



THE WINGS CLUB FOUNDATION

Vol. 62/No. 6
Fall-Winter 2018

NEWS

With the *Back to the Future* movie logo displayed on screens throughout the ballroom and Richard Quest attired as Doc Brown, the inventor of the time machine, it quickly became obvious that this year's Gala would highlight the future and the next generation of aviation leaders.

Franklin Pray, the 76th president of The Wings Club Foundation presided over the evening. He welcomed the over 1300 guests and introduced the evening's honoree, Willie Walsh, CEO International Airlines Group. From the audience he recognized two Medal of Honor recipients, Colonel Jack Jacobs US Army retired, and Captain Florent "Flo" Groberg US Army retired as well as a former Wings Club Scholarship recipient, Amy Bonilla.

Announcing the achievement of a major Wings Club Foundation objective, Mr. Pray revealed the expansion of the scholarship grant program, "tonight, we will honor nine outstanding students with academic scholarships."



Willie Walsh, Frank Pray

Richard Quest then requested the audience's attention for the presentation of a video showcasing the careers of two past Wings Club Foundation scholarship award winners. This year's recipients were called to the stage to receive their awards which were presented to the students by Elise Eberwein and Greg Hamilton, Scholarship Committee Chairs.

Returning to the podium, Mr. Pray awarded a \$25,000 grant to Orbis International for their humanitarian work before introducing the evening's entertainment.

With the words, "we now have a very special treat for you, Grammy Award winning artist, Gloria Gaynor," Mr. Pray brought the crowd to its feet. First, the audience was clapping to the beat of the music, then singing along to the well-known lyrics and finally dancing in the aisles.

At that point, only a very special person could have commanded the room the way the evening's honoree, Willie Walsh, did. Using skillful, self-deprecating humor he relayed highlights of his career starting with his hiring as a 17-year-old cadet pilot by Aer Lingus, becoming their CEO, moving on to British Airways then IAG and what it was like being frequently confused for Michael O'Leary.



Willie Walsh

Shifting from humor to a more serious tone, Mr. Walsh remarked upon the honor associated with receiving the Distinguished Achievement Award, "I deeply appreciate the Wings Club for giving me this great privilege. This is an award that I accept and am really honored to do so - but I do so with my friends and colleagues. As an honoree, you stand up here and receive the praise and get the award, but you have to recognize it is not without the support of friends, family and, most importantly in this industry, not without the support of our colleagues. We can't do this on our own."





THE WINGS CLUB

A Message From The President

Winter 2018



*D*ear Wings Club Members:

2018 has been an eventful year here at the Wings Club. We continue to make great progress in our mission to promote aerospace education and to support organizations that use aviation to help those in need.

We continue to expand on our grant programs. At our recent Annual Awards Gala, we awarded scholarships to nine exceptional aviation students. We were pleased to add Purdue University to this year's list of recipients. We also presented a grant to Orbis International for their humanitarian work to restore vision around the world. Our Aerospace on Campus program continues to grow. Through this initiative, Wings Club executives share the innovation and excitement of aviation with college students. In October, we held very successful events at the University of Colorado and the University of Maryland

During the past year, our Aviation Leader Series Luncheons featured another extraordinary list of speakers. The visibility of the Wings Club abroad also continues to expand. In 2018, we hosted events in Dublin, Tokyo, and Dubai. We are planning our first ever event in Hong Kong for the beginning of next year and we will be back in Dublin in April.

It is very rewarding to see the progress in each of these initiatives. This year, the Wings Club Foundation reached its first funding milestone goal of five million dollars through the President's Societies Membership Program and other contributions. This funding will help ensure the long-term success of our mission. We are grateful to all who have contributed.

In the upcoming year, we will continue to build on each of these initiatives. The success of all of our programs is made possible by the strong support of our membership.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Franklin Pray
President
The Wings Club Foundation





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Mr. David Cunningham
President and Chief Executive Officer
FedEx Express

Starting with a nod to Fred Smith’s contribution to the industry, Mr. Cunningham gave a brief overview of the rapid growth of FedEx since its 1973 founding. “Forty-five years ago FedEx began turning the aviation business and business possibilities upside down...and building one of the largest transportation systems on the planet.” He continued, “we got here by always putting our customer first and with our Purple Promise ‘to make every FedEx experience outstanding.’” Segueing from his FedEx overview to the industry as a whole, he noted “we

as an industry must come together to advocate for modernization of the nation’s infrastructure; advocate for an education system that allows us to build the workforce we need and innovate for the future of aviation.”

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON



David Cunningham



Kurt Ruckersfeldt, Jonah Sanchez, Brian Lammers



Nicole Hoque, Gary Krauthamer



Matthew Greene, Bob Lekites, David Cunningham, Kenny Dichter, Greg Hall, Sean McGeough



Sam Nesbit, Bobbi Wells, John Brogan





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Mr. Tim Myers
President
Boeing Capital Corporation

Mr. Myers opened with the observation that there were a lot of the leaders in aviation finance in the room. “It is a relationship business. We get deals done by people you know and knowing they can close deals and move forward.” Looking at the trends in aviation and aerospace market over the next decade, he relayed that Boeing forecasts that aerospace is about an eight trillion-dollar market, with over three trillion of that just on the commercial aircraft side, a lot more in services and some on the space and defense side. “Think about three trillion dollars – that’s a lot of financing - that’s enough to go around. And that is just in the next 10 years.”

Wings Club On the Road – Dubai, UAE



*Seated: Kostya Zolotusky, Tim Myers, Frank Pray
Standing: Tom Fitzsimmons, Ali Ben Lmadani, Dr. Hicham Machmouchir, Firoz Tarapore*

Distinguished Achievement Award Recipient

Annual Awards Gala
Willie Walsh
Chief Executive Officer
International Airline Group

In his acceptance speech for the Wings Club Distinguished Achievement Award presented on October 19, 2018, Mr. Walsh reflected that it was on October 19 seventeen years ago that he took over as CEO of Aer Lingus. “I remember that day very well. It was shortly after the tragic events of September 11 – and I am actually very honest about this – I got the chance to be CEO because nobody else wanted it. It was well known that Aer Lingus was going out of business, but somebody had to do it, so I thought why not?” Why not, indeed. In the tribute video, industry colleagues credit him for his role in “making this industry investment grade,” and “changing the face of aviation in Europe and around the globe.” However, in his own words, “As I listened to Gloria Gaynor’s *I Will Survive*, it reminded me of my first day as a CEO in this industry, ‘first I was afraid, I was petrified.’”





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Robin Hayes
Chief Executive Officer
JetBlue

In very fast paced and comprehensive remarks, Robin Hayes traced the founding and growth of JetBlue concurrent with the reshaping of the industry “from top to bottom” due to consolidation and mergers. Mr. Hayes noted, “one of the most profound changes in our industry resulting from consolidation is they way mega airlines treat new competition. For 20 years we have continued to press governments and airports to break down the barriers to entry for carriers like JetBlue. We believe regulators should do everything they can to make it possible for new players and new models to have a fair shot at competing. It is extremely important that the Department of Transportation continues to evaluate the new market realities of consolidation and massive barriers to entry as they are harming consumers.”

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON



Robin Hayes



Barry Eccleston, Dora Habachy, Rebecca Lane



Marcel Landry, Stacy Perlton, Rob DeGasperis, Elise Charbonnbau, Daniel Lazzari



Frank Pray, Narie-Liesse Marc, Robin Hayes



Frank Pray with New York University students



Aerospace on Campus

The Aerospace on Campus series continues to be a successful and integral part of the Foundation's outreach to students at colleges and universities. This fall two well attended events were held, garnering positive feedback for the program.

- Mary Ellen Jones, Vice President, Asia-Pacific Sales, Pratt & Whitney, accompanied by Joe Anselmo, Editor-in-chief and Irene Klotz, Space Editor of *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, traveled to the University of Colorado.
- Barry Eccleston, retired CEO Airbus Americas, accompanied by Greg Hamilton, President and Graham Warwick, Managing Editor, Technology, *Aviation Week & Space Technology* traveled to the University of Maryland.

Looking forward to 2019, two events are already in the planning phases for the fall semester with more anticipated as the year progresses.





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Wings Club Foundation Scholarships – Making a Difference

The Wings Club has awarded 95 scholarships since the year 2000, making a difference in the lives of outstanding students committed to careers in the field of aviation; students with the drive and determination to become future leaders.

Drawing recipients from both Aviation Schools and Universities with degree programs in Aviation allows The Wings Club Foundation a distinctive and diverse group of high-achieving student scholars. For many, the scholarships were the transformational difference, allowing students of less fortunate means to realize their dreams of a college education and a chance of significant upward mobility.

Setting the Foundation's awards apart from other scholarship programs is the SIM program (Scholarship, Internship and Mentorship), which draws on the strength of our members who provide corporate participation with and sponsorship of our scholarship recipients through internships in their companies and mentorships.



The 2018 Wings Club Foundation Scholarship Awards

The Wings Club Foundation Scholars:

Yesenia Hurtado

A junior at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Alice Novatnak

A senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Distinguished Scholar Award Recipients:

Andrew Adams

A graduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

John Chacchi

A junior at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Julia Mihaylov

A senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Mohit Pathak

A junior at Purdue University

The tenth annual William R. DeCota Scholarship:

James Gargano

A junior at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

Children of Fallen Patriots Scholarships:

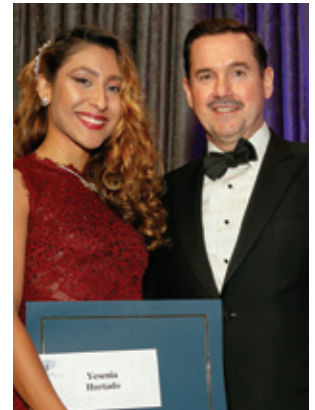
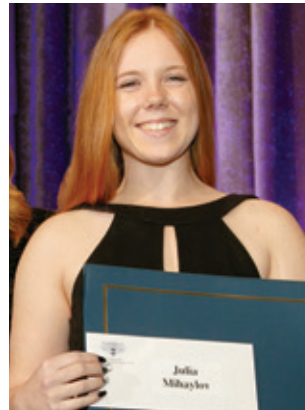
The Vern L. Pray Scholarship

Je'an T. Marbury

A junior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Owen Nicely

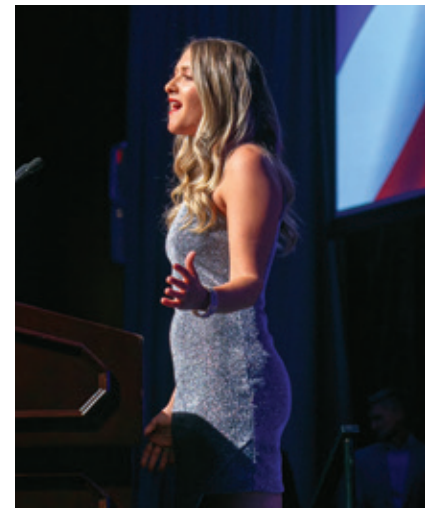
A senior at Jacksonville University





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Annual Awards Gala







THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Annual Awards Gala





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THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

Annual Awards Gala



Silent Auction Donor List

The Wings Club Foundation sincerely thanks the companies and individuals who have generously donated to the Silent Auction.

This year's donors were:

Aer Lingus	GOL Linhas Aereas S.A.
AeroMexico	Hawaiian Airlines
Airbus	James Jacobs
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American Airlines	Jumeirah Zabeel Saray Resort, Dubai
Andaz Costa Rica Resort, at Peninsula Papagayo	Krauthamer & Associates
ATR	L3 Technologies
The Boeing Company	Lions Dive Resort, Curacao
Bolongo Bay Beach Resort, St. Thomas	Magellan Jets
The Bondurant Group	Marriott Courtyard Bonaire
Bradford Renaissance Portraits	Mitsubishi Aircraft
Bristol Associates	The Ocean Club, A Four Seasons Resort
CAE	Ocean Terrace Inn, St. Kitts
Cathay Pacific	Pratt & Whitney
Copa Airlines	Qatar Airways
Dassault Falcon Jet	Rosewood Bermuda
Delta Air Lines	Howard Rubel
Divi Aruba All Inclusive Resort	Southwest Airlines
EL AL	Spirit Airlines
Embraer	Tradewind Aviation
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Freestream Aircraft	Volaris



THE WINGS CLUB
FOUNDATION
NEWSLETTER

Editor - Candice Adams Kimmel
Adams Unlimited
Photos - Christopher Gill
Published by
The Wings Club Foundation, Inc.
www.wingsclub.org

SAVE THE DATE

January Luncheon

January 24, 2019
The Yale Club
Speaker: Bill Flynn
President and CEO
Atlas Air

Hong Kong

January 31, 2019
The American Club, Clipper Room
Speaker: TBA

'Sight Lecture'

February 20, 2019
The Yale Club

Speaker: Jeff Bezos, Chief Executive
Officer, Amazon
and Founder, Blue Origin

Annual Meeting

March 27, 2019
The Yale Club

Induction of new Wings Club
President, presentation of 2019
Outstanding Aviator Award, Cocktail
Reception

April Luncheon

April 18, 2019
The Yale Club

Speaker: Gaël Méheust
President and CEO
CFM International

Dublin Luncheon

April 5, 2019
Inter-Continental Dublin
Speaker: TBA

March Luncheon

March 28, 2019
The Yale Club
Speaker: TBA

