



THE WINGS CLUB

Wings Club Foundation News
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Fall/Winter 2017

NEWS

The 75th Anniversary Gala

Returning Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Richard Quest, CNN International Aviation and Business anchor stunned guests when he welcomed them to the Wings Club 75th Anniversary Gala at the New York Hilton Midtown, dressed in a wind breaker and weatherproof outdoor gear. He joked that since we were not at the Waldorf this year, he assumed the Gala would be “more informal”.

When a furtive glance around the expansive, well-appointed ballroom, with no view-blocking columns and room to accommodate all guests on one floor made it evident that there was nothing “more informal” this year, Mr. Quest quickly stripped off his outdoor gear and resumed his welcome in his stylish tuxedo.

He highlighted the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of Gala with a photo from the first dinner held during World War II. Then, observing how in a crisis this highly competitive industry comes together and does a lot of good, he presented a photo montage of US airlines participating in humanitarian relief efforts for hurricane damaged areas in the US and the Caribbean.

Mr. Scott Donnelly, the president of the Wings Club Foundation came next to the podium. During his formal remarks he noted that the Wings Club Foundation’s primary mission is to support the advancement and development of aerospace education, and proudly announced that eight exceptional students would be honored with academic scholarships this year totaling \$127,000. With a humanitarian mission of providing grants to charitable organizations that use aviation to help those in need, the Foundation also presented a \$25,000 donation to the Corporate Angel Network.

Introducing the evening’s entertainment, Mr. Donnelly pointed out that this year would be a first – not the first time the entertainment was donated, as it always is donated – but the first time the entertainer was also a certified pilot. When the curtains parted, multi-platinum, country western recording star Dierks Bentley and his band began a hands clapping, crowd pleasing performance.



Gary Kelly and Scott Donnelly



Gary Kelly

All of the preceding was in anticipation of the main event, the presentation of the Distinguished Achievement Award to Gary Kelly. Accepting the award, Mr. Kelly remarked that there were a lot of former Distinguished Award recipients in the room and the list of former honorees was an “amazing list of personal heroes, with none bigger in my mind than Herb Kelleher... please know I am deeply, deeply honored.”

Upon the completion of Mr. Kelly’s remarks, Mr. Quest took the stage once again to bring this extraordinary evening to a close, encouraging everyone to stop by the silent auction to support the Wings Club Foundation’s scholarship and humanitarian initiatives.





THE WINGS CLUB

A Message From The President

Fall/Winter 2017



*D*ear Wings Club Members:

2017 was a special year in the history of the Wings Club as we celebrated our 75th anniversary. Throughout our history, the Wings Club has been a premier forum for the discussion of aviation topics. During the past year, we continued this tradition and our events featured some of the most prominent figures in aviation.

While the Wings Club has a rich history, we are also looking forward towards the future. We have made significant progress in our mission to support aviation scholarship. At the recent Annual Awards Gala in October, the Wings Club was proud to present academic scholarships to eight very deserving aviation students. Our Aerospace on Campus program continues to promote the excitement and innovation of aviation to college students around the country.

The success of these programs is made possible by the support of our members. Through the Wings Club President's Society structured giving initiative, we continue to build our endowment, which will provide the long-term funding requirements to achieve our mission.

Looking forward to our upcoming events, in January our featured speaker will be David Neeleman, Founder and Chairman of Azul Airlines. In February, the Wings Club and IATA will again jointly host the second Aviation Day USA. This event brings together aviation experts, senior airline executives, and government authorities to discuss aviation's largest opportunities and key challenges. Our keynote speaker will be Alexandre de Juniac, IATA Director General and CEO. In March, Stephen Kavanagh, CEO of Aer Lingus will address the Wings Club. At our Dublin Luncheon, our featured speaker will be Gaël Méheust, CEO of CFM International Engines.

During 2018, we will also be expanding our programs to include new regional locations as well as events focused specifically on General Aviation topics. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and wish you all the best for happy and prosperous New Year.

Best regards,

Scott Donnelly
President
The Wings Club Foundation



SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

September 28, 2017 – New York City

Mr. Mark Dunkerley
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawaiian Airlines

Mr. Dunkerley addressed changes that have taken place in the marketplace in the last 40 years since deregulation, describing them as having “a back to the future quality.” He observed that consolidation in the industry resulted in the benefits of deregulation being pulled away, leaving a “dispirited public” over the lack of traveler choice. Through the control of slot allocation and access to airport gates and facilities the “dominant airlines world over,” find themselves in a position to deny market access to competitors. Mr. Dunkerley called on policy makers to recognize the threat and take action so that airlines can compete and airline customers can enjoy choice.



Mark Dunkerley



Pre-luncheon reception



Champagne Goldston, Michael Culver, Calin Ford



Students and faculty from City of New York University (CUNY)



Roy Asfar, Mark Dunkerley, Scott Higgins



Wings Club on the Road – Dubai

October 2, 2017 - Dubai

Mr. Firoz Tarapore
Chief Executive Officer
Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE) Ltd.

Remarking how international events like this underscore Dubai's emergence as an aviation and financial hub, the Wings Club Dubai inaugural event speaker, Mr. Firoz Tarapore, proceeded to explain DAE's plans to further Dubai's footprint in this space through their recent acquisition of AWAS. "Today, the combination of DAE and AWAS creates a very different kind of platform. We have the great benefit of a strong owner who has a very long term investment horizon. When we put our strategies to work, we feel comfortable we have what a successful franchise may look like in 15 years or longer." He closed noting that DAE is a seasoned player; not a fair weather player, but one with a long horizon and that DAE will benefit from Dubai and its entrepreneurial spirit, and in turn contribute to Dubai as an aviation hub.



NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

November 16, 2017 - Sight Lecture – “Reflections on Aerospace: Past, Present and Future”

Mr. Jim Albaugh
Former President and Chief Executive Officer
Boeing Commercial Airplanes

The common theme in Mr. Albaugh’s Sight Lecture presentation was innovation and the impact of visionary people. He illustrated this with fascinating and sometimes startling anecdotes taken primarily from his 40 year career at Boeing. Speaking on Hindsight, he noted the remarkable career of Joe Sutter and the industry impact of three innovators, Herb Kelleher, Steve Hazy and Fred Smith. Continuing with Insight, he reminded us that the aerospace industry defined the 20th century through innovations that won WWII, ended the cold war, put a man on the moon and brought people together through commercial aviation. Lastly, commenting on Foresight he observed, “In the future, like in the past, the winners will be the innovators.” He closed by relaying a discussion with current day innovator, Jeff Bezos, during which he questioned Mr. Bezos’ interest in space. In a thought-provoking retort, Bezos exclaimed, “I am worried about the earth and ya gotta have a Plan B!”



Jim Albaugh, Scott Donnelly



Ken Giacobbe, Rachid Bendali, Michael Leskinen, Mike Appleton



Parker SantaLucia, Alison Stager, Randy Green



Ken Gazzola, Zachary McFadden, Neil Doherty, Matthew Stuck, Jim Albaugh, Michael Lavitt, John Stack



Matthew Greene, Heidi Wood, Jim Good



DECEMBER LUNCHEON

December 14, 2017

Mr. Gary Kelly
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer
Southwest Airlines

Interviewed by: Peter Greenberg
Travel Editor, *CBS News*

The very fast-paced and probing interview covered a variety of topics that included September's back-to-back storms, Southwest's international expansion, their entry into the Hawaii market, and the delivery of a new version of the Boeing 737. "There are always unforeseen events that happen; we just have to be as prepared as possible for the unexpected," Mr. Kelly noted. The discussion that ensued touched on Southwest's opportunities to serve new destinations, the criteria for entry into a market, their evolution to focus on an individual city and not a city-pair and managing growth. "We have never had an array of opportunities like now. People know that Southwest is a great value, they know we are transparent with what we do and that is why we are the largest airline in the country with the top brand ranking."



Scott Donnelly, Gary Kelly, Peter Greenberg



Nate Barker, Fred Catanejo, Robert McAdams



Craig Drew, Sonya Lacore, Jason Downing, Amber Franzen, Paul Laherty



Vaughn College student table sponsored by Airbus Americas



Peter Greenberg, Gary Kelly





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

75th Annual Gala



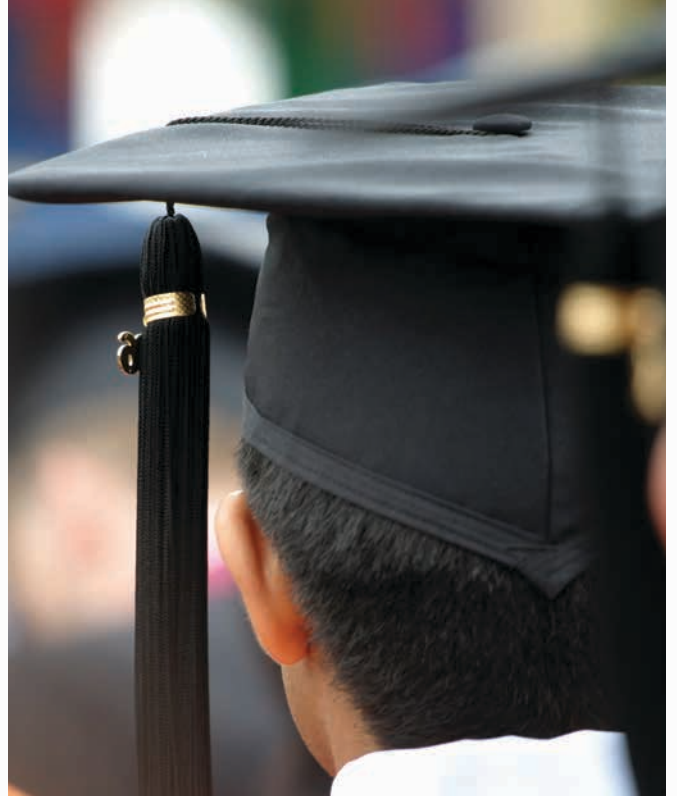
THE PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

The Wings Club Foundation is building an endowment and has created the President's Societies, a structured giving initiative designed for long-term funding to sustain our mission to expand our scholarship and humanitarian programs. An initial endowment goal of \$5,000,000.00 was established and is already in sight with \$4,732,000.00 raised to date.

Much of this was accomplished through the charter year membership campaign, which ran concurrently with The Wings Club Foundations' 75th anniversary year. The charter period will conclude when the 75th anniversary year concludes on March 31, 2018. Those who qualify up to the end of the anniversary year will be considered charter donors. All charter year donors will be recognized on our striking donor wall adjacent to the Foundation's Board Room.

By donating to the Foundation you can participate directly in securing aviation's legacy. One hundred percent (100%) of your donation goes to the endowment to provide the scholarships and assistance to charitable agencies that use aircraft to help those in need. The operation of the organization is funded by the Wings Club Foundation Membership.

We invite you to become a charter member of the President's Society by becoming a donor before the campaign ends on March 31, 2018.



2017 WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Wings Club Foundation Scholars (Full Year Scholarships)

Ramon Amaro, Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Kaitlynn Conrow, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Distinguished Scholar Awards

Matthew Bettmeng, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Nada Nessim, Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Piper Sigrest, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The Ninth Annual William R. DeCota Scholarship

Paolo Adragna, Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Children of Fallen Patriots Scholarship

Kamryn Dey, Penn State University

The Vern L. Pray Scholarship

Connor McCracken, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST

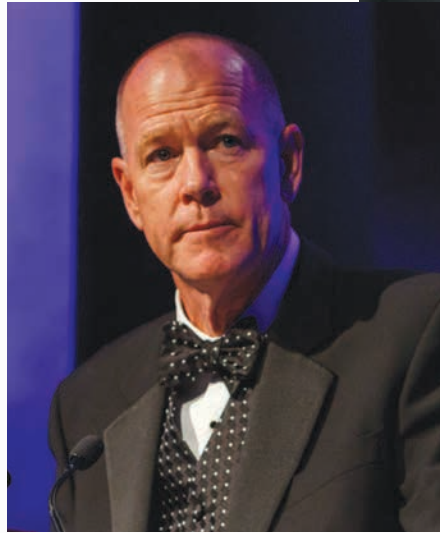
A key element of The Wings Club Foundation's mission is to support and foster aviation scholarship. At the 75th Annual Gala, we presented scholarships to eight outstanding students. Knowing that the students on stage have the potential and the desire to be tomorrow's industry leaders gave the evening a rich sense of purpose and a proud moment for all.





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

75th Annual Gala







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THE WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE ANGEL NETWORK (CAN)

The Wings Club Foundation is committed to supporting organizations that utilize aviation to help those in need. At the 75th Annual Awards Gala, we presented Gina Russo, Executive Director of the Corporate Angel Network with a donation of \$25,000. CAN's mission is to fly cancer patients (both children and adults) to hospitals for specialized treatment on private and corporate planes without cost. Since its founding in 1981, the Corporate Angel Network has coordinated more than 52,000 flights.



75th Annual Gala



**THE WINGS CLUB
FOUNDATION**
NEWSLETTER

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SAVE THE DATE

January Luncheon

January 25, 2018

The Yale Club

Speaker: David Neeleman,
Founder and Chairman
Azul Airlines



February Luncheon
February 22, 2018
The Pierre
Aviation Day USA
Wings Club/ IATA



Dublin Luncheon

March 22, 2018

Inter-Continental Dublin

Speaker: Gaël Méheust, CEO
CFM International Engines



Annual Meeting

March 28, 2018

The Yale Club

Induction of new
Wings Club President,
presentation of 2018
Outstanding Aviator
Award,
Cocktail Reception

March Luncheon

March 29, 2018

The Yale Club

Speaker: Stephen Kavanagh, CEO
Aer Lingus



April Luncheon

April 26, 2018

The Yale Club

General Aviation Panel

