

# Oakland World Wings Chapter July 2021

## Newsletter from President Louise Diracles

There will be no zoom meeting for July.

Sonja Vukasin is inviting all fully vaccinated Oakland World Wings members to her home on Monday, July 12th from 11:30 to 2:30.

This will be our first in-person event in over a year!!!

Please RSVP to Liv Milan and let her know what you'd like to bring for a shared lunch:

[livmilan@gmail.com](mailto:livmilan@gmail.com) or 925-451-8551

Our chapter treasury will buy bubbly and O.J. so no need to bring drinks.

LIV: Paper goods, Champagne, Orange Juice, ice tea and lemonade.

Dorothy: Finger Sandwiches

Sally A: Dessert

Louise: Cupcakes

Stanley: Crackers and Dip

Netty: Sandwiches

Marilyn Kaplan: fruit salad

Ingrid: fruit salad

Anne: salad

Lucy: spinach salad

Phelps: carrot cake

Nancy K.: hors d'oeuvres

Hetta: salad

Else and her husband: ?s



Genie Pratt is proposing an excursion to the Van Gogh exhibit in San Jose with lunch following.

Please welcome our new associate member from the SFO chapter:  
Charlotte Lingo

I'm saddened to report the passing of Sally Ward's husband, Chet on Memorial Day of this year. Sally's book, *On Call at the White House, the diary of a White House Physician's Wife* describes Sally and Chet's time when Chet was the doctor to the Presidents.

Our June noon Zoom meeting was again hosted by Emilia de Geer; thank you! Members present: Emilia de Geer, Louise Diracles, Else Welsh, Pamela Feack, Gloria Reid, Liz Turlington, Sonja Vukasin, Ingrid Templeton, Phelps Euler, Lucy Hart, and Doris Person. In attendance but not pictured here: Geni Pratt and Anne Tompkins.



Louise thanked Emilia for the zooming. She solicited ideas for JetWings. She announced the luncheon at Sonja's on Mon., July 12<sup>th</sup>. RSVP to Liv. You may wish to bring a hat. Liz and Ingrid shared fun stories about using Alexa. Emilia is still taking French and is loving going out to restaurants now that things are opening up again. Else's husband is getting better and may join us on July 12<sup>th</sup>. She is unsure about her annual trip to Norway as she thinks that there is still a 2-week quarantine required. Else is awaiting her interview to have dual citizenship. Her mom is 101 years old.

Pamela Feack said she'd cook a Friendly Manor meal for us but needs a host house: Lucy, Else and Marilyn may be hosts. Pamela took the train to Sacramento to see her niece, have a high school reunion and go to a memorial service. She noted that the homeless may be allowed to return to a Friendly Manor in July. She will need helpers. Pamela is cooking for 27 Marin WW ladies at Susan Berlin's home. Genie Pratt is still teaching Child Development and diversity in Clovis but may be retiring next year. Her future trips may include: Great Britain, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Savannah, Egypt, Jordan and Israel. Gloria Reid is in Tahoe in the home she bought in the 70's. She kayaks from the shared beach on the lake. Liz Turlington has two granddaughters graduating from college. Liz took a trip to Mexico City and went to the pyramids.

Sonja Vukasin is looking forward to welcoming us to her home on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. She bought her home in Alamo from Rick Berry and still has some of his furniture. She no longer has the giant coffee urn. She is whittling down her possessions. Sonja went to Dallas for a grand's graduation. In Sept. Ingrid Templeton will have flown 55 years. She loved reminiscing with Doris Person about their 2021 New Year's celebration together in Frankfort. Ingrid is performing in Rossmoor on June 18<sup>th</sup> with the ceramics group and will be on Rossmoor TV. She loves doing hula and playing the ukulele. Phelps Euler announced that he is vaccinated! Jane Euler's mom will be 108 years old on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Sally Ward's husband Chet passed away on May 31, 2021. Phelps has read Sally's new book, *On Call at the White House*. Chet was the White House doctor under Nixon and Ford. Lucy Hart will go on the Convention Cruise in October. Lucy will extend her trip to an East Coast Tour. She suggested a lunch versus dinner at her home for the Friendly Manor event. Doris Person is still flying for UAL and she got her first social security check. She may retire after another two years when she'll reach the 50-year flying mark. Doris flies the Sydney trips where there are only 50 passengers maximum. There is still a two week quarantine. There is still a negative Covid test required upon re-entering the US. UAL is offering incentives to get vaccinated. When she retires she hopes to divide her time between the US and Nigeria. She has dual citizenship. Anne Tompkins last grandson graduated from

high school last week - off to UCSD in the fall. She's just glad to be mostly free of her mask. She's going to have a mask burning (and lunch) with 4 high school friends next week.

See you at Sonja's.

**Marianne Greene sent these fabulous stories for you to enjoy. I will forward them to Galley Talks for Jet Wings.**

I have some fun memories from my flights too but I don't think they are worth sharing. I also worked couple of years at Pan Clipper Club in Los Angeles and had some great times there too.

On a flight from LA to London we had **Marlon Brando** on the flight. He had a young woman with him and she had to put her hand out as his ash tray also he never gave me his first course plate but told me he will clean it and licked his finger and cleaned the plate. His hair looked dirty and he wore boots with very high heeled shoes because he was short. He asked me to join him in his hotel and would have a car pick me up. I did not go!

On another flight to London **Sammy Davis** was on board with his tight leather pants. He insisted on a scotch and coke. I told him that our scotch was too good to mix with coke. He told me Marianne that's how I drink scotch please.



On a flight when I was a purser **Jerry Lewis** boarded with a young boy toy. He was so funny and asked me to let him do the announcement and give him the speaker phone. I broke all the rules and the passengers loved it and we had a flight full of laughter. We had a really bad weather experience flying over Africa when I was a purser. The worst thunderstorms and in the middle of our food service we suddenly dropped 100s of feet with NO warning from the cockpit. We had food all over and people in the bathrooms and dozens hurt. I was next to the galley and grabbed the railing and my body flew up but I wasn't hurt. Later we landed in Laos and ambulances arrived and the crew only had bruises. I was so tired but after my bathroom trip in the middle of the night I could not sleep since my bathroom had a spider as big as my shoe and I was sure it was a scorpion.

Another close emergency when I was a purser landing in Hong Kong. Weather was bad and it was pitch dark. We were coming into one of the worst Airports for safety in the world. The captain calls me in and said I had to prepare for an emergency landing. We were planning on doing a belly landing. The landing gears were not coming down. He made the announcement and we started to prepare for an emergency landing. One of my scariest times flying but just before landing I heard them come down. The crew had a few drinks at the hotel after and for a change paid by the captain.

I flew many R&Rs too and at one point we just landed and rushed the guys on and were shot at on takeoff but luckily, we made it with no bigger disaster just a few bullet marks on our beautiful plane.

At the Clipper Club in Los Angeles I had famous people all the time. **William Holden** was a favorite. He helped me serve drinks since I was so busy that day checking people in and out. He spent a long time with me and told me that he had been on the wagon for 5 years and felt so good and had no problems serving drinks because he was never going back to the old him. He also shared some of his love stories. I really liked him and we had such a good time.



Super bowl Sunday, in walked **Michael Douglas and Jack Nicholson**. They were on their way around the world to promote China Town and wanted to watch the game before their flight. We had a big beautiful Den/TV room with comfortable couches and tables. They stayed and watched most of the game with many drinks and good appetizers. The Club was slow so I sat down and watched some of the game with them. Jack and I had such a good time and I have to say that I don't think he is as good of an actor as everybody else. He is as crazy as most of the roles he played. One eye is a tiny bit off but his laugh is hilarious and he is so funny. I like that guy and he Loved Pan Am!

So many more stories but these are the ones I remember well.  
Marianne Greene

### From Ingrid Templeton and Nancy Kallus:

On June 8, 1969 President Richard Nixon met with South Vietnamese President Nuygen Van Thieu at Midway to discuss the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam. Six stewardesses had been chosen to work the Presidential Charter including us, Ingrid Sandstrom Templeton and Nancy Warner Kallus.

As we boarded the flight in Guam it looked strange to see the Vietnamese flag flying alongside the U.S. flag as we boarded the 707. Ingrid worked in the economy section with the press. Nancy worked first class where President Thieu and his entourage relaxed. After drinks were served the entire plane ate a seven-course first class meal. Most chose prime rib which was carved on the cart. Of course, the glasses were etched and the plates and silverware were gold-plated with the president's name and seal. President Thieu made sure that our Vietnamese stewardess didn't get near first class to overhear his conversations as she would understand him. They were perfectly safe with Nancy.



As we approached Midway, a very small island in the mid-Pacific, the navigator prayed that his calculations were correct. They were. We had to circle for President Nixon to land first. After stairs were brought up to our plane, President Nixon came over to shake hands with President Thieu. Some of the crew listened to the president's discussion but Ingrid and I, having put our bikinis on under our uniforms, accepted a proffered limo ride to the beach. There we relaxed and watched the awkward Gooney birds.

Gooney birds, a type of albatross, are unique to Midway Island. They are extremely awkward in their landings which amused us. Though the battle of Midway is known to be the turning point in World War II, a statue of a Gooney bird is there instead.



Hours later, after too much sun at the beach we were invited to tour Air Force One as the presidents were still conferring. After flying President Thieu back to Tan Son Nhut Airport in Saigon we ferried the plane back to Guam where we began the day.

Ingrid Templeton and Nancy Kallus



## **TROPICAL DREAMS!**

### **World Wings 51st Annual Convention**

The World Wings Convention Cruise in the Caribbean:

<https://worldwingsinternational.net/cruise2021/>

**October 29 – November 7, 2022** Next year's convention is a 12 day cruise from Boston via St. Lawrence waterway to Quebec from October 3rd to 15th, 2022. This includes a day and a half in Quebec before returning to Boston. Be ready to jump on this as reservations are limited.

Then in 2023 reservations have been made from October 27th to 31st in Scottsdale, Arizona at McCormick Ranch with before and after trips to Sedona and Grand Canyon.

Please send me YOUR Pan Am stories; we love to read them. [louisediracles@comcast.net](mailto:louisediracles@comcast.net)

Stay safe; be well and see you at Sonja Vukasin's house on July 12<sup>th</sup>!!!  
RSVP to Liv: [livmilan@gmail.com](mailto:livmilan@gmail.com) or 925-451-8551

Louise Diracles, I'm finally a grandma

