THE WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION

Vol. 60 / No. 4 Winter/Spring 2018

NEWS

Annual Meeting

Speaking to The Wings Club Foundation for the last time as president, Mr. Scott Donnelly presided over the 2018 Annual Meeting at the Yale Club. In his report on the past year's accomplishments, he introduced and thanked the Board of Governors and the Advancement Committee for their hard work prior to presenting the Year in Review Video and the Board nominations for the upcoming year.

The recognition of three new Golden Eagles - Denise Richards, Clay Lacy and Tom Donegan - kicked off the evening's presentations.

Ken Gazzola, Chairman of the Historical and Educational Committee and Past President of the Wings Club, and Mylene Scholnick, Principal at ICF International and Past President of IAWA, presented the joint Wings Club Foundation/IAWA Outstanding Aviator Award to Medal of Honor recipient, Major General Patrick Brady, US Army (Ret.)

The highly anticipated announcement of the 2018 Distinguished Achievement Award recipient drew loud applause when Willie Walsh, Chief Executive Officer of the International Airlines



Willie Walsh



Scott Donnelly, Tom Donegan



Scott Donnelly, Franklin Pray



Major General Patrick Brady, US Army (Ret.)

Group, was named as this year's honoree. The award will be presented at the Annual Gala on Friday, October 19th at the New York Hilton Midtown.

Following the official nomination of next year's officers and Board of Governors, Mr. Franklin Pray was presented with the President's gavel in recognition of his new role as the Foundation's leader. In his first official act, he presented Scott Donnelly with the Commemorative Wings Club President's plaque, thanking him for his efforts and leadership during the past year.



THE WINGS CLUB

A Message From The President

Spring 2018



At the annual meeting in March, I was honored to be elected as the 76th President of the Wings Club Foundation. It is a privilege to serve the Foundation and its members.

Due to the strong support of our membership, The Wings Club is in excellent condition. We are well positioned to advance our mission objectives.

The Wings Club Foundation's primary mission is to support aviation related education. Our focus in the upcoming year will be the implementation of the SIM program, which provides scholarships, internships and mentorship to promising students in the various fields of aviation. We will be expanding our scholarship program to include financial grants to additional universities. We will also continue to grow the successful Aerospace on Campus program, where Wings Club executives present the wide range of career opportunities available in the field of aviation.

In keeping with our history as the premier forum for the discussion of aviation topics, we have an outstanding list of luncheon speakers scheduled. We will also be increasing the Wings Club's visibility to new locations outside of the New York area. In April, we held our inaugural Tokyo Luncheon; the event was very well received. In October, we will host our second Aviation Leader Series Luncheon in Dubai and we will continue to explore other strategic regional location opportunities.

In the fall, the 76th Annual Awards Gala will be held at the New York Hilton Midtown. We will present our various Student Scholarship Awards and our annual humanitarian award to Orbis International. It will also be our pleasure to honor Willie Walsh, Chief Executive Officer, International Airlines Group, with the Distinguished Achievement Award.

We are looking forward to an exciting year at the Wings Club. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

David Neeleman Founder and Chairman **Azul Airlines**

Speaking to the Wings Club Foundation for the first time since 2006, Mr. Neeleman opened by expressing his appreciation at being back. He covered a variety of topics as he first updated the audience on the founding of Azul Airlines, remarking, "If you have flown on JetBlue, you have flown on Azul; live TV, snacks in a basket and our own branded snacks. If it works, do it again!" In reference to privatization of TAP, he noted, "The enormity of the responsibility didn't hit me until the day the privatization was announced and I realized that 10,000 families depended on TAP for their livelihoods. They needed us to bring people to Portugal to discover that great country. It's been a labor of love, with the principal architect of what we did at Azul becoming the architect of what we will do at TAP."

JANUARY LUNCHEON



John Stack, Michael Culver, Steve Townes



Eric Brinker, Tracy Sandford, Trey Urbahn, Amy Curtis Macentyre, David Neeleman, Jeffrey Pelch



Lester Nelson, Christine Kennedy, Victoria Isley, Mark Fields



Students from New York University; table sponsored by Embraer



David Neeleman, Icema Gibbs, David Davenport

THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

IATA & The Wings Club Foundation

The second Aviation Day USA, co-hosted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and The Wings Club Foundation, took place at New York City's Pierre Hotel on February 22nd. Building on the success of the first Aviation Day held two years ago, this year's agenda did not disappoint. Headlined by Mr. Alexandre de Juniac, Director General and CEO of IATA, an extraordinary group of industry experts served as speakers and panelists addressing the opportunities and challenges that affect the overall United States Aviation Market. Also included on the program were segments on aviation innovation, prospects for the future and, with a nod to our host city, segments that focused on the issues impacting New York area airports.





AVIATION DAY USA 2018





















THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Steven Kavanagh Chief Executive Officer and Board Member Aer Lingus

Interviewed by: Joe Anselmo Editor in Chief, Aviation Week & Space Technology

Mr. Anselmo's line of questioning focused on how Mr. Kavanagh and his leadership team transformed Aer Lingus' Transatlantic strategy, resulting in the airline becoming the fastest growing carrier across the North Atlantic, anchored by 18 operations a day from the US. "What changed is that we began to look at Ireland as a hub in its own right ...using Dublin as a gateway to the rest of continental Europe." He continued, "We've broken the back of the growth story and we're now attempting to leverage it while keeping disciplined as to what matters. What matters for us are our net promoter scores and our unit costs, as that is what keeps us relevant from a market perspective."



Ehren Hartz, Santiago Martello, Maryssa Miller, Brian Friedman



Scott Dixon, Jim Good

MARCH LUNCHEON



Stephen Kavanagh, Joe Anselmo



Franklin Pray, Christine Yasaitis, Stephen Kavanagh



Major General Patrick Brady, Robert Aceves and students from York College

Wings Club on the Road - Dublin

Gaël Méheust **President and Chief Executive Officer CFM International**

In his remarks before a packed house in Dublin, Mr. Méheust traced the history of CFM from its founding in 1971 as a joint venture between GE and Safran Aircraft until today. Having no applications for its first engine, the fledging company was one week away from being shut down when it received its first order. Today, the company has delivered 32,500 engines with 40 aircraft applications. Their newest engine, The Leap, was chosen by both Boeing and Airbus to power the latest generation of single aisle aircraft. In speaking to the company's future beyond The Leap, Mr. Méheust observed, "CFM and its parent companies GE and Safran are investing big money to be there for the future; it takes time, it takes money, it takes the best engineers and it takes a lot of commitments."



Ruth Kelly, Kieran Corr



A sold out crowd in Dublin



Susan Gordon, Mary Townsend, Cara Connelly, Mary Dalrymple



Gaël Méheust

Neasan O'Cinneide

THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

ANNUAL MEETING













THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Aerospace on Campus

Now in its fifth year, The Wings Club Foundation's "Aerospace on Campus" program, in partnership with *Aviation Week* Network, is a key component of our outreach efforts to university level students. Utilizing the industry knowledge and experience of the Foundation's membership to highlight the wide range of career opportunities available in aviation and aerospace, the program has expanded over the past year as more members of the Foundation volunteer to share their expertise with the next generation of aviation professionals.

Earlier this year, Mike Van de Ven, Chief Operating Officer of Southwest Airlines, Greg Hamilton, *Aviation Week* Network President and Bill Carey, Senior Avionics Editor, *Aviation Week* Network visited the University of Texas to speak to over 100 students studying for a career in aerospace and aviation. In addition, a Career Panel Discussion about the airline's Data Sciences/Innovation areas was led by four young professionals from Southwest which gave the students a peer lever viewpoint.

Marion Blakey, President and Chief Executive Officer of Rolls-Royce North America, Joe Anselmo, Editor-in-Chief / Executive Director of Content, *Aviation Week* Network and Graham Warwick, Technology Managing Editor, *Aviation Week* Network, visited Virginia Tech and presented their perspective on today's issues and challenges faced by the industry.

Students also had the opportunity to hear from Virginia Tech Alumni, Kelton Jones and Patrick Ahern, who are currently working for Rolls-Royce. Discussions ensued regarding research, manufacturing and engineering design across the globe and the many careers that exist in these fields.

The Wings Club Foundation's Aerospace on Campus program is yet another initiative that reinforces the Foundations' commitment to taking an active role in shaping the next generation of aviation professionals.



Bill Carey



Dan Novotny



Diana Shen



Greg Hamilton introduces panel



Mike Van de Ven



Lisa Teague, Kelton Jones, Joe Anselmo, Marion Blakey, Graham Warwick and Patrick Ahern



VT students listening to presentation



Graham Warwick



VT Students



Marion Blakey meeting the students



UT students and faculty



Ongoing discussions

P.O. Box 4464 New York, NY 10163 PRSRT FIRST CLASS U.S. POSTAGE PAID MIAMI FL PERMIT #1952

THE WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

Editor - Candice Adams Kimmel Adams Unlimited Photos - Christopher Gill

Published by The Wings Club Foundation, Inc. www.wingsclub.org

