NEWS RELEASE

Straight to the Gate: Janice Anderson

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Very early in her career, Janice Anderson knew she wanted to fly for a major airline, and she had her sights set on American Airlines.

“I’ve always wanted to fly internationally for a legacy carrier and American Airlines has always had the reputation of being one of the best,” she said. “So it’s always been at the top of my list.”

Over the past 28 years, Janice has accomplished her goal. She started as a flight engineer on the Boeing 727 then moved to first officer on the MD-80, B757, B767 and B777 aircraft. And now, Janice is a Captain flying the B737.

Apart from her fellow team members and getting customers to their destinations safely, Janice says part of the reason why she loves working at American is because she is supported in her role as a pilot and an active member of the LGBT community.

“Since 2002, American Airlines has had a perfect score on the HRC’s corporate equality index,” said Janice. “American Airlines also supports marriage equality, which is great for my wife, Koré, and me. We have been together for more than 30 years, and, in 2013, we were married. So, that verification is very important to us.”

She also makes sure to incorporate American's inclusive spirit into her daily life."I feel very fortunate to be a captain for American and I consider part of my job description as being a servant leader," she said.

Janice uses her servant leadership to not only mentor other young pilots, but also to help recruit members of the LBGT community to work at American.

"I've been a member of Women in Aviation and the National Gay Pilots Association for more than 20 years as a mentor, and I try to be a good role model," Janice said. "I like to engage with the young men and women of the organization, and I try to encourage them to follow their dreams and become pilots just to see how much they can achieve."

A dream that became even more possible just a few years ago. "One of the most significant things American Airlines has done was back in 2014 when it became the first legacy carrier to actively recruit pilots at a NGPA event and job fair. Shortly thereafter, all the other legacy airlines followed," said Janice.

Inclusion, diversity and acceptance are just a few of the reasons that will keep Janice flying for the world's largest airline for years to come. "For me, being an American Airlines pilot is the greatest job ever."