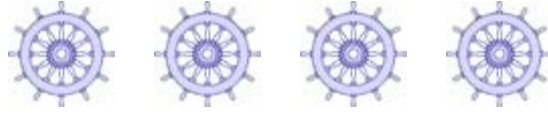




# LAURETTA BLAKE

The Working Vacation® Inc. & The Gentlemen Host® Program



2003

## Adventures in Cruises and Tours

### Happy New Year, Gentlemen!

After assisting with the Host Program for the past 15 years, I continue to be in awe of the wonderful and respectable gentlemen with whom I meet. There is no doubt that among our ranks the quality of hosting is increasing and that our traditions will grow throughout the industry. Great Hosts beget Great Hosts! And by choosing to travel with our cruise companies, you will continue to enjoy the greater experiences you seek! Keep carrying the banner and we will too!

### Women Guests

We've always known that feedback from the women guests is vital to the success of The Gentlemen Host® Program, and now we've made it easier for the ladies to elaborate about their experiences. Ask your fellow travelers to take an extra moment to see our website's navigation bar entitled **Women Guest's**. Any guests can *easily enter comments in this area*. Of course, all the women who are writing to the cruise companies are the very best voice for the direction and the provisions for the programs. Nothing tops a personal note to the president about the real value of Host Programs. Many women are asking their Travel Agents to also let the RSM's (Regional Sales Managers) know what the women expect from cruise companies regarding meeting the needs and demands for the most suitable Hosts. Hosting is no longer a novelty but rather a necessity which takes finesse!

### Cunard Line

Newly announced ... a reversal of policy for the **Caronia**. Cunard's Caronia will resume inviting two USA and two UK Hosts on the ship for 2003. The QE2 will continue with three USA and three UK gentlemen, now a total team of 6 GHs for each sailing and all eyes look forward to the 2004 inaugural year of the Queen Mary II (QM2). Will you be aboard her in '04?



2002 QE2 SAILING

### What's New With Us

**Trish Delivers** – Our very own Trish Tinman, husband Jason, and son Joey were thrilled to welcome Maggie Lynn Tinman to their household. Maggie weighed in at 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was born on December 27, 2002. We're glad you arrived, at last, Maggie! Congratulations Trish and family!

**Judy Blake's** masters degree is now getting more fully utilized to open new doors and earn her greater recognition. Judy is currently implementing her degree in teaching and the healthcare field. **Jane Blake Fetzer** has chosen to follow Judy's lead and is also aiming for a new career and hopes to help others who are in need of care and improved health. We cannot thank them enough for their outstanding efforts and valuable contributions. Farewell Jane and Judy!

Now, Tammy, Trish, Kim and I welcome **Janine Ski**. Janine has stepped into place for Jane and taken over all the duties as the new Principal Operations Supervisor without missing a beat. Her 15 years of experience with a major Chicago corporation has helped her to become the resident wizard and quick study in our complex area of hosting and presenting. Look to **Janine** for answers!

## DanceHosts.com

The challenging work of the past several months to schedule new and experienced Hosts for Orient Line who are able and willing to purchase their own air has been uneventful. We thank all of the women and men who have assisted and we will keep trying. At best, Orient's requirement has helped us to create a new alternative.

Because **Orient Line is no longer providing airfare**, we have restructured how we recruit, judge and invite Hosts for the Marco Polo. Soon the Crown Odyssey will go into dry dock and will shift and become a NCL ship for which there will be **NO Gentlemen Hosts®**.

Our company will assist Orient Line by establishing a generic brand of Hosts. The generic name will be **DanceHosts.com**. New dancehosts.com candidates for Orient Line will **not** have to meet all the requirements expected of a **Gentlemen Host®**. The Orient Hosts will **not** be considered **Gentlemen Host®** nor will they be eligible for our other ships unless they follow the process required to become a qualified **Gentlemen Host®**.

A separate website (see **DanceHosts.com**) is operating and will be maintained listing all details for new hosting candidates to become a **DanceHosts.com** Host for the Orient Line.



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*"You are never well dressed until you put on a smile!"*

### Email Us Individually:

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**Host Deck ...** More than half of the Gentlemen Hosts® have signed up for access to our Host Deck. The Deck is your gateway to a password-protected area of our website that was created to save you time and to give you the updated information. We've received very excellent suggestions on how to make this area even more helpful. Thanks to all and, in particular, to Bill Birch, Gene Keesy, Bob McConnell and Tanny Zapanta. The next improvement to the Host Deck will be an area with more specific information about our hosting ships. To sign up for the Host Deck, or add your suggestions, contact Kim at [kim@theworkingvacation.com](mailto:kim@theworkingvacation.com).

## Connect with Us ...

The future is email! Use anyone's email address ... we sometimes hear that GHs feel left out because they have not been called. We can't call as often as we would like, **so please call us**. Better yet, if you would like to hear from us more often, and be *in-the-know* **find any email address to use**. We urge you to ask family or friends to receive occasional emails for you. We don't want you to miss our quick news and special cruises added or cancelled.

## In Remembrance

Many are deeply saddened by the loss this past fall of GHs **John Spracklin** and **Derek Norton** from the UK. They were gentlemen in the finest sense. We cherish the memories of them!