



Vanguard Eagle

San Diego Chapter    September 2019

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

Enjoy the Labor Day Holiday and remember the days you worked at American.

---The August 6th Vanguard Picnic---

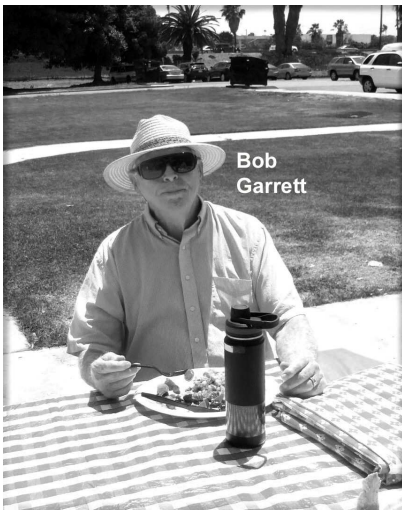
We had a nice crowd at our annual picnic at the Playa II Gazebo at Clairemont Drive and I-5. Our headcount showed 20 attendees. Everybody brought food and there was still plenty left after we left. For sure, nobody left hungry. Bob Garrett won the 50/50 raffle for the first time in my memory. I took some photos and missed only Bill Sherlock, who was meandering around selling raffle tickets, and myself, because I did not take a selfie. The weather was very pleasant because although it was fairly warm, we had a nice strong breeze to keep us from sweating. We all got to reminisce about our times at American with our sympathetic fellow retirees.



I had hoped that my wife would have made it back from Europe, but the loads were very heavy and she did not get home until the day after our picnic. (and had to take another airline home) But one of the great things about our benefits as retired airline employees is that the world is our playground, and even though we don't rank up there with the rich and famous, we get to fly with them to some very exclusive destinations.



Some of our attendees had it "made in the shade" of the Gazebo while others took in the sun outside.

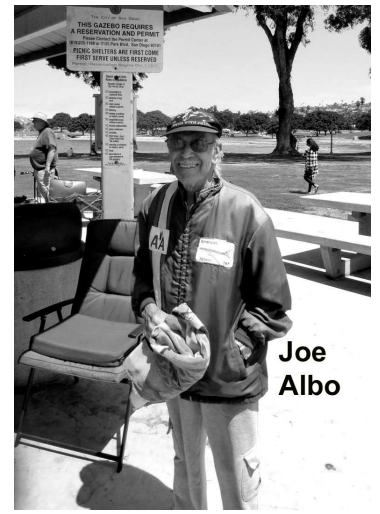


Bob
Garrett



Claudette
Craig

Gerry
Sherlock



Joe
Albo



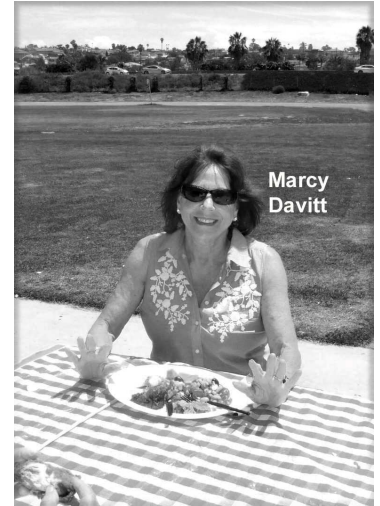
Ruth
Annunziata

Gerry
Sherlock

Claudette
Craig



Bruce
Craig



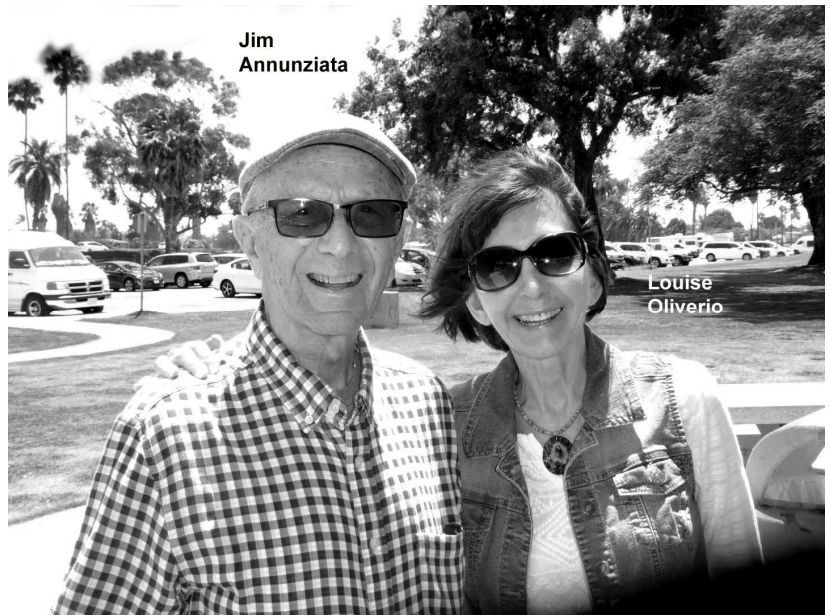
Marcy
Davitt



Louise
Oliverio

Brad
Davis

Walli
Stebel



Jim
Annunziata

Louise
Oliverio

Sadly, I missed taking a shot of Bill Sherlock, who was busy selling the 50/50 raffle tickets, so he is not pictured here, but he worked very hard at the picnic, and finally got to sit down and have a bite to eat. Nancy Day, who went on an annual retreat, would have celebrated her 80th birthday with us at the picnic, but went on her retreat instead. Come to think of it, all of us are a year older than when we enjoyed the last picnic at this same location. We hope to do it again next year in August.

Happy Birthday **Vanguards**



---Vanguard Birthdays – September---

Sept 1 – **Brigid Weese**
Sept 4 – **Marian Psomas**
Sept 6 – **Audrey McCarthy**
Sept 8 - **Ivan Reddington**
Sept 12 – **Richard ‘Rick’ Doremus**
Sept 17 - **Alma Jean Giannetta, Larry Moore**
Sept 19 - **Robert Welch**
Sept 20 - **Betty Kuptz, Carol Holler, Tim Ahern**
Sept 21 – **George Boiko**
Sept 26 – **Robert Henkel**
Sept 27 – **Dudney O’Dell, Lois Mitchell**
Sept 28 – **Frieda Puma**



---Vanguard Anniversaries – September---

Sept 14 – **George and Helen Boiko (1958)**

---American, United Extend 737 MAX Cancellations---

15 July 2019

Airwise

American Airlines has joined United Airlines in extending its Boeing 737 MAX flight cancellations until early November. American said that it remains confident that Boeing's software updates "will lead to recertification of the aircraft this year," but announced further cancellations until November 2. The airline said the decision would allow customers and team members to more reliably plan their travel arrangements. The additional cancellations amount to around 115 flights each day.

American's decision comes on top of United's Friday announcement to remove the MAX from its schedules for an additional two months to November 3. The decision will mean the cancellation of around 5,000 flights. The only other US operator of Boeing's flagship single-aisle airliner, Southwest, is still showing MAX cancellations until October 1. The extension of the flight cancellations comes after the US Federal Aviation Administration found another problem with the aircraft's software during flight simulator tests last month. After the FAA clears the MAX to return to commercial service, airlines will need several days to prepare the aircraft, further extending the delay.

---Ryanair Cuts Growth Plans on 737 MAX Delays---

16 July 2019

Airwise

Ryanair has trimmed its capacity growth plans for the next 12 months, citing delivery delays on the Boeing 737 MAX as the reason. The Irish LCC (Low Cost Carrier) expected to be flying the 737 MAX 200 by now, but the delivery pause caused by the worldwide grounding of all MAX aircraft has pushed the expected entry into service date out to early next year. Ryanair said it now expects the MAX will return to service before the end of 2019, but as it has ordered the higher density MAX 200 variant, regulatory authorities will need more time for its certification. It is anticipating an additional two months for FAA and EASA to certify.

"Since Ryanair can only take delivery of between six to eight new aircraft each month, we are now planning our summer 2020 schedules based on taking up to 30 B737 MAX aircraft deliveries up to end of May 2020," the airline's chief executive Michael O'Leary said. The number it will receive could rise or fall further depending on when the 737 MAX returns to service. The estimate of 30 by May next year is a reduction from the 58 originally scheduled for delivery prior to the summer 2020 travel season. O'Leary said the shortfall in deliveries will mean base closures and staff cuts for the winter 2019 and summer 2020 schedules. He said the airline is discussing which bases will suffer short term cuts, and will consult staff and unions on cuts and base closures. The lower capacity expansion will result in a reduced growth rate, from 7 percent to 3 percent for summer 2020. Full year traffic growth for the year to March 2021 will drop from the previous target of 162 million passengers to around 157 million O'Leary said.

---Ryanair UK Pilots To Vote On August Strike---

17 July 2019

Airwise

The union that represents Ryanair's UK-based pilots is to ballot its members on possible industrial action next month. The British Airline Pilots Association (BALPA) said it has tabled a detailed pay and conditions claim "to try and resolve many outstanding areas of concern" to its UK pilots. The union said the issues include pensions, allowances "and a fair, transparent, and consistent pay structure." BALPA maintains that the airline hasn't tabled any offers and that it has not been able to come to any agreement in relation to its concerns. "Our Ryanair representatives have been trying to tackle some of the many issues that result from years of non-recognition of unions within Ryanair," BALPA General Secretary, Brian Strutton said. "But we have not been able to make any progress with Ryanair at all on any of our areas of concern. As usual with Ryanair, it's their way or the highway, and we are not prepared to put up with that." The membership ballot will go to members on July 24, with a closing date of August 7. The result of the ballot on industrial action will be announced on the 7th.

---Southwest Extends 737 MAX Schedule Removal---

18 July 2019

Airwise

Southwest Airlines has removed the Boeing 737 MAX from its flight schedules until early November over the uncertainty of re-certification of the aircraft. The Dallas-based airline had previously dropped the MAX until October 1st, but has now extended it to November 2nd.

Southwest said that with the timing of the aircraft's return to service still uncertain, removing it from flight schedules "can reduce last-minute flight cancellations and unexpected disruptions to our customers' travel plans." The airline said it remains confident that the flight software updates that Boeing is working on "will support the safe operation of the MAX."

The scheduling change will remove around 180 daily flights out of the airline's peak-day schedule of over 4,000 flights. Southwest joins American and United who have also removed the 737 MAX from their schedules until early November. Southwest has received 34 of the grounded 737 MAX 8s, American 24 of the same type, and United has 14 MAX 9s.

---Boeing Takes \$ 4.9 Billion Charge Over 737 MAX Grounding---

18 Jul 19

Airwise

Boeing will take a \$4.9 billion dollar second quarter after-tax charge on the estimated disruptions caused by the grounding of the 737 MAX. The estimate includes potential concessions to MAX customers for the service disruptions and associated delivery delays to the aircraft. The charge will reduce revenue and pre-tax earnings by \$5.6 billion dollars in the quarter.

Boeing cautions that while the charge will be taken in the second quarter, it expects any potential concessions or considerations to be provided to customers over a number of years. The longer than expected reduction in the MAX's production rate from 52 to 42 per month will also push estimated costs up by \$1.7 billion dollars in the second quarter. The increased costs will reduce the 737's margin in the second and future quarters, the company said.

Boeing chief executive Dennis Muilenburg called it a defining moment for the company. "Nothing is more important to us than the safety of the flight crews and passengers who fly on our airplanes. "The MAX grounding presents significant headwinds and the financial impact recognized this quarter reflects the current challenges and helps to address future financial risks." Boeing has assumed that regulatory approval of the 737 MAX's return to service will happen early in the fourth quarter, but said the actual timing of the return to service could differ. It is also assuming a gradual increase in the 737 production rate from the temporary level of 42 per month to 57 next year. Aircraft produced during the period the MAX is grounded are expected to be delivered over several quarters following a return to service.

---Korean Air Signs Order for 20 Boeing 787s---

21 July 2019

Airwise

Korean Air has firmed up a deal with Boeing to buy 20 787s in an agreement valued at \$6.3 billion dollars at current list prices.

The Korean order, for 10 787-9s and 10 787-10s, will add to the airline's existing Dreamliner fleet of 787-9s. The Seoul-based airline has also signed an agreement to lease a further 10 787-10s from Air Lease. The firmed-up order, initially announced as a memorandum of understanding at the Paris Air Show, plus the lease, will take the carrier's 787 fleet size from its current 10 to 40. KAL chairman Walter Cho said the 787 will become the backbone of the airline's mid-and long-haul fleet for many years to come.

Korean intends to use the 787-10s on medium-haul routes and the 787-9s on long-haul flights. Korean Air operates a mixed fleet of Boeing and Airbus aircraft to 126 destinations in 44 countries.

---US Senate Confirms Trump Pick for FAA Head---

24 July 2019

Airwise

The US Senate has confirmed ex-Delta Air Lines executive Stephen Dickson as the head of the Federal Aviation Administration. The 52-40 vote along party lines reflects Democrat doubts about Dickson's suitability for the position after the treatment of a whistleblower at Delta.

Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao welcomed the confirmation, praising Dickson's experience in the airline industry, saying he is "highly qualified to lead the FAA." Dickson retired as SVP of Delta flight operations last year and was nominated by President Trump for the FAA post in March. He will serve a five year term as FAA administrator.

Democrats questioned Dickson's suitability after he initially failed to disclose his involvement in the case of a Delta Air Lines pilot who was grounded after reporting safety concerns at the airline when he was a senior vice president. The pilot, Karlene Petitt, said her grounding and subsequent mental health evaluation was in retaliation for the whistleblowing. Petitt was subsequently found fit to fly and resumed her operational duties. As administrator, Dickson will have to navigate the FAA through Congressional scrutiny over safety oversight of Boeing after the deaths of 346 people in two crashes of 737 MAX aircraft.

---Boeing Posts Big Q2 Net Loss on 737 Max Issues---

24 July 2019

Airwise

Boeing announced a net loss of \$2.94 billion dollars for the second quarter, as charges on the 737 MAX pushed it heavily into the red. The swing, from a \$2.2 billion dollar profit in the year earlier period, means Boeing reported its biggest ever quarterly loss. The Chicago-based company announced last week that it would take a \$4.9 billion dollar second quarter after-tax charge on the estimated disruptions caused by the grounding of the 737 MAX.

Revenue for the quarter fell to \$15.75 billion dollars, down from last year's \$24.26 billion, reflecting the MAX charge and lower 737 deliveries. Negative operating cash flow of \$590 million dollars was also a swing from the positive \$4.68 billion recorded in last year's quarter. Boeing said it is working closely with the FAA on the process to certify the 737 MAX software update and return the aircraft to service. But due to the uncertainty of the MAX's return, the airframer said it will not issue new financial guidance until a future date.

On the timing of the 737 MAX's re-certification, Boeing said development and testing is underway, with a final software package to be submitted to the FAA once all requirements have been satisfied. Regulatory authorities will then determine the process for certifying the MAX software and training updates, and the timing for lifting the grounding order. "This is a defining moment for Boeing and we remain focused on our enduring values of safety, quality, and integrity in all that we do, as we work to safely return the 737 MAX to service," Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg said.

The Commercial Aircraft division delivered 90 aircraft during the second quarter, down from 194 in 2Q18. Of the total, just 24 were 737s, with no MAX deliveries due to the grounding. Total 737 deliveries in the second quarter last year were 137. Other commercial aircraft deliveries in the quarter were two 747s, 10 767s, 12 777s and 42 787s.

---Scoot To Add 16 Airbus A321neos---

29 July 2019

Airwise

Singapore Airlines' low cost carrier Scoot is adding 16 Airbus A321neos to its fleet, with deliveries starting this year. The budget carrier has converted six of an order of A320neos to the larger A321, and will lease a further 10 of the 236-seat aircraft. The A321neos will go into service from the fourth quarter on routes of up to six hours duration, as the airline pushes to meet a target of double-digit growth by the end of the 2020-21 financial year. "The A321neos will inject growth possibilities to our network plans for 2020 and beyond," Scoot chief executive Lee Lik Hsin said.

---Embraer Commercial Jet Deliveries Slip in Q2---

30 July 2019

Airwise

Embraer's commercial jet division delivered 26 aircraft in the second quarter, down from the 28 it handed over in the same period last year, but up from Q1's 11. There were 22 E175s, one E190, two E195s and an E190-E2 handed over to customers during the second quarter. Embraer also delivered 25 executive jets - four Phenom 100s, 15 Phenom 300s, five of the smaller Legacy series, and one of the airframer's new Praetor family. At the end of the second quarter, the company's order backlog stood at 1,890 commercial jets, 168 of which were for the new E2 family.

During the quarter, Embraer received type certification for the E195-E2, the largest member of the E2 family, from Brazil's ANAC, the US FAA, and Europe's EASA civil aviation authorities. Embraer put the total value of orders outstanding at \$16.9 billion dollars, up from \$16 billion at the end of the first quarter. It said market demand, mainly for the new Praetor family of executive jets, was mainly responsible for the uptick.

---Air France Orders Airbus A220s, But A380s To Retire---

30 July 2019

Airwise

Air France has selected the Airbus A220 to update its short-haul fleet, but the A380 won't have a future at the airline as it plans the superjumbo's retirement by 2022.

Air France-KLM signed a memorandum of understanding with Airbus for 60 A220-300s to replace the French airline's A318s and A319s. The provisional deal includes options for 30 additional A220s and 30 purchase rights. Based on Airbus's most recently published list price, the orders would be valued at \$5.49 billion dollars when firmed up. First delivery is expected in September 2021.

Air France said the 149-seat A220-300 is perfectly suited to replace A318s and A319s on short- and medium-haul routes, enabling the airline to reduce its environmental footprint. "The selection of the Airbus A220-300 supports our goal of a more sustainable operation, by significantly reducing CO2 and noise emissions," Air France-KLM Group CEO Benjamin Smith said. "This is a very important next step in Air France's transformation, and this evolution in Air France's fleet underlines the Group's determination to attain European airline leadership."

Air France also announced that it will retire its fleet of 10 Airbus A380s by 2022, to be replaced by new generation aircraft. Competitive pressures limit the markets the A380 can profitably operate in, with the aircraft consuming 20-25 percent more fuel per seat than new generation long-haul aircraft. Higher maintenance costs and the need for cabin refurbishment also reduce the economic attractiveness of the A380s, the flag carrier said.

---Airbus Begins US Production of A220s---

6 August 2019

Airwise

Airbus has started building the A220 at its Mobile assembly plant in the US, with the first aircraft due for delivery next year. The first US-built A220-300 will be delivered to Delta Air Lines in the third quarter 2020, with production ramping up to between 40 and 50 aircraft per year. Delta's -300s will accommodate 130 passengers in a two-class layout.

Airbus already assembles the larger A320 for US customers at the Mobile, Alabama plant. "The expansion of our commercial aircraft production in Mobile to a second product line, with 400 additional jobs to support it, further solidifies Airbus's standing as a truly global aircraft manufacturer," Airbus America's chief executive Jeffrey Knittel said. Airbus announced plans to assemble the A220 in Mobile in 2017, with construction of the main hangar and support buildings starting at the beginning of this year. The first A220s will be built in the A320 assembly buildings and the new support hangars. The A220, formerly the CSeries, is currently assembled at Bombardier's Mirabel plant in Quebec. Airbus took over control of the CSeries last year and renamed it the A220.

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

**Next Meeting Tuesday
Sept 3rd, 2019
10:15 AM
SAN DIEGO AIR & SPACE
MUSEUM**