

WORLD AIRLINES CLUBS ASSOCIATION

# WACA WORLD NEWS

## The Waca Family met in Bahamas



A new Executive Committee will guide the Association during the next 2 years



## Welcome address of Maga Ramasamy, WACA President, at the Opening Ceremony of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Assembly in Nassau, Bahamas

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good evening and it's my immense pleasure as WACA President to welcome you all in Bahamas to the Annual WACA Interline Celebration coinciding with our 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Assembly as hosted by the ever active and dedicated Bahamas Interline Club.

It is indeed the first time we are holding the Annual Assembly in Bahamas and am very grateful to all the well wishers who contribute in a way or the other to welcome us here as your guests with open arms, thus giving our members the opportunity to discover Bahamas more, learn about its culture, its national heritage and the beauty of its lagoon to be shared with others at home, at work and with friends. There is nothing more special to promote a country or any places visited than the words of mouth and be the ambassadors.

By the way allow me to wish all the employees of Bahamasair present to night a very happy 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your national airline.

The World Airlines Clubs Association is present today at all corners of the world, either through the member clubs or through the scattered individual members whilst keeping the spirit of true interlining, friendship and sharing and remain exemplary as well as responsible travellers.

We should all be proud and conscious for coming from the Airlines a privileged partner of Tourism. Yesterday, 27<sup>th</sup> September the world celebrated the World Tourism Day and we..., forming part of Airlines and Tourism generations we celebrated the World Tourism Day and this year's theme is Tourism: Responding to the Climate Change which goes in line with the sustainable tourism concept.

Bahamas being a tourism country is not spared at all with the Ozone hole impact and is visited recently by hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Hurricanes for the past few years had been quite devastated in this area. We as responsible inhabitants of this planet and responsible travellers we cannot remain passive, we need to bring our valuable contributions in a way or the other.

Though aviation is a contributor to climate change, but at the same time it makes a very valuable and unique contribution to the sustainable development of our global society. On the other end, environmental performance has always been high on the aviation industry's agenda where levels of noise and emissions have come down dramatically since the start of the jet age in the early 1960's. Mr. Giovanni Bisignani, the director general of the IATA in his speech at the Aviation and Environment Summit held in April this year in Geneva stated that environmental responsibility is a core promise of Air transportation alongside with safety and security.

It is our duty as an association with an Airline background to adjust with this worldwide engagement as part of our social responsibility to play an active role to tackle the double challenge of climate response and poverty alleviation and to disseminate the same concept to all our individual members as part of an awareness programme.

At this present Assembly, to mark our presence, we are very grateful to all our interliners who expressed their concerns in contributing to alleviate the burden of the people of Inagua Island after the last Hurricane and to help the needy children of Bahamas with educational materials which we carry in our suitcases from home.

Obviously, I am sure all the interliners will have a very nice and enjoyable stay in Bahamas and will take happy memories back home whilst other delegates will be busy during the working sessions of the Assembly. I wish you all the best.

May god bless you all.

Thank you.

**Maga Ramasamy**





## The 2008 Interline Celebration



Dear Interliners,

While the first snow of this winter covers the world outside, I am sitting at my PC and select photos for the edition of the WWN – palms, beaches, beautiful people, and happy interliners. It seems as if I am still hearing the music from the Junkanoo Parade...

Yes, I am looking at the pictures from the wonderful days that we spent in the Bahamas. It is not easy to sort out the best photos. This time I am very lucky I received a large number of very nice and professional pictures taken by Kjell Sundrin from Stockholm and Kjell Huslid from Oslo. This allows me to let you share with me the very best moments during our stay on the Bahamas. Thank you for that, my friends! Those who attended certainly will have fond memories and you can be sure, that next year – in Kuala Lumpur – we all will enjoy again another wonderful Interline Celebration!



In fact, Ann Albury and her Committee of the Airlines Club Bahamas did a fantastic job. Interliners were warmly welcomed at the airport and escorted to the Wyndham Nassau Resort situated on famous Cable Beach.

A unique Opening Ceremony with lots of surprises was the beginning of an exciting week. The visits to Nassau, its historical centre, the rum distillery of Bacardi, Fort Charlotte, the luxury Atlantic Paradise Island and the very interesting explanation of the tropical vegetation given by the busdrivers gave us a true impression of the wonderful sites of the Island of New Providence.



The Beach party at Goodman's Bay with a barbecue of delicious food and exciting dancing music will be remembered as one of the highlights of the week.





In the evenings, more than one interliner tried to catch Fortuna in the grand Casino of our hotel.



Club Delegates and the Executive Committee held meetings and elections for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual General Assembly of WACA.

At the “tropical” Gala Dinner (another highlight of the evening) the new elected EC Committee was introduced:

President:	Maga Ramasamy (MK), Indian Ocean Islands Interline Club
Secretary General:	Julian Chau (CX), Hong Kong Interline Club Association Ltd.
V.P. Finance and Treasurer:	Judith Guevara (AC), Vancouver Interline Club
V.P. Public Relations:	Rosemarie Mamede (LH), Interline Club of Portugal
V.P. Internat. Events & Special Projects:	Elaine Miller (AC retired), Calgary Interline Club
Regional V.P. Europe:	Heidi Tetri (KF), Helsinki Interline Club
Regional V.P. Far East & Australasia:	John Aarons (AN retired), Sydney Interline Club
Regional V.P. Latin America & Caribbean:	Jacquie Lyseight (JM), Jamaica Interline Club
Regional V.P. Africa, Indian Ocean Islands & Middle East:	Yousef Yousef (ME retired), Jordan Interline Club
Regional V.P. North America:	Francisco (Chico) Valdez (TP retired), Montreal Interline Club.
Auditors:	Chris Orton, London Interline Club. Anja Koskinen, Helsinki Interline Club



Congratulations to all Clubs which received awards:

Sports/International Event of the Year:	Interline Club of Portugal
Member Club of the Year for Media/Communication:	Interline Club of Portugal
Regional Member Club of the Year (Europe):	Interline Club of Portugal
Regional Member Club of the Year (Far East and Australasia):	Airline Club of Thailand
Regional Member Club of the Year (Latin America and Caribbean):	Airlines Club Bahamas
Regional Member Club of the Year (Africa, Indian Ocean Islands and Middle East):	Jordan Interline Club
Regional Member Club of the Year (North America):	Vancouver Interline Club
Member Club of the Year:	Airlines Club Bahamas.

It was a week full of emotions and friendship – an unforgettable INTERLINE FESTIVAL!

Thanks once again to Ann and her organizing Committee, it was wonderful and we love to come back to this beautiful country and its friendly, happy people.

Yours in Interlining  
Rosemarie Mamede  
VP Public Relations





## The 2008 Interline Celebration Nassau, Bahamas

The Bahamas AGA this year was truly done in style as we remembered it years ago. How nice to see a row of smiling faces of the reception committee from the host club waiting for us to clear immigration .Not that we are no strangers to world travel but that it is such a nice gesture, or perhaps because of the Bacardi to wash down the travel dust from our parched throats. The girls at the reception desk were very accommodating and in no time at all I was down at the pool bar to see the usual old faces sitting there as before .Funny how you know where to find interliners.



The club impressed us with the pomp and ceremony that befits such an occasion Brass band and all



.Oh how we longed for the London Ball. Only trouble was that I could not toff up as my baggage took a holiday in Miami and only came home 18 days later. If I had put on all the clothes offered me by the members I would have been very spiv indeed .Well the hospitality put an end to any remorse, in fact some people did not even notice that the only shirt I possessed was red. Something to say about my ironing prowess.



We were entertained and feted all the time, the breakfasts were delicious and popular before setting off in the mornings. Mr Trump and old Solly do not know what talent they have right under their noses in Nassau when you look at the hospitality and organisation skills of the Bahamas club members. A highlight was a visit to the Bacardi distillery to see how the nectar was made but for some reason they were not working that Thursday. No matter Hakum



Na Matata, it gave us more time to imbibe as much as we wanted. Our bus driver was fast as we got to the beach party while they were still erecting the marquee, and the tide was up leading everyone to believe that the beach was too small to accommodate all of us but in typical Bahamian style problem was solved and out came all the refreshments leading everyone to have that silly smile on their faces .I even forgot the name of that delectable home made sweet dish they made.



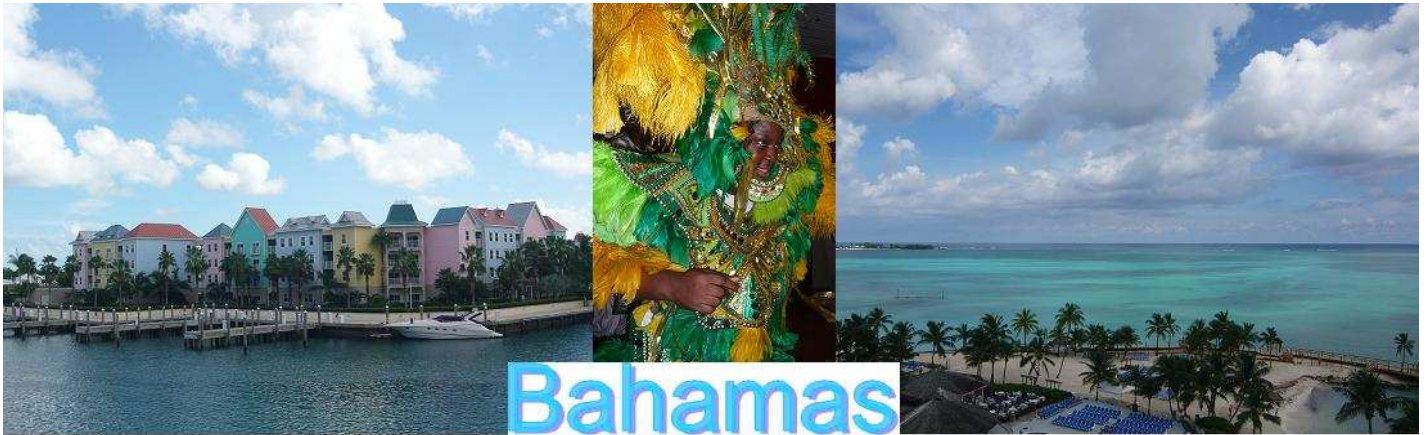
Forgot to mention the Junkanoo, but if you want to know, go to the Bahamas and discover for yourself. See you all at Dodos nest.



**Frank Roodt**  
Johannesburg Interline Club



**A big group of Jordan Interline Club  
joined the event in Bahamas**



**A country with soft white beaches ,clear waters  
and the friendliest people you'll ever meet**

**A picture worth a thousand words**



**Our JIC President**



**Nabil trying to squeeze and suck...!!**



**Dont worry, be crabby..!**



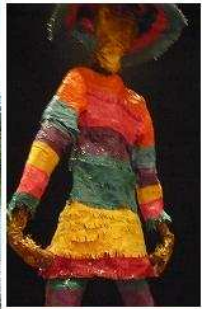
**Male or female!**



**Our Regional Night**

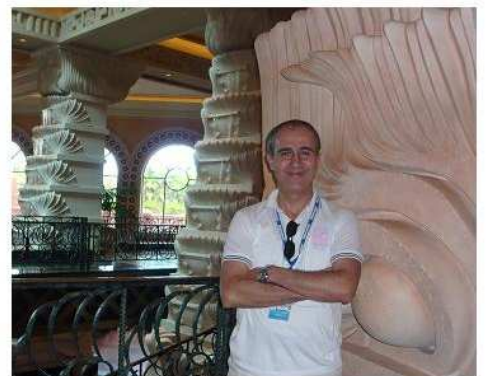
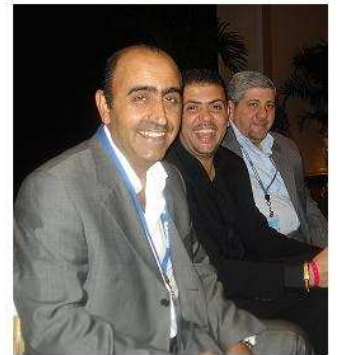






# Bahamas

A country with soft white beaches ,clear waters  
and the friendliest people you'll ever meet  
A picture worth a thousand words





# China Train Travel

Why would any airline employee take the train? In spite of the begrudging acknowledgement of a travel competitor, we have to agree the "iron horse" has been around for much longer than the plane, and shows no signs of going away. I've taken the train across Canada to Vancouver, and, while not in the same luxury league as the Orient Express to/from Istanbul, or the Blue Train in South Africa, I'll have to admit train travel isn't that bad, if you have the time.

Although I have yet to experience the trains of India, (an event in itself, I'm told), I have taken the train from Cairo to Luxor, and from Cusco to Machu Picchu, and have just come back from taking the Trans-Siberian railroad from Ulan Bataar (Mongolia) to Moscow, but I think it's the Chinese trains that are the most-interesting.

They run everywhere in China! They are frequent and are not expensive. For anyone contemplating doing some train travel, there are 4 classes:

1. hard seat – basically sitting up on wooden benches, packed in with the cows and chickens
2. soft seat – a step up, although I've never experienced this class
3. hard sleeper – basically a dormitory on wheels, with rows of bunks, 3-high, laid-out side-by-side, with no doors, no security, and no privacy
4. soft sleeper – this is what you want! 4 to a cabin, closed doors, lockable, with linen on the still-narrow but comfortable beds, and a lady who vacuums incessantly and refills each cabin's samovar with hot water.

There is sometimes a "deluxe" category, which means only 2 people to a cabin, and which usually sports a little sink with running water. (On Russian trains, "deluxe" also includes access to a "shower room", by appointment only. Not sure if showers are available on any Chinese trains.)

There is also another category I've never seen in any guide book, but which I recently experienced – "standing-room only". Let me elaborate. I recently took my son and his girl friend to Beijing, and, after missing the PEK-bound flight for the first 2 days, and with the 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt coming into the weekend and not looking any better, we instead took the flight to Shanghai, and then planned to take the overnight train to Beijing from there.

Actually our first train in China was the German-made "Maglev", transporting passengers from Shanghai's Pudong airport to downtown – what a marvellous experience that was! This is the only commercially-available magnetically-elevated train in the world, and the highlight is watching the speedometer reach 431 km/hr as the train hits its maximum speed in the middle of the 7-minutes-only trip! The sensation at that speed, watching the landscape whiz by, is not unlike the final seconds before liftoff. The cost from airport to downtown was about \$8.

At the Shanghai railway station, there was one window marked "English-speaking", so language was not a problem.

But getting 3 soft-sleeper beds certainly was! The train was sold-out, and we were offered standing-room only, in the lowest-class car. We reluctantly took it, this being our 3<sup>rd</sup> day separated from our luggage which had gone without us to Beijing days earlier, and although the overnight journey was hard on our bodies, it was one of the highlights of the entire trip! Eventually the 2 kids did get beds, but I stayed up all night, talking with the students who wanted to practice their English, and compare their lives with those who live in the West (lifestyles, salaries, careers, sports, music, general freedoms, sex, religion, family values, etc etc). The night passed quickly!

And what about these 2 beds – where did they come from? The concept of "standby" is interesting on these trains, although also not-documented in guide books. If you want a bed, and have a "lesser" ticket, you can actually "standby" for an upgrade. One starts the process of standby travel as we do, "at the gate" so to speak, but there the similarity ends. In the exact middle of the train, shortly before boarding, 2 train attendants open their window and people on the platform below vie for a "standby" number by holding their (lower-class) boarding pass in the air. Each person also holds a "bribe" aloft, along with his ticket, and the attendants determine priority of service, not by seniority or order of check-in, but by who's offering the largest bill (usually a 10-20 yuan note, i.e. 2-3 dollars).



The attendant takes the ticket and the money, writes a standby number on the actual ticket, and the person then retires to his previously-designated spot on the train to await the next phase. Now the fun begins....

As the train is moving, and during the entire trip, standbys are processed. The initial wave of upgrades happens after the train is well on its way, and after bed inventory is determined. (Yes, there are no-shows. In fact there are usually some beds left unsold, reserved for important people who may arrive at the last minute, so chances of getting a bed are somewhat greater than zero.) Once the attendants know how many beds are available, they then call out standby numbers in order (in Mandarin), giving the ticket-owner the chance to buy the upgrade (i.e. pay the difference between his ticket price, and that which he would have been charged for the bed in the first place; so the bed is a convenience, not a bargain). With much shouting and hand-waving, money changes hands, and those with lowest stand-by numbers retire triumphantly to their newly-acquired beds.

But this process continues....as people get off the train further on during the trip, some beds become free, linen is changed, and the beds are re-allocated to passengers with ever-higher standby numbers. To be fair, the price for the bed always reflects the distance-to-be-travelled, therefore the cost of a bed actually falls as the distance-remaining becomes shorter.

Another interesting little-known process is that all passengers are required to keep their tickets until they leave the station – these are randomly checked. The attendants want to make sure the ticket you bought reflects reality – i.e. that you don't buy a too-short ticket for a long trip.

Some Chinese trains are picture-perfect. I also had the fortune a year ago to take the now-famous train to/from Lhasa, Tibet. Although the train station itself is at 12,000 feet, they pump oxygen into each car as one approaches (or leaves) the station. And, assuming you can get a soft-sleeper, the 2-day trip itself is really very nice, and that applies to the food in the dining car as well (unlike the food on the Siberian train – even I make better stroganoff than they do!) The Lhasa train was wonderful, but there are bigger plans in the works.

The "Tangula luxury trains", built jointly by Bombardier and its Chinese partner, will break new ground – each car will be configured into 4 suites. Each suite will feature an en suite bathroom with shower, mini bar, and in-room entertainment system with music, TV, and satellite internet. Passengers will be served by a butler, and each train will also have a doctor on board. The train will also have two dining cars and a lounge car. "My" train between Beijing and Lhasa took 2 days and cost about \$150. This new train will take 5 days, stopping along the way to visit tourist attractions. The expected cost – about \$5000!

But today, the train can still be an enjoyable and memorable part of one's travel experience – next time you vacation, swallow your pride and make a train trip as part of your travels. You'll enjoy it!

**Steve Charlton**  
Montreal Interline Club



## Trip to Lusitania 01. – 04.MAY 2008

The Annual European Regional Meeting hosted by the „Interline Club de Portugal” took place between 1 – 4 May 2008. There were 29 participants from 10 countries.

Mr. Maga Ramasamy, president of WACA, as well as Ms Rosemarie Mamede, VP Public Relations and Ms. Ann Lenehan-Gritis, RVP North America attended the meeting increasing its effectiveness by their presence.



During the meeting on May 2nd. Mr. Peter Gilardoni, RVP of the European Region reviewed the status of each club. Unfortunately the whole aviation branch is nowadays in a difficult situation, it concerns the membership and the financial-economical conditions of the different clubs. The indirect result: the Interline Club of Spain announced its dissolution, while the representatives of the clubs of Greece and Iceland could not attend the regional assembly due to lack of financial tools.



It has been suggested, that the still existing members of Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger would continue their activity under the name of Scandinavian Interline Club in the frame of the Stockholm club.

During the 39th WACA AGA Mr. Barna Rimóczy and Mr. István Gáspár have been assigned to quest after new clubs. The establishment of the Interline Club of Prague has failed in consequence of the unexpected retirement of the chief organizer, the former general manager of CSA. However Tunis Air Sport Club, regular football tournaments organizer with the participation of airline employees, may represent a new chance



It has been decided, that Mr. Barna Rimóczy will attend the next turn, starting negotiations with Ms. Maria Kathleen, chief organizer. Together with the delegation of IC Portugal, who will also be present at the event, there is a chance to initiate the establishment of the local IC, or to join the Sport Club as corporate member.

Mr. Peter Gilardoni appreciated the intense social activity of the clubs. Important task is to draw in more young people to the Interline movement by creating programs or excursions made for, and led by them. The European Regional Assembly noted with regret, that Mr. Peter Gilardoni is not willing to run for the position of RVP at the next elections in Nassau at the 41st WACA AGA. He suggested the delegates to look for his successor in this position.

It has been mentioned, that many applications have not yet been sent to the 41st WACA Assembly of Nassau. The deadline is July 1st, 2008. The Hungarian Interline Club, represented by Mr. Barna Rimóczy applied for the organization of the Regional Assembly in Vienna and Salzburg between April 16-20, 2009. The presented program has been reviewed and positively evaluated by Ms. Barbara Prinz, member at large of the former Vienna IC. The participants suggested as headline: „WACA Spring Get Together in Vienna and Salzburg”, which represents the spirit of the event, meaning: open arms for all IC clubs. It was reminded, that the 42nd WACA AGA will be held in Kuala Lumpur hosted by WACA, and the participants noted with pleasure and pride that IC Portugal, will present a bid to organize the 43rd WACA AGA in 2010 in Recife, Brazil.

It is worth to mention amongst the bilateral agreements the discussions of the Hungarian and Portuguese clubs, according to which exchange trips will be renewed between the two Clubs, building on mutual offers based on national or regional events as a first step.

Many thanks to the organizing committee for the excellent procession.

**Barna Rimóczy**  
Hungarian Interline Club



## Grande Festa 2008 30th Anniversary of I. C. Portugal

It is notable that Portugal with its capital Lisbon, has witnessed a lot of changes since my previous trip to this beautiful country.

It was a memorable trip and a pleasure to be back again to WACA family.



We met from all nationalities to celebrate Interline Club of Portugal's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Allow me first to congratulate ICP members for the perfect event organization. It is remarkable to observe that food and drinks were offered in abundance through out the whole day with hardly time for us to sleep!!!



*For the first time, the Chapel of Nossa Senhora do Loreto in Alcafozes, Patroness of the Aviation, opens its door for a group of visitors.*

Bus drivers and volunteers who guided our tours have shown a high degree of discipline, kindness and responsibility.

We were welcomed wherever we stopped to visit a site. I will never forget the region of Castelo Branco so close to the Spanish Borders, its forests, its small villages with its white houses and red brick

roofs that adds a beauty to the natural beauty of Portugal. The sea shores in Portugal are superb. It is no wonder, the Algarve is called the "Portuguese Cote D'Azur". In spring Portugal is rich in a variety of natural colours, which extends from Lisbon to South and east of the country.

I would like to end with this particular Gala Dinner, presided by our friend. Mr. Antonio Ferrão, President of the I. C. of Portugal. Few sincere words were expressed by Ms. Rosemarie Mamede on behalf of WACA President Mr. Maga Ramasamy, by transmitting his apology for his absence due to business commitments and by wishing the best to the club.

A special vote of thanks by all present went to local authority representatives, and to TAP which actively participated in the success of the event. Participants received gifts of local handicraft in memory of the occasion. A cake with traditional champagne was circulating while dancing went on until late night



*Maria Campanário, Rui and Marta Seabra, Antonio Ferrão, Rosemarie Mamede, Maria Helen and Victor Carvalho.*

Mr. Antonio Ferrão addressed a special thanks to interliners from Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Zurich, Brussels and Mexico. After five days we are back to Lisbon, the capital that deserves several days of visit -. noting the superb Vasco da Gama Bridget of around 17 km length.



*Christiane and Mohamed Ali S. Cherif (Morocco), Antonio Ferrão (President Portugal), Rosemarie Mamede (VP Public Relations, WACA) and Carmen Thoumy (Libanon)*

We surely come back to Portugal!  
**Mohamed Ali Skalli Cherif**  
Member at Large, Morocco

My dear Antonio and Victor,

First of all please accept my apologies for not being with you at this joyful moment of celebration the interline movement in Portugal. 30 years for an interline club is indeed to be celebrated and to celebrate in a grand manner.

As WACA President and on behalf of my Executive team I would like you to express my congratulations to all your members present and do have a special thoughts for the founder members of the club who thought it wise to put in place such Airline Association of people in Portugal and to those who are continuously keeping the flag up and be in the limelight on International basis mainly at the last AGA in Bahamas for winning three awards.

Rosemarie will be pleased to represent me on that occasion.

Felicitations!

All the best and Cheers

Maga Ramasamy  
WACA President.



## The Airline Club of Singapore's "Be-in-Bandung" tour From 18 July to 21 July 2008

We limit the 'tour' to only 10 participants but one had to pull out at the 'eleventh hour', leaving the balance nine participants to fly off from Singapore Changi Airport on the afternoon flight (Friday 18 July) by Singapore Airlines. We arrive at Cengkareng Airport (Jakarta Sukarno-Hatta) approximately 2 hours later and was met upon arrival by Pak (an Indonesian honorific) Sulfas Anto with 2 vehicles. The evening traffic snarl via the highway from Jakarta to Bandung just began. We were informed by Pak Anto that the citizens of Jakarta will begin their weekend 'migration' to Bandung on Fridays and return to Jakarta on Sundays. It is a weekly ritual to encounter traffic snarls (gridlock jams) as Bandung is the escape-to-sanity from the crazy living of a huge metropolitan city like Jakarta.



**Group Photo at Bandung Hot Springs**

Despite this information, we were not prepared for what was to come. The traffic was so slow that what is to be a 3- hours journey came to be a 7-hours journey. Most of the participants were grumbling and 'regretting' joining the tour. Pak Anto had to detour into Jakarta West (Tebet) where all can have a meal and relax themselves for half-an-hour. The seven-hour journey via land transport was a mite too tiring for those on the journey that when we finally arrived in Bandung, they asked to stop at a 'Starbucks' Coffee outlet at Parijs Van Java in the heart of Bandung.

Parijs Van Java is an entertainment complex, created for the 'y' generation of Bandung and frequented by yuppies and students – especially on the weekends. The 'migrants' arriving from Jakarta will also home in to Parijs van Java. This is a 'happening' place where you can have a quiet drink with a companion, attend a discotechque, watch movies (there are four cinemas in Parijs Van Java) or have a bite at the many cafes peppered all over. We saw one establishment that even allow dancing into the wee hours of the next morning.

The grumblings and recriminations continued until we reached our intended abode for the 3 nights we will be there. When we arrive at "**Rumahan Kayoe**" (wooden house), we were amazed that here was an oasis of wood and greenery right in the middle of a concrete jungle. Rumah Kayoe was built within a complex full of concretised buildings and very little greenery.

When we entered Rumah Kayoe, we could hear the deafening silence from all. When, all along the journey, we were bombarded by complaints, now we could only hear 'silence'. Everyone was in awe. Then the mad scramble began. We were all tired from the journey and every one chose their favourite place to sleep and it was only the sound of snoring that broke the silence of the night. Early the next morning (19 July 2008), we woke up to fresh coffee and tea plus some local breakfast at the 'wooden' platform (guest area) of the abode. By 10am all were ready to go and the first stop was to the dormant volcano at **Tangkuban Prah** (inverted boat) approximately 30 kilometres from Bandung City. The sight was awesome and the smell of sulphur was all pervading.



**Entrance to Rumah Kayoe**

We took in the sights and some photographs and bought some souvenirs from the many vendors peddling their wares. After one hour of viewing the sight of the volcano from every angle, we were ready to continue our journey to our intended destination, **CIPANAS CIATER** (Cipanas Hot Water Spring). Cipanas Ciater is a journey of another 15-20 kilometres from the **Tangkuban Prah** volcano.



**Visiting the Tangkuban Prah Volcano**

Some of us wanted to soak in the sulphur springs while some shy away from it. Finally, only 4 of the 9 dare to dip into the very warm (60 degrees centigrade) water and soak ourselves for about half an hour. The four had enough of the 'soak' and came out with shrivelled toes and fingers that need to be washed with ordinary water.

Our return journey to Bandung City, ensure we pass through some scenic 'tea plantations' where all along the roadway, we saw food vendors setting up stalls and selling baked fresh corn-on-the-cob. We stopped by a vendor and since it was nearly 2pm, we were quite hungry. Everyone had a drink and a baked 'corn-on-the-cob' each and we rested and soak in the tranquil atmosphere pervading the area for another half hour.

The journey back to the Bandung City was a debate on where and what we should eat for lunch. We ended at Cihampelas Mall food court and everyone chose their own local food according to their taste buds. It was a very economical meal and we returned to **Rumahan Kayoe** to rest for a short while before dinner.

It was jokes galore when 9 male adults reminisce about yesterday as compared to today. Some opened their alcoholic beverages and shared with all. Some of us were brought for traditional body massage by blind men. Some went to a spa to have the traditional milk soak before the traditional body massage. We decided that we will have local "Sundanese" food for dinner and headed for the "**Wibisana**" Restaurant in Bandung City. Every one had their fill since it and was a full day, we went back to **Rumahan Kayoe** to further banter and some drinks before we hit the pillow.





**Sulphurous hot water pool of Mayangsari**

The 3<sup>rd</sup>. Day (Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup>. July 2008) began with breakfast of bread and omelette, coffee and tea on the wooden platform on-top of the artificial pond within "Rumah Kayoe". We allocate this day for shopping – as we have been promised exit visas by our spouses on condition that we buy back some 'booty' for them. We were off to **Cihampelas WALK** in Bandung City and to **DAGO** to spend our time and money. It boggles the mind on what to buy as everything we touch was affordable and economical in price. The Indonesian economy was in a prolonged recession and we could take our time to window shop. All bought things that they wanted. I have never seen so few males bought so many things in many years. I normally attribute 'shopping' to the weaker sex until this group. We did not have lunch as we were engrossed in our shopping around that by 5pm, we returned to Rumah Kayoe to freshen up, pack our belongings and then we went out to another "Sundanese" seafood restaurant where we had our fill. Since the Sunday night was our last night in Bandung, we decided to proceed to a discotheque for some dancing and light hearted fun but it was never to be.

That night was the night that the Bandung Football Club lost to the Jakarta Football Club. Soccer is weave into a passion in Indonesia that when Bandung lost, the Bandung Football Club fans went on a rampage and damaged cars and vehicles bearing Jakarta number plates. We were in 2 vehicles bearing Jakarta number plates when we were overwhelmed by hundreds of motorcycles ridden by BANDUNG fans.

Many of the fans carry Bandung City flags on flagpoles and they use the poles to vent their ire at the loss upon innocent Jakarta vehicles. This is our first direct encounter with soccer hooliganism (we read of soccer hooliganism happening in Europe and Latin America). We were all frightened and Pak Anto and the other driver manage to stop at a Petrol Station where the Police were able to provide protection. Both cars sustained minor damage from the beatings but thankfully, the windscreens and windows did not shatter from the pummelling by the hooligans. We had to wait for more than an hour as pak Anto and the other driver altered the Jakarta number plates to "dupe" the soccer hooligans . We manage to return to Rumah Kayoe around 10pm and were thankful that none of us sustained any injury from this incident. It was a hot topic of discussion that night, within the safe confines of Rumah Kayoe. For the staid and secured Singaporeans, the experience with soccer hooliganism is new and we hope it will never happen in our island state of Singapore.

On the 4<sup>th</sup>. Day (Monday 21<sup>st</sup>. July 2008) , we woke up early to begin our return journey to Jakarta Sukarno-Hatta (Cengkareng) Airport. It was a 3 hours journey and we managed to get the early afternoon flight via Singapore Airlines, back to Singapore. Many of us were tired from the experience of the night before that we slept on the journey back to Jakarta Airport.

Despite the experience of the night before, all of us gave a 'thumbs up' for the overall tour. We were grateful to Pak Anto and his driver for taking us around and showing us the scenic sights and shopping.

We were thankful for their evasive and clever actions in preventing harm befalling us the night before. We were very enthralled by the interior of Rumah Kayoe and all Pak Anto did to blend the interior with the green environment. Pak Anto even gave each of us a souvenir pin with the picture of our faces against the backdrop of Rumah Kayoe. What an excellent idea.

As General MacArthur will say it – "we shall return" !

**Burhanuddin Kamaruddin**

Airline Club of Singapore, President

## Heritage Tour - Chinatown Airline Club of Singapore

The Airline Club of Singapore had our second of the 3-part 'heritage tour' around CHINATOWN and we had 19 people in total (11 members and 8 family ). We know, members took a great sacrifice of their personal time to make this a fun, family and favourite pastime.

Attached are some photos for members to see and hopefully, you will be inclined to join us the next time when we have a members' outing



**Burhanuddin Kamaruddin**

Airline Club of Singapore, President



## Family Fun Walk 18.-19. October 2008

We had our family fun walk last Saturday and here are some photos to share with you.

**Burhanuddin Kamaruddin**  
Airline Club offSingapore





## A weekend in Zurich, an experience we will never forget! Barbecue Party of the Interairline Club Zurich

We, I and my wife Naemi, drew a winning ticket in the WACA Bonanza lottery and the prize was "BBQ Party in Zurich", it was a weekend with many positive and educational experiences.

We got the message from our president of Sweden Airlines Club, Britt Åkerman, with the question of whether we would accept the price. We have been members of the WACA since 2006, and all events arranged by WACA have been of high class, so we looked very much forward to the experience of a BBQ-Party.

Some uncertainty existed about what was included in the concept of BBQ-Party, but after explanations from our host family, it cleared in a positive way.

Our hosts, Hilde and Eugen Meier, had prepared our visit in a very splendid way. At an early stage, we received through e-mail, a suggested program for the visit, with some different options that all seemed very interesting. It was difficult to choose, but the final program turned out very well.



*Naemi and Lennart Appel, Hilde and Eugen Meier*

We arrived in ZRH with SK1605 and we had proposed to meet our host at the meeting point at the airport, a proposal that we didn't not receive any comments on. Upon arrival in ZRH we understood why as Eugen met us already at the arrival gate with a name plate with our name on. He explained that this was his work place and that he had access to this area. This was only the beginning of the great service that our host family gave us.

Eugen helped us with our luggage and after a short drive we arrived to their home. They had arranged everything perfect and we were given a large bedroom with our own bathroom, so we felt like we had arrived to a five-star-hotel. After a brief introduction we went to restaurant close-by, where a table decorated with the Swedish and Swiss flags, had been set up for us. The dinner was excellent and together with great wine and company, the start of our visit to Zurich was very successful.

The following day, Saturday, was planned with a sightseeing-bus around Zurich followed by a trip on "Lake Zurich" where lunch was served. Both tours were well-planned, with excellent guiding from the tour-guide, but also from Eugen, who had great knowledge of the areas we visited. When we returned from the tour, it was time for the BBQ-party, and we were not sure on how to dress... Hilde met us wearing a yellow shirt with the WACA-symbol and the emblem of Zurich, which gave us a hint of casual dress-code. The BBQ-party was arranged at a site not far from the airport, and we were met by forty very nice people. The tables were arranged and decorated in the Swedish colors with blue table-cloth, yellow napkins and the table of honor was decorated with the Swiss and Swedish flags. The grill was handled in a professional manner and all the other ingredients made the experience very pleasant. Nothing was missing and socializing with the other participants was very rewarding. The club has 3-4 meetings of a similar scale per year. In addition, some participants meet about once a month. This fellowship might explain how the number of members have been maintained around 200. Despite next day's program, it became quite late before it was time for us to return to Hilde and Eugen's house.

On Sunday, we had excellent weather when we started the trip to St. Martin. The Swiss landscape is very beautiful, and our previous limited experience of the country was now enlarged with a portion of the wonderful nature experiences. Our first stop was partly set by the fact that the last road was one-way traffic only, in a setup that changed every hour. We got to the start of the road in time and had time for a short pause and the possibility to enjoy the excellent view over the landscape. We arrived to a village that periodically been populated since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, and some buildings where still there from that time. The village now also contained a high class restaurant where we were served their lunch-specialty together with wine from the region. The activity in the village was focused on the restaurant business, but not during the winter period. The climate at these heights (around 1200 meters), did not allow car traffic because of snow and low temperatures. After the delicious lunch, we had the opportunity to study some of the buildings and the town church. This was a beautiful and very harmonious place, very worth a visit. We got there pretty early, and when it was time for departure, the parking lot was filled with cars and motorcycles which further illustrated that the site was very popular.



*Sankt Martin Church*

Now it was time for a further experience and the drive went on through the beautiful landscape to Austria, where the world's largest Rolls-Royce Museum exists. After a short break in the beautiful weather, at an outdoor café, Naemi and Hilde preferred to enjoy the good wine while Eugene and I went to the museum. It was a wonderful experience with a large number of cars of various models and designs, well representing the different eras that these cars were manufactured in. The cars were spread over three floors and except for the cars, there were a number of accessories from the relevant periods. There was also a section where there were a number of cars going through restoration. This museum is really worth a visit for all car-lovers and especially for veteran car enthusiasts. After a few hours visit to the museum, we drove back to Zurich to Hilde and Eugen's house. The approximately 350 kilometer long drive had been full of nature experiences and visits to interesting places.

On Sunday evening, Hilde and Eugen set up for the dinner, a Swiss specialty in the form of cheese-fondue which tasted excellent and added to the weekend's pleasant experience.



*Hilde and Eugen Meier, Naemi Appel – Cheese Fondue*

During the evening, we continued to talk about our various experiences in general and the airline industry in particular. Hilde has worked for Swissair for many years in service and maintenance which also have been my area. SAS and Swissair had a fairly extensive cooperation over many years, so there was much to talk about. In addition, both Hilde and Eugen have a private pilot license with a large number of flying hours in Europe and the United States and Eugen has also been very successful in competitions in the private aviation, which showed from his extensive collection of trophies. Monday morning offered again good weather, and the transportation to the airport and check-in was handled smoothly when Eugen helped us with all the practical activities.

Naemi and I had a very enjoyable and learning weekend.

Many thanks to Hilde and Eugen for their excellent hosting and arrangements. We also, of course, thank the Zurich club with its board and members, who made this fantastic "BBQ Party in Zurich" price, available for the WACA members.

**Lennart and Naemi Appel**  
Sweden Airlines Club



## Interline Club of Western Australia Honours its Past Presidents



President Kate Black/BI presents Elizabeth (Betty) Trew/retired QF, with her Honorary Membership for exceptional service to the Club over the years. Betty will be attending the AGA this year. Please congratulate her further then



Cyril Symmerton/AN retired, with his lovely wife, Helen, after being presented with his Honorary Membership, for his outstanding service of many years to the Club. Cyril continues to promote WACA, all packages, and was beyond instrumental in putting together a most successful WACA Package to Perth in the 90's. Because Cyril has been on the Committee for many years, his steering to ensure the Club stays on track has been invaluable



L-R, Roger Weir/retired KLM, Kate Black/BI presents Des Leggett/retired QF with Honorary Membership as our inaugural President



Assoc pic with charity recipient Ms Josephine Stockden (left) and Mel Langdon/EK. The Club raised AUD1000 to provide to Josephine for a life-saving bone marrow transplant to be held in Italy in October



Honorary Past Presidents who attended the lunch, L-R newly inducted Cyril Summerton/AN retired, Kay Barton/retired SQ, Debra Matthews/TG, newly inducted Des Leggett/retired QF, newly inducted Betty Trew, Roger Weir/KLM retired, Beverley Clarke/MH

**Debra Matthews**  
Interline Club of Western Australia



## Sauna Party 2008-11-22 Helsinki Interline Club

Our Saunaparty this year was on Willinki Island and we held a new surprise wedding to Karin and Paul. They met 15 years ago at the Saunaparty and had after that been almost every summer back here with us joining the Sauna Party. They are now married and Karin moved from Hanover to USA last year.

In last Sauna party we had 40 members from our own club and 7 from other clubs.

**Anja Koskinen**  
Helsinki Interline Club, President



## Gatwick Interline Club Visit to the Houses of Parliament in London



Gatwick interliners recently enjoyed a visit to the Houses of Parliament in London

As well as the House of Commons and the House of Lords we were able to visit the Queen's robing room and the Royal Gallery

The tour was arranged through the office of our local Member of Parliament.

**Frank Miller**  
Gatwick Interline Club, President



# Jordan Adventure

## A picture worth a thousand words





## Cairo and Nile Cruise 3. – 10. November 2008

Dear all,

What a trip! We have finally started to look at our photos and realize how very special this trip was. It was incredible experiencing so many significant historical sites and your camaraderie was great. I am having a difficult time differentiating what we saw & where...but once I get through the photos it should all click!

We left Cairo and spent two nights in London and just had a great time walking in the crisp fall air, going to the theatre and not really wanting to go home. Arrived in Dallas Wednesday and I came down with a really bad respiratory infection but I am on the mend. Again, we enjoyed sharing this time in Egypt with you all and hope our paths cross soon!

Here is a photo with more to come!

Our best,  
Suzette & Wes Reed  
Dallas, Texas



Do you want to know more about this and many other Events organized by WACA and its member clubs?  
Do you want to see the photos from these places and have news from friends around the world?

**Your next edition of WACA WORLD NEWS will reach you soon!**

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