



MARCH 2018

Special points of interest:

- 2018 Schedule Change
- February Speaker Highlights
- April Social Event
- Registration Form
- *Must RSVP AND PAY BY APRIL 1ST

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

At our March board meeting a decision was made to adjust our 2018 TUS Vanguard meeting schedule. Because of unforeseen issues, we will not have a general meeting in April and this will be our last gathering until we meet again in October. Your understanding is appreciated.

April 18, we will host our annual spring social event.

There is an RSVP form included with this newsletter. We will need your contribution for the meal by APRIL 1st. for an accurate meal headcount.

As always, a TUS Vanguard newsletter will be published through the month of June, then resume in October. We ask during our hiatus months that you keep in contact with the board if you wish to share information regarding illness or death so that we can inform our members.



FEBRUARY MEETING AND SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

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In the absence of our President and Vice President, Karen Shudy conducted the business meeting.

Twenty-three members and guests attended the February meeting.

Members were asked if they enjoyed the Christmas luncheon and asked for meal and door prize suggestions. She also mentioned that non-members and guests will pay the full meal cost since the Chapter

subsidizes member's meals by way of membership dues and 50-50.

All were asked if they have a speaker we can invite.

January, February and March anniversaries and birthdays were recognized.

Karen mentioned the recent passing of Al Martin a retiree who worked in TUS

Our 50-50 winner was **SUE CROMWELL**

who graciously donated her winnings back to the Chapter.

THANKS SUE!

Karen introduced our speaker, Mr. John Eisele. Representing TEP.

Mr. Eisele gave a great power point workshop presentation on energy and areas where we can save money. Several had questions on different areas for Mr. Eisele. Everyone received an energy kit compliments of TEP.

~ ~ 2018 OFFICERS ~ ~

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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



We're on the web:

www.aavanguardscities.com

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



REVISED 2018 SCHEDULE

NO MEETING IN MAY

2018 SCHEDULE

April 18 Social Event
October 17
November 14*

December 5 - Christmas Luncheon

***Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday**
We will meet one week earlier

****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



MARCH

4 John and Karen Shudy 46 years
30 Mickey and Bonnie Conway 50 years



Patricia C. Waite

Our sincere condolences to Pat's family.



MARCH

10 Joe Quagliata
26 Monica Rankin

American Airlines grants \$25K for student aviation program

American Airlines has awarded McKinney Independent School District in Texas \$25,000 for excellence in its student aviation program. The district plans to use the money to buy flight simulators for training purposes. [Community Impact Newspaper \(Pflugerville, Texas\) \(1/31\)](#)

American Airlines tests option for coach passengers to preorder meals

An option is being tested to allow American Airlines coach passengers to preorder an in-flight meal up to 24 hours before departure. Passengers on select flights from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport will be able to participate in the test program. [Frequent Business Traveler \(1/31\)](#)

American Airlines to launch online cargo tech with IBS partnership

American Airlines Cargo will use IBS Software to launch iCargo, a web-based cargo management system. "We are focused on modernizing processes for our team, and increasing transparency and flexibility for our customers. The rapidly changing cargo landscape demands that we invest in the best of tools, so that our team can focus on doing what they do best -- delivering an exceptional customer experience," an American Airlines spokesperson said. [Air Cargo News \(2/2\)](#)

United Airlines, American Airlines make high-class lounges a priority

American Airlines and United Airlines are among carriers adding and updating their lounges to provide premium passengers with a premium experience. American has opened four Flagship Lounges with more expected to open soon, while United continues to work on its Polaris Lounges. [Travel Weekly \(2/6\)](#)

59K employees respond to American Airlines' "American Voice" project

American Airlines received 250,000 comments from 59,000 employees in response to its "American Voice" project encouraging workers to submit anonymous advice to improve the company. The company will hold listening sessions with employees to gauge their opinions on some of the comments received before creating an action plan to address some of the concerns, according to airline executive Patrick O'Keeffe. [The Business Journals \(tiered subscription model\)/Chicago \(2/8\)](#)

American Airlines plans \$467M in pension fund contributions

American Airlines announced that it plans to contribute \$467 million to pension funds in 2018. The company is required to contribute \$42 million; the additional \$425 million is a discretionary contribution. The company gave \$286 million to its pension plans last year. [Pensions & Investments \(free access for SmartBrief readers\) \(2/21\)](#)

American Airlines rolling out high-speed satellite Wi-Fi

American Airlines is rolling out high-speed satellite Wi-Fi service and says it will have retrofitted its A320 aircraft and legacy US Airways A319s with Gogo's 2Ku system by the end of 2018. ViaSat's satellite service is being installed in American's A319s and A321s and well as the airline's 737 jets. [Frequent Business Traveler \(2/21\)](#)

US airlines oppose increasing airport taxes on passengers

The CEOs of Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines sent a letter to Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao expressing their opposition to any increase of the Passenger Facility Charge. "Airlines are committed to making capital improvements in infrastructure alongside our well-funded airport partners, and we respectfully ask for your commitment to solutions that do not involve unnecessary tax increases on the traveling public," the letter said. [Frequent Business Traveler \(2/22\)](#)

American Airlines, Qantas reapply for joint venture approval

American Airlines Group and Qantas Airways are reapplying for US regulatory approval for a joint venture that would allow them to coordinate schedules and prices. A previous application was approved by Australia and New Zealand, but rejected by the US.
[Reuters \(2/26\)](#)

PFC increases called unnecessary for airport investments

An \$8.5 billion improvement project at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport proves that a government-imposed airport tax hike is an unnecessary cost for millions of travelers, according to Americans for Tax Reform. Airports are on solid financial standing to fund these programs through other means, they write in this commentary. The O'Hare project will be paid for by airlines through negotiated future higher lease fees, which will back bonds issued by the city.
[Americans for Tax Reform \(2/27\)](#)

American Airlines Cargo receives 2017 XLA Standard of Excellence Award

For the second year in a row, American Airlines Cargo has been honored with the 2017 Express Cargo Service Standard of Excellence award from the Express Delivery & Logistics Association. "We are particularly proud of this award because it comes from XLA members who are an important part of our customer base," said Roger Samways of American Airlines Cargo.
[American Journal of Transportation \(2/27\)](#)

American Airlines adds red-eye Dallas-Palm Springs, Calif., flights

American Airlines is expanding its service between Dallas and Palm Springs, Calif., with four nightly flights from June through August. "We are pleased to add the PSP red-eye flight this summer due to a historically strong performance on the existing daily summer flight," said airline spokeswoman Nichelle Tait.
[The Desert Sun \(Palm Springs, Calif.\) \(tiered subscription model\) \(2/28\)](#)

American Airlines standardizing plane cabins

American Airlines is retrofitting its Boeing 777-200 jets by replacing 40 economy seats with 24 premium economy seats, which are wider and offer passengers more legroom.
[CNBC \(2/27\)](#)

American Airlines to offer basic-economy fares on trans-Atlantic flights

In April, American Airlines will start offering basic-economy fares on select trans-Atlantic flights. The new fare option will increase competition and allow passengers more choices in airlines when searching for low-cost fares to Europe.
[Bloomberg \(3/1\)](#)

American Airlines supports Wings for All event in Indianapolis

On March 10, Indianapolis International Airport will hold a Wings for All event to help travelers with developmental or intellectual disabilities acclimate to air travel. Participants will receive boarding passes, experience Transportation Security Administration security screening and board an American Airlines plane.
[The Idaho Statesman \(Boise\)/The Associated Press \(3/1\)](#)

American Airlines CEO disappointed in lack of ATC reform



Doug Parker, CEO of American Airlines, expressed disappointment that Congress had failed to provide meaningful reforms to the nation's air traffic control system. "The status quo doesn't work," he said. "If our government wants to hold onto [ATC] and be in charge of this commercial process, we need to make it work."
[Air Transport World \(3/2\)](#)



American Airlines launches 3 new routes

American Airlines on Thursday launched three new nonstop daily routes. The new services connect North Carolina's Charlotte Douglas International Airport and Arizona's **Tucson International Airport**; Pennsylvania's Philadelphia International Airport and Texas' San Antonio International Airport; and Virginia's Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and Florida's Tallahassee International Airport.
[Airline Network News & Analysis](#)