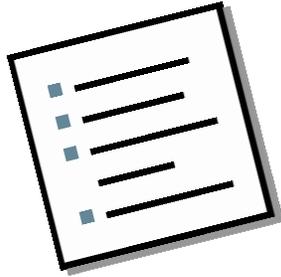


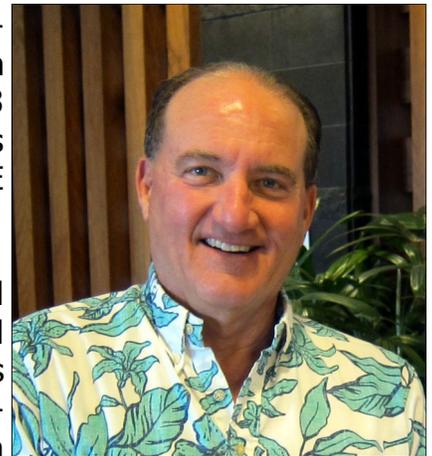
### IN THIS ISSUE:



- Notes on John Fink’s speech: below
- Photos from meeting: pp. 2-4
- Pan Am People: p. 5
- Sarah Rose seeks information: p. 5
- Pilot Unusual Flight Story: p.5,6
- **Important announcement: p. 7**

### JOHN FINK ON MEDIA, ETC.

ETC is because John Fink spoke on many subjects. Fink has a background in radio and then moved on to TV. He was with KHNL/KFVE for 33 years, ten years as Sales Manager and 23 as General Manager. He left with the sale of KFVE in January 2019.



Fink’s focus on the station content was first and foremost support of local news, people and events. He formed partnerships with business people to promote local sports and entertainment. An example is a deal he worked out with Hawaiian Airlines for them to promote local entertainers on their in-flight entertainment in a program they called “KFVE Mele”. They would film a performance by a local entertainer and follow it up with an interview of the performer.

An interesting statistical note is that most of us trust our local news far more than we trust national news. This is why Fink emphasized local issues on his stations.

I previously mentioned that Fink has always been involved in community activities. He is one of the 9 board members on The Stadium Authority, which is responsible for overseeing everything related to Aloha Stadium. The stadium sits on land that had been partially owned by 3 entities: State Government, Federal Government and the City and County of Honolulu. The state finally succeeded in purchasing the entire parcel, thus making it easier for the board to move forward. The moniker for the project is the *New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District*. Ideas for retail, housing and hotels are being considered as well as a new Aloha Stadium.

Another topic Fink spoke on was our connectedness. Life is about relationships. We are losing that connectedness because of the current reliance on smart phones and social media. Parents should insist on family time together. Families should sit down and eat together, with all smart phones turned off. He related that Marcus Mariota knows what relationships are all about. When he was injured on the playing field, he insisted on keeping a commitment to visit children in a hospital, in his wheelchair, before flying off to see a specialist.

John Fink used to do a small segment twice a week on his newscast in which he would mention a local issue, ending up with the request to "Think About It". He completed just under 2000 of these segments over the years. As the shows ran, they transcribed about 187 of them for a book he is putting together. He is adding footnotes to about 60% of the of the editorials, many of which say "20 years later and nothing has changed."

The book is titled ***Think About It: Ideas and Inspiration for Today's Hawai'i.*** (ISBN 978-1-948011-25-9) It will be available from Watermark Publishing in mid-April and priced at \$16.95 in soft cover at bookstores and other retail outlets. It can be pre-ordered now and from online book-sellers, or direct from the publisher at [www.bookshawaii.net](http://www.bookshawaii.net). It is also available on Amazon.

The book is not intended to be read like a Stephen King novel. Fink is hoping interested book readers will find some vignettes that will resonate with them and to which they can relate and/or take action to help make a difference here in Hawaii. If nothing else, the book captures points, projects, predicaments and people in time over the last two decades. Most are locally oriented with a scattering of vignettes going off in philosophical or humorous directions.

We thank Henry Blakstad for again donating door prizes. About 46 members and guests enjoyed John Fink's presentation. Photos follow.





▲ Jane Noe, Sandy Oshiro & Ulu Jung

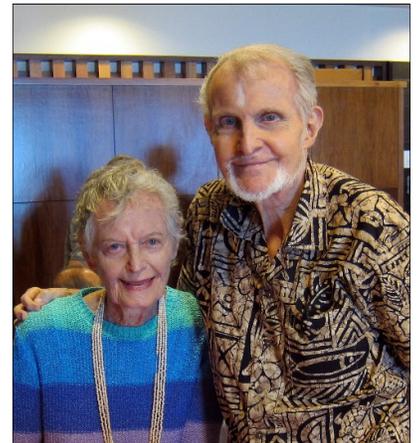


▲ Sarah Rose, Darlene Laster & Ed Gencarelli



▲ Mariya Leivo, Katie Yoshioka and Ilona Benoit

Please see page 5 for a request from Sarah Rose (above), who came from Washington DC to meet with us.



▲ Jan Newhart and Henry Blakstad



◀ Merle Miyamoto and Glori Ino Strassberg



▲ Harlow Urabe, Carol Nezu & Fred Shigenaga



◀ Seated: Al Chun and Harold Chow. Standing: Diane Bartosik & Denise Mazzanti



▲ Carol Suyderhoud and John Fink



▲ Marie Jahnsen, Jimmy Chong and Carol Suyderhoud



▲ Calvin Murata, Harlow Urabe, Sue Jaques and Jimmy Chong



▲ John Fink and Patti Jacoby



▲ Seated: Mae Takahashi & Aggie Von Brimer  
Charlotte Yamashiro, Sumiko Allegar & Carol Wong



▲ Dan Del Monte and Kiddy DeCoster

## PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Undoubtedly, you've noticed this issue is late. Yours truly unexpectedly headed for the ER three days after our February 18th meeting and was not released from the hospital until March 11th, minus about a foot of small intestine. I have been home 5 days now and gaining in strength every day. I am in self-quarantine and what a perfect time for it. The weather has been pretty dark and rainy. Good time to curl up with a book, etc. . . . Welcome to new members **Mieko Iinuma, Judith Ash** and **Diane Bartosik**. Mieko flew for Pan Am for 9 years before joining United. She lives here in Honolulu. Judith Ash is the lovely lady I met when I returned from Europe on a cruise last October. She flew for Pan Am for 26 years. She lives in Pinopolis, South Carolina, and was returning home from the World Wings International convention in Stockholm. She is a widow. Her email address is doodlebugash@hotmail.com. Diane Westland Bartosik was based in Honolulu and is married to Dr. Richard Bartosik. Her email address is joyfuldwb@aol.com. . . **Dawn Krause** is a volunteer at Iolani Palace and recently gave a talk in their Spotlight series. She spoke of the elegant style and the dignity of Queen Kapiolani, who was always impeccably dressed. We will try to give advance warning of the time and date of any of Dawn's future talks. . . . **Lani Maguire** enjoyed the article on visiting cemeteries in our February issue. She wanted to remind people that there are tours of Oahu Cemetery that are very interesting, especially to any of us who know about Hawaiian History. Established in 1844, it is Hawaii's oldest public cemetery. It was founded at the height of the whaling era to meet the need for a public burial ground for Honolulu's rapidly growing foreign population. . . **Gary Theemling** has new contact information. He and his wife have moved from Las Vegas to Salem, New Hampshire. His phone number is 702-427-2984 and his new email address is garytheemling@gmail.com.

## FREE LANCE REPORTER ATTENDS OUR MEETING

**Sarah Rose**, a free lance reporter for *The Washington Post* came to our Pan Am Association meeting in hopes of meeting some stewardesses who had worked on the famous baby lift flights. If any of our readers were on any of those flights, Sarah would very much appreciate it if you could contact her at sarah@sarahrose.com or by phone at 212-380-8141. Some of us thought those flights were operated out of SFO or HKG, however, we know we have a wide audience. Even if you are not a member of our association, please contact her if you worked any of those flights. A photo of Sarah Rose is on the top right of page 3.

## OUR STORIES

Our airline has a history of "firsts" but to me, it is the personal on-the-job stories that show how unique our company was. In the days of international travel, long before air travel became an everyday thing, and certainly long before the days of instant social communication, Pan Am employees encountered the unusual. Whether it was a humorous interaction with a passenger because of a language barrier or an unexpected job assignment at work because of an emergency situation caused by a canceled flight, etc. there are many stories yet to be told.

It is true that many employees, especially pilots, stewards and stewardesses have written books about their personal careers but unusual stories exist in all departments. Maybe an employee at a ticket counter had an unusual request from a customer, a passenger service employee had to

handle an unusual mix-up regarding assigned seats in a cabin, or a catering person had to fill in and help with an unusual chore because of a sudden change in the day's operations. I'm sure some of these situations resulted in laughter or in a "Whew! I'm glad that's over!" feeling. We have been able to tell some of these stories in these pages. Before they are lost forever, think about your career and let us laugh or cry with you.

Following is an unusual example of the unexpected that had employees, in this case pilots, scrambling to solve a problem. The article was written by Mike Dater of the Clipper Pioneers. It first appeared there and was reprinted in the Fall/Winter edition of the *Clipper*, the newsletter of the Pan Am Historical Foundation.

## ON A ROUTINE FLIGHT TO LISBON

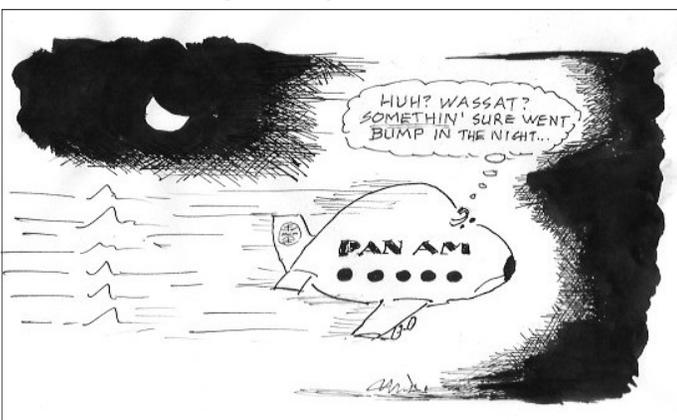
It was not, to say the least, a dark and stormy night. The trip was about as normal as a hundred other flights. On this particular night—JFK to LIS, I wouldn't even need to write about this trip except that a mechanic in Lisbon came up to the cockpit after our arrival, and that's what made this trip a bit different. No, very different.

I was the co-pilot on the DC-8, so I imagine it was around 1967 or 1968. Motoring along in the middle of the night, ride smooth as glass, not a cloud anywhere, we were, as usual, doing our best to stay quasi-awake. I guess we were pretty much plunk in the middle of the ocean, Then, all of a sudden, the plane, I dunno—lurched. Weird. It sort of bounced. What the hell was that? Did we hit a pothole? There was no turbulence. All the flight instruments normal. Nothing amiss on the flight engineer's panel. From the cabin crew, nothing. The cockpit radar, nothing. FL 350 was a little too high for a bird strike. None of us had ever experienced anything quite like it. But something happened.

Finally, realizing that there was nothing wrong, and therefore nothing to remedy or attempt to remedy, we shrugged our collective shoulders and soon reverted to our usual semi-somnolence.

Our approach to Lisbon was normal. Landing normal. Taxi-in normal. Normal, normal, normal. But then at the gate as we were packing up, the mechanic came into the cockpit, "Captain, did you know you got a hole about the size of a golf ball straight through your tail—through the horizontal stabilizer?"

Gulp. Apparently, we had had a midair collision with a meteorite! At least that was our conclusion and I can't imagine any other.



Chances of being hit by a meteorite? One-in-a-gazillion I suppose. The real miracle though was that in our case it went through a harmless part of the plane: no control cables severed, no flaming rock through a fuel tank, no windshield smashed, no passengers or crew injured or killed.

## APRIL MEETING CANCELED

It is probably no surprise to our readers that the April General Membership Meeting has been canceled. As I write, most events in Hawaii have been canceled and many retail stores are closing for an unknown period of time.

I will continue to publish a newsletter though it may be smaller. I believe we need to keep in touch. You can help me by sending in your stories, which I would be happy to edit. Speaking of items, if any reader sent me a

group photo of a celebration on a patio that appears to have been taken last fall and has a tag "Dalisera", please get in touch with me. I must have saved it in my newsletter photo file for some reason. I have no idea who the members in the group are and wondered if I had failed to note it properly when I received it.

If we are able to meet in June, it will be a great celebration for all of us. We will plan on it but we will simply have to wait and see. In the meantime there will be a May/June newsletter out in late May. Please take care of yourself during this pandemic.



## 2020 Schedule

- **April 28**—General Meeting Canceled
- 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



The Duke boards one of our 707s.

## 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
Mae Takahashi	Director	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): \_\_\_\_\_

- 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 Kaelepulu Drive, APT F, Kailua, HI 96734-3309**