



THE WINGS CLUB

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NEWS

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE



*2015 Distinguished Achievement Award Honoree,
John Leahy*

As we look at the fall calendar of events, one cannot fail to note that the 73rd Annual Awards Gala, honoring Mr. John Leahy, Chief Operating Officer, Customers, Airbus as the Distinguished Achievement Award Recipient, is taking place on October 23, 2015 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. It will be the first Awards Gala hosted by The Wings Club Foundation, having gained the status as a charitable 501(c)(3) organization less than a year ago. Thus, we are taking this opportunity to highlight the importance of the Foundation's mission.

Think about how many times you have heard, or even uttered the words, "we work in an exceptional industry!" When we are working, we are all business – with many of us fierce competitors. We respect one another and are driven to up our game by the excellence we observe in our colleagues against whom we compete. However, when we join together in fellowship, we are friends and collectively feel fortunate to be able to work and thrive in an industry we love.

The aviation industry is an extraordinary community. Each generation has built upon the successes of the previous one to achieve great things and honor its legacy. Now we have The Wings Club Foundation as an instrument to support future generations – the upcoming leaders of our industry.

We are expanding our efforts to grow the Foundation's endowment and award more and larger scholarships to deserving students. Last year we awarded seven scholarships – two of which were for a full tuition for one year. It is vital that we support the future leaders through these student scholarship programs and the other educational initiatives of the Foundation.

So, at the upcoming Gala, when you see the silent auction and the many prizes available for bid, look closely; there must be something that you would enjoy having. We encourage you to participate, while at the same time, having the satisfaction of knowing you are helping another deserving person to become part of aviation's extraordinary community.



Silent Auction



Scholarship Recipients





THE WINGS CLUB

A Message From The President



Fall 2015

Dear Wings Club Members:

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer. This year, the Wings Club continued the monthly speaker series into the summer with our first ever July luncheon. The July lunch and other recent events have featured several prominent industry leaders. They each addressed some of the critical issues facing our industry and attracted sellout crowds. For the fall, we have lined up another schedule of notable speakers and hope to see you at the upcoming events.

Our fall monthly luncheon speaker series included Jim McNerney from Boeing in September and looking forward, Fabrice Brégier from Airbus in November. Continuing our longstanding tradition, Gary Kelly from Southwest Airlines will again be our December speaker. In addition to our usual events, in early October, Jefferies & Company and The Wings Club will co-host a roundtable discussion with the Honorable Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force. The roundtable will be held at the Harvard Club.

Another key initiative, the Wings Club Aerospace on Campus Program continues to gain strong momentum. In conjunction with *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, the program has expanded to aviation and engineering universities across the country. Many executives from the Wings Club and members of the Board have volunteered to speak at the universities. The events give students and faculty a great opportunity to hear firsthand about careers in the aviation industry.

We are also quickly approaching the Annual Awards Gala. The Gala will be held Friday night, October 23rd and we will be honoring John Leahy, Chief Operating Officer – Customers at Airbus with the Distinguished Achievement Award. The preparations are under way and it is sure to be a memorable evening. I encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible.

At the Gala we will be awarding our Annual Wings Club Foundation Scholarship grants to some extraordinary students. As previously stated, our goal is to double the amount of scholarships that we award. We have taken significant steps to grow the Wings Club Foundation endowment. As we increase the endowment, we will continue to expand the scholarship award programs. We appreciate your support for this important mission. I look forward to seeing you at our fall events.

Best regards,

John L. Plueger
President
The Wings Club Foundation



HIGHLIGHTS FROM WINGS CLUB EVENTS

SEE WHAT YOU MISSED

MAY



May, 2015 – New York
Andres Conesa
CEO, Grupo Aeromexico

Mr. Conesa opened with an overview of Aeromexico's unique business model within the Mexican aviation industry, underscoring their "unrelenting focus on cost" as the hallmark of their transformation. Following with an upbeat review of growth opportunities offered by the strengthening Mexican economy, he spent the majority of his time outlining Aeromexico's plan for investing in their future. Key investments enumerated included product improvements, partnerships, fleet planning, network enhancements, the myriad opportunities which will be offered by the new Mexico City Airport and people. "In our industry, what is most important is human capital, so we invested heavily in our people."

JUNE



June, 2015
Sir Tim Clark
President, Emirates Airline

Speaking to a capacity crowd, Sir Tim Clark got right to the question of the day – the underlying issues of the conflict between the Gulf carriers and the US legacy carriers. He built a case suggesting that the US carriers are espousing protectionism rather than embracing competition in an attempt to "restrain the latest globalization era." Sir Tim continued, "The connected world has super-ceded the interconnected. It's a world where customer-centric has faded into obscurity giving way to customer obsession. This is the dynamic age of digital and data – all of which is profoundly altering long-established competitive dynamics." He concluded, "A healthy competitive aviation industry is vital to the global economy."

JULY



July, 2015
Jeff Smisek
Former CEO, United Airlines

Speaking at a first-ever July luncheon held by the Wings Club, a capacity crowd heard Mr. Smisek speak on the airline business and the biggest single threat to the US portion of the international airline business. Referencing remarks he made to the Club in 2011 about the US airline industry being on the cusp of becoming a business, he declared, "we actually have become a business." He continued, "With earnings in excess of the cost of capital we have been able to invest in the business in ways we never have before, including in our fleets, facilities, technology, product and employees. However, the single largest threat to our employees' jobs is the growth of subsidized middle-eastern carriers."

SEPTEMBER



September 24, 2015
Jim McNerney
Chairman of the Board
The Boeing Company

Joe Anselmo (Interviewer)
Editor-in-Chief
Aviation Week & Space Technology

Against the backdrop of a video depicting the challenges faced by then Boeing President, Bill Allen, as he guided the Company from the era of propeller-driven aircraft into the age of jets, Mr. Anselmo queried how the challenges faced by Mr. Allen related to the challenges faced by Mr. McNerney. "It was a different set of challenges...he had to innovate around product, my challenges were cultural; organizational leadership challenges." In response to questions on innovation, Mr. McNerney replied, "There is more innovation going on now than in any time in our history. There is a lot of innovation. The issue is not one of more innovation or less, the issue is more of how you deploy it." "Finding certain platforms and spiraling in technology in a more risk-managed way – that is the challenge we have," he concluded.





THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

MAY LUNCHEON

JUNE LUNCHEON



John Plueger, Ed Bastian, Andres Conesa



Sir Tim Clark



Faculty and students from Dowling College



Jim Baxter, Sir Tim Clark



Andres Conesa, Candice Kimmel, Doug Walker



*Seated: Mary Ellen Jones, Sir Tim Clark, John Plueger, Barry Eccleston, Gary Krauthamer
Standing: Greg Thomas, Thomas Bosco, Bob Craft, Sharon DeVivo, John Rosanwallon*



JULY LUNCHEON



Ted Austell, Sharon Pierce, Mike Nunes



Bill Boll, Scott Dufour, Neelima Kothapalli, Melissa Argiro, Mike Lapatkt



Kevin Cooper, Paul Margis, Sarah Stabile, Harel Magaritz



Brian Lammers, Nancy Cika, Deb Silia, S.K. Lee



Jill Zuckman, Sabrina Singh, Neha Nair, Annabell Gall



Jeff Smisek



THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON



Howard Rubel, Jim McNerney, John Plueger



James Meyler, Bill Collins, Grant Levy, John Poerschke



Joe Anselmo, Jim McNerney



Robert Aceves, Patricia Aceves, Ken Gazzola, Thomas Balding, Samuel Balding, Todd Kallman



Bruce Nobles, Bob Reding, Kathy Koorenny Nobles, Candice Kimmel



*Seated: Frank Pray, Marion Blakey, Jim McNerney, John Plueger, Mary Ellen Jones
Standing: Joe Anselmo, Chaker Chahrour, Todd Kallman, James Meyler*



ON THE ROAD

May, Geneva Luncheon
David Longridge
President, Boeing Business Jets



David Longridge

Relating a humorous example from his own experience that parenting doesn't work well via a facetime internet connection, Mr. Longridge drew the parallel that selling via facetime is not the optimum tactic either. "You have to get out in front of your customers," he emphasized, with his experience in business aviation "bringing that message home." Using three movie clips to demonstrate how the perception of business jets has been shaped by the medium, he moved to his primary premise that business jets contribute to the industry as whole, as early adapters of technology. "There are many examples where business aviation has led the way for commercial aviation," Longridge concluded.



Teresa March, Marlin Dailey, Bart Slager



Pre-luncheon; Starling Hotel Geneva



Marlin Dailey, David Longridge

GOLF TOURNAMENT

In June, we held our 3rd Annual Wings Club Golf Invitational benefiting the Wings Club Foundation Scholarship Fund. The event was held at the prestigious Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, NJ and raised over \$21,000 for the Foundation.

Congratulations to the foursome from Atlas Air Worldwide as this year's champions. Many thanks to the tournament sponsors; American Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Flight Options, RTI International Metals and especially to Embraer, the title sponsor, for their continued commitment and support of this event.



THE WINGS CLUB
NEWSLETTER

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COME VISIT THE WINGS CLUB VIRTUAL STORE



Please visit the Wings Club Foundation Virtual Store. A variety of Wings Club logoed items can be found ranging from apparel (jackets, polo shirts, hats, vests) and business accessories (laptop/tablet carriers, executive pens, flight bags) to golf products (golf bags, golf balls, golf umbrellas) and outdoor/leisure items such as portable stadium chairs, backpacks, tumblers and even bike bottles. Shopping for customized Wings Club merchandise is easy and can be accomplished online by visiting our website. We encourage all members to visit the store today and browse through the inventory; a Wings Club shopping spree is just a click away.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Awards Gala

October 23, 2015
Waldorf Astoria

**Distinguished Achievement
Award Recipient: John Leahy
COO – Customers, Airbus**

November Luncheon

November 19, 2015
The Yale Club

**Speaker: Fabrice Bregier
President & CEO
Airbus**

December Luncheon

December 10, 2015
The Yale Club

**Speaker: Gary Kelly
Chairman, President & CEO
Southwest Airlines**

January Luncheon

January 28, 2016
The Yale Club

Speaker: TBA

