

Oakland World Wings Chapter June 2021  
Newsletter from President Louise Diracles



**Don't miss the OAK WW zoom meeting:  
On Monday, June 7, 2021 at noon.  
Oakland Chapter Meeting**

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:

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

\$50 dues to World Wings Int'l. were due May 1, 2021. **Unless** you bought a multi-year membership or have sent in your dues, please send your \$50 check made out to World Wings Int'l. to:

Liv Milan

4876 Waterbury Way

Granite Bay, CA 95746

New dues have been received as of 5/25/21, by Liv for:

Phelps Euler, Ulla Ekman, Marilyn Grega, Nancy Kallus, Sylvia Ortlieb, Patricia Otten, Mary Powell, Setsuko Takenobu, Sonja Vukasin, Sally Ward, and Angela Young, Associates: Pamela Feack and Janet Friedman

Thank you to those who had already renewed their WW membership as of 4/28/21: Sally Andersen, Stan Anderson, Laurie Barton, Nonna Cheatham, Sandy Clarke, Demilia DeGeer, Louise Diracles, Linda Duffey, Sherry Dunn, Kay Gilson, Marianne Greene, Lucy Hart, Marilyn Kaplan, Diana Kennedy, Netty Kilgour, Hetta Malone, Julie McNair, Liv Milan, Caren Nelson, Doris

Person, Genie Pratt, Susan Proescher, Gloria Reid, Linda Rineck, Solveig Sandell, Carrie Sherring, Ingrid Timpleton, Anne Tompkins, Francisca Trevino, Liz Turlington, Margo Van der Capellan, Else Welsh, and Jennie Young

Suzy Proescher is moving to the low country of South Carolina. Her son Morgan is in North Carolina and her son Toby is in Walnut Creek so hopefully we'll see her often when she goes back and forth.

Don't miss Ingrid Templeton's experience while she was 3 months pregnant flying the Vietnam baby lifts in *Come Fly the World* by Julia Cooke.

Report from Pam Feack about our charity A Friendly Manor:

I delivered food to the Friendly Manor May 26th and was told that they may open to the public in June or July. I will be increasing the amount of food accordingly. I will need my helpers back so Else and Hetta be prepared! My offer still stands to serve our Oakland Chapter the entire meal I prepare for the Friendly manor at a monthly gathering. I do need to borrow a house to serve it in however! I look forward to getting back to a semblance of normalcy and feeding the ones who need it the most. Thank you,  
Pam Feack



For those of you like me who flew the R & R's in/out of Vietnam:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/magazine/2020/05/13/during-vietnam-war-women-who-served-special-pan-am-flights-flew-into-war-zone-transport-soldiers-why-has-their-role-been-forgotten/>

Here's my story:



Louise Diracles was a Pan Am stewardess from 1967-1973. She flew R & R's in and out of Saigon, Cameron Bay, and Da Nang in Vietnam. She would always ask to sit in the cockpit on landing which was frequently at night. She could see mortars going off like fireworks. It was a frightening time; Pan Am planes often had bullet holes in them; you had to volunteer for these flights; all Pan Am stewardesses got prisoner of war cards in case we were captured. Stewardesses flew the military to their two-week R & R vacations in places like Australia, Hawaii, Guam etc. It was so much fun going out of Vietnam; it was always a party. The guys were the BEST passengers ever. We'd get on the loud speaker and say, "Boys, it would really help us if you could crush your milk cartons so we could stow the trays more easily." You should have heard the bang, bang, bang of those milk cartons being smashed!

Now, on the return trips back into Vietnam, the mood was somber.

One soldier gave Louise his stuffed koala bear. She tried to refuse; he said it would just get moldy in his locker. She treasures that gift and wonders if that soldier made it back to the USA.

Although Louise Diracles didn't participate in the evacuation after the fall of Saigon, her colleagues commented about it: there were people holding up their babies over the fence begging the stewardesses to take their babies on the plane; there were many more than the plane's capacity; babies were put in the overhead compartments for take-off and landing; babies were strapped to the stewardesses; the local money (piasters) were collected in a

pillow case and given to the men with machine guns on the tarmac who then let more people on the plane; it was the most terrifying and yet most gratifying time.

If you missed it, click below to see Pan Am Reads interviews:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYLcZur9uc4>

The World Wings Convention Cruise in the Caribbean:

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

## **TROPICAL DREAMS!**

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

**October 29 – November 7, 2021**

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.

Stay safe; be well,  
Louise Diracles

From the Desk of International President Nancy Gillespie:

It's great to hear that many chapters are once again gathering in person for meetings and functions. From what I hear, and at no surprise, our members are thrilled to see one another again, and while doing so, be sure to incorporate a Pan Am goodie from David Jeffery Designs into your outfit - you'll be supporting WWI!

In this email:

- **MSF - WWI Virtual Meeting**
- **MSF - ALERT Magazine**
- **New DJD PAA Designs**
- **JET WINGS 2021 Summer/Fall Issue Deadline**
- **InterContinental Hotels 75th Anniversary**
- **"Tropical Dreams" Roommate Needed**
- **OF NOTE**

**MSF** - Save the date! Our next exclusive MSF - WWI virtual meeting will take place on Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 PM EDT. Mark your calendars now and watch for complete connection information close to the meeting date.

**MSF - ALERT Magazine** - See the article about WWI in their latest issue: [https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/sites/default/files/documents/MSF Spring 2021 Alert web.pdf](https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/sites/default/files/documents/MSF_Spring_2021_Alert_web.pdf)

**DAVID JEFFERY DESIGNS** - In less than a year, DJD has given WWI **\$8,000.00** to pass along to MSF in the name of WWI! David & Jeff have a few fabulous new PAA items certain to evoke pleasing memories. Many of you are responsible for this amazing bottom line contribution - probably the simplest fundraiser we've ever done and *all you have to do is shop!* See the attached flyer and visit their website for full details:

<https://davidjefferydesigns.com/collections/pan-am-brands>

**JET WINGS** - Submission deadline is **15 June** for our 2021 Summer/Fall issue. Guidelines:

- Email your chapter report to JW Editor Leslie Manning. You may also email her with questions or concerns.
- Limit articles to Chapter activities that took place within the time frame just prior to each edition's deadline meaning January - June for the Summer/Fall issue.
- Include photos & names
- If you haven't had much activity in the past 6 months, write about something memorable or feature a specific member or two
- Leslie will respond to you with confirmation of receipt in a reasonable amount of time - she still works full time.
- If you have a designated chapter author, please pass this along to them

**INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS 75TH ANNIVERSARY** - Do you have a special memory of being a guest at an IHG hotel? Great service, superb location, delicious cuisine, a wonderful event, etc., is what they're

anxious to hear about. If so, please email me with your story and hopefully a photo. IHG is looking to include Pan Am people in their year long celebrations.

**ROOMMATE NEEDED** - We have a female member who has registered for the "Tropical Dreams" cruise in October who needs a roommate. She has booked a beautiful Veranda cabin - here's your chance to join us for a fun & sun filled wonderful 9 night cruise! Act quickly and please email Monique Rounsavelle for further information.

**OF NOTE** - Did you drag your feet about our 2021 cruise? If so, we will do our best to secure the same lower WWI rate yet all-inclusive pricing for you. Email Monique at the link above to inquire. View our Convention web page at this link: <https://worldwingsinternational.net/cruise2021/>

Thank you for sharing this news with your chapter members.

Be well,

***Nancy***

Nancy Gillespie McAllister  
President  
World Wings International, Inc.  
[worldwingsinternational.net](https://worldwingsinternational.net)