



# THE WINGS CLUB

www.wingsclub.org  
Vol. 44 • No. 4  
Fall 2011

# NEWS

## The Wings Club Annual Awards Gala

On October 21, 2011, more than 1,200 Wings Club members and their guests from around the world gathered at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in New York City for the 69th Annual Awards Gala. Wings Club President Dave McKay presided over the evening's festivities.

The evening commenced with the entrance to the ballroom of the 2011 Distinguished Achievement Award winner, Mr. Norman Augustine, first President and now retired Chairman and CEO of the Lockheed Martin Corporation, and the presentation of the Colors.



*Dave McKay, Norman R. Augustine, Allan McArtor*

Mr. Abdol Maobery, President of The Wings Club Scholarship Fund presented a total of five \$5,000 scholarship awards to deserving students in the field of aviation, and continuing its support of aviation-related humanitarian organizations, Dave McKay presented a check for \$25,000 to ORBIS International.



*Dave McKay and Harris Herman*

Dave McKay then made a special presentation, bestowing Wings Club Honorary Membership upon retiring Club General Manager, Harris Herman, recognizing his "lifetime of dedication to aviation and his selfless dedicated service to the The Wings Club."

The introduction of the 2011 Distinguished Achievement Award honoree was performed by the 2010 honoree, Mr. Allan McArtor. Following a compelling video chronicling Mr. Augustine's illustrious career, Club President Dave McKay presented the Award.

The 69th Annual Wings Club Awards Gala also featured a pre-dinner cocktail party, silent auction and dinner music provided by the Hank Lane Revue Orchestra.





# THE WINGS CLUB

## A Message From The President

December 2011



Dear Wings Club Members:

2011 has been another fabulous year for our Club. Our Aviation Leader Series luncheons continue to be a hit and have been in the “sold out” category more often than not this year. That is not hard to understand given the strength of our distinguished roster. The Wings Club has had the pleasure of hosting the following speakers in 2011:

Willie Walsh	CEO	British Airways
Tony Tyler	CEO	Cathay Pacific
Giovanni Bisignani	DG and CEO	IATA
Calin Rovinescu	President and CEO	Air Canada
Gen. Duncan McNabb	Commander	USTC
Pedro Heilbron	CEO	Copa Airlines
James Hogan	CEO	Etihad Airways
Jeff Smisek	President and CEO	United Airlines
Gary Kelly	Chairman, President and CEO	Southwest Airlines

We will build on that success in 2012 with Louis Chenevert, Chairman & CEO of UTC addressing the Club in January and Pierre Beaudoin, President & CEO of Bombardier speaking to us in February. Don't miss a chance to interact with and hear from these dynamic aviation industry leaders.

We were thrilled to host General Duncan McNabb, Commander U. S. Transportation Command, as our “Sight” Lecturer this year who delivered a compelling overview of his command, its mission and accomplishments to a sold out audience. We are in the process of printing that presentation to send to each of you to keep your Sight Lecture library complete and up-to-date.

Our International Chapter continues to promote and strengthen The Wings Club brand abroad. We held our fifth successful Luncheon in Dublin, Ireland this past March with Tony Davis of Tiger Airways as our guest speaker. Following that on the international scene, our own John Rosanvallon of Dassault Falcon Jet packed the house at our second annual Geneva Luncheon held in association with EBACE. Looking ahead, our March 7, 2012 Dublin luncheon speaker will be Dermott Manion, CEO of Royal Brunei Airlines and the former CEO of Aer Lingus; on May 17, 2012, the Geneva Luncheon will feature Frederico Curado of Embraer as guest speaker.

The October Gala was another huge success with 1,200 attendees and a Silent Auction brought in approximately \$187,000. In addition we honored Norman Augustine with the Distinguished Achievement Award, five students with \$5,000 scholarships and ORBIS International for its humanitarian efforts with a \$25,000 donation. We also saluted our retiring General Manager, Harris Herman, in a brief ceremony bestowing on him an Honorary Membership in the Wings Club.

My sincere thank you to everyone who attended and to our Club management team for making the evening so memorable and such a success.

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 first quarter of 2012.

Please accept my best wishes to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

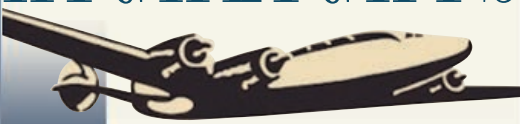
Best Regards,

Dave McKay  
President  
The Wings Club



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM WINGS CLUB EVENTS

## SEE WHAT YOU MISSED



SEPTEMBER



**September 22, 2011**

**James Hogan, CEO Etihad Airways**

Providing his perspective on the development of alternative and carbon neutral energy sources, James Hogan outlined Etihad's leadership role in green technology achieved by including sustainability criteria as part of his business plan for rapid growth. Observing that "no one saves the world on their own," Hogan called for "partnerships across industries and geographies" as part of an industry wide focus on the issue. "Few other industries have invested as significantly as the airlines to reduce carbon emissions," he concluded. *Treating luncheon guests to a taste of Arabian hospitality, Etihad hosted the cocktail reception prior to the luncheon and provided gift bags for each attendee while two flight attendants greeted guests at the door.*

OCTOBER



**October 21, 2011**

**Wings Club 69th Annual Awards Gala**

**Norman R. Augustine**, first President and now retired Chairman and CEO Lockheed Martin Corporation

Accepting the 2011 Distinguished Achievement Award, Norm Augustine reminisced on the history of aviation and the changes over the years. "I have lived through  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the aviation age and all of the space age. My mother, who was born in 1893, knew people who crossed the high prairies in covered wagons and knew friends of mine who walked on the moon. She was 10 years old when the Wright brothers flew." Having once calculated that the Wright brothers' famous flight could have taken place entirely in the space shuttle's external fuel tank if you placed it on its side, he mused, "I wonder what the Wright brothers would say"?

OCTOBER



**October 21, 2011**

**Wings Club 69th Annual Awards Gala**

**Harris Herman**, Wings Club General Manager

Upon receiving the Honorary Membership in the Wings Club, Harris remarked, "All of the great people in the industry have been recognized with this honorary membership; I am humbled and flattered to be added to that list. I was curious to see where I would fit in the long alphabetical list of honorary members. I fell between longtime supporter of the Club, Skitch Henderson and the 1979 Distinguished Achievement Award winner Hal Hibbard from the Lockheed Corporation. It is interesting that Norm is here tonight to continue that tradition".

NOVEMBER



**November 17, 2011**

**Jeff Smisek**, President and Chief Executive Officer United

In remarks that ranged from changes in the airline business to taxes and carbon emission trading schemes, Smisek delivered a message of hope for the industry stating "we are on the cusp of developing a business that actually works." Noting that consolidation has rationalized the industry, a disciplined approach has matched capacity to demand and the "radical experiment of charging more for a ticket than it actually takes to operate," seems to be working. He pointed out, however, that the industry faces the challenges of the EU trading scheme and taxation that borders on the absurd. In a rhetorical question he asked, "what kind of business would you have if the government took 20% off the top? You would have an airline".





# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

## SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON



*Dave McKay and Students from Vaughn College*



*Barry Eccleston, John Luth, Marlin Dailey*



*Mary Ellen Jones,  
Elaine Asch,  
Kimberley Sullivan*



*Geert Boven, D.J. Ghosh*



*Seated: Mary Ellen Jones, Allan McArtor, Dave McKay, James Hogan, Kevin McAllister  
Standing: Bruce Whitman, Ken Gazzola, Bob Craft, Marlin Dailey, Ian Aitken*



# NOVEMBER LUNCHEON



*Joe Gullion, AJ Smith, James Barry*



*Dave McKay & Jeff Smisek*



*Huntley Lawrence,  
Jeff Smisek, Ralph Tragale*



*Jeff Smisek,  
Captain Matthew S. Hensley,  
USAF*



*Tony Checa, David Hurley, Bruce Whitman, Thomas Connelly*



# The Wings Club Silent Auction Donors

The Wings Club would like to give special thanks to the companies and individuals who contributed to the 2011 Silent Auction, which took place at the Club's annual Awards Gala at the Waldorf = Astoria Hotel in New York City on October 21. The funds raised from the auction totaled \$187,000. The net proceeds from the auction will be donated to the Wings Club Scholarship Fund.

## Silent Auction donors were:

Aer Lingus	Copa Airlines	The New York Mets
AERIS	Cruise America	The New York Stock Exchange
Air Canada	Delta Air Lines	Oceanic
Air France	Divi & Tamarijn Aruba	Plaza Resort Bonaire
Air Lease Corporation	Doppeldecker	Pratt & Whitney
Air Tahiti Nui	El AL Airlines	Qantas Airways
Airbus Americas	Embraer	Rolls Royce NA
AirTran Airways	The Engine Alliance	Marie Rosa
Alaska Airlines	Etihad Airways	Safe Flight Instruments
American Airlines	FedEx Corporation	SeaDream Yacht Club
The Arboleda	FlightSafety International	Secret Bay, Dominica
Associated Aircraft Group	Fort Young, Dominica	Singapore Airlines
Atlas Air	Hawaiian Airlines	South African Airways
Avianca/TACA	Icelandair	Southwest Airlines
Aviation Capital Group	International Aero Engines	Swiss International Air Lines
Mr. Gordon Bethune	JetBlue Airways	Thompson Hotel, NYC
Boeing	Mr. Scott Johnson	The Trapp Family Lodge
The Bondurant Group	JWJ, LLC	United Airlines
Bristol Associates	KLM	US Airways
British Airways	Lease Corporation International	Virgin Atlantic Airways
The Carlyle Group	Lufthansa German Airlines	The Waldorf = Astoria Hotel
Cockpit USA	The Metropolitan Museum of Art	Mr. Douglas Walker
Continental Airlines	The New Jersey Devils	

## Scholarship Winners

Andres Villalobos Aguirre	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Brian Linhares	Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology
Jordan T. Lopez	MIT
Justin M. Vaughn	Dowling College
Noemi Nunez	Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology (3rd Annual William R. DeCota Scholarship)



## Distinguished Achievement Profile Series

DATE: 1978

**Robert Foreman Six (June 25, 1907-October 6, 1986)**

Robert Six started his business career in sales for a public utility company, but was fired for taking flying lessons on company time. He received his pilot's license after 10 hours in 1929, at the age of 22. He bought an OX-5-powered Travel Air biplane and founded the Valley Flying Service, selling scenic rides to passengers, and racing on weekends.

In 1934 the future Continental Airlines was founded as Varney Speed Lines after one of its owners, Walter Varney; his partner was Louis Mueller. The airline, operated between El Paso, TX and Pueblo, CO with stops in between.

Mueller gained control of the carrier in 1936 and then sold 40% of the company to Six. In July 1937, Robert Six changed the name of Varney Speed Lines to Continental Airlines and moved its headquarters to Denver as its central hub for the next 55 years.

During the 1940s and 1950s, Robert Six, expanded its fleet with profits from WWII when it provided air transportation to the military. Six spent some time during the war in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was involved in planning improved ferry routes flying American aircraft to the European theater. He returned to Continental before the war ended to resume his leadership. In 1953, Continental merged with Pioneer Airlines gaining access to 16 more cities in Texas and New Mexico.

By the end of the 1950s, Continental Airlines had seen a broad expansion of its routes. In 1957 it flew for the first time from Chicago to Los Angeles (both nonstop, and via Denver); and from Denver and Los Angeles to Kansas City. Continental was one of the first operators of the Boeing B707, taking delivery of the first in spring of 1959. Six, not being satisfied with jet service alone, introduced dramatic service innovations with Continental's B707 operations which were described as, "...nothing short of luxurious" by the Los Angeles Times, and, "...clearly, the finest in the airline industry" by the Chicago Tribune.

In 1963 Continental moved its headquarters from Denver to Los Angeles and expanded its B707 domestic service to numerous destinations. Continental's first Boeing B747 arrived in May 1970; though its piano bar was a famous



Robert Foreman Six

sales attraction, it showed the aircraft's load factor was not high enough for many of Continental's domestic routes, unlike the DC-10s Six added in 1971.

During the Vietnam War Six provided cargo and troop transportation for U.S. military forces to Asian and Pacific bases. Continental's B707s were the most common non-military aircraft transiting Saigon. As a result of Continental's experience in Pacific operations, Six formed subsidiary Air Micronesia, picking up island-hopping routes with B727 aircraft.

After airline deregulation in 1978 Six rapidly expanded the domestic network

and new international routes to London, Tokyo, Manila, Sydney and Melbourne, and more destinations in Mexico than served by any other carrier. This rapid growth required the expansion of Continental's existing fleet of B747, DC-10, B727-200 and DC-9 aircraft with large numbers of MD-80, B737-model and Airbus aircraft, and the formation of alliances with larger commuter airlines in Houston and Denver to serve smaller communities in the Rockies, Plains and Southwest.

In 1981, Texas Air Corporation, controlled by airline industry entrepreneur Frank Lorenzo acquired a controlling interest in Continental Airlines after a fierce battle for control with Continental's management, including Six and then-president Al Feldman. The new Continental then moved its headquarters to Houston, home of Texas Air.

In spite of labor friction and turmoil resulting from the acquisition, by the time of Six's death in 1986, the airline he molded and forged had become one of the largest airlines in the U.S. Continental's innovative and popular services centered on the busy Denver, Houston, and New York/Newark hubs.

*References: Wikipedia.org*

*Info. only; not part of letter.*

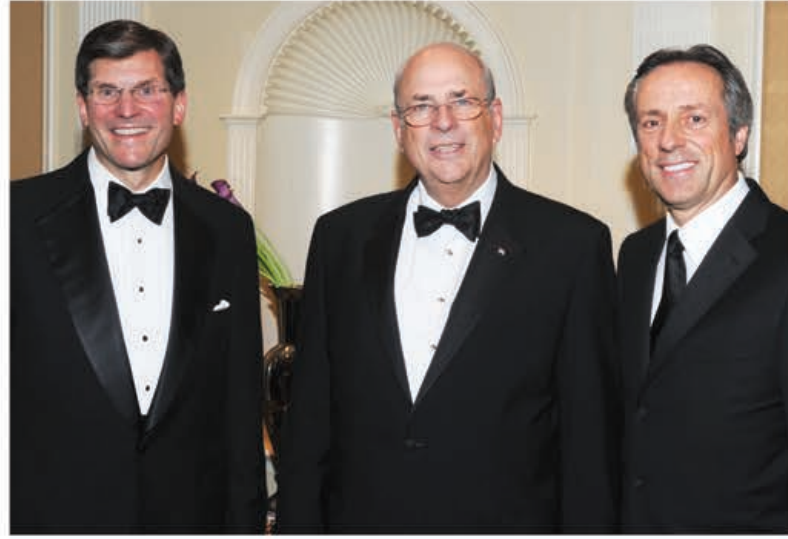
*In the 1960s, Pan Am's Dick Adam's VP technical operations, joined Continental as its tech ops VP; he in turn hired away Marty Taylor who was my boss when I was general manager of the PAA jet engine overhaul shops. Other colleagues also went west to join the airline. I stayed put in NY!*





# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

## 2011 AWARDS GALA







# THE WINGS CLUB CANDIDS

## 2011 AWARDS GALA





## The Wings Club is Pleased to Welcome its Additional 2011 Corporate Members

Corporate Members are recognized in appreciation of their significant contributions to the aviation industry. Through Wings Club corporate membership these firms support the ideals and mission of the Club and concurrently extend the full benefits of club membership to a select group of their executives. They join the 85 Corporate Members that have signed up since 2005.

BOC Aviation	JP Morgan
Expedia	Marsh Inc.
FltPlan.com	Moog, Inc.
Intrepid Aviation	NBAA

## In Memoriam

The Club regrets to report that we have learned of nine of our members who have passed away in the last year. We send heartfelt sympathy and condolences to their families.

Louis Berg (Golden Eagle)  
John Borger (Golden Eagle)  
Herbert Chernin (Golden Eagle)  
Edgar Davies  
James Hoblyn  
Charles Kaman (Golden Eagle)  
Arlie Nixon (Golden Eagle)  
Stephen Spencer (Golden Eagle)  
Richard Williams (Golden Eagle)

## Save The Date

The January Luncheon  
January 19, 2012  
The Yale Club  
Louis Chenevert, Chairman & CEO  
United Technologies

The February Luncheon  
February 16, 2012  
The Yale Club  
Pierre Beaudoin, President & CEO  
Bombardier Inc.

The Dublin Luncheon  
March 7, 2012  
The Four Seasons Hotel  
Dermott Manion, CEO Royal Brunei  
Airlines

The Annual Meeting  
March 28, 2012  
The Yale Club

The March Luncheon  
March 29, 2012  
The Yale Club  
Henri Courpron, CEO  
ILFC

The April Luncheon  
April 19, 2012  
The Yale Club  
Frederico Curado, President & CEO  
Embraer



  
**THE WINGS CLUB**  
P.O. Box 4464  
New York, NY 10163

### THE WINGS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor - Candice Adams Kimmel  
Adams Unlimited  
Photos - Bill Cancellare

Published by  
The Wings Club, Inc.  
Website: [www.wingsclub.org](http://www.wingsclub.org)

First Class  
US Postage  
Paid  
Miami, FL 33152  
Permit #1952