

## THE BUFFET IS BACK!

Our December 10th Christmas Luncheon is still on our schedule of events but details will not be covered in this issue as promised in the last issue. Instead we think you will be pleased to know there will be an October meeting and the meal will be a buffet. Read below for more information. A reservation form can be found on page 5.

## RISING PRICES MORE THAN JUST INFLATION

Now that Covid rules have relaxed, board members have been looking for venues with affordable prices for our meetings. We have learned that private clubs are adding room fees and other costly features, thus making lunch prices far too high. The price of an item on their menu skyrockets when such fees are added in. Most board members gave up after a while but President Darlene Laster kept at it. She discovered that the Japanese Cultural Center has a new caterer. She was able to meet with him and work something out for our October Annual Meeting.



The Japanese Cultural Center is located at 2454 S. Beretania Street, between University Avenue and Isenberg Street. Parking is available in the building. The banquet room is on the 5th floor. Lunch will be a buffet.

Darlene has also been in touch with the office of Mayor Rick Blangiardi. We are hoping he will be our speaker but we cannot confirm that at this time. Keep in mind that the October meeting is also our Annual Meeting at which there will be a report on the status of our association. Board elections are also held at the Annual Meeting.

## MEETING FACILITIES LIMITED EVERYWHERE



All editors of active chapters of the Pan Am Association share their newsletters with each other. After seeing the photo at left in the recent LHR newsletter, with just a brief description of the fire which consumed the Staines Riverside Club, their meeting place of many years, I contacted John Morgan, the newsletter editor, for more information. From previous issues, I knew they had been looking for a temporary place to meet for

some time and was aware we are not the only association facing the difficult problem of finding meeting spaces. He responded, "It has been confirmed it was deliberately torched and the police have the perpetrator. But it has yet to be determined as to whether it was purely an act of vandalism or whether a 'scam' was involved."

When the London PAA group held their 2019 Christmas Party, they were told the owners planned to demolish the current building and build an apartment complex which included a new Riverside Club. They were shown renderings of how the new complex would look. John said it looked quite nice and they were looking forward to returning to the new Riverside Club once completed.

Apparently complaints from the people who live across the street from the club began coming in. They filed an appeal complaining the size of the new complex would obstruct their view of the river, generate more traffic and create parking problems. The appeal succeeded and the developer's plans were rejected. So what was behind the burning of the building? John promised to keep me informed when the investigation is completed.

The LHR PA Association is continuing their search for a new location for their meetings. In the meantime, they will hold their August meeting on the 24th and it will be a barbeque. It appears that the London chapter is undergoing challenges similar to ours. Though some members are "aging out" they still have over 300 members but only about 40 attend meetings. John said they seem to have a lack of enthusiasm though "it could be because of Covid" which does not seem to be going away. Some long-serving board members would like to turn their positions over to someone else but no one is interested in serving. As do I, John has difficulty in getting input from members for his newsletter. He said he will "soldier on" in editing the newsletter.

## PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Several months ago, **Dave McCarty** recalled a story he heard from a Pan Am mechanic. The mechanic had worked in Miami for Pan Am but after Pan Am, "ended up at Northwest Airlines like me." Dave continues, "He told me his father's job with Pan Am was selling and buying aircraft. He was in Paris getting ready to fly on a new Airbus to JFK. [Ed. Note: evidently it was what we would call a ferry flight.] He noticed a large group of Pan Am pass riders who kept getting bumped and couldn't get home. He assigned some flight attendants to take care of the cabin safety responsibilities and then loaded up the rest of the pass riders and flew them home. This was highly illegal and he got into trouble with CEO 'Fast' Eddie Acker. He kept his job. At least he was nice to fellow employees!". . . Last fall **Eleanor Young** was in Honolulu visiting family and friends. She lives in Vancouver, WA. We had lunch together and I asked if she belonged to the Portland Chapter of World Wings. I was surprised that she was not familiar with the World Wings organization. I knew she lived close to friends who are active in the Portland Chapter and offered to put her in touch with them. She recently forwarded photos from her first interaction with the chapter, **Jan and Courtleigh Guerci's** "bocce ball garden party". It is not only one of the highlights of the of the Portland chapter events, it is also their summer fundraiser. (They raised \$630 for their charity at this event.) The Guercis have a large yard, especially beautiful in the summer when all the flowers



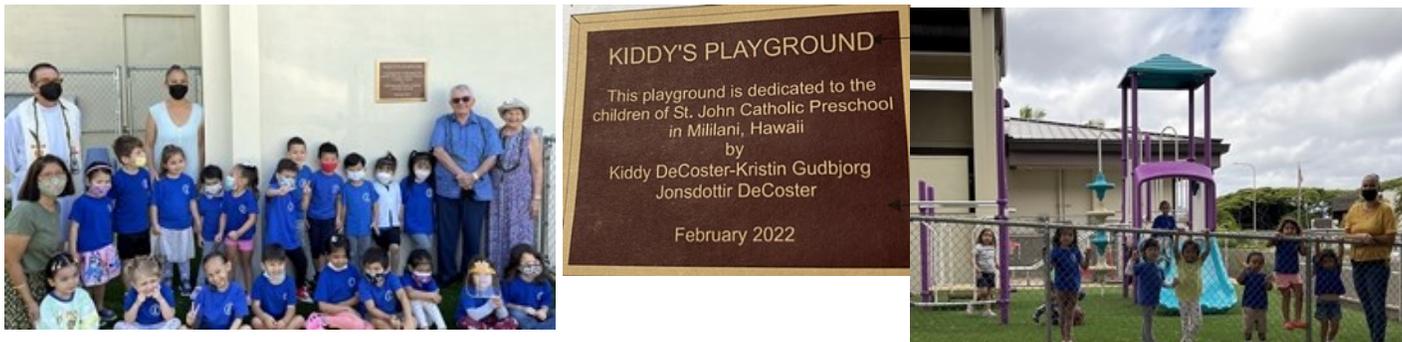
Left: Jan & Courtleigh Guerci. Below: Two garden photos.



Below: Other friends who welcomed Eleanor: Pam Cochran, Sue Grabisch and Ingrid Templeton.



are in bloom. It is not unusual for them to host a crowd of 50 or so. Some stewardesses who belong to other chapters even show up from out of state. To Eleanor's surprise, she won the bocce ball competition and had never played before. . . **Ed Smith** was recently featured in the Hawaiian Airlines inflight magazine. Ed is the B717 Training Development Manager for Hawaiian. He became interested in aviation as a youngster because his father, Jack Smith, worked for Pan Am for many years. Ed not only became a pilot, he has experience in many areas of pilot training. He has an unusual hobby of collecting aviation flight training manuals and regulations reaching as far back as the 1920s. He has a curious mind and was always interested in how and why aviation rules and regulations started. He was delighted to return to Hawaii with his family as he is part Hawaiian and his father is even happier to have the family back home. . . **Dan Delmonte's** trib-



Left photo: Children and a few of the many adults who attended the dedication. Dan Delmonte is standing near the dedication plaque which is enlarged in the center photo. On the right is a photo Dan took the next day when he was walking past the school. He asked the teacher if he could take a photo and all the children came running to be included in the picture.

ute to his late friend and mentor, **Kiddy DeCoster**, was the construction of a needed playground facility for the parish school children at Mililani's St. John Apostle and Evangelist Church. "Kiddy's playground for the kiddies" was blessed by Bishop Silva after a con-celebrated Mass in the parish church after it was completed. Shortly thereafter, an article in the *Hawaii Catholic Herald* featured the story with photos, some of which we share above.

## A CHANCE ENCOUNTER

I was fortunate to be included in an invitation only mystery theatre dinner that was held on the stage at Diamond Head Theatre. We had been informed that the attire for the occasion was to dress as if we were attending a garden party at which a meal is served. The ladies mostly showed up in dresses and hats and the men were in aloha shirts with hats. The title of the mystery was "Deadly Dessert". Dinner was served in three delicious courses and the "crime" took place while we were enjoying the three courses. Fortunately our dessert wasn't deadly, except maybe to the waistline. Guests had to listen closely for clues as there were two parts to the contest. The main contest was to determine who the murderer was and how he or she committed the crime. The second contest was to list the name of any British performer or British group mentioned by the 10 actors and actresses who staged the "whodunnit". Several cast members spoke with British accents.

I had a small floral handbag and used a purse hangar to hang it from the table rather than putting it on the floor where it might be in the way of an actor or actress as they walked among the tables while saying their lines. With 6 tables set up for 6 guests each on the stage, there was not a lot of room left for the cast to move about. The purse hangar had a Pan Am emblem on it, a gift to me from Sumiko Carroll. At the end of the 3rd act, we were given very little time to make our decision on solving the crime.

The director of the mystery was Shannon Winpenny. When she came to our table to collect the 2 contest forms, she saw the Pan Am emblem. She wanted to know if I had worked for Pan Am. I replied that 2 of us were former Pan Am stewardesses. ( Pan Am classmate, Margo Bourland, was also a guest.) She responded, "Oh, that is my favorite airline! I got to go all over the world when I

was a little girl. My dad worked for an advertising agency that handled Pan Am's account. He wrote the jingle, 'You call it the world, we call it home.' We used to get free travel!" Most Pan Amers will remember:

Everybody get up in the air.  
Get up and start moving somewhere.  
Pan Am has a place of its own.  
You call it the World. We call it Home. . .



Shannon Winpenney, pictured at left, is a professionally trained teacher, writer, director and actor. She was trained in Chicago and returned to Hawaii where she started her own Laughtrack Theatre Company. She trained students in the art of improvisation and sketch comedy. She has performed in many productions at both Manoa Valley Theatre and Diamond Head Theatre. She has worked with various high school performing arts teachers and their students. She has a passion for farce and murder mysteries and often directs and performs in both in our theatres.

## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

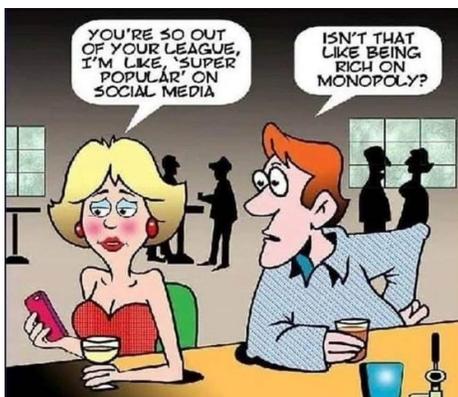
**Ronald Patrick Cahill, Sr.** passed away on July 5th after a long illness. He worked in Fleet Service for Pan Am. He was 85 and a military veteran. He was born in Lihue, Kauai. A service was held on August 4th. He is pictured at right with his surviving wife, Yoko Cahill, who is a retired stewardess.

The Cahills were friends and I always enjoyed talking to them when we attended Pan Am, and later United, functions. He was quiet and a lovely gentleman.

Yoko said that they had both talked about not wanting to have to deal with a long illness when they got old. She said he got his wish. He had recently developed some issues and was scheduled for an MRI when he had a heart attack. She said she suggested they go to the ER a couple of days before but he wanted to wait until his MRI was completed.



She said Ron was 10 years older and she knew she would be left behind some day but it is still very hard. His son, Ron Jr. was a big help in making final arrangements. The Cahills had planned a trip to the Galapagos which was scheduled weeks after he passed. Ron Jr. took his father's place and was Yoko's escort for the trip.



Posted a photo of my clean house and it was flagged and removed as "Fake News"

If you think you are smarter than the previous generation...50 years ago the owners manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.

## LAUGHTER—THE BEST MEDICINE

The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.—Albert Einstein

War is God's way of teaching Americans geography.—Ambrose Bierce

At every party there are two kinds of people—those who want to go home and those who don't.

The trouble is, they are usually married to each other.—Ann Landers

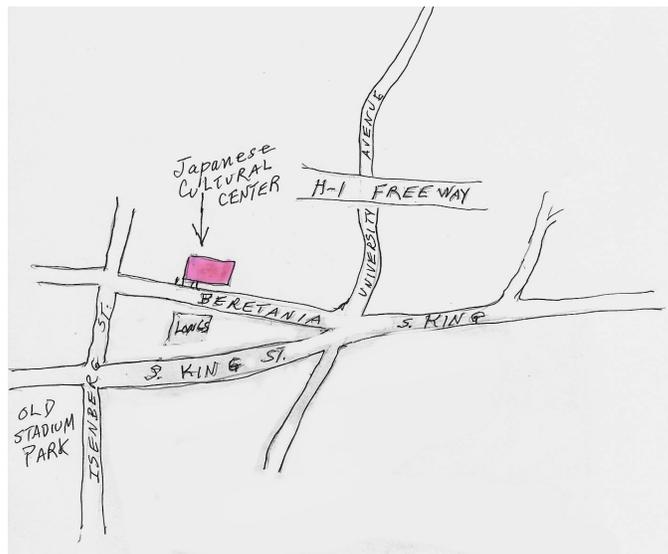
As a child, my family's menu consisted of two meal choices: take it or leave it.—Buddy Hackett

Never under any circumstances take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.—Dave Barry

## THE JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER

The Japanese Cultural Center is located at 2454 Beretania Street. It is just Ewa of University Avenue and Ewa of the convergence of S. King and Beretania Streets. The entrance is at the left of the building as you face the front. It is right across the street from Long's in Moiliili. You will find my crude map on the right.

I will send a follow up message to this newsletter when a speaker is confirmed. Please share the information with those who received the hard copy of the newsletter. Thank you.



## Annual Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—**October 26, 2022**

Japanese Cultural Center, 5th Floor  
2454 S. Beretania St.

11:00 Social hour, 11:30 Buffet Lunch

\$40.00 per person (Includes tip)

**Important: Darlene must receive your check by October 19th.**

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to PAA and send to:

Darlene Laster, 501 Hahaione Street, APT 18K, Honolulu, HI 96825-1451

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       | 808-394-8981 |
| Carol Weiss-Suyderhoud | V/P, Meetings Coordinator/<br>Speaker Chair | carolws@hawaii.rr.com   | 808-396-5225 |
| John Medlock           | Treasurer/Membership                        | johnmiii@earthlink.net  | 808-347-7404 |
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| Katie Yoshioka         | Director                                    | katie.yoshioka@ubs.com  | 808-258-8371 |

**Newsletter Items:**

If you have any news item that would be of interest, please call Diane VanderZanden at 808-200-4322 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**