



THE WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION

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Fall 2019

NEWS

THIS YEAR'S DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE

Tom Enders, Chief Executive Officer, Retired, Airbus SE, will be honored with the 2019 Distinguished Achievement Award on October 18, 2019 at the 77th Annual Awards Gala to be held at the New York Hilton Midtown. The award honors outstanding accomplishments in the field of aviation and astronautics.

Tom's distinguished career with Airbus began 19 years ago in 2000. He has been the longest-serving member of the Airbus/EADS Executive Committee and has held various top management positions; most notably as Chief Executive of EADS and of Airbus between 2005 and 2019. Under Tom's leadership, Airbus went through profound strategy and governance changes and developed into one of the world's largest and most successful aerospace companies.

Before starting his career in the aerospace industry, he worked in the German Ministry of Defense and in various foreign policy think tanks. He served with the German Airborne troops and left the Army with the rank of Major (Reserve). An economist and political scientist by education,



Tom Enders

Tom's enduring affinity for aviation and flight is evident as he is also a helicopter pilot and an avid skydiver.

Of considerable note, Tom is a Patron of the Mayday Foundation, which supports airmen and their families in times of need. In 2017, he was recognized as *Aviation Week's* "Person of the Year". Tom is a member of the Board of Directors of Linde Plc and recently was elected President of the prestigious German Society of Foreign Affairs (DGAP).



Wings Club Foundation Annual Awards Gala





THE WINGS CLUB

A Message From The President

Fall 2019



*D*ear Wings Club Members:

As we look forward to the fall season, we have a number of exciting events planned for the Foundation. We are also making good progress in our mission to support aviation scholarship programs.

The fall monthly luncheon speaker series began with Pieter Elbers from KLM. Looking forward to our upcoming events, Robert Isom from American Airlines will speak in November and continuing a long tradition, Gary Kelly from Southwest Airlines, will be back again in December. As we begin the new year, Enrique Beltranena from Volaris will address the Wings Club in January.

Our Aerospace on Campus program promotes aviation education to college students throughout the country. The events give students and faculty a great opportunity to hear firsthand about careers in aviation. In October, the Wings Club will join with Aviation Week Network and American Airlines to present at Tuskegee University.

We are also quickly approaching the 77th Annual Awards Gala. We look forward to honoring Tom Enders, Chief Executive Officer, Retired, Airbus SE with the Distinguished Achievement Award. At the Gala we will present the annual student scholarship awards. This year we have again increased our scholarship grants. The Wings Club will present \$167,000 in scholarships to 11 exceptional students. Recognizing their work as a rapid-response relief organization, we will also present Airlink with the annual Humanitarian Award. It is sure to be a special evening.

It is exciting to see the progress of our various initiatives. The Wings Club Foundation is in a unique position to make a difference. Thank you all for your continued support.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Best regards,

David Davenport
President
The Wings Club Foundation





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Gaël Méheust
President and Chief Executive Officer
CFM International

Mr. Méheust traced the evolution of CFM International from its “rocky” beginnings in 1974 to its current position as the world's leading manufacturer of jet engines for single-aisle aircraft and the most successful aviation joint venture. Reciting the many challenges faced early on, Mr. Méheust also highlighted the mutual respect and shared vision of the founding leadership that made GE and Safran the perfect partners. He identified the key factors for success as well-defined responsibilities, as well as shared product and sales support. Mr. Méheust fast forwarded 48 years to discuss the present successes of the LEAP engine and the future plans for CFM International.



Gaël Méheust



Rick Woodland, Steve Gross

APRIL LUNCHEON



David Davenport, Gaël Méheust, Craig Oxman, Ken Gazzola



Maria McElhinney, Pete Corliss, John Pritchard



Students from New York University





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

MAY LUNCHEON

Mr. John Slosar
Chairman
Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

Offering a “view from the other side of the world,” Mr. Slosar highlighted how the development of aviation is viewed “over there.” Within the context of 1.5 billion middle class Chinese citizens with the means and interest to travel by 2030, he outlined how Cathay Pacific is positioning itself to serve its markets. Cathay has an “amazing” ultra-long-haul fleet as well as the regional Asian fleet which is “fit for purpose as people movers.” Cathay Dragon is the “largest non-Chinese airline serving China, providing feed from 30/40 points in China.” The purchase of China Express, a low-cost, low fare airline – is a “perfect fit” for the Asian leisure market. He concluded with a discussion of issues facing Hong Kong and the need for strategic cooperation and competition with China.



Michelle Lake, John Slosar, David Davenport



Mary Kirby, Jennifer Clay, Jan Karl



*Joe Warakomski, Patrick Staudt, Steven Strozza,
Nick Dyslin, Stephan Snyder*



*John Kingsman, Sara Kramer, Dan Kalmar, William Chan,
Sebastian Granier, Garry Zhou, Lily Shietze*



Anthony Sibilla, Sharon DeVivo, Michael Silvestro



JUNE LUNCHEON

Mr. John Plueger
Chief Executive Officer, President, and
Member of the Board of Directors
Air Lease Corporation

The playing of a Bloomberg TV interview conducted at the Paris Air Show the preceding week set the stage for a very optimistic presentation on the state of the industry and the resilience of passenger traffic by Mr. Plueger. Fielding questions from Mr. David Davenport, President & CEO of FlightSafety International and current Wings Club Foundation president, Mr. Plueger examined the drivers of passenger traffic including the world's emerging middle class, the ease and affordability of air travel, increased number of city pairs served, increased consumer spending on experiences vs. goods and the reality that air transportation was the primary form of mass transportation. He concluded that although the industry has historically experienced macro "headwinds," it was hard to see any long-term impact on the growth of passenger traffic.



David Davenport, John Plueger



*John Plueger, Rick Deurloo, Mark Dunkerley,
Mary Ellen Jones*



Mark Dunkerley, Frank Lorenzo, Timon Lorenzo, John Feren



Steve Harfst, Neil Getter, Adam Knepp



Students from Farmingdale State College





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Wings Club On the Road Geneva, Switzerland

Mr. Mark Burns,
President Gulfstream Aerospace Corp and a
VP General Dynamics

"There is an old saying that we often overestimate what we can do in a year, but far underestimate what we can do in a decade," noted Mr. Burns in his opening remarks. He continued that over the past decade Gulfstream had developed "three totally new airplanes – unique and technologically advanced. The G650 was the beginning of a journey that will take us decades into the future, while the G500 and G600 provide an incredible opportunity to develop new technologies and new airplanes." Commenting that product excellence and the rigor of design and innovation for the sake of the customer is the cornerstone of who Gulfstream is, he credited Gulfstream's people and their commitment to the customer for their success.



Mark Burns, Howard Rubel



Joel Santoz, Nathalie Roche, Mark Collins, Alexandra Collins



Pre-Luncheon Reception



Jonathan Howells, Tom Mahoney



Mark Burns



WE HAVE MOVED

As of September 3, 2019, The Wings Club Foundation moved to new offices! We are in the same MetLife building as before, but are on another floor due to the significant renovation of the building. We are pleased to say our new offices capture the long history of the Wings Club and provide us with significant space in which to display our original aviation artwork. The first photos of the space are here for you to see, however, if you are in midtown New York, we invite you to stop by for a visit and see it for yourself.

Our new address is:

The Wings Club Foundation
200 Park Avenue
East Mezzanine - Suite 11
New York, NY 10166

All other contact information remains the same.



**THE WINGS CLUB
FOUNDATION**
NEWSLETTER

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SAVE THE DATE

Annual Awards Gala

October 18, 2019
New York Hilton Midtown
Distinguished Achievement Award
Recipient: Tom Enders, CEO, Retired
Airbus SE



November Luncheon

November 14, 2019
The Yale Club
Speaker: Robert Isom, President
American Airlines Group and
American Airlines



December Luncheon

December 12, 2019
The Yale Club
Speaker: Gary Kelly
Chairman of the Board and
CEO, Southwest Airlines



January Luncheon

January 23, 2020
The Yale Club
Speaker: Enrique Beltranena
President and CEO
Volaris

