TUS VANGUARD NEWSLETTER Volume 12 Issue 1



AMERICAN AIRLINES AND INDUSTRY NEWS

Inside this issue

Contacts 2

Birthdays 2

2020 Schedule 2

American begins service to Tokyo Haneda

American Airlines will begin daily service on March 29 from Dallas and Los Angeles to Tokyo's Haneda airport. "Haneda is just 10 miles outside of Tokyo's city center, which is convenient for our customers traveling to business meetings downtown or for those who value access to fast and efficient public transportation," American's Vasu Raja says. The Dallas Morning News (tiered subscription model) (9/17

American Airlines cosponsors "Wings for Autism" event in Phoenix

Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport's annual "Wings For Autism" event, cosponsored by American Airlines, allows children with disabilities to practice going through security, boarding a plane and riding it down the runway. "Many children with autism have great difficulty with not only the airport environment, but also with being on an airplane because it's a confined space and there's a lot of noise and vibration," said Arc of Arizona Executive Director John Meyers, reporting that 140 people participated this year and 150 are still on the waiting list. KJZZ-FM (Tempe, Ariz.) (9/27)

What to know about REAL ID

Forbes tells travelers how to ensure their driver's licenses are Real ID-compliant by the Oct. 1, 2020 deadline. While a passport or TSA-approved identification will allow travelers to board domestic flights, everyone is encouraged to check with their state government before the deadline to determine which licenses are compliant. Forbes (10/15)

American plans to codeshare with Vueling in Europe

American Airlines plans to expand its partnership with Vueling from an interline agreement to codesharing, giving American passengers access to the Spanish carrier's flights from hubs in Barcelona, Rome, Paris and Amsterdam. "Our goal is to offer customers additional options to reach more destinations within Europe," American's Nichelle Barrett said. The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Dallas (10/16)

American extends Miami Heat partnership

American Airlines has extended its partnership with the National Basketball Association's Miami Heat and expanded it to a worldwide marketing deal, while relinquishing naming rights to the Heat's home arena. American maintains sports sponsorships in other hub cities, putting its name on the American Airlines Center in Dallas and American Airlines Plaza, a 2.5-acre open-air space that will be the main entrance to the stadium where the Los Angeles Rams and Los Angeles Chargers will play. The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Dallas (10/20),

American Airlines event raises \$2.4M for veterans

This year's American Airlines Sky Ball, a fundraiser for veterans' causes, raised \$2.4 million for the Airpower Foundation while presenting a ceremony honoring Medal of Honor recipients, a veteran-focused career fair, concerts and outreach programs for area schools. The Airpower Foundation supports wounded veterans and their families with technology, scholarships, social services and recreational activities. Dallas Innovates (10/22)

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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 or family member.

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The ongoing debate about emotional support animals on planes

While the US Department of Transportation allows emotional support animals on airplanes, there is still a need for rules to be clarified to alleviate concerns that some people are taking this liberty too far. According to Lori Stevens of Patriot PAWS Service Dogs, many emotional support animals don't undergo appropriate training and are creating difficulties for people with mobility issues and physical disabilities. CNN (10/23)

American adds 165 workers at Okla. maintenance base

American Airlines will add 165 employees to its aircraft maintenance facility in Tulsa, Okla., in addition to 400 new jobs announced this summer. Most of the new hires will be mechanics who will make interior modifications to aircraft designed to improve operations and consistency. Tulsa World (Okla.) (10/31)

American Airlines upgrades cargo operation with digital platform

American Airlines has deployed a new digital management platform for its cargo operations that integrates everything from sales and accounting to terminal and warehouse operations. The new tech went live Oct. 1 and full implementation will roll out over the next year, with additions such as scanner apps, self-service kiosks and mail accounting modules. Dallas Innovates (11/4)

American's Miami hub celebrates 30 years as international gateway

American Airlines is commemorating 30 years at its hub, located in Miami's "strategic geographic location" with "historic and cultural connections with the Americas," which provides opportunities to connect travelers to Latin America, Caribbean, and other locations around the world. While the airline started with 19 flights a day to six destinations, it has expanded to more than 350 flights a day. "We have grown up with the city of Miami, and our pride is ingrained in the DNA of every American Airlines employee at MIA," American's Juan Carlos Liscano says.

Miami Herald (tiered subscription model) (11/4)

American pursues codesharing with Moroccan airline

American Airlines is pursuing a codeshare arrangement with Royal Air Maroc, upgrading from its current interline agreement with the Moroccan carrier. "Our goal is to offer customers additional options to reach more destinations in Africa like Marrakech, Accra and Lagos," said an American spokesperson.

The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Dallas (11/11)

American Airlines adds seasonal routes for 2020

American Airlines is adding eight new routes for summer 2020, including service to Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard from its Philadelphia hub and service between Washington. D.C. and Traverse City, Michigan on Saturdays. "Every year, we evaluate our network and look to create more routes and serve unique destinations whether we're entering new markets like Casablanca or adding more service to places like Traverse City, Mich.," says the airline's Vasu Raja.

Design of American's new Chicago hangar lauded

The design of American Airlines' new hangar at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport was highlighted by Engineering News Record as an example of form following function. "Our design approach integrates structure, architecture, lighting aspects, sustainability," said Joseph Gonzalez, global design director at Ghafari, the architectural firm that designed the project. Engineering News-Record (11/19)

American Airlines flies bears to Colo. sanctuary

American Airlines Cargo hosted some unusual passengers on Nov. 21: 10 brown bears traveling from Ezeiza International Airport in Argentina to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. The bears, which were moving from Mendoza Zoological Park to the Wild Animal Sanctuary in Keenesburg, Colo., had the cargo compartment of a 787 Dreamliner

American adds catering facility to DFW expansion projects

American Airlines is seeking to lease 21 acres at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport to build a \$100 million catering facility. American already has a series of capital projects underway at the airport, including a \$100 million parts distribution warehouse, a \$250 million training center and a \$3 billion terminal being built in partnership with the airport. (12/2)

American Airlines close to achieving ADS-B certification

American Airlines is awaiting certification to begin upgrading aircraft to an avionics system that makes use of automatic dependent surveillance broadcast. American plans to equip more than 300 Airbus A321 aircraft with SafeRoute+, a flight deck display designed to support ADS-B <u>Avionics International</u> (12/3)

American Airlines app adds passport scanning

American Airlines passengers checking in for international flights on the airline's app can now scan their own passports, saving a step at the airport. This can be particularly helpful on itineraries that connect to an international flight, as passengers are sometimes pulled out of boarding lines if their passports were not scanned at their origin airport. <u>USA Today</u> (12/4)

FedEx, American, Southwest, UPS among "Most Responsible Companies"

FedEx, American Airlines, Southwest Airlines and UPS were all recognized in Newsweek's first ranking of America's Most Responsible Companies within the Travel, Transport & Logistics subcategory. The companies were among 300 acknowledged for "standing up as good neighbors and citizens."

American adding jobs in Tulsa, Okla.

American Airlines is adding 30 more mechanic positions at its maintenance operations in Tulsa, which had already expanded by 565 positions earlier in the year. "Our team at the wheel and brake center just does phenomenal work," said Erik Olund, managing director of base maintenance at American, and "it makes sense to in-source this work from a cost-saving standpoint, combined with the reliability and the high volume." Tulsa World (Okla.) (12/17)

American Airlines donates retired MD-80 aircraft to aviation schools

American Airlines has donated two of its retired MD-80 aircraft to Oklahoma CareerTech and Lewis University in Illinois. "As we look to the future of American's Tech Ops work force, it's important to train the next generation of aviation maintenance students so we have a development pipeline for skilled technicians," said American Airlines executive Kevin Brickner. "Just like the MD-80 inspired our own team members in their career development for more than 35 years, the aircraft will do the same for students for years to come." The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City) (tiered subscription model) (12/20)

American, British Airways begin work on JFK terminal expansion

Construction has begun on a \$344 million joint effort of American Airlines and British Airways to expand Terminal 8 at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport, adding 70,400 square feet that will include new gates, lounges, shops and restaurants and upgraded baggage and check-in areas. British Airways plans to move in 2022 from Terminal 7, which will be demolished to make way for a new terminal to be built by JetBlue Airways.

Frequent Business Traveler (1/6)

American and Southwest boost seasonal routes from Texas

American and Southwest are increasing their seasonal summer routes between Texas and long-haul destinations in Alaska, Europe and the Caribbean, which an airport executive attributes to availability of more efficient aircraft. "The main lines are adding nonstop seasonal flights out of their hubs to places where they don't fly regularly," said Jose Mulet, director of air service and business development at Valley International in Harlingen. Valley Morning Star (Harlingen, Texas) (1/7)