



2017



## February Meeting Highlights

### Special points of interest:

- Meeting & Speaker Highlights
- Rummage Sale
- AA & Industry News

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In President Horn's absence, our second in command, Ron Hackman, presided over the February meeting.

Ron welcomed 33 members and guests.

He advised everyone that we have reserved the Viscount for the 2017 Christmas luncheon and we will meet with their catering director in April to view menu selections.

Ron asked if there was interest in holding a fund raiser rummage sale and asked for a show of hands for volunteers. A

question was asked if we can include a bake sale.

We will check with the Legion to see when a week-end is available in May as well as if a permit is needed to have a bake sale.

**NOTE: Since the meeting we have tentatively scheduled MAY 19 -20 for our rummage sale. More information will be in the April newsletter.**

We are continually looking for sugges-

tions for speakers.

We're also need a theme for the May social event. One suggestion was "Rock 'n Roll".

Ron acknowledged February and March anniversaries and birthdays.

Please see Karen for an info form so that we can recognize you on your special days.

Today's "share the wealth" winner was Karen Shudy who donated it to the chapter.

Ron introduced Mr. Lopez.

## February Speaker Highlights

### Mr. Eric M. Lopez Border Patrol Agent—Canine Instructor

For all that attended the February meeting, you were in for a great presentation.

Mr. Lopez and his canine companion, Rossi, delighted us with interesting and entertaining maneuvers.

Eric enlightened us with the Border Patrols extensive training for its agents and their dogs. There are 140 canine teams.

Training consists of 4 weeks pre-training and in week 5 the handler comes in.

Graduation takes place

in 8 weeks.

Usually the dog is in service 7 to 10 years and the dogs stay with the handler at their home.

Commands are in foreign languages.

Certain breeds are targeted and the dogs come from breeders in Europe which cost \$10,000 each.

They have a warranty of 3 months to 1 year.

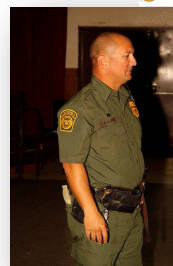
If they do not work out, they are returned to the breeder.

Our thanks to Eric for

taking the time from his schedule to speak to the Vanguards.

Many thanks to Eric's Dad, Ed, for taking the great photos.

Karen also thanks Eric for drawing her lucky share the wealth ticket!!



## ~~2017 OFFICERS~~

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(if you are unable to reach Judy, please  
contact any officer) if you have infor-  
mation you wish to share regarding sick-  
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guard member or family member.

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



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## We're on the web:

[www.aavanguardscities.com](http://www.aavanguardscities.com)

## 2017 SCHEDULE

April 19, 2017 Meeting  
May 17, 2017 Social Event  
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**

## ANNIVERSARIES

*Happy Anniversary*

## March 4

John & Karen Shudy 45 years

## March 30

Mickey & Bonnie Conway 49 years

## BIRTHDAYS



March 10 Joe Quagliata

March 26 Monica Rankin

## A Friend

Sometimes all you need  
Is a friend who won't  
Question you

-Daniel Ladinsky  
From  
Darling, I Love You

## \*\*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](http://retirees.aa.com)  
1-888-207-2607

And as you slide down that  
Banister of Life you should  
pray that all the splinters  
are pointed the other way...



If you need  
a shoulder  
to cry on,  
pull off to the side  
of the road.



**Tentative date : Friday, May 19, 2017  
To drop off your donations...and volunteer to  
set up for the sale.**

**Sale date: Saturday, May 20, 2017**

The TUS Vanguard Board will meet on March 8th to  
discuss details and times for the fund raising rum-  
mage sale.

Time to start cleaning out your cupboards, closets  
and garage for your unwanted treasures to donate.

### **Former TSA administrator aimed to make agency more professional**

Peter Neffenger led the Transportation Security Administration for 18 months and left with bipartisan support from lawmakers, industry and the traveling and shipping public. "I wanted us to stop being the favorite go-to bag for somebody looking for a joke. I think we managed to do that," he said.

Politico (1/26)

### **Texas airport officials show off renovated American Airlines Terminal A**

Officials at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport on Thursday officially unveiled the facility's renovated Terminal A, which features a new security checkpoint, a new retail area and new restaurants. American Airlines will pay the majority of the costs associated with the \$1 billion upgrade.

The Dallas Morning News (tiered subscription model) (1/26)

### **Investors express optimism in United, American**

United Continental Holdings' market capitalization reached \$22.9 billion on Thursday, as investors show faith in the airline's potential for growth. United's stock is up 54% since Aug. 29, 2016, while American Airlines' stock has risen by 22% in the same period.

Skift/Bloomberg (2/2)

### **President vows to work with airlines to modernize aviation industry**

In a meeting at the White House on Thursday, President Donald Trump met with several aviation industry leaders, including Airlines for America CEO Nick Calio, offering support in efforts to modernize air traffic control and regulatory reform. Calio noted in a statement that "[w]e share his administration's goals of growing jobs, reducing taxes and regulation, and expanding our economy."

The Wall Street Journal (tiered subscription model) (2/9), FlightGlobal.com (U.K.) (2/9), CNBC (2/9)

### **American delivers for customers on Valentine's Day**

American Airlines Cargo goes above and beyond to meet the Valentine's Day demand for fresh flowers. "In almost all cases, whether it's a small boutique or a Costco shipment, air cargo helps flowers make their way onto shelves just days after they're picked," said Marah Schobert of American Airlines Cargo.

American Journal of Transportation (2/13)

### **Airlines deliver record operational and baggage performance**

Airlines are making flying better by improving on the things customers want most when they travel. Airlines for America attributed the record-setting performance to the significant investments carriers are making in their products and services, such as new planes and luggage management system. "Airlines share the same goals as our customers, which is to deliver passengers and their luggage to and from their destination as safely and efficiently as possible," said Vaughn Jennings, a spokesman for the group.

Los Angeles Times (tiered subscription model) (2/14)

### **American Airlines' L.A.-New Zealand cargo connection a hit with customers**

American Airlines is seeing demand take off for its cargo service between Los Angeles and Auckland, New Zealand, after the airline established the new service less than a year ago. "Customers across New Zealand are benefiting from the tremendous scope of American's global network," said Carolyn Evans of GSA Cargo.

Global Trade magazine online (2/16)

### **ATC reform could receive boost from Trump**

Airlines for America and other supporters of modernizing the US air traffic control system are optimistic that President Donald Trump understands the importance of the need for investments in the industry's infrastructure. "We have to fix the ATC problems," said Andrew Watterson of Southwest Airlines. "If we don't get that solved, demand for air travel will outstrip our ability to [operate] without huge delays."

FlightGlobal.com (U.K.) (2/15)



### **Airlines to phase-out seat-back screens, experts predict**



Airlines are embracing a future that doesn't include seat-back screens as more of their customers are opting to view in-flight entertainment content through their mobile devices. Airlines have answered the changing times with enhanced Wi-Fi and streaming options. [The New York Times](#) (free-article access for SmartBrief readers) (2/16)

### **American Airlines seeks approval on LAX-Beijing route**



American Airlines is awaiting approval from the Civil Aviation Administration of China to begin service between Los Angeles and Beijing. "American has been in regular contact with Chinese authorities concerning the availability of slots, and has made plans to send one of its senior executives to China to discuss the issue in-person," American said in a regulatory filing, noting that the airline "fully expects that its continued efforts will eventually prove successful."

### **Airline, airport collaborating on terminal revamp at DFW**

American Airlines and Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport officials are considering their options to ensure terminal renovations are best suited to address needs. The airport is considering building a new Terminal F and the airline could decide to move some operations there. "We have to think about what's going to happen on the F site and what we and the airport agree should be built on the F site and then roll that all together," said American executive Tim Skipworth. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#) (Texas) (2/18)  
[Ch-Aviation](#) (Switzerland) (2/16)

### **Trump's infrastructure proposals could soon be headed to Congress**

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the Trump administration could soon offer recommendations for an infrastructure bill, which would need to be written by several legislative committees. The Trump administration has signaled that public-private partnerships could be a key piece of any infrastructure plan's recommendations. [Reuters](#) (2/17)

### **Report supports separating air traffic control from FAA**

A new report from the Eno Center for Transportation supports shifting air traffic control responsibilities from the Federal Aviation Administration to another entity, such as a government corporation or an independent nonprofit organization. "Without significant changes, the American air traffic control system will not be able to cope with expected traffic growth, new complexities in the global air space, or critical upgrades," said Eno Center executive Robert Puentes. [The Hill](#) (2/23)

### **AIRPORT UNVEILS NEW, IMPROVED WEBSITE**

The Tucson Airport Authority launched a newly designed website, [www.flytucson.com](http://www.flytucson.com), including separate portals for the airport authority, Tucson International Airport and Ryan Airfield.

The updated site is now mobile responsive and includes improvements to navigation to all formats, the airport said.

Among the new features is a new and improved cost calculator to allow passengers to compare local travel costs, including parking rates, travel time and airfare; an improved destinations page, with links to airline websites to purchase tickets; a new interactive map of the airport; and constantly updated information on available parking at each airport parking lot.

The new website was designed with the help of local company Creative Slice and founder Tim Bowen, the airport said.