



*A Social and Charitable Organization of Former and Current American Airlines Stewardesses/Flight Attendants, American Eagle(non-contracted), Envoy, and any airlines purchased by or merged with American Airlines (Trans Caribbean Airways, Air Cal, Reno Air, America West, TWA and US Airways.)*

## THE KIWI CLUB HISTORY

**In the 1930s**, former American Airlines stewardesses were meeting in California and New York for social afternoons of reminiscing about their flying days and to continue their friendships and contacts with American Airlines.

During the second meeting in New York, Jean McKiel Wells suggested the group call themselves “Kiwis” after the flightless bird from New Zealand. The New York group provided the impetus for the development of several local groups, and as the word spread across the United States, chapters were formed in a number of cities. Members corresponded with one another, coordinating interests and activities.

**In 1946**, in the New York area, when eight former stewardesses met, they recognized the potential for establishing an official organization. As a result, the following women are considered the *spearheaders* of what was to become The Kiwi Club: Pat Green Benson, Ann Gale Darcy, Evelyn Leedy McCormick, Jean McKiel Wells, Bertie Cole Clark, Eileen McDermott Rose, Moselle Lowery Bishop, and Loretta “Skip” Hogan Grewe.

By the end of 1948, fifteen local groups existed across the country. It was clear that the chapters wanted a national organization that would unite them.

**By 1950**, New York became the group’s temporary headquarters, and in 1951, they mailed the first letter suggesting the idea of a national organization. Until a national meeting was organized, a number of the old and newly forming chapters decided to temporarily adopt the bylaws of the New York chapter. Periodically, members received newsletters and chapters engaged in a variety of community work. These chapters were attracting national attention.

**By 1952**, representatives met for the “First National Meeting” in Fort Worth, Texas, to lay the groundwork for a national organization. The goal was “to establish an organization for women of common interest, which shall provide opportunity for social and charitable activity.” At the “First National Delegates Meeting,” The Kiwi Club was officially chartered - the first organization of its kind established in the world.

Delegates adopted bylaws, elected national officers, started planning the 1954 Chicago National Convention, discussed an official club pin, chose “Flagship” blue and white as the official colors, and the kiwi bird as the club’s emblem. (The Kiwi Club’s name and emblem are registered with the U.S. Patent Office as an official trademark.) Delegates also approved Kay Hansen, an American Airlines employee, as Counselor of The Kiwi Club. Kay received this honor as an expression of the membership’s gratitude for her invaluable advisory contributions in the founding of the organization and in recognition of her untiring support and guiding influence.

Delegates formally adopted *The Kiwi Newsletter*, and its publication provided members with information on issues pertinent to the national organization, as well as chapter news and various promotions of social and welfare work. It also featured publicity techniques along with precise details for participating in promotions and charities.

In August 1952, Miss Teenager of Australia flew 8,000 miles to Hollywood, California, to present The Kiwi Club with a stuffed kiwi bird, donated by the Kiwi Shoe Polish Company. Over the years, The Kiwi Club has received many honors, awards, and gifts. These include: an atomic rocket launched bearing the club’s name and trademark; the Kiwi Monument which currently stands at the American Airlines Training and Conference Center (formerly the Stewardess College); and fifty lines printed in the Congressional Record of the 86th Congress.

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**In 1954**, at the First National Kiwi Convention in Chicago, Illinois, the delegates adopted amendments to the bylaws and elected a new slate of officers. In a fitting tribute, Life Memberships were presented to the first four Stewardesses who flew for American Airways in 1933: May Bobeck, Velma Maul, Agnes Nohava and Marie Allen. (American Airways became American Airlines in 1934.)

In 1955, American Airlines issued a memorandum on the nature and activities of The Kiwi Club. It included this telling passage: "These ladies have created a definite social and civic force, a new contribution arising from the airline industry. It is another first for American Airlines – by ex-AAers – which is about as high a tribute as the company can receive."

**In 1956**, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Convention in Dallas, Texas, National Honorary Memberships were established in the bylaws. Only three people have received National Honorary Membership: C.R. Smith, President and CEO of American Airlines and a great supporter of The Kiwi Club (1956); Jane Wyman, actress, who starred in "Three Guys Named Mike," a movie portraying an American Airlines stewardess (1956); and Mary C. Raymond, American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison (2000).

On November 21, 1957, American Airlines dedicated its new stewardess training facility, the Stewardess College, in Fort Worth, Texas. The Kiwi Monument was also dedicated with a "Shining of the Wings" ceremony.

**In 1958**, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Convention in Los Angeles, California, it was resolved that chapter presidents should be invited to the National Spring Board Meeting held in the odd numbered years between conventions. (Later this meeting became "Spring Workshops" and changed once again to "Spring Seminar.") An Advisory Board of National Past Presidents was established. The Kiwi Club was listed in the Encyclopedia of American Associations.

In 1959, The Kiwi Club established The American Airlines Stewardess Uniform Collection Project and added Life Membership status to the bylaws.

**In 1960**, at the 4<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Washington, DC, major bylaw revisions were completed. Temporary employment positions, known as "Profitunities," enabled Kiwis to work as receptionists and hostesses.

In 1961, the Kiwi Assistance Program (KAP) started as a test in Chicago. These Kiwis assisted American Airlines recruiters with stewardess interviews throughout the United States. In 1962, the Kiwi Assistance Program (KAP) went national, and by 1963, the program functioned in seven cities across the country.

**In 1962**, at the 5<sup>th</sup> National Convention in New York City, New York, a special tribute was made to the eight "wonderful-courageous girls whose devotion and tireless efforts culminated in the national organization of The Kiwi Club." Those honored were: Pat Green Benson, Ann Gale Darcy, Evelyn Leedy McCormick, Jean McKiel Wells, Bertie Cole Clark, Eileen McDermott Rose, Moselle Lowery Bishop and Loretta "Skip" Hogan Grewe.

In the spring of 1963, The Kiwi Club received its first donation from a Kiwi chapter, requesting the money be used for a "Kiwi Foundation," to aid "a Kiwi in a quandary." (Note: This new "Foundation" was discussed with delegates during the 1964 Tulsa Convention.) On May 8, 1963, The Kiwi Club became international, with a chapter affiliating in Germany.

**In 1964**, at the 6<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma, delegates voted on whether The Kiwi Club should establish a national charity, and whether the charity should benefit Kiwis. A committee was appointed to outline and organize a National Kiwi Fund. All Kiwis were urged to send in their ideas about this project. (Note: A report was prepared and discussed during the 1966 Boston Convention.)

**In 1966**, at the 7<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, the National Kiwi Fund Committee presented their report and delegates approved the establishment of the fund. The National Kiwi Fund, supported by one dollar of each member's dues, would be available to Kiwis in need after 1968. Also, at the 1966 Convention, C.R. Smith (American Airlines Chairman) and Marion Sadler (American Airlines President) presented three silver trophies to The Kiwi Club, suggesting that the trophies be used as awards.

In 1967, The Kiwi Club introduced a Kiwi Briefing Manual for Kiwi members.

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**In 1968**, at the 8<sup>th</sup> National Convention in San Francisco, California, The National Kiwi Fund was officially activated. The delegates adopted a new bylaw, Member at Large (MAL), allowing membership status for those unable to participate in a local chapter. Delegates approved the National Board's recommendations of an Active Advisory Board consisting of the last three Past National Presidents, and that National Life Membership be given to the outgoing Past National President after completion of three terms on the Active Advisory Board. The Kiwi Club appointed a National Kiwi Assistance Program (KAP) Chairperson because the Kiwi Assistance Program (KAP) expanded in order to assist American Airlines with the recruitment of stewardesses for the company's 1970 projection of 5,000 on-line stewardesses.

**In 1970**, at the 9<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, the Kiwi Speaker Program (KSP) was introduced as a joint venture between American Airlines and The Kiwi Club. American developed this program to increase the public's awareness of American Airlines, its routes, destinations, and equipment. The company encouraged Kiwis to give speeches, slide presentations, and packing demonstrations to groups. American interviewed and hired many Kiwis throughout the country. In January 1970, a successful pilot program, in three cities, enabled the Kiwi Speaker Program (KSP) to increase system wide later that year.

In 1971, it was established that National Board members would have their hotel expenses paid for meetings, workshops, and conventions.

**In 1972**, at the 10<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Fort Worth, Texas, The Kiwi Club addressed concern over its declining membership.

In 1973, the bylaws included the word "flight attendant" alongside the word "stewardess."

**In 1974**, at the 11<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Los Angeles, California, jointly hosted by six Southern California chapters, biennial national dues replaced annual dues and delegates defeated changing the club's name to "Kiwi Club International."

In 1975, Counselor of The Kiwi Club, Kay Hansen, retired from American Airlines. Kiwis presented her with a 14-karat gold kiwi pin/pendant. The group also honored her with a fitting tribute. Kay became The Kiwi Club's American Airlines Kiwi Counselor for Life and she fulfilled this role until her death in 1989.

**In 1976**, at the 12<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, the delegates approved the National Board's recommendation that The Kiwi Club support a national charity. A national charity was not intended to replace the National Kiwi Fund or any local chapter charitable efforts, but to engage chapters and members at large in a national effort of philanthropy and unity. The Kiwi Club introduced its first male member and also Louise Knowles, the new American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison.

In October 1977, The Kiwi Club wanted the membership's input regarding the adoption of a national charity. The club sent ballots, and by November members voted overwhelmingly in favor of what was designated "The Kiwi Club Endeavor."

**In 1978**, at the 13<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, delegates amended the bylaws to accept current American Airlines flight attendants into The Kiwi Club. (Previously, membership was limited to former stewardesses/flight attendants.) Also, the wording of "on-line" was changed to "current" flight attendants. The membership voted to adopt The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as The Kiwi Club's first Endeavor to unite all members of the organization. Almost all Kiwis were involved in local community philanthropic projects.

On October 21, 1979, a nation-wide Jog-Walkathon, in cooperation with American Airlines, was held as the first annual Kiwi Club Endeavor Day with 100% of the proceeds donated to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC.)

In 1979, after American Airlines promoted Louise Knowles, she could no longer serve as The Kiwi Club's Liaison. (Louise passed away in 1983.) Mary C. (Sullivan) Raymond became The Kiwi Club's new Liaison and attended her first National Board meeting in Houston.

**In 1980**, at the 14<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Washington, DC, Mary C. (Sullivan) Raymond was introduced to all attendees as The Kiwi Club's new American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison. It was recommended that the Parliamentarian should be The Kiwi Club's Endeavor Coordinator.

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In September 1980, the National Board approved the first week in November as “National Fundraiser Week”, and encouraged chapter participation in local fundraisers for the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). In 1981, The Kiwi Club initiated an Endeavor Fundraising Week when Kiwis could donate the cost of training one Olympic hopeful for one day at the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) training center.

**In 1982**, at the 15<sup>th</sup> National Convention in San Diego, California, the first week in November of the *odd* year in each term was established as National Endeavor Week. Kay Hansen, American Airlines/Kiwi Counselor for Life returned the pin/pendant (originally presented to her in 1975) to The Kiwi Club and requested that it be passed on to each incoming National President. In the fall of 1983, The Kiwi Club’s national newsletter changed format and became *The Kiwi Kaleidoscope* with two co-editors serving.

**In 1984**, at the 16<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Dallas, Texas, a *spearheader fund* was established for new chapters. A program was re-introduced whereby American Airlines flight attendant trainees would be informed about The Kiwi Club.

In 1985, a National Uniform Coordinator position was established to oversee The Kiwi Club’s uniform collection. The Kiwi Club brochure for prospective members was updated and redesigned. In an effort to increase membership, and with the permission of American Airlines, these brochures were placed in flight attendants’ mailboxes. The National Officers’ Manual was placed on a word processor.

**In 1986**, at the 17<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, it was noted that the Kiwi Speaker Program (KSP) changed its name to Sales Representatives/Associates and each sales office determined its particular needs and requirements for these positions.

The Kiwi Club began to computerize starting with the membership records. The process was a monstrous task of transferring records from 3x5 cards to the computer.

In 1987, it was determined that stewardesses/flight attendants from airlines that were either purchased by or merged with American Airlines were eligible for membership in The Kiwi Club; because of this decision, AirCal flight attendants were invited to become Kiwis following the acquisition of AirCal by American Airlines. The Kiwi Assistance Program (KAP) duties were eliminated from the National Secretary’s duties, as the program no longer existed. During Endeavor Week of 1987, it was announced that contributions made by The Kiwi Club to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) totaled over \$100,000.00.

**In 1988**, at the 18<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, American Airlines established a special Sabre “Star” file for Kiwis traveling on American Airlines flights to Kiwi conventions. “Road Shows” were introduced as a Kiwi recruitment program to increase membership from the American Airlines flight attendant corps.

In 1989, The Kiwi Club initiated the “Save the Kiwi Monument” effort. The monument was refurbished and relocated to a courtyard at the American Airlines Learning Center (formerly the Stewardess College) using donations from Kiwis and matching funds from American Airlines. At the 1989 Spring Seminar, the Kiwi Monument was formally rededicated, and eighteen Kiwis celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation from stewardess school. An exhibit titled “American Airlines Stewardesses/Flight Attendants, 1933-1989” opened at the Oklahoma Air & Space Museum. The National Board attended the opening and was recognized and honored at a reception.

**In 1990**, at the 19<sup>th</sup> National Convention in San Francisco, California, delegates voted to retire the silver trophies that The Kiwi Club had received over the years because they were worn and fragile. Prior to this time, these trophies were presented to award winners at conventions. (Note: The honors are still given at conventions.)

The membership learned of the passing of the beloved Mr. C.R. Smith (April 4, 1990), the honored aviation pioneer and leader of American Airlines. He was an honorary Kiwi and supported The Kiwi Club from its inception.

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Also in 1990, The Kiwi Club Archivist appealed to the club for help. She had saved articles, photographs, and memorabilia for years and wanted someone to help catalog and store these items. The Kiwi Club named an Assistant Archivist. The Kiwi Club Archives remain active and continues to seek donations of uniform items and American Airlines memorabilia.

In 1991, reproduction began of the first American Airlines stewardess uniforms. Agnes Nohava Hincks (one of the first four hired by American Airways) wore the 1934 uniform reproduction when she was invited to and attended a flight attendant graduation at the American Airlines Learning Center. The Kiwi Club maintains the patterns for some uniforms, enabling future uniform reproductions. Also in 1991, the Assistant Archivist became the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum Volunteer Coordinator, working closely with the Director, in an effort to display uniforms and other Kiwi memorabilia in the new museum.

**In 1992**, at the 20<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, the National Board introduced The Kiwi Club's Gift Membership Program. The club completed the replication of the two earliest stewardess uniforms, and they became part of The Kiwi Club's Uniform Collection. The club's contributions to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) totaled over \$128,000.00.

It was noted that a display case was donated to The Kiwi Club at the American Airlines Learning Center (formerly the Stewardess College) to exhibit items from the club's archival collection.

Also in 1992, *The Kiwi Directory* was published. This book listed all current members, addresses, phone numbers, chapter affiliation (or member at large), year of graduation, and gave a cross-reference of maiden names. It also included the bylaws, history, awards and recipients, and other useful membership information. (Because the directory was produced and published independently by *The Kiwi Kaleidoscope* coeditors, and sold for the price of printing only, The Kiwi Club did not incur any expenses.)

In the fall of 1993, *Wings of Excellence*, was written and published by author, Gwen Mahler. The book chronicled the sixty-year history of the American Airlines stewardess/flight attendant. Members of The Kiwi Club and The Kiwi Club Archives provided many pictures, articles, and memorabilia to the author, and she devoted one chapter to The Kiwi Club.

**In 1994**, at the 21<sup>st</sup> National Convention in Houston, Texas, delegates approved to retain a charitable National Endeavor, and voted to change the National Endeavor recipient in accordance with The Kiwi Club's procedures. No new recipient could be voted upon until proposed and prospective National Endeavor charitable recipients were thoroughly researched and evaluated in accordance with The Kiwi Club guidelines. (Note: Those charities would be presented to the delegates for a vote at the 1996 convention.)

In 1994, the first American Airlines current flight attendant was elected to serve as The Kiwi Club's National President.

In 1995, the early American Airlines stewardess uniform patterns were completed and stored in The Kiwi Club Archives. Also, The Kiwi Club supported the American Airlines DC-3 Coalition/Hangar Project at the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum with the purchase of personalized bricks that were used as the flooring around the DC-3. In June 1995, an 800 number was installed to assist Kiwis and prospective members in obtaining information about The Kiwi Club and introduced the "Just A Minute" - The Kiwi Club Historical Highlights featuring "Milestones noted in The Kiwi Club Minutes since 1950."

**In 1996**, at the 22<sup>nd</sup> National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, delegates were presented with two prospective charitable recipients: The Wings Foundation and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research Foundation. (The Wings Foundation, operated by American Airlines flight attendants, assists flight attendants who are seriously ill, disabled or suffering hardships.) Delegates voted to change the recipient of the National Endeavor to The Wings Foundation. It was noted that The Kiwi Club membership donated a total of \$129,899.86 to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) from 1977 to 1996.

It was also noted that The Kiwi Club National Executive Board had completed their computerization and each of the National Officers was now equipped with a computer. The Kiwi Club's membership records were transferred to an updated computer program developed to streamline operations and keep better track of membership records and accounting. Also, all Kiwi Club bank accounts were placed in the American Airlines Credit Union.

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*The Kiwi Kaleidoscope*, The Kiwi Club's national newsletter, became a tabloid-style publication with a larger format. The revised publication provided members with more national and local news and information.

Marie Allen Sullivan, one of the first four stewardesses, who had been "lost" from The Kiwi Club for a number of years, was welcomed back with a Life Membership. At that time, Marie and Agnes Nohava Hincks were the only living stewardesses from the original four. (Marie passed away in 1999 and Agnes in 2003.)

In 1997, through vigorous recruitment efforts, a mailout invitation to join The Kiwi Club was sent to 346 "Early Out" American Airlines flight attendants, and a new Kiwi chapter was formed in Argentina. The Board explored the feasibility of offering an Internet home page, but it was deemed too expensive.

**In 1998**, the 23<sup>rd</sup> National Convention debuted its "Premier Cruise." This successful endeavor, on the Norwegian Cruise Line, *SS Leeward*, sailed from Miami with stops in Key West and Cozumel. Chapter charitable awards started being awarded in two categories – one for large chapters and one for small chapters, in accordance with membership recommendation. The silver

President's Cup was displayed, along with other Kiwi memorabilia, at the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum.

American Airlines sponsored the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of The Wings Foundation, at the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum. The American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison and the National Board members participated in the event, along with members of the four Dallas/Fort Worth area Kiwi chapters, who acted as hostesses.

In 1999, Kiwis hosted National Endeavor Week in a joint effort with American Airlines and The Wings Foundation. The club purchased Y2K compliant computer hardware for the National Executive Board, updated its computer database along with Internet access, and obtained email access capability. All Board members became accessible to members by email. Also, the Board appointed a new National Traveling Uniform Coordinator.

**In 2000**, at the 24<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Palm Springs, California, American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison since 1979, Mary C. Raymond, became the third recipient of a National Honorary Membership to The Kiwi Club.

The Kiwi Club moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by launching its website, establishing the domain name for The Kiwi Club – thekiwiclub.org. The Kiwi Club donated monies to the American Airlines 9/11 Memorial Fund in memory of the American Airlines crewmembers on Flights 11 and 77 on September 11, 2001.

**In 2002**, at the 25<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Fort Worth, Texas, The Kiwi Club celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the same city where it all began in 1952. A special Kiwi Anniversary Calendar was completed. Also, in 2002, The Kiwi Club's Charter was renewed in the state of Texas. The Charter remains under permanent status according to a 1965 law.

A bylaw change opened membership to The Kiwi Club to all stewardesses/flight attendants from any airline acquired by or merged with American Airlines. Membership was now open to former stewardesses/flight attendants from Trans-Caribbean, Reno, TWA, and Ozark (acquired by TWA before purchase by American Airlines) in addition to AirCal. (This bylaw serves as a clarification from 1987.)

The Advisory Board, consisting of three past National Presidents, was reduced to one. American Airlines no longer provided a stipend to The Kiwi Club, and additionally the company eliminated travel passes for the National Board. The Kiwi Club has since become financially independent.

**In 2004**, at the 26<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, a Web Hostess was named to maintain the club's growing website. Mary C. Raymond retired as the American Airlines/Kiwi Liaison.

The Board started publishing *The Kiwi Kaleidoscope* four times a year in an effort to keep the membership more informed. The club disconnected the 1-800-234-KIWI toll-free number, instituted in 1995, because it was not financially justifiable.

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During the fall of 2004, The Kiwi Club honored the National Archivist with the retirement of the title “Archivist,” because of her tireless efforts in collecting and storing Kiwi memorabilia. The title Historian replaced Assistant Archivist.

In January 2006, the Historian asked for assistance. The National Board named a Co-Historian to oversee the Vintage and Archival Uniform Collections. Their titles became Co-Historian/Archives (handling all memorabilia), and Co-Historian/Uniforms. Co-Coordination continues to oversee the Traveling Uniform Collection.

A “President’s Update” was introduced and sent to chapter presidents on a monthly basis keeping them updated and informed of national Kiwi happenings and business. All forms, letters, brochures, manuals, etc., were revised and made consistent with The Kiwi Club’s wings logo. The National Board started sending a special newsletter to members at large, but discontinued it after a few issues, because it was too expensive.

**In 2006**, at the 27<sup>th</sup> National Convention in San Diego, California, members learned that The Kiwi Club had contributed over \$116,000 to The Wings Foundation since 1996. The National Board returned to the original policy of presenting one chapter a charitable award for each category. The National Board also announced the establishment of the Polly Toll Goodman Award, an award recognizing and honoring an outstanding Kiwi.

The Kiwi Club website was expanded to include all of The Kiwi Club’s forms, contracts, and guidelines for members’ use in a downloadable format. The Web Hostess, along with the Co-Historian/Uniforms, worked on the monumental task of creating a new section of photographs with descriptions of all of the American Airlines stewardess/flight attendant uniforms. Additionally, the website was expanded to include current Kiwi news, events, photographs, chapter newsletters, and contacts for prospective members. The new Boutique section enabled individual members to sell their products online after paying a nominal fee. Chapters would have a free venue for selling items to benefit their charities.

**In 2008**, at the 28<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Houston, Texas, it was noted that the donations to the National Endeavor, The Wings Foundation, was \$161,866. An official Kiwi Club wings membership pin was created and mailed to all current members. Note: Prior to the Houston Convention, the American Airlines Credit Union printed and mailed the Call to Convention packets.

All of The Kiwi Club trophies were donated to the Tulsa Air and Space Museum and the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum. The Memorial Award and the Millie Alford Membership Award are in Tulsa and the President’s Cup, Kiwi Award of Merit and the Kay Hansen Award are at the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum. The trophy and award history were compiled and placed on The Kiwi Club website.

**In 2010**, at the 29<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Philadelphia, PA, it was noted that the donations to the National Endeavor, The Wings Foundation, passed a milestone totaling \$201,693. A Chapter Presidents’ Reception was inaugurated at the convention, giving chapter presidents a forum for voicing concerns and offering ideas.

During this term, The Kiwi Club National Board cultivated relationships with American Airlines Flight Service and base managers, taped a video for the flight service website, advertised in flight attendant mailboxes, and implemented a procedure to send retiring flight attendants an invitation to join The Kiwi Club, which resulted in an 18% increase of new members. Also, the National Board designed and published the Kiwi Public Relations Manual for chapter use, and implemented a communications umbrella. The vice president and treasurer duties changed with the vice president focusing on public relations and members, and the treasurer maintaining the club’s database. Note: Prior to Convention, the American Airlines Credit Union printed and mailed the Call to Convention packets.

**In 2012**, The Kiwi Club celebrated their 60th anniversary in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida, with four Florida chapters hosting. Due to the success of the recruitment program focused upon recent retirees, membership increased by 10.49%. A recruiting poster was placed in all American Airlines crew bases and lounges. The poster was printed as a flyer and sent to all AA retirees, along with a personal letter, inviting them to join.

Delegates voted to open membership to American Eagle flight attendants since American Eagle is closely affiliated with American Airlines and serves as a feeder airline. The *Kiwi Kaleidoscope* went to digital color in its issues and continues to publish five issues per term. The Kiwi Club website was kept up to date, and more links were established, providing more news for members. The Convention Guidelines Manual was completed and printed. The Archival Uniform Collection is now

housed in donated storage space at American's headquarters, and a new Historian/Archival Uniform Collection was appointed to oversee the collection. The Co-Historian/Archives title was changed to Historian/Archives.

Honorary membership was bestowed on the American Airlines Flight Attendants who gave their lives in the line of duty on September 11, 2001. The total Kiwi Contributions to The Wings Foundation since 1995 is \$315,888. Note: The American Airlines Credit Union printed and mailed the Call to Convention packets prior to convention.

**In 2014**, the 31st National Kiwi Club Convention was held in Las Vegas. There were 67 first time Convention attendees. TKC Archives and individual Kiwis donated items to a silent auction that raised \$1,486.00, and the proceeds benefitted Wings and The Kiwi Fund. During this term, for the first time, no proposals were submitted for the Delegates' consideration.

TKC relocated its archived items from the AA CR Smith Museum in 2013 to a secured storage area at American Airlines Headquarters. Two new Kiwi chapters, Club EWR (Newark) and Long Island formed, resulting in a total of 45 chapters.

With the 2013 merger, US Air flight attendants became eligible for membership in The Kiwi Club. TKC membership increased from 1152 to 1352 and the Membership at Large increased from 172 to 261.

The total amount given to Wings by TKC to date is: \$367,089.74.

**In 2016**, at the 32nd National Convention in San Francisco, California, it was noted that the donations to the National Endeavor, The Wings Foundation, during this term was over \$58,000. The total given to Wings by TKC is \$425,089.74.

A complete inventory of The Kiwi Club trophies, all stored at the C.R. Smith Museum and The Tulsa Air & Space Museum, took place. Delegates voted to change the wording of the membership affiliation Bylaw, Article III, Section 1, to include former and current (non-contracted) Flight Attendants of American Eagle, now Envoy. Delegates voted to change Standing Rule No. 15 by including the names of all eligible airlines.

Delegates voted to change new member dues, for those who have never before been a Kiwi, and join after September 1st of the odd-numbered year, to one-half of the established National Dues.

Members voted against a Proposal to raise National Dues by \$15.00.

Delegates voted to strike from the National Bylaws the reference of fourteen dollars (\$14.00) of the National Dues being designated for the convention fund.

**In 2018**, the 33rd National Convention was held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Kiwi Club trophies were retrieved from the C.R. Smith Museum and Tulsa Air and Space Museum. They were cleaned and placed on view at the Delegates Reception and Opening Luncheon in Oklahoma City. They are now in a private residence for easy access.

TKC Traveling Uniform collection was presented at American Airlines Headquarters which allowed TKC name to be noticed by all the local and new AA Dignitaries in attendance. A style show of the uniforms was also presented at the Opening Luncheon in Oklahoma City.

The EBLAST was set up to send members with email TKC Kaleidoscope saving TKC over \$5000.00. The EBLAST enabled updates to be sent to all Kiwis with the touch of a finger.

All forms on the website were updated.

A Bylaw change to re-instate the position of National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President was approved at the Delegates meeting. This will allow the duties of National Treasurer to be split as it had become too great a job for one volunteer position.

Article V – Officers and their Election of the TKC Bylaws were changed to include all eligible members to serve on committees for the Delegates meeting.

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The Wings Foundation received \$83,658.87 in donations this term and a total \$507,011.01 since 1996.

The Silent Auction was again held at the convention and raised over \$2000.00 for Wings Foundation and The National Kiwi Fund.

We welcomed Western New York Chapter and have the possibility of two more chapters. As of convention, we had 44 Chapters and 1223 members including 22 Life Members. There were 142 new members and unfortunately 35 members who flew west.

**In 2020**, the Covid-19 Coronavirus pandemic caused the cancellation of the 34th National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. Delegates voted using online ballots, and the National Board held its final meeting via Zoom. The Lifetime Membership Award was given to Jane McDonald Jamison.

Comping over age 80 dues to members should now be considered by the individual chapter, on an as needed basis. If the chapter cannot financially handle it, it can be brought to National for consideration by board approval.

Research proved our Memorial Award for the first stewardess to lose her life in the line of duty was not Perla Gasparini in 1936, but Ada Huckleby in 1934, and the award now reflects this.

Our traveling uniform collection is now in the care of a member's home in Kansas City.

The Kiwi Club accounting will be Quick Books online.

Chapter information – Florida First Coast will not be a chapter in Jacksonville, FL. Pacific Northwest and Nashville Music City were both formed. Chicago, Ft. Worth, and Cincinnati have disbanded with some members joining other local chapters or becoming MALs.

The Kaleidoscope will now be emailed to members, 4 issues a year with approximately 100 still being sent by USPS.

The National Kiwi Fund form on TKC website was updated to read "voted on by the chapter board" instead of "the entire membership."

A Kiwi travel club was formed. However, the first trip was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

There are now 1,186 members, 122 new, 20 Life Members, 11 comped. 73 are current f/as.

TKC is included in the design and construction of both the new Lodge at AA's Corporate Headquarters and C.R. Smith Museum. The Museum will house the Graduation Staircase and Medallion from The Stewardess College.

Wings contribution this term was \$86,411.00 for a total of \$593,422.00 since 1996.

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