



SPORTS ANNOUNCER TO SPEAK

Brandi Higa of KITV News will be the speaker at the April meeting at Waialae Country Club on April 25th. If her enthusiasm about sports events carries over to events such as our luncheon, she should be a delight to hear.

A meeting registration form is on page 7.

BIG SMILE, BIG JOB

Local television viewers will likely be familiar with the smiling lady, Brandi Higa, pictured above. She delivers the sports news a couple nights a week on KITV4 News. She should have an interesting story to relate to our members and their guests when she speaks at our April meeting. You may wonder how she rose from a part time employee to become a sports announcer, a roll dominated by the opposite sex.

Brandi was born in California but raised in Hawaii. She graduated from Hawaii Baptist Academy in 2005. She was athletic and did well in volleyball. In fact, she was offered a volleyball scholarship from Fairfield University in Connecticut, which she accepted. She majored in English but sports were her passion. She kept her hand in the game of volleyball by coaching or assisting at several local high schools. She has quite a following in the islands, thanks to her happy enthusiasm about the activities on which she reports.

Reserve your seat now if you have not already done so. You will find the form, to mail in with your check, on page 7.

WORLD WINGS HAWAII COMPLETES 2017 FUNDRAISER

Each chapter of World Wings International is required to support a local charity and to make a donation to Care International, a charity which supports women around the world. It is up to each chapter to decide how they want to make this annual commitment, either by holding a fundraiser or simply by asking their own members to make cash contributions to the chapter's charity fund. Most of the money raised is donated to the local charity but ten percent is sent to World Wings International headquarters to be included in a donation fund, collected from all chapters, which is then given to Care International.



The Hawaii Chapter chose to support St. Francis Hospice. St. Francis uses the chapter donation for its volunteer training program. In years past, the chapter raised funds by holding a fashion show at Liberty House and once at the Royal Hawaiian. Another year a member hosted a wine-tasting party, which included dinner and a silent auction. In 2005 a member came up with the idea of holding a giant garage sale. Everyone thought it was a great idea. A member who was a teacher at Noelani Elementary School made arrangements for us to hold it in the school cafeteria. The sale was held the following year. With gross receipts of \$4660, we considered the first sale a success and members voted to continue with a garage sale as our fundraiser. After a few years at Noelani, members were becoming so successful at collecting "treasures" from their own households, and those of their friends and neighbors that more space was needed. After researching possible venues, McKinley High School Cafeteria was selected for its size, central location and that it was on more than one bus line. Gross receipts improved dramatically. Since 1990, World Wings Hawaii has donated more than \$110,000 to St. Francis, over three-fourths of which came from the garage sales. The highest grossing sale in chapter history was in 2011 at \$19,657.

This year's sale was the 12th garage sale we've held and probably our last. Many members felt their gimpy knees, sore backs, and tired feet could no longer handle the heavy workload of the 2 day operation. However, all agree that there was a major benefit to our members as well as the funds raised for St. Francis. We all got to know each other better and we certainly enjoyed working together. Many members had never met before except for those who regularly attended our quarterly meetings. Some stewardesses had already left Pan Am before others were hired. Our World Wings chapter is a mini version of Pan Am itself in that it creates a feeling of family pride and loyalty. Even members who were not able to attend regular meetings because of family commitments or jobs would turn out to help with the garage sale.

The photo below was taken early in the morning on February 26th before the sale started. It was



World Wings International—Hawaii Chapter members posed for a photo at the conclusion of the 2017 garage sale fundraiser. *Left to right, Front:* Yoko Cahill, Glori Ino-Strassberg, Vivian Tanaka, Akiko Munro, May Tsukiyama, Sumiko Carroll and Betty Shimogawa. *Middle:* Mae Takahashi, Gloria Uslan-Milo, Joyce Mitsumori, Carol Wong, Rita Degnan, Tony Koo, Sumiko Allegar, Katie Yoshioka, Chapter President Betty Santoki, Aggie von Brimer, Nobi Stienecker, Geri Nakamitsu, Karen Hom*, Nancy Kingman and Mary Emerson. *Back:* Lillian Nishikawa, Carol Nezu, Judy Awakuni, Ilona Benoit*, Diane VanderZanden, Marilyn Boock, Elberta Usui, Ellen Hiromoto, Aileen Sodetani, Secretary Dorcie Sakuma, Maureen Young, Janet Murphy, Merle Miyamoto, Marilyn Doyle, Susan Izumi, Peter Ahlo*, Eileen Yoshino, Eva Kama, Jake Nakamitsu* (Geri's helpful husband), Nikki Ono, Lillian Yoshioka, Lillian Lee*, Frank Radford*, Sharon Sodetani and Treasurer Liz Kearins. Photo courtesy of Nathan Hokama of St. Francis.

(* denotes helpers who are non-member friends or relatives.)

taken by Nathan Hokama of St. Francis. Some members who helped set up the day before were unavailable on the day of the sale and are not shown. I also took photos (below) before the sale began and one during the sale.



▲ From front to back, tables are loaded with home décor items; books, records, CDs, DVDs etc.; toys; children's clothing; adult clothing; and racks of better clothing hanging from racks.



▲ Other tables held linens, household items, women's accessories, and holiday decorations. The International boutique was on the side wall.



▲ Housewares comprised 3 tables and on the back wall was a table of Pan Am memorabilia. A jewelry table was located to the right of the Pan Am display.



▲ Chapter President Betty Santoki gives last minute instructions to members on how the accounting is to be done and how to guide the customers who are ready to check out with their bargains.

During the sale, some customers browse in the book and entertainment department.



PAN AM PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Jack Smith shared an email chat he had with **Richard Taliaferro**, of La Mesa, CA, earlier this month. They keep in touch regularly. On March 18th, Jack wrote to Richard: *In our last few emails, while we were patting ourselves on the back for having attained ages 86 [Jack] and 90 [Richard], we overlooked **Bob Lee**. In the December issue Bob is noted as being 95 and still very active.* Richard replied the next day: *Wow!! Didn't know anyone was older than me. Bob is one of those "good old day" guys to me. If you are in touch, please give him my Aloha. Stay upright and keep moving.* Jack's reply was amusing: *Good old days and good guys. I remember one night I had 5 Lees on the shift; Bob, Louie, Paul, Harold and (try as I might, I cannot remember the 5th one) but I put all of them on ticket counter duty. When passengers were directed from baggage check-in to the ticket counter, i.e. to pay for excess baggage, passport check, etc., they were instructed to ask for Mr. Lee. When they did, all five Lees would respond. . . .* **Sue Corley** did a double take when she was walking in the mauka direction on the right side of Alakea Street downtown and saw two Pan Am posters in a window. The posters were accompanied by a sign proclaiming the site as "Future Home of Pan Am Ticketing Office, Spring 2018". The window was in what looked like an empty storefront. She took the photo on the right and sent it to Corinne Kong who showed it to me. We all wonder who in the world put up the signs.



'Tis a mystery indeed. . . .

Caught in the act! There were many members and guests at the February meeting, mostly because the popular Lee Cataluna was the speaker. It is a big task to take photos for the newsletter so you can imagine my surprise when **Dan DelMonte**, guest of **Kiddy DeCoster**, took the one on the left while I went about the business of taking photos. It looks as if I am trying to coax a reaction from a baby or a pet, eh? This job of taking photos and editing the newsletter is such a terrific one, I am offering it free to the first taker. . . .

In the February issue, I mentioned a book by a Pan Am daughter, titled *Danger Close; My Epic Journey as a Combat Helicopter Pilot in Iraq and Afghanistan*. It was written by **Amber Smith**, daughter of Pan Amers Betsy and Lane Smith. I purchased the book at the local Barnes and Noble bookstore. I did not want to download it on my Kindle since I knew the book had photo sections. Though I do not normally read books of a military type, I found this true account of training and wartime experiences very engaging. I finished it fairly quickly because I couldn't put it down. I highly recommend it. If you plan to order it, I suggest ordering a paper copy rather than an electronic version even if you have a Kindle, Nook or other e-reader.

A PASSENGER'S LEXICON

Most of us who use computers and are "attached" to the airline grapevine, have received a forwarded message with a list of airline terms humorously defined. Most of us probably received it umpteen times—or maybe that is just my experience because I'm associated with this newsletter. In fact, printed copies of "an airline dictionary" were handed around even before the computer age. Later a passenger wrote his own list:

Recently I received an e-list called the Airline Dictionary. Understand: I have great respect for airline employees. They must toil in a stressful, challenging environment, one often shaped by a corporate philosophy and attitude that isn't exactly people friendly. Sitting in a middle seat on a 4-hour flight, pondering the enigma that as Americans have become larger, seat space has become smaller. I decided to write my own version of the Airline Dictionary:

Open-jaw: What clients do when they find out what their full coach fare will be.

Air Fare (math): Unstable number that changes so fast it cannot be measured.

Passenger: Cargo that talks.

Airline Club: Paradise-like kingdom guarded by dragon-like creatures.

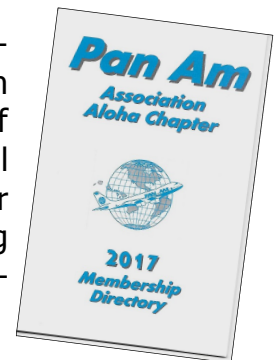
Luggage Carousel: Mechanical device that always turns in a direction opposite to the one you expect.

NO REC: The passenger went online to book his own flight.

Direct Flight: 1) Connecting flight in disguise. 2) What civilians think a non-stop flight is.

ARRIVING SOON . . .

The 2017 Membership Directory has been completed and should soon be arriving in the mailbox of each paid up member. They were printed and posted on the mainland on March 24th, but bulk mail can be slow, especially for those of us living in Hawaii. Since we board members are also on the mailing list, we will keep on top of the shipment. When you receive your copy, please check your entry and let us know if any changes to your information need to be made. A big MAHALO to John Medlock for doing the bulk of the job this year, especially finding a printer we could afford.



Speaking of printers, for some time now we have been using a local printer who handled the job of printing and mailing. It worked well for awhile but the company has been building its clientele. We are now small fish in a big pond and the newsletter has not been sent out in a timely manner. We apologize for this printing snafu to those of you who receive the hard copy of the newsletter, rather than the electronic version. You will probably receive this April issue about the same time you receive the March issue which was sent to the printer a month ago. Regrettably, we are having to research printing companies again.



GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN . . .

We are sad to report the passing of **Henry Bauske** on March 25th at the age of 97. Hank was an early member of the Pan Am Association. He was a skilled mechanic, one of those men who kept our planes in the air, enabling them to build up many hours of flying time. He used to fly his own airplane from his home in Ocean View on the Island of Hawaii to visit friends on Oahu and often attended our luncheon meetings. No services are planned. He will be missed.

NOTES ON THIS AND THAT

The newspaper clipping on the right is from an issue of London's *The Daily Telegraph* in August of 1941. It was reprinted in the Pan Am Association—UK March issue last month. It is a brief but interesting account of how Pan American World Airways played a role in World War II, even before the United States officially entered the war on December 7th. . . . Do the names Blanche Stuart Scott and Bessica Raiche sound familiar to those of you interested in the world of aviation? They were not familiar to me but when my husband and I were watching "Antiques Roadshow" on PBS, a hopeful participant brought in an item that was engraved with Bessica Raiche's name but had no idea who she was. She was told that Raiche was accredited by the Aeronautical Society of America as being the first female to solo an airplane in 1910. However, 10 days earlier Blanche Stuart Scott, who was taking flying lessons from Glenn Curtiss, "accidentally" flew to an altitude of 40 feet and then made a gentle landing. Curtiss had put a "limiter" on the throttle to prevent the plane from gaining enough speed to get air-

borne. Either the limiter moved, or a gust of wind moved it and the plane became airborne. The Early Birds of Aviation credited her with being the first woman in the U.S. to solo a plane. Both women were ahead of their time, especially Raiche, who said, *Blanche deserved the recognition, but I got more attention because of my lifestyle. I drove an automobile, was active in sports like shooting and swimming, and I even wore riding pants and knickers. People who did not know me or understand me looked down on this behavior. I was an accomplished musician, painter and linguist. I enjoyed life and just wanted to be myself.* Raiche was also one of the first women specialists in obstetrics and gynecology in the United States.

MUCH TO DO ABOUT NOTHING

Our retirees who worked in Passenger Service were likely very sympathetic with the United Airlines gate agent who was vilified for denying boarding to two teenagers, traveling on passes, for not being appropriately attired. This happened during the last week of March. A passenger in the gate area who witnessed it, tweeted a negative message about the agent's denying the girls seats. I had read about the incident first in United's daily newsletter, in which they reminded em-

Looking Back to those Dark Days

The Daily Telegraph

and Morning Post

LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1941

U.S. TO FERRY 'PLANES TO MIDDLE EAST

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT, WASHINGTON, Monday

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT announced today that the delivery of fighting 'planes direct to British forces in the Middle East would be speeded up by a ferry system to be conducted by Pan-American Airways.

Government-owned machines operated by American personnel will be used and their route will not traverse the zone of actual warfare.

Under the agreement, said Mr Roosevelt, Pan-American Airways were setting up at once an aerial transport service from West Africa to the Middle East, and plans were in hand for a transatlantic service to connect the US with the new airline.

The new system, said the President, would "provide a direct and speedy delivery of aircraft from the arsenal of democracy to the critical point in the front against aggression.

"The importance of this direct line of communication with strategic outposts in Africa cannot be overestimated."

He said that the ferrying route would be available for general commercial use, "providing a direct air service from New York and Baltimore to Africa".

The service is regarded in many quarters here as one of the first definite results of the President's meeting with Mr Churchill.

It is suggested that the route may start from British Guiana, which lies off the South American coast and is the site of one of the bases leased to the United States. Another possibility would be Trinidad.

ployees to check the policy on how pass riders should dress. An hour later, I was surprised to see the incident, which took place in Minneapolis-St.Paul, reported on our local Hawaii news. The bad press for United certainly went viral, as they say. (When you think about it, "viral" is a good term for the exploding message as it infects so many as it travels to every corner of the earth.)

I later learned the woman who sent the tweet is the founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and has a huge following. No wonder her complaint went viral so fast! According to a United source, in spite of understanding the teenagers were on passes, she still feels that United's policies are sexist and show no respect for women.

I look back on that wonderful perk of free and reduced travel as such a gift, I had no problem following the rules that went with it. It occurs to me that some of you may have some interesting stories about your experiences while using passes. In fact, most of you do. Pass travel is something with which we can all identify. Such a topic could be very interesting. Send in your stories.

2017 Schedule

- **April 25**—General Member Meeting
- May 23—Board Meeting Only
- **June 27**—General Member Meeting
- July 25—Board Meeting Only
- **August 22**—General Member Meeting
- September 26—Board Meeting Only
- **October 24**—Annual Member Meeting
- November 28—Board Meeting Only
- **December 3**—Annual Gala at the Hale Koa Hotel.

Luncheon Meeting Reservation

Next Meeting—April 25, 2017

Waialae Country Club

4997 Kahala Avenue

11:00 Social hour, 11:30 Lunch

\$28.00 per person (Includes tip and Parking)

Please try to make your reservation a minimum of 3 or 4 days in advance.

Member Name _____ \$28.00

Guest Name _____ 28.00

Total _____

Makes checks payable to PAA and send to:
Carol Suyderhoud, 7503 Maka'a Street, Honolulu, HI 96825-3127

If transportation is required, call Carol at 396-5225 or contact her by e-mail at:
carolws@hawaii.rr.com.

NOTE: If you received this newsletter electronically and would like to attend the meeting, print this page or enclose a note with your check, stating what and who the check is for.

PAA Hawaii Aloha Chapter Officers

Darlene Carver Laster	President & Chapter Chair	Darleelas@aol.com	394-8981
Ed Gencarelli	Vice President	edgen76@gmail.com	254-4576
John Medlock	Treasurer/Membership	johnmiii@earthlink.net	664-0586
Owen Oshima	Secretary	owenoshima007@aol.com	741-6936
Al Chun	Annual Gala Coordinator	alhwchun@gmail.com	395-0525
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Diane VanderZanden	Editor, <i>Aloha Clipper</i>	alohadvz@gmail.com	396-5293
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Eva Miyahara Kama	Director		988-4161

Newsletter Items:

If you have any news item that would be of interest, please call Diane VanderZanden at 396-5293 or send mail to 500 Lunalilo Home Road, #26-D, Honolulu, HI 96825-1734 or by e-mail: alohadvz@gmail.com.

Members, we encourage you to print this page and give the application below to your Pan Am friends who are not members. If you are a former employee and not a member of the Aloha Chapter of the Pan Am Association, we encourage you to complete and submit the application below and help keep our association healthy. Thank you.

PAN AM ASSOCIATION—ALOHA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check all applicable boxes and complete all applicable lines.

- Renewal New Member
- Retiree—Pan Am retiree who received lump sum pension or is receiving PBGC checks.
- Associate—All other former Pan Am employees
- Ohana—Surviving spouse, child or relative of above; sponsored person with close connection to Pan Am (subject to BOD approval).

PRINT CLEARLY PLEASE

Date: _____

Name: _____ **Spouse:** _____

Last First

Address: _____

Street Apt # City State ZIP code

Home Phone: _____ **Cellphone:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Would you like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, which is in color? Yes _____ No _____

Retiree/Associate: Dept: _____ **PAA Service:** _____ **Receiving Pension?** _____

of years worked Yes or No

Ohana: Pls. state category & PAA sponsor (See above): _____

The association directory is published every two years and is distributed to **MEMBERS ONLY.**

Do you wish to be listed in the directory? Yes No

May we publish your phone number/E-mail address? Yes No

Annual Membership: \$ 30 US Residents \$ 35 Overseas residents

Lifetime Membership: \$150 US Residents \$175 Overseas residents

Please make check payable to **PAA** (Pan Am Association) and send with this application to:

John Medlock, 411 Kaelepu Drive, APT F, Kailua, HI 96734-3309