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The Gouge

Volume VIII Issue I

Spring 2017

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- Empowering Spouses

In Their Own Words...

WOASF Scholar, Charlotte Orren, welcomed our PAX River golfers in October. She recently graduated from Emory Riddle and now works at Lockheed Martin in the F-35 program. Here's what she had to say...

It is an honor to thank you for supporting me through my last two years at college. I was a WOASF scholarship winner in 2013 and 2014. I graduated in 2015 from Emory Riddle Aeronautical University with a degree in Aeronautical and Systems Engineering. I also want to share what I have been able to do with your support. I hope I can truly express how thankful I am to the best of my means.

But first, I'll start with my inspiration. My father served in the Navy for 21 years and retired as a Naval Commander in 2005. Watching him serve taught me a lot. He'd come home from the Pentagon late everyday and still have a smile on his face for me and my three siblings. All grown up now I see how much energy and heart that really took. It was a genuine love for us that triumphed over his exhaustion and burden from military service. I see now how rare this can be for a father.

So in every aspect of my life, I strive to honor him and those like him in everything I do. In college, I graduated Cum Laude with accolades of Who's Who Among American College Students, the Dean's List and President's Team. I played women's golf all 4 years, and finished out my senior year as team captain and receiving the Champion of Character Award, representing the Athletics department's best of the best. I served as the Vice-President of the Christian club on campus, meeting so many new girls and being there for them every step of the way.

Now I have my dream job following in my father's footsteps, working as a flight test engineer on the F-35B. I have been here for about 6 months, and I have so much to learn!

This is what I have been able to do with your help. I would not have even be able to stay in school without receiving this scholarship. Being the first of four kids, my family and I would truly like to thank you for supporting me and students like me. You really do make a difference.



Charlotte Orren, 2015 graduate of Emory Riddle Aeronautical University, captain of their golf team.



Charlotte addresses the PAX River golfers.

This scholarship has helped make my college education an affordable dream, providing me with the freedom to concentrate on my engineering and computer science studies. I will continue to focus on summer engineering internship opportunities at the Naval Air Systems Command, where I have supported the F/A-18 program since 2015. I am exceptionally proud to be a member of the Navy's extended family. It's a life lesson that has not only taught me the value of personal responsibility and hard work, but also that we take care of our own. Thank you to Wings Over America for helping to take care of me.

Emma Holmes, University of Maryland, Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science



Weekend for Wings Rocks San Diego

By Peg Shoemaker

The 2017 San Diego "Weekend for Wings" included a sold out golf tournament, an afternoon happy hour on the patio at McP's and finally a concert in the backyard with both a live and silent auction. The weekend was a record breaking success raising \$75,000 for scholarships.



First Place —Team AIRPAC

Golf

After weeks of rain, the skies cleared and abundant sunshine provided a picture perfect day at Sea 'N Air golf course. Golfers not only enjoyed beautiful weather, but also plenty of food, beverages and swag donated by our sponsors. Tournament winners included: First Place - Team AIRPAC, Middle of Road - Team Bobby Brown, Dead Ass Last - HSM-73, Team 3A, Men's Longest Drive - Nip Nieporte, Ladies' Longest Drive - Carol Bade, Closest to the Pin - Mark Haller, and finally the Command Challenge was crushed by HSM-73.

A big thank you goes out to HOTLINE CONSTRUCTION for once again

stepping up to be our presenting sponsor and of course all of the organizations who played a role in the tournaments success.

Al Lovering and Billy and Maureen Hart continued to set even higher standards for an amazing golf experience! Great job team! An exceptional new addition to the roster this year was our Challenge the Pro Kim Sibler, who donated her time and talents to help our cause.

WOASF is also extremely fortunate to have the generous support from the San Diego military and civilian communities and we appreciate all they do to help our Foundation continue to grow. Click [here](#) for more pictures and complete [sponsor listing](#). Finally, as you know, none of this happens without our extraordinary group of volunteers including a few dedicated BOD members who came from Virginia. Thank you!



HSM-73—command challenge winners

Concert in the Backyard & Auction

Who knew the "Backyard" was going to be the place to be? Just shy of 300 folks came to picnic, listen to music, share some beverages, bid against each other and raise the paddle for WOASF. Presented by USAA and sponsored by Boeing the conclusion to the 2017 Weekend for Wings was an unparalleled success. Music was provided by *In Midlife Crisis* and Bay Bridge Brewery supplied the craft beer and the auctioneer!! Aviation commands from around the globe donated incredibly creative baskets and many local businesses and individuals contributed a wide variety of items from wine, to dinners, jewelry, custom art, and a signed Scotty Cameron putter to name a few of the items in the 100 baskets that made up the Silent Auction. Completing our evening was a Live Auction that included Condo accommodations and VIP tickets to the Waste Management Phoenix Open, A Roomba, mini- Vacation at the Hotel Del, Golf and Stay at the Westin Kierlan in AZ and 2 tickets to the final performance episode of The Voice!



The 2017 Weekend For Wings was organized by a core group of 20 tireless volunteers who were committed to making this 2 day event an extraordinary success. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Kristin Walt, Deidre Myers, Shelley Bolt, Kathleen Mulvehill, Christina Slentz, Liz Johnston, Denise Haines, Julee Cheever, Kris Collins, Baby Anduze, Erin Dermody, Stephanie Melson, Sara Cummings, Sarah Bynum, Regina Brown, Mo Reynolds, Billy Hart, Maureen Hart, and Al Lovering.



Thirty Years Strong!

Recently in San Diego, Kathie Zortman looked over a crowd of 270 WOASF supporters and said “Janet (Malone) and I could never have imagined what Wings would become! This is beyond all of our wildest dreams!” Kathie expresses what many long time supporters are thinking—WOW, this is amazing! What started as the AIRLANT Spouses’ Scholarship, awarding just what the proceeds of a bake sale would generate, would, three decades later, award more than \$200,000 a year to Navy dependents world-wide.



WOASF has many people to thank for our unbelievable growth, particularly in the past 10 years. Here are just a few: all of the many supportive spouses from AIRLANT and AIRPAC who have chaired this wonderful organization. The volunteers who live coast to coast and execute events and



Scholarship winners from 1994

represent WOASF in their communities. Our unbelievable Board who charts our path, pushing the foundation to the next level. Our staff, who keeps things running every day and plans for tomorrow. And of course, our wonderful donors, both corporate and individual, who believe in our mission and support our Navy dependents through their higher education.

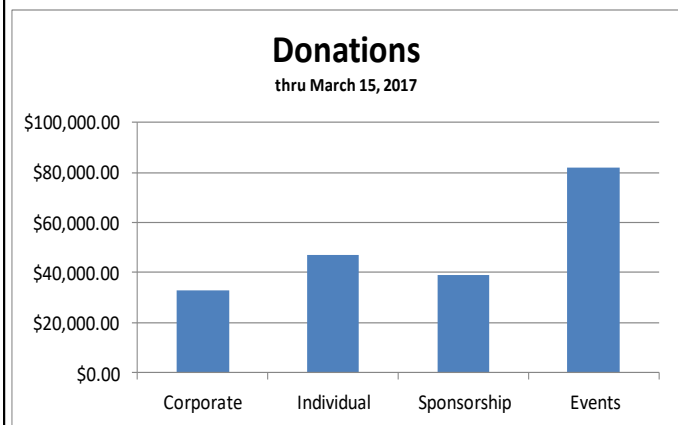
**Please join us in celebrating
30 years, by making a
contribution today!**

Please consider

- **\$30 per month,**
- **\$300 quarterly or**
- **\$3000 for a full scholarship!**

Fiscal Check-up

As you will see throughout the newsletter, 2017 is shaping up to be a banner year for WOASF. Won't you consider helping us to make this our best year yet?



\$\$ 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 Smiles](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ast_hm) on our website
6. **Be a Sponsor** of a WOASF Event
5. **Donate online**— at www.wingsoveramerica.us
4. **Celebrate with Us** – celebrate a milestone, birthday, anniversary, retirement or change of command with a named scholarship
3. **Mail** a check today—see address below.
2. **Matching Gift** – see our donation form for a list of known companies that match donations or visit your Human Resources Office
1. **Planned Giving**—include WOASF in your estate plans

Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation
4966 Euclid Road, Suite 109 Virginia Beach VA 23462
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WOASF Oklahoma Golf Tournament

Monday, April 24, 2017

Belmar Golf Club,
Norman, OK

Sponsored by:



Registration: 12:00-12:45 pm

Shotgun Start: 1:00 pm

Dinner /Awards: 5:00 pm

Fees include:

Green fees and cart

Range Balls

Goody Bag

Lunch

Dinner

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!

All Aviation Virginia Beach Golf Tournament

Friday, May 19, 2017

NAS Oceana Aeropines Golf Course,
Virginia Beach, VA

Sponsored by:



Registration: 6:30-7:30 am

Shotgun Start: 8:00 am

Lunch /Awards: 1:00 pm

Fees include:

Green fees and cart

Range Balls

Goody Bag

Breakfast

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!

Registration for WOASF Golf:

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Additional golfers' names _____

Oklahoma City Golf Tournament April 24 _____ @\$125 Total \$ _____

Active Duty _____ @\$115 Total \$ _____

NAS Oceana Golf Tournament May 19 _____ @\$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

Letter from the President—Linda Lindsey

“Investing in the Best” is the Wings Over America motto and during this month that is exactly what the Wings team is concentrating on. The staff, along with many volunteers, is off and running preparing scholarship applications for this year’s selection process. A record number of scholarship applications were received and over \$200,000 will be awarded to our students in 2017. Scholarship recipient selection is an intensive yet rewarding process. Reading about the different cultural, educational and lifestyle challenges our naval aviation dependents experience and conquer is truly inspiring. Please take the time to read the messages from our scholars which are included in this newsletter. This is a great opportunity to get to know our scholars as well as gain some insight into the education and goals of our current and future leaders.

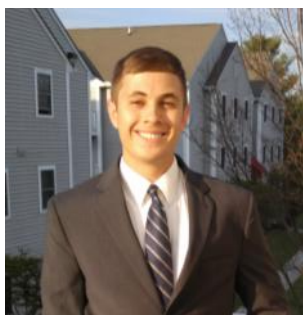
This has been a record setting year for WOASF fundraising events! The kick-off event was the A Cappella concert in Virginia Beach in November. Thanks to the wonderful singing by the Hullabahoos of UVA and the Clef Hangers of UNC the concert raised \$25,000. Next came the Weekend for Wings in San Diego. This event was another huge success and included a golf tournament, basket auction and a concert with music by *In Midlife Crisis*, raised \$75,000. Then the Basket Bonanza in Virginia Beach had some spirited bidding as well as music provided by Bob Bettis. This event raised over \$17,000. Every extra dollar raised from these special events goes directly to scholarships.

Scholarship selection, golf tournaments, auctions, bonanzas, scholarship awards luncheons, the list goes on of events which are only possible with the help of our dedicated volunteers throughout the country. WOASF is also supported by a large volunteer Board of Directors whose members are spread across the country. These volunteers are the people who are out the door at 5AM to help with a golf tournament or up until midnight to clean up from a concert, they take a day off from work to read scholarships and ask their neighbors to buy concert tickets. Our volunteers also share their ideas and without these ideas our events would not continue to be bigger, better and more successful each year. A heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you! A big thank you as well to Christine, Melissa and Joy who are the force behind all of the WOASF efforts.



San Diego Golf Volunteers, Peg Shoemaker, Kathleen Mulvehill, Sarah Bynum & Sara Cummings

Since it’s spring it means golf on the East coast with the Oklahoma City Golf Tournament on April 24th and the All Aviation Golf Tournament at Oceana on May 19th. Please keep the record setting year going and join us for golf or with a sponsorship for these events.

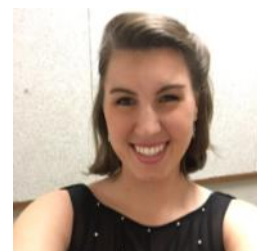


Receiving this scholarship has been very inspiring to me. It has been an absolute honor to be recognized by the Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation for my achievements to date, and I will use this award as motivation to continue to strive for excellence in my future endeavors. It is difficult to put into words how grateful I am for this opportunity, but I will certainly use it as inspiration to better myself as my career continues .

Kevin Fenton, Virginia Tech, Statistics and Applied Mathematics

I am so grateful to receive this scholarship so that I am able to pursue my degree to its fullest potential. I believe it is so important to never take for granted the sacrifices that our active duty and veterans make which give the people of my generation the opportunities to seek out education, and eventually career paths that encourage us to work hard for the things we desire. This allows us to contribute to making the future of our nation as great as it can be.

Molly Undersander, University of Nebraska, Graduate December 2016



Basket Bonanza

WOASF hosted its annual Basket Bonanza at the NAS Oceana Officers' Club and welcomed over 175 guests to enjoy a night full of music, camaraderie and high-spirited bidding. A wide variety of more than 60 baskets, donated by command spouse groups and other supporters of WOASF, included Health and Fitness, Cooking, Entertainment, Travel, and Pampering. Our auctioneer, Moose Laukaitis, kept the fun and bidding going during the live auction with wonderful items donated by Bill & Sherry Gortney, Rich & Eileen O'Hanlon, Bruce & Linda Lindsey, Ken & Windsor Shewbridge, Raf Collado and Southwest and Hilton.

Thanks to all who came out and especially our committee: Paula Laukaitis, Ann Mikeska, Julie Swansen, Dawn Stevenson, Liz Nosal and Joy Moynihan.



The Red Rippers celebrate their winning bid for the "Flying Flaming Pig Roast".



Receiving the 2016 scholarship means a great deal to me for many reasons. The first reason is because it means the world to know that organizations like Wings Over America continue to support and encourage students like me to do our best. Additionally, and most importantly, this scholarship is important to me because, frankly, college is expensive.

Danielle Morio, Florida State University, Family & Child Sciences and Psychology

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.



Empowering Spouses Inside and Outside the Classroom

By Christine Wilson

I love my job! Anyone who has ever met me knows that. Inevitably, when I talk about WOASF, people always ask "How did you get involved with them?" The answer, "I started as a volunteer." Melissa Garrison, our scholarship administrator, and Joy Moynihan, our events coordinator, would answer the same way, they were both volunteers before coming on as professionals. WOASF provides wonderful opportunities for our spouses in many valuable areas.

We have volunteers who have bonafide skills and are keeping current by doing pro-bono work for WOASF. This helps WOASF keep costs down and gives our spouses fresh experiences and additions to their portfolios. Some of our volunteers have been out of the workforce for awhile, whether it was because they chose to stay at home with their children or because frequent moves have limited employment opportunities. When they work with WOASF, they learn new skills, ranging from using updated software, new social media outlets or completely new skills like accounting. Many of our spouses do eventually return to the workforce and have a more complete resume after volunteering with WOASF and also now have a job reference, which of course we are happy to provide. WOASF has provided thousands of dollars in scholarships to our spouses attending college, but we are impacting an even greater number of spouses on a regular basis and of course their efforts for WOASF benefit all of our scholars! [Become a Volunteer Today!](#)



Christine Wilson & Ann Mikeska at Tailhook



Join us for our Annual
College A Cappella Concert
 Saturday, October 28, 2017 8:00 pm
 Sandler Center for the Performing Arts
 Virginia Beach, VA
[Tickets Available August 1st](#)

Military Family Appreciation

Aug. 20, 2017

Petco Park, San Diego

Padres vs. Nationals

Discount Tix at www.govx.com

One WOASF Scholar will be honored at home plate!



Donate Your Vehicle

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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!



Fair Winds and Following Seas

We have had to say good-bye to several Board members in recent months. Tom Hills, our Patuxent River representative, brought WOASF to that area through initiating one of our famous golf tournaments on base. Because of Tom's efforts, not only have we increased event revenue, but we have also increased awareness of our scholarship and have many more applications *and* winners from the area (see our front page). Thank you Tom for all of your efforts and for staying on as a volunteer to help continue our tournaments in the PAX River area!

Jon Thompson has been an invaluable link to our enlisted community as we have grown the foundation. Jon, a former AIRLANT FORCE CMC, has helped spread the word about WOASF through the CMC Leadership Course in Newport. As with Tom, Jon's efforts have resulted in increased Enlisted dependent applications and designated scholarships.

Finally, Steve Brennan, the longest serving director to the board will leave us as a voting member, but thankfully will stay on in an emeritus status. Steve has contributed so much to the foundation, there isn't room enough to list them all, but the highlights include: leading our first ever development committee and creating our Strategic Plan, being instrumental in producing our College A Cappella Concert, bringing Bob Rasmussen's artwork to WOASF, and garnering large donations in the process. He's always a grounded board member who thinks long term about what the foundation can become. We have seen huge growth with these three men on our board and we want to thank them for sharing their time, talent and treasure with WOASF for over six years of service.

This summer I will continue my work with the Navajo Language Academy, which is committed to preserving the Navajo language and teaching it to younger generations. My Wings Over America scholarship will help me complete my undergraduate studies, and hopefully achieve my goal of continuing linguistics research at a graduate level.

Samantha Gray, Swarthmore College, Linguistics





4966 Euclid Rd. Suite 109
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

**Celebrating 30 years
of Scholarships!**

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide college scholarships to dependent children and spouses of all US Navy personnel- 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 \$1,000,000 to outstanding students since 1987.

WOASF Staff

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Executive Director

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Joy Moynihan

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2017 CALENDAR NOTES

April 24—Oklahoma City Golf
Belmar Golf Course

MAY 19—All Aviation Golf - NAS
Oceana Aeropines Golf Course

SEPT 29—PAX River Golf - NAS
PAX River Cedar Point Golf Course

OCT 28—College A Cappella
Concert Sandler Center, Virginia
Beach

Special Thanks....

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

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VADM David Architzel, USN (Ret.)

VADM Mike Malone, USN (Ret.)

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Linda Lindsey- President

Bruce Brunson

John Griffing

Billy Hart

Charles Heaton

Ron Hoppock

Paula Laukaitis

Mary Lewis

RADM Greg Nosal, USN (Ret.)

Tom Phelan

Ken Shewbridge

Peg Shoemaker

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