

ISA NEWSLETTER

Subject: Annual Convention, Sydney, Australia, May7-9,1985

In response to many questions regarding details of the meeting, this missive will attempt to answer most of them. It will probably fall a bit short, so if any of you have questions still remaining after you read it, write or give me a call and I'll try to get some answers for you.

Meeting dates are May 7-9. The hotel is the Sydney Regent. Make your own reservations. There will be a \$40 Australian dollar deposit for the hotel room, but I am assuming that you can guarantee your reservation with a credit card in the usual manner as well. Might want to write or call and find out.

A visa IS required. The applications can be obtained from the nearest Australian Consulate. Once you have the app, it must be submitted WITH YOUR PASSPORT and one passport-size photo (no fee required) to the consulate for processing. Allow at least two weeks. For your information, the address and phone in ORD follows:

Australian Consulate
111 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 2212
Chicago, IL 60601
312/329-1741

After extensive communications with Qantas on the subject of passes, they said no. If it's any consolation, the "no" came straight from the Senior Vice President, The Americas. Apparently they did not feel the potential public relations benefits were commensurate with giving away 100 passes. The remaining options are travel on your own carriers and ID 75% tickets. I plan to go that route on Qantas from L.A. on the non-stop on May 4th, if all works well. If some of us could travel together, it would go a long way to diluting the monotony, and provide some of that famous leisure time (that there never seems to be enough of) to get reacquainted with old friends and catch up on one another's busy lives.

Deb Wardley is in the process of working her fingers to the bone getting our itinerary in order. To date, the plan is as follows:

May 7- Cocktail party 6-8 p.m. and on.

May 8- Press conference 9 a.m.

ISA meeting 9:30 a.m. Meeting will continue through lunch. Break at 3:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m. Talk by Captain John Raby on human factors in aviation.

MAY '85

CONVENTION INFO

Side note from Deb: Ansett is using a new checking system based on research on human factors. She feels it is a subject that we might all find very interesting.

At this point in the program, Deb also plans to involve some members of the Australian Women Pilots Association.

May 8- Evening. Dinner Harbor Cruise.

May 9- Discussion groups in the a.m. I have received many suggestions for an in-depth maternity discussion. Apparently the baby boom has hit ISA, and as each member battles it out with their individual airline, precedents are being set which could greatly aid the next person. In response to your letters, we're going to leave a good bit of time open for that topic. Yasmin Rahman told me of a particularly grim situation at Biman Bangladesh. Last May they lost an F-27, and one of Yasmin's colleagues (the only other woman pilot at Biman) was the F/O who died in the crash. There were no survivors. The rest of the bad news is that she was 20 weeks pregnant at the time of the accident. Incidents like this one impact all of us, and hopefully this year we can have an enlightening and productive exchange of information on this subject.

Another year has passed and we are still faced with the bleak fact of the Continental pilot's strike. While we are indeed a social organization, a large number of you have expressed a rather dramatic change in emotion regarding ISA's position, formal or informal, toward scabs. Perhaps it is due to 12 months of writing assessment checks, perhaps it is the realization that the debacle at Continental could happen to any of us, perhaps the knowledge that the airline industry is in a vast state of flux, and the illusions of security that allowed many of us to casually put our heads in the sand have been demolished. Whatever the motivations, the Continental strike, and the people who have chosen not to honor it, will be a topic for the business meeting agenda.

May 9- Afternoon. Tour and excursions which Deb will organize depending upon what most members would like to do.

Deb has included a great deal of information about Australia in her letters to me, and I'm printing it here to aid you in planning your trip.

AUSTRALIA

Australia is slightly larger in area than the USA. It is divided into 6 States and 2 Territories. Tasmania is an island state lying to the south of the mainland. Sydney is the capitol of N.S.W.. The total population is about 16 million, and 4 million reside in Sydney. Most of Australia is desert with tropical areas to the north around Darwin, and a narrow costal plain in the east boarded by the Great Dividing

Range. Most of the population lies along the east coast. Climates vary from cooler Melbourne to warmer Sydney and tropical Brisbane and Cairns. Families who live in the outback rely upon a flying doctor service and schooling by use of two-way radio. Many of Australia's natives known as Aborigines live in the outback. Their's is a very ancient culture, since they were isolated from the rest of the world until the 18th century.

SYDNEY

In January of 1788 the 1st Fleet which had sailed from England came into Port Jackson (Sydney Harbor) and founded Australia's first settlement which was a penal colony. Some modern features of Sydney are:

Sydney Harbor: This offers great protection from storms, has a uniform depth and small tides, which makes it one of the world's best natural harbors. Unusually on this harbor, sail must give way to steam.

Sydney Tower: In the center of the city, is 1,000 feet high.

Opera House: This unique design is one which gives the impression of sails on the Harbor. It cost \$102 million to construct, has 4 main halls, 2 restaurants, exhibition hall and reception. The main concert hall seats 2,700 people.

Harbor Bridge: This is the world's largest single span arch bridge. It was officially opened in 1932.

Port Denison: Located on a small island in the harbor, was originally built as a prison and later converted to a fort.

Sydney has its share of historical buildings, including the rocks area in which many of the original buildings now serve as specialty shops, bars and restaurants. It is from Circular Quay that many ferries and hydrofoils leave for harborside suburbs as well as Taronga Park Zoo. At the zoo many native Australian animals can be seen, including the kangaroo, koala, platypus and kookaburra.

Kings Cross lies adjacent to the main city area, and it is the center of Sydney's permissive society. It is truly a fascinating area to see, but Deb recommends that you wander around in pairs or groups rather than on your own.

Sydney has many famous beaches, but the weather in May will be a little cool.

Weather: In May, mild, fine with cool nights. Temperatures will be around 18-20C, 65-70F. It is the last month of autumn, so not too much warm gear with some lighter clothes for daytime.

Currency:

1 Australian Dollar= US .8136
 Canada 1.0688
 NZ 1.7171
 French Franc 7.8053
 DMark 2.5513
 Sterling .7153
 Lire 1,568

Airfares:

These are ID 75% fares.

SYD-Perth RT Aust.\$182
SYD-Coolangatta RT #72
SYD-Brisbane RT #72
SYD-Cairnes RT #154
SYD-Canberra RT #40
SYD- Alice Springs RT #154

Hotel: Approximately \$40 Aust. per head/night for twin or double. Transportation is easy and inexpensive, with numerous buses, taxis, ferries and hydrofoils. The Regent is centrally located.

Bring your full uniform, INCLUDING HAT. Also T-shirts for a swap. ISA T-shirts are available, but I'm not going to drag the whole carton to Australia, so if anyone wants an ISA T, let me know and I'll either mail them to you or bring them along on a request basis.

Deb reports that the US Dollar can go a long way in Australia at the moment, which is certainly good news. Once again, let me know if you have any additional questions. Don't wait until the last minute to get your visas. If you even think you might attend, go ahead and get one. I think this will be a very special meeting. For your general information, the positive responses for attendance number 37, will attend if possible 37, and a number of definite no's. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Abby