

President's Letter – November 2009

Pam's Postings

For me, November is a “dark” month; perhaps it is because the Halloween jack-o-lanterns have been extinguished, most of the trees have lost their colorful leaves, and sunset comes much earlier with the ending of daylight savings time. Whatever the reason, it is not among my favorites.

On the other hand, as a Clipped Wings® member, November has many positive attributes. First and foremost, it brings to mind our National Founder, Jackie Jos Ceaser. It is a month in which Clipped Wings® pays special homage to her as well as celebrating individual chapter founders. It is also a month for being **thankful** for our many blessings especially the friendships which Clipped Wings® has enabled us to enjoy.

Some November holidays include:

Daylight Savings Ends – November 1.
How did you spend your “extra hour”?

Veterans Day – November 11. Please remember our servicemen and servicewomen, both past and present. Their sacrifices enable us to enjoy the freedom and abundance we too often take for granted.

Thanksgiving – November 26. See my “Parting Pearls” at the end of this letter.

November is also **Aviation History** month.

Priorities

November – Celebrate Founders Day honoring Founder Jacqueline Jos Ceaser at your November function.

November 15 – National dues are delinquent.

November 15 – Chapter Bylaws due to Bylaws Chair, **Elaine Haley McGann** (DEN).

Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania

My husband is attempting to create a DVD, which will include a video of some of the ceremony at the Flight 93 Chapel and a

slideshow of photos members took at our dinner, at the crash site and at the Flight 93 Memorial Chapel. If you or your chapter members who went to PA have photos they would share, please send them to me ASAP.

Thanks!

Perpetuate our Principles

The Clipped Wings® Creed reads: We are **thankful** for this country in which we dwell and for the friendliness that unites us. Let us live constantly above snobbery of word or deed; place character above appearance; work earnestly; speak kindly; act sincerely; and have the welfare of our club ever at heart.

Probing a Possibility

The Name Change Research Committee has distributed a questionnaire that seeks information concerning the implications of a possible name change for the organization. It will also appear in the next *Quarterly*.

Please remind your members that the committee is neither advocating for nor against the name change. They are only gathering information as directed. This committee was formed in response to a resolution that the convention delegates adopted at the LAX Convention. The resolution reads:

“The National President appoint a committee of three (3) to investigate a name change to report at the 2010 convention.”

While this is an emotional issue for many, and one that has been debated before (at the 1990 convention), a majority of the LAX Convention delegates felt that the question should be researched again. One rationale for researching the change was that many current flight attendants think they have to be retired in order to join. Also, some flight attendants feel the name does not reflect their status.

The committee will summarize their findings and present a report at the Nashville Convention for the delegates to consider.

I must **thank** this committee--**Gail Andrus Preston** (OCC), Chair; **Cathy Stoeber Kurinsky** (CHI) and **Vicki Mar** (SEA)--for carrying out the charge they have been given.

Picking Potential Principals

It's time to think about candidates for the national offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor. Nominating Chair, **Lavon Parker Cook** (DTW) and her committee will gladly accept nominations at this time. The only requirements are that you must have the permission of the person being nominated and the nominee must have served as a chapter president or a convention delegate. If you know of members who you think would make good national officers, please encourage them to run for office. Sometimes it just takes a little encouragement. If they agree to be nominated, a letter or email to Lavon is sufficient. Nominations are due by March 31.

Preserving the Past

The United Airlines Historical Foundation (UAHF) is working on a project with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and the San Francisco Airport Museum to catalog Flight Attendant uniforms. The project still needs your help with donation of uniform items. The UAHF website contains information about how to donate along with the list of items needed. It is updated monthly. The list is on a non-public page and may be accessed with user name and password.

If you go to UAHF.org under News 2009, click on missing garments. Fill in the user name with **ellen** and fill in the password with **church**. While they are extremely grateful to have received a number of responses to their request for uniform donations, they still have an ongoing need with special attention to those items that are missing PRIOR to 1960 and all men's uniforms beginning with the 1972 issue, including the men's Aloha shirts. If you have a problem accessing the list using the login and

password you have been given, just send them an email: support@uahf.org.

If you have uniforms that you don't know what to do with, please help UAHF complete this project. Their motto is, "Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future."

You may also show your support for this non-profit organization (and **thank** them for their service) by becoming a member—it's only \$10 annually. Dues information and a membership form are also on their website.

Passage to Pleasant Places

There were no chapter visits in October. But November is going to be an exciting month. I will be attending the Tri-Chapter (LAX, OCC and SAN) Founders Day celebration hosted by the Los Angeles Chapter; the Reno Rockets Chapter meeting, the Bay Area Chapters (MAR, OAK, RDW and SJC) Founders Day celebration hosted by the Oakland Chapter; and Seattle Chapter's Diamond Jubilee and Founder's Day Celebration. This will be my second visit for all of these chapters! I'm so **thankful** for the invitations.

Please Pencil Me In

I was fortunate to be able to visit 20 of our 31 chapters this past year. I do hope to visit **all** chapters during my term as president, but I must be invited to do so. A chapter visit need not be anything "special"—just an opportunity for me to meet with members in an informal setting is more than enough. I travel on space available passes where possible, so I do not need much advance notice to travel to your chapter. My calendar is relatively open. Just let me know when you would like me to visit, and I'll do my best to be there. **Thanks** so much.

Power of Prayer

Please continue to keep our Clipped Wings[®] friends who are ill, having treatments/tests, or who have recently lost a loved one in your prayers. Cards, phone calls or perhaps visits are always a special way to bring a bit of sunshine into their lives. Even a brief email may also brighten someone's day.

Our prayers and sympathy go to:
Freja Peterson Wagner, BOS lost her husband last month.

Vicki Mar SEA lost her father.

Mary Ann Niehus McGarry LAX lost a very close family friend who was also her “right-hand man” with the *Quarterly*.

Pendulum Pulses

Countdown to:

Lincoln Special Olympics Natl. Summer Games
July 16-24, 2010 **259 Days**

Nashville Clipped Wings® Convention
September 22-26, 2010 **325 Days**

Playful Pun

Part of a Flight Attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to **thank you** folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of XYZ Airways."

Parting Pearls

Be **thankful** for what you have [and] you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have you will never, ever have enough. ---Oprah Winfrey

An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on **Thanksgiving** Day. ---Irv Kupcinet

Who does not **thank** for little will not **thank** for much. ---Estonian proverb

Postscript

As the great American philosopher, Dolly Parton, says: “The magic is in you . . .” I hope that the magic in you enables you to find an abundance of things in your life to be **thankful** for. Happy **Thanksgiving!**

To blue skies and smooth landings,

Pam

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