



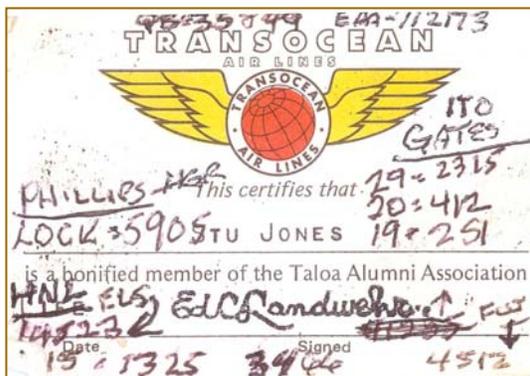
Send photos & letters to: Jeane Kennedy Toynbee, Editor  
PO Box 243  
Copperopolis, CA 95228  
Or email to: [jeanenbob@caltel.com](mailto:jeanenbob@caltel.com) If you'd like items returned, include a note along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope

### Submitted to [www.Taloo.org...](http://www.Taloo.org...)

I started off with TALOA in OAK at hanger 28, then went to Wake/Guam, then back to the engine overhaul shop at OAK as an inspector. I got tired of busting my knuckles so I started flying, not with TALOA though. I delivered a DC-7 to Orvis in Copenhagen in 1963 (Ed Landwehr was there then) after flying with several non-skeds, I spent my final 29 yrs with JAL, the last 22 yrs as a 747 Capt. I wasn't aware the association was still going on, must be mostly children/grand children of members. I hope I can make the next reunion. It's been several yrs since my last one. Please advise date/location of the next reunion. I am now back in Calif (Rio Vista). Best...[Val Barrett](#)



Aloha, Jeane and all the Taloo gang...I'll be sending you a check of \$20, for a year's membership...and I'm very well glad to do so, but I have a question, if you will...you can check with my old buddy Ed Landwehr, if it's okay with you, and he feels up to it, I think I paid an amount of \$100 for what was supposed to be a "lifetime" membership payment,.....at that particular time, I think it was Ed who handled monetary business....I could be wrong...but, Jeane, I'd sure appreciate if you can find any info on my membership situation...thanks, and I still don't mind sending an annual payment in addition...**Also**, are any Taloo membership cards left? I can sure use a new one, as my original one is practically unreadable - been bouncing



around in my wallet for many years. Thanks, if you can help on this. Best regards to you and a very happy 2008 to you and your family. [Stu Jones](#)

*Dear Stu, Thanks so much for calling our attention to this. Yes, the dues reminder card was sent to you in error. We DO have you listed as a lifetime member but should you still wish to contribute the Alumni Association would be very grateful. Either way, you're a LIFETIME member in good standing! By the way, I assume that if I run the picture of your card in the newsletter your security will not be adversely affected?! Sincerely, Jeane*

As an ex Taloo pilot I enjoyed the bulletin plus finding your website. In 1958 I was based out of Shannon flying co-pilot on the 4's and met and married Ruth in Limerick. We are still around with some fun memories of fun people we worked with while with dear old Transocean 'til their days ended....[Dick Price](#)

Nice job on the newsletter. I was an Aircraft Dispatcher for Transocean from May 1959 until the doors were closed at Idlewild. Gained a lot of experience in that short time and it paved the way for me to remain in the airline business until April 1998. Every so often I would run into someone who worked somewhere for Transocean and then the stories would begin. Still keep in touch with D.W. Schmolinski who hired me. He had just returned from Wake Island and was starting up the East coast operation from Windsor Locks, CT. I don't recall seeing any names mentioned from folks who worked at Idlewild or Bradley Field. Guess I'm the last one around. Best regards, [Walter Blessing](#)

Great job on the newsletter. I would like to receive it via e-mail from now on. Would appreciate it if you could send me the e-mail edition of the Feb. 2008 issue too. The print copy that I received a couple of days ago had some weak print and is a bit hard to read. Thank you, [Dick Stuber](#)

*Dear Mr Stuber, Attached is the Feb 2008 newsletter. I have also included the link to all our future online newsletter editions: <http://www.taloo.org/newsletters.html> so you'll be able to log on anytime and either print or read online each newsletter as it becomes available. You'll want to use the most current edition of Adobe Reader in order to view our newsletters. You'll find a link to the FREE Adobe Reader on this same newsletter page should you need to update your version. Thanks for the kind words...I'm glad you are enjoying the newsletter, Jeane*

Subject: Air Jordan-1952/53 = I was in Flying Control at RAF Amman-would like to hear of Captains' Waterman & Soha - who flew TJ-ABH & TJ-ABI out of ZHJA. The airfield is now The King Abdullah Air Base of the RJAF. [Vincent C Miles](#)

I have recently acquired several pilot wings and before I put them up for sale to the general public, I thought someone in your organization may be interested. I have attached a picture for you of the wings. I think that \$100.00 for all would be fair. The large wings have the 10K medallion piece. Please contact me or feel free to pass on my e-mail address to them. Best Wishes for the New Year! [Kim Mitchell](#) *Editor's note: Someone did in fact purchase the wings – who? Story next edition!*



Jeane...here are a few pics of my time on Wake, 1955... If you can use them feel free to do so. Yes, there was some interesting artwork on the walls of Drifters Reef.



C124 on ramp



Taloa maintenance truck

I am now looking at the one with the lei around her neck. The artist was Bill Erwin, the paintings were on black velvet. He was an associate of a famous artist "Leetag" from Tahiti. I got lucky one night in a poker

game and bought mine for \$325.00!! circa...1955!! Best, [Val Barrett](#)



Drifters Reef



Patron's Bartender



Home!!!



Supplies!



Old Swimmin' Hole

Keep up the good work – new website is great! Best,  
**Rob Harder**



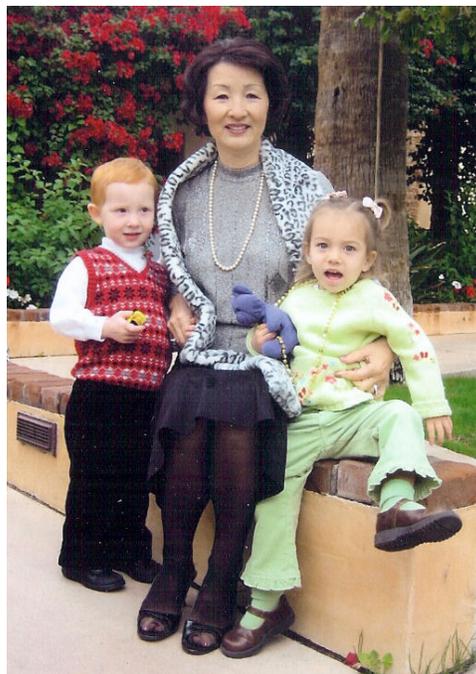
*A special thanks to our treasurer, Pat Stachon Kearns! She's busy all year long as each of the Taloa alumni send in their dues along with their greetings. Here's some of the notes she's received this year...*

Aloha! Enclosed you will find my check for \$20 for the annual dues for the Taloa Alumni Association. The barge with construction materials recently arrived at Wake and we have finally begun to make repairs after Super Typhoon Ioke hit us last year. Best regards, **Lou Hitchcock**

Thanks so much for your contribution to keeping this going! We weren't able to be there this September but we'll see you next year! **Holly Nelson**

Dear Pat, Here's my dues for 2008. Thanks for taking over this project. Slowly but surely, we are running out of "Old Timers." Have a great new year!! **Bob Allardyce**

Happy New Year!!! Enclosed a check of \$20 for 2008 dues. I have now 3 grandkids and they are filled with



happiness & joy. I'm a full time babysitter for them, keep me busy ok!! I received a xmas card from Joe, he sounds good & enjoy his life in Napa. I miss California very much and always wish to go back there. I still have a few friends to visit. I don't think I will come out for Taloa reunion, but hope

that you all enjoy it. Sincerely, **Chiseko Chapin**

Pat – Thanks for keeping us "flying"! **Carolyn Lundell**

*\$100 Donation from Lifetime member!* – Pat, Call me in 5 years and I will happily send you another check!!  
**Colm Kennedy**

Dear Pat, Thank you so much for what you are doing for us all! **McKee Mhoon**

Dear Pat, Thank you for the reminder. Enclosed is my check to cover 2008 & 2009. I look forward to receiving my Taloa news – so many happy memories. I keep hoping to get to the Bay Area for a Reunion and a

visit with all my Taloa friends. I still keep in touch with Ed & Nita Robeson and Mona Finlason. Best wishes to all for a very happy and healthy 2008. Sincerely,  
**Ronnie Dixon**

Great website. Thanks! **Cyndy Turner Tilton**

Dear Pat, Here are my 2008 dues. I am not of the email generation, so still must get my newsletter by regular mail, but I told your dad that I would like to receive two Taloa newsletters of the issue which tells of Bill Oliver's death. I told his niece, Jane Oliver, who lives in London that I would send her that issue. Thanks you,  
**Sherry Parker**

Enclosed is my check for annual dues. I don't have an email address. You're to be commended for all your efforts – you and all who keep the news coming. Thank you, **Eunice Hoenninger**

Hello Pat, I am a new member of Taloa. My name is Norman A. Ramos. I am 85 years old, but in 1947 – 51, I was just 25 and out of the Army Air Force. I worked in the Accessory Repair Shop, the Machine Shop, and the Carburetor Shop. My father, George E. Ramos worked in the Machine Shop. Best regards,  
**Norman A. Ramos**

Enclosed is check for \$20 to cover dues for 2008. I enjoy your newsletters so much. Thanks! **Louise Helmer (Mrs. James F. Helmer)**

Dear Pat, I do not have a computer so I cannot receive Taloa newsletter via email. Having passed my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in August 2007 I probably will not have an email in the future. **Jim Herlihy**

Pat, Thanks for your work for Taloa alumni. **Paul Zimmerman**

Don't forget to pay your TALOA Alumni Association 2008 dues. Send \$20 to: Pat Stachon Kearns, 1516 Richardson Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024

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### **Sightseeing for the Sightless**

From, *Folded Wings, A History of Transocean Air Lines* by Arue Szura

Children were always close to the hearts of the people of Transocean as nearly everyone in the company had young families of their own. Because of the sensitivity and generosity of Nelson and airline employees, 82 blind or visually impaired children once realized the dream of a lifetime when Transocean hosted several flights for the children over the San Francisco Bay Area.

None of the children, all between 7 and 14 years of age, had ever been near an airplane before. Nelson and other flight personnel briefed them on all the procedures, from fastening safety belts to pre-flying the plane, the engine warm-up, to the let-down for the landing. Even the scenery was described in detail.

Before the flights were over, the children could call out changes in direction at the slightest movement of the plane. Back at the gate, each child was taken into the cockpit to sit in the seats and touch the controls. Not all of Transocean's flying was done for profit.



Bill Glenn, from TAL's maintenance hanger in Oakland California, escorts school children around the hanger area, 1958. Photo: Ralph Lewis

**A Memorable Trip to Palmyra**  
**By Chic Collins**

The trip originated at Honolulu Airport. The purpose of the trip was to evaluate Palmyra as a tourist vacation place. Fifty passengers on board included people interested in investing in the development of Palmyra. Flight planning for the trip was critical from the standpoint of fuel. Palmyra is located 1,100 miles



south of Honolulu. With no fuel on the island, it was necessary to carry enough fuel out of Honolulu for the round trip. When we arrived at ETP, it was necessary to make a decision on whether to continue on or return to Honolulu. Fortunately, the caretaker on the island had the fore-thought to light tires on one of the

bunkers on the island which gave a column of smoke for us to home-in on. He also cleared the runway of bushes, etc. On landing, I swear, the wing tips of our airplane were hitting tree branches. Since Palmyra is a privately owned island in the Hawaiian chain, there was only one caretaker on the island. He also managed to get a few old military vehicles running which gave us a means of getting around the one square mile island during our stay. Of course, there were no accommodations, so we slept out on the dock. It rained during the night. To pass the time, we went lobster fishing at midnight and came back with a good catch that we roasted on a huge bonfire and spent most of the night eating lobster. Next day was spent touring the island which was made up of coconut trees and huge coconut crabs capable of breaking a coconut open with their claws. The caretaker was very happy to see us and told the story that at one point he had become ill and laid on his cabin floor for several days fighting off the coconut crabs with a broomstick. His batteries had gone dead, so he had no means of communicating with the outside world.



The return trip to Honolulu was uneventful. To my knowledge, there was no followup to the plan of developing Palmyra into a Pacific resort.

***Little Kids...Big Memories***

I am the son of the late "Bud" Bierman, the Captain of the SA-16 written about in your newsletter (Feb-08) I am interested in anyone who might have known my father. I was born in Agana Guam and lived all over the trust territory, Manila, Hawaii, California, and back to Guam. It seems that planes were always the reason. From the SA16 to the Connie, to the DC 6 then back to the SA16 and finally to Oklahoma City to the FAA Academy and the 727. I guess one of my fondest memories would be flying back and forth to Truk and seeing all the sunken ships from the air (over 50) in the gin clear water with every detail. I remember my Dad taking a Lee Marvin movie crew to Truk to film some war movie, and Lee and my Dad closing the only local bar. I also remember him taking a film crew of Jacques Cousteau to Truk to film the underwater graveyard of the Japan fleet. I also remember him telling me stories of how the natives would dive down to the jeeps lashed to the decks of those ships and cut the wheels off and

watch them float to the surface, then within hours be put on a local jeep and used. I enjoyed seeing the world from the cockpit of an SA16 (jumpseat). Of course I also remember him always carrying what he called his "Brain Bag" and the stories of how they would "borrow" new co-pilot's brain bags and line them with sheets of lead just for grins. I regret I have no pictures, as they were wiped out in a hurricane in Gulfshores, Alabama. Thanks again. [Brian Bierman](#)

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*Some Sad News...* SHERWOOD NICHOLS, SR.

Also known as Nick Nichols, beloved husband of Freda



Nichols, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at the age of 90. Preceded in death by his son Sherwood Nichols, Jr., also known as Lanny or Lance, he leaves behind not only his wife Freda but also his daughter Sharon Elliott and her husband Steven, his grand-daughter

Jamie Vilala and her husband Tracy and his great-grandson, Cory Colburn, his sister Jacquie Gillian of Naples, Florida and many nieces and nephews and friends. Born on a farm in Iowa, he graduated high school in Iowa City and dreamed of traveling. In 1938 he met and married Freda A. Lippert, who would be his beloved wife for 69 ½ years and together they fulfilled their dream of traveling the world. In Kansas City, MO he went to Airline Radio School and then joined United Airlines as a flight radio operator. In 1946, Nick was one of the founding members and a Vice President of Transocean Airlines.

In 1957, Transocean Airlines sent Nick and his family to Teheran, Iran where for 3 years Nick was General Manager of Iran Air. Upon returning to California, he and Freda started the first travel agency in Castro Valley, Columbia Travel Service, and later started a second travel office in Hayward called Southland Travel. Their son Lance worked with them in the Castro Valley office while their daughter Sharon worked in the Hayward office. He employed a wonderful group of people who even today have remained close. In 1985 he and Freda retired but continued to travel. Nick was always very active in community affairs. He was a past President and

Honorary Lifetime Member of the Chamber of Commerce in Castro Valley, past president of the Kiwanis Club in San Lorenzo, honorary member of the Castro Valley Rotary Club. He was a member of Sequoyah Country Club for many years and active in senior golf activities. He was active in Civil Defense for thirty years as an executive reservist for the Transportation Department. It is with deep sadness that we say goodbye to this man that we loved so much. It was Nick's wish that there be no funeral or memorial service. We ask that you simply say goodbye to him in your own special way. Donations may be made to your favorite charity. Afterglow: "I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one. I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways. Of happy times, and laughing times, and bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun of happy memories that I leave when life is done."

Author unknown Published in the ANG Newspapers on 3/9/2008.



Sherwood Nichols (far right) stands by "Workhorse Harry", the last aircraft to fly the Berlin Airlift photo: Richard G. Mueller

*2008 TALOA Alumni Association Reunion reminder from committee chairman Janet Stachon Farmer...*

"Be sure to send in your reservation & payment before August 20<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the Early Bird Special!!!"



TALOA Alumni Association **LIFETIME** memberships are available for \$100. Your membership dues help fund the publication of our website, [www.taloo.org](http://www.taloo.org) and tell the Transocean story to the world.

**Lifetime Members:** Robert & Barbara Allardyce, Trenton W. Barber, Val G. Barrett, Clifford Berg, Augie Blasquez, Lillian A. Bunbury, Scotty Charnley, Richard "Chic" Collins, Sarah Collins, Jennie Cook, Verna Cravens, Don & Alice Crooke, Joseph & Susan Delazerda, George E. Dijeau, Helen Dillard, Stuart Downing, Martha-Jane Ekstrand, Raymond Foster, Mike A. Gambino, M. C. "Manny" Garcia, Derrel T. Gibbins, Bob Glattly, Francis R. Grinnon, Dorothy Guinther, Gladys Iacono, Lee & Marion Jenkins, Carol Johnson, Marion Johnson, Billie Joiner, Stu & Elva Jones, William & Billie Keating, Nadine Kendall, Colm J. Kennedy, John Ketler, Barbara & Robert Kilian, Mildred Kosteff, Ed & Gun Landwehr, Lorraine Landwehr, Robert & Rita Lang, Gene Longo, David McQueen, Florence Morjig, Mrs. Orvis Nelson, Ralph & Eileen Padilla, Gordon & Marty Palmquist, Olga Valenta Peiffer, Sheldon Paul Purdy, Mary Richter, Jose & Maria Rimorin, Janis Roach, Eddie Robeson, Shirley & Daniel Seid, Renee Sheets, Charles W. & Tokuko Smith, Margaret Soares, Joseph Stachon, Robert & Inger Stearns, Arue Szura, Elaine Yuen & Carl Timm, Richard & Margaret Werling, Laverne Witteveen,

**2008 Members:** Val Bednekoff, John J. & Jane Benterou, Theodore & Maegel Blegen, Walter & Mary Blessing, Arthur & Joanne Buckelew, Dorothy Burrell, Ted Campbell, Chiseko Chapin, Dennis & Kathy Dal Porto,



- The Taloo Alumni Association
- has an open position on the
- Board of Directors. You can find
- information about the association
- by visiting the ALUMNI section
- of [www.taloo.org](http://www.taloo.org) If you're interested in
- helping out, please call Jeane Kennedy Toynbee
- (209) 785-0682

Ronald & Marjorie Davies, Veronica Dixon, Janet T. Farmer, Donna Ferrell, Ramona Finlason, Gail & Edward Fisher, John Foster, Phillip & Joyce W. Glock, Anne & Charles Gobel, Oscar Grohs, Delores Hamm, Robert O. & Doris Ann Harder, Eleanor & Bob Haught, Robert & Ruby T. Hendrickson, James & Joan Herlihy, Louis P. Hitchcock, Earl S. Holmquist, Clifford Howell, Rosemary Baumgartner Jones, Pat Stachon Kearns, Katharine Graham Kohler, John & Gloria Lannom, Penny Loerke, Carolyn F. B. Lundell, Charles Mac Quarrie, Gradie Meekins, Mckee Mhoon, Erik Moberg, Sue Nelson, Freda Nichols, Sherry Waterman Parker, John & Motoe Pidcock, Floyd & Georgene Pileggi, Richard & Ruth Price, Dr. Charles Quarles, Norm A. Ramos, Jack & Gloria Ratliff, Sigvard N. Sivertsen, Bernald & Marilyn Smith, Rick Stachon, Rodney Stich, Richard & Jean Stuber, Louis & Erma Sylvia, Marilou S. Taylor, Cyndy Turner Tilton, Jeane Kennedy & Bob Toynbee, Holly Nelson & Dick Veale, Warren & Ingrid Vest, Tom Von Eckardt, Janet Whitaker, John Willhalm, Ron Winiker, Paul & Yasuko Zimmermann.

Not a current member? Send \$20 to: Pat Stachon Kearns, 1516 Richardson Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024

These pictures were part of a collection of slides taken by Captain Frank Kennedy. I know there's just GOT to be a story here! Can anyone fill in the blanks for our next newsletter? Send story to: Jeane Kennedy Toynbee, PO Box 243, Coppertopolis, CA 95227



# 2008 TALOA Alumni Association Reunion & Luncheon



**DATE:** September 20th  
**TIME:** 12:00 noon - 5 PM Luncheon served at 2 PM  
**PLACE:** Oakland Aviation Museum  
8260 Boeing Street Building  
#621 North Field  
Oakland, California

Directions: Interstate 880 to Oakland Airport/Hegenberger Road exit. Follow the signs to Oakland Airport. Cross Doolittle Drive intersection & immediately turn right at the North Field sign onto Earhart Road. Drive 7/10ths mile on Earhart until Hangar #6 (Alaska Airlines) on your left. Turn right at the Museum sign.

## MENU

Sautéed breast of chicken. white wine, lemon, & butter sauce with button mushrooms  
Mostacciola pasta with seasoned tomato sauce, mixed green salad, rolls with butter  
Carrot cake  
Lots of crackers & nuts to go with beer, wine, soda, & bottled water

Save \$5 on each adult reservation by taking advantage of the  
**Make your reservations before August 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**25.00** each adult  
**\$10.00** each child under 12 years.

**Early Bird Special**



Luncheon cost at the door or reservations made after August 20th: **\$30.00**/each adult & **\$10**/each child under 12 years.

If not taking advantage of the Early Bird Special, please send your reservation no later than September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Fill out the form below  
& send by August 20<sup>th</sup>  
(Early Bird Special) or  
September 10th to:

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TALOA Treasurer, Pat Stachon Kearns  
1516 Richardson Ave  
Los Altos CA 94024

For additional information contact:  
Pat Stachon Kearns  
(650) 386-5688



Number of Persons in my party \_\_\_\_\_ Adults; \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Enclosed Check; \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_