

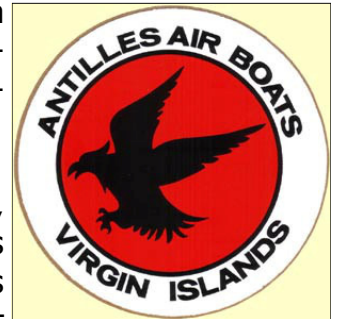


## Tailored for PAA

**Tom Anusewicz**, left, tailored his talk about the Antilles Air Boats for our Pan Am group. He worked for the airline which was started by the late Pan Am Captain Charlie Blair and his wife, Maureen O'Hara. He included slides and videos of the early flying clippers operated by Pan American World Airways in the 1930s. Read on below for his stories.

## THE FABULOUS FLYING BOATS

**Tom Anusewicz** has worked in aviation related fields for 48 years; from flight engineer in the U.S. Coast Guard in the 1960s to flight engineer on 707/727 aircraft at SPIA, Managing Director of Circle Rainbow Air, to development of private jet terminals in Hawaii. He was a founding partner and Executive Vice President of Bradley Pacific Aviation. He is now in retirement as an aviation consultant.



In 1963 Charlie Blair and his wife, Maureen O'Hara, started Antilles Air Boats in the Caribbean while he was still a Pan Am Captain. Anusewicz was offered a job as a mechanic because of his background in the Coast Guard where he had built up experience with the same type of flying boats.

Anusewicz prepared a slide show with video clips of the flying boats which he tailored for our Pan Am group. His power point presentation started with clips of the early Sikorsky flying boats Pan American operated in 1934, followed a year later by the Martin M-130, an aircraft designed to cross the Pacific. They were known as the flying clipper ships. He covered other flying boats Pan Am operated, such as the B-314s, dubbed the China Clippers. It is still fascinating to see videos of these aircraft spewing up huge trails of white spray as they worked to break the grip of the water on take-off.

Anusewicz then focused on the flying boats owned by Antilles Air Boats. Blair had purchased a couple of Sandringham Flying Boats from Australia's Ansett Airlines. The Sandringham was the civilian version of the Sunderland flying boat designed by the British for its air force. Antilles Air Boats became the largest flying boat operation in the world, using flying boats designed by Grumman. Blair died in 1978 in a Grumman Goose he was piloting. Maureen continued to run the airline for another year, becoming the first female owner of an airline.

Anusewicz added personal notes about Maureen and Charles. Charles did not particularly like many of the Hollywood types with whom Maureen was acquainted but John Wayne was one of her closest friends. It was fortunate that Charles Blair and John Wayne were like-minded individuals. Anusewicz says they were like brothers from the day they met. Anusewicz recently called Maureen to tell her he was going to speak at a luncheon for a Pan Am group. It was the last time he contacted her as she passed away just over a week ago—on Saturday, October 24th.

Photos from the meeting follow:



Ellen Shikuma, Paul Schultz and Ed Swofford



Ed Gencarelli and Speaker Tom Anusewicz



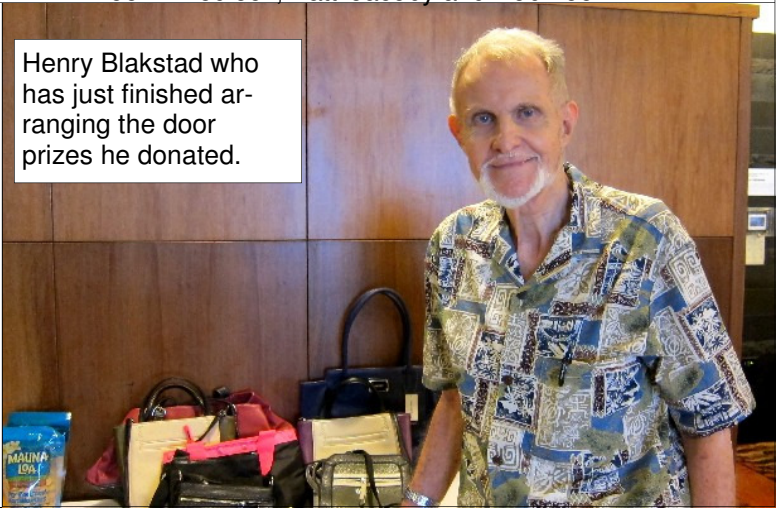
Lee and Darlene Laster



John Medlock, Patti Jacoby and Bob Lee



Diane V/Z and spouse Roy Stocks



Henry Blakstad who has just finished arranging the door prizes he donated.





▲ John & Nobuko Loncar



▼ Joan Davis and Robbie Gee

▲ Sue Jaques & Jan Newhart



Al Chun, Carol Suyderhoud ▲ Aggie Von Brimer



▲ Betty Ellis, Denise Mazzanti and Carol Suyderhoud



▲ Cora Kendall & Betty Ellis

Sandy Dawson and Sharlene Brunell

▼ Liz Kearins and Beth Wilkins





## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT —Darlene Laster

According to our Association by-laws, the President is required to make a verbal report at the October meeting each year. The state of our Association is financially sound. Our membership for this past year has not increased even though we have gained a few new members. This is because so many of our fellow employees have passed on during the year. We ask all our members to invite anyone you know who worked for Pan Am to come join us. Also spouses of deceased retirees as well as children or grandchildren are welcome as Ohana Members.

The Pacific Aviation Museum renovation of Hangar 37 has been postponed due to budget restrictions. Executive Director Ken DeHoff has assured us that the Pan Am exhibit **will not** be placed in storage if/when the renovation begins. Rest assured your donated items are safe and secure.

The Pan Am Historical Foundation (PAHF) continues to focus on activities dedicated to preserving Pan Am's place in aviation history. Do go online at [www.panam.org](http://www.panam.org) often to enjoy the new website and read the variety of historic stories about Pan Am taken from the Pan Am archives stored at the Richter Library at the University of Florida in Miami. The AWARE Store has now been added to the website so you can view most items, download a price list and order via email or phone. You are encouraged to consider joining the PAHF to do your part in preserving our Pan Am legacy. Along with your \$40 membership, you will receive the annual Pan Am calendar and the quarterly CLIPPER newsletter. The 2016 calendar is now available and if you wish to order them as Christmas gifts, PAHF will mail directly for you with your return address shown. This calendar is extra special as it features additional paintings of our Pan Am aircraft by aviation artist Ron Cole; a real keeper. [Editor's note: See page 7 for more information on the calendar.]

The following Directors stood for re-election to another 3-year term: Al Chun, John Medlock, Allan Mosher and Ellen Shikuma.

## PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

**James Husing** was visiting the *USS Hornet* aircraft carrier museum on the former Alameda Naval Air Station near Oakland, CA, when he saw a directional sign for "Pan Am Way". Pan Am Way is near the hangar and terminal from which Pan American sea planes used to take off. The property is now called Alameda Point. The photo is especially interesting to me because my brother was a civilian employee at the base. Due to his near retirement, he and a few others who were also near retirement, were given the assignment of cleaning up the base, after its closing. The Navy felt it was a better deal to let them work for the number of months needed to finish the job and then give them their full retirement early



rather than to pay the expenses of reassigning them to new locations farther away. . . . **Jack Smith** took up the challenge in last month's issue, in which we suggested you encourage a Pan Am friend to become a member. He sent a copy to **Mike Craighead**, who promptly sent in a check for membership. The photo on the following page was one Jack had saved and it was taken



in 1968. Mike is seated on the right. Andy Monteath (left) hosted Jack Smith (center) and Mike at the time that Mike was taking over Jack's position as ACSM (Airport Customer Service Manager) Montego Bay. Andy was the Airport Manager. . . . Charlotte Larson attended the World Wings convention in Savannah, GA, last week and emailed me several photos, one of which is below. From left, the ladies are Grace Nakata, one of our

PAA members who lives in Paris, Gina Sui Oerelius who was based in Honolulu in the late 70s, Member Charlotte Larson who lives in the Seattle area, Eva Demetro of the Portland chapter of World Wings and Guia Andersen, president of the Bangkok chapter of World Wings. Word is out that the Atlanta Chapter, who sponsored the convention in Savannah, did a superb job.



## GALA, MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER NOTES

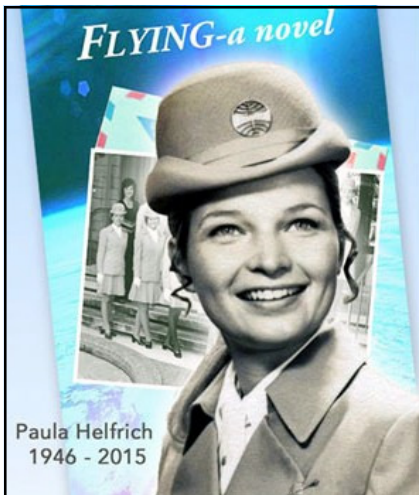
This is the last issue that will contain our Annual Gala information and reservation form. You will find it on pages 9 and 10.. If you have not already signed up, please do so soon. A count needs to be given to the Hale Koa Hotel by the beginning of December. Local Entertainer **Kanoe Cazimero**, pictured at left, will entertain at the gala. She said she will bring a couple of friends as part of her program. Those who have attended the gala in the past will remember Kanoe as she always joined Mihana Souza in performing at the gala during the past several years. Both were well received. Mihana will be in San Francisco at the time of our gala, where she will be entertaining at her niece's wedding. . . . We remind all members to please keep us updated on your phone and address changes—both street and email addresses. Our Annual Members have an opportunity to do that when they complete the membership/renewal application (page 8). However Life members need to remember to include our Aloha Chapter on your list of people-to-notify whenever changes are made. If you are an Annual Member and have not yet renewed, please do so. Our next issue will list the names of those who may have forgotten to renew and we would be delighted if it is a very small list.



## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

Former member **Don Adams** passed on. He was in Airport Passenger Service and later in Sales. He is survived by his wife, Ione, and daughter, Sommerset. His service is scheduled for **November 24th at 5:30 PM at Central Union Church.**





We are saddened to report the passing of **Paula Helfrich** on October 6th. She was 69. Paula was well known in Pan Am's World. She arrived at her Pan Am stewardess training class with much more awareness of multiculturalism than did most of us. She was born in Illinois and raised in Burma, now known as Myanmar, where her father ran a teak mill. She went to high school at a convent in Darjeeling, India. She had many interests, one might say passions, which led to her connections with people from all walks of life. She started her Pan Am career as a stewardess. While based in Honolulu, she attended UH where she continued her studies in anthropology and archeology. After her second daughter was born, she quit flying and took a ground position, starting in Ramps Ops/Operations. After

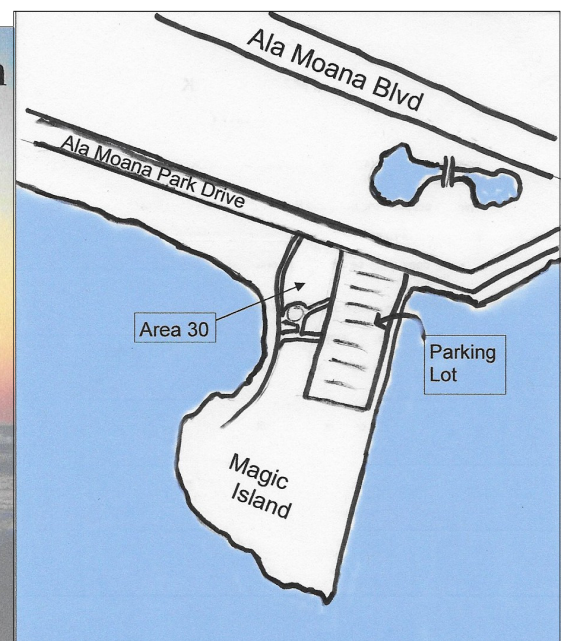
Pan Am left the islands, Paula became Executive Director of the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce, enabling her to lobby for federal funds for the state. She worked closely with the State of Hawaii Department of Economic Development. She returned to Myanmar about 9 years ago and 5 years later married Saw Philip BayNaySee. She co-authored a book titled *Flying—a novel*. She is survived by her husband, Saw Philip; 2 daughters, Laurien and Andrea Helfrich-Nuss; sisters Eleanor Helfrich, Mary M. Uyeda, Elizabeth Barton, and Catherine Williams; and brother Thomas. Paula will be sorely missed, not only because of her personality but because her love of history resulted in her extensive knowledge about many aspects of Pan American's operations in Hawaii.

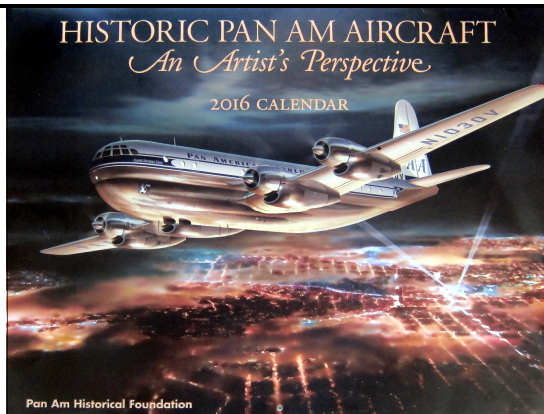


Paula and Saw Philip

Below is an invitation to the Celebration of Life for Paula which will be a potluck gathering at Ala Moana Park from 4:00 to 6:00 on Sunday, November 15th. In her last days, Paula said she wanted only laughter and no tears unless they were tears of laughter. Bring your memories (and potluck contribution) to share and to celebrate her life. As Paula said at the last meeting she attended in April of this year, "your family and friends are the most important thing in your life."

**You're Invited To A Farewell Celebration**  
*In Honor of Paula Zoe Helfrich*  
**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15TH, 2015**  
**4:00PM-6:00PM**  
 MAGIC ISLAND, AREA #30  
 HONOLULU, HI.  
 (SEE MAP FOR DETAILS)  
**POTLUCK STYLE, MUSIC, STORY TELLING, REMINISCING**  
**& CELEBRATING A LIFE LEGACY**  
 Kindly Respond by  
**Friday November 13th, 2015**  
 lalanuss@yahoo.com 808-258-5117





## 2016 Collector Calendars Available

The Pan Am Historical Foundation has released its 2016 calendar. It includes unique artistic images of historic aircraft synonymous with the pioneering legacy of Pan American World Airways, beginning with the Fokker F-10 and the Ford Trimotor, through to the Boeing B-747. The colorful creations are the work of aviation artist Ron Cole, who also did the cover of the locally produced *A Touch of First Class* cookbook featured in our newsletter throughout 2013. An historical narrative is provided by Ron Marasco, Pan Am V/P Maintenance and Engineering, for each aircraft. Each page in the calendar features a different aircraft, finished in an artistic manner which makes the pages suitable for individual framing.

The calendars can be ordered through [www.paacalendar.com](http://www.paacalendar.com). All proceeds are dedicated to perpetuating the legacy of Pan Am through the Pan Am Historical Foundation.

## A Vegetarian Turkey



*Happy Thanksgiving  
To all our members  
And friends.*

## COMING ATTRACTIONS 2015/16 Schedule

- November 24—Board Meeting Only
- **December 13**—Annual Gala

All meetings will be held at the Waialae Country Club unless otherwise notified. The Annual Gala will be held at the Hale Koa Hotel.

### 2016

- January 26—Board Meeting Only
- **February 23**—General Member Meeting
- March 22—Board Meeting Only
- **April 26**—General Member Meeting
- May 24—Board Meeting Only
- **June 28**—General Member Meeting
- July 26—Board Meeting Only
- **August 23**—General Member Meeting
- September 27—Board Meeting Only



## 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	alhwchun@gmail.com	395-0525
Cal Yuen	Annual Gala Co-Chair	GolfNut8888@gmail.com	(650) 703-0623
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
Robbie Gee	Travel consultant	RobbieGee@icloud.com	255-4558
Ellen Shikuma	Director	EllenNOW@aol.com	734-5725
Eva Miyahara Kama	Director		988-4161
Edward E. Swofford	Director Emeritus	eeskaneoe@aol.com	247-5740

### 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**





***Annual Gala 2015***  
***December 13, 2015***  
*Hale Koa Hotel, 2055 Kalia Rd., Waikiki*  
*Featuring Local Entertainer, Kanoe Cazimero*

*It is time to book your seat(s) for our Annual Gala. A reservation form is below and details are on the next page. There is room on the back of the reservation section if your party is larger than 3. If you prefer to get your own group together, it would be helpful if your group nominates one person to be the "table leader". That person can list everyone in the group and set a deadline for everyone to send a check to Carol Suyderhoud, as directed. When each person sends in his/her check, he/she need only mention that they are at so-and-so's table so we can match it up. If any group has less than 10, we will attempt to fill the rest of the seats with people from the same department.*

**Reservation Form—Annual Gala, December 13, 2015**

Name & Dept. \_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00

(Add separate list of guests or use back of form if more space required.)

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Gated Lobby drop off required for handicapped? If so, name of driver and guests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Need a ride? Contact Carol Suyderhoud at 396-5225.

Make check payable to: **PAA.** Send to:  
**Carol Suyderhoud**, 7503 Maka'a Street, Honolulu, HI 96825-3127

## HALE KOA HOTEL INFORMATION

ON ENTRANCE, PARKING, BEVERAGE PAYMENTS, ETC.

- Location is the Waikiki Ballroom across from the Warrior Bar
- Doors open at 5:30 PM. Cash bar will be available and buffet will begin at approximately 6:30. The menu is the same "International Buffet" which has been well received by our members in the past. If you have difficulty moving through a buffet line, please do not be concerned. Other members will assist you.
- Cash is required for all alcoholic beverages and soft drinks. Credit cards are not accepted.
- Photo ID is required, though not always checked, since the Hale Koa is a military facility. Your driver's license or other government-issued photo ID will suffice.
- Parking is available in the Fort Derussy parking garage across the street from the hotel and is \$5.00 with validation which will be available when you sign in at the ballroom door. Drivers with guests can drive to the front entrance, drop their guests at the front lobby, and drive from there to the garage. It is convenient for guests who cannot walk very far or who have trouble with stairs.
- **For the handicapped:** Drivers with handicapped guests can drive through the security entrance to the back lobby, to drop them off, and then proceed to the parking garage. The back lobby is closer to the ballroom where the gala will be held. The security person on duty will need to have the name of the driver and his or her guest(s) in advance. There is a speaker phone and the security person on duty will ask for names. If you are on the security list, the security person will open the gate for you. To get on the list, be sure and put the driver's name on the front of the reservation form below. Guest names may be added below.

Please retain the upper portion of this flyer for future reference.

Use this space for additional guests: