



**2018**

## APRIL SHOWERS SOCIAL EVENT

### Special Points of Interest

- Social Event Highlights
- Phone Contacts
- 2018 Schedule

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President Horn welcomed everyone to the last social event until we meet again in the fall.

He advised members we will begin our 2019 membership/newsletter campaign with the October newsletter.

It was also announced that we have a speaker in mind for one of the meetings but asked if anyone had a subject or organization they would like to recommend.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome....we want to hear from you!

The May and June newsletters will be published. There will be none the months of July through September and will resume in October. As always, contact any officer during the summer with any information you wish to share while we are on hiatus.

April birthdays were recognized and John mentioned that several members had passed away in recent months.

- ◆ Our group at April Showers was small this year with twenty-one in attendance. The menu selected was a good choice as favorable comments were given.
- ◆ Lucky cash door prize winners were: Bob Losik, Jerry and Edna McPherson, Joe Quagliata and Karen Shudy.
- ◆ Bob Losik won the gift basket and Tom Kaminski won the Starbucks git.
- ◆ 50-50 winner was Jerry McPherson who graciously donated the amount back to the chapter. **THANKS JERRY!!**



~ ~ 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 or family member.



**We're on the web:**

www.aavanguardscities.com

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



**\*\*Helpful AA Telephone  
 Contacts\*\***

\*A-9 Death/ Emergency Passes  
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\*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  
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 for retirees  
 844-543-5747*

To access the new **RETIREE JETNET**  
 Go To: retirees.aa.com  
 1-888-207-2607

**We Fly AA NRSA Help**  
 888-933-5922

**REVISED 2018  
 SCHEDULE**

**NO MEETING IN  
 MAY**

**2018 SCHEDULE**

**October 17  
 November 14\*  
 December 5 - Christmas Luncheon**

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



**MAY**

- 3 Bob & Karen Losik 49 years**
- 18 Ed & Zory Lopez 22 years**



**MAY**

- 7 Amy Carlisle**
- 9 Yvonne Seman**
- 12 Marge Appleyard**
- 16 Ross Merrill**
- 23 Mickey Conway**
- 31 Don Seidel**



### **Airlines improved on-time performance in Jan.**

The US Department of Transportation has released a report showing an increase in the number of flights arriving at their destinations on time this past January compared to last year. The report indicates 79.6% of flights in January 2018 arrived on time, while in January 2017, 76% arrived on time.

### **FedEx introduces program to attract pilot candidates**

Last month, FedEx chairman and CEO Frederick Smith announced the launch of the company's Purple Runways program, aimed at attracting pilot candidates to FedEx and its feeder airlines. The program will aid career development and promote aviation career studies at colleges and universities, starting with Delta State University in Mississippi.

The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, Tenn.) (free content) (4/2)

**Southwest employees benefit from tax reform** Southwest Airlines employees this week had the chance to share personal stories of how the recent tax cuts and \$1,000 Southwest bonus have benefited them at a town hall with House Speaker Paul Ryan and Southwest CEO Gary Kelly. "What was very heart-warming for us is just the stories that were instantly being shared by our employees," Kelly said.

The Dallas Morning News (tiered subscription model) (4/2)

### **How American Airlines' Colasante has distinguished herself to succeed**

American Airlines' Olympia Colasante has proven herself as an industry leader by working her way up to vice president of American Airlines' hub operations in Philadelphia. Colasante started in the industry as a part-time ticket agent in 1986, advancing by tackling difficult tasks and making herself indispensable.

The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Philadelphia (4/2)

### **Airlines eye blockchain solutions that could improve customer service**

Airlines are looking into blockchain solutions for booking group travel, a switch that could free carriers from relying on middlemen like Expedia or Amadeus and help customers avoid fees of up to 25% of a ticket's price for using these systems. The technology could also be leveraged to better track bags and manage flight delays, connecting airlines with customers more directly.

Reuters (4/10)

### **Strike Aviation is cargo GSSA for American Airlines**

American Airlines has selected Strike Aviation as its cargo General Sales and Service Agent for offline cargo in Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia, as well as for its direct flights from Prague to Philadelphia.

STAT (tiered subscription model) (4/13)

### **American Airlines names new customer planning executive**

American Airlines has appointed Julie Rath to vice president -- Customer Planning, overseeing Customer Planning and Analysis and Customer Experience Planning, plus the airline's training, Premium Customer Services and Service Recovery teams. "Julie's in-depth understanding of our Customer Planning team, vast industry and operational experience and exemplary leadership skills have prepared her for this important role," said Kerry Philipovitch, senior vice president -- Customer Experience.

The Financial (Georgia/Ukraine) (4/13)

**HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (WCIV)** - American Airlines and the Hilton Head Island Airport are partnering to offer new jet service to Charlotte.

Airport officials say the new jet service aboard the Embraer 175 will begin July 5, cutting down on travel times and offering passengers a more luxury option.

The E-175 aircraft is a 76-seat jet offering first-class service and a quick connection to the Charlotte hub, American Airlines said in a press release.

Hilton Head officials say the upgrade is possible because of a 5,000 foot runway extension project over the last three years. Town officials hope the runway project will allow for more direct flight services in the future.

Previously, direct flights from Hilton Head to Charlotte have been offered via propeller planes. That service will end July 4, the airport says.

### **American Airlines awards grants to 13 Tulsa, Okla., nonprofits**

American Airlines has awarded \$145,020 in grants to 13 nonprofit community organizations in Tulsa, Okla. "We are very happy to be able to support these organizations as we build on our commitment to Tulsa and our team members," said the airline's Erik Olund.

Public Radio Tulsa (Okla.) (4/20)

### **American Airlines A321T sports livery with Avengers, cancer survivors**

American Airlines, with Marvel and Stand Up To Cancer, is raising money for cancer research. The carrier has rolled out an A321T plane with a special livery featuring Marvel's Avengers and airline employees who have survived cancer.

GuideLive (Dallas) (4/23)

### **American Airlines launches Cadet Academy to train pilots**

The American Airlines Cadet Academy will train prospective pilots for 18 months at the carrier's partner flight schools, removing financial roadblocks to encourage more to become professional aviators. Once training is complete, students can interview for a position with the airline's regional carriers Envoy, Piedmont and PSA.

Travel Weekly (4/24)

### **New American Airlines ads spotlight premium "flagship" experience**

New ads for American Airlines focus on the airline's premium "flagship" offerings, which include lounges and amenities associated with premium seating. Future ads will focus on other cabin experiences and workers' own travel adventures.

The Business Journals (tiered subscription model)/Chicago (4/25)

### **American Airlines reports Q1 earnings**

American Airlines said it looks to the future, but higher fuel prices could affect earnings this year. The carrier reported \$10.4 billion in revenue for the first quarter, up 6% over last year.

Frequent Business Traveler (4/26)

### **American Airlines increasing service to Hawaii, Caribbean**

American Airlines will bolster its service to Hawaii and Caribbean destinations with a slew of new routes from hub airports in Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, Miami and Charlotte, N.C. The airline is slated to become the first US carrier to fly to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which opened a new airport in 2017.

USA Today (5/2)

### **Aviation mechanics in demand; Seattle school looks to help fill the gap**

South Seattle College's Aviation Maintenance Technology program is looking to train some of the 2 million aviation workers Boeing says will be needed by 2036. Career specialist David Skogerboe says students are taking note: "People are starting to realize I can go to school for two years and make a lot of money pretty quickly," he said.

KCPQ-TV (Seattle) (5/2)

### **American Airlines to buy 15 jets each from Bombardier, Embraer**

American Airlines has ordered 15 CRJ900 regional jets from Bombardier and 15 E175s from Embraer, with options to purchase 15 more of each. The planes will feature inflight Wi-Fi, 12 first-class seats and 64 economy-class seats, including some premium economy seats.

Air Transport World (5/3)

## **TUS Welcomes Four New Restaurants on Concourse B**

As of March 19, the Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) welcomed four new restaurants to Concourse B of the Tucson International Airport (TUS), Beyond Bread, Bruegger's Bagels, BUILT Custom Burgers and El Charro Cafe.

Beyond Bread is a local make-from-scratch bakery and restaurant serving hand-crafted breads, sandwiches, soups, salads and decadent pastries for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Bruegger's Bagels offers authentic New York-style bagels and sandwiches along with a selection of hot and cold coffee.

BUILT Custom Burgers is a "Build Your Own" concept with burgers, fries and more, including chicken and vegan options.

El Charro Cafe has been serving Tucson some of the best Mexican food that can be found for the last 95 years and makes a much anticipated return to TUS. This is its fourth location in town.

All but one of the restaurants will open at 4 a.m. to accommodate the early morning flights. BUILT Custom Burgers opens at 9:30 a.m. daily. At least one restaurant will be open at all times to accommodate the late night departures.

These openings are part of a larger culinary transformation the airport has been working on since March 2017. Other local culinary favorites such as Noble Hops Craft Beer + Fine Fare Beer Garden, Sir Veza's and Empire Pizza were opened last year. Still to come: Dunkin' Donuts, The Maverick and Thunder Canyon Brewery.