

NAVIGATING WITHOUT INSTRUMENTS

Though **Bonnie Kahapea-Tanner**, right, was not a navigator on the Makali'i, the Hōkūle'a or the Hikianalia, all canoes constructed similar to the ancient voyaging canoes, she did have the privilege of a 3-month trip on the Makali'i as a dishwasher and cleaner. She learned many skills and is now Executive Director of the Kanehunamoku Voyaging Academy. See below for this charming lady's story.

This issue also contains registration forms for the October Annual Meeting and the December Annual Luncheon Gala. See page 7.



E MAU VOYAGE—SAILING THE MASTER HOME

Bonnie Kahapea-Tanner was still a college student when she joined friends in Kona for a canoeing celebration which was really all about having a good time. Shortly after arriving there, she took a walk with a couple of friends to the dock where they encountered the voyaging canoe, Makali'i, and she says she fell in love. She was working towards her Master's degree in Counseling Psychology but the canoe changed the direction of her life. She was invited to stay on the Makali'i and take a short sail with the crew the next day. Thus began her interest in maritime training.

In February of 1999 Bonnie was again on the Makali'i, this time as part of the crew. She was one of 4 women on a crew of 11. It was a 3-month trip from Kona to, and around, the Micronesian islands. The purpose of the cruise was to return Master Navigator Mau Pailug to his home on the Island of Satawal, after a lengthy time in Hawaii. He had been teaching Hawaiians to sail without navigational instruments.

The first leg of the trip, from Kona to Majuro, was 21 days. After that, they always had land in sight from at least one of the many islands. She received many questions from her audience, several about the basics, such as "Where did you sleep?" and "Where did you go to the bathroom?" She laughed and said, "Those are the kind of questions in which everyone seems to be most interested!" The answer to the first was that she slept on a 3-foot by 5-foot board, which she shared with another crew member doing the same work. One slept while the other was on duty. The answer to the second question was "over the side." She said it could be a challenge in rough seas.

After a couple of months of visiting many of the Micronesia islands, Master Navigator Pailug left the crew with the order to "go home and share what you have learned." Kahapea-Tanner came home after 3 months, without a

job. But she was soon contacted by a group establishing a charter school, Halau Ku Mana, and they asked her to join them. They acquired use of a boat and she started a sailing academy, the Kanehunamoku Voyaging Academy, whose mission is to teach leadership and other skills to students of all ages through sailing.

While the ancient skills, such as learning about the stars and ocean currents, are still taught, the emphasis is on helping young people find careers in the maritime industry. Classes are held in school as well as aboard ship. They include learning to chart, GPS studies, and working an actual intra-island trip aboard the boat. Currently Hawaii businesses have to look to the mainland to fill positions on their ships. One of the voyaging academy's goals is to help revitalize the local maritime industry. Kahapea-Tanner has several former students who are now in their third year of studies in maritime academies in California and Oregon.

Kahapea-Tanner and her husband have two daughters, ages 10 and 12. They make their home in Kaneohe.

August 28th Meeting in Pictures

Although we cannot show you the slides or the video that were part of Bonnie Kahapea-Tanner's presentation, we can show you the happy faces of those who enjoyed it.

Thanks again to Henry Blakstad who provided door prizes.



▲ Clare Takayama, Bonnie Kahapea-Tanner and Jimmy Chong



▲ Mae Takahashi, Inger Hojfeldt, Aggie VonBrimer and Mae Tsukiyama

Standing: Shirley Silva, Shirley Motas, Elaine Keb & Betty Keliiaa. Seated: Sachi Kato, Iris Inouye and her mother, Tomiye Nakamura. ▼



▲ Henry Blakstad & Jan Newhart





▲ Carol Suyderhoud & Marie Jahnsen



▲ Dan Del Monte, Kiddy DeCoster and Joan Davis



▲ Cal Murata, Clare Takayama, Jimmy Chong and Harlow Urabe



▲ Carol Wong, Ilona Benoit, & Eva Voronaeff



▲ Tomiye Nakamura and Calvin Murata



▲ Darlene and Lee Laster

Pat Wagner and Clare Takayama ▼



◀ Patti Jacoby and Shirley Silva

Katie Yoshioka and Tom Anusewicz ▶





◀ Danni Kamealoha, Diane VanderZanden and her husband, Roy Stocks.



▲ Jimmy Chong, Ed Gencarelli, Ellen Shikuma and John Medlock

THE AGES OF MAN—AND WOMAN

The Age of Collecting has passed. It is now the Age of Downsizing. Looking back, it seems as if it did not take long for the one to morph into the other. We decided it was time to empty a storage unit that is the last of two we had at one time, containing items remaining from combining two households a dozen years ago. It is turning out to be no simple task.

There is all the difficult decision-making on what to retain, what to toss and what to donate. The whole process is slowed by the forgotten “treasures” that come to the surface. Much to my surprise, I even uncovered an item purchased in Beirut many eons ago and never used. While I never thought a ceramic elephant from Vietnam was ever worth lugging back home, I did purchase the also popular thick brown leather hassock cover found in the tourist markets in Beirut. The vendor used one for his chair when he wasn’t busy capturing tourist dollars. He showed several of us that his was stuffed with wadded up newspapers. Seemed like the perfect addition to a 1-bedroom-sized stewardess apartment, providing an extra seat around the coffee table. While that might have worked well in a small apartment, it really appeared more like a piece of furniture for a man-cave. Upon arriving home from the trip, I must have had second thoughts. It is still wrapped in the brown paper used by the vendor from whom I purchased it about 50 years ago and with the original string around it. (Anyone building a man-cave? I know where you can get a nice leather ottoman at a good price!)

Funny thing about those ceramic elephants: Though I never purchased any from my many trips to Vietnam, I ended up with two of them. One came with the combining of two households and the other from a recent nearby estate sale. I thought it would make a great base for a lavender plant which is in an alcove outside our front door.

Probably the most difficult part of down-sizing is coming face-to-face with the problem of what to do with old photo albums, slide-filled carousels and other memorials of past events. As I say, down-sizing is a HUGE project.

Entry alcove with blue elephant with lavender plant. Koko Crater is visible beyond the windows.



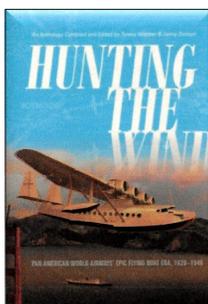
SIGN UP EARLY FOR FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Page 7 of this issue contains two reservation forms. On the top of the page you will find a form for our Annual Meeting in October. **Mike Lilly** is the scheduled speaker for the October 23rd Annual Meeting. He is writing a book about his grandfather, Henry Walker, and his friendship with Admiral Nimitz. That friendship will be the subject of his talk. A brief annual report and meeting will take place before his presentation.

On the bottom of page 7 is a reservation form for our December gala. The Annual Gala Luncheon will be held on December 1st this year at the Waiialae Country Club. Parking and tip are included in the price. Details are still being worked out but we should have them by the October issue.



PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS



Terry Webber sent us the following message: "A fire at the Hong Kong printer's facility caused a delayed release of *Hunting the Wind* [the book she co-authored with James Dodson]. My apologies for any inconvenience. It will be available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Schiffer Publishing on **September 28th.**" . . .

Charlotte Larson writes from Seattle that she has new email addresses. You can contact her at l Larson838@icloud.com or at l Larsonc808@gmail.com . . . Pacific Office Properties, owner of the 17-story **Pan Am Building** on Kapiolani Boulevard, has just sold it to the group that owns the nearby Don Quijote market. The buyers have not yet divulged their plans for the building. . .

World Wings International, Inc. is holding its annual convention in San Diego this year, October 27th-30th. President Nancy McAllister has invited non-World Wing Pan Amers to join in a special reception and dinner aboard the *USS Midway* on the evening of October 29th. Our members who live in Southern California may be interested in checking it out. The web link is <https://worldwingsinternational.net/sd/> . . .

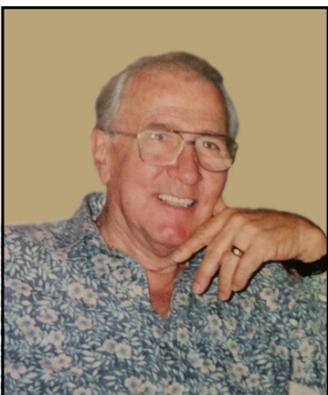
Sharlene Brunell is temporarily staying at the Hawaii Kai Retirement Center. She recently had knee replacement surgery and learned that single people (and couples) can rent assisted living units by the week. Good to know, especially if you are living alone and have surgery requiring assistance for a time. She is scheduled there through September 15th but may extend since her unit in the Marco Polo is still not ready. She is in unit #105 and her phone number is still 808-230-1466. . . .We extend our sympathy to John Medlock and Tina Haight. John's wife, **Inga Dougherty**, succumbed to metastatic breast cancer on July 30th. Tina Haight lost her son, **Cory G. K. Mehau**, after a long illness. He was 63.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

Edward Versprille passed away on August 2nd, just short of his 78th birthday. He worked as a passenger service agent for National Airlines and Pan Am and later retired from Delta Airlines. He and his wife, Wallis "Wally" Bonnewitz, attended several of our PAA Annual Galas. (I took the photo of Eddie at right in 2010.) Eddie never worked in Honolulu and Wally transferred from HNL to DCA when they married. His first wife pre-deceased him. He is survived by his second wife, Wally; sister-in-law, Gail Bonnewitz; sons, Edward Patrick, Stephen Vincent-Kristy and Kevin Paul; and two grandchildren.



Just before going to press, we received word of the passing of **Tom Kewin**, at his home in Mill Valley at the age of 96. Tom was known by many of us who were based in, or worked at, the SFO and HNL stations. Kewin was a tall, lanky pilot with a ready smile, good natured and always interesting. An aeronautics graduate, Kewin began his Pan Am career in 1943 on the Martin M-130 Clipper. He had many interests, one of which was writing. In fact, he was recently a contributor to the book mentioned on page 5, *Hunting the Wind*, which was co-edited by Terry Webber and Jamie Dodson. To those of us who knew him, Tom Kewin stands out as one of those pilots who paved the way in aviation, before modern technology made the job safer and easier.



Larry Whipple, 90, passed away quietly at his home on Monday, August 13th. His wife, Maureen, and sons, Scott and Tom were by his side. There will be a private family service at a later date. Larry worked in Passenger Sales, Passenger Service and Flight Service during his career. He is fondly remembered by many Pan Amers. I recall that he always had a jolly demeanor and a favorite story to share. Richard Taliaferro said, "He was one of my favorite guys to work with." He added that "Maureen was one of my best Clipper Skippers." He sends his condolences. Darlene Laster remembers that Larry was part of a team effort that exceeded corporate sales goals at a time when the travel market was extremely competitive. Larry had been an annual member for many years but he dropped his membership a few years ago. Therefore you won't find the family address in your directory. You can contact Maureen at 4845 Lake Waterford Way, Melbourne, FL 32901.

Ernest Wong passed away on May 31st, a week after his 89th birthday. He was a mechanic and was originally hired as a radio mechanic in the early days.

SNIPPETS

Hurricane News: Hawaii got a break when Hurricane Lane barely missed the islands in August. The refrain in everyone's mind, during days of preparation, was "Lane, Lane go away; and don't come back another day!" Though there was some damage, especially in areas on the islands of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai, it was mostly flooding from heavy downpours. Maui lost some homes to a wind-driven fire but most of us ended up unscathed.

Of Note: I wonder how many of Eddie Versprille's co-workers knew he was quite an athlete. (Eddie's obituary is on page 5.) Eddie played as a full back and linebacker at the University of Alabama. He played on Paul "Bear" Bryant's first National Championship Football Team in 1961. Bryant commented: "He is the heart of the Alabama defense and can still be counted on for offense. He logs more all around playing than anyone else on the team."

2018 Schedule

- September 25—Board Meeting Only
- **October 23**—Annual Meeting
- November 27—Board Meeting Only
- **December 1**—**Annual Gala Luncheon**
Waialae Country Club

2019 Schedule

- January 22—Board Meeting Only
- **February 26**—General Member Meeting
- March 26—Board Meeting Only
- **April 23**—General Member Meeting
- 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

Luncheon Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—October 23, 2018
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 by October 19th.

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 transportation is required, call Carol at 396-5225 or contact her by
e-mail at: carolws@hawaii.rr.com. Payment in advance of the meeting is
appreciated.

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.

Speaker: Mike Lilly

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*Annual Gala Reservation
Luncheon at Waialae Country Club
December 1, 2018
Social Hour starts: 10:30
Buffet Served: 12:00
\$50 per person (Includes tip and parking)*



Name & Dept. _____ \$50.00

Guest _____ \$50.00

Guest _____ \$50.00

(Add separate list of guests if more space required.)

Total enclosed _____ \$ _____

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

PAA Hawaii Aloha Chapter Officers

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Mae Takahashi	Director	takten@hawaii.rr.com	218-7773

(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