

Dear Members,

### **The 2020 Interline Festival**

On 13 September the WACA Council held a second virtual Council Meeting via a Skype video conference. The meeting was called primarily to discuss the logistics of organising The 2020 Interline Festival in November under the current restrictions associated with the novel coronavirus pandemic. A further virtual meeting was then held via a Zoom video conference on 27 September with the Auditors, Regional Coordinators and Ambassadors, considered as our Association's Supporting Team, to appraise them of the Council's thoughts and to receive their input before a final decision was made to proceed or not with the Festival and, if it is not held, what could be held in its place.

All were in agreement that it had been a really good idea to hold the Festival this year in the spirit of togetherness but current restrictions being imposed by so many governments due to COVID-19 makes it impossible to organise such a social event in the near future. In its place it was decided that the WACA Council will organise a Zoom video conference on 7 November where all members of the Association will be invited to join. Specific details will be issued in due course. It was, however, agreed that a social gathering of this nature would be so welcome in these difficult times so the Festival was only postponed and will be rescheduled to be held sometime in the first quarter of 2021 if at all possible.

### **53rd Annual General Assembly (AGA): The 2020 Interline Celebration**

Chief Marketing/Events Officer, *Julian Chau*, hopes everyone is staying safe and healthy in these extraordinary times. As you are aware, the 53rd AGA scheduled to be held in Bali this year was postponed to 2021 due to the current novel coronavirus pandemic. Hopefully, with vaccines coming on-line soon, the outbreak of COVID-19 will be contained. Everyone is looking forward to meeting old friends and cure the travel itch but obviously WACA is keeping a close eye on the progress of recovery to ensure health and safety of our members are assured. The 53rd AGA venues and itineraries in 2021 will remain the same as published this year with the exception that there will only be one post-AGA tour with two groups because WACA has been fortunate to be allocated with two Phinisi Schooner's. In addition, all packages will cost the same as published this year or less if more favourable arrangements can be obtained. The new dates of the 53rd AGA are as follows:

10–17 October for the Pre-AGA Tour: Java Grand Tour;

17–22 October for the 53rd Annual General Assembly (AGA): The 2021 Interline Celebration;

22–26 October for the Post-AGA Tour: Land of the Dragons and the Lesser Sundas.

Modified brochures are being prepared and will be posted in the Event Calendar section of the WACA website as soon as possible: [www.waca.org/events](http://www.waca.org/events).

### **Office Restrictions Update**

The province of Quebec has now declared that the province is now in the “second wave” of COVID-19. This means, of course, that a limit on the number of staff a company is allowed to work in its offices at any given time continues so I can only work from the office on a limited number of days per month. As always, it is unknown how long these restrictions will continue so I continue to also work from home as required between my restricted office visits.

### **Grand Venture Bonanza**

#### ***And the Winners is ...***

The fourth draw of 2020 for a USD 100.00 cash prize donated by WACA was made today in the WACA office by myself due to the social distancing restrictions that are currently in place. There were 267 tickets in the draw and the lucky winner is *Betty Burke* from the Sydney Interline Club with ticket number 14608. ***Congratulations.***

#### ***Next Draw***

The remaining 266 tickets will now be included in the next draw scheduled to be held in October for another USD 100.00 cash prize donated by WACA.

### **Membership Messages**

#### ***Communicate***

“Membership Messages” are sent out on a regular basis to WACA Member Clubs, Members-at-Large and other individuals closely connected to WACA. Recipients in Member Clubs are requested to forward these messages to all members of their respective Club or direct their members to the News and Press Releases section of WACA's website where the messages are posted: [www.waca.org/news/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.waca.org/news/Pages/index.aspx).

#### ***Contribute***

If any WACA member has anything they would like to contribute to the next “Membership Message” please send the information to the attention of the WACA Administration Manager at WACA Headquarters.

**KEEP WELL. STAY SAFE.**

Yours in interlining,

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