

## Aero Club of Washington Welcomes New Members in July - November 2004!

**Mariano Alicea, Jr.**  
MCI

**Gina Marie Lindsey**  
McBee Strategic Consulting

**Yvan E. Drewinsky**  
Skylink Airways

**Heather Miller Podesta**  
Blank Rome LLC

**Michael Dymont**  
Simat, Helliesen & Eichner

**Milan A. Racic**  
Loadfactor Consulting Group LLC

**Darlene Gee**  
Federal Aviation Administration

**Kevin Schorr**  
Campbell-Hill Aviation Group, Inc.

**Mikiya Hioka**  
Mitsubishi International Corporation

**Douglas H. Smith**  
Bombardier Aerospace

**John Hunter Robinson**  
Aviation (RVA), Inc.

**Charles V. Stipancic, Jr.**  
Aviation Facilities Company, Inc.

**Alison Joly**  
Messier-Dowty

**James Way**  
Airlines Reporting Corporation

**David U. Keathley, Jr.**  
Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association

**Michael R. White**  
Air Transport Association

**Douglas W. Kohn**  
Law Offices of Douglas W. Kohn

**Vana Zellers**  
Concert Technologies

## Celebrating 95 Years of Aero Club Membership - Priceless

SUSAN L. SHEETS  
Membership Committee Chair

Since 1909 the Aero Club of Washington has enjoyed a sustained membership of approximately 500 individuals for 95 years, representing the multi-faceted segments of the aviation industry. Hailing from more than 15 states from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to Florida, North Carolina, Oregon and Texas, club members embody a broad constituent base and attend the club's monthly luncheons on a regular basis. They find great value in taking time from demanding schedules to visit with peers, renew acquaintances, build new relationships and listen to the month's speaker. Over the years, the Aero Club has become a well recognized forum for speakers from the U.S. Congress, Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration, to airline CEOs and leaders of the general aviation community, covering a broad spectrum of issues.

## Donald S. Lopez awarded the "Donald D. Engen Aero Club Trophy for Aviation Excellence"

The Aero Club of Washington awarded the "Donald D. Engen Aero Club Trophy for Aviation Excellence" to Don Lopez at the Club's monthly luncheon meeting on October 21, 2004. The Engen Trophy, awarded to, and named after, the late Admiral Engen in 1999, is given to an individual, team, or organization for a lifetime of achievement in aviation, or a single event or series of events, that reaffirms the Wright Brothers' standard of excellence in aviation.

Don Lopez is Deputy Director of the National Air and Space Museum and has a

Why is membership in the Aero Club of Washington valued by so many in the aviation community? Several reasons come to mind immediately. The Club's Membership Directory alone is a great resource, with listings of all members and their organizations, fax, phone and e-mail addresses. The Aero Club Newsletter is also an informative publication, covering the industry's events, happenings and people in the news. Another benefit is a member invitation to the annual Wright Memorial Dinner, the industry's gala event in December, celebrating aviation heroes like Senator John Glenn, the 2003 recipient of the Wright Brothers Trophy. The organization's commitment to future generations is epitomized by the Aero Club of Washington Foundation that develops and funds aviation education initiatives of national scope and character.

The Washington and national aviation communities come together at the Aero Club for many good reasons. It is rewarding to participate in a club whose vision, unparalleled for 95 years, is to promote aviation and to honor those who have contributed significantly to the growth of the industry. Supporting the club through the \$55.00 annual dues is an easy decision. Monthly luncheons are \$40.00 for members (\$ 45 for non-members). Membership: priceless.



distinguished career in aviation, making him an obvious choice for the prestigious Engen award. Lopez began his aviation career in the US Air Force as a fighter pilot in World War II, flying P-40s and P-51s in China. During his career, he has tested fighters, served his nation again in Korea, taught at the US Air Force Academy and worked on the Apollo-Saturn Launch Vehicle. Other than a short three years in retirement, Lopez has been with the Air and Space Museum since its opening in 1976.

## Aero Club Foundation Report

The Aero Club Foundation is enjoying a very good year. Creation of an Executive Committee of the Foundation and the hard work of its members is bringing laudable results. The committee is made up of the following Aero Club members: Alexis Allen (AIA), Joan Bauerlein (FAA), Oakley Brooks (Bombardier), Pat Gilmore (Dombroff & Gilmore), Paula Hochstetler (Airports Consultants Council), Jim Jones (Port Authority of NY and NJ), Bill Peacock (Robinson Aviation), Brian Riley (GAMA), and Jim Roberts (HEICO Aerospace). The group is further divided into two subcommittees: fundraising and grants.

The fundraising focus has been on expanding the contributors' base beyond just the Aero Club and individual members. We have initiated a program of soliciting gifts from associations that are represented in the Aero Club. The first-year response has been very gratifying, with contributions from the following associations: Aeronautical Repair Station Association, Aerospace Industries Association, Aircraft Electronics Association, Airport Consultants Council, American Association of Airport Executives, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, National Aircraft Resale Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, National Business Aviation Association, Regional Airline

Association, and Washington Airports Task Force. We have been able to raise almost \$17,000 in 2004, which is a significant increase compared to prior years.

The larger pool of available funds meant the Foundation's grants could be expanded to reach more inner-city DC public school students, who are the primary beneficiaries of the Foundation. Grants this year have gone to: (1) Stuart-Hobson Middle School, to support teaching eighth graders how lessons in history, math, and science are applicable to careers in aerospace; (2) Cardozo High School's Trans Tech Academy, for its intern program at aerospace firms and the National Air & Space Museum, field trips, and classroom presentations; and, (3) National Capitol Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, for five scholarships for attendance at a summer encampment. We are currently reviewing applications from two other entities in Washington.

We encourage participation by everyone in the Aero Club. This can come by way of a contribution to the Foundation along with renewal of annual Aero Club dues, volunteering at either Stuart-Hobson or Cardozo to bring a particular perspective to students, providing an interesting internship at a Washington-based firm, or suggesting potential recipients for Foundation grants. There are many ways to become involved in the Foundation, and we welcome everyone's ideas.

OAKLEY BROOKS  
Chairman of the Aero Club Foundation  
OakleyBrooks@bombardier-dc.com

## Photo Gallery



**JULY** — DR. PETER DIAMANDIS SPOKE ABOUT THE X-PRIZE AND PUBLIC SPACE FLIGHT BEFORE THE JULY GATHERING OF THE AERO CLUB.

**SEPTEMBER** — JIM MAY, PRESIDENT OF THE AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION, ADDRESSED THE AERO CLUB DURING ITS SEPTEMBER MEETING



**OCTOBER** — JIM BURNLEY, HENRY OGOROZINSKI, AND ED WYTKIND FOLLOWING A DEBATE AT THE OCTOBER LUNCHEON. BURNLEY REPRESENTED THE BUSH CAMPAIGN AND WYTKIND REPRESENTED THE KERRY CAMPAIGN.

## 2004 Aero Club of Washington Board of Governors

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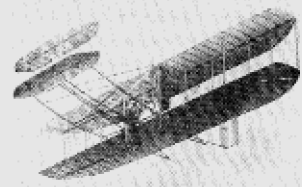
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**Charlotte Bryan**  
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**Neil R. Planzer**  
BOEING COMPANY

Wright Dinner  
**Mary M. Miller**  
SIGNATURE FLIGHT SUPPORT

Aero Club Staff  
**Nancy Hackett**



# 2004 Wright Memorial Dinner

**Friday, December 17, 2004**  
 Reception at 6:30, dinner at 7:30  
 Washington Hilton Hotel  
 1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW

**Special Thanks to Our Sponsors**  
 (as of November 17<sup>th</sup>)

**PLATINUM**

Boeing

**GOLD**

Aviation Facilities Company  
 Bombardier

**SILVER**

Air Transport Association  
 Hogan & Hartson  
 Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority  
 National Air Transportation Association

**BRONZE**

Aerospace Industries Association  
 American Association of Airport Executives  
 Aviation Week Group  
 Evergreen International Airlines  
 National Air Carrier Association  
 Regional Airline Association

## Aviation Club of the UK

Clive Richardson, a board member of the Aviation Club of the UK, is pictured here with the Aero Club of Washington staff member, Nancy Hackett. Clive and Nancy recently met for tea in DC to discuss the two clubs and opportunities for interaction.



All Aero Club of Washington members are invited to attend Aviation Club of the UK's monthly luncheons while in London. Their website is [www.aviationclub.org.uk](http://www.aviationclub.org.uk) and their email is [AviationClubUK@aol.com](mailto:AviationClubUK@aol.com). The contact there is Naomi King and the address and phone number are on their website if anyone is traveling to London soon.

*CONNERS, from front page*

agency, the NTSB is charged by Congress with investigating over 2000 accidents every year involving every US civil aviation accident and significant accidents in rail, highway, marine and pipeline and issuing safety recommendations.

Among other things, since joining the NTSB last year, Engleman Conners has focused her efforts on her SWAT efforts (Safety With A Team), which has resulted in the lowest number of open safety recommendations since 1975. She also reduced agency costs and improved financial planning to achieve a

clean audit for the NTSB's first financial review.

Previously, Engleman Conners served as Administrator of the U.S. DOT's Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) and was responsible for the Office of Pipeline Safety, the Office of Hazardous Material Safety, Crisis Management Center, the Volpe Transportation Center, and the Transportation Research Institute.

On November 23, Engleman Conners will address the Aero Club at its monthly luncheon at noon at the Capital Hilton.

*CRANDALL, from front page*

for significant public service of enduring value, as a civilian, to aviation in the United States."

Crandall certainly made many contributions to the industry during his career at American Airlines. He perfected the hub and spoke system, established frequent flyer programs, and expertly used the computer reservations model for yield management. These innovations shaped the modern commercial aviation system and, in many cases, remain the standard practice for airlines today.

Crandall originally joined American Airlines in 1973, was named president in 1980 and became CEO and chairman in 1985 before retiring in 1998. Today, Crandall serves as the chairman of POGO, an air taxi service that will use light jets to provide on demand service at small under-utilized airports across the country. Once again, Crandall is redefining aviation as we know it.

## Aero Club President Henry Ogrodzinski

### President's Report

*Welcome to the Fall Edition of the Aero Club of Washington Newsletter!*

When the wind begins to chase the leaves around the streets of DC, we all look around and wonder, "Where has the time gone"? Not only have spring and summer retreated into memory, as this issue of our newsletter goes to press, it is time to wish you and your family a very happy Thanksgiving!

Since we published our most recent newsletter, this summer,

we have continued with a series of dynamic speakers who have shared their views on some of the most pressing challenges of today and on the issues they believe we will face as we continue into the first decade of the second century of aviation. May brought us a far reaching presentation from Boeing's Alan Mulally, June saw DHS's Asa Hutchinson briefing us on the state of aviation security and who can forget Dr. Peter Diamandis' spirited description of the "X-Prize" and its competitors in July. Since then, we have seen the first "civilian" space ship and astronaut soar into space... where only government sponsored missions formerly flew.

There was, by tradition, no luncheon in August, but when we returned in September ATA's Jim May painted a picture of the challenges faced by the US airline industry and its view of the measures it needs to return to prosperity. In October, as we all prepared for the national

elections, we hosted a debate between the Bush campaign represented by Jim Burnley (Venable LLP) and the Kerry campaign represented by Ed Wytkind (AFL-CIO). During that luncheon, I was proud to present the 2004 Donald D. Engen Aero Club Trophy for Aviation Excellence to Donald S. Lopez for his contributions over more than thirty years at the National Air and Space Museum.

This month we are looking forward to NTSB Chairman Ellen Engleman Conners taking her first turn at the Aero Club podium. And, of course, every month our head table has been graced by the leaders of our industry and the media's best journalists. Speaking of the head table, our Vice President, Rob Land of Jet-Blue has brought a number of local aviation newsmakers to our luncheons including Dr. Jon Weiswasser who built his own aircraft, Gus McLeod who flew his own biplane to the North Pole and Allen Rothenberg who flew

his 1948 Ercoup around the entire perimeter of the lower 48 state. Whew, all in all - what a group!

There will be no luncheon in December - but I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Wright Memorial Dinner, honoring American Airlines' Robert Crandall, on December 17th. Until then, keep 'em flying!

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## Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER 23, 2004  
 LUNCHEON

**ELLEN ENGLEMAN CONNERS**  
 NTSB Chairman

The Honorable Ellen Engleman Conners serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and also serves as one of five presidentially appointed members of the Board. An independent Federal



*See CONNERS on page 4*

DECEMBER 17, 2004  
 WRIGHT MEMORIAL DINNER

**ROBERT L. CRANDALL**  
 Former Chairman and CEO,  
 American Airlines

Bob Crandall will receive this year's Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy from the National Aeronautic Association at the Aero Club's annual dinner on December 17. The Wright Brothers trophy is presented annually to "a living individual



*See CRANDALL on page 4*