

# Kiwi Kaleidoscope

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

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Term 2022-2024  
December 2023

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*Happy Holidays! Your National Board wishes you a wonderful holiday season.*

## Convention 2024



It's hard to believe that convention is only four months away. Here is a little business first. Guest rooms are not furnished with refrigerators. For those requiring refrigerated medication a limited number are available upon prior request to the hotel.

The registration packets are being sent in January look for your copy after the 10<sup>th</sup>. Please fill out the banquet and registration forms as requested:

-All guests names, persons, chapter to which you wish to be seated for the banquet.

-Be sure to note deadlines.

-Fees should be paid along with your registration fee.

-Don't forget AAdvantage miles-tickets are \$10 each for 50K, 100K, 200K miles to your established account or start a new one. Sell the tickets to friends and family. Great stocking stuffers! Miles generously donated by American Airlines to help promote the programs and goals of The Kiwi Club.

### **Good to Know...**

There is a trolley outside of the hotel for hop-on, hop off tours around the 22 neighborhoods that is the town of Savannah. Savannah is clean and safe easy to get around in and unique in many ways. The DeSoto Hotel is in the historic district, walking distance to almost everything, or take a trolley. Check out [www.thekiwiclub.org](http://www.thekiwiclub.org) (under convention) and see a surround view of the hotel (done by our fabulous Jill Rohan).

### **Don't Forget...**

Ready to pass on "old" Kiwi or AA things you no longer want? One man's trash is another man's treasure is the theme here. The silent auction was started in 2014 at the LAS convention and has raised over \$10,000. The proceeds go to the NKF (National Kiwi Fun) and WINGS. Take a picture of what you would like to donate and email to Cindi Sanders (cindisanderskiwi@gmail.com).

## A Message From Our President



As we come into the Christmas season, we all know that there are so many things going on these few weeks we often forget to pause and give thanks for all the blessings that have been bestowed on us. Thanksgiving gets us started in realizing our bounty and Christmas is the height of the giving season. I want to take a bit of time to remind you of the The Kiwi Club National Endeavor-WINGS. In 1996 the WINGS Foundation was voted in as the new national endeavor charitable recipient. On an average 35 flight attendants are helped monthly. From November to the end of the year on the odd numbered years, we recognize our endeavor and promote donations to it.

I'm asking each chapter and Member at Large to please consider making a monetary donation to WINGS before the end of the year. The form that accompanies this donation and instructions can be found on the website [www.thekiwiclub.org](http://www.thekiwiclub.org) under the "forms" tab, then under "Wings Forms" (#2). While you are on this page, please pull up the "National Kiwi Endeavor Report Form" (#1).

The Kiwi Club National Board would like to see each chapter fill out the "Chapter Charitable Report Form" and send to me. If you would like to be considered for an award at our convention in Savannah this form must be sent. You will also find this form in the same section as the above-mentioned forms.

Enjoy your Christmas meetings, it's always a special one for all of us. In closing I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Stephanie*  
National President  
The Kiwi Club



*A Memory of Virginia "Ginny" Day McKillop  
Past National President 2010-2012  
By Jane McDonald Jamison*



Ginny was a beloved Kiwi straight out of the Boston area, never without a smile and a kind word. She joined The Kiwi Club while living in Davie, Florida. Ginny called the AA Sales Office in Miami to find out if there was a Kiwi chapter locally and they referred her to me. I called her and invited her to our chapter's meeting, the South Florida Chapter, coincidentally the next night, but I told her come with me. She did.

The chapter was holding elections and we were looking for volunteers. We had just resurrected the old chapter and were starting over. The person in charge was asking for volunteers; I looked at Ginny and asked her if she was going to join TKC and our chapter to which she replied "yes." I said "Good! You're our new secretary/treasurer." That was the beginning of a long and treasured friendship. The same night we left the meeting in one of South Florida's horrible rainstorms. When we got back

to my house, the water was up to the doors of the cars, so I told Ginny to stay with me for the night and gave her one of my ratty gowns and showed her to the guest bedroom. Ginny and her husband Bill (whom I called "Gump") lived on a ranch and had horses, so the next morning she got up early and sauntered into the kitchen in that lovely gown. My husband, Bill was sitting at the table having his coffee and reading the paper. He looked up in surprise, never seen Ginny before and not knowing we had a guest, asked "Who are you?" She laughed and answered him "I'm a new friend." And she was. She and her Bill became close friends with me and my Bill.

Ginny became involved in the chapter and eventually became president. When they moved to Lady Lake, she immediately began forming a new chapter-the Central Florida Chapter. Ginny served for many years as the chapter president and was very instrumental in the success of that chapter. With a lot of urging and browbeating from me and others Ginny ran for National Treasurer. After serving two terms, we once more put pressure on her to run for National President. She did and won. Though she had gone "National", Ginny was still active in the Central Florida Chapter. She always hosted our Christmas party which was always a success. Bill and I had moved from South Florida to Atlanta, so when we returned to Florida (Jacksonville) I joined the Central Florida Chapter, driving across Florida to most monthly meetings and events.

After two years of flying with American Airlines, Ginny decided she wanted to see the world so became a stewardess with Pan American. I don't know about the world, but she met Bill McKillop, a captain with Pan American, and they had a long and happy marriage. At one time Ginny was serving as president of both The Kiwi Club and World Wings, the Pan American retired stewardess organization. Ginny made so many friends across not only the Kiwi and Pan American worlds, but she was also liked by everyone. People like Ginny McKillop are rare, and she will be greatly missed. I am one of those who feel blessed to have called her "friend."

## **The Golden Gate Gazette has excellent information to keep us safe:**

**Emily Garvik** a member of the **Golden Gate Chapter** has put together a KIT to assist members with identity theft and SIM card swap. Unfortunately, she speaks from experience. But she has graciously put together a “bible” of cautionary instructions and we should all learn from it.

Criminals get your phone number and talks your phone carrier into electronically swapping out your SIM card. You physically have your phone but cannot use it because the criminal has your number and access to everything you have on your phone.

### **LOCK YOUR SIM CARD**

Find out from your carrier instructions how to do it. T-Mobile has made it possible, and hopefully other carriers will follow suit.

### **Identity Theft Procedures**

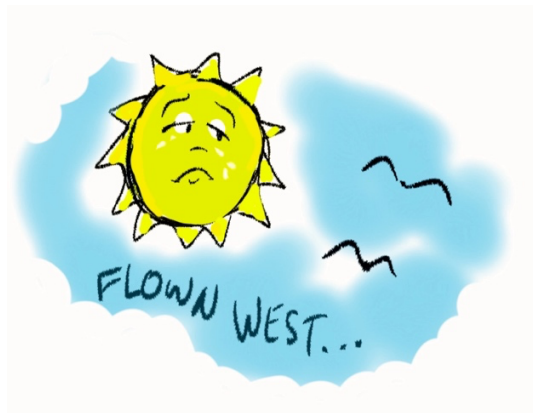
1. Contact all three credit bureaus, place a freeze on a credit and fraud alert. Make sure you **contact all three**.
2. Have a scan done on your phone to determine if you have malware, and you also may be a victim of a SIM card swap.
3. Change the passcode on your phone. You can have your phone wiped clean of everything (but what a hassle).
4. You may want to change your phone number as criminals get your secondary verification.
5. Close all new accounts and credit cards that have been fraudulently opened in your name and continue to monitor.
6. Contact all your financial institutions, including pensions. Open new accounts.
7. Close accounts like Amazon, Netflix, anything a criminal could use.
8. Change usernames and passcodes on every account.
9. Take documents off your phone. A suggestion, use BOX to store documents.
10. Purchase insurance. Be sure that it covers savings and check monitoring.
11. File a police report.
12. File a report FDIC, like the police report it may be helpful in retrieving money.
13. Advise Social Security. If they have your bank records, they have your SS number.
14. You may have to fill out a fraud report for your post office. The criminals may be trying to redirect your mail.
15. If you have a car loan or GM credit card, they have your driver’s license. Change it.
16. Passport on your phone? Report it.
17. They try to redirect IRS refunds. If you have a refund due, you need to alert the IRS.
18. Email addresses are tricky. Emails are how you find out if accounts are being opened in your name. Banks send congratulations on your new account. You can see new accounts under the credit bureau. Professionals however advise you to ditch the account.com

**Equifax:** 800-525-6285 [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com) **SOCIAL SECURITY HOT LINE:** 800-269-0271

**Experian:** 888-397-3742 [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

**TransUnion:** 800-680-7289 [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

Report criminal activity to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) 877-438-4338 Ask to speak with a trained identity theft counselor.



*Rest in Peace...*

**Ginny Day McKillop-MAL, Barbara Schulte Skinner-MAL, Gerry Harrison Fix-DFW Mid-cities**

### **SETTING A PASSWORD**

**Windows:** Please enter your new password.

**USER:** Cabbage

**Windows:** Sorry, the password must be more than 8 characters.

**USER:** boiled cabbage

**Windows:** Sorry, the password must contain 1 numerical character.

**USER:** 1 boiled cabbage.

**Windows:** Sorry the password cannot have blank spaces.

**USER:** 50damnboiledcabbages

**Windows:** Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character.

**USER:** 50DAMNboiledcabbages.

**Windows:** Sorry, the password cannot use more than one upper case character.

**USER:** 50damnBoiledCabbagesSholvedUpYourAXX!.

**Windows:** Sorry, the password cannot contain punctuation.

**USER:** ReallyPissed50DamnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAXXIfYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

**Windows:** Sorry, that password is already in use.

***So true...***

### **Please Be Respectful...**

I don't mean to be a grinch. However, to those of you who are placing Christmas lights, decorations in your yards, would you please avoid anything that has red or blue flashing lights together? Every time I come around the corner, I think it's the police and I have a panic attack. I have to break hard, toss my wine out the window, fasten my seat belt, throw my phone on the floor, turn my radio down and push my gun under the seat. All while trying to drive. It's just too much drama, even for Christmas. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

***FUTURE ISSUE: TELL ME WHAT ITEMS PASSENGERS TRIED (or succeeded) TO SMUGGLE ABOARD YOUR FLIGHT(S). Send me your name and story. Email: [theiwiclub@comcast.net](mailto:theiwiclub@comcast.net)***



*Remember the reason  
for the season...*