



Our Amiable August Meeting

Bob Sigall, pictured at left, is always entertaining and informative. He is one of our most popular speakers. Approximately 60 people attended his amiable presentation at the August 27th meeting.

The next general membership meeting will be our Annual Meeting in October. The scheduled speaker is **Diane Ako** who reports on "Aging Well" on KITV4 in addition to anchoring news.

SOME HOMEWORK REQUIRED

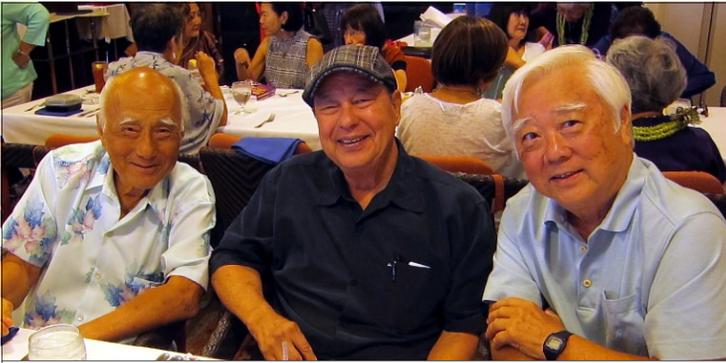
That is, we had to put on our thinking caps as Bob Sigall passed out a quiz before beginning his presentation in which the audience participates. It is all part of the fun in Sigall's "classroom". The first question was: Which hotel built the Waialae Country Club? An apt question considering we were meeting at WCC. A few in the audience correctly guessed it was the Royal Hawaiian. Sigall follows the response with an explanation of how it all came about.

Most of us are fans of Sigall's regular column, "Rearview Mirror", in the Friday edition of the *Honolulu Star Advertiser*. While many of his questions were covered in his recent columns, we often could not come up with the correct answers. For example, he reminded us that Jerome Coopersmith, who wrote 32 episodes for the original *Hawaii Five-O*, got most of his script ideas from the newspapers. His question was, "What tweak did Coopersmith say he usually had to give to the stories he found in the newspaper?" None of us remembered that he said he had to make the criminals smarter than they were in real life.

A final question was: In 1900, the Hawaii Attorney General said all public amusements, sports, shows and games on Sunday were forbidden. Events on Sunday must be ____ and _____. The answer: Free and not at all amusing. And our Millennials think they are deprived!

Sigall has written 5 books in his series *The Companies We Keep*. The books are full of interesting anecdotes about famous visitors to the islands, well known local people and interesting places that have disappeared to be replaced by something more modern. I picked up my own copy of Book 5 after I got home to check on some story I vaguely recalled. Half an hour later I was still reading the book. When you pick up one of his books, one story just leads to another and time passes quickly.

Sigall had brought copies of his books for those interested in purchasing them. You needn't feel left out. You, too, can purchase a book or two or a complete set. You can order them on line at www.Companies.We.Keep.com.



▲ Ed Young, Harlow Urabe and Calvin Murata



▲ Joan Davis, Sue Jaques, Dan Delmonte & Kiddy DeCoster



Dawn Krause ▶
And her mother,
Shirley

◀ Rita Riggs, Leilani
Maguire and Harold Chow

▼ Pat Thompson and
Bob Sigall



▲ Merle Miyamoto, Katie Yoshioka, Carol
Wong and Nancy Yamauchi



▲ Nobuko Loncar and
May Tsukiyama



▲ Front: Amy Okamoto, Mae Takahashi & Aggie VonBrimer. Back:
Ellen Hiromoto, Charlotte Yamashiro & Sumiko Allegar



▲ Marie Jahnsen, Chuck Reindollar, Denise
Mazzanti, & Cher Sullivan



▲ Tanya Reed, Clare Takayama, Pat Wagner & Alice Lam



▲ Pat Thompson, Tony Peloso, & Jo Lim

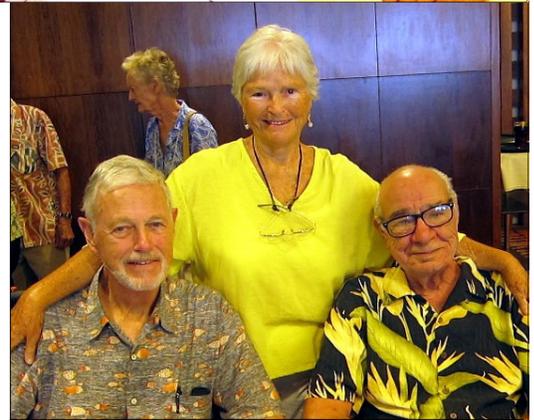


▶ Bob Sigall, Diane Vander-Zanden and Carol Suyderhoud

◀ Front: Elaine Keb and Shirley Silva. Back: Patti Jacoby, Shirley Motas and Sachiko Kato

▼ Robin Makapagal and Jane Noe

▼ Jan Newhart & Henry Blakstad



▲ John Medlock, Sharlene Brunell and Ed Gencarelli

Jane Noe, Al Chun & Susyn Miller-Fritz



▲ Chuck Reindollar & Eileen Tiwanak



▲ Marie Jahnsen & Constance Kelsey





◀ Rita Riggs, Dianne Cox and Leilani Maguire

Sandy Dawson and Sharlene Brunell ▶



▼ Darlene & Lee Laster



◀ Sonja and David Kawamoto and Ellen Shikuma



THE SEARCH FOR THE SAMOAN CLIPPER

Our readers who have an interest in Pan Am's history will recall that Captain and Chief Pilot Ed Musick, famous for having commanded many of the airline's pioneering flights, was lost at sea, along with his crew, in 1938.

Unless you have recently visited the web site of the Pan Am Historical Foundation, or are a PAHF member, you may not know that another famous exploring group has just conducted a search for the missing aircraft. In early July, the Air/Sea Heritage Foundation, in conjunction with the Ocean Exploration Trust (OET) and other supporters including PAHF, scanned the area where the Clipper disappeared. The OET was founded by Dr. Robert Ballard, the man who located the HMS Titanic in her watery grave. Their ship, the *E/V Nautilus*, is outfitted with the latest scientific equipment, including a tethered roving unit named the *Argus ROV*.

Russ Matthews, President of the Air/Sea Heritage Foundation, wrote a daily blog of the activities preparing for the trip and aboard the *E/V Nautilus* which clearly illustrates the heart and soul the explorers put into their search. Following are excerpts from his blog:

July 5, 2019

In just TEN DAYS from now the search for Samoan Clipper will begin in earnest and I find myself looking back at the more than five years of effort that has led to this point. We've learned a tremendous amount in that time; a wealth of information about the circumstances that contributed to the fateful accident, details of the construction of the airplane, and clues to where it may ultimately be found. However, in pouring over all of this data, one particularly poignant realization stands out above all others; that for the people of Pan American Airways, this tragic incident was not merely business, it was family.

July 11, 2019

. . . It seems entirely appropriate that our journey should begin here [in LAX] as this is the

town where a teenaged Ed Musick learned to fly more than 100 years ago! In a career that spanned "from crate to Clipper" he helped transform Aviation from the exclusive domain of daredevils and stunt fliers into the modern air transport industry. An especially vivid example of his role in forging that path was the first survey flight from California to Hawaii in 1935. At the controls of a Sikorsky S-42B, appropriately dubbed Pan American Clipper, Musick tackled the longest over water route in the world, a staggering 2,400 miles of empty ocean, and made it routine. . . It is incredible that this minor miracle now repeats itself every day.

July 15, 2019

Nautilus left the dock a little after 0800 this morning, retracing the route of USS Avocet (AVP-4) "en route to a point 12 miles north of Tapu Tapu Point to search for Samoan Clipper (NC16734)." It was a thrilling moment to finally be on our way and feel a rolling deep sea swell lift the ship as soon as we made the turn to exit the inner harbor .. a good reminder of why the clipper had to use the restricted landing area despite its other hazards.

. . . Using dynamic positioning, Nautilus held station while the Argus ROV was prepped for launch. A passing rain squall swept over the area, but the crew carried out the entire evolution with great skill despite the weather and got the vehicle in the water without incident. By 1120 Argus was diving for the seabed to hunt for signs of Samoan Clipper like a bloodhound on a very long leash.

. . . We started with a 2 mile long run headed "downslope" of our search area [toward the] Northwest. This run was intended to be a "working up" period .. evaluating the performance of the sonar, getting familiar with the subsea landscape and dialing in our techniques. It was a great relief to find that the underwater slope is quite gentle... and a very pleasant surprise to discover that the downward looking *Argus* camera can actually see the bottom. This is big as it means our survey has no middle gap of data in the "nadir" between sonar transducers. Much of the terrain is flat and sandy, though there do appear to be a number of rocks strewn about, as can be expected from such a volcanically active area. . . A stiff breeze from the east is pushing up to "crab" the ship using dynamic positioning and has cut our projected speed. The plan is now to run the next lines into/with the wind, which should increase our overall speed and reduce some of the "stretching" effect on the sonar return. This too is a part of exploration. Having the persistence to do repetitive, attention intensive work without constantly second guessing yourself helps make the prospect of discovery even sweeter.

July 16, 2019

. . . *Argus* has been scanning the seabed for the better part of a day. Our revised East-West track lines have worked well and the wind has moderated with mostly clear skies. We passed over the crash coordinates provided in the Bureau of Air Commerce accident report and have so far marked approximately 31 targets for possible further analysis... though, nothing that appeared to be obvious aircraft wreckage. Frankly, nobody reasonably expected that Samoan Clipper would be precisely where the 1938 searchers estimated. Their work put us in the neighborhood and now we need to do the careful work of scouring the surrounding area. I still feel it must be close by.

July 17, 2019

Yesterday started early with one of the highlights of the expedition so far, when our promised "special guests" joined us for a lively conversation. Pan Am Historical Foundation Chair Ed Trippe and Ocean Exploration Trust President Dr. Robert Ballard called our operations team in the field on board E/V *Nautilus* via satellite connection at the University of Rhode Island's Inner Space Center. I was able to brief them on the progress of the expedition and then give our streaming viewers the opportunity to hear Ed and Bob share their unique perspectives on the search and its significance. It was almost complete overload for me as I could have easily spent the entire morning

talking to either one of them. The time seemed to fly past and practically the entire control van had a chance to contribute to the discussion. (Right: Ed Trippe and Dr. Robert Ballard at the U. of Rhode Island Inner Space Center.)



[Mathews went on to explain the details of the search which cover several more pages. It is clear that the search was thorough. This narrative will be continued in the next issue of our newsletter.]

PLEASE READ: IMPORTANT CHANGES ON RESERVATION FORMS

There have been some important changes at Waialae Country Club. Last year there was a new chef. There have been other changes in personnel. Previous staff members were very accommodating to us, allowing us to fudge on the rules. The long and the short of it is that we can no longer continue with last minute reservations. In the future, the Waialae Country Club wants a final count a minimum of 1 week in advance for their planning purposes. This means that your check for your reservation **MUST** be in Carol's hands by the Tuesday before the meeting.

The issue was presented to the Board and it entailed a lively discussion. We realize that all other venues have a cut-off date and that we have been fortunate to have been allowed last minute reservations in the past. We can no longer do so. The Waialae Country Club is a popular meeting location for many organizations. Please be aware that if Carol has not **received** your check by the Tuesday before the meeting, you will be unable to attend. **No exceptions.** In the future, the reservation form will indicate the date by which your check must be received by Carol so that she can call in a final count on the Tuesday before the meeting. (See page 7.)

PHOTO CONTEST DELAY

The photo contest, announced in the April issue, had a deadline of July 31st. The deadline still stands but I cannot do justice to the entries in this issue because of lack of space. (This is partly because of the large attendance at the Tuesday meeting at Waialae.) It is therefore necessary to delay until the next issue. The contest was to place your Pan Am bag in an unusual setting and snap a picture.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .



Abbie Chong, wife of Malcolm Chong, passed away on July 30th. She was one of the first Hawaiian Airlines stewardesses, having flown on their DC-3s. She also started the stewardess retiree group, Koa'e Kea, which is still active today. She and Malcolm always attended our galas until her health declined. Many years ago, they joined their two families. She had 5 children and Malcolm had 4. After they married, they had another child. Malcolm was a lead mechanic and shop steward. He moved his family to Miami for a couple of years so he could retire from Pan Am. After returning to Hawaii, he joined Aloha Airlines.



Jie Sing Chun. 85, passed away on August 3rd. Jie was a Lead agent with Passenger Service. He was mild mannered and very good at handling passengers who had complaints. He was well liked by his fellow employees. Jie is survived by his wife, Gertrude,

and sons, Philip and Mark. Private services are being held; however, there will be a Celebration of Life on September 10th, beginning at 9:30 AM at Happy Days Restaurant in Kaimuki. It was Jie's favorite restaurant.



2019 Schedule

- September 24—Board Meeting Only
- **October 22**—Annual Meeting
- November 26—Board Meeting Only
- **December 7**— **Annual Gala** @ WCC

2020 Schedule

- January 28—Board Meeting Only
- **February 25**—General Member Meeting
- March 24—Board Meeting Only
- **April 28**—General Member Meeting
- May 26—Board Meeting Only
- **June 23**—General Member Meeting
- July 28—Board Meeting Only
- **August 25**—General Member Meeting
- September 22—Board Meeting Only
- **October 27**—General Member Meeting
- November 24—Board Meeting Only

Luncheon Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—October 22, 2019

Waialae Country Club

4997 Kahala Avenue

11:00 Social hour, 11:30 Lunch

\$30.00 per person (Includes tip and parking)

Important: Carol must **receive** your check **by** October 15th.*

October Speaker

Diane Ako

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

*Please see page 6.

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
Marie Jahnsen	Secretary	marie.jahnsen@gmail.com	832-752-4982
Al Chun	Annual Gala Coordinator	alhwchun@gmail.com	395-0525
Owen Oshima	Annual Gala Co-Chair	owenoshima007@aol.com	741-6936
Mae Takahashi	Annual Gala Co-Chair	takten@hawaii.rr.com	218-7773
Carol Weiss-Suyderhoud	Meetings Coordinator/Speaker Chair	carolws@hawaii.rr.com	396-5225
Diane VanderZanden	Editor, <i>Aloha Clipper</i>	alohadvz@gmail.com	200-4322
Ellen Shikuma	Director	EllenNOW@aol.com	734-5725
Clare Takayama	Director	TakaHale@aol.com	247-2004
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 200-4322 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