

Kiwi Kaleidoscope

The National Newsletter for Members of The Kiwi Club of American Airlines

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President

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The National Board and Support Staff wish you Happy Holidays and a prosperous Kiwi New Year!

A Message from your Editor...



Well, it was bound to happen (eventually). **Jane Jamison** who has faithfully written the **KK** for 32 years finally said ENOUGH! Can't say that I blame her. I met Jane about 33 years ago when she was introduced to me as a former editor, writer (and got paid for it) and was willing to help me out as our former co-editor and co-founder **Jan Brown Hanson** went on to more glorious activities. The Club couldn't have asked a more qualified person to write this fledgling newsletter. She threw herself into the project in writing and setting up the newsletter and I became the "artist." I've learned a lot from Jane. She's a wealth of knowledge, on how to do things right when it comes to publishing (and other things). I can never step into her shoes, and I won't even try. **Thank you, Jane for your knowledge, your patience, and most of all your friendship over the past 32 years. Lots and lots of Kiwi Hugs! Mary**



My thoughts on the KK ...

Stephanie said to me "make it your own" when we discussed the KK and I have some ideas that you will see in this first issue of the new 2022-2024 term. It's a different layout with a bit of my art (can't seem to break the habit) with a variety of columns. One of which is "A Kiwi You Should Know." There are Kiwis out there in "Kiwi-land" that are doing things that would be fun to share with the membership. Let me know about them! Another area is "Chapter Highlight." What are the chapters doing for fun and charity? **Newsletter Editors** please start or continue to send an email edition issue of your latest newsletter. If possible, **not a PDF**. I would like to have the ability to pull some of your photos for the national newsletter. send to: thekiwiclub@comcast.net

I am always open to new ideas from the membership. The newsletter is shorter (studies show that attention span is drastically reduced after four pages of print). An added benefit is that it will be at a length that you can print it (if desired) without draining your printer of ink. I hope with these changes we can produce more issues per year. I hope you like this new "look" and format. If you don't, just hang in there, it's bound to change.



A Message from your President

It seems like yesterday we had our convention in Ft. Worth and now the holidays are upon us. Your board has been busy with a few projects since May, which you will see the results of in this edition of the Kaleidoscope and on the website. The board wanted to change things up since coming into office and are excited to show you our "new shine"! **Mary Richter Thrasher** has new ideas for the KK and **Jill Richey Rohan** has given the website a new up to date look. We hope you enjoy the changes.



Many of you are wondering about our next convention (2024) site. No commitment yet, but you'll find out here when the final decision is made.

I imagine many chapters are planning holiday luncheons and meetings and our MAL's have planned to gather with friends to celebrate this festive time of year. Enjoy your time with friends and family, safe travels, and all the best to you in 2023.

Stephanie

Traveling Uniform Collection

By: Chris Strommer Moeckel, Traveling Uniform Coordinator



As you all know, one of the main purposes of the Traveling Uniform Collection is to make uniforms available to our fellow Kiwi's to use in charitable and educational events. They are used to illustrate the wonderful history behind our uniforms, the important part they played in our past. and the vital part they continue to play in our identity.

American Airlines AAdvantage and Barclays Bank held an event in Las Vegas. The Las Vegas Kiwi Club took the lead in assembling the display and hosting the uniform portion of the event. They represented The Kiwi Club in a fantastic way, explaining the history of the twelve uniforms that were provided and sharing their experiences. The years ranged from 1933 to 2018 plus. Great exposure for The Kiwi Club!

On October 14, we were able to aid the Phoenix Airport Museum. We loaned uniform pieces to use in the display that is in the main terminal. If you are ever flying through, try to see it.

Thank you so much for the donations that so many of you have provided. Through your generosity we can spread the word about The Kiwi Club and what a wonderful organization it is!



Phone Etiquette

After a tiring day, a commuter settled down in his seat and closed his eyes. As the train rolled out of the station, a woman sitting next to him pulled out her mobile phone and started talking in a loud voice: "Hi sweetheart. It's Sue. I'm on the train. Yes, I know it's the six thirty and not the four thirty, but I had a long meeting. No, honey, not with that Kevin from the accounting office. It was with the boss. No sweetheart, you're the only one in my life. Yes, I'm sure, cross my heart!" Fifteen minutes later, she was still talking loudly. When the man sitting next to her had enough, he leaned over and said into the phone, "Sue, hang up the phone and come back to bed." Sue doesn't use her mobile phone in public any longer.

Did you know?

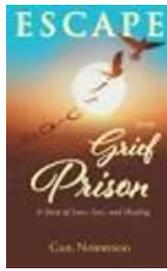
-70th Anniversary Charm: Thank you all for your support. We are sold out and raised \$1,485 that went to our convention fund.

-Sad News: TUL, MIA, Dayton, and Chicago North Shore Chapters have disbanded.

-We need to advertise! The National Board is looking for someone who is savvy with social media-Instagram, Twitter, etc. Contact **Stephanie Butler**.

-Vivian Shattuck Jorgensen (known to all who loved her as **Viv**) left in her will a monetary gift to The Kiwi Club. Viv was a part of the **C.R. Smith** American Airlines, a former Kiwi National President & Archivist who loved AA and The Kiwi Club.

A Kiwi You Should Know!



Editor's Note: I would like to introduce **Gail Norwood** to you. She is a MAL from North Carolina, and she has

been busy writing a book. Gail writes from the heart. She writes of 25 years of flying (71-7), a beautiful home, a loving marriage and the birth of two daughters. A perfect life. Then the shoe drops. Tragedy. We see through her eyes her life and what few individuals experience. Her pain is evident and overpowering. She speaks eloquently of her overwhelming grief. But she becomes aware that grief controls her life and her inability to be the best to herself, family, and friends. Her process helps her overcome the darkness that is so much a part of her life and learns to live with happiness. It's a "page-turner" and I highly recommend it. Available from Amazon.com

Baby Boy Hari!

By Chris Strommer Moeckel, President, Atlanta Chapter

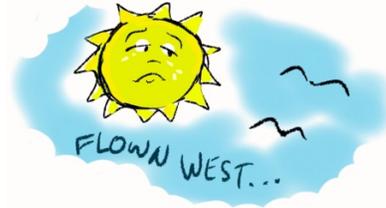


Here is a snapshot of one of our "Grandbaby" Kiwi's. He's a little boy named Hari. The word means "to take/carry joy" or, as local legend suggests, "come together in unison" Great name for our adopted baby boy!

For the past few years, The Atlanta Kiwi Club has made the support of the Kiwi birds at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium their "special

charity". The zoo is known for its success in breeding and raising the rare brown New Zealand kiwi birds. The donations like the ones we have made make it possible to upgrade the bird's environment, to make it more comfortable so they can get more exercise and maybe lose some weight! Two of the baby Kiwis have grown up and moved on to start families of their own. The Atlanta chapter encourages

all chapters to consider supporting the zoo kiwis as a fitting way of helping our "namesake bird. "The website: give.columbuszoo.org provides the information you would need to start your program.



Irma Hudak Crozier
Dallas, DOD: October 9, 2022

Jean McDonald Jones
Atlanta, DOD: August 6, 2022

Marvine Currey Malouf
Los Angeles, DOD: October 17, 2022

Dorothy Flagerstrom Rhoades
Phoenix, DOD: July 7, 2022

Christine Watts-Greenlaw Dolby
Central Florida, DOD: August 12, 2022

Barbara Freis Lawsha
Golden Gate, DOD: October 8, 2022

Mary LaLiberte Moss
Atlanta, DOD: November 1, 2022

Linda Schoellkopf Somboonsook
South Bay, DOD: August 12, 2022

Joanne Quinn Fitzpatrick
Chicago, DOD: July 1, 2022

Brenda Tait Nolan
Dayton, DD: August 12, 2022

Phyllis Stockhausen Whitehouse
Los Angeles, DOD: October 8, 2022





We just love new members...welcome aboard!

Susan Wiles Johnson-Atlanta
Bonnie Bogan Lindenberg-Florida Sun Coast
Kimberly Vickero Martin-Carefree
Laura Hill Osta-Dallas
Brenda Patrick-Club EWR
Susan French-DFW/Mid-Cities
Patt Gibbs-DFW/Mid-Cities
Cathy Hermann-Lukensmeyer-DFW/Mid-Cities
Janet Laine-Long Island
Kathleen Gordon O'Riley-Los Angeles
Jan Zinno Allen-Los Angeles
Julie Perry-Los Angeles
Marta Brown Copland-MAL
Katherine Studinski Hrechka-MAL
Kathleen Marshall Marshall-MAL
Takona Scaufaire-MAL
Josephine Rebecca Diebold-MAL
Judith Cliff Kuon-Na Manu O Honolulu
Corinne Wong Rego-Na Manu O Honolulu
Debra Cepa Adams-O'Hare
Norma Darris-O'Hare
Nasha Pierre-O'Hare

Jackie Miller-Erskine-O'Hare
Sandra Silvas Juarez-O'Hare
Carol Smith Hill-O'Hare
Linda Erickson Kearney-O'Hare
Kathy Kelly Ketchman-O'Hare
Bobbi Kongsgaard-O'Hare
Lydia Kwiecien-O'Hare
Trisha Alfermann-O'Hare
Marcella Monaco-O'Hare
Kathy Shaughnessy Hegeman-O'Hare
Heidi Murphy-O'Hare
Donna Fridian Wheeler-O'Hare
Pat Viteri Williams-O'Hare
Mary Weidlich Wolf-O'Hare
Jodi Olix Long-O'Hare
Betsy Pfatschbacher-O'Hare
Deb Jones Vanderlaan-O'Hare
Nancy Vanhuss-O'Hare
Pamela Welch Bacciocco-Sierra Nevada
Michael Haynes Franklin-Tulsa

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Advisor: Kathy Poppenberg Kridel
kiwipres34@gmail.com



A Bit of History of American Airlines



1930's The Beginning...

Many of us know, or think we know how AA began. Did you know that in 1930 AA was a conglomerate of 80 plus airlines? They were little carriers that mostly carried U.S. mail to various parts of the country. From Southern Air Transport in Texas to Universal Aviation in the Midwest to Colonial Transport in the Northeast, mail kept these carriers and American Airways alive and hopefully making a profit. By 1933 American operated a passenger network serving 72 cities. In 1934 the American Airways company was acquired by E.L. Cord, renamed it American Airlines and hired C.R. Smith to run it. C.R. and Donald Douglas worked together

to create the DC-3. American was the first to fly the airplane in 1936. American was flying passengers on designated routes, overnight flights from New York to Los Angeles through Dallas/Ft. Worth and other stops advertising the service as an "all-year southern route." The airplanes were dubbed "Flagships" and when the airplane was parked it flew an "Admiral's flag" from the cockpit window. It soon established the Admirals Club for valued passengers. American also worked with Fiorello LaGuardia to build an airport in New York City and became the owner of the first lounge at LGA (Admirals Club). In those days to fly from Newark, N.J. to Glendale, CA took 20 hours and 19 minutes to complete and made eight stops.

Flight #1 stopped at DCA, BNA, MEM, DFW, FTW, ELP, TUC, PHX with a change of planes in MEM to a DC-3 "Flagship Skysleeper."

In 1933 American established the inflight position of cabin stewardess. At other airlines (PAA) the position belonged to a male. American and United changed the

face of aviation by hiring women. These ladies were nurses (hiring requirement) and worked approximately 100 hours per month for \$100. Even then that was considered low wages, but the "glamour" and "excitement" made up for it the lack of salary. Unfortunately, this era of the 1930's brought several fatal crashes with a loss of 50 passengers and crew.

Despite the human loss, on February 16, 1937, AA carried it's one millionth passenger.

Top photo: DC-3, Left photo: C.R. Smith, Right photo: First four AA stewardesses from top to bottom Mae Boebeck, Agnes Nohava, Marie Allen, Velma Maul,



Bottom Photo: Skysleeper.

Next issue: The 1940's-1950's

Chapter Highlight!

Denver Chapter



Being a mile high doesn't stop the Denver chapter from meeting, but snow does! This chapter meets from March to October on an "official basis," because come winter the snowbirds escape until the temperature warms and the snow melts. Those left behind gather for social outings and when Christmas is celebrated, they share gifts and a full meal of traditional turkey, and all the trimmings. The Chapter is small (21 members) but powerful which is obvious when it comes to their charity, SafeHouse (crisis center for abused women). Prior to each meeting SafeHouse is contacted for their immediate needs and this is the price of admission to the meeting. "Needs" covers a broad area, from cleaning products to tennis shoes. No doubt the Kiwis are always generous. In 2016 SafeHouse awarded the Denver Kiwis the first Outstanding Service Organization Award. Kudos to the Denver Kiwis!

Kiwi Tales...

by Claudette Tollenaere Sanderson

O'Hare Chapter

The story is that these two men were to be on a flight that got cancelled. Everyone else went to a different flight, but they wanted to wait for the flight that **Anette Bekken Whipple** and I were going to work from Chicago to New York. When it came our turn to fly an empty plane to New York, these two men appeared and said they were ready to go. We told them it was under one condition - that they would "work the flight." They were perfectly willing, and after Annette and I gave an "official"

oxygen demo and PA, they repeated it. After we were in the air, we said that a part of the flight would be for them to serve us breakfast and coffee, which they did. It was a hoot. Don't know why someone had a camera with them, but thankful they did. It is a memory I will never forget.



Editor: Note the lit cigarette in the first picture and the old logo!



Do you have a Kiwi Tale? A memorable event, or passenger etc. while you were/are a stewardess/flight attendant. Pictures are nice, but not required. Please submit to: Mary Richter Thrasher- thekiwiclub@comcast.net