



# THE WINGS CLUB

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## **THE WINGS CLUB TO PRESENT 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL OUTSTANDING AVIATOR AWARD TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS (WASP)**

**New York, NY – (March 28, 2011)** – The Wings Club, recognized as the premier aviation club in the world, will honor the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) with the second annual Outstanding Aviator Award.

The Outstanding Aviator Award was created by the Wings Club in partnership with IAWA (the International Aviation Womens Association). The mission of the award is to recognize airmen and airwomen whose actions have made major contributions to aviation and/or security and serve as leadership role models.

The presentation of this year's Award will take place at The Wings Club's Annual Meeting, to be held on the evening of Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at The Yale Club in New York City. Ken Gazzola, past president and Chairman of the Historical and Educational Committee, and IAWA board members will present the award to Dawn Seymour, previous WASP president, and five members of the WASP group who will be in attendance: Jeanette Goodrum (last WASP president), Jean McCreery, Katherine Willinger, Marty Wyall and Millicent Young. Well known actor, patriot and pilot, Cliff Roberston, will join the award presentation.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots, WASP, were the first women in history trained to fly American military aircrafts for the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. The WASP flew over 60 million miles and every type of military aircraft. Over 20,000 women applied to become a WASP, but less than 1,900 were accepted into the service. After training, the WASP were stationed at 120 air bases across the US taking on numerous flight-related missions, relieving male pilots for combat duty. Between the years of September 1942 and December 1944, the WASP delivered 12,650 aircraft of 78

different types. In 1977, the WASP were granted veteran status and in 2009, they were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, which was presented to them by President Barack Obama.

The Wings Club, founded in 1942, is the premiere aviation club in the world. Dedicated to preserve the history and traditions of aviation, the Club provides a forum for discussion and debate on aeronautical and aviation issues. The Wings Club serves nearly 1,200 members including industry leaders, pilots, professionals in related service organizations and students of aviation.

Recognizing significant achievements that contribute to the advancement of aeronautical and aviation matters, The Wings Club recognizes and honors people throughout the year with the Distinguished Achievement Award, Distinguished Scholar Awards and now the Outstanding Aviator Award. The Club also hosts Aviation Leader Series Luncheons that feature keynote speeches by industry leaders.

Founded in 1988, the International Aviation Womens Association (IAWA) brings together women of achievement in the aviation industry and promotes their advancement internationally through the establishment of a worldwide network of aviation professional contacts. IAWA is an international organization for women who hold senior positions in the aviation and aerospace industry including airline, airport, finance, insurance, law, manufacturing, operations, suppliers and government.

As the industry adjusts to worldwide economic and political change, women are assuming greater and more visible roles. Through annual global conferences, regional receptions, IAWA publications and newsletters, and programs, IAWA provides a forum to share views on matters of importance to the industry, as well as to women generally.

If you are interested in the presentation of the second Outstanding Aviator Award to the WASP's and would like to attend the Annual Meeting, please RSVP to Lea MacDougall at (212) 867-1770 or email [wingsclub@aol.com](mailto:wingsclub@aol.com). For more information on the The Wings Club visit <http://www.wingsclub.org>.