TUS VANGUARD NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, Issue 11







Join Us

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

American Legion Post 36 5845 E. 22nd

Social time:

10am

Business Meeting: 10:30am

Speaker: 11am

Mr. Tom Pylman Pima Council on Aging

October Meeting and Speaker Highlights

President Horn opened the meeting welcoming members and guests.

Michael Riley, who began his career in TUS while attending the U of A, was visiting us from his home in LON . We also welcomed Dave and Maggie McClain.

John reminded everyone that it is time to renew memberships and newsletters that are mailed via US mail. The fees will remain at \$10 per person and \$10 to have the newsletter mailed to you. Online newsletters are still free. See Karen as Bonnie is out

-of-town at a Clipped Wings convention at JFK in the old TWA terminal that is now a hotel.

The Christmas luncheon is December 11th and tickets will be available at the November meeting. See enclosed for menu and information John announced

Anniversaries

Don & Glenda Seidel 43 years

Birthdays

Judy Hunter, Gene Bisson, Shirley Peat, Carole Curtin, Dee Sundby, June Parker, Bob Losik

On a sad note, our good friend and loyal Vanguard member, Jerry McPherson passed away on September 25th. Sincere condolences to Edna and family.

Our share the wealth winner was Sue Cromwell who graciously donated the funds back to the Chapter. Thank you Sue!

John introduced Mrs. Maria Ramirez-Trillo of AARP Tucson

She provided members with a plethora of information of all the help and many services offered by AARP.

AARP has 38 million members and membership begins at 50. Arizona has four chapters with Pima county having 80,000 AARP members.

AARP offers many services including a free income tax program that is open to everyone, regardless of age. They offer shredding events, free movies, fraud alerts, identity theft, etc.

For more information go to AARP.org/Tucson

Special points of interest:

- October Meeting Recap
- 2020 Renewal
- 2019 Christmas Luncheon info and Menu



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2019 SCHEDULE

November 20

*December 11

*Christmas Luncheon

****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

NRSA Department

480-693-8164

*American Airlines Benefits Service Center

AON Hewitt 1-888-860-6178

Hours: Mon - Fri 7am - 7pm CST

AA Team Member Service Center

844-543-5747

To access the new

RETIREE JETNET

Go To: retirees.aa.com

1-888-207-2607

~~2019 OFFICERS~~

John Horn, President 869-1288 jwh946@gmail.com

Ron Hackman, Vice President 790-3740

Bonnie Conway, Treasurer 299-6462 abconway68@comcast.net

Karen Shudy, Secretary/Editor 883-8030 tusvanguards@hotmail.com

Ellie Pump Consultant/Activities Director 579-9627 epump11@aol.com

Please contact : Judy Hunter, Ambassador Email: <u>hunterja8@gmail.com</u> (new email address) 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.









NOVEMBER 10 Ed Boyd 25 Marie Fudala

NOVEMBER 6

Joe and Ginny Quagliata

65 years

IN MEMORIAM



JERRY MCPHERSON April 21, 1930 September 25, 2019

Our sincere condolences to the Edna and the McPherson Family

A GOOD LIFE IS WHEN YOU SMILE OFTEN, DREAM BIG, LAUGH A LOT, AND REALIZE HOW BLESSED YOU ARE FOR WHAT YOU HAVE

American Airlines debuts new HQ in Texas

American Airlines unveiled its new corporate headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, which includes a scale replica of the tail of a 737 and 50-foot ceilings made to look like a jet engine turbine. The building, called Skyview 8, is part of an expansion of American's sprawling Fort Worth campus, which will eventually house 12,000 of the airline's 108,000 employees.

The last of 5,600 American Airlines employees were finally allowed to move into the company's new headquarters.

After walking through security, they posed for photos in front of a scale replica of a 737 tail section and gazed up at a 50foot ceiling meant to look like the turbine inside a jet engine. Those same employees could also look up and see the cubicles of executives such as CEO Doug Parker and President Robert Isom.

The shiny new headquarters building, called Skyview 8, is a bright spot for American Airlines after a tough year in which performance has suffered, the company's stock price has plummeted, and hundreds of cancellations are being blamed on an ongoing contract dispute with mechanics.

"It gives us a focal point, whether you work here or work in the operations center," said Jonathan Pierce, director of campus, culture and change for American. "If you have a badge you can get into this building, whether you work here or in Portland, Ore." The corporate headquarters building is part of a \$350 million expansion of the American Airlines campus in Fort Worth that was built in the 1950s. When the expansion is complete, the sprawling campus will have eight main sections that house about 12,000 of American's 108,000 employees. With Skyview 8 and an information technology building opening in October, seven of the main sections will be open.

The airline also plans to spend <u>an additional \$250 million</u> <u>on a hotel that's set to open by</u> <u>the end of 2021</u>.

To build the new headquarters facility, American extended its campus on DFW International Airport property to 300 acres. American has a 99-year ground lease on the land, and it got about \$21.25 million in tax incentives from the city of Fort Worth for the expansion, including the IT center.

American Airlines is calling it the Robert L. Crandall Campus, an ode to the former CEO who led the airline from 1985 to 1998, an era of major growth for American.

Kirk Hotelling, American's managing director for real estate, said the Skyview 8 building was designed to push different corporate employees closer together. There are no executive offices, and Parker sits in a cubicle like other employees, something he did at the old building as well.

Bike and walking paths wind through the campus, and parking lots are being torn up and replaced with picnic areas and even a softball and cricket field. Workers can bike past the training center where new flight attendants learn procedures, past construction sites where a new fitness and wellness center is planned and up to the doors of the Integrated Operations Center, where weather, routing, scheduling and other day-to-day operations employees work.

Skyview 8 houses most of the company's corporate staff. It also serves as a gateway to the rest of the campus

The first floor has a corporate shop, employee services and about a dozen restaurants ranging from sushi and tacos to coffee and salads.

Artwork throughout gives a nod to employees, including a hanging display over the cafeteria that was made to look like jet contrails and was designed by employees at the Tulsa heavy maintenance base.

American Airlines corporate campus employees will continue to see some work for the next few years. The former flight attendant dormitory is being torn down and replaced with the hotel, where employees will stay while they are trained. There are also plans for a swimming pool, fitness facility and conference center.

The former American headquarters building across the freeway from the new facility will eventually have a new use, too. Entirely owned by American Airlines, the <u>1.4 million-square-foot</u> <u>building constructed in 1988</u> is up for lease.



<u>American Airline works</u> <u>with hotel, park for</u> <u>"Stand Up To Cancer"</u> <u>event</u>

American Airlines partnered with Hyatt and the Universal Orlando resort as part of the "Stand Up To Cancer" effort for the inaugural flight of a new Airbus 321 that has the names of 22,627 cancer survivors, patients and those who have died from the disease on it. The aircraft flew cancer survivors and caregivers to the event in Orlando, which was staffed by volunteer flight crew who each had a connection to cancer. MediaPost Communications (9/23)

American celebrates longestserving staff members

Over 400 of American's staff gualified for these honors. The team members congregated in Dallas for a black-tie dinner and recognition ceremony. Although, the occasion did offer some light relief as attendees were able to dance and reminisce a little. Moreover, for entertainment, American Airlines brought in Martha Reeves of Motown. In honoring these staff members, American Airlines Chairman and CEO Doug Parker had the following to say:

You have built this airline to what it is today. We stand on your shoulders, and we all will continue the legacy you have created

With over 130,000 staff around the globe, these long-serving staff members make up a significant chunk of the airline's employee base. Some work as pilots, others <u>flight attendants</u>, and even some in airline operations.



What is the history of these staff members?

American highlights that these employees come from 11 different heritage carriers that are now part of American. These include: Air Cal Allegheny Airlines Eastern Air Lines Empire Airlines Mohawk Airlines Ozark Airlines Piedmont Airlines Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) Trans World Airlines (TWA) US Airways (or USAir)

It is pleasant to see an airline honor their long-serving employees. As these employees have dedicated much of their life to the airline, it is only fair for them to receive the acknowledgment they deserve. Hopefully, this event was a memorable one for all who attended.

Maintenance contracts

American Airlines is having an issue with their maintenance workers. After the merger with US Airways, both sets of maintenance workers did not come together under one contract. Now, American Airlines is locked in heated negotiations with these employees. Recently, an American mechanic was found to be intentionally tampering with an aircraft. Since this incident, the investigation has revealed some startling information.



American Airlines is dealing with issues over a maintenance contract. Photo: American Airlines Last month, a judge ruled in favor of American Airlines and granted an injunction against the mechanics. According to American, these mechanics intentionally disrupted operations. Although the workers argued that they were simply doing their jobs, it seems that the judge was unimpressed.

An American Airlines pilot gifted his wings to a 2-year-old passenger for this sweet reason A well-traveled set of pilot's wings landed in new hands

Joseph Weis, an American Airlines pilot, passed on his wings this month to a young passenger with Down syndrome during his final flight.

As Weis was retiring, Hezekiah "Ki" Alsedek, 2, was making his first trip with his mother, Sarah Tamar Klitenick, on the flight from Madrid to Miami on Oct. 2.

"When Captain Weis found out his last flight at American was Ki's first flight, he wanted to pass along his wings to a future generation," Ross Feinstein, spokesperson for American Airlines, told USA TODAY in a statement.

Weis, who began flying for American in March 1985, always enjoyed engaging with his passengers, Feinstein said.

During the flight, Klitenick and her son sat in the same row as Weis' wife.

In the sky, Klitenick learned it was Weis' last flight, and there was a water salute scheduled when they landed. As a tradition for retiring pilots, water is blasted in an arc over an arriving or departing plane.

Midflight during his break, Weis came over and told Klitenick he wanted to pass his wings on to Ki. They pinned the wings on Ki in the plane's cockpit.

"It was just a humongous honor," Klitenick told USA TODAY.

"That he felt moved to do it was even more special."

Ki still talks about "Captain Joe," his mother said. He likes to wear his new wings around and enjoyed the experience of flying.

Klitenick said it was really special to share the story with their family.

"All of us at American are truly touched by the actions of Captain Joseph Weis," Feinstein said. "We are proud of Captain Weis and wish him all the best on his retirement. We also look forward to welcoming Ki on future American flights, along with his wings."