



# THE WINGS CLUB

www.wingsclub.org  
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Winter 2009/2010

# NEWS

## THE ANNUAL WINGS CLUB DINNER-DANCE

On October 23, 2009, more than 1,000 Wings Club members and their guests from around the world gathered at the elite Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in New York City for the 67th Annual Dinner-Dance. Club President Dave Barger presided over the evening and welcomed an enthusiastic crowd which included eleven past presidents of the Wings Club.

In the first of three presentation innovations, which added an element of surprise to the program this year, the presentation of the Club's 2009 Distinguished Achievement Award to Mr. Wolfgang Mayrhuber, Chairman of the Executive Board & CEO of Deutsche Lufthansa AG, was performed by his good friend and the 2008 honoree, Mr. Steven Udvar-Hazy. The presentation was preceded by a compelling video, tracing Mr. Mayrhuber's more than 35 year career, beginning as an engineer at the Deutsche Lufthansa overhaul facility in Hamburg through to his current position as the company's Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO.



*Steven Udvar-Hazy, Wolfgang Mayrhuber  
and Dave Barger*



Further heightening the evening's air of the unexpected, everyone's attention was drawn to the first balcony as Mr. Abdol Maobery, President of the Wings Club Scholarship Fund, presented a total of six \$5,000 scholarship awards to deserving students in the field of aviation.

Finally, representing the Club's continuing support of aviation-related humanitarian organizations, the presentation of a check to The Corporate Angel Network for \$25,000, was made at the head table. The 67th Annual Wings Club Dinner-Dance also featured a pre-dinner cocktail party, silent auction and dinner music provided by the Hank Lane Review Orchestra.

*Steven Udvar-Hazy, 2008 Distinguished  
Achievement Award Recipient*





# THE WINGS CLUB

## 2009-2010 BOARD MEMBERS



## A Message From The President

January 2010

Dear Wings Club Members:

2009 has been another great year for our Club. We've continued to host quality Luncheon speakers this year, including Mike Griffin, former NASA administrator, who gave a stimulating "Sight" Lecture on the space program. We are in the process of printing that presentation to send to each of you as a keepsake. To start 2010 on a high note, we have Glenn Tilton of United Airlines at our January Luncheon and Bill Flynn of Atlas Air in February.

In March of this year, we held our third successful Luncheon in Dublin, Ireland with Allan Joyce of Qantas Airways as our guest speaker. We are already planning a fourth visit to Dublin on March 10, 2010 with Christoph Mueller, the new CEO of Aer Lingus as speaker. This Annual Luncheon will further grow the international reach of The Wings Club through our European Chapter.

The recently held Dinner-Dance was another success with 1,000 attendees and a Silent Auction that brought in more than \$115,000. In addition, we honored Wolfgang Mayrhuber with the Distinguished Achievement Award, six students with \$5,000 scholarships and The Corporate Angel Network for its humanitarian efforts with a \$25,000 donation. A sincere thanks to everyone who attended and to our Club Management Team for making the evening a memorable one.

We are currently finalizing this year's membership directory. I want to thank the hundreds of you who updated your records so that this edition will be as accurate as possible. You should receive your copy early in the new year.

Finally, we have located several promising midtown facilities as potential offices for the Club. The Board of Governors will be reviewing the economics in January and I look forward to providing you with further updates on the exciting prospect of once again having a permanent home for The Wings Club.

For 2010, I wish you and your family a most Happy New Year.

Warm regards,

Dave Barger  
President  
The Wings Club

**Robert F. Agnew**  
Morten Beyer & Agnew

**David Barger**  
JetBlue Airways

**Gordon M. Bethune**  
GB-1 Partners

**Henri Courpron**  
Seabury Aerospace

**Frederico Fleury Curado**  
Embraer S/A

**Marlin Dailey**  
Boeing Commercial Airplanes

**Thomas M. Donegan**  
Aviation Finance International, LLC

**John N. Feren**  
Aviation Capital Group

**Thomas Fitzsimmons**  
Gama Aviation, Inc.

**William J. Flynn**  
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings

**Kenneth E. Gazzola**  
Gazzola Consulting LLC

**James M. Guyette**  
Rolls-Royce North America

**Henry Hubschman**  
GECAS

**Todd Kallman**  
Pratt & Whitney

**James King**  
Alize Worldwide Limited

**C. Jeffrey Knittel**  
CIT Transportation Finance

**Gary Krauthamer**  
Krauthamer & Associates

**Joseph B. Leonard**  
AirTran Airways

**Kevin McAllister**  
GE Aviation

**Allan McArtor**  
Airbus Americas, Inc.

**David L. McKay**  
U.S. Aviation Underwriters

**John Ploeuger**  
Int'l. Lease Finance Corp.

**Steve Ridolfi**  
Bombardier Aerospace

**John S. Slattery**  
GreenStone Aviation, Ltd

**Bruce Whitman**  
FlightSafety International



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM WINGS CLUB EVENTS

## SEE WHAT YOU MISSED



SEPTEMBER



**September 17, 2009**

**Todd Kallman**, President, Commercial Engines & Global Services  
Pratt & Whitney

Opening his remarks by reassuring the audience that, "We aren't dead ...our vital signs are quite strong as we lead the industry with change and position the company for a bright future," Kallman continued by outlining Pratt & Whitney's portfolio of businesses balanced between OEM and MRO activity. With a nod to the 36,000 worldwide employees, he noted that Pratt & Whitney makes engines that cover "anything that flies, from a four seat jet to the space shuttle; from less than 1000 pounds of thrust to one million pounds of thrust; from 0 miles per hour to Mach 6." He concluded that despite the year's recession, "We are managing for a strong future and offering the right solutions."

OCTOBER



**October 27, 2009 Wings Club Breakfast**

**Larry Kellner**, Chairman & CEO  
Continental Airlines

In a rare breakfast meeting moment, Larry Kellner chose the Wings Club to make the announcement that Continental was poised to join the Star Alliance. With bilateral commercial agreements with the twenty four Star Alliance members and code-sharing agreements with four of them (United, Lufthansa, Air Canada and bmi), Continental would be the first-ever major airline to transition from one global alliance to another. In his remarks, Kellner pointed out, "The Star Alliance is the strongest in New York, with service from seventeen of the Star partners, providing 70,000 daily seats departing from the city."

NOVEMBER



**November 19, 2009**

**Robert Fornaro**, Chairman, President & CEO  
AirTran Airways

Following a brief overview of the past two years which saw AirTran forced into a "painful but successful" restructuring that left AirTran solidly profitable, achieving the best nine months of profitability in the company's history, Fornaro declared oil volatility and speculation "the most challenging issue" facing the airline industry today. He went on to present a detailed case for specific legislative and regulatory reforms that will protect "the country, companies and customers from oil spikes and volatility."

DECEMBER



**December 17, 2009**

**Gary Kelly**, President & CEO  
Southwest Airlines

Reminding the audience of his speech to the Wings Club of a year ago in which he addressed the state of the industry, industry-wide goals and some of the changes and initiatives that Southwest was pursuing in an attempt to weather the economic slowdown, he then proceeded to update the audience on Southwest's accomplishments in the "most difficult year in the most challenging decade in the history of commercial aviation." He concluded with his insights regarding ongoing efforts in the industry including the pursuit of NextGen - an enhanced air traffic control system - and proposed climate change legislation.





# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

## THE SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON • THE OCT



Aviation High School students: Christopher Ransarop, Jamari Greene, Estefania Collazus, Allan Smart, Jave Ellis, Angelica Urilez, Joe Kyle, Zin Han, Albaro Pillco at the September Luncheon



Larry Kellner, Dave Barger at the October Breakfast



Karen Lewis, Dorothy Carpenter, David Richardson, Leslie Abbott, Mike Van de Ven, Whitney Eichinger at the December Luncheon



Abby Bried, Dave Hilfman, Nicole Piasecki at the October Breakfast



The Head Table at the October Breakfast. From left: Kevin McAllister, GE Aviation; Wolfgang Mayrhuber, Deutsche Lufthansa; Dave Barger, JetBlue; Jaan Albrecht, Star Alliance; Susan Baer, Port Authority New York and New Jersey; Larry Kellner, Continental; Calin Rovinescu, Air Canada; Keisuke Okada, ANA; Glenn Tilton, United.



# OBER BREAKFAST • THE NOVEMBER LUNCHEON • THE DECEMBER LUNCHEON



*Paul Kolaj, Joe Wiadyka, Susan Baer,  
John Kolaj, Giorgio Kolaj at the December Luncheon*



*Bob Fornaro and Ken Gazzola at the November Luncheon*



*Gary Kelly, Carol Hallett,  
Julius Maldutis, Dave Barger  
at the December Luncheon*



*Todd Kallman and  
Dave Barger at the  
September Luncheon*



*Seated: Bryan Baldwin, Jeff Pelch, Ed Barnes, Ted Christie.  
Standing: Blake Vanier, Russ Chew, Mark Powers, Lisa Reifer,  
Jill Slachta, Dave Barger at the November Luncheon.*

## THE WINGS CLUB SILENT AUCTION

The Wings Club would like to give special thanks to the companies and individuals who contributed to the 2009 Silent Auction, which took place at the Club's annual Dinner-Dance at the Waldorf = Astoria Hotel in New York City on October 23. The funds raised from the auction totaled \$116,000, a 2% increase over last year. The net proceeds from the auction will be donated to the Wings Club Scholarship Fund.

### Silent Auction donors were:

<b>Aer Lingus</b>	<b>Fort Young Hotel (Dominica)</b>
<b>Air France</b>	<b>The Georgian Hotel</b>
<b>Air Jamaica</b>	<b>Hawaiian Airlines</b>
<b>Air New Zealand</b>	<b>Hilton Waikiki</b>
<b>Air Tahiti Nui</b>	<b>Hyatt Hotels and Resorts</b>
<b>Airbus Americas</b>	<b>Icelandair</b>
<b>AirTran Airways</b>	<b>JetBlue Airways</b>
<b>Alaska Airlines</b>	<b>Lease Corporation International</b>
<b>Alteon Training</b>	<b>Lufthansa Airlines</b>
<b>American Airlines</b>	<b>The Metropolitan Museum of Art</b>
<b>Austrian Airlines</b>	<b>The New York Jets</b>
<b>Aviation Capital Group</b>	<b>Pinnacle Airlines</b>
<b>Gordon Bethune</b>	<b>Pratt &amp; Whitney</b>
<b>Boeing Commercial Airplanes</b>	<b>Qantas Airways</b>
<b>Bombardier Aerospace</b>	<b>The Ritz-Carlton Hotel</b>
<b>The Bondurant Group</b>	<b>Seaport Hotel</b>
<b>Bristol Associates</b>	<b>Sedona Rouge Hotel and Spa</b>
<b>British Airways</b>	<b>Singapore Airlines</b>
<b>Buddy Dive Resort</b>	<b>Skip Barber Racing School</b>
<b>Cockpit USA</b>	<b>Southwest Airlines</b>
<b>Continental Airlines</b>	<b>Swiss International Airlines</b>
<b>Copa Airlines</b>	<b>TACA</b>
<b>Robert Crandall</b>	<b>TAP</b>
<b>Delta Air Lines</b>	<b>Toys and Models Corporation</b>
<b>Divi Aruba All Inclusive</b>	<b>United Airlines</b>
<b>Doppeldecker Design</b>	<b>US Airways</b>
<b>Embraer</b>	<b>Valentin Imperial Maya Resort</b>
<b>Etihad Airlines</b>	<b>Virgin America</b>
<b>Exclusive Resorts</b>	<b>Virgin Atlantic Airways</b>
<b>FEDEX</b>	<b>The Waldorf = Astoria Hotel</b>
<b>FlightSafety International</b>	<b>The Woodway Country Club</b>

## THE WINGS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND

At the Wings Club's 67th annual Dinner-Dance on October 23, 2009, the Scholarship Fund presented \$5,000 Distinguished Scholarship Awards to four young students for outstanding academic achievement in the field of aviation plus an additional two Awards that debuted this year.

### The recipients were:

**Caroline Brozovich**, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
**Jackeline Diapis**, Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology  
**Kevin Lin**, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Richard Smail**, Dowling College

The Club gave a joint International Aviation Women Association (IAWA)/Wings Club \$5,000 scholarship to:

**Rachel Pachoud**, McGill University

The Club also gave a \$5,000 scholarship in memory of Bill DeCota to:

**Sandeep Kaur**, Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

The Board of Directors of the Wings Club Scholarship Fund would like to remind you that you could make tax-deductible contributions to the Wings Club Scholarship Fund at any time. You can help us encourage outstanding young people, such as our recent scholarship recipients, to study aviation and become the next generation of leaders in our industry.

Please consider a donation and ask your company about matching fund programs. For more information, please call Harris Herman at the Wings Club at 212-867-1770.



Dear Members,

*I am pleased to introduce a new series to recapture some of the rich history and the leaders who made the Wings Club, the most prominent aviation club in the world. We will present a compelling profile of each recipient of our "Distinguished Achievement Award," starting in this issue with General Jimmy Doolittle, our first recipient in 1975. This new series follows the set of historical articles written by Bill Bath in the last five issues of the newsletter. Since January 2008 the Historical and Educational Committee has retained Bill Bath to write a series of historical articles for the newsletter. We hope you enjoy it.*

*Ken Gazzola, Chairman*

*Historical and Educational Committee*

The September 1979 Wings Club luncheon in New York was a special occasion; at the head table sat General Jimmy Doolittle, who was being recognized for achieving the first blind flight fifty years earlier on September 24, 1929. Also at that table sat Lieutenant Ben Kelsey, the safety pilot on the flight, and Charles ("Pete") Conrad Jr., who was the commander of Apollo 12 on the second lunar landing in the Ocean of Storms on November 18, 1969.

Regular night airmail services began between Chicago and Cheyenne in July 1924; flying in all kinds of weather in open cockpit biplanes, such as DeHavilland DH-4s war surplus machines, the accident rate was high. The instrument panel was sparse, with an altimeter, a simple magnetic compass, a crude airspeed indicator and a bubble liquid tube to help the pilot keep the wings level; in turbulence the level was not much help. Four-course radio range beacons were first installed in 1929; by listening to the morse code for A or N and turning left or right to change the letter, the pilot could determine which quadrant he was in; a steady note meant he was on the beam. Sun spots and mountainous terrain would sometimes interfere with the signal.

It was in 1929 that Lawrence Sperry, whose factory was then on Long Island, introduced his gyroscopic Artificial Horizon; Paul Kollsman, also of Long Island, developed a new altimeter, the design of which solved the chronic inaccuracy of current ones at low altitudes. Jimmy Doolittle had them installed on a Consolidated NY-2 biplane to demonstrate how a pilot could fly blind and not lose control by entering a fatal dive or spin.

On that September day in 1929, Doolittle took-off blind under a fabric hood from Mitchell Field on Long Island to fly a prescribed pattern and land while still under the hood. During the takeoff Kelsey in the front seat raised his hands to show that Doolittle was controlling the aircraft. The aircraft then climbed to 1,000 feet and disappeared into the mist.

The National Bureau of Standards had installed a radio beacon on Mitchell Field for the flight; once he had lined up with the beacon, Doolittle made a gradual descent to land close to the start of his takeoff roll. The flight lasted fifteen minutes. For this achievement he received the Harmon Trophy. With the installation of the Sperry Artificial Horizon and Kollsman altimeter, together with 90 radio beacons in place by 1933 approximately 200 miles apart, the mail flights accident rate dropped dramatically.

What were his other achievements? It is a long and impressive list. The United States entered World War I in 1917 when Doolittle joined the Air Service and served as a flight instructor in the US until the 1918 armistice. Subsequently, he performed aerobatics including the outside loop at air shows; during this time he obtained a degree in engineering and in 1925 a doctorate in aeronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In 1922, he flew from Pablo Beach, Florida to San Diego in 21 hours and 19 minutes, the first person to do it in less than 24 hours. His aircraft was a DH-4 with crude navigation instruments and he did it with only one refueling stop.

He was one of the first army engineering test-pilots and trained with the navy on high-speed flight tests. In 1925, he won the Schneider Cup seaplane race flying the Curtiss Navy racer and the next day set a world speed record with it of 245 mph (394 km per hour). For these feats he received the MacKay Trophy.

In 1931, he won the Bendix Trophy Race in a Laird biplane and the Thompson Trophy with the Granville Gee Bee "widow maker"; Doolittle called it the most dangerous plane he had ever flown.

The April 18, 1942 Tokyo raid by 16 Mitchell B-25 bombers, stripped of guns and armor and led by then lieutenant colonel Doolittle from the aircraft carrier USS Hornet, has been well covered in books and on film and there is no need to repeat it here; suffice to say that those who survived considered themselves lucky. President Roosevelt presented Doolittle with the Medal of Honor for planning and leading the raid.

Long retired from active duty, in 1985 he received his fourth star as a full general and died in 1993 at the age of 97. He is buried at Arlington Cemetery next to Josephine, his wife of 71 years. When asked about his longevity when so many other pioneers died young, he would reply that he never took uncalculated risks and had lots of luck.

References: [WWW.arlingtoncemetery.net/jdoolitt](http://WWW.arlingtoncemetery.net/jdoolitt).

[Centennialofflight.gov](http://Centennialofflight.gov).(Jimmy Doolittle-Aviation Star)

[Centennialofflight.gov/essay/Evolution of Technology/navigation](http://Centennialofflight.gov/essay/Evolution%20of%20Technology/navigation).





# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

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# ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE





# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

# THE WINGS CLUB



# ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE



## NEW MEMBERS

(As of January 8, 2010)

George R. Ackert  
Ever Core Partners

Antonio Bandeira  
Qatar Airways

Anthony Checa  
StandardAero

Christopher Condy  
Solairus Aviation

James K. Coyne  
National Air Transportation  
Association

Marlin Dailey  
Boeing Commercial Airplanes

Andrew Farrant  
Chromalloy

Hilary C. Fleischer  
KKR

Suzanne Garber  
International SOS

Rohan Garnett  
Qantas Airways Ltd.

Mark Giuliani  
Giuliani Associates Architects

Shan Haider  
U.S. Bankruptcy Court-Delaware

Kai Holmberg  
FEEL Air

Anthony John Hughes  
Qatar Airways

Gregory Hunt  
WorldStrides

Norman Jordan  
Labinal, Inc.

Fredrick Kass  
New York Aviation Management  
Association (NYAMA)

Stephanie Klein  
BNP Paribas

Norma Lantz  
Labinal, Inc.

John Landherr  
Certified Aviation Services (CAS)

Shelley Larose-Arken  
URS Corp.-NY

Tiernan Lee  
AirIntel

Edward Lewis  
SPK/Lewis, Inc.

Thomas B. Linquist  
Egon Zhender International

Philip Meade  
Vaughn College

Jacob "Jake" Mitchell  
WorldStrides

Jorge Ortega  
Labinal, Inc.

Robert Papas  
BNP Paribas

Steve Phillips  
FlightSafety International

Barbara Jane Shea  
FlightSafety International

Peter M. Stavros  
KKR

Damien Stephan  
BNP Paribas

Laela Pakpour Tabrizi  
BNP Paribas

Tom van der Linden  
Chromalloy

Joshua T. Weisenbeck  
KKR

Kenneth A. Wiseman  
URS Corporation

## IN MEMORIAM

The Club regrets to report that five of our members have passed away this fall. We send heartfelt sympathy and condolences to their families.

**Hugh Crim**

**Andrew Nugent**

**G. Erskine Rice  
(Golden Eagle)**

**Joseph Riley  
(Golden Eagle)**

**Kenneth Stein**

## SAVE THE DATE

**The February Luncheon**  
February 25, 2010  
11:45 AM  
The Yale Club

**The Dublin Luncheon**  
March 10, 2010  
Reception: 12:30 PM  
Lunch: 1:00 PM  
The Four Seasons Hotel  
Dublin, Ireland

**The Annual Meeting**  
March 23, 2010  
6:00 PM  
The Yale Club

**The March Luncheon**  
March 24, 2010  
11:45 AM  
The Yale Club



  
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