

Board Meeting Only

TBA

PAN AM ASSOCIATION



ALOHA CHAPTER



Happy Independence Day!

Flag at the Elks Lodge 616 as seen from the Outrigger Canoe Club—Waikiki

GALA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON COMING UP!



We have a date for our first Christmas event since 2019! Mark your calendar now for **Saturday, December 10th**. The Annual Gala Luncheon will be held at Waialae Country Club and it will be a buffet! The next issue of Aloha Clipper will provide the details and a registration form. Discuss this with your friends now to be prepared to complete your registration. Proof of vaccination will be required in order to attend. We look forward to seeing you on December 10th.

HOW THE PAN AM LEGACY CONTINUES

Many of our members worked for United Airlines after Pan Am, including me. We still have access to the UA employee newsletter. The kindness of a Pan Am captain to a 5-year-old stranger influenced the child who now shares that same attitude as a United captain. This story was in the company newsletter several months ago:

A UA pilot, Captain Marty Green, is known for informing his flight attendants that if any children on the flight want to visit the flight deck during boarding or deplaning, they should allow them to do so.

He recalled that 50 years ago, he was traveling to Florida with his mom and sister. A Pan Am captain approached them in the terminal. "He gave me a set of metal wings, which I still have. From there, I was hooked." From that moment, Marty Green wanted nothing more than to become a pilot. Years later he did—for United.

On a recent flight, a 6-year old who always dreamed of being a pilot, boarded the flight, wearing a captain's uniform! Originally from Bonao in the Dominican Republic, Kevin Reyes was traveling with his grandmother, boarding Captain Green's flight bound for Newark from Santiago de los Caballeros (STI) in the Dominican Republic.

Two UA staff brought Kevin and his grandmother to the aircraft first so that he could have time to meet the pilots. The entire crew was delighted to see the 6-year-old all decked out in his little uniform. One of the flight attendants

said their hearts melted. Another added, "It was beyond precious!" Kevin's grandmother confirmed that all he ever talks about is becoming a captain.

Marty put Kevin in the captain's seat and First Officer Jeff Wilman handed him the PA so that he could talk over the microphone in the cabin. Kevin was in heaven. "He was so awesome that I couldn't give him just the standard plastic wings [routinely handed out to children]," said Marty. "It was Jeff's idea to give him my wings."

Captain Green and 6 year-old Kevin →



After the flight, the crew was walking through the terminal and spotted Kevin in the customs line, where he promptly snapped the crew a smart salute as a parting gift.

A NEW OHANA MEMBER?



Laurien Nuss gave birth on May 31st to a healthy baby boy. She posted the announcement on Facebook: "He has arrived. . . .Maluaki'iwai Allen Nuss-Rampersad, aka MALU BOY! . . . A swift, sweet, sovereign, and nurturing birth like the winds he is named after. Born at home in the house and 'āina that raised his mama...on the Hilo moon in Hilo. Surrounded by loved ones, ohana, and beloved, birthing practitioners and watched over by ancestors and akua."

Laurien is the daughter of the late Paula Helfrich, known to many of you here in Honolulu as she flew for many years until her second daughter was born. She then became a supervisor in Maintenance, Catering, Fleet Service, Cargo and finally she replaced me at Sales & Marketing at the very end of Pan Am in Honolulu. She worked for the City handling the military after an unsuccessful run in politics. She returned to her childhood love Myanmar—where she married her childhood sweetheart not long before she passed away from lung disease. We miss her and her vast Pan Am historical Knowledge. Laurien says "Malu Boy" has his tutu's chin. That would make Paula very happy. She promised to bring him for a visit when he gets a bit older— **Darlene Laster, President.**



MORE PHOTOS FROM OUR READERS AND ELSEWHERE:

Bob Mowll sent me photos he came across on the Internet of, heaven forbid, Pan American World Airways trains. The office building is a bit less elegant than our own Pan Am Building.





Corinne Kong sent this photo in April. She and her family dined in a back room at the Harbor Village Restaurant in Hawaii Kai, celebrating her 88th birthday a day early. She writes: *When we came out of the restaurant I spied Wanda, Tina and Geri talking outside. I ran over and threw my arms around them; we were so happy to see each other again!! A lot of hugging and kissing!! Can you believe they had been in the same restaurant but in a different section! We would have completely missed each other had it not been for the chance meeting outside. We chatted and took pictures for about 45 minutes!* From: left Elaine Higa, Tina Haight, Wanda Camara, Corinne, and Geri Kahele.

The photo on the right was sent to me by a friend in Denver, **Sandy Brinkman Fox**. She was based in SFO for many years. The occasion was the crew's first time wearing the new Evan Picone uniforms on June 1, 1969. They had left SFO in their old uniforms because the company wanted all flight attendants to start wearing the new uniform on the same day. They were just about to board their flight in Tahiti which was destined to SYD.



Clockwise from top left are Doris Kreide, Susan Good-night, Dagmar Strauss, Molly Ferris, Jan Botting and Sandy Brinkman.



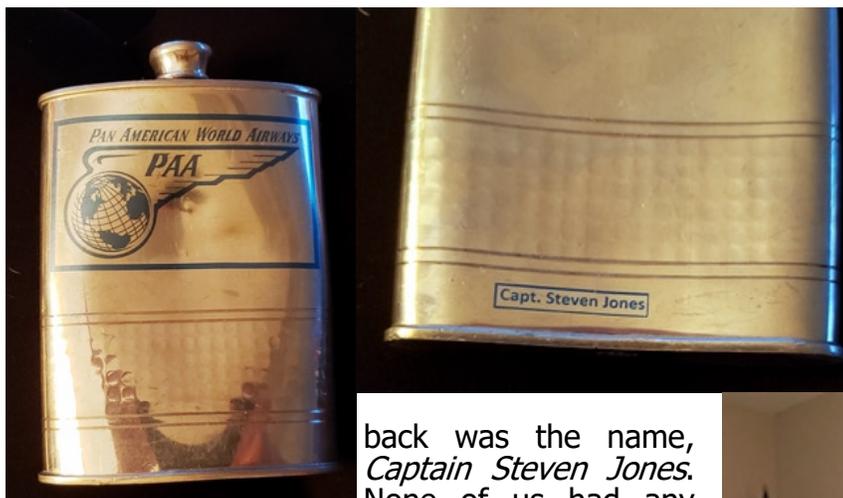
*You may recall there was some confusion over the passing of Lillian Lum Lee who had been a stewardess. I had received information on Lillian Lum Lee which turned out to be about another Pan Am stewardess named Lillian Lee who is very much alive. A few weeks ago, I heard from **Inger Højfeldt**:*

I recently joined a Kūpuna group that shares music and hula in the community. We practice at the Hyatt Regency and share Aloha there once a month and at the Waikiki Convention Center on their Kūpuna Nights. I noticed a lady who looked familiar but I couldn't place her. I decided to chat with her and some thought must have crossed my mind because I asked if she used to work for Pan Am. She said yes and gave her name as **Lillian Lee**. I remembered your articles from the February and March issues and asked if she was aware of it. She was and we had a good laugh." Inger added, "On top of that, our group is called PA'A! It stands for

Lillian Lee & Inger

Papakōlea 'Anakala & 'Anakē (Uncles and Aunties from Papakōlea). PA'A means *firm, solid, steadfast*, and so much more.

I guess you could say the same thing for PAA. We certainly must be firm, solid and steadfast because we have kept to the grindstone in keeping PAA going!



One evening in April, I joined two old friends, **Harold Chow** and **Jack Smith**, at Jack's home to "wala'au", as Jack says. (That's "talk story" to most of us locals who don't speak Hawaiian.) During the evening, Harold produced a flask, pictured at left, he had brought with him. He could not recall how it came to be in his possession but said he had never seen one before. Inscribed on the

back was the name, *Captain Steven Jones*. None of us had any

idea who it was. Nor do we remember any Pan Am store ever carrying such a flask. Could it have been something that, at one time, Pan Am gave to its most prestigious passengers? It remains a curiosity.

On the right, Harold and Jack raise a toast to friendship.



The cheerful photo (left) of a mailbox I came across in Aloha, Oregon, can only be wishful thinking. The green color used is the only accurate depiction. The area was definitely green! Shortly after I arrived in Aloha on the 26th of April, I heard on the Portland news that NW Oregon had the wettest April in 80 years. I did not check into it after I left in mid-May, but I suspect May was the wettest May in 80 years. The rain certainly did fall regularly during my 3 weeks there, though the sun broke through now and then. Still, I had a great time with family.

Mike Lilly writes: Friends, I am pleased to send a link to my lecture at the Naval War College on my book *Nimitz at Ease*. Nimitz's grandson, Chet Lay, begins his discussion at time 6:23. My lecture starts at time 26:55. Mahalo.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNvZ2VTCLak>

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

Ramona Chiya, 78, died on June 13th. She is the former wife of Dale Griffith. She regularly communicated with me about Pan Am, often forwarding articles or comments, including one about their son, James Griffith, who was the head of one of the catering departments at Emirates

Airlines at that time. I wrote an article at the time with the photos and information she sent. His sister, Lesa, has since informed me that James is now V/P of Culinary for Emirates.

Ramona never worked for Pan Am but during her marriage to Dale, she traveled the world. Dale was assigned to the TAP program (Technical Assistance Program designed to help other air carriers). Lesa writes that during his assignment they moved frequently, setting up their household first in Accra, Ghana; then Kinshasa, Zaire; Amman, Jordan; Jakarta, Indonesia; Hong Kong; and Manama, Bahrain. Ramona always immersed herself and her family in local culture and cuisine which was an invaluable global education.



She died at her home in Honolulu, surrounded by her sister, Julia Chiya, son, James and daughter, Lesa. She had been diagnosed with incurable stage 4 lung cancer in 2019.

TIME FOR LAUGHTER

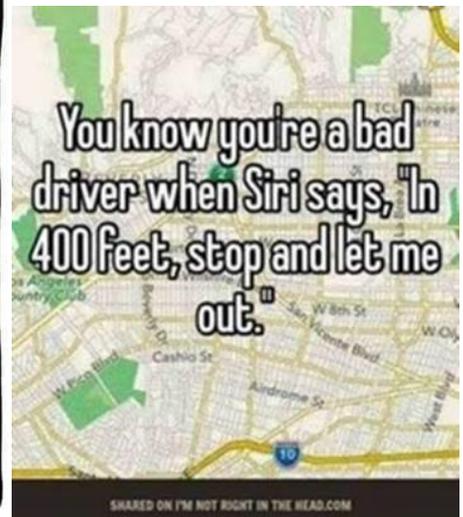
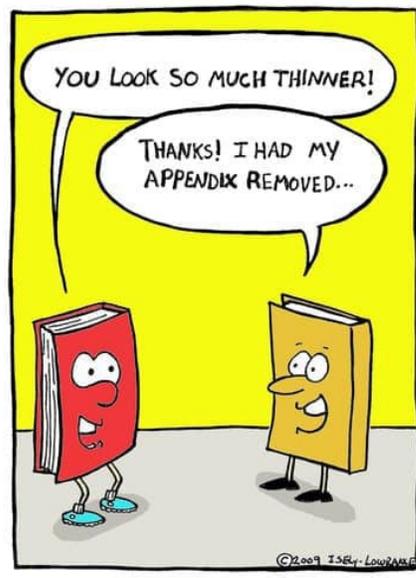
We should always make time for laughter. It is tonic to the body and mind.

A thought: Facial recognition software can pick a person out of a crowd but a vending machine can't recognize a dollar bill with a bent corner.

To survive in life a person needs 3 bones: a wishbone, a backbone and a funny bone.

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five- and six-year-olds. After explaining the commandment to "Honor thy father and thy mother", she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without hesitation, one little boy answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

When things are not going well, just remember:
A day may not be a good day but every day has good in it.



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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—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 Kaelepu Drive, APT F, Kailua, HI 96734-3309