



Wings Over America
Scholarship Foundation
4966 Euclid Road, Suite 109
Virginia Beach VA 23462
(757) 671-3200 ext. 118
www.wingsoveramerica.us

Volume VI Issue I

Spring 2015

The Gouge

Inside this issue:

- More than Scholarships
- Fiscal Check-up
- Coming and Going

The Faces of WOASF

WOASF has been hard at work producing our first foundation video and it's great. We say that not because of the high level of production (which it does have), but because of the stories it tells about our scholars. We were fortunate to have scholarship recipients past and present share their stories, and by the end of production day, even the film crew was remarking how great our scholars are and we couldn't agree more. We know we are "Investing in the Best" at WOASF, but now everyone can see it first hand.



All in the family- Alexis, Logan and Cynthia Wibe, WOASF scholarship recipients.

The video features sisters, Alexis and Cynthia Wibe, who illustrate how winning the scholarship completely changed their lives. Cynthia, had very low self-esteem while growing up and wasn't even sure if she was college material. Being awarded the WOASF scholarship gave her renewed confidence in herself, because we had shown our faith in her. Proudly, Cynthia will graduate with honors from Bridgewater College this May. Older sister Alexis always did well in school, but being raised by a single dad, she doubted that there would be enough money for her and her siblings to attend four-year colleges, especially when you tack on room and board expenses. But that all changed when she received her scholarship from WOASF, she was able to leave home and attend the college of her dreams.

Another great story was shared by Josh Rolon, a graduate of Christopher Newport University, and a multi-year scholarship recipient. Josh, like many Navy dependents, faced challenges throughout his childhood, separation during deployment, moving, etc. Josh says he was inspired by winning the scholarship and was glad to have the support of WOASF. Navy life is coming full circle for the Rolon family as Josh's mom served aboard USS John F. Kennedy, CV- 67 and now he works for Newport News Shipbuilding as a software engineer and is helping to build the USS John F. Kennedy, CVN-79.



Josh Rolon, receiving the WOASF scholarship in 2010.

In addition to hearing from scholars, Admirals Tim Keating and John Mazach, comment on the commitment of our donors and the need for their continued support. Also featured is past Foundation President, Pat Mazach, who looks back on the influence WOASF has had on dependents' education for 25 years. To see the video, visit our website, www.wingsoveramerica.us.



"Without scholarship aid, I would not be able to attend Bucknell where I receive an outstanding education and have the opportunity to compete at the Division One level as part of a championship winning rowing team. Receiving the Wings Over America scholarship keeps me connected to my roots in the military which were grown by my father's service."

—Lauren Swanson, featured scholar in the WOASF video

A Sing Off for WOASF

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 College Concert Series. WOASF was pleased to welcome back 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, again!



While former Hullabahoo president, Sammy Brennan, a three time WOASF scholarship recipient has graduated, the rest of the group was willing to travel to Hampton Roads for another benefit concert. While here, the Hullabahoos were hosted by concert sponsor The Westin of Towne Center, “a serious upgrade for the group,” according to current President, Alex Spears, noting they often travel in and sleep in a large camper for road shows. They also enjoyed time at Dave & Busters, and experienced flight training in a F-18 Hornet simulator. “I only crashed twice,” remarked music director, Jake Mainwaring. He and his fellow singers had such a great time performing in our Navy town, they are already making plans for a return trip next year. “I just wanted to say thank you for having us this weekend! We had an absolute blast. Also the

hotel was just awesome. Thanks so much for making all the arrangements and making it so easy for us throughout the weekend. The guys were saying that it was their favorite event the group has done this year.” wrote Spears.

But the Hullabahoos weren’t the only group to perform. The show was started by Vox Harmonia, from the Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Salem High School. The mixed a cappella group performed the *National Anthem* as well as *Run to You* and *Bring Him Home*. Adding depth to the evening’s performance were the Darlin’ Marlins from Bayside High School. This all female a cappella group (with one male percussionist), opened the second act with *Sweet Dreams* and *You’re Gonna Miss Me in Paradise Mash*. There were many Navy dependents singing in the high school groups, so perhaps one day, they will be WOASF scholars too.



Vox Harmonia from the Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Salem High School

Our master of ceremonies was Admiral Tim Keating, who thanked sponsors USAA, TowneBank, Pratt & Whitney,



The Darlin’ Marlins of Bayside High School

Navy League of Hampton Roads, GEICO, USA Living and The Westin for their support. The event had an extra twist of kindness when our raffle winner, Mr. Wilkes Hubbard donated his winnings back to WOASF. It was a great night for everyone, especially WOASF, which raised over \$25,000 from the concert, which will fund 10 scholarships this year.

The concert was such a huge success, it will be back again next year. The Hullabahoos will be there, will you? Tickets will be on sale September 2015.

Letter from the President

Please allow us to introduce our new Foundation President, Char Haley. A lifelong community volunteer, Char has also served as the Treasurer of Wings Over America Scholarship Committee as well as part of the scholarship selection committee. Married to RADM J.R. Haley for over thirty three years, Char finds herself back in Hampton Roads and once again with WOASF. We are thrilled to welcome her back to the foundation.

Many changes to Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation have taken place since I left Norfolk and the volunteer committee in early 2008. At that time, we hoped to soon have one endowed scholarship; now we have four. The total dollar amount of scholarships has risen dramatically. We have our own office space and staff to keep up with the increase in development and marketing of WOASF as well as the increase in applications and administrative details. Peg Shoemaker and I feel so fortunate to have the dedicated team of Christine Wilson and Melissa Garrison to keep the Foundation not just running but growing. The Board of Directors also has expanded, gaining a greater depth of experience and wisdom as well as increased networking capability. One thing that hasn't changed, however, is the generosity of our volunteers in giving us their tireless efforts and our corporate sponsors and donors. WOASF couldn't have done any of this without them.

The first events my husband and I attended in our new roles as COMNAVAIRLANT and Mrs. AIRLANT were to meet the Hullabahoos and then to see (and hear!) their concert at the Sandler Center. It was an entertaining and successful night, bringing in about \$25,000. The following month we participated in the Basket Bonanza at the Oceana Officers' Club, chaired by Mary Lewis. It was good to see so many people supporting the Foundation and increasing our coffers by about \$9,500. We are looking forward to the annual golf tournament at Oceana, to be held on May 8th in conjunction with Tailhook Ready Room Six, the Association of Naval Aviation and the Aviation Boatswain Mates Assoc. You can find details of how to register your team in this newsletter.

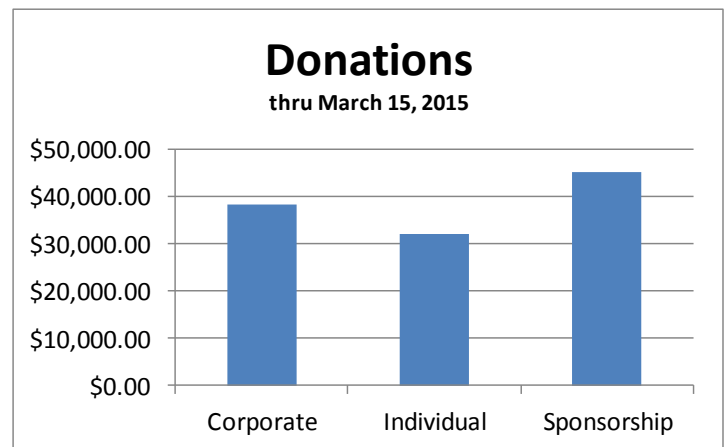
Thank you all for your continuing support of WOASF.
Char Haley

Fiscal Check-up

We are five months into our fiscal year, and have great news to report. For the second year in a row, our individual (personal) donations have increased. We believe some of this increase can be attributed to our "recurring" donations. Last spring we asked that you consider signing-up to be a recurring monthly donor and many of you answered the call. Not only have we seen an increase (\$1000 donation becomes \$1200) but our donors report that it is simple to do and they "don't even notice it in their bottom line," until they get their yearly receipt and notice how much they have given.

As we close in on our million dollar milestone, please help keep WOASF healthy. We have been fortunate to increase the amount of awards and number of students we serve throughout the past five years. Through your support, we will be able to continue to serve our Navy dependents and reach our second million even faster!

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



All Aviation Virginia Beach Golf Tournament

Friday, May 8 2015

**NAS Oceana Aeropines Golf Course,
Virginia Beach, VA**

Sponsored by:



**Newport News
Shipbuilding**

A Division of Huntington Ingalls Industries

Registration: 6:30-7:30 am

Shotgun Start: 8:00 am

Lunch /Awards: 1:00 pm

Fees include:

Green fees and cart

Range Balls

Breakfast

Goody Bag

Lunch

Prizes

Format:

4 Man Captain's Choice (Scramble)

The Command with the most participants (4
foursome minimum) will have a scholarship
named in its honor!

WOASF San Diego Golf Tournament

Friday, April 24, 2015

**NASNI Sea 'N Air Golf Course,
Coronado, CA**

Sponsored by:

NORTHROP GRUMMAN



Registration: 7:30-8:30 am

Shotgun Start: 9:00 am

Lunch /Awards: 2:00 pm

Fees include:

Green fees and cart

Range Balls

Breakfast

Goody Bag

Lunch

Prizes

Format:

4 Man Captain's Choice (Scramble)

The Command with the most participants (4
foursome minimum) will have a scholarship

Registration for WOASF Golf:

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Additional golfers' names _____

NAS North Island Golf Tournament April 24 _____ @ \$120 Total \$ _____

Active Duty _____ @ \$80 Total \$ _____

NAS Oceana Golf tournament May 23 _____ @ \$90 Total \$ _____

Active Duty _____ @ \$75 Total \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail registration form & checks payable to: **WOASF**

4966 Euclid Rd. Suite 109 Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Scholarship News

We are pleased to report year two of our on-line application system is going even better than expected. During the summer we worked to incorporate changes and updates to the site based on feedback from applicants and staff. Our goal was to ensure clear information and instructions throughout each step as well as checklists to help applicants submit both a complete pre-qualification and application in a timely manner.

The 2015 scholarship process opened on October 1st and many applicants took advantage of pre-qualifying early to ensure extra time to complete the application portion of our process. This was especially helpful this year with the new deadlines of both our pre-qualification and application to February 1st and March 1st respectively.

Staff is busy preparing for the selection of this year's recipients. Even with an earlier deadline for both portions of the application process, the number of students completing pre-qualifications was the same as last year. We processed over 300 pre-qualifications and are still preparing applications for selection. As we finalize all applicant paperwork, we are impressed with the quality of this year's applicant pool. We know that they represent the best of our Navy dependents.

This May, we will once again survey applicants for suggestions on improvements for next year's scholarship season. WOASF is always looking for ways to improve our service to our Navy dependents.

Coming....

Lisa Miranda, the new WOASF Treasurer, is from Northern Virginia and attended George Mason University. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology while



working full-time in accounting. She is currently a volunteer at her son's school and a substitute teacher for the Virginia Beach Public School System.

Lisa has been an active volunteer at all of the duty stations where she accompanied her husband, including her son's schools, sports teams, and churches. She has also volunteered at the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center, Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, and with Fleet and Family Support Centers. Lisa has been the treasurer for every squadron spouse club of which she was a member. That's a lot of experience. Welcome Aboard!

...And Going

As we welcome our new Treasurer, we must say good-bye to Jean FitzPatrick, the WOASF Treasurer since 2010. In addition to being our treasurer, helping to upgrade the foundation to Non-profit Quickbooks and making other accounting improvements, Jean has also been our Basket Bonanza chairman as well as a long time volunteer for scholarship selection and golf tournaments. Jean is moving to Sacramento and will be greatly missed.

We are also saddened to farewell Donna Buss, Director to the Board and awesome volunteer. Through Donna's tireless efforts, the WOASF presence on the West Coast has taken on new life and new supporters. Donna led the San Diego golf committee for two years, through sun and monsoon, and created a new level of success for WOASF. Her energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by us all, but her legacy will live on in the growth of our presence in San Diego.

"I'm ecstatic to be able to continue my studies and this adventure to try and accomplish my goals. This scholarship is helping me stay in Spain and do something completely different and live and practice what I am studying. This scholarship makes me even more determined to go out and continue to do my best in and out of class."
-Caroline Sugg, sophomore at Universidad Antonio de Nebrija, Madrid, Spain



Naval Aviation Spouses of Hampton Roads Basket Bonanza

The Naval Aviation Spouses of Hampton Roads hosted its annual Basket Bonanza in February at the NAS Oceana Officers' Club. Nearly 200 people attended and all proceeds benefitted WOASF. A wide variety of more than 75 baskets, donated by command spouse groups and other supporters of WOASF, included Health and Fitness, Cooking, Entertainment, Travel, and Pampering. The event also had live bidding with a Kentucky Derby Party, Wings of Gold Upholstered Chair, Russell Wilson Autographed Football and BBQ for 40. Our auctioneer, T-Rex Prescott, kept the fun and bidding going, making this our most successful bonanza yet, raising \$9500 for scholarships. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for the Naval Aviation community (from all type wings) to socialize. Thank you to Mary Lewis and her committee for planning such a great event.

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



LCDR Richard "T-Rex" Prescott, gets the bidding going and gets the most out of the crowd.



The crowd thanks Mary Lewis, the event chairman, for a wonderful evening.

Donate Your Vehicle

Wings Over
America Scholarship
Foundation
now accepts
Vehicle donations

Your Donation Will Benefit the
Wings Over America
Scholarship
Foundation

The Safe, Hassle Free
alternative to selling or
trading your car
FREE Pick-up

Fast & Friendly Service

www.wingsoveramerica.us

Click on **DONATIONS** and follow
the instructions!

877.999.8322



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 makes 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 Coronado H.S., throughout the Virginia Beach Public School system, NAS PAX River and NAS Oceana. Topics include Coursework and Curriculum, Resume Building, Military Resources and of course, Funding a College Education. We also work closely with the Virginia Tidewater Consortium on Higher Education and present at their monthly briefings and we were the featured presenter at the Hampton Roads Scholarship Fair.

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 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 the [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 Event
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
1. **Mail** a check today—see address below.

**Wings Over America
Scholarship Foundation
4966 Euclid Road, Suite 109
Virginia Beach VA 23462**

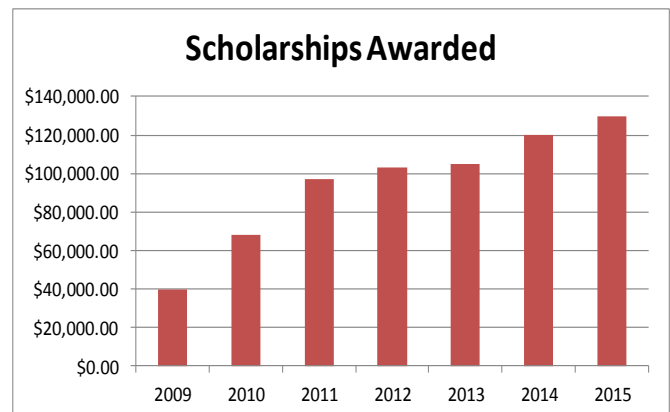
WOASF -More Than Just Scholarships

Obviously, the “S” in our name stands for scholarships and we are pleased to announce that once again we will increase our scholarship awards for the sixth year in a row. Not only are we including scholarships for community colleges, trade and technical schools this year, we are also adding more renewable scholarships for our dependents. Renewable scholarships give piece of mind to our students, knowing that they will be funded for (up to) four years of their education, and can make more informed choices as they select their college, major or even internships.

Another change we have made to support our students is our deadline and scholarship announcement dates.

By moving the whole application process “up” 30 days, students will now be notified of their scholarships prior to the May 1st college commitment day. This will give students a better understanding of their overall financial package which may influence what college they choose. WOASF wants to empower students in their post-secondary education and this change allows us to do just that.

But wait, there's more to WOASF than just mailing a scholarship check to colleges and universities. We also provide seminars on funding a college education and how to expand scholarship searches beyond WOASF. We host a resource list of over 50 military related scholarships and have a weekly blog about the best way to apply to college and scholarships. We also provide information on the Post 9/11 GI Bill and other VA educational benefits like the Yellow Ribbon program. Check out our website for more information.





4966 Euclid Rd. Suite 109
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Our Mission

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, extra-curricular activities and character.

Wings Over America annually sponsors fifty 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 \$870,000 to outstanding students since 1987.

WOASF Staff

Christine Wilson—

Executive Director
757-671-3200 x 118
info@wingsoveramerica.us

Melissa Garrison—

Scholarship Administrator
757-671-3200 x 117
scholarship@wingsoveramerica.us

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.

Distinguished Advisors

ADM Tim Keating, USN (Ret.)
VADM David Architzel, USN (Ret.)

Foundation Board Of Directors

RADM Bud Jewett, USN (Ret.) - Chairman
Char Haley - President
Lisa Miranda- Treasurer
Maryellen Baldwin
Steve Brennan
John Griffing
Tom Hills
Ron Hoppock
Mary Lewis
RADM Lindell "Yank" Rutherford, USN (Ret.)
Ken Shewbridge
Peg Shoemaker
Marjy Starling
Jon Thompson
Doug Williams
VADM Jim Zortman, USN (Ret.)

2015 CALENDAR NOTES

April 24—San Diego Golf
NASNI Sea 'N Air Golf Course

MAY 8—All Aviation Golf - NAS
Oceana Aeropines Golf Course

JUNE 11—Scholarships Reception-
Westin Hotel, Virginia Beach

October 9—PAX River Golf - NAS
PAX River Cedar Point Golf Course