

THE PEACH BUZZ

NEWSLETTER OF THE ATLANTA KIWI CLUB

May 2026

Greetings from your "Former" President!

After many years of the most wonderful time as your president, I am stepping down. It was amazing and I am grateful for your patience and support.

We are so fortunate that two talented women volunteered to take over. Maureen DiCola and Barbara Hyland will be Co-Presidents, and they are already planning some exciting changes.

We have a new board, shown below. Some 2024/2026 board members are continuing in their positions. Thank you all for being willing to stay. I know that Barbara and Maureen are grateful for the expertise and enthusiasm that you bring.

I will be your new Parliamentarian and Newsletter editor. (This is my first newsletter attempt so please forgive any goof!)

Thank you so much Jill for letting us use your beautiful home for this special lunch. You are a fantastic hostess and one of the most capable people I know.

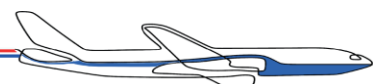
Love to all of you, Chris!

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Happy Birthday!

Michele Caine May 8
Jackie Dunn May 16
Bobbi Rullan May 11
Bonnie Malmin May 17
Karen Tyson May May 25





Looking Back at the 2026 Convention

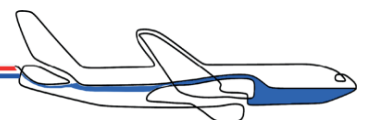
Fiesta Flight Royal

This year's convention was held in San Antonio, in the Hotel Contessa. The convention provided us with the opportunity to reunite with old friends and make new ones. It was filled with joy, laughter and more fiesta decorations than can be listed!

The hotel was located on the Riverwalk, and everyone reports it as the most amazing, caring hotel ever! We had a large group attend. Pat Evans, Dee DiBuono, Becky Kasten Bartelme, Jill Rohan, Barbara Hyland, and Peg Crotty.

We were thrilled to welcome Captain Beverly "Bev" Bass as our guest speaker at this year's convention. With a career spanning more than 30 years, she shared powerful reflections from her time in the skies, including her experience on 9/11, when her flight was diverted to Gander, New Foundland. The events were great and the Alpaca "Greeter", Lefty, was a fun surprise. For details and more photographs, please go to our website, THEKIWICLUB.ORG, under the convention tab and enjoy!

There were presentations of Kiwi Awards, the introduction of new officers and a special video unveiling our next convention destination, Palm Springs, in 2028.



Come From Away

Maureen DiCola and Carolyn Havens had the idea that we might be interested in attending the Come From Away production being performed by the City Springs Theater Company. They quickly involved other members such as Chris Moeckel, Barbara Hyland, and others. Word spread and we were able to invite our friends from the Delta Clipped Wings club.

They were so right! We had 24 members and guests attend the closing performance of the play that was based on the true story of how the isolated community of Gander, Newfoundland, came together to welcome 38 planes diverted from their destinations on September 11, 2001. Beverly Bass was the American Airlines pilot that authored the book. She also attended the performance, and we were able to meet her.

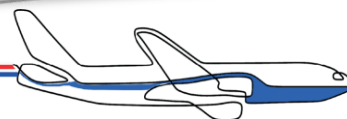
The Theater also opened the VIP lounge to us and were so excited to have us attend that they arranged for us to meet the main performer.

Many of our members met at The Brooklyn Grill for lunch before the performance.

Here are some photographs and, if you would like to see more, go onto our website. Thank you Jill!

WHAT'S NEXT!!!!

Because of the success of the Come From Away outing, Maureen and Carolyn are arranging for attending the September 19th performance of Les Misérables. Chris Moeckel went ahead and reserved 30 balcony seats and 14 are already taken. If you would like to go, please contact Chris Moeckel ASAP. Guests are welcome so if you would like to sit together you need to get your tickets right away. We are trying to arrange for access to the VIP lounge again. Also, there are plans for lunch at The Brooklyn Grill again so let Carolyn Havens know that you would like to join.



Flown West

It is with great sadness that we announce that we had two treasured members leave us in the past few months.

Bettye Beeson Betts 11/30/25

Class of 60-7. She was a member for over thirty years. She was such a sweet lady and always willing to do whatever it took to make our club better. She was an example of the best we could be.

She served as the National Treasurer from 1984 to 1986 and National First Vice President from 1986 to 1988. She was responsible for putting together our club history.

Linda McQueen 11/5/25

Class of 71-6. Linda was one of our newer members, but her enthusiasm was apparent from the very beginning. She suffered a severe injury when, in May of 1971, she was severely burned when an O2 bottle exploded. She took over 5 years to heal, and she fought for another 2 to get her job back. She authored a book about her experience and used the funds to support her foundation, Heart Burn Foundation





AMERICAN AIRLINES TURNS 100!!!!

American Airlines turned 100 this April! Celebrations are going on all over the country, and I have been fortunate to have been able to provide uniforms events in Dallas, Boston, Miami, and other cities.

Because of the support I have received from all of you, at the local club level, I have had the time to function as the Traveling Uniform Coordinator and provide uniforms from 1934 all the way to the current uniform to aid in the celebrations. Without all of you filling in for me I would not have been able to function.

We are so proud to have been a part of the history of this wonderful airline.

Chris Moeckel



1934 - 1937 AAL



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