

# DALLAS

## KIWI Chapter of the Month February, 2010

Since inception in 1952, the Dallas chapter has offered friendship and support to its local members and others all over the country. In 1956 and 1984, we were the host chapter of the National Convention and spearheaded the 2002 Convention in Fort Worth with the help of Fort Worth, DFW Mid-Cities, and Richardson Kiwi Clubs. This was in commemoration of The Kiwi Club established in 1952. **Vera Branham**, a founding member, continues to be active.

Two of our life members, **Nell Mitchell** and **Mamie Byrd Jannette**, have served as National president. Others who held an office on the board are **Donna Calahan Morrissey**, **Eleanor Oviatt** (deceased) and **Dorothy McCracken Bradley** (deceased). Our liaison with American Airlines is **Mary Sullivan Raymond**.

An excess of \$175,000 has been donated to various charities during our existence. Most recent being: aid to Katrina victims, "Shoes and Socks for Souls" at Buckner Orphanage, books for Dobie School, North Dallas Food Bank, meals at Ronald MacDonald House, Wings Foundation, National Endowment Fund, and Freedom Flight. This organization of retired pilots provides air transportation for medical care for those in remote areas which are most difficult to reach during major disasters. The Kiwi Club has honored us 3 times for our charitable efforts.

Providing funds for these projects has been a labor of love among members. Activities include white elephant and garage sales, Oktoberfest silent auction, "Tea at the Crandalls", elegant hotel dinner parties, style shows, and a jewelry swap. Last year's "A Day at the Bingo Hall" was a huge success and netted a profit of \$732. Our own honorary Kiwi, **Carolyn Unsworth's** son, Peck, provided great entertainment as caller as well as a delicious luncheon. Our enthusiastic guests are looking forward to a repeat performance in March. All Kiwis are invited to attend. We have balanced our hard work with hours of fun and laughter—especially while working on those convention skits for which we have proudly been awarded the "Blue Goose" on 3 different occasions. This unique group of ladies, ages 40 to 90, who flew in the 40s to the 90s, is very supportive of each other in the good and bad times. The airline bond is everlasting.