

# TUS VANGUARD NEWSLETTER Volume 9, Issue 1





# AMERICAN AIRLINES INDUSTRY NEWS

#### American Airlines connects Iowa to Charlotte hub

# Special points of interest:

- Phone Contacts
- 2017 Schedule
- Industry News



Kimball Stone.

American Airlines has launched twice-daily service connecting the Eastern Iowa Airport and Charlotte, N.C. Charlotte is a major hub for American. "With that strong performance and an economy that's growing, Cedar Rapids stood out as the next stop we should add from Charlotte," said Timothy Lyon, managing director of North American pricing for American Airlines.

The Gazette (Cedar Rapids-Marion, Iowa) (11/4)

#### American Airlines gets new Los Angeles-Beijing slot

American Airlines secured approval from the Department of Transportation this week to add Los Angeles-Beijing service. "We're very pleased the Department of Transportation has tentatively awarded American the necessary US-China frequencies to serve Beijing from our West Coast gateway at Los Angeles International Airport," said Matt Miller, a spokesman for American, in a statement.

The Dallas Morning News (tiered subscription model) (11/7)

#### American Airlines to offer faster in-flight Wi-Fi

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American Airlines has tapped ViaSat to speed up in-flight connectivity on 500-plus aircraft. American was a leader in introducing in-cabin Wi-Fi service and has one of the largest connected fleets worldwide.

Frequent Business Traveler (11/9), The Charlotte Observer (N.C.) (11

# American Airlines flight simulator, crew instructors approve new labor deal

Flight crew training instructors and simulator pilot instructors at American Airlines approved a new five-year contract that will go into effect on Nov. 21. The 330 employees, who are represented by the Transport Workers Union, work at training centers in Dallas/Fort Worth, Charlotte and Phoenix. The new contract includes industry-leading pay, the Fort Worth-based carrier said. "Our instructors are the best in the business, and now we have a contract in place that rewards them for their excellence," said American's vice president of flight

#### AA, UA invest in more automated security screening lanes

United Airlines and American Airlines have opened several automated screening lanes at O'Hare International Airport, which are estimated to reduce wait times at checkpoints by 30%. The screening systems are also being evaluated in Miami, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Dallas/Fort Worth.

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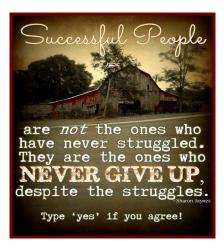
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Email: jahunter@cox.net or call 743-3717 (or any officer) if you have information you wish to share regarding sickness, hospitalization or death of a Vanguard member or family member



## **2017 SCHEDULE**

February 15, 2017 Meeting
April 19, 2017 Meeting
May 17, 2017 Social Event
October 18, 2017 Meeting
November 15, 2017 Meeting

Christmas Luncheon date
Will be announced at a later time

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

If your 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.com



--JANUARY-

Jack Appleyard Patty Gilbert Bonnie Conway Lillie Johnson Charles Johnson Glenda Seidel

#### \*\*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



#### AMERICAN AIRLINES INDUSTRY NEWS (continued)

American Airlines to open automated security screening lanes in Dallas

American Airlines plans to deploy automated screening lanes at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport next year. This technology could cut wait times for passengers by 30% and is currently in use at Chicago O'Hare.

# American Airlines, Southwest employment continue to climb

U.S. airline employment continues to climb, and North Texas' two major carriers are leading their respective categories.

Fort Worth-based <u>American Airlines</u> (Nasdaq: AAL) employed the most people in September, with 99,037, among the network airlines, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics reported today. That category also includes Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines (NYSE: DAL), and Chicago-based United Airlines (NYSE: UAL).

Dallas-based <u>Southwest Airlines</u> (NYSE: LUV), with 53,072 on the job in September, employed the most among low-cost airlines, according to the BTS.

Envoy employed the most among regional airlines, with 10,889.

If employment weren't broken into categories, Southwest would have ranked fourth among all airlines, behind American, United with 81,800 workers, and Delta with 80,000.

#### (continued on page 3)

Year over year, American grew 2.4 percent, United grew 4.3 percent, Delta grew 0.9 percent and Southwest, which dramatically expanded at Dallas Love Field, grew 9.1 percent.

The rankings maintain American Airlines' position as the airline by employment as well as by traffic.

U.S. passenger airlines overall employed 4.3 percent more workers in September 2016 than in September 2015. The September monthly total of 414,591 was the highest since July 2005, when employment hit 414,923. It was the 35th consecutive month that passenger airline employment exceeded the same month of the previous year.

#### President-elect Trump seems supportive of ATC reform

Transportation leaders in both the House and Senate believe the case for modernizing our skies has strengthened and air traffic control reform could progress under the Trump administration. Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee chairman, said that the Federal Aviation Administration has spent billions of dollars without bringing fundamental change to ATC management. "Congress has different options, and we will continue to explore them, but the case for changing the FAA's approach to air traffic control modernization has become stronger," said Thune.

Skift/The Associated Press (11/19)

#### AA, Qantas push back on tentative DOT decision

American Airlines and Qantas vowed to challenge the Department of Transportation's tentative decision to block a proposal by the two airlines to expand their network alliance. "Other airlines have the significant competitive advantage of antitrust immunity in the US-Australasia market. With the same opportunity, American and Qantas will be able to compete more effectively and increase consumer benefits in the market," AA said in a statement. The DOT will accept comments on its decision until Dec. 2 before it makes a final ruling. International Business Times (11/22)

#### American Airlines shares data with FlightStats, OAG

American Airlines will share its operational data with FlightStats and OAG in an effort to enhance travelers' ability to track flights. "Getting information directly from the source, the airline, allows the FlightStats team to test and confirm facts and craft a detailed narrative of each flight," said FlightStats' Jim Hetzel. Investopedia (11/22)

#### American Completes US Airways Mainline Livery Makeover

American's new (foreground) and old liveries

American Airlines said it has completed repainting all 299 of the US Airways mainline aircraft in its current fleet with the new American livery that was first unveiled in January 2013.

The process ended November 22 with the painting of an Airbus A321, carrying the tail number N563UW. American began repainting the US Airways fleet in January 2014, shortly after the two airlines merged. That particular A321 was built in Hamburg and was delivered to the airline on December 7, 2012 There is still more repainting that needs to be done, however, as American has yet to paint some 100 Boeing 737s that are currently in the old American livery.

In addition, a mixture of Boeing 757s and MD-80s that are close to retirement will not be painted but will remain in the polished metal livery until they exit the fleet. Travelers can also expect to see some US Airways Express regional aircraft in their original livery until May of next year.

#### American Airlines, Qantas withdraw application to extend partnership

American Airlines Group and Qantas Airways are no longer pursuing expanding their network tie-up after a cold reception from the US Department of Transportation. "When the Department of Transportation issued its (tentative ruling) it was clear it would take longer than the 14 days they gave us to respond, and the DOT refused to give us an extension to fully demonstrate the benefits of our position," said American Airlines.

#### Airlines launch historic service to Havana, Cuba

Three US airlines launched service to Havana, Cuba, for the first time in more than five decades. American Airlines, JetBlue Airways and United Airlines started service to Havana already, and several additional airlines are slated to add service to Havana soon.







#### AA CEO Doug Parker's leadership, vision helping transform industry

American Airlines CEO Doug Parker told CNBC this week that after a few transitional years, airlines are now able to think long-term to benefit not only consumers but investors. "So, as we have been saying for quite some time now, this is a whole new business. We certainly are thinking long-term; we think about our people and our customers long-term," Parker said.

## TSA works to educate travelers on travel ID requirements

The Transportation Security Administration has posted signs at Chicago-area airports to educate travelers about enhanced ID requirements. Beginning in 2018, travelers will have to show identification that complies with Homeland Security standards.

#### American Airlines increases capacity, amenities on N.C.-London route

American Airlines is adding capacity and amenities to its service connecting North Carolina's Raleigh-Durham International Airport and London Heathrow Airport. "We are delighted that Americans will once again fly the Boeing 777 nonstop from RDU-London Heathrow," said Michael Landguth of the RDU Airport Authority.

The News & Observer (Raleigh, N.C.) (12/14)

## American offers more cargo capacity on DFW-Spain route

American Airlines boosted its capacity for cargo between Dallas-Fort Worth and Madrid, Spain, with a Boeing 787-9. "The introduction of the 787-9 brings another more fuel-efficient aircraft type with even greater cargo capacity into the American Airlines fleet," said American's David Vance. Global Trade magazine online (12/20)

## American Awarded LAX-Beijing service by DOT

The Department of Transportation has awarded American Airlines seven weekly frequencies for service between the US and select points in China, offering daily return services between Los Angeles and Beijing. The DOT ruling awarded the service to American while rejecting a request from Delta Air Lines.

#### American Airlines expands premium economy routes

American Airlines plans to expand premium economy routes out of Dallas/Fort Worth this February. The new destinations are Seoul and Paris.

## American to share profits with employees

American Airlines reintroduced profit-sharing for employees in 2016 after its merger with US Airways. "We have to be out working to find ways to positively surprise our employees," said CEO Doug Parker. Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Texas) (12/28)

#### Airports display signs about REAL ID changes

Signs informing travelers about REAL ID requirements for air travel are on display at US airports. The requirements, which take effect in 2018, will mean that some state-issued IDs are not sufficient for air travel.

#### The fleet and hubs of American Airlines, by the numbers

American Airlines is the largest carrier in the world, moving into the top spot following its merger with US Airways that closed in 2015.

Headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, American and its regional affiliates fly more than 1,500 aircraft through nine hub cities.

American <u>traces its history</u> back to 1920s, when a mail carrier operation that would become today's American flew its first flight. This century, American has grown through several mergers. In 2001, American acquired TWA (Trans World Airlines). In 2015, US Airways led an effort to merge with American, creating today's version of the company that kept the American Airlines name. US Airways itself was the product of numerous mergers over the years, including a 2005 merger with America West.

Headquarters: Fort Worth, Texas

CEO: Doug Parker

Destinations: About 350 in 50 countries

Hubs: Charlotte, Chicago O'Hare, Dallas/Fort Worth Los Angeles, Miami, New YorkLaGuardia/JFK, Philadelphia, Phoe-

nix, Washington Reagan National **Daily flights**: About 6,700

Frequent-flier program: AAdvantage Frequent-flier alliance: oneworld