

Golden Gate Gazette

The National Kiwi Club is a social and philanthropic organization of former and current flight attendants of American Airlines, as well as former and current flight attendants of airlines acquired by and/or merged with American Airlines.



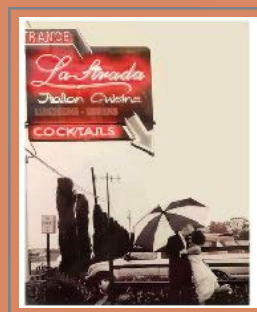
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Our Luncheon meeting today was hosted by President Casey Cacioppo Bode and Meeting Coordinator Carol Tiemeier von Raesfeld. They chose the 22-year-old La Strada Cucina Italiana restaurant near the heart of Napa in the American Canyon.



Our meetings always begin with members placing their raffle donations on a table to be viewed during our pre-cocktail chat and sharing of those times we've spent together---just like a debrief and a layover----just a little closer to home.



CAROL



CASEY





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Janice Bess

Today, 2 of our presently working flight attendants joined us: Brian Berger and Janice Bess. They were invited by Sheri Goggans who has known both of them for ages and with whom she worked many of her final trips----they now know that working f/a's are welcome to join the Kiwis and we hope to see them more often as Casey offered New Member Application forms!



Brian Berger



Caroline Womack
Kay Middleton



Karen Snyder



Jackie Sorensen



Judy Cadet
Lona Poehlmann

We sat down to lunch at 12:30 and were promptly offered traditional Italian cuisine--the way Nona prepared it!
Our dessert, original and in-house prepared every morning----a delicious, creamy, and decadent Tiramisu! The Decor is a lovely Italian memory of the love and warmth of the Italian and Sicilian culture.





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Carol von Raesfeld

Casey began the business part of the meeting at 1:20 pm with a grateful and warm thank you to Carol VR who always goes beyond in arranging our luncheons. Cheers and thanks from us all, Carol, we know the work and love you put into each meeting venue.



Casey Bode
Laura Greenberg



Linda Lorenz &
Marcia Rodger



Sheri Goggans &
Jo Policastro



Nancy Swift & Karen Snyder



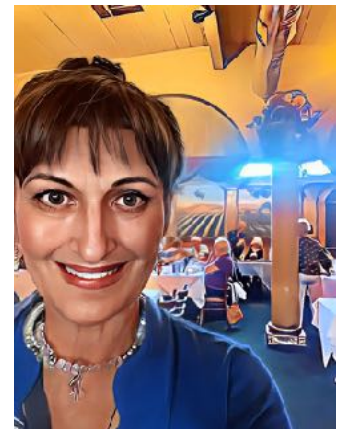
Linda Kralik &
Caroline Womack



Kay Middleton & Betty Leson



Paula Grosse & Beth Norris



Julie Griffen Haley



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Jane Kay,
Lona Poehlmann
and Judy Cadet



Janice Bess-guest
Brian Burger-guest
and Joyce Adkins



Bernadette Funk,
Sheri Goggans
and Nancy Swift



1st row: Joyce Adkins, Caroline Womack, Paula Grosse, Julie Griffen Haley
2nd row: Jo Policastro, Nancy Swift, Laura Greenberg, Betty Leson, Lona Poehlmann, Casey Cacioppo Bode
3rd row: Guest-Janice Bess, Guest-Brian Burger, Linda Lorenz & Marcia Rodger, Bernadette Funk, Carol von Raesfeld, Judy Cadet, Jackie Sorensen, Kay Middleton, Sheri Goggans, Linda Kralik

American Airlines has opened its very own hotel. Here's why ...

Welcome to Skyview 6

The shimmering six-story glass building sits just a short hop from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), one of the newest hotels in Texas to welcome guests. The 600-room facility opened in January and touts a long list of amenities. It includes a two-level, 73,500-square-foot fitness center, a swimming pool, pickleball and volleyball courts, and multiple dining options. There's also a 10,000-square-foot ballroom that can accommodate a wide range of corporate events; it even has walls that can turn the space into an indoor-outdoor facility.

However, if you want to stay here, you're out of luck. [Skyview 6](#) does not accept reservations from the public. It's open only to pilots, flight attendants and other American Airlines crewmembers traveling to headquarters.

The building is a short walk — or bike ride — from the facilities where pilots, attendants and other frontline workers come for regular training to keep the qualifications current. The airline envisions it as a place not only for crew to stay during training but also as a place to foster a sense of collaboration and community among employees.

Holly Ragan, American's senior manager of corporate real estate, led the design and construction of [Skyview 6](#). "I've been floored by the kind of culture it's building," Ragan told TPG during a walk-through of the facility last week.

The communal, shared space creates an environment where employees "are able to connect (and) build relationships," Ragan said as she continued the tour, her enthusiasm hard to hide.

She calls [Skyview 6](#) her "unicorn" — something that lets Ragan and her team combine all the high-profile components of real estate design that rarely come together in a single project.

"It's been an absolute blast to be able to lead this project," Ragan said as we continued our tour.



Project — [Skyview 6](#) — is the latest addition to American Airlines' headquarters complex, which sits among leafy green spaces and alongside a languid stream.

Think less of a soulless office park and more of a college-like campus dubbed "[Skyview](#)" — or officially the Robert L. Crandall Campus, in honor of American's legendary CEO from the 1980s and 1990s.

Buildings include Skyview 8 (the main headquarters building), the CR Smith Museum, which chronicles American's history, and the company's operations and training centers. Pedestrian- and bike-friendly pathways wind through the property and link the buildings together.



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Now, the hotel takes its place as the last major addition to the Skyview complex. American describes it as "the final step in bringing key facilities and services together on one campus" in an environment that "fosters collaboration and innovation" among employees.

Despite its off-limits status to nonemployees, the sparkling new hotel has sparked curiosity.

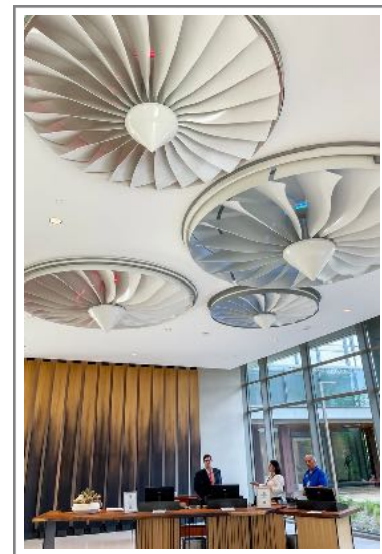
Brady Byrnes, American's executive who oversees the carrier's flight attendants, inflight dining and clubs and lounges, acknowledges that he's fielded inquiries from aspiring guests. "The questions range anywhere from 'You guys have a hotel?' to 'How can I book it? Is it on Orbitz?'," said Byrnes, who's worked for American since beginning as a flight attendant in 1997. Spoiler alert: It's not.

However, for those employees who get to pass through the hotel's doors, the experience is likely to be a memorable one. Read on for an inside look at what it's like at Skyview 6.

Check-in and lobby

Employees arriving by shuttle or car from DFW – about 7 miles north – enter at a dedicated drop-off spot just outside check-in area. Those coming from elsewhere on campus enter the building from the other side of check-in area. There's a dedicated Skyview 6 docking station for those coming via the campus bike-share. The check-in desk sits under ceiling replicas of engine turbines for Boeing 787, 777, 737 and Airbus A320-family planes – the four planes that comprise the carrier's mainline (nonregional) fleet. Most employees can access the building and their rooms with mobile keys linked to their phones, but physical key cards are available upon request.

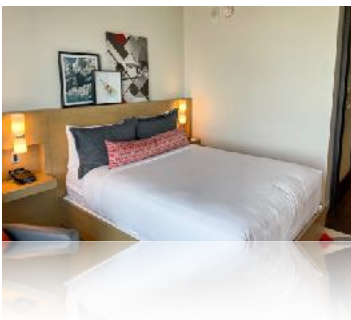
A stylish new hotel? Check. A soaring fitness center and public spaces with sweeping staircases and iconic art? Check. A tavern and restaurant facility, each with its own signature spaces? Check and check



ROOMS

"Every is exactly the same," Reagan said. The uniform layout, however doesn't mean it's drab and boring. Queen-size beds, and working desks look out over the campus through floor to ceiling windows. During design, team members were solicited for feedback on what they wanted in the room. Pilots were passionate about the black outlines. There is a recliner in every room, which also came at the request of employees.

Every room has a safe that can fit a laptop, allowing employees to safely stow their company hardware when it's time to take a break from studying and training regimens.





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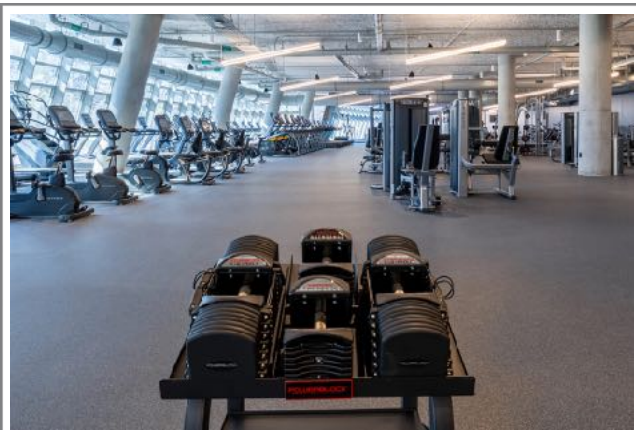
Public spaces

Each has a study lounge, and a laundry room. The lower designed as shared spaces to encourage collaboration in action among three members according to Reagan. Elsewhere, attire themed outlines the halls. Some signature pieces produced, and custom sizes are still yet to arrive. Open staircases connect the areas of the lobby, fitness center and other sports. It's meant to mimic the feel of Skyview 8, the main administrative building, where all employees - including CFO Robert Isom, and the executive team - sit at Open desk with few walls.

Across from the check-in desk is a staircase that rises under a circular medallion paying homage to nearly a half-century of American Airlines flight attendants. The medallion was the same one that hung at American's original "Stewardess College" – something American says was an industry first when it opened in 1957

For decades, attendants would have their group photo taken under that medallion upon completing their training — a tradition that now lives on in the lobby of Skyview 6. "The staircase means a lot to flight attendants," Byrnes said.





Exercise facilities

At the spacious two-floor fitness center, natural light floods in from floor-to-ceiling windows. The facility offers more than 70,000 square feet of space and features weights, workout machines and group fitness rooms for yoga, biking and other sessions.

The Tavern invokes, a trendy, hip big- city pub. A mix of booths, bar seats and high top tables, flank, pool tables, a bar, a triangle shaped space. Florida ceiling windows can retract during nice weather to transform the pup into an indoor/outdoor space.

Across the courtyard from the Tavern is a cafeteria style dining facility. Visitors entered the wing of the Skyview 6 with the option to stop at a grab-and-go facility for coffee bar that shifts to wine service in the evening..

Those coming for the main dining room place their orders at kiosks and then collect their food as it's prepared. From there, they proceed to the dining area. There's a wide range of seating options, and above the signature space is a rotunda with a compass fixed under the circular roof. The giant replica compass points true north.

The eateries serve up to 1,700 lunches in a typical day.

Courtyard

There's a public outdoor space between two wings of Skyview 6. Texas native plants and reclaimed limestone boulders punctuate the landscaping. Walking trails meander through the space and connect it to the main campus walkways. A docking station sits near a Skyview 6 entrance for visitors arriving by bike.

There's also the **Globe of Firsts** — an Instagram-friendly installation amid the walking trails in the middle of the courtyard. The 12-foot silver sphere is inscribed with American's "firsts," such as the launch of its AAdvantage frequent-flyer program and its trail-blazing female pilots!





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Kiwi Convention 2024 Savannah Sojourn



The 2024 Kiwi Convention is on the horizon and today Caroline shared a little new news!!!

The registration fee will be \$210 which will include your Opening Fete des Peaches n Cream Luncheon and

Closing Magnolia Soiree Banquet.

Optional Event, Gentry Gumbo & Ghosts--Savannah Trolley historical and ghost tours and dinner at Lady & Sons

AAAdvantage mileage certificates: Prize Opportunity Tickets of 200000, 100000, and 50000 will be presented to 3 lucky winners at our Banquet. The tickets will be sent to Chapter Presidents in November for distribution to members. The proceeds from these Prize Opportunity Tickets enable us to support the programs and goals of the Kiwi Club.

Delegates Meeting from 9 - noon on Thursday is the National Kiwi Board Business meeting and all Convention attendees are encouraged to attend to hear about the workings and programs and

plans for the coming 2-year term. At the conclusion of the meeting, the 2024-26 Officers will be installed.

What should you wear to our events? Savannah is a Sophisticated southern city-----Luncheon, perhaps something breezy and soft---- Banquet Dinner will be more elegant, and your own Elegant style can shine and sparkle in a dressier fashion palate.



Cindi Sanders has been heading up the Memorabilia Auction for many years. This only happens at Convention every 2 years so anything you have in your "stash" and are ready to relinquish, she would like to have.

Her Silent Auction will direct your possessions to a new home and raise money for the Kiwi Fund (NKF) and WINGS-50/50! Since 2014 this silent auction has raised \$10,232.64!

Please email a photograph of the items you would like to donate to cindisanderskiwi@gmail.com. We hope you will come to Savannah Sojourn and bring them and if not, perhaps another attendee could bring for you or you could send them directly to her. She will check in with you after she receives your email and you will then make the plan.



It's never too early to book both your Convention hotel your airline route to Savannah.

Hotel-Go to thekiwiclub.org Across the top of the page, click on Convention. Click on Hotel Flight-Option #1: www.booking.com SFO-DFW-SAV or SFO-CLT-SAV

Option #2: use retirees.aa.com

Click on Travel—Click on my ID Travel (AA20/ZED) you can purchase AA 20 tickets using major CC

There is a step by step article on Self Serve AA20 option two bags can be checked free of charge!



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September is 'National Preparedness Month'.

For at least five years now, I have had a 'go' bag for emergencies like fire, flood and earthquake.

In it I have:

Prescriptions, basic medications, glasses, sunglasses, lots of cash, one credit card, passport, a book, transistor radio, flashlight, batteries, battery backup device for my cell phone.

Summer clothes and change to Winter clothes in October, underwear, socks, nightgown, hat, shoes, basic toiletries and makeup.

Sleep mask, scissors, sewing kit, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, face mask, and baby wipes – if there's no water – no shower!

All the stuff I might need to 'hang out' somewhere for a few days or (yikes!) weeks.

In my nightstand I have a flashlight and shoes to grab – in case of broken glass.

In the garage I keep bottled water, a bag of canned food and yes a can opener.

Also dry food and 2 dishes for Mulligan in his carrier. Don't forget to prepare for your pets.

I hope I never have to vacate in a hurry!

The other day, I called my ex-husband and his sister to enquire about one of our cousins who lives in Talent, Oregon. Talent was just about leveled in the recent fires. Yes – her house burned to the ground.

About 20 years ago I took photos of everything in my house. I recently updated those photos because of remodels, redecoration and new items purchased. I downloaded the photos onto my computer and copied them to flash drives. Those flash drives are in a safety deposit box. Also sent them to cloud storage. You need to take photos opening every cabinet, drawer, closet and cubby. Don't forget the garage – lots of stuff in there worth hundreds to thousands of dollars.

Also photograph your yard if you have pots, artwork, arbors and statuary – again a lot of money out there.

If your house is destroyed – remembering everything would be impossible. The photos will remind you. Just imagine how much you have in your kitchen and trying to remember all the items. Every item costs money to replace and you will probably need to itemize for your insurance claim.

Before I started flying for American Airlines, I was an Insurance Adjuster with Travelers Ins. Co. I was assigned Homeowner's claims. The knowledge I gained has been invaluable. Usually you would have receipts to prove what you had but in a total loss, you won't have them. The photos not only would help you in filing your claim but it is proof of what you had.

Hearing about Judy and Mike's tragedy reminded me of how important it is to have a 'go bag' and the photos of all my possessions. I am passing on these 'tips' to you. I sleep better at night knowing that I am prepared for what may come and hope that you do too.

Stay well, stay safe,
Kay Middleton



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Membership News

Casey received a welcome phone call from Diane Brennan whom many of us remember. She "retired" quite a few years ago and has been living in Hawaii for many years.

She and her husband, Gerry, an AA pilot were avid sailors and we will be welcoming her to Golden Gate in the months to come--she is now a MAL.



Dues are payable by the end of **November**. Our yearly dues are \$25.

Kay Middleton would like for you to bring your check to the Fiesta next month, made out to **The KIWI CLUB**, or if you prefer, please mail it to her at:

Kay Middleton 601 El Capitan Dr. Danville, CA 94526

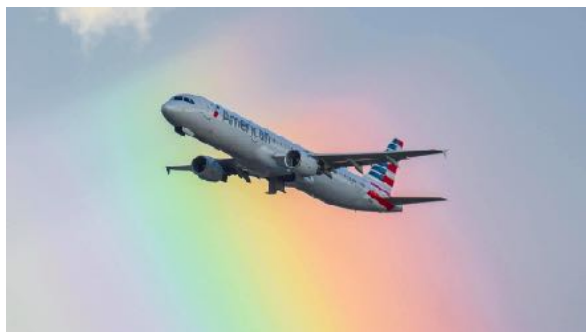


Jill Rohan

Here I am in front of the Hotel DeSoto in Savannah. I was there on day trip last Friday and took a 3 hour Food and History tour. The tour left across the street from the DeSoto so I was able to check the hotel out. It is fabulous! It has been completely renovated and the area is the best in Savannah. Close to everything. I think everyone is going to love this convention!



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Our flown west members:

Mary Louise Elkin, "A Heart For God" suggested by Marie Coolidge, and Rita Sinnott, "Loved All Dogs" offered by her son, Scott---Rita volunteered at Guide Dogs for the Blind with Jane and Lloyd Wiborg. Casey will be forwarding 2 museum passes and a certificate to their families.

Memorial Bricks

We have earmarked \$1181 for memorial bricks which are being placed in the CR Smith Museum in Ft Worth----at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center--- Stewardess College to most of us---

Donations

Our discussion of donations suggested A: donation to Project Night Night. For several years we have been supporting our member Murphy Robins and her daughter-in-law with this wonderful endeavor whereby a Foster child is given a New travel bag filled with a New Book, a New stuffed animal, and a New blanket----something New that they have never been given before. B: A donation to support the NKF---National Kiwi Fund, in support of Kiwis in financial need. C: \$500 or more to the Convention Fund, dependent on Revenue from next month's Trash or Treasure Auction.

Red Cross Text "Hawaii to 9-0-9-9-9"



Mauiunitedway.org/disasterrelief
Mauifoodbank.org

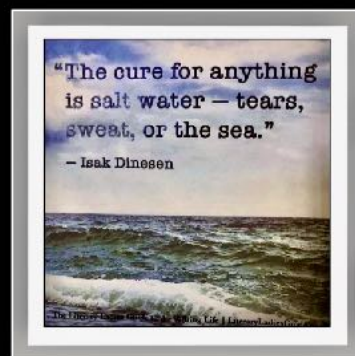
Keep Maui in your prayers!

The Island of Maui has suffered a devastating wildfire, resulting in the loss of sacred Hawaiian History and 106 "Beautiful Souls" and counting. It will take years for them to be whole again, they need help.

If you feel you would like to help. I have listed a few Charities that are assisting in the crisis.

mauiunitedway.org/disasterrelief
mauifoodbank.org

Send \$10 **Red Cross** by texting 90999
Then text the word Hawaii
(\$10 will be added to your phone bill)





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September 13th will be our Fiesta with the Trash n Treasure auction to raise funds to help offset the expenses of the 2024 Savannah Sojourn Convention. This will be held in Kay Middleton's lovely backyard with Julie Griffen Haley as our auctioneer---everyone please come and bring a beautifully wrapped "treasure" and something perhaps a little "trashy" for the bidding to begin---your trash is truly someone else's treasure---this will be our 3rd year and it just gets more fun and funny each year---oh the stories about some of these treasures-----kind of yummy!

We are asking each member who plans to attend to contribute **\$25** to offset the cost of food as well as the tables, chairs & umbrella rental. Your check will serve as your RSVP.

Please send your \$25 check so that it arrives in the mail by TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.

Make the check payable to **Kay Middleton** and mail it to her at: 601 El Capitan Drive, Danville CA 94526.

It is **really important** that you get your check/RSVP in by **September 5** so that Kay will be able to plan for the appropriate amount of food as well as for the correct number of chairs, tables etc. in order to meet the rental Equipment deadline.



Our happy birthday wishes go to Elaine Miller, Cindie Simpson, and Bernadette Funk, who was crowned and photographed for the Gazette---wishing all August babies, Love and Laughter.



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