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## Protesting the Release of the Lockerbie Terrorist

To the Members of Clipper Pioneers:

I am writing to urge you to contact your government representatives, the media, or anyone who may help, to issue a condemnation of the release of the Lockerbie terrorist, Al-Megrahi. My late husband, Captain Robert Gould, was Vice President of Operations at the time of the bombing. He went directly from his office to Lockerbie when the bombing occurred. He walked those horrific fields to find the body of his close friend, Captain James MacQuarrie. He and Jim worked side by side as ALPA representatives for several years. Bob stayed for over two weeks working with officials and when he returned he brought Jim's ashes back to his family. To the time of his death, Bob never forgot - nor got over- that devastation. He would be outraged at the "compassionate" release of this terrorist. Compassion is not a word that exists for those followers of this type of political/religious ideology. Look at the slaughter continuing in North Africa. Al-Megrahi was given a hero's welcome despite a request from President Obama that Al-Megrahi be quietly assimilated. Gadhafi sent his son to personally welcome Al-Megrahi. There is a clear message to the United States in that scene.

I am concerned that this will stimulate future bombings to create future "heroes". I also cannot understand how the Scottish judge could disregard the human loss of his fellow countrymen to be compassionate toward such an amoral person. It bears close scrutiny to see if any country or group now receives any special benefit from Libya - a benefit that may have been "bought" by Al-Megrahi's release. If so, it would be another Lockerbie tragedy.

Sincerely,

Pamela Gould  
Redding, CT.

### Pan Am Cruise 2009

It has been decided to accept Holland America offer to have the 2010 Pan Am Reunion on their Cruise ship, the Veedam departing from New York, 9 May 2010 to Bermuda with two stops, St George and Hamilton Bermuda. Its a 7 day cruise. More information in the next newsletter. ~Stu

## International Scheduling Takes Flight

*by Robert L. Bragg  
(Capt., Pan Am and United, Ret.)*

I was checking in at Washington's Reagan National for my flight to Kennedy when I noticed a Pan Am flight attendant in uniform who was checking in for the same flight. She was being sent off in style by her husband, I presumed, and two children. She was small and, for the life of me, looking back, I can't recall anything special about her.

Upon arrival at Kennedy, I noticed the same flight attendant being met by a young man, who greeted her in an extremely friendly way. Let's call him "cousin number one."

I had the flight from Kennedy to Abidjan in West Africa, which culminated in Johannesburg, South Africa. I always regarded it as a great trip.

At the crew briefing, I noticed that the flight attendant was present that I had seen the day before on the flight to Kennedy. At first, it barely registered – then I saw that she and "cousin number one" were slowly walking hand-in-hand to the departure gate.

Upon arrival in Abidjan, the third largest French speaking city in the world, located on Côte d'Ivoire, I took a routine crew count on the crew bus and the pursurer informed me that one of the flight attendants had a good friend in Abidjan and wouldn't be staying with us at the hotel during our extended stay. Yep, it was the same flight attendant. I thought to myself, "cousin number two."

Sure enough, two days later, when we arrived at the Abidjan airport, our most popular flight attendant was being dropped off by "cousin number two." I silently vowed to keep my eyes open regarding what or who came next.

Upon arrival in Johannesburg, history repeated itself. When I was taking the crew count on the crew bus, the pursurer once again told me that one of the flight attendants had a very good friend in Johannesburg and would not be coming to the hotel for our three-day layover. You guessed it, "cousin number three."

On our trip back, the same thing happened, only in reverse. All three "cousins" showed up at the scheduled time and she was nowhere to be seen during the layovers. I was absolutely amazed. Both Pan Am and the various "cousins" were always on time. I also thought that her telephone bill must have been horrific!

On the practical side, Pan Am must have saved a good deal on hotel rooms whenever she took to the air. Perhaps, they should have rewarded her for her proven scheduling ability. She would obviously have been absolutely great at flight attendant scheduling.

You can now access the mailing and phone list of your fellow Clipper Pioneers. Go to the Clipper Pioneer website - [www.clipperpioneers.com](http://www.clipperpioneers.com) - and scroll down to the bottom of the home page. Click on "Members Only" - when the password box pops up, type in the member name and password on your newsletter. . You will be able to access the current list of names, address, phone #s, and email addresses there.

## A Story with a Happy Ending

*from Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd*

Plantation, FL -- Last week police were called to investigate an attempted armed robbery. The 71-year-old retired Marine who opened fire on two robbers at a Plantation, FL, Subway shop late Wednesday, killing one and critically wounding the other, is described as John Lovell, a former helicopter pilot for two presidents. He doesn't drink, he doesn't smoke, and he works out everyday.

Mr Lovell was a man of action Wednesday night. According to Plantation police, two masked gunmen came into the Subway at 1949 N. Pine Rd. just after 11 p.m. There was a lone diner, Mr. Lovell, who was finishing his meal. After robbing the cashier, the two men attempted to shove Mr. Lovell into a bathroom and rob him as well. They got his money, but then Mr. Lovell pulled his handgun and opened fire. He shot one of the thieves in the head and chest and the other in the head.

When police arrived, they found one of the men in the shop, K-9 Units found the other in the bushes of a nearby business. They also found cash strewn around the front of the sandwich shop according to Detective Robert Rettig of the Plantation Police Department.

Both men were taken to the Broward General Medical Center , where one, Donicio Arrindell, 22, of North Lauderdale died. The other, 21-year-old Frederick Gadson of Fort Lauderdale is in critical but stable condition

A longtime friend of Lovell was not surprised to hear what happened.

The friend said, "He'd give you the shirt off his back, but he'd be mad as hell if someone tried to take the shirt off his back." Mr. Lovell was a pilot in the Marine Corps, flying former Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. He later worked as a pilot for Pan Am and Delta.

He is not expected to be charged authorities said. "He was in fear for his life," Detective Rettig said, "These criminals ought to realize that most men in their 70's have military backgrounds and aren't intimidated by idiots.".....

Something tells me this old Marine wasn't 'in fear for his life', even though his life was definitely at risk. The only thing he could be charged with is participating in an unfair fight. One 71 - year young Marine against two punks. Two head shots and one center body mass shot - Outstanding shooting! That'll teach them not to get between a Marine and his meal.

Don't you just love a story with a happy ending.

*(Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd, as you'd remember, gave that really inspiring presentation during our Pan Am reunion banquet dinner.*

*General Shepperd was the commander of all the Air National Guard units and now is retired in Tucson.)*

**Be sure to check out "The Maiden of Maiden Flights" slideshow on our website ([www.clipperpioneers.com](http://www.clipperpioneers.com)) in the right-hand column - the old photos are amazing - from a bygone era!!**

## International Dining, Airline Style

*by Robert L. Bragg  
(Capt., Pan Am and United, Ret.)*

### **The Paris Experience:**

The six of us entered a small French restaurant about two blocks from the Intercontinental Hotel where the Pan Am crew stayed. It was attractive – especially with the large potted plants on each side of the front door. We were shown to our seats. It was a very nice table for six. As soon as the waiter heard us speaking English, his comment was, “No Americans.” We got up and walked out.

One member of our party was at least six foot two and as we walked by the large [potted plants on our way out, just as if it were pre-planned, he reached down and picked one up and threw it through the restaurant’s very large glass window. Boy was he ever strong!

The group very quickly ran down the street and around the corner. All five of his companions congratulated our “plant thrower” and told him we all would have liked to have done what he did. We added that he had merely beaten us to it – not that any of us could have actually hoisted the planter.

### **The New York Experience:**

Three cockpit crew members were walking back to their layover hotel after having a quiet dinner. As we were walking down the street, we saw two men come out of an alley and start walking fast to catch up with a man directly in front of them. One of my fellow crew members said, “I think we are going to see a mugging.”

As one of the two men reached up and grabbed the man by the shoulder, the man whipped around and knocked both men completely out. It happened like lightening.

We ran up and asked the intended “victim” if he needed any help. His reply was a simple, “Everything is under control.”

He then proceeded to drag each on his would be attackers over to the curb and jumped on each of their elbows. We asked the man to join us for a drink.

While having a drink, we learned that the gent was a professional prize fighter. We then asked him why he broke his muggers’ arms and his response was that they would be in casts for quite some time. He thought it would take them about two months to mend and seriously doubted that they would ever mug anyone again.

### **The Sydney Experience:**

The United flight arrived in Sydney on a Friday afternoon. The weather was perfect and we had a good layover. It just so happened that I knew of a wonderful wine shop on New South Head Road that had a free wine tasting every Friday evening from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. I knew from flying there with Pan Am that they featured a different Australian vineyard every week and that they were all great.

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## International Dining, Airline Style

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On the crew bus going from the airport into town I told the flight attendants that four of pilots were going to Doyle's Restaurant, another neat place in Sydney, for dinner and planned to stop by the wine tasting first. I made it clear that anyone wishing to join us could meet us in the lobby at 5:00 p.m. In the end, four of the flight attendants joined us for the sipping and the dining.

After spending about an hour and a half at the tasting, we went on as planned to Doyle's, one of Sydney's oldest and best seafood restaurants, serving beer, brandy, lobster and all the trimmings. Everyone ordered anything and everything they wanted. The hard part was making a choice.

One of the flight attendants went to the restroom at Doyle's and while she was gone another flight attendant said that it was her birthday. I suggested that we should surprise her and share the cost of her dinner and even get a bottle of the bubbly. No one disagreed. I thought I had, had a really good idea.

When the bill arrived, it came to \$17.00 a person for the seven of us, which was extremely reasonable at that time. It covered everything.

After we had finished dividing the bill, one of the relief pilots as to speak with me privately. I was naïve enough to think that perhaps he was going to congratulate me for having such a good idea and making her so obviously pleased.

He started off by saying that he didn't think it was right for me to obligate him to pay part of the flight attendant's bill and that he also complained that if he had known I was going to bring him to such an expensive place he wouldn't have come. He didn't, however, mention our one and a half hour, free visit to the wine shop.

I tried to give him \$20.00, but surprisingly he refused. He was the cheapest pilot I'd ever met. United really knew how to pick its international pilots! I seriously thought about having an award made for him and labeling it "Awarded to the Cheapest International Pilot" – but I thought better of it.

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## Seven Secret Places To Hide Cash In Your Home

It's a good idea to keep a little cash in your home for emergencies. How much you decide to keep is up to you, but I would suggest keeping enough cash on hand to pay for a week of groceries, and maybe a night or two in a hotel. Because this money will not be earning interest, and is subject to being stolen by a burglar, I don't suggest keeping a huge stash in your home. In addition to a small amount hidden at home, I also stash cash in an online savings account (my ING Direct review) to put a little distance between me and some of our savings. Think of it as an offsite backup disaster recovery plan.

When you've settled on an amount you should think about secret hiding places to stash the cash. We've all seen those spy movies where the guy removes the tile from the back splash behind his stove and pulls out a cache of bills, passports and ammo. Well, the following ideas may not be worthy of James Bond, but they will improve the chances of your money surviving a break in.

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## Seven Secret Places To Hide Cash In Your Home ~ *continued from previous page*

1. In the freezer wrapped in aluminum foil. Save a little styrofoam from the next pack of meat you buy and cut it down to the size of a couple large steaks. Put your cash in a Ziploc bag, stick it between two pieces of the used meat tray and wrap it in aluminum foil. Take a piece of masking tape and write "Scraps - 05/22/2005." Robbers are not likely to look through the pack, and if they pull back the foil they'll only see the familiar styrofoam tray and stop.
2. Sandwiched between the cardboard backing of a hard-to-reach picture frame. Most thieves pull back pictures from the wall to see if money is taped to the back, but they aren't likely to take the time to look behind the glass, the cardboard backing and the picture itself. Use a pen knife to split the cardboard backing into two halves and sandwich the cash in between.
3. Under a piano, entertainment center or anything weighing a couple hundred pounds or more. If you have a hand truck around the house it's pretty easy to just lift up the corner of a piano and slide an envelope under it. However, a burglar probably won't be able to lift something this heavy, and would spend his time digging through the drawers or inside of the furniture rather than trying to lift it.
4. Inside a used can of soup. The next time you have soup, open the bottom of the can to empty the contents and then leave the top in tact. Rinse the can thoroughly, then use it to cover your stash of cash hidden inside your pantry. Stack a few cans of soup on top just to make it less convenient for someone to pick it up out of curiosity.
5. Buried in the "soil" of a fake plant. If you have a fake plant, or small tree, in your home, wrap your cash in a Ziploc bag and nest it inside the "soil" of the plant.
6. In hollowed out pages of a book on your book shelf. Using a pen knife or box cutter, carve out a few pages of your least favorite title. Hide your cash inside the book and return it to the book shelf.
7. Inside a kid's toy hidden in their closet. Kid's rooms are notoriously messy, and kids are not known for having large sums of money. Take apart an old plastic toy they no longer play with and hide your stash of cash in there. Return the toy to the bottom of the pile of toys in your kids closet, or toy chest, and it should be safe.

It's important to remember that any cash saved at home could be lost in a fire or natural disaster. The ultimate hiding place is a fireproof safe bolted to the floor, and even that isn't fool-proof. The ideal spot for storing large amounts of cash is an online savings account, far away from your house and any potential danger. But for the small amounts you stash at home, take the time to put it out of sight.

Also, remember to tell a spouse or close friend about the money in case you are not able to get to it (you die, or become injured or ill and cannot communicate). Keep enough cash on hand to cover you a few days in a major emergency, but not so much that you'd be completely wiped out if it all disappeared.

<http://frugaldad.com/2009/07/08/places-to-hide-cash/>

**Check out the wonderful photos of the Pan Am Reunion at our website:  
[www.clipperpioneers.com](http://www.clipperpioneers.com)!**

*...and God will lift you up on Eagle's Wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Captain "Hal" Parker**, died at his home June 1, 2009 one month before his 95th Birthday. Though failing in health the past few months he remained alert to the end. He was a peaceful and happy man, accepting life as it came, truly without worry or stress. He quietly loved his family and friends, and is remembered as a good man. His intelligence and practical advice was a gift to us all. He remains to us, a symbol of our heritage and what is right in the world. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. The first airplane Hal flew for Pan American was the now infamous Flying Boat, "Honolulu Clipper" NC18601. On loan to the Navy he flew to Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and throughout the entire South Pacific for the duration of WWII. Over the years, he flew many hours (see our Clipper Pioneers website for more of Hal's history). As Senior Captain Hal remained flying the B707 to Europe and the Middle East and to Japan and the Far East. At his retirement he had flown to all six continents during his thirty two (32) years with Pan American Airlines.

**Victor V. Meyer**, 88. Beloved father, husband, grandfather and friend. Born in Brooklyn, NY he was raised in Patchogue, NY (Long Island) and employed by Pan American World Airways for 41 years starting as a mechanic on flying boats on Trans Atlantic service. After a 10 month posting to a remote African base, he returned to New York and was hired as a flight mechanic on the famous Pan Am Clippers flying to Europe, Africa and South America. Married to Marion Lonagan in 1943. He served as a flight engineer during WWII with the US Air Transport Command flying C-54 aircraft on military routes to Africa, Asia and Europe and was honorably discharged in 1945 to continue his career with Pan Am.

**William Urban**, former flight engineer with Pan American, passed away after long sickness, June 24. He flew the DC8 out of New York, flew the 727 out of Berlin and finally for 3 years 747 out of Los Angeles.

**Leldon Foy (Buddy) Beard**, Pan Am Flight Engineer (ret) passed away peacefully with his wife of 67 years, Marjorie Winans Beard, by his side on Sunday, September 6, 2009.

**Captain Robert C. Evans** died at age 93 on August 13, 2009 of cardiovascular disease. His first flights as a copilot with Pan Am were from Dinner Key in Miami in Sikorsky Flying Boats. His last flight at retirement was as a Master Captain in a Boeing 747.

**Lucy Wise Reeder** passed away Wednesday, August 26th at the age of 95. She spent 37 years in the service of Pan American Airways.

**For more information about each of these friends who will be missed, click on "In Memory Of..." at our website: [www.clipperpioneers.com](http://www.clipperpioneers.com). Know of someone from Pan Am who has passed? Email the obit to Jerry Holmes at [jerry747@copper.net](mailto:jerry747@copper.net)**

Thanks to those who are sending us great stories! We will be running them in future issues of the Clipper Pioneer newsletter. Do you have a story to share with us? Send it to us! We'd love to print it in the newsletter! Do you have information that would be beneficial to us? Send it along! Let's share the good ideas! You can mail your articles, jokes, and other interesting information to: Jerry Holmes, 192 Four-some Drive, Sequim, WA - or email to [jerry747@copper.net](mailto:jerry747@copper.net).

## Upcoming Pan Am Wives Clipper Club Events

December 12

Christmas luncheon at Channing house.

### Senior Travel: Tips for Seniors to Stay Healthy while Travelling

Travelling can be stressful even for the most experienced traveller. Line-ups, delays, lengthy flights - there may be a number of challenges to meet while travelling to your destination. Senior travel can be especially demanding. However, certain measures can be taken by senior citizens in order to ensure that the process of travelling is a comfortable one. Here are some tips:

>>> First and foremost, it is imperative that seniors have travel insurance. Regardless of the length of the trip, be it for several days or several months, insurance coverage is most important. Prior to travel, seniors must honestly assess their current health condition. Even for those in the best of health, travel insurance is necessary as it will cover you in the event of unforeseen illnesses and accidents. Make sure that your travel insurance is valid and in effect for the entire length of your trip in order to avoid unexpected medical costs.

>>> Reduce the risk of falling ill by getting sufficient rest while travelling to your destination. Your immune system is more susceptible to illness when your body is deprived of sleep. Experienced travellers will plan ahead for time zone differences and train their body to adjust to new hours prior to travel.

>>> While on a long trip, it is necessary to stretch out your body and get some light exercise. Restricted movement during a long period of time can not only cause seniors discomfort, but can also trigger health problems. When travelling by plane, you may experience swelling of the feet or an aching back. More serious, however, is the potential for blood clotting and/or the compression of blood vessels. In order to avoid these conditions, you should move from your chair as often as possible and walk and/or stretch your limbs.

>>> In addition to rest and exercise, your body requires plenty of water and nourishing food. Do not hesitate to drink as much water as possible. Seniors can be more affected by dehydration and may experience dizziness and/or exhaustion.

Senior travel does not have to be a hardship. Ensure yourself an enjoyable vacation by planning ahead and taking certain precautions while travelling. A little extra effort can make your travel experience problem-free.

*(from [www.travel-health-insurance.com/tips-for-seniors.html](http://www.travel-health-insurance.com/tips-for-seniors.html))*

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### One Liners...

Any pilot who does not at least privately consider himself the best in the business...is in the wrong business.

It's best to keep the pointed end going forward as much as possible.

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**Having trouble viewing the membership list online?** When you open the list, go to the top of your screen - you should see that it is set at a percentage. Click on that to make it larger.

**For a really neat look at Pan Am in action, go to: [www.panamva.com/](http://www.panamva.com/) on the internet.**