

Wally Bird Retiree Get Together April 16, 2008

Greetings All,

Today was the day we all went to COCO's on Friars Rd for our bimonthly get together. We started out on the slow side. When I got there, around 11:30 am, I met Andy Selak outside of the restaurant. After chatting a couple of minutes, we went inside and discovered that Al Marchment & Danny Leonardo were already there.

Al figured that perhaps six people would show up, so we arranged the tables for that amount. To our surprise, fifteen people showed up. They (in no particular order) were: Danny Leonardo, Al Marchment, Andy Selak, Liz Janzen, Howard Ellis, Dot Binder, Jess & Nancy Anaya, George & Betty Reber, Allen & Jessie, Coats & me (I hope I got everyone's name). What really surprised me was two people whom I never expected to see, they were Mike Bence and his wife Pam. I have not seen Mike since around 1971 when I left LAX for SLC. We all use to hang out at "Boys Town" in Hermosa Bch.

I brought along a couple of pieces of memorabilia, a DC10 coaster, a "Ready Room" sign and a commemorative Douglas M-2 plate which I passed around. There were also some small photo albums being passed around, which I think Jess brought. The afternoon was taken up with stories of the "old days." Both here and in LAX. I found out about some people I knew who have since passed away. Where some other moved to and how there lives were going. Also a topic of conversation was the impending DL/NW merger and airlines which have filed for bankruptcy.

I enquired of Liz about Lillian because Liz talks to Lil every now and again. She said that Lil is holding her own though she has trouble seeing. If you have a mind, you might want to send a prayer her way. It's doubtful that we will be seeing her at any future Wally Bird gatherings.....but one never knows.....

It looks like we will be getting a couple of new people at the gatherings. It seems that Mike and Pam Bence now live in SAN and are buying a condo in the University City area, near UTC and about 3 miles from where I live.

By 2:10 pm, we started gathering our stuff up and heading for the door. It was nice to see everyone again, especially those who don't make it down that often,

Just FYI: Our next get together at COCO's on Friars Rd will be on June 18th at 11:30 am with 'Sit-Down' at noon.

OK, that's all for now. Thank you all for showing up

Mike Witt  
WA/DL Retired  
LAX/SLC/SAN  
1963/1994