



Wings Over America  
Scholarship Foundation  
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# The Gouge

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- Bigger & Better Scholarships
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- Who's New to the Foundation

## A Hullabaloo for the Hullabahoos

There was a hullabaloo at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in Virginia Beach as over 800 audience members took their seats for the inaugural College Concert Series hosted by WOASF. Why all the fuss? Eight year olds to octogenarians awaited the first Hampton Roads performance of the Hullabahoos from the University of Virginia. The Hullabahoos have been featured in the hit movie *Pitch Perfect* as well as the television show, *The Office* and offered to do a benefit concert for WOASF.

Hullabahoo president, Sammy Brennan, is a three time WOASF scholarship recipient. He and his fellow singers wanted to be able to give back to WOASF and those that support the scholarship foundation. Sammy acknowledges that receiving the scholarship has allowed him to pursue other activities while in college, like mission trips to Brazil and of course, singing with the Hullabahoos. "It is no secret that college is very expensive and any amount of scholarship helps. I cannot thank Wings Over America enough for all the help they have given me with this award. It really does mean a lot." stated Brennan.

Opening remarks were given by Admiral Tim Keating, thanking sponsors USAA, TowneBank, Pratt & Whitney, Navy League of Hampton Roads and Navy Federal Credit Union. The all-male a cappella group began with the National Anthem and continued with several songs by popular artists like Katy Perry and OneRepublic, ending Act I with a rousing Anchors Aweigh, arranged specifically for the concert. The audience, a great mix of military and civilians, enthusiastically clapped along with the song. It was a very patriotic night.

After the show, the Hullabahoos, clad in their signature robes, were surrounded by fans of all ages, posing for pictures and giving autographs. One of the singers remarked, "When the curtains opened and we saw all three levels packed, I couldn't believe it. I had to catch my breath." It was a great night for everyone, especially WOASF, which raised nearly \$30,000 from the concert.

The concert was such a huge success, it will be back again next year. The Hullabahoos will be there, with a surprise guest. Tickets will be on sale September 2014.

***"It is no secret that college is very expensive and any amount of scholarships helps. I cannot thank Wings Over America enough for all the help they have given me with this award. It really does mean a lot." -Sam Brennan.***

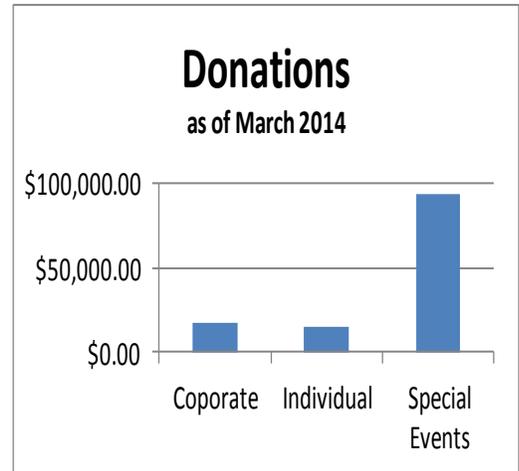


## Fiscal Health Check-up

We are six months into our fiscal year, and have great news to report. We had two financial goals this year, the first was to increase our individual donations so they better align with corporate donations. As of now, they are almost even. However, that doesn't mean it's time to stop giving. We have several pending corporate donations, totaling more than \$15,000, which means in order to keep pace, our individual donations must increase as well.

Our second goal was to complete our scholarship fund before selection takes place in May. We are ecstatic to say that we will meet our goal before May 1st. Now, the challenge to our donors. For the past few years, we have given 48 scholarships. We think 50 is a better number. Won't you please give generously by May 1st, so we can add two more scholarships this year? For more information please see page 7.

Thank you for your support in making WOASF the premier Naval Aviation scholarship foundation. We've come along way since 1987 and it is our donors that have made that possible.



## “It Never Rains on The Golf Course”—But the Wind Can Blow!

The 2014 San Diego WOASF Golf Tournament was one we will never forget. While San Diego had experienced months of drought conditions, weather forecasters were predicting the “Storm of the Decade” for the day of our tournament. We were assured by Matt Brumbaugh, Sea ‘N Air’s golf pro that the course would drain well and that Coronado has a microclimate and sometimes is spared from weather experienced by other parts of the county.

Sure enough, Matt was right. Although daybreak brought rain and wind, by registration time the sun was actually peaking through the clouds. We were going to get the tournament in! Then the rain started. OK, not the end of the world. Isn't there a saying “It never rains on the golf course”? But then the wind picked up. Palm fronds were quickly dropping and small cypress branches fell to the ground. Suddenly, “it” happened. A large branch fell, consuming an unoccupied golf cart in its branches. Matt went out to inspect and quickly closed the course and summoned our golfers to the club house. One hundred forty four enthusiastic participants piled inside with their boxed lunches and were prepared to wait it out. Unfortunately, it was too windy to open up play again. However, that didn't dampen anyone's spirits, the camaraderie of the golfers was incredible.

Donna Buss and her committee were prepared for any disruption to the tournament and were quick to start awarding prizes- for teams, individuals and door prizes. Many golfers remarked that they won more things by not golfing then if they had actually been able to complete the round.

Spirits remained high throughout the day while golfers remained in the club house or visited the Island Bar until dinner was served. The command/group challenge winner was Mr. Jerry Lujan, bringing over 20 people to the tournament. A 2014 scholarship will be awarded in his name. This year also included a “Challenge the Pro” hole, hosted by Brian Smock. Since we couldn't continue the challenge, 40 recipients were randomly selected to “win” the prizes - putters designed by Howard Bailey and donated by Mark Blumenthal or TRX training packages donated by MWR.

Of course the tournament wouldn't be possible without our generous sponsors: **Strike Group Level-** Northrop Grumman, **CAG Level-** Pratt & Whitney, **Squadron Level-** Lockheed Martin and Dillion Trucking **“Hole in One” Sponsor-**Navy Auto Source and Range Rover of Albuquerque. **Additional Sponsors-** Holland Motor Homes, Clements' Group, Dr. Margaret Meadows, Sikorsky Corp. Lincoln Housing, Blumenthal Insurance and Newport News Shipbuilding.

The San Diego aviation spouse committee put together this exceptionally organized and fun event. The committee worked on gathering prizes from the community and was greatly supported by Al Lovering, MWR San Diego liaison. Please make plans to join us next year and be sure to register early. Don't miss out!



Reporting for golf from the USS Carl Vinson: CAPT Kent Whalen, Hector Caballero, Jack Olive and Walt Slaughter

## Letter from the President

Happy Spring and what a year it has been! I had no idea when Mike assumed command of Airlant that I would be asked to become President of Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation. While I know I probably had that “deer in the headlights” look at our first meeting, I can say with complete honesty and unbridled enthusiasm that this position is not only a distinct privilege it is indeed a pleasure. WOASF is a vibrant organization that has grown exponentially since its inception in 1987. A countless number of volunteers have worked long hours at numerous events to raise money for our recipients. Board members have worked thoughtfully, with great diligence and intention to carefully guide WOASF to where it is today. We are extraordinarily thankful for all those who have had a hand in our success.

In 2009, the board of directors made the very wise decision to hire Christine Wilson as our Executive Director. Christine is passionate about military children, education and Naval Aviation. She has a B.A. in International Relations, Russian, and Secondary Education, holds a masters degree in Counseling and Guidance and is a wealth of information when it comes to the scholarship nonprofit sector. In the past 5 years Christine has without question been the driving force in taking Wings to the next level. While Christine is quick to point out she has not done all this on her own, it is clear that under her leadership WOASF has doubled our income, increased scholarship awards from \$1000 to \$2500, established endowed scholarships and increased the number of renewable scholarships, created a website with online application, become a Certified non-profit manager and implemented best practices for non-profits, expanded our donor base, increased golf tournaments from 1 to 4, pioneered new events, writes this newsletter and is steadfast with her follow up and organizational skills. There is more, but she limited my space. . .

Christine has worked unflinchingly behind the scenes for WOASF and we all felt it was time to acknowledge her efforts and say Thank You for your professionalism, expertise, commitment and for growing us into Naval Aviation’s premiere scholarship organization! Great Job!

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Peg Shoemaker

P.S. Hope to see you all May 23 at Aeropines for our golf tournament!

## Welcome Aboard to our Distinguished Advisors

WOASF is thrilled to announce Admirals Tim Keating and Dave Architzel as plank owners of the Distinguished Advisors’ committee. As advisors, they both will play a key role in development and creating a broad vision for the foundation.

Admiral Keating is a highly decorated aviator, having over 8 command tours in his career. Commands include; VFA-87, CAG 9, Naval Strike Warfare Center, Carrier Group 5, US Naval Force Central Command, US Fifth Fleet, US Northern Command and US Pacific Command. He currently serves on several boards and is an international strategic advisor for corporations and non-profits.



VADM Architzel had a long and distinguished Naval career as well. His command tours include; VS-30, USS Guam, USS Theodore Roosevelt, Iceland Defense Force, Naval Safety Center, Navy region Mid-Atlantic, Operational Test and Evaluation Force, and NAVAIR. Currently, VADM Architzel is the Director of Military Affairs at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA. As director, he serves as ODU's liaison with the Department of Defense, military installations and service personnel, while promoting the university and its academic programs to the military community.



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# Work on your Scholarship Application Anytime

Spring is a busy time for WOASF. Scholarship Season is in full swing, and the office is humming. Our big change this year has been our new online application process. Everything is done online with the exception of transcript submission. Working on your scholarship application at 3 a.m.? No problem, with our new online system the process is open 24/7. Applicants can even see when transcripts are received and letters of recommendation are uploaded. No more trips to the post office to ensure a postmark date by April 1st, or calling the office to check to see if everything has arrived. One click of a button will tell you if your packet is complete.



***Working on your scholarship application at 3 a.m.? No problem with our new online system. The process is open 24/7.***

This is an upgrade for our scholarship administrator, Melissa Garrison. No longer does she need to type information into the database, it is done by the applicant directly, saving time and typos. “While we had a few technical glitches in the beginning, everyone is having an easier time with submissions and I expect to see a rise in completed applications as we continue with this process”, remarked Mrs. Garrison.

As we gear up for Selection Day, we are seeing additional administrative benefits of our new online database, such as keeping printing costs down and being able to redact personal information before we go to print. “While we are all still learning the new system, I know this will be a great improvement for years to come for our applicants, volunteers and staff.” - Christine Wilson, Executive

## Meet our Newest Board Member



Ken Shewbridge is our newest Director to the Wings Over America Board of Directors. Born and raised in Richmond, Ken moved to Virginia Beach in 1973. Ten years later he founded and became CEO of TCI Voice and Data Networks. While building an extremely successful business Ken and his wife Windsor have raised four wonderful children and are loving grandparents to six grandchildren.

Ken is active in the community, especially on non-profit boards. He has been Board President for Samaritan House, CHKD Child Abuse Board and Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia. Ken has also served on the Board of Directors of Virginia Beach BB&T Bank and RSC Association.

Everyone at WOASF is excited to begin working with Ken and utilize his vast experience in the non-profit sector to help propel WOASF to the next level.



Please consider including WOASF in your planned giving. Whether a current gift of assets, a bequest or a charitable gift annuity, we can help you add WOASF to your giving. Please contact our Executive Director, Christine Wilson, for more information.

As a second year Wings Over America Scholarship recipient, I feel honored, blessed and inspired. This scholarship gives me the opportunity to further pursue my dreams of obtaining a business degree. My passion for knowledge and success has been enhanced through this scholarship. I am forever grateful to the Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation, because of yet another investment this foundation has entrusted in my future. - Chase Carroll, University of West Florida



## Naval Aviation Spouses of Hampton Roads Silent Auction

The Naval Aviation Spouses of Hampton Roads hosted its annual Silent Auction in February at the NAS Oceana Officers' Club. Nearly 150 people attended and all proceeds benefitted WOASF. More than 75 baskets and items were donated from the aviation community. Baskets ranged from Health and Fitness, Cooking, Entertaining, Travel, and Pampering. The event also had a live auction with a T-6 Texan airplane ride, wine tasting and a boat/water-ski trip. Not only was this a great fundraising event for WOASF, raising over \$8,500 for scholarships, but also a wonderful opportunity for the Naval Aviation community to socialize. Thank you to Jean FitzPatrick and her committee for planning such a great event.

WOASF invites any group to hold an event to benefit WOASF. We are grateful for all the support we receive from various groups throughout the country who support our mission to provide scholarships to our aviation community dependents.



WOASF President, Peg Shoemaker, thanks everyone for attending. Dick Biondo, the auctioneer, gets ready to start the live auction.



Admiral and Mrs. Bill Gortney show their support for WOASF with a boat/water-ski trip donation for the live auction, as well as handmade wine rack and cheeseboard.

## Donate Your Vehicle

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## Educating Our Dependents on Post-Secondary Education

College isn't what it used to be. Not only is it paramount to have a post-secondary education, but preparing to attend college is more complicated than ever. WOASF has started making presentations around the country to high schools and even middle schools (yes it all begins there) about how to prepare for college and potential scholarship applications. We have been invited to speak at NAS North Island, NAS Oceana and throughout the Virginia Beach Public School system. Topics include Coursework and Curriculum, Resume Building and Military Resources. We also work closely with the Virginia Tidewater Consortium on Higher Education and present at their monthly briefings.

Next on our agenda is a presentation for the NHA Spouses Higher Education Opportunity Brief. Can't get to a brief? Visit our Blog—Tuesday's Tips on our website. Most of the information can be found there. Visit each week for a new tip.

Have a group that would be interested in the information? Contact our office, [info@wingsoveramerica.us](mailto:info@wingsoveramerica.us) to schedule a brief. We are happy to share with FRGs, Commands, First Class Associations, Chief's Messes, etc.

## \$20 Bucks a Month Challenge



What would you do with an extra \$20 per month? See a movie, get Starbucks for a week? It would be nice, but would it change your life?

If you donated \$20 per month to WOASF, we would be able to award several more scholarships to very deserving students. If 10+ people signed up for the challenge, that would be one new scholarship, 20+ would be two more, 50+ would be five more.

Twenty dollars might not change your life but it can change the life of one of our Navy Dependents.

Won't you join us in pledging \$20 per month? It's easy, just sign up for a recurring donation on our [donation page](#) on our website.

## \$\$ Top 10 Ways to Support WOASF \$\$

10. **Volunteer** - you are our most valuable resource
9. **Attend** an event to support WOASF
8. **Host** an event to support WOASF
7. **Shop** through **Amazon** on our website
6. **Be a Sponsor** of a WOASF Golf Tournament
5. **Matching Gift** – see our website for a list of known companies that match donations or visit your Human Resources Office.
4. **Celebrate with Us** – celebrate a milestone, birthday, anniversary, retirement or change of command with a named scholarship.
3. **Planned Giving**—include WOASF in your estate plans.
2. **Donate online**– at [www.wingsoveramerica.us](http://www.wingsoveramerica.us)
1. **Mail** a check today—see address below.

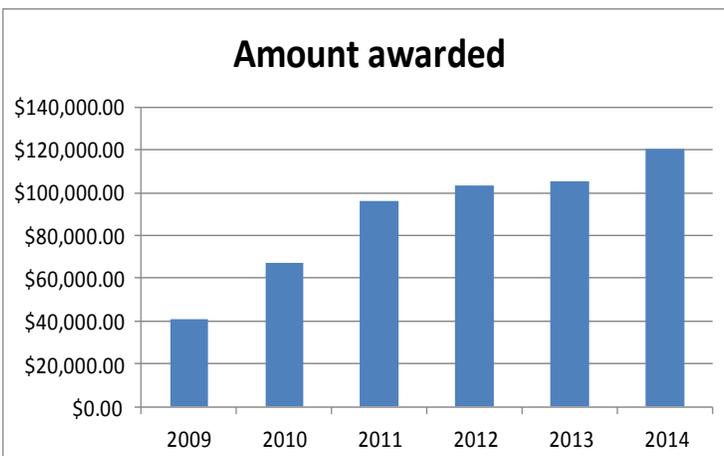
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## Bigger and Better Scholarships Are Here!

WOASF is proud to announce that for the fourth time in the past five years, we are raising the value of our awards. Our scholarships will increase from \$2000 to \$2500 this year. That is a 150% increase from the \$1000 scholarships in 2009. We will also offer one special scholarship valued at \$5000 and another at \$3000. This increase will give us a total amount of \$120,500 of paid scholarships 2014.



For several years, WOASF has been adding one renewable endowed scholarship that is funded by very generous donors. First was the CAPT John “Turk” Green, followed by the Centennial, the Tomcat Sunset, and last year, the CAPT Brad Johansen. Each of these scholarships are \$2500, renewable up to 4 years for a value of \$10,000. In trying to keep up with rising college costs, WOASF is announcing an **additional five (5)** renewable scholarships for 2014. We realize that while winning a scholarship for one year is helpful, it cannot help you accurately plan for financing your college education over the long haul. By offering 4 year awards, we hope to empower students in their college planning so they know what financial resources they have and how to best use them. It is our hope to continue to add more renewable scholarships each year to assist our scholars with their college education.



How will scholarships be funded? That is a great question. While WOASF will fund as many as possible, we need help from our donors. We ask that you consider committing to \$2500 for the next four (4) years to sponsor one of these great renewable scholarships.



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## Our Mission

Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation, was established in 1987. Our mission is to provide college scholarships to dependent children and spouses of all US Navy - officer and enlisted - active duty, retired, honorably discharged or deceased who served within Naval Air Forces. Recipients are selected on the basis of scholastic merit, community service and extra curricular activities.

Wings Over America annually sponsors over forty scholarships to students who have chosen to continue their education. The foundation is funded solely through the generous contributions of private and corporate sources, and has proudly awarded over \$740,000 to outstanding students since 1987.

### WOASF Staff

#### Christine Wilson—

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#### Melissa Garrison—

Scholarship Administrator  
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## Special Thanks....

The WOASF exists today thanks to many wonderful sponsors. If you are interested in making a donation - no amount is too small! WOASF is a Virginia Corporation which meets tax exempt status under IRS code 501(c) (3). Donations can also be made through the Combined Federal Campaign VA CFC #86767 ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation is a non-stock corporation organized under the laws of Virginia and tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. A financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Consumer Affairs, Commonwealth of Virginia. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

## Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation Board Of Directors

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Ken Shewbridge  
Marjy Starling  
Jon Thompson  
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VADM Jim Zortman, USN (Ret.)

### 2014 CALENDAR NOTES

**MAY 23- WOASF Virginia Beach Golf Tournament** - NAS Oceana Aeropines Golf Course

**JUNE 5 - Scholarships Reception-** Westin Hotel, Virginia Beach

**SEPT 19-WOASF Jacksonville Golf Tournament**—NAS Jacksonville