



Vanguard Eagle

San Diego Chapter    U-S AIR April 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 Easter Vanguards*  *Happy Passover* 

---The March 8th Vanguard Meeting---

Our guest speaker for the March 8th Vanguard meeting was Dick Fisher, who, as a child, spent many years growing up on Alcatraz, where his father was employed as a guard/correctional officer at the facility. Dick gave us a rundown of the history of Alcatraz (whose name means Pelican in Spanish) where the Spanish put up a fortress to protect the harbor in 1775, a year before the American Revolution. After the United States won the Mexican war in 1848, California came under American control. Dick told us that the first lighthouse on the west coast was constructed on Alcatraz in 1854, just a few years before the Civil War. A military prison was constructed there in 1860 just a year prior to the start of the Civil War. In 1907 a permanent military prison was built there, and in 1934 it was used as a Federal Prison to house some of the most dangerous criminals under maximum security conditions. This was the period when the likes of Al Capone and Machine Gun Kelly became residents there. In 1963 Robert Kennedy closed the facility and in 1969 it was invaded and claimed by American Indians. This illegal occupation ended when the leader's daughter died after a fall from a balcony. In 1971 the island came under the National Park Service and became the most visited national park in the U.S.A.

Dick came to Alcatraz around the time it became a federal prison in 1934. He was there when the first escape attempt ended in the death of Joseph Bower while climbing the fence in 1936. More attempts followed and some of them may have succeeded. Dick himself lived in building 64 which was a former military barracks. All children look for fun or mischief and Dick told us that there was a bowling alley with two lanes and a movie theater which was used first by the inmates, and after they finished viewing it, the island regular residents got to see the same movie again in the same theater. A church on the island was used by both Catholic and Protestant clergymen, again, for both the prisoners and the island residents (but never at the same time). Softball, Cowboys and Indians and half court basketball were also enjoyed by the children as well as a sandbox and a set of swings. The children also enjoyed roller skating. Dick told us that he used parts of a broken roller skate to make a skate board, which may have been one of the first in the country. To attend school, the children had to take a boat ride across the channel and were met by a cab who took them to school. At 2 pm the reverse trip was made. Dogs and cats were not allowed on the island, but the children had turtles, goldfish and parakeets. (The birdman of Alcatraz, Robert Stroud, learned to care for finches and other birds that came to his cell window on the island.)

We had 22 members at the meeting and Alice McCormick won the 50/50 drawing and Jorge Benitez won the birthday drawing.

---Next Month's Guest Speaker--- The guest speaker at next months meeting will be **Paul Greenwood**, Deputy District Attorney in the Elder Abuse section of the District Attorney's office.

---How the date of Easter/Passover is determined---

If you have wondered why the date of Easter or Passover is so different from that of the prior year, you should find the following information helpful. Since we know that Christ's crucifixion came at the Passover festival (His family asked to take him down for burial so he would not be left out at the Passover) So the timing of the Passover is used for the date of Easter Sunday. The Passover is set for the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox. So since the Equinox is on the 20/21st of March, Passover always comes after that date. Since the Lunar cycle is a period of 30 days, you can expect to have Passover from 1 to 29 days after the spring equinox. This year has Passover starting on 11 April and therefore Easter Sunday on the first Sunday thereafter or 16 April 2017.



---Vanguard Beach Clean-Up---

If you rarely get outside, this is an opportunity for you to get some fresh air, sunshine and Vitamin D for your immune system, as we generally have nice weather for our monthly outing. We cordially invite you to the April beach clean-up. It will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month, **April 18th, at Ventura Cove**. A mystery chef will provide the entree. We meet at 10 a.m. You will need to bring with you 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. See you there. We recommend getting a Pick-up Stick to avoid bending excessively while cleaning the beach. . Hope to see you there

---Yearly Vanguard Donations Overdue---

The following members have not made their \$ 20.00 dollar Vanguard donations for 2017 as of this date. After the April issue you will no longer receive the newsletter if payment is not received. We hope to keep all of you as newsletter subscribers.

Bracken	Boiko	Burnett	Chabot	Carlin	Claxton	Cape
Daniels	Davitt	Dillon	Doremus	Degner	Ellison	Evans
Kaptain	Will Larsen	Mccarthy	Price	Rieder	Phifer	Vock
Vrecken	Weese					

---Volunteering for the Vanguards Offices---

If you worked in an administrative position for American Airlines during your career, or if you have ever thought about doing that type of work, you may want to volunteer for an office at our Vanguards chapter in San Diego. The present officers have been in their positions several years now and would be more than happy to give you an opportunity to take their place and would be more than happy to help you along the way when or if you were to get stuck or had a problem or question. The offices of **President, First and Second Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary** are all open for your choosing. Think about serving your fellow retirees and volunteering for one of the available offices. We hope you will give it some consideration. It could be an enjoyable experience for you. Helping your fellow retirees, is one of the best opportunities to balance your life in your twilight years. Your own background and experience might help another retiree with their questions/problems.

Happy Birthday Vanguards



April 4 - **ESTHER RODRIGUEZ**
April 6 - **PAUL DELANEY**
April 7 - **DAVID ELLISON**
April 11 - **ANNE MARIE SHERMAN**
April 12 - **ED ROEGER,**
April 14 - **HANK STEY**
April 17 - **JULIE BOUTET**
April 18 - **MARY PRICE**
April 21 - **BEATRICE O'CONNOR**
April 23 - **RUTH MARSH**
April 25 - **ALICE McCORMICK, LILLIAN MILLER**
April 28 - **LIZ DANO, MARY DOREMUS,**
GARRETT FULLER, WENDELL PRICE
April 29 - **JIM MARKHAM**



---VANGUARD ANNIVERSARIES---

APRIL 7 – JIM AND MARGE MARKHAM (1951)
APRIL 9 - BRAD DAVIS AND LOUISE OLIVERIO (2005)

--- Boeing To Open First European Factory ---

24 Feb 2017

Airwise

Boeing announced it will open its first European manufacturing facility with a £20 million pound (\$25 million dollars) investment in the UK.

The 2,300 square metre (25,000 square feet) factory in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, will produce actuators for 737, 737 MAX and 777 aircraft. The plant extends the manufacture of actuators beyond Boeing's Portland, Oregon facility. Boeing Sheffield will employ about 30 people, with recruitment expected to start in 2018. Trailing edge actuators are responsible for extending and retracting the wing's flaps during flight. Boeing also announced a research and development program with the University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre to develop new manufacturing techniques.

--- Airbus A321neo Gets CFM Type Approval---

1 Mar 2017

Airwise

The Airbus A321neo powered by CFM LEAP-1A engines has been granted joint Type Certification from European and US aviation regulators. The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded certification after over 400 flight hours on more than 160 test flights. Airbus said "The tests validated the aircraft airframe and systems well beyond their design limits to meet all airworthiness criteria."

The A321neo with CFM's LEAP-1A engines is the fourth member of the A320neo family to gain certification over the last 15 months, adding to the A321neo powered by Pratt & Whitney's PW1100G-JM, and similar engines for the smaller A320neo.

---Embraer Debuts The E195-E2---

7 Mar 2017

Airwise

Embraer of Brazil on Tuesday debuted the first E195-E2 aircraft in an event at its São José dos Campos factory. The E195-E2 is longer than the E195 it replaces and is powered by Pratt & Whitney's new PW1000G geared turbofan engines. It can carry 146 passengers on sectors of up to 2,450 nautical miles. Embraer said it will use two aircraft for E195-E2 certification. The first will be used for aerodynamic and performance tests, the second for validation of maintenance tasks and of the interior. It is expected to enter service in the first half of 2019.

"The E195-E2 has the potential to significantly change the fleet profile of airlines around the world. With a 20 percent lower cost per trip and a cost per seat similar to larger aircraft," Embraer chief executive John Slattery said. Embraer has firm orders for 275 E2-family aircraft and options and purchase rights on a further 415. The smaller E190-E2 flew for the first time in May 2016 and is expected into service with Norway's Widerøe in the first half of 2018.

---Boeing Rolls Out First 737 MAX 9---

7 Mar 2017

Airwise

Boeing rolled out the first 737 MAX 9, the second of its updated and re-engined MAX family, at its Renton plant on Tuesday. The 737 MAX 9 has a capacity of up to 220 passengers and a 3,515 nautical miles range. It is scheduled to enter commercial service in 2018.

The aircraft will now undergo systems checks, fuelling and engine runs, and when those are completed it will begin flight testing. Boeing said the first member of 737 MAX family, the MAX 8, is on track for first delivery to Norwegian in the second quarter of 2017.

Boeing has received orders for more than 3,600 737 MAX aircraft from 83 customers, including over 400 for the MAX 9.

---Embraer Forth Quarter Net Up 75 Percent---

9 Mar 2017

Airwise

Embraer of Brazil posted stronger net income for the 2016 fourth quarter of \$195.2 million dollars, a 75 percent increase over the previous year. Revenue for the quarter came in at \$2.03 billion dollars, a 2.2 percent drop from 4th Qtr 2015 as the Brazilian airframer delivered fewer aircraft.

Embraer delivered 32 commercial and 43 executive aircraft in the quarter to end December 2016, a slight reduction on the previous year period's 33 commercial and 45 executive jets. For the full year 2016, Embraer's net income came in at \$166.1 million dollars, against the \$69.2 million dollars the previous year. Revenue for the year rose 4.9 percent to \$6.22 billion dollars as the company delivered more commercial jets. Total annual deliveries were 108 commercial and 117 executive aircraft, as opposed to 101 commercial and 120 executive jets in 2015.

Embraer said development of the new generation E2 commercial aircraft range is continuing as planned, with entry into service of the first model, the E190-E2, expected in the first half of 2018. Norwegian regional carrier Widerøe will be the first airline to receive the E190-E2. The first of the larger E195-E2 jets was rolled out at the company's São José dos Campos factory on Tuesday. Brazil's Azul will be the E195-E2 launch operator.

---Boeing 737 MAX 8 Gets FAA Certification---

9 Mar 2017

Airwise

The US Federal Aviation Administration has awarded certification to Boeing's 737 MAX 8, clearing it for commercial service. Certification is the final stage of a 12 month test program for the re-engined and updated 737. The MAX 8 is expected to be delivered in the second quarter and enter service with Norwegian in the summer.

Boeing rolled out the first of its larger MAX 9s on Tuesday as development of the short/medium-haul range continues. The MAX 8 and 9 will be followed in 2019 by the smaller MAX 7 and higher capacity MAX 200. Boeing said it is in discussions with airlines on a larger MAX 10 to better compete with Airbus's A321neo. Boeing has received orders for more than 3,600 737 MAX aircraft from 83 customers.

---Airbus Delivers Second Jet To Iran Air---

10 Mar 2017

Airwise

Iran Air has taken delivery of its first new Airbus A330 as part of its fleet renewal. The A330-200 is the second new aircraft delivered to the airline after an A321 in January. The handover took place at Airbus's Toulouse delivery facility. The deliveries come after US-imposed sanctions against Iran were partly lifted last year. The airline said at the time of the first handover that it was part of Iran Air's "ambitious passenger aircraft fleet renewal and its stronger presence in international civil aviation."

---Thousands of Flights Cancelled in Northeast US---

13 Mar 2017

Airwise

Airlines had cancelled thousands of flights as a winter storm bore down on the northeast of the United States, with over a foot (30 cm) of snow forecast. More than 2,000 flights were cancelled Monday, with well over **4,000 to be hit on Tuesday** as the northeast braced for a late winter storm. **Delta said it had cancelled over 900 flights, 800 of those not operating on Tuesday.** The airline expected to operate a reduced Tuesday night schedule, with flights returning to near normal on Wednesday.

American cancelled 500 flights Monday and most of Tuesday's New York-area flights, as it issued a travel alert for 40 northeast area airports. New York area flights restarted later Tuesday with a full schedule on Wednesday. Chicago O'Hare had resumed normal operations American said. **Southwest** said it has **cancelled more than 1,300 flights** until Wednesday. Many airlines waived ticket change and re-booking fees. Passengers were urged to contact their airline for flight schedule information and changes.

---CDB Aviation Announces \$ 3.3 Billion Dollar Boeing Order--- 13 Mar 2017 Airwise
China's CDB Aviation Lease Finance announced an order for 30 Boeing 737 MAX 8s on Monday, in a deal worth \$3.3 billion dollars at list prices. Ireland based CDB Aviation, a subsidiary of China Development Bank, currently has a portfolio of over 200 aircraft. The announcement puts a name to the previously unidentified customer Boeing was showing for the order. "We are very pleased to expand our partnership with CDB Aviation," VP Northeast Asia Sales Rick Anderson said in a statement. Boeing was looking forward to addressing the "opportunities presented in a rapidly growing market for commercial airplanes," he added. Boeing said it has now taken more than 3,600 orders for the 737 MAX from 83 customers worldwide.

---Startup KAIR Airlines Orders 8 Airbus A320s--- 14 Mar 2017 Airwise
South Korean low-cost start-up KAIR Airlines has placed an order with Airbus for eight A320ceo aircraft. The order, worth \$792 million dollars at list prices, will be used to launch services to Northeast Asian international destinations. "We see enormous potential for the development of a low cost model linking central South Korea with destinations in China, Taiwan and Japan," KAIR Airlines chairman Byung Ho Kang said. "Brand new A320 aircraft will be perfect for our business model and customers." Cheongju-based KAIR is expected to launch in 2018 and joins a growing list of low-cost carriers in South Korea.

---Turkish Air Swings To \$ 77 Million Dollar Loss For 2016--- 14 Mar 2017 Airwise
THY Turkish Airlines posted a \$ 77 million dollar net loss for 2016, as security issues had a negative effect on passenger traffic growth. The loss contrasts with net income of \$ 1.07 billion dollars in 2015. At an operating level, Turkish lost \$ 682 million dollars, a swing from the \$ 682 million dollar profit the previous year. Revenue took a 6.9 percent hit as it fell to \$ 9.8 billion, from \$ 10.5 billion dollars in 2015. Operational expenses were up 3.1 percent for the year to \$ 10.14 billion dollars.

A terrorist attack at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport in June and a failed coup attempt in July 2016 were partly responsible for lower growth than the airline had projected, with passenger revenue down 8.3 percent to \$ 8.59 billion dollars. Passenger traffic in RPK terms was up 6.3 percent on an ASK capacity increase of 10.7 percent, leading to a 3.1 percent drop in load factor to 74.6 percent. Turkish flew 62.8 million passengers during the year. As a result of the slower growth, the Turkish flag carrier has delayed the delivery of 92 Airbus A321neos, 65 Boeing 737 MAX 8s and 10 737 MAX 9s that were due to enter service between 2018 and 2022. Aircraft deliveries will now drop from 34 to 10 in 2018, from 40 to 35 in 2019, and from 52 to 42 in 2020. There will be no changes for 2021, but 2022 will see an increase from 6 to 30 aircraft delivered. At the end of 2016, Turkish had a fleet of 334 aircraft.

---Finnair Cancels Flights As Helsinki Workers Strike--- 15 Mar 2017 Airwise
Finnair has cancelled over 90 flights on Friday as ground service workers at Helsinki's Vantaa Airport strike in support of a pay dispute with a service company.

Friday's strike, from 15:00 to 19:00 local time, is one of a series of stoppages by members of the IAU Finnish Aviation Union. Helsinki airport said the strike will affect ground handling services and security control.

Finnair said on-board catering will be limited during the strike and encouraged passengers to travel with cabin luggage only as baggage handling will also be affected.

Further industrial action has been announced for Wednesday to Friday next week.

---American To Offer Free Meals on L.A.-New York Flights--- 15 Mar 2017 LA Times

Airplane food is coming back. American Airlines will once again offer complimentary meals in its main cabin on select cross-country flights, including those between Los Angeles and New York. The airline's Tuesday announcement followed one by Delta Air Lines a month ago that this spring, Delta would begin offering free meals to economy-class passengers on a dozen routes in its major domestic markets. Airlines stopped offering complimentary meals to economy passengers on most domestic flights after taking a financial hit in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and the Great Recession. Breakfast sandwiches and pasta dinners in economy became a luxury reserved for international travelers and for passengers flying to Hawaii.

In recent years, though, the airlines have bounced back. American Airlines posted a profit of nearly \$2.7 billion dollars last year. Starting May 1, American will be using some of that cash to offer meals to passengers flying between New York and Los Angeles and between New York and San Francisco. On the menu: a continental breakfast or a boxed meal with a sandwich wrap, kettle chips and dessert, depending on the time of day. There will also be a vegetarian and fruit-and-cheese plate option, the company said.

"Adding complimentary meals in our Main Cabin gives some of our best customers one more reason to choose [us]," spokeswoman Sunny Rodriguez said in an emailed statement. In addition to Delta and United Airlines (which has not announced any plan to reintroduce complimentary meals), American faces competition from JetBlue, which now offers its premium Mint service on transcontinental flights. The three major carriers have also been losing passengers to ultra low-cost, no-frills airlines such as Frontier and Spirit, prompting them to introduce "basic economy" fares that don't allow changes, cancellations or upgrades and often impose extra limits on seat choices and carry-on luggage.

- Nina Agrawal

---IAG to Launch Low-Cost Long-Haul Airline--- 17 Mar 2017 Airwise

IAG, owner of British Airways and Iberia, will launch a new low-cost carrier in June, with flights from Barcelona to the US and South America. The new airline, LEVEL, will serve four cities, Los Angeles, Oakland, Buenos Aires, and Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic, starting in June with new Airbus A330s, IAG said in a statement. Los Angeles flights will operate twice weekly from June 1, Oakland three times a week from June 2, Punta Cana twice weekly from June 10, and Buenos Aires three times a week from June 17, 2017.

IAG said the flights, crewed by Iberia pilots and cabin staff, will launch from Barcelona but will expand to other European cities. IAG's launch of LEVEL and Lufthansa Group's expansion of Eurowings as an LCC are part of legacy airlines' push to counter the emergence of low cost long-haul carriers such as rapidly expanding Norwegian.

---Alitalia To Cut 2,000 Jobs, € 1 Billion Euros in Costs--- 17 Mar 2017 Airwise

Alitalia said it will cut staff numbers by about two thousand and reduce costs by €1 billion Euros (\$1.07 billion dollars) by 2019, after its board approved its latest business plan. The Italian flag carrier said two-thirds of the savings will come from non-staff related costs, but office staff will be reduced by 50 percent, and non-flying positions will be cut by 20 percent. The 2,000 total staff reductions amount to 16 percent of the 12,500 currently employed at the airline.

Alitalia said the savings contained in the 2017-2021 business plan would lead to the airline achieving profitability by 2019. It would then be able to add aircraft to the fleet and launch ten new long-haul routes between 2019 and 2021. The plan includes recruiting up to 500 new crew members by 2019.

"Headcount reductions are a painful but necessary action... These changes are essential if we are to compete effectively in the extremely tough European aviation market." Alitalia chief executive Cramer Ball said. Alitalia has been losing over a million euros a day as competition from low cost carriers in Europe hit its business. The airline negotiated a €500 million Euro rescue package in 2013, and received a further boost in 2014 when Etihad agreed to take a 49 percent in the ailing carrier.

**San Diego Vanguard
c/o Kay Bays
5038 September Street
San Diego, CA 92110**

**Next Meeting
April 4th, 2017
10:15 AM**

**SAN DIEGO AIR & SPACE
MUSEUM**