular column in that newspaper. **Lee Cataluna** is a local writer who has a sense of humor and a way with words. Don't miss her at our first meeting of the new year. There is a meeting registration form on page 7. Mark your new calendar now for the February 28th meeting.



on the flight was Frank Saul, the first officer was George Smith and the flight engineer was Ken "Woody" Woodmansee. The latter was a long time friend of my dad's.

My mom, Hazel, met my dad in about 1953 at the Ben Franklin Hotel in San Mateo, CA. She was working there as a cocktail waitress. She had been married previously but was divorced. Dad worked part-time, in between his trip assignments, as a bartender at various clubs and hotels, including the Cinnabar on Broadway in Burlingame, CA. My mother and my dad were married in about 1954 and he legally adopted me and my two brothers, Ron and Lyle. My mother always wanted a daughter so my parents adopted my sister, Lori, from a Bay Area adoption agency. Later they adopted Cindy from the same agency. I never knew my real father and always considered Ernie my one and only father. Sadly my parents divorced during my junior year in high school but they stayed on good terms. Both of them remarried some time after the divorce.



L to R: Hazel and Ernie Husing with their friend , Marge.

Ernie died of cancer on July 7, 1989 in Sonoma, CA, where he was living with his wife Barbara. He was 79. My mother died on August 7, 2014, while living in Bonnie Lake, WA.

My dad was stationed in Japan for a short time early in his career, but spent most of his career flying out of SFO. It was exciting growing up in the Pan Am family. I was proud of dad and his career. I have a commemoration to my dad, signed by the entire crew on his retirement flight. It is framed and hanging in the hallway of my house. Over the years I have met several retired Pan Am employees who knew and flew with my dad, including your editor, Diane. It is always great when I meet someone who remembers my dad although that pool of employees is dwindling as time goes by.

PAN AM MUSEUM LOCATED AT THE CRADLE OF AVIATION MUSEUM

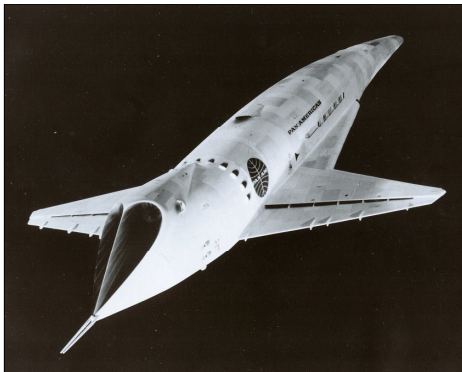
After a year of hard work raising funds for a Pan Am Museum, a group of Pan Am employees were able to collect enough money to establish permanent exhibits at the Cradle of Aviation Museum on Long Island. The Cradle of Aviation welcomed the "return of an aviation pioneer" to Long Island with the following words: *Pioneering Pan American World Airways folded its proud wings in 1991, but the legend will live on, thanks to a dedicated group of former employees who, in just one year, formed the Pan Am Museum Foundation. Their efforts raised over \$150,000 to launch the first of four exhibits about the legendary airline.* The PAMF board began their fund raising campaign by creating a "Founding Member Program". To become a founding member a person or organization had to donate \$1000 or more to the project. The Founding Member Program expired on the last day of 2016. Our Hawaii Chapter of World Wings is happy to be included in the Founding Member group, thanks to President Betty Santoki, who sent out word to members on short notice and many responded generously.

A day before our Annual Gala here in Honolulu, PAMF had its own gala affair at the museum in New York. It included the launch of the first exhibit, featuring the Boeing 314 which operated from hangars located on nearby Manhasset Bay. Executives from Boeing, Northrop Grumman and Pan Am Brands were among those who attended. Their companies all made significant contribu-

tions to PAMF. Donations of any amount are still appreciated so more permanent exhibits can be added. (Visit the foundation at www.panammuseum.org.)



Doreen Goad and Lori Ford



Model of "2001: A Space

The Seattle chapter of World Wings International participated in the gala evening with a parade of stewardess uniforms over the years. **Lori Reed Ford**, outgoing president of the chapter, sent the photos which accompany this article, along with a brief report. She said she had never been to Long Island before and she found the Cradle of Aviation Museum to be very interesting. She added, "I am eager to go back just to visit the museum in more depth." In the photo at left, Doreen Goad and Lori model the uniform designed for the film "2001: A Space Odyssey". The photo below it is from an Internet website. It is a model of the Pan Am space ship designed for the same film. In the photo at right, Lori is wearing the uniform worn by Pan Am stewardesses in the late 50s and early 60s. She walks the runway with Captain Dino Vlahakis. Below, other PAMF gala attendees in their various uniforms.



Lori Ford and Dino Vlahakis

PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Mike Craighead recently confessed that the computer has always been a mystery to him, a sentiment many of us share with him, at least to some degree. He expressed concern about the possibility in the near future that the entire world will go digital. "No more newspapers, advertising, movies, news broadcasts, etc. I guess I will just crawl under the sheets or sit on my patio, staring into space looking for the next drone to deliver my breakfast, lunch or dinner." He added, "All joking aside, the world is really moving fast on all fronts." (I think I can help explain that. As I write, it is New Year's Day and I just walked to the grocery store a mile away. An employee was already arranging red, heart-shaped boxes of chocolates. My brain has barely made it to 2017, let alone February!) In spite of that, at 83, Mike finds life in Thailand to be routine and a bit boring. Wife Ronnie is 82 and with MS, basically housebound, but she still reads and works at needle point. They have a live-in housekeeper who helps care for Ronnie so Mike still gets to play golf now and then. He used to scoot around on his motorbike and go out with the boys a couple of nights but

"now the police and Army, who have police powers as well, tend to hide behind things and jump out with breathalyzers from behind all sorts of cover. Even 2 beers is too much so not worth the penalties and the aggravation that go with it. Now I just drop into one of the local bars within walking distance, though walking is a much slower process than it used to be. The military regime seems to be tightening its grip so the wild life in Pattaya is being forced to cool things a little." Mike misses the high level of activity involved with being in the airline business. During his 30 year career, there was never a dull moment. "Loved every minute of it!" . . . **John Olim** sent his greetings from Huntington Beach across the sea to his Pan Am Ohana in Hawaii. He wishes all our readers a Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with love and great health. He says God has been good to him in spite of his suffering kidney failure at the end of last year. His colon cancer is still in remission. He struggles to do as much as he can every day, even golf. Sadly his wife Susan lost her mother and sister within 4 months of each other. This month, January 2017, John and Susan will celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary. John and Susan, I know our membership joins me in sending you both our best wishes for a much better 2017. . . . **Jack Smith** stumbled across an old photo of a Pan Am sports club in Kona. Among others, he recognized Jack Ellis in the photo so he sent it to Betty to see if she could help identify the ones he couldn't. Now we are all wondering what name belongs to each of the two mystery men, i.e. the squatting men to the right and left of Perry Medlin in the photo below. In this time of Auld Lang Syne, it is especially fun to reminisce about the good ol' days.



INFLATION HITS AGAIN

In December the Waialae Country Club raised its buffet lunch price. You will notice an increase of \$3 on the reservation form below. On the plus side, the Annual Gala price will decrease as it will be a lunchtime buffet this coming December.

Some things remain the same, i.e. membership dues are still a bargain. The dues listed on the following page have not changed. There are still a few Annual members who have not renewed and will not be receiving this newsletter. If anyone mentions they are no longer receiving the newsletter, please have them contact any board member.



2017 Schedule

- January 24—Board Meeting Only
- **February 28**—General Member Meeting
- March 28—Board Meeting Only
- **April 25**—General Member Meeting
- May 23—Board Meeting Only
- **June 27**—General Member Meeting
- July 25—Board Meeting Only
- **August 22**—General Member Meeting
- September 26—Board Meeting Only
- **October 24**—Annual Member Meeting
- November 28—Board Meeting Only
- **December 3**—Annual Gala at the Hale Koa Hotel.



Luncheon Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—February 28, 2017

Waialae Country Club

4997 Kahala Avenue

11:00 Social hour, 11:30 Lunch

\$28.00 per person (Includes tip and Parking)

Please try to make your reservation a minimum of 3 or 4 days in advance.

Member Name _____ \$28.00

Guest Name _____ 28.00

Total _____

Makes checks payable to PAA and send to:

Carol Suyderhoud, 7503 Maka'a Street, Honolulu, HI 96825-3127

If transportation is required, call Carol at 396-5225 or contact her by e-mail at:

carolws@hawaii.rr.com.

NOTE: If you received this newsletter electronically and would like to attend the meeting, print this page or enclose a note with your check, stating what and who the check is for.

PAA Hawaii Aloha Chapter Officers

Darlene Carver Laster	President & Chapter Chair	Darleelas@aol.com	394-8981
Ed Gencarelli	Vice President	edgen76@gmail.com	254-4576
John Medlock	Treasurer/Membership	johnmiii@earthlink.net	664-0586
Owen Oshima	Secretary	owenoshima007@aol.com	741-6936
Al Chun	Annual Gala Coordinator	alhwhchun@gmail.com	395-0525
Carol Weiss-Suyderhoud	Meetings Coordinator/Speaker Chair	carolws@hawaii.rr.com	396-5225
Allan W. Mosher	Address List Chair	beegal@Hawaii.rr.com	732-3636
Diane VanderZanden	Editor, <i>Aloha Clipper</i>	alohadvz@gmail.com	396-5293
Ellen Shikuma	Director	EllenNOW@aol.com	734-5725
Eva Miyahara Kama	Director		988-4161

Newsletter Items:

If you have any news item that would be of interest, please call Diane VanderZanden at 396-5293 or send mail to 500 Lunalilo Home Road, #26-D, Honolulu, HI 96825-1734 or by e-mail: alohadvz@gmail.com.

Members, we encourage you to print this page and give the application below to your Pan Am friends who are not members. If you are a former employee and not a member of the Aloha Chapter of the Pan Am Association, we encourage you to complete and submit the application below and help keep our association healthy. Thank you.

PAN AM ASSOCIATION—ALOHA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check all applicable boxes and complete all applicable lines.

- ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member
- ☐ Retiree—Pan Am retiree who received lump sum pension or is receiving PBGC checks.
- ☐ Associate—All other former Pan Am employees
- ☐ Ohana—Surviving spouse, child or relative of above; sponsored person with close connection to Pan Am (subject to BOD approval).

PRINT CLEARLY PLEASE

Date: _____

Name: _____ **Spouse:** _____

Last First

Address: _____

Street Apt # City State ZIP code

Home Phone: _____ **Cellphone:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Would you like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, which is in color? Yes _____ No _____

Retiree/Associate: Dept: _____ **PAA Service:** _____ **Receiving Pension?** _____

of years worked Yes or No

Ohana: Pls. state category & PAA sponsor (See above): _____

The association directory is published every two years and is distributed to **MEMBERS ONLY**.

Do you wish to be listed in the directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

May we publish your phone number/E-mail address? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Annual Membership: ☐ \$ 30 US Residents ☐ \$ 35 Overseas residents

Lifetime Membership: ☐ \$150 US Residents ☐ \$175 Overseas residents

Please make check payable to **PAA** (Pan Am Association) and send with this application to:

John Medlock, 411 Kaelepu Drive, APT F, Kailua, HI 96734-3309