



April Meeting at Waialae CC

Matt Levi, pictured at left, gave a gentle talk on a serious subject: crime in Hawaii. Read the article below to find out why I say "gentle".

Our speaker in June will give a more detailed presentation on our drug problem. See page 7 for a brief description. There will be more information in the June issue. Mark your calendars now for the June 25th meeting.

A CRIMEFIGHTER WHO CARES ABOUT PEOPLE

Matt Levi accomplishes amazing things in the messy world of crime. After a career in television beginning in 1973 where his duties included reporting on crime and politics, Levi decided to leave television behind and open his own business, a private detective agency. It employs 5 people. He followed that with opening a security company in which he employs approximately 200 people. Seven years after he left the world of television, Rick Blangiardi, General Manager of KGMB and KHNL, asked him if he would do some local news specials, which resulted in the feature, "Matt Levi Investigates".

As a private detective, Levi and his employees are hired to check out worker's compensation cases which are suspected to be fraudulent, do background interviews, and locate and interview witnesses. His security firm provides guards for many businesses and they also do postal security.

But that is not all Levi does. He works with the Juvenile Court system. There he is a "gentle" giant. Levi is a martial arts expert. He has a program in which he teaches at-risk youth the martial arts, with an emphasis on proper behavior, discipline, and problem solving without fighting. The Juvenile Court refers youngsters to him. He has worked out an agreement with private schools to provide tuition-free scholarships to some of the youngsters. There are currently about 32 of his students in private schools, 21 of whom are on their school's honor roll.

Levi also spoke of his family. He was adopted by a Jewish couple who fled the Holocaust. He has a tremendous amount of love and respect for his late parents. His father was the recipient of two Fulbright scholarships and was a UH professor. In addition to Matt, he and his wife adopted a girl. Levi and his sister, who are not related, often wonder what would have happened to them if they had not been adopted by such a wonderful couple.

Levi is married to "a beautiful Kamehameha graduate" and they have 3 daughters. The oldest fulfilled her dream of becoming a cheerleader for the Dallas Cowboys football team. Another is a cheerleader for the Washington Huskies. The youngest and her husband manage a hotel and restaurant in Mexico. They have blessed Matt and his wife with 3 grandchildren.

Levi mentioned the drug problem which is the major cause of the lengthy trail of youngsters ending up in Juvenile Court. They come from dysfunctional families, many as a result of drug use by the parents. (That drug problem will be the subject at our June meeting when DEA agent Callery will speak to us.)

In spite of the factions of life with which Levi is involved, he comes across as a most personable fellow. He speaks with a quiet humor and his empathy for the youngsters from dysfunctional families is evident. It is wonderful that at least some of the at-risk children get an opportunity to learn with his guidance. It is unfortunate he can't be cloned so even more youngsters could receive such help.

April 23rd Meeting

Our second General Membership Meeting of the year was another success with over 40 members and guests present. Pictured as listed:

1. Speaker Matt Levi and President Darlene Laster.
2. Henry Blakstad, who provided door prizes, with Jan Newhart and Sue Jaques (seated).
3. Standing: Calvin Murata and Sumiko Allegar. Seated: Amy Okamoto, Mae Takahashi and Agnes VonBrimer.





◀ Ernest Oliver and Carol Souza



▶ Ellen Shikuma and Ed Gen-carelli



◀ Harold Chow and Corinne Kong



▲ Merle Miyamoto, Harlow Urabe and Carol Wong

Patti Jacoby, Carol Schmus, John Medlock, Ilona Benoit and Marie Jahnsen



Sharlene Brunell and Sandy Dawson ▼





1. Carol Weiss-Suyderhoud and Denise Mazzanti.

2. Glori Ino Strassberg, Harlow Urabe, Katie Yoshioka and Ellen Hiromoto.

3. Carol Schmus and Jane Noe.

4. Jo Lim, Stephanie Vlachos, and Tony Pelosi.

5. Henry Blakstad, Fred Shigenaga, and Lee Laster.

6. Dawn Krause, Margot Silva, and Susyn Miller-Fritz.

7. Bob Hardy



◀ Margot Silva, Al Chun, and Eileen Tiwanak

▶ Diane VanderZanden and Chuck Reindollar



WHEN STEWARDESSES GET TOGETHER

While having lunch with a friend recently, I was amused when she related a story told by one of her friends. It was during the days of TITA, as the company referred to "Theater in the Air", when we sold headsets to economy passengers interested in viewing the film. The friend was selling on one aisle of the 747 and noticed the stewardess on the other aisle, an Asian lady, seemed to be making more sales than she was. She stopped for a moment to watch and heard the stewardess mispronouncing the one-word title of the movie, turning it into a word more often associated with pornography.

It reminded me of other humorous instances involving passengers who did not speak English. One such incident was on a 707 flight I was working from Guam to Tokyo. In those days, Guam had become a favorite warm vacation spot for the Japanese because of its shorter flight duration than Honolulu. As I walked down the aisle toward the back of the aircraft, I was stopped by a Japanese man who was about to ask me a question when the man beside him elbowed him in the ribs and pointed up the aisle behind me. Both the aisle passenger and I looked to see what the man had pointed to. It was another stewardess, Elizabeth Matsushino, by name. I realized they felt they would have better luck asking questions of her. However, I knew that Elizabeth spoke fluent German and nary a word of Japanese. So I continued on, but just a couple of steps so I was behind the row of 3 Japanese men. Sure enough, they stopped her and asked what the weather was like at our destination. Elizabeth said, "Huh?" and I stepped forward and said, "Takusan ame ga furimasu." (It's raining heavily.) The men looked at me and at her and started laughing. We joined in.

In another instance, during the boarding process, I proceeded to the aft section to check on something with the other purser. As I passed a young stewardess of Japanese background in the aisle, I heard a passenger ask her for a "zasshi". She was obviously puzzled so I whispered, "He wants a magazine." I continued on. Later, in flight, she asked me how I knew what he was saying. She added that she thought the word was "Magazino". She was born and raised on the mainland.

I relate these stories because I know many of our readers, besides flight attendants, dealt with passengers who did not speak English. Employees who worked in the airport area could probably top the above stories because they encountered non-English speaking passengers when they were in a more stressful situation, i.e. trying to make their way through check-in and find their way to

the correct departure area. Think back and send me your amusing or frustrating encounters. All stories are welcome. I also accept your stories of being in a foreign location and trying to communicate with people who could not speak your language.

PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Welcome to new members **Joanne Lim**, **Alfred Jacinth**, **Merle Miyamoto**, and **Jack Starks**. Joanne Lim is a new Ohana member. Her late mother, Sonja Lim, worked in the Pan Am Waikiki Ticket Office. Joanne is a United retiree and active in their retiree association. She is pictured on page 4, in photo #4. . . . Alfred Jacinth (spouse: Audrey) began working for Pan Am in Honolulu in 1956 in Supply and then Dispatch. He was transferred to JFK five years later, where he worked in Crew Tracking and then Scheduling until 1991. Alfred can be contacted by phone at 980-339-3867 or by email: airportal@aol.com. . . . Merle Miyamoto (spouse: Henry) was a stewardess for two years. She lived in Korea and Japan for over 22 years while her husband was stationed there during 3 tours with the U.S. Corps of Engineers. She is very active in the Hawaii Chapter of World Wings. She is pictured at center right on page 3. . . . Jack Starks is widowed. Many of our members will remember him from Sales in HNL. Jack was with Pan Am for 29 years and now lives in Sun City West in Arizona. He will be 91 years old this month. He is pictured at right. He may be reached by email at ajstarx@aol.com or by phone at 623-374-4990. . . . **Marge Hale** has moved back to her home state of Ohio. Her new address is 355 West Central Avenue, APT 214, Springboro, Ohio 45066. We send our Aloha from your friends in Honolulu, Marge. . . . **Moana Goo** reports that she no longer has a computer but wants to keep in touch. She can be reached at PO Box 2488, Kailua Kona, HI 96745. . . . I visit



Lunalilo Home daily as my husband, whose Alzheimer's has progressed, is a resident there. It is only 4 blocks from our condo home. It is a care facility for elderly *ka-puna* that was established by King Lunalilo in 1895. It was originally located where Roosevelt High School is today and was relocated out in East Honolulu in 1927. Jie Sing Chun, who was in Passenger Service with Pan Am, is a resident along with his wife, Gertrude. They attended our meetings for awhile before health problems intervened. I took the photo at left of Gertrude and Jie on a recent visit. On the right is a partial view of Lunalilo Home, which has 42 residents.



GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

Bernadette L. "Bee" Beuker, 94, passed away on January 30th this year. She worked in Operations for Pan Am. She was born in Michigan but loved her adopted state of Hawaii, which she called home for 60 years. She is survived by a brother and many nieces and nephews. She was a long time member of our association.

SPEAKER AT JUNE MEETING

Our June speaker is **John Callery**, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Honolulu District Office of the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration). He brings some 35 years of experience in law enforcement and will cover the growing opioid threat, fentanyl-laced heroin and the enduring scourge of methamphetamine trafficking in the region. The June issue will have more information on Callery. Use the form below to sign up for the meeting.

"SMART" YOUNGSTERS

A teacher asked a student why he was late. His answer: Class started before I got here.

Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water? Donald: H I J K L M N O. Teacher: What?? Donald: Yesterday you said it was H to O.

2019 Schedule

- May 28—Board Meeting Only
- **June 25**—General Member Meeting
- July 23—Board Meeting Only
- **August 27**—General Member Meeting
- September 24—Board Meeting Only
- **October 22**—Annual Meeting
- November 26—Board Meeting Only
- **December 7— Annual Gala @ WCC**

Teacher: Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating? Simon: No, sir. I don't have to. My mother is a good cook.

Teacher: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his? Clyde: No, sir. It's the same dog.



Luncheon Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—June 25, 2019

Waialae Country Club

4997 Kahala Avenue

11:00 Social hour, 11:30 Lunch

\$30.00 per person (Includes tip and parking)

Please try to make your reservation no later than June 20th.*

Member Name _____ \$30.00

Guest Name _____ \$30.00

Total _____

Make check payable to PAA and send to:

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

*If you think your check may not arrive by June 20th, please notify Carol at 396-5225 or contact her by e-mail at: carolws@hawaii.rr.com to let her know you plan to attend.

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
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John Medlock	Treasurer/Membership	johnmiii@earthlink.net	664-0586
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Mae Takahashi	Director	takten@hawaii.rr.com	218-7773
Harold Chow	Director	hkychow@juno.com	988-7817

(Note: area code for all phone numbers is 808 unless otherwise specified.)

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: _____ **Cell phone:** _____ **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