# TUS VANGUARD NEWSLETTER Volume 9, Issue 6

Special points of interest:

• BBQ Highlights and Photos

• Rummage Sale Results



This year's annual "let's get ready for summer social event was a great success. Twenty-six Vanguard members were treated to a BBQ lunch, reminiscing and lots of laughter.

Six lucky door prize winners were: Don and Glenda Seidel - Renee Horn - Karen and Bob Losik - Kay Boyd. The Share the Wealth winners were: Ed Boyd and Mickey Conway. Mickey donated his winnings back to the chapter. *Thanks Mickey!* 

President Horn wished Bob & Karen Losik and Ed and Zory Lopez a Happy Anniversary and May birthdays were celebrated by Art Holland, Amy Carlisle, Yvonne Seman, Margie Appleyard, Harold Stevenson, Mickey Conway, Pat Jensen and Don Seidel.

Since we will be taking the summer off, we will resume our general meetings in October. See 2017 schedule on page 2.

We will also begin our annual membership/newsletter campaign at that time. John reminded everyone of the fund raiser rummage sale on Saturday, May 20th. He wished everyone a happy, healthy summer.



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#### JUNE 2017 TUS VANGUARD NEWSLETTER

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Please contact : Judy Hunter, Ambassador

Email: jahunter@cox.net or call 743-3717 (if you are unable to reach Judy, please contact any officer) if you have information you wish to share regarding sickness, hospitalization or death of a Vanguard member or family member.

Any address, phone number or email changes......please advise Karen Shudy. We would like to keep all information up-to-date

#### We're on the web:

www.aavanguardscities.con

\*\*Helpful AA Telephone Contacts\*\*
\*A-9 Death/ Emergency Passes
1-888-WE-FLY-AA (888-933-5922)
\*Flight listings & ZED fare PNRs
1-800-433-7300

\*American Airlines Benefits Service Center AON Hewitt 1-888-860-6178

HR Services has a new "dedicated" phone contact for retirees 844-543-5747

To access the new **RETIREE JETNET** Go To: retirees.aa.com 1-888-207-2607

Need help from the Team Member Service Center? Phone: 1-844-543-5747

Hours: Mon - Fri 7am - 7pm CST

# 2017 SCHEDULE

October 18, 2017 Meeting November 15, 2017 Meeting Christmas Luncheon December 6, 2017

ALL MEETINGS ARE NOW ON WEDNESDAYS American Legion Post 36 5845 E.22nd Street



The June newsletter will be the last newsletter until October. With this in mind, we are wishing a **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** and **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to all members who will be celebrating their special days from June through September.

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In Loving Memory

PAUL WILLIAMSON April 22, 1927 ~ May 17, 2017

Our sincere condolences to Paul's Family







Ellie, Ron, John, Ron, Judy, John, Karen, Bonnie, Pat

# Relaxing after a very long day!



After a day of organizing donations by category and the next day (nearly 8 hours) we are pleased to report our efforts paid off. We made almost \$700 for our TUS Vanguard treasury.

Our thanks to all who donated items for the sale. Fridays volunteers were: Judy, Ellie, Ron & Pat Jensen, Ron Hackman and his daughter Terri Adams, Bonnie, Karen and John.

A "very special" thanks go to **RON and PAT JENSEN who volunteered along with our coordinator, Elie Pump and the Vanguard officers both days.** Ron brought his flatbed trailer and we were able to take everything in one haul to the site where we set-up. Items left were donated to Good Will when we were finished for the day.

#### American Airlines boosts pay for pilots, flight attendants

American Airlines has announced pay increases of 8% and 5% for pilots and flight attendants respectively. "As our industry has rapidly evolved and pay increases at other airlines have accelerated, some of our colleagues have fallen behind their peers at other airlines in base pay rates," said CEO Doug Parker, who noted that didn't feel right or reflect American's new commitment to its employees. CNNMoney (4/26)

Hoping to satisfy employees' demands to close the big gap between their salaries and what counterparts make at Delta and United, American is giving an 8% raise to pilots and a 5% increase to flight attendants. "As our industry has rapidly evolved and pay increases at other airlines have accelerated, some of our colleagues have fallen behind their peers at other airlines in base pay rates," CEO Doug Parker said in a letter to employees. " ... This doesn't feel right for the new American, and it doesn't feel consistent with our commitment."

The raise should put workers on "levels that are equal to the highest rates currently in place at either Delta or United," Parker said.

The salary increases will cost American (AAL) \$230 million for 2017 and \$350 million for 2018 and 2019, according to a company filing.

The two unions representing the affected employees, the Allied Pilots Association and the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, still need to green-light the proposal. But Parker says there are no contractual strings attached, which should help with the approval process.

"This is good news and an important step to a culture change and rebuilding the trust at American Airlines," Captain Dan Carey, the APA president, said in a statement.

The pay raise would come mid-contract. American's pilots and flight attendants signed onto a new five-year agreement in 2015, and received a **23% raise at the time**.

American Airlines pilots currently get an average monthly salary of between about \$6,500 and \$25,000, depending on years of experience, according to independent airline consultant Kit Darby. And that doesn't include benefits, he said.

But pay has been on ongoing issue for the company. **American Airlines' profits** have been trending higher but employees aren't seeing the spoils. The APA announced a vote of "no confidence" in Parker in February, citing issues with payment as well as the top executive's decision to skip a meeting with President Trump. *Correction: An earlier version of this story misstated the pay bump for flight attendants.* 

#### American Airlines CEO touts optimism after decision to raise wages

American Airlines CEO Doug Parker notes that the company's decision to increase wages is an investment that will make a difference in how they serve their customers. The airline is investing \$930 million in salary increases for pilots and flight attendants. "As a service organization, investments in our team are investments in our product," Parker said. Bloomberg (4/27)

#### American Airlines Releases Plans for New Campus

Construction is underway on a new campus at the American Airlines headquarters in Fort Worth. A new, five-building office complex will accompany the existing campus, which houses American's Flight Academy, the DFW Reservations Center, the Robert W. Baker Integrated Operations Center, a training and conference center and the C.R. Smith Museum.

The new space will allow the leadership and support staff to work alongside the employees in direct contact with customers. It will be built on the same site as the original headquarters, which opened in 1983.

The re-imagined site will carry the name of the airline's retired chairman and CEO Robert L. Crandall and will host team members from around the globe for working and training purposes. The project is expected to achieve LEED Gold certification for the U.S. Green Building Council.

The project is planned for completion during the summer of 2019. The new space will include indoor and outdoor gathering spaces and will eventually be home to a fitness and wellness center that will be available to all American Airlines employees.

#### American Creates LAX Operations Position

American Airlines has named Suzanne Boda to the newly created position of senior vice president for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) operations. Boda currently is senior vice president of hub and gateway operations. In her new role, she will oversee the development of American's Los Angeles hub and Asia gateway, the carrier said. Joe Taney will assume Boda's former role as senior vice president-hub and gateway operations.

#### American Airlines to test premium economy in summer on Chicago-Paris route

American Airlines passengers traveling from Chicago to Paris this summer will get a chance to fly aboard the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner and experience American's new premium economy offering. Features include enhanced meal service and seats with more legroom.

The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Chicago (5/10)

# American Airlines Cargo expands US-Europe connections

American Airlines Cargo is expanding its network in Europe with new connections from Dallas/Fort Worth to Amsterdam and Rome. The carrier is also expanding seasonal capacity to Ireland with a Dublin-Charlotte, N.C., route, and one between Shannon and Philadelphia.

# American Airlines revamps upgrade formula

American Airlines is changing the way it awards upgrades to its frequent flyers who spend the most with American. Those with elite status will still receive first consideration for upgrades. <u>The Dallas Morning News (tiered subscription model)</u> (5/16)

# All American Airlines long-haul planes to get premium economy cabins

American Airlines plans to install premium economy cabins across its entire long-haul fleet. Premium economy debuted aboard American's 787-9 Dreamliners. Frequent Business Traveler (5/18)

# American Airlines leads massive investment in Philadelphia

American Airlines is leading a group of carriers that has committed a combined \$900 million to pay for new restaurants, retail shops and infrastructure improvements at Philadelphia International Airport. "In my 15 years at the airport, this is the largest investment that the airlines have made at one time," said Rhett Workman of American.

Philly (Philadelphia) (5/22)

#### JFK airport adds American Airlines' Flagship Lounge

American Airlines has expanded its Flagship Lounge for international business class travelers to New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. Lounges are also located in Miami, Dallas/Forth Worth and Philadelphia, and are under construction at London Heathrow, Los Angeles and Chicago O'Hare. Travel Weekly (5/25)



During the summer hiatus...be sure to contact any officer if you have anything you would like to share with fellow members. And keep checking the Vanguard web site for current information.

**SEE YOU IN OCTOBER!!**