



# Vanguard Eagle

San Diego Chapter **AA TWA**  **U-S AIR** July 2017

Annual Membership Donation (per single or couple - includes newsletter subscription) ----- \$ 20.00

Please submit membership donations to Kay Bays, Vanguard Treasurer, 5038 September Street, SD, CA 92110



Happy 4th of July to all our Vanguard Members



## ---The June 6th Vanguard Meeting---

The guest speaker at the June 6th Vanguard meeting was Toni Ficken, representing Clear Captions Ensemble, a captioned telephone which displays the words of the person calling by converting speech to printed words. This feature is valuable to persons with a hearing loss. Since many of our fellow airline employees have lost some hearing over the years, this product is a tailor made benefit for them. Even more exciting is the fact that the phone is free to persons who have been tested for a hearing loss in either or both ears. You must be able to show a hearing test confirming the loss. The government program is funded by a fee that all telephone users have paid over the years which has accumulated a large amount of funds. Clear Captions is one of several companies that offer phones for various handicaps. Toni took applications at the June 6th meeting and as I myself have a significant loss in my left ear, I applied for the phone and Toni delivered it that very afternoon to my home and gave me a run-down on using it. It will take a while to get familiar with the phone's features, but so far it has

worked great. Volume and Tone can easily be changed to suit the needs of the user. I had a hearing test at Costco about two years ago, and had a significant loss in my left ear and a mild loss in my right.

I did not keep a copy of the test, but Toni told me that these tests must be kept on file, so I proceeded to order the phone on that basis. If you think you might benefit from such a phone, you can call Toni at **858 287-3358** or e mail her at **toni.ficken@clearcaptions.com**.

Don't wait – get your revolutionary  
FREE caption phone today!

With ClearCaptions, you get the whole conversation. Down to every simple, beautiful, powerful word.

- Captions displayed on the screen in near real-time during conversations
- Captioned answering machine messages
- Call Log displays previous conversations to review important details
- Speakerphone offers hands-free calls
- Amplified handset uses hearing aid technology to boost sound up to 50 decibels



To qualify you must have: **Hearing loss, a home phone line and internet.**

Contact me today to get yours.

Install Date:

Install Time:

ClearCaptions  
Toni Ficken, San Diego  
858-287-3358  
toni.ficken@clearcaptions.com

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## ---NO July 4th Meeting---

At the May 2nd Vanguard meeting, it was mentioned that many members were wondering if we would change the date of the July meeting, since it fell on the holiday (4 July 2017). So the question was put to the members at the meeting, "Would you like to have the meeting on the 4th, a week later or not at all?" The members voted for --- **NO** meeting in July. So you are free to enjoy your 4th of July holiday in your own way with your family and/or friends.



### ---Vanguards Beach Clean-Up---

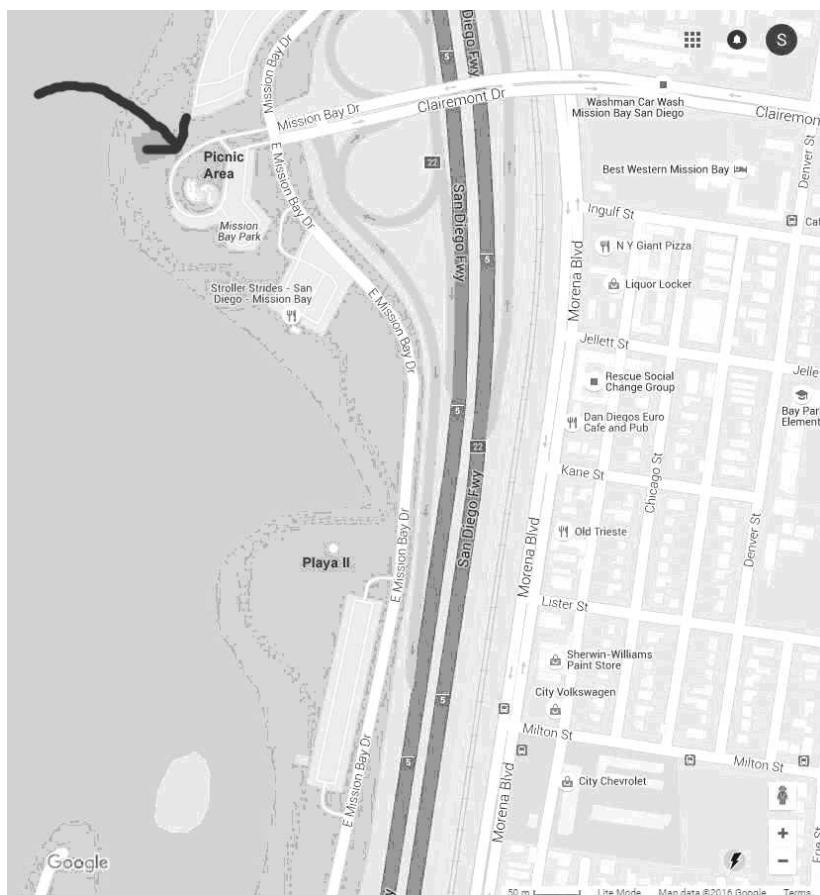
For the month of July we will be meeting at Ventura Cove on **18 July 2017**. Living in San Diego, we are blessed with good weather for most of the year, this usually makes a trip to the beach a nice outing. Our clean-up crew meets at Ventura Cove on the third Tuesday of every month. A different chef provides the entrée every month. We meet at 10 a.m. We recommend a pick up stick to avoid bending over too much. You will need to bring gloves and a plastic bag or bucket for trash plus a plate and silverware and a beverage of your choice. Bring your favorite treat and join us for Lunch.

### ---August 1st Picnic Volunteers---

The call goes out to our Vanguard members to volunteer for the August 1st Picnic committee setup.

The picnic is a pot luck affair. Everyone brings something, everyone eats. Last year we voted to change the location of the picnic from the rear of the Air and Space Museum to the east side of Interstate 5 close to the old tourist information center. We would like to get a tally of the type of food you are bringing, so that we don't have only desserts or just entrees. We also need side dishes. This year has passed very rapidly and it is hard to believe that picnic time is here already. So think about volunteering for the picnic committee.

Call **Irene Garrett at 619/464-1250** or **Walli Stebel at 619 866-8243** with information about the dish you are bringing.



### ---Roster Changes---

Please cut and paste or write the following into your Roster Booklet:

David & Lois Ellison  
Lantern Crest Senior Living  
800 Lantern Crest Way,  
Santee, CA 92071

Tel: (619) 334-9704

Happy Birthday **Vanguards**



### ---Vanguard Birthdays for July---

July 5 - **Mary Miller, Bruce Hunter**  
July 7 - **Ken Broady, Edward Koester**  
July 8 - **Marjorie Muhonen**  
July 9 - **Charlotte Anderson**  
July 10 - **Helen Boiko**  
July 12 - **Richard J. Doremus**  
July 13 - **Helen Ciaccio, Jim Zolan**  
July 14 - **Frank Conklin**  
July 20 - **Mary Conmy, Mary Fuller**

July 22 - **Julie Jensen**  
July 23 - **Dee Reddington**  
July 24 - **Marge Markham**  
July 27 - **Joann DiGiorgio, Thomas Englant**  
July 28 - **Marjorie Conry, H.R. Mahach**  
July 29 - **Brad Davis**  
July 30 - **Doris Young**  
July 31 - **Richard McCormick**

**John Pfeifer asked about the new payment system by credit card for standby travel. I was not aware of any changes until I got a bill for my wife's recent travel. Apparently the company will no longer bill by mail and you will have to use the American Airlines PayPal website.**

## IDS to be sunset on June 15, 2017

### Updating how you pay for travel

Our new Travel Planner does more than make booking and checking in for flights easier, it will also have a convenient payment process built in. To prepare for that process to go live later this summer, the NRSA e-Invoice option for viewing and paying travel charges online, Invoice Distribution System (IDS), will be decommissioned and no longer available as of June 15, 2017.

**During the short interim period between the IDS decommission and the full launch of the credit card payment within the new Travel Planner, retirees will receive paper invoices in the mail and will need to make payment using one of our other existing payment options, including PayPal and a mailed check.**

- **PayPal** – Payments can be made through the American Airlines PayPal website using a credit or debit card, no PayPal account necessary. Please be sure to enter your Employee Number in the description box.
- 
- **Mailed check** – Payments can be made by check via mail to:  
American Airlines, Inc.  
P.O. Box 73928  
Chicago, IL 60673-7928
- 

After the full launch of credit card payment within the new Travel Planner, all travel charges will be paid online with a credit card, entered either at the time of booking or saved to your profile. No changes at this time for active team members, who will remain on payroll deduction.

If you have any questions about paying for your travel during this interim period, please reach out to the team at [employee.receivables@aa.com](mailto:employee.receivables@aa.com).

### **---Iran Air Takes Delivery of Four ATR 72-600s---**

17 May 2017

Airwise

Iran Air on Tuesday received the first four ATR 72-600s of an order for 20 of the aircraft. (The ATR 72 is a twin-engine turboprop short-haul regional airliner manufactured by the French-Italian aircraft manufacturer ATR. It was developed as a stretched variant of the ATR 42, and entered service in 1989.) The order, which includes options for a further 20 ATR 72-600s, was made in February 2016, after international sanctions against Iran were lifted.

ATR said the 72-600 will form the core of Iran Air's regional fleet and will contribute to the expansion and development of air services across the country.

Iran Air chief executive Farhad Parvaresh said "Our new fleet of ATR 72-600s showcases our will to provide newest generation aircraft to our customers, therefore ensuring comfort, reliability and competitiveness. Strengthening the links between all our communities will encourage new business opportunities for everyone."

ATR said Iran is expected to be the Middle East's next big tourism destination.

### **---Boeing Delivers First 737 MAX To Malindo Air---**

17 May 2017

Airwise

Boeing handed over the first 737 MAX aircraft to Malaysia's Malindo Air in a ceremony at Boeing Field in Seattle. Low cost carrier Malindo Air will be the first airline to start commercial service with the 737 MAX.

"We are thrilled to partner with Boeing to take the delivery of the world's first Boeing 737 MAX," Malindo Air chief executive Chandran Rama Muthy said. "These new aircraft will allow us to go to further destinations and will play a key role in providing lower air fares to our customers."

Malindo Air has a total of eight 737 MAX 8s on order worth \$900 million dollars at current list prices.

### **---China, Russia Set Up Wide Body Joint Venture---**

22 May 2017

Airwise

China's COMAC and Russia's UAC aircraft builders have established a joint venture to develop a long-range wide-body commercial plane.

The China-Russia Commercial Aircraft International Company (CRAIC), will be a joint venture between the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC) and the United Aircraft Corporation of Russia (UAC) and will be based in Shanghai.

COMAC chairman Jin Zhuanglong said that with CRAIC "We will develop a competitive long range wide body commercial aircraft, [and] provide a better service to the airlines and more contribution to the global aviation market."

CRAIC said it was planning a 280-seat three class aircraft with a range of 12,000 km. The aircraft will be assembled in Shanghai.

COMAC produces the ARJ21 regional jet, and earlier this month had the first flight of the 168-seat C919 airliner. The C919 will be a direct competitor to smaller versions of the Airbus A320 and Boeing 737 families of aircraft.

UAC's Sukhoi produces the Superjet 100, a 95-seat aircraft. There are currently over 100 Superjets in service.

### **---Hainan Air To Buy 19 Boeing Aircraft---**

22 May 2017

Airwise

China's Hainan Airlines said it will buy 19 Boeing aircraft in a deal valued at \$4.2 billion dollars at current list prices.

The announcement, which was made in a submission to the Shanghai stock exchange, said HNA Group subsidiary Hainan will order 13 787-9s and six 737 MAX 8s.

HNA Group has stakes in several international airlines including Aigle Azur, Azul Brazilian and Virgin Australia.

### **---BOC Aviation Orders Six Airbus Neos---**

25 May 2017

Airwise

BOC Aviation has placed an order for six Airbus aircraft, in a deal worth over a billion US dollars at current list prices. The order, for two A330-900neos and four A320neo-family planes, will be delivered between 2018 and 2020. They will be leased to Portuguese flag carrier TAP.

“TAP’s fleet renewal plan, that includes 53 brand new Airbus neo family aircraft, is a foundational element of our business strategy,” TAP VP Teresa Lopes said in a statement. Bank of China owned aircraft lessor BOC Aviation said its portfolio of owned and managed fleet would exceed 300 aircraft after today’s additions are delivered.

### **---Russia's Irkut MS-21 Takes First Flight---**

29 May 2017

Airwise

Russia took a step towards competing with Airbus and Boeing in short- to medium-haul airliners with the first flight of the Irkut MS-21 on Sunday. The MC-21-300 took off for its 30-minute flight from the Irkutsk Aviation Plant and flew at a height of 1,000 meters and a speed of 300 km/hr.

Irkut said the flight included checking in-flight stability and controllability, and also the controllability of the Pratt & Whitney PW1400G power plant. Test pilot Oleg Kononenko said the “flight mission is accomplished. The flight went in the normal mode. There are no obstacles revealed preventing the tests continuation.” The MC-21 is offered in two sizes, the -300 which flew on Sunday and the smaller -200. The -300 will seat 163 in a two class layout, and up to 211 in single class configuration. The shorter -200 will have a two-class capacity of 132, and 165 for single class.

The MC-21 is powered by either Pratt & Whitney PW1400G, or Aviadvigatel (Russian Aircraft Engine Maker) PD-14 engines. Pratt’s geared turbofans are currently flying in the Airbus A320neo, Bombardier CSeries, and Embraer E2 family. The Aviadvigatel power plant is yet to be certified.

### **---Pratt and Whitney Gets FAA Certification of E2 and MRJs---**

31 May 17

Airwise

Pratt & Whitney’s geared turbofan engine has received FAA type certifications for the Embraer E-Jet E2 and Mitsubishi Regional Jet.

Pratt’s PW1900G powers Embraer E190-E2 and E195-E2 aircraft, which first flew in May 2016 and March 2017 respectively. The E2 series has received orders for over 230 aircraft.

Norwegian regional carrier Widerøe will be the first airline to take delivery of the Embraer E190-E2, scheduled for entry into service in the first half of 2018.

The PW1200G powers the Mitsubishi MRJ-70 and MRJ-90, currently being flight tested. First delivery is not expected until at least 2020.

**---IAG's LCC LEVEL Launches With First Flight---****1 June 2017****Airwise**

IAG's new low cost carrier LEVEL launched services on Thursday with a flight from Barcelona to Los Angeles. The Airbus A330 operating the service was scheduled to land at LAX at 19:55 (7.55pm) local time, but landed almost an hour early at 19:01 (7.01pm). LEVEL, IAG's answer to low cost long-haul carriers such as Norwegian, launches with a fleet of two Airbus A330s. It will initially fly under sister company Iberia's operating license and crews.

Willie Walsh, IAG's chief executive said: "This is the start of a fantastic new adventure for IAG. LEVEL's sales are well ahead of our expectations in all markets. The brand has resonated with a new audience, many of whom are flying long-haul for the first time."

Four cities – Los Angeles, Oakland, Buenos Aires, and Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic – are the launch destinations for the Barcelona-based airline, with BCN-Oakland flights starting on June 2. Los Angeles flights will operate twice weekly, Oakland three times a week, Punta Cana twice weekly from June 10, and Buenos Aires three times a week from June 17.

Parent company IAG, which also owns Aer Lingus, British Airways, Iberia and Vueling, will add another three A330s to its fleet in 2018, and is looking at adding other European cities to its schedule.

**---American Airlines Plane Makes Emergency Landing---****5 June 2017****Airwise**

An American Airlines (American Eagle) flight from Charlotte had to make an emergency landing in Norfolk, Virginia on Monday because of a cracked cockpit window. The aircraft, a Bombardier CRJ700 regional jet, with 77 people on board was on a flight to Newport News when the emergency was declared and it diverted to Norfolk International Airport. The plane landed safely just after 1.10pm and passengers were transferred to Newport News by bus. It is not known what caused the window to crack.

**---IATA Ups 2017 Airline Profit Forecast---****5 June 2017****Airwise**

IATA raised its airline industry profitability outlook for 2017, citing strong overall performance. The International Air Transport Association (IATA), which represents 275 of the world's airlines, now expects profits of \$31.4 billion dollars for the calendar year, up from its previous forecast of \$29.8 billion. Revenue will increase to \$743 billion, from \$736 billion forecast previously.

"This will be another solid year of performance for the airline industry. Demand for both the cargo and passenger business is stronger than expected," IATA Director General Alexandre de Juniac said. "Airlines are still well in the black and delivering earnings above their cost of capital. But, compared to last year, there is a dip in profitability." IATA expects airlines to retain a net profit of \$7.69 per passenger, down from \$9.13 in 2016 and \$10.08 in 2015. "For a third year in a row we expect returns that are above the cost of capital. But, with earnings of \$7.69 per passenger, there is not much buffer, de Juniac said.

Half the industry's profits are generated in North America, \$15.4 billion, with European and Asia-Pacific regions each adding a \$7.4 billion profit to the industry total. Latin America and Middle East carriers are expected to earn \$800 million and \$400 million respectively, but airlines in Africa are expected to post a \$100 million loss. Passenger demand is expected to grow by 7.4 percent in 2017, the same growth rate as 2016. That is 2.3 percentage points higher than IATA's previous forecast. Cargo demand is expected to grow by 7.5 percent in 2017, more than double the 3.6 percent seen in 2016 and 4.0 percentage points above the previous forecast. IATA is holding its World Air Transport Summit this week in Cancun.

### **---Middle East Carriers Cancel Flights To Qatar---**

6 June 2017

Airwise

A number of Middle East airlines, including Emirates and Etihad, have suspended flying to Qatar as tensions rise in the region. Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have cut diplomatic ties with Doha, over Qatar's alleged support of Islamic militants, including ISIS, al-Qaeda and the Muslim Brotherhood. Qatar denies the allegations. Qatari nationals have been given two weeks to leave the countries that have cut relations. Qatar Airways said it has suspended all flights to Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt until further notice. It said customers booked on affected flights will be provided with alternative options, including the option of a full refund on any unused tickets and free rebooking to the nearest alternative Qatar Airways network destination. Emirates said it had been instructed by the UAE government to suspend all flights between Dubai and Doha until further notice. Passengers booked on the cancelled flights will be provided with alternative options, the airline said.

Etihad Airways said it has suspended all flights to and from Doha until further notice. Passengers will be offered refunds on unused tickets and free rebooking to the nearest alternate Etihad Airways destination. flydubai said flights between Dubai and Doha are suspended until further notice, with passengers on the affected flights advised to contact the airline. Air Arabia said flights between Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah and Qatar are suspended until further notice. Saudi Arabian Airlines confirmed it has suspended all flights to and from Qatar. Guests with confirmed tickets will have the option of refunding the tickets or changing their route without penalty, the airline said. Gulf Air announced the suspension of its services between Bahrain and Doha until further notice. A dedicated customer services team has been set up and is contacting affected passengers to offer alternative options.

### **---Aegean Boosts International Passenger Numbers---**

6 June 2017

Airwise

Greece's largest airline Aegean reported strong traffic growth for April and May. While Aegean's domestic traffic edged up by only 2,600 passengers in the two months, international numbers rose by 15 percent to 1.16 million. Its overall passenger numbers increased 8 percent to a shade under 2.1 million. The airline said significant momentum was achieved as the summer travel season started, with its Athens base recording the highest growth. International pax numbers at Athens International rose 19 percent to 840,454. "The significant investment in the Athens network, which we have been implementing in recent years, in combination with the maturity of destinations and the strong demand for Greece this year, provided us with a very good start for this year's summer season," Aegean Managing Director Dimitrios Gerogiannis said.

### **---American Airlines Reports Record May Traffic---**

9 June 2017

Airwise

American Airlines reported higher passenger traffic in May, with international flights leading the way. American carried 17.43 million passengers during the month, essentially flat from May 2016, but RPM (revenue passenger miles) traffic was up 2.6 percent overall. The Dallas-based airline said the 19.9 billion RPMs recorded for May was a record high. Available seat miles (ASM) capacity rose by 2.3 percent, producing a 0.2 percentage point lift in load factor. International routes saw the biggest growth with a 10.6 percent jump in RPM traffic. Of that, the Pacific market returned a 23.3 percent increase, followed by Atlantic routes on 13.6 percent growth. In comparison, domestic flying contracted 1.5 percent in RPM terms. American counts Canada, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Island as domestic routes. Capacity growth broadly matched the increase in traffic with American adding 22.3 percent ASM capacity on Pacific region flights. Domestic capacity was pared back by 0.8 percent in May. Cargo showed strong growth during the month, with the number of cargo ton miles jumping 16.8 percent to 238,792. American said it "continues to expect its second quarter 2017 total revenue per available seat mile (TRASM) to be up approximately 3.5 percent to 5.5 percent year-over-year."

**San Diego Vanguards  
c/o Kay Bays  
5038 September Street  
San Diego, California 92110**

## **NO July Vanguard Meeting**

**The Next Scheduled Gathering will be the  
Vanguard Picnic at the Clairmont Drive and I-5  
Picnic Gazebo on August 1st, 2017**