



NEWSLETTER FOR THE TALOA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MAY 2015

Send photos & letters to: Jeane Kennedy Toynbee, Editor PO Box 243, Copperopolis CA 95228
Or email to: jeanenbob@caltel.com To have items returned, include a note along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope

Hi Jeane, Waaaaah -- they left me off the life time members list again.

Regards, David McQueen

I'm so sorry, Dave. That "they" you wrote is me! I've made changes to our website member's list to include your name as a Lifetime member.



I've also included your name on the list that appears for the Feb 2015 online Newsletter. I've gone into my Excel file to try to figure out what's happening and correct the situation - still working on that. I apologize and thank you very much for letting me know of my error.

My goals are not only to keep the memory of Transocean Air Lines alive through another generation, but to do it with accuracy. So if anyone has any additions or corrections to send in, I would very much appreciate receiving that information.

Also, it is because of our members that we are able to financially continue to publish newsletters and maintain Transocean's online website www.taloe.org. So, thank you! Regards, Jeane

My daughter has been an avid fan of Transocean since she was a child and made many trips to the airport with her dad who worked for AEMCO and Transocean for thirteen years until the airline "folded wings". She has always wanted to be a TALOA Kid, so sign her up! Here's hoping you have a card, certificate, or something to indicate she's a member to go along with her birthday card. Name is - Mary Kay Whitaker Zainab. Thanks and best wishes, Janet Whitaker

Welcome aboard Mary Kay!

You join an elite group of 19 TALOA Kids who honor their folks and keep the memory of their great accomplishments alive by becoming a Lifetime Member of the TALOA Alumni Association.



Thanks for sharing all this wonderful information, and including me in your mailing list. I lived in the Trust Territory of the Pacific as a child with my parents, in the 1960s.

Nowadays I build models of airplanes that flew in the Trust Territory, and most recently I've completed some models of TALOA's PBYs. I attach a few pictures of my models for your amusement. Feel free to share them with your readers if you like. I'd be glad to hear from anyone who remembers that time and place. Especially now, as I live in Massachusetts and it's 20 degrees and snowing today! Best regards, Jonathan Clapp



I served in the Royal Air force at RAF Amman in Jordan 1952/53 in the Control Tower on approach Control. Transocean were operating DC47/DC3's as Air Jordan. The Pilots were Captain Waterman, Soha and a young man called Oscar Hauber? Would like to have any

information on them you have. Waterman could land on a sixpence! Regards, V C Miles, Air traffic control, RAF, Amman, Jordan, 1952/53.

Hi Mr. Miles, I checked our alumni roster going back to 2007 and unfortunately did not find either Waterman, Soha or Hauber. Perhaps one of our readers has some information to share. So...please stand by.

Someone an issue or back asked if anyone knew who had flown a plane in the Ernie Gann movie "Island In The Sky" (IS THAT THE ONE?). I was thinking that Bill (?) Tiemann might have told me about being one of those pilots. He would have been a DC-3 copilot there; I flew copilot for him on a DC-4. [Erik Moberg](#)

Jeane: Explain this...Every time I think "Gee, it's been quite a while since I 'devoured' my last TALOA newsletter"...literally, within a day or two, it pops up on our computer. 🌈 Oh, HAPPY DAY. It's a beautiful sunny January day in Seattle, and if it's possible, your kindness makes today even sunnier. 😎 Jeane, perhaps most meaningful... Always keep in your heart the knowledge and acceptance that your devotion to TALOA

warms so many heartstrings. 😊 Je suis CHARLIE.

[Norm Wherrett](#). P.S. I'd love more B-377 stories and photos in future newsletters. As a 12-year old, we flew LAX-HNL [United] Redmond, WA and LON-BOS [PAA] aboard those prop-buster, engine-shedders. But, oh how PAX loved that lower lounge!

Dear Norm, Your note AND EMOTICONS have made my day! That should keep me going for a few more editions! Sincerely, Jeane

I enjoy the newsletters and thank you for your efforts to keep it going. In case you have not been informed, I want to let you know that [Rita Lang](#) passed away about a month ago. She lived across the hall from me. We saw each other daily.

I have moved to an assisted living place in San Ramon. New address: Villa San Ramon, 9199 Fircrest Lane #235, San Ramon CA 94583. My phone number is the same: (925) 899-0287. I also noted that I was omitted from the list of members.

In answer to Bruce Orriss' question [Feb 2015 issue] regarding the *Island In The Sky* film: [Bill \[Keating\]](#) flew for both *Island In The Sky* and *The High & The Mighty*. [Bill Benge](#) flew with Bill in the filming of *The High & The Mighty* but I am not sure he flew in *Island In*

The Sky. My son has Bill's logbooks and showed I will try to find it.

Thanks again for all you do. Fondly, Billie Keating.

Dear Billie, Thanks for providing some more information. We are anxious to see what further can be gleaned from Bill's logbooks! I've found my father's (Capt. Frank Kennedy's) logbooks to be a great source of information as well as insight as to what was going on at the time. We also appreciate you letting us know about Rita Lang. Was there an obituary that we might share with the TALOA family? And thanks for letting me know we've made an error and not included you on our members list. Corrections have been made! Sincerely, Jeane

Jeane: Nice to see the photo of N9941F in last August's newsletter. This aircraft along with N9940F were bought from Canadian Pacific Airlines in April 1954, used by TALOA until January 1955 when they were leased to Iran Air. In the first half of 1956 they returned to the US as your father [[Capt. Frank Kennedy](#)] flew both of them on Trans-Pacific operations. Both returned to Iran, not sure when, and in February 1958 were sold to Iran Air. Thus, their operational time with



TALOA was relatively brief, so photos of either are good to see. Thanks, John M Davis, Wichita, KS

Thanks so much, John, for your contributions to the newsletter! Here's the photo of N9941F that you very graciously provided us with additional information...

My father, **Ray Babb**, was a Flight Engineer with Transocean. I still have one of his TALOA window stickers, but I was wondering? Does the association have any TALOA patches? If not, how could I receive permission to make one from my decal? Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. All the best, John Babb

Hi John, Since Transocean Air Lines no longer exists as a company, you are free to make the TALOA patch. I think its a great idea and would look spectacular on a jacket! Now that I think about it, MAKE ONE FOR ME TOO! Sincerely, Jeane Kennedy Toynebee (Capt. Frank Kennedy's daughter) Chairman of the Board, TALOA Alumni Association

I am doing research about my parents immigrating from Germany in September of 1949. They flew over on or about 09/20/1949 although I have no information regarding which airline or flight it was. My mother was pregnant at the time. Are there passenger lists available to check exact details of their flight and arrival. Also would a passenger list specify their next destination i.e. sponsors name and location? The one outstanding recollection my mother had was that an engine failed and they were flying in on one engine. I assume they flew into New York. Thank you for any information you can provide. Best regards, George Kuzichev

Readers: ancestry.com is one of the resources we use. Has anyone had success with another source? Please write/email and let us know.

Thank you for the tribute to my dad, Eddie Robeson! [TALOA Alumni Newsletter February 2015] Great choice of pictures, by the way! Kathy Robeson Fischer

And then there's more to the story...

A little more information on the crash that injured Orvis in Cameroon. The accident was on October 11, 1966 – or possibly early the following day. The aircraft was a Canadair DC-4M2 North Star – this was a pressurized and re-engined DC-4 built under license in Canada. The aircraft owner/pilot was H A Wharton, and it was said that the aircraft was operated by Silver Lake Airways, a company for which no record exists. The aircraft left Rotterdam (not Brussels) before refueling in

Italy, with tail marks I-ACOA; a registration not issued by Italian authorities. As well as being lost and out of fuel, the aircraft was 3,000 lbs overweight.

Hope that is of use and/or interest. Best wishes,
John M Davis

Letters to our Treasurer, Pat Stachon Kearns...



Here are the dues for '13 through '15. I had surgery this February so I know I owe this much. Sorry the writing is so bad - the years are getting to me. Here is my new address: 1174 Los Altos Ave #141, Los Altos CA 94022. Cheers, **John A. Wilhalm**

Dear Pat, I don't remember the last time I sent my membership fee. I really enjoy the newsletter. It brings back great memories. I appreciate everyone who keeps it going. Sincerely, **Gail Norris Fisher**

Please find bank cheque enclosed for the amount of USD \$100.00 being payment for Life Membership of TALOA Alumni Association. Let's hope I live for a reasonable period so that I may continue to enjoy the newsletter. Capt. G. Ogg, Cathay Pacific

Dear Pat, I know my dues are always late - but this is ridiculous - I even wrote a new check since the one I wrote in January looks so old. Anyway, I always think I will write a nice long letter with it, telling you and Jeane how much I enjoy the newsletter and how I look forward to them - I've saved every one from the beginning and still marvel that they can be so newsworthy from a company that hasn't been active since the 1950's. I know that is by your efforts and it is remarkable! See...I didn't write that nice, long letter or this check would not get to you until Labor Day! **Sherry Parker**

Joseph A. Stachon

Old pilots never die, they just go on to a new plane.

Joe Stachon passed away peacefully at his home in Napa on February 28, 2015 at the age of 97. Joe was a man of many talents: pilot, philosopher, inventor, and proud member of the Greatest Generation.

Joe was born in Chicago in 1917, one of eight children. He spent his childhood in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. He attended Valparaiso University and discovered a love of flying which would shape his life.

He was selected for flight training with Pan American in 1941. On December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor was attacked and the following day Joe enlisted in the



Army Air Corps. He spent WWII flying transport aircraft in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Following his discharge in 1946, he took a job with a new airline called Transocean. The early days of commercial aviation were not for the faint of heart....every flight was an adventure, and Joe had his share. He flew gold bullion from Siam (Thailand) to Ft. Knox, holocaust survivors from Europe to the United States, British war brides and their children to America, and



vacationers to Hawaii. He always said his time with Transocean was the most interesting of his career. After ten years with Transocean, he went with Japan Air Lines, flying one leg on JAL's inaugural flight. Joe retired from flying after 25 years with JAL.

Joe is survived by daughters Pat Kearns (Bo) of Sonoma, Janet Farmer (Dan) of Los Altos, Kathy Stachon of Mesquite, NV, and son Rick Stachon (Kathy) of Des Moines, Iowa; and

grandchildren Tamsin Kearns, Alex and Austin Farmer, and Zach, Caitlin, and Elizabeth Stachon. His wife Bettie predeceased him in 2003.

In lieu of cards or memorial gifts, Joe's family hopes you will pour a glass of fine Napa Valley wine and toast a life well lived.

High Flight

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split cloud, and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.*

*Up, up, the long delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark or even eagle flew-
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God*

John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

A TALOA Kid Remembers...

by Jeane Kennedy Toynbee

(Capt. Frank Kennedy's daughter)

The year was 1952, we lived on Galt St, San Lorenzo, near Oakland Airport. Many weekends our family of 4 would go down to the airport and see if there were seats available on the Honolulu flight. Transocean always maintained rooms at the Edgewater Hotel on Waikiki Beach where we loved to go swimming. So spending the weekend in Hawaii was a pretty easy and often occurrence for our family.

1952 was also the year I started Kindergarten. Excited to participate in "show & tell", my hand shot up when Monday morning the teacher asked our class, "What did everyone do this weekend?" I stood up and told everyone that I had gone to Hawaii swimming for the weekend. I remember spending the next hour facing the wall in the corner of the classroom for telling such an obviously outrageous whopper.

Now it just so happened that, while in Hawaii on this weekend in question, I had bought a postcard and mailed it to my teacher. She received it a couple of days later and I remember her apologizing to me.

But now, many years later, the story has an additional meaning to me. I now realize what a fantastic life we had growing up in the TALOA family and getting to experience far-away places that other's couldn't even imagine as being true.

TALOA Alumni Association Membership

2015 Members: Arthur & Joanne Buckelew, John M Davis, Gail & Edward Fisher, John Foster, Bill Gower, Harold Green, Elizabeth Lambert Kearins, John & Gloria Lannom, Erik Moberg, Sherry Waterman Parker, Rodney Stich, John Willhalm, Robert V. Withrow

Lifetime: Barbara Allardyce, Betty Bountis Anderson, Val G. Barrett, Val Bednekoff, Augie Blasquez, Bill Broussard, Chiseko Chapin, Claudia Turner Cook, Verna Cravens, Terry Mantz Dalessandro, Joseph & Susan Delazerda, Billie Downing, Martha-Jane Ekstrand, Janet T. Farmer, Mike A. Gambino, Bob Glattly, Donal Goggin, Francis R. Grinnon, Oscar Grohs, Robert & Doris Ann Harder, John M Kearins, Pat Stachon Kearns, Billie Keating, Jeane Kennedy, Ed & Gun Landwehr, Lorraine Landwehr, Sharon Minson Linford, Gene Longo, Miles D Mackey, David McQueen, Florence Morjig, Capt. Gary Ogg, Ralph & Eileen Padilla, Gordon Palmquist, Richard & Ruth Price, Dr. Charles Quarles, Dr. David & Catalina Quintero, Mary Richter, Charles W. & Tokuko Smith, Rick Stachon, Richard & Jean Stuber, Arue Szura, Elaine Yuen & Carl Timm, Sam Vail, Holly Nelson & Dick Veale, Richard & Margaret Werling, Janet Whitaker, Ron Winiker

Taloe Kids: Claudia Turner Cook, , Kathy Kennedy, Sam Vail, Rick Stachon, Tamsin Kearns, Jeane Kennedy Toynbee, Janet Stachon Farmer, Judy Grohs Cubillo, Betty Bountis Anderson, John M Kearins, Pat Stachon Kearns, Jeff Ward, Catalina Aguilar Quintero, Jane Bountis Berthet, Virginia Dewey Hager, Holly Nelson Veale, Doug Rogers, Sharon Minson Linford, Linda Bountis, Mary Kay Whitaker Zainab



Above: Me at the Aloha Tower, Honolulu

Below: My sister Pat, my dad Capt. Frank Kennedy, & me at the very windy Punch Bowl overlooking Honolulu.



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Jeane Kennedy Toynbee, Editor
PO Box 243, Copperopolis CA 95228



Postage

Here

ADDRESS

CORRECTION

REQUESTED