



# TAILHOOK EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Combined Federal Campaign No. 10251



## ***Bravo Zulu Tailhookers You've Created An Outstanding Legacy***



This year the Tailhook Association, through the Tailhook Educational Foundation, awarded 92 scholarship grants ranging from \$1,500 to \$15,000. We received 422 scholarship applications and the academic records for most of the high school and college student applicants were superior. If it weren't for the fiscal restraints, we could have easily awarded another 200 grants based on outstanding academic records. The window for application opens 15 December 2015 for the 2016-'17 academic year.

J.J. Quinn, USN(Ret)  
RADM, USN(Ret)  
President, Tailhook Educational Foundation

Marc Ostertag  
CAPT, USN(Ret)  
Admin. Officer, Tailhook Educational Foundation

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Mr. Joe J. Farina Jr.



# 2015 Scholarship Winners



## CVW-2 SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the carrier air wing

**Kelsey Drake**  
Redmond, Washington

- *University of Colorado, Environmental Engineering*

## LCDR STU POWRIE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Educational Foundation

**Chandler Abbott**  
Cabot, Arkansas

- *Accepted to University of Arkansas*



## RADM THOMAS F. BROWN III SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Bay Area Tailhook Ready Room

*This award is made in the name of RADM Thomas F. Brown III, USN(Ret), whose 31-year career included 5,000 flight hours, 1,017 carrier landings and 343 Vietnam missions. Among units commanded were USS Midway (CV-41) and Carrier Groups One and Five. His degrees from Mt. St. Mary's, U.C. Berkeley and the National War College and his ongoing second career as a middle school teacher and administrator underscore his lifelong commitment to education. Tom served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tailhook 1996-2000 and was instrumental in re-establishing strong links with the Navy.*

**Kyle Groters**  
Lombard, Illinois

- *Moody Bible Institute, Psychology*



## STAR SCHOLARSHIP, No. 6

Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Ian Shank**  
St. Paul, Minnesota

- *Brown University, International Studies*



## CDR DEAN "DIZ" LAIRD, USN(Ret) SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Hook '12 reunion donors

*CDR Dean Diz Laird is the only Navy ace to shoot down both German and Japanese aircraft. Flying F4F Wildcats off the coast of Norway, he participated in the destruction of a couple of German airplanes October 1943. A year later he was flying F6F Hellcats from USS Essex (CV-9) in the Pacific Theater, where he was credited with the remainder of his 5 3/4 confirmed victories.*

**Hannah Litkowski**  
Virginia Beach, Virginia

- *Accepted to University of Virginia*



## THE TAILHOOK ASSOCIATION STOCKDALE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Association

*VADM James B. Stockdale, USN(Ret), an indomitable Medal of Honor awardee, Naval Aviator and academician who endured more than seven years of captivity during the Vietnam War was one of the most highly decorated officers in U.S. Naval history. He received two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Purple Hearts and four Silver Stars among his 26 combat decorations. He was the only three-star admiral to wear both aviator wings and the Medal of Honor, which was presented by President Ford in 1976.*

**Benjamin Brewer**  
Pensacola, Florida

- *Auburn University Applied Mathematics*



## STAR SCHOLARSHIP, No. 8

Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Nicholas Romine**  
Highlands Ranch, Colorado

- *Accepted to U.S. Naval Academy*



## STAR SCHOLARSHIP, No. 5

Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Claire Jennings**  
Valencia, California

- *Boston University, Film and Television*



## STAR SCHOLARSHIP, No. 7

Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Ryan McCabe**  
Edmond, Oklahoma

- *Univ. of Oklahoma, Mechanical Engineering*





### ROB BRYN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Association

*Mr. Bryn began his career with the Morro Bay Police Department in the 1980s and served with the San Luis Obispo Police Department 1986–2005. He was the County Sheriff’s Department public information officer and crime prevention specialist, a longtime active member of the Central Coast Navy League and a Life Member of the Tailhook Association. He was known fraternally for his reading and presentation of the “Bug Roach Prayer” at the annual reunion in Sparks (Reno), Nevada.*



**Hayley Snowden**  
McLean Virginia

- Accepted to College of William and Mary

### LCDR KIERON “TATER” O’CONNOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Jon R. Winthrop, retired and former president and CEO, The Air Group, Inc., Van Nuys, California

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LCDR Kieron “Tater” O’Connor, USN, a Blue Angel who was killed 28 October 1999 at Moody AFB, Ga. Kieron was from Burtonsville, Md., and graduated from Catholic University of America in 1988. Commissioned through AOCS, he earned his wings in October 1990. During his career he served with VFA-81, VFA-131 and VFA-106. Kieron joined the Blue Angels in September 1998. He accumulated more than 2,000 flight hours and 295 carrier arrested landings.*



**Mackenzie Cummings**  
Seattle, Washington

- Accepted Pomona College

### TEF SCHOLARSHIP, No. 2

Sponsored by the Tailhook Association

**Christopher Gatt**  
Norwalk, Connecticut

- Accepted to Georgetown University



### LtCol ROBERT A. CHRISTY, USMC(Ret), SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Jon R. Winthrop, retired and former president and CEO, The Air Group, Inc., Van Nuys, California

*LtCol Christy holds a master’s degree in aeronautical engineering from Princeton and is an associate member of Experimental Test Pilots. As a Marine fighter pilot, he flew two tours of duty in Vietnam, one as squadron CO, and commanded the flight test division at NAS Point Mugu. In 1976, LtCol Christy formed Golden Jet Airways in Los Angeles, and in 1980 co-founded The Air Group, a business jet sales and charter service where he was the executive vice president for operations. LtCol Christy retired December 2007.*



**Mary Elise Fortney**  
Memphis, Tennessee

- Accepted to University of Alabama

### THE HOOK 2007 REUNION SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Hook ’07 reunion donors and the Gold Wings Foundation

**Catriona Gates**  
Chesapeake, Virginia

- George Mason University, Public Health



### THE CENTENNIAL OF NAVAL AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Hook ’11 reunion donors

**Michael Belland**  
Pensacola, Florida

- MIT, Electrical Engineering

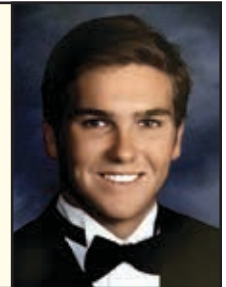


### CDR JIM OLIVER SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by CDR Jim Oliver, USN(Ret)

**Zachary Kreiser**  
Virginia Beach, Virginia

- Accepted to Yale University



### LT KEVIN COLLING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Jon R. Winthrop, retired and former president and CEO, The Air Group, Inc., Van Nuys, California

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LT Kevin Colling, USN, a Blue Angel who was killed 28 October 1999. Kevin graduated from the Colorado School of Mines in 1989. Commissioned through AOCS, he earned his wings in May 1992. Kevin flew the F-14 Tomcat with VF-21 and the F/A-18 Hornet with VFA-37 and VFA-106. He was the 1998 Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic Pilot of the Year. He joined the Blue Angels in September 1999 and had more than 1,500 flight hours and 350 carrier arrested landings.*

**Riley Wilkinson**  
Fairfax Station, Virginia

- Accepted to Princeton University



### CAPT RICHARD L. “ZEKE” CORMIER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Blue Angels Association

*This scholarship is awarded in the name of CAPT Richard L. “Zeke” Cormier, who received his wings in July 1942. In 1944 he became a Hellcat ace in the Pacific with eight kills, four in a single flight. Following the war he had two tours with the Blue Angels and served as Commander, Carrier Air Group 11. After retirement in 1964, he served on the board of the San Diego Aerospace Museum for 28 years. Zeke was honored with Tailhook’s Lifetime Achievement award in 2000. CAPT Cormier died in February 2001.*



**Joseph Denning**  
Overland Park, Kansas

- Accepted to University of Kansas

### THE "CHICK" TUCKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by CAPT Gene Tucker, USN(Ret)

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LCDR "Chick" Tucker, S.C., USNR. Chick held two master's degrees in physical education and worked as a civilian for the Navy's Morale, Welfare and Recreation division as director at Indian Head, Md.; King's Bay, Ga.; Stockton, Calif.; and Yorktown, Va. He was commissioned an ensign in the Supply Corps Reserves by his brother, CAPT Gene Tucker, in 1982 and spent his career attached to the Navy Cargo Handling Battalion based at Cheatham Annex, Va. Although he enjoyed being a "Combat Stevedore," he took advantage of the opportunity to earn his S.C. wings as an aviation warfare specialist during training aboard USS Coral Sea (CV-43) in 1984. He was proud of his several lengthy periods of active duty, and especially of his participation in Operation Desert Storm. While deployed he was awarded the Navy Commendation and*

*Navy Achievement Medals for exceptional leadership and technical expertise during critical wartime cargo handling operations. He was training officer of the Cargo Handling Battalion when he died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in April 1993.*



**Sarha Gavieres**  
San Diego, California

- George Washington University, Pre-Law

### THE INTRUDER ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Intruder Association

*This scholarship is presented by the membership of the Intruder Association to honor those who gave their lives in service to their country while flying the A-6 Intruder. An integral part of Naval Aviation for 32 years, the Intruder flew combat missions in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Grenada, Lebanon, Libya, Iraq, Kuwait and the Persian Gulf. There were 28 squadrons among the Navy, Marine Corps and Reserve forces that operated the five Intruder models (A-6A, A-6B, A-6C, KA-6D and A-6E). Intruder crews and their technical representatives specialized in low-level, all-weather attack missions while taking part in all phases of the attack mission as they evolved during Vietnam and the Cold War. The United States lost 251 aviators in the A-6; this scholarship is to honor their memory and sacrifice.*

**Morgan Graham**  
Longmont, Colorado

- Accepted to College of Charleston



### TEST & EVALUATION SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by attendees at the 2014 Reunion and the Southwest Commandery

**Jonah Martin**  
Helena, Montana

- Accepted to Carroll College, Helena, Montana



### THE LTJG STERLING G. GILLIAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by his son, CAPT Sterling G. Gilliam Jr. and Family

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LTJG Sterling G. Gilliam Sr., a native of Franklinton, N.C., who served honorably during World War II in the Pacific theater. Upon completion of his military service, he returned to civilian life in Henderson, N.C., and like so many of his generation, raised a family, shaped a community and helped build this great nation. He strongly supported education in his community until his death in 1972.*

**Mary-Grace Reeves**  
Pensacola, Florida

- Harvard University, Chemistry



### THE BOEING COMPANY SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Boeing Company

*This award is presented on behalf of the men and women of the Boeing Co., whose combined efforts contribute daily to the effectiveness of Naval carrier aviation. Customer service and company products, especially the many aircraft, missiles and integrated systems, support Naval carrier aviation as they enhance the effectiveness and the proud traditions of the Tailhook service.*

**Zachary Ziegler**  
Denver, Colorado

- University of Denver, International Business



### TOMCAT SUNSET SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tomcat Sunset Committee

*A total of 712 F-14s were built at Grumman's factory in Calverton on Long Island 1969-1991. This scholarship honors all the aircrew that lost their lives in the development and operation of the Tomcat.*

**James Griffin**  
Foothill Ranch, California

- Accepted to Texas Christian University



### THE USS LANGLEY ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the USS Langley (CVL-27) Association

*This award is made in the name of the Langley Association, the men of which served on one of the most distinguished carriers in World War II. From January 1944 to the end of the war, Langley served in campaigns including the Marshall and Mariana Islands, Guam, the Palaus and the Philippines, Formosa, French Indochina and off the mainland of Japan.*

**Daniel Litwin**  
McKinney, Texas

- University of Missouri, Journalism



### LT PAT BUCKLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the San Diego Tailhook Ready Room

*LT Patrick Buckley was the pilot of an RF-8G with VFP-63 Detachment 19, flying from USS Hancock (CVA-19), when returning from a combat photo mission into Southeast Asia 16 December 1969, his aircraft was stricken. He crashed in the Gulf of Tonkin. LT Buckley was declared Killed/Body Not Recovered and is honored on Panel 15W, Row 61 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.*

**Noah Zaleski**  
Omaha, Nebraska

- Accepted to St. Louis University





### JOHN E. PORTER SCHOLARSHIP, No. 1

Sponsored by AVCM John E. Porter, USN(Ret)

*Master Chief Porter joined the Navy at the age of 17 in 1943. He served with numerous ships and units for 22 years in the Avionics Technician rating, supporting F4Fs to A-3Ds. He retired as a master chief in 1964 and became a realtor, broker-owner of his own business, and later president of the Glendale Arizona Board of Realtors. A tireless supporter and a Tailhooker since 1991, he retired again in 1998. Throughout both his distinguished careers, Master Chief Porter acquired all the education available, knowing it was the key to success. John and his wife support two scholarships. This scholarship honors his strong belief in the value of education.*



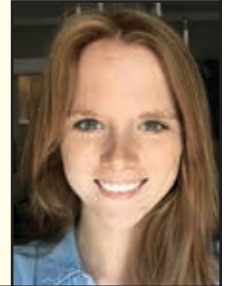
**Casey Dervay**  
League City, Texas

- Baylor University, B.A.

### LT NICK BENSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by CAPT Eric and Barb Benson and Friends of LT Stephen Nicklous "Nick" Benson

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LT Nick Benson, USNR, who was killed 18 October 2002 when his F/A-18F Super Hornet was involved in a midair collision off the California coast. Nick was from Virginia Beach, Va. and graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1998. After commissioning through AOCS, he earned his NFO wings and joined VF-41 flying F-14s. He participated in Operation Enduring Freedom over Afghanistan before transitioning to the Super Hornet. Nick was a special young man who made a difference and is greatly missed.*



**Mary Peyton Sanford**  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- University of Pennsylvania, Cognitive Science

### COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN SCHOLARSHIP, No. 1

Supported by Combined Federal Campaign contributions

**Kristiana Olson**  
Old Lyme, Connecticut

- Accepted to University of Chicago



### THE TEF ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Educational Foundation

**Whitney Francis**  
San Diego, California

- Accepted to UCLA



### LCDR JOHN FARNSWORTH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Mr. Donald Sherman

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of LCDR John Farnsworth, a Naval Aviator who died in January 2000 at age 66. John was born in Peoria, Ill., and flew 200 combat missions from USS Kitty Hawk (CVA-63) over Vietnam. He left the Navy in 1975 to become an account executive with Hart Publishing, San Diego, Calif. Throughout his life he enjoyed playing the banjo and was leader of a 13-piece San Diego banjo band.*



**Rachel McElheny**  
Big Flats, New York

- SUNY Binghamton, School of Management

### COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN SCHOLARSHIP, No. 2

Supported by Combined Federal Campaign contributions

**James Corcoran**  
Saline, Michigan

- University of Michigan, ME and Economics



### CAPT NELLO PIEROZZI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Educational Foundation, Marcia and Lisa Pierozzi

*LT Nello Pierozzi was a member of the first jet-equipped Blue Angels team in 1955. Fourteen years later he became commanding officer of USS Rankin (AKA-103).*

**Michael Pashkevich Jr.**  
Mandeville, Louisiana

- Loyola University New Orleans, Molecular Biology



### ADM GEORGE E.R. KINNEAR II SCHOLARSHIP

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**Tyler Nowicki**  
Peachtree City, Georgia

- Auburn University, Public Service



### JOHN E. PORTER SCHOLARSHIP, No. 2

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### LCDR CHARLES A. BRACKIN "DIRTY SHIRT" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Family and Friends of LCDR Charles A. "Chuck" Brackin, USN(Ret)

*This scholarship honors all those who have supported carrier aviation through dedicated service in the dangerous and demanding environment of the flight deck.*

**Shannon Zangas**  
Butler, Pennsylvania

- Dickinson College, Political Science



**THE LOCKHEED MARTIN AERONAUTICS CORPORATION "JACK READY" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Corporation



*Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Corp. develops, builds and supports advanced combat aircraft for the United States and its allies. The company is currently leading the development of the F-35 Lightning II, the next-generation stealth strike fighter for the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and several Coalition partners.*

**Hillary Dunn**  
South Elgin, Illinois

- Western Illinois University, Pre-Medicine

**RADM JAMES D. RAMAGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Ramage Family and Friends

*This award is made in the name of RADM James D. "Jig Dog" Ramage, who will long be remembered for his heroism while leading air strikes from USS Enterprise (CV-6) during World War II, and in later years his role in the development of modern battle group philosophy and Joint-service tactical doctrine. He was instrumental in framing the policies that guided the formation of the Tailhook Association and provided a large editorial influence responsible for the growth and success of The Hook magazine.*



**Matthew Clark**  
Boise, Idaho

- University of Oklahoma, History

**C.W. AND MARNY GILLULY SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by C.W. and Marny Gilluly

*From 1967–1976 Dr. Gilluly served as a Navy A-7 Corsair II pilot on two Vietnam combat tours and as CAG-11 landing signal officer for his third cruise. His wife, Martha "Marny," has worked on deep-sea research projects with the Naval Research Laboratory and as a computer specialist for the U.S. House of Representatives. The Gilluly's reside in Washington, D.C.*



**Erin Driscoll**  
Cohasset, Massachusetts

- Accepted to University of New Hampshire

**CAPT JOHNNY L. "TURK" GREEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Family, Friends and Industry

*Turk enlisted in the Navy in 1970, earned a degree, his Wings of Gold and went on to command VFA-192, USS Camden (AOE-2), John F. Kennedy (CV-67) and Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71).*



**Jalen Shaw**  
Chicago, Illinois

- Temple University Japan Campus, Business

**CDR EDWARD "FAST EDDIE" POWERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Ann and Bill Hoehn of the Hoehn Foundation



**Brooke Docherty**  
Fairfax Station, Virginia

- Accepted to Cornell University

**THE "SPIRIT OF CARRIER AVIATION" SCHOLARSHIP**

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**Nicholas Papadakis**  
Anacortes, Washington

- Accepted to California Polytechnic Univ.



**R.G. SMITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Cody Anderson**  
Ramona, California

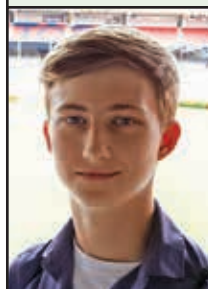
- Accepted to Univ. of California San Diego



**RADM LEONARD A. "SWOOSE" SNEAD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Pratt & Whitney Military Engines

*This award honors the memory of RADM Leonard A. "Swoose" Snead by Pratt & Whitney Military Engines. Snead served in several fleet junior officer billets prior to attending U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS). He progressed through a number of assignments that culminated as head of the Flying Qualities and Performance Branch at USNTPS. Immediately thereafter, he assumed command of VA-75, the Navy's first fleet operational A-6A squadron, which deployed to Vietnam the following year. He later commanded USS Forrestal (CVA-59) and was selected for Flag rank in February 1971, and in July was named manager for the F-14 aircraft and systems program. In 1974 he assumed command of Fighter Airborne Early Warning Wing Pacific, at NAS Miramar. Snead retired in 1976 with 30-years commissioned service and joined Pratt & Whitney in West Palm Beach, Fla., as manager of Navy programs. He was appointed vice president of Pratt & Whitney in 1983 and retired from the company in 1992.*



**Ryan Dradzynski**  
Lutz, Florida

- Accepted to Florida University

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Northrop Grumman Corporation

*Northrop Grumman Corporation is a global defense company headquartered in Los Angeles, Calif. Northrop Grumman provides technologically advanced, innovative products, services and solutions in systems integration, defense electronics, information technology, advanced aircraft, shipbuilding and space technology.*



**Tyler Schattel**  
Kingwood, Texas

- Accepted to Texas A&M University



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Raytheon Co. was founded in 1922 in Cambridge, Mass. In the more than 90 years since its founding, Raytheon Company has introduced many major technological advancements that changed the course of American culture and world history. Among these innovations are the first commercial microwave ovens, the fathometer depth sounder, the mass production of magnetron tubes, early shipboard radar, the first successful missile guidance system, a space communications system, mobile radio telephones and the first combat-proven air defense missile system.



**Megan Wander**  
Lakeland, Tennessee

- Accepted to University of Virginia

### THE "TRADER JON" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Friends of Martin "Trader Jon" Weissman

Martin Weissman and his wife Jackii moved to Pensacola, Fla., in 1953, bought a small tavern they named "Trader Jon's" and started a legend. His countless friends showered him with aviation memorabilia that transformed Trader Jon's into an aviation shrine. A staunch supporter of Naval Aviation and the city of Pensacola, he was the Blue Angels' biggest fan. Mr. Weissman is remembered for his unique contribution to Naval Aviation. He died in February 2000 at the age of 84.



**Luke Hanselman**  
Monticello, Illinois

- Accepted to University of Illinois, Urbana

### BLUE ANGELS — LCDR KEVIN DAVIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Jon R. Winthrop, retired and former president and CEO, The Air Group, Inc., Van Nuys, California

Kevin was killed in an accident during a Blue Angels flight demonstration at MCAS Beaufort during the 2007 season. Davis was an 11-year Navy veteran and a member of the Blue Angels precision-flying team for nearly two years. He flew in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. A native of Pittsfield, Mass., he accumulated more than 2,500 flight hours and 200 carrier arrested landings. His decorations include the Air Medal plus two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.



**Christian Carroll**  
Appleton, Wisconsin

- Lawrence Univ. Conservatory of Music

### CDR FRANCIS MARTIN DOBBERTIEN SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Francis Martin Dobbertien

"The Navy has enriched my life in many ways that I cherish. This scholarship is just a way of saying thanks." Francis "Frank" entered the Navy in 1946 under the Holloway Midshipman Program, spent two years in college under the V-5 program and entered flight training in 1948 as an Aviation Midshipman. He received his wings after completing advanced training in the F4U. He spent over five years on active duty flying from several carriers. He then completed 28 years of service as an active Reserve, retiring with rank of commander. He also retired from Clark Equipment Company after 28 years. He received a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Colorado in 1953.



**Jacqueline Green**  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois

- Accepted to Marquette University

### THE CAPT GARY HAKANSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by LCDR Pilalas, USNR

**Clayton Santo**  
Cantonment, Florida

- University of Alabama, Finance



### KANSAS CITY BARBEQUE SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Kansas City Barbeque, San Diego, Home of TOP GUN

**Collin Horstman**  
Chesapeake, Virginia

- Accepted to Texas A&M University



### RADM JACK CHRISTIANSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Clare, Tom and Tina Christiansen

This scholarship, awarded to prior enlisted personnel, honors the memory of RADM Jack Christiansen, USN(Ret), a Life Member of the Tailhook Association. Jack was designated a Naval Aviator in 1943. Because of his flying skill and courage he was awarded the Navy Cross and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He commanded USS Constellation (CVA-64) 1968-1970 during the Vietnam War. Jack was one of only two enlisted pilots to achieve the rank of rear admiral. He retired from the Navy in 1975, passed away in April 2008 and was buried with military honors at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.



**Declan Keating-Boyles**  
Conyers, Georgia

- Georgia Perimeter College, Biomedical Engineering

### TEF SCHOLARSHIP, No. 1

Sponsored by the Tailhook Association

**Katherine Dodick**  
Mandeville, Louisiana

- Accepted to Louisiana State University



### "JACK READY" MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Tailhook Educational Foundation

**Robert Herbst**  
Englewood, Colorado

- Dartmouth College, Music



**THE CDR GLEN “LEFTY” HANSEN  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by CAPT Mindy Suszan, USN

*Glen was a graduate of U.S. Naval Academy and Naval Aviator. During his career, he was assigned to the VA-95 Green Lizards, VFA-81 Sunliners and VFA-87 Golden Warriors. He deployed in USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72), Enterprise (CVN-65) and Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71). With numerous combat missions over Iraq and the former Republic of Yugoslavia, Lefty was individually recognized for delivering the first USN combat load in Kosovo. He earned a master’s degree in strategic studies from the Army War College and two additional master’s degrees in business. His dream was to establish a scholarship to help children within our community realize their potential, to continue the growth and progress that makes America great and to improve the world in which we live.*



**Rand Duarte**  
Leonardtown, Maryland

- Accepted to Rice University

**LCDR DAVID WOOSTER “WOOT” TAYLOR JR.  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by his son, CAPT David Wooster Thornhill, USNR(Ret)

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of Lcdr David Wooster “Woot” Taylor Jr., a World War II-era Naval Aviator who commanded two TBF/TBM Avenger torpedo squadrons, VT-4 and VT-7. Woot was killed 16 May 1944 when his F6F crashed following low-altitude engine failure during a training flight. Woot was a San Francisco, Calif. native and was a 1935 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.*



**Katherine Hitchcock**  
Virginia Beach, Virginia

- University of Virginia, Art History

**THE NAS FALLON/ NUGGET CASINO RESORT  
SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by John Ascuaga’s Nugget Casino Resort, the annual host hotel for the Tailhook reunion

*NAS Fallon and the Fallon Range Training Complex are the Navy’s premier integrated strike warfare training facilities supporting present and emerging national defense requirements. The mission is to support carrier air wings preparing to deploy and to support units participating in training events including Joint and multinational training and exercises. This scholarship is dedicated by John Ascuaga to the men and women of NAS Fallon, past, present and future.*



**Grant Sugaski**  
Casa Grande, Arizona

- Accepted to University of Arizona

**THE GRAND CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Grand Club (Aircrew with 1,000 or more carrier arrested landings)

**Garrett Gile**  
Longwood, Florida

- Accepted to Yale University



**NAVAL AVIATORS’ WIVES  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
“THE TOUGHEST JOB IN THE NAVY”**

In memory of dedicated wives who have departed the pattern before their spouses.

Founded by

- Dan Rainey in memory of Georgia Rainey,
- Jay Yakeley in memory of Cathy Yakeley,
- Gil Rud in memory of Barbara Rud,
- Phil Anselmo in memory of Arlene Anselmo,
- Keith Schmidt in memory of Norma Jean Schmidt

*These wonderful ladies stayed home and minded the front while their husbands were on deployment and training work ups. They raised the children, held support groups and other feats of leadership, and did it superbly, allowing their husbands to perform duties knowing that their families were safe. These women mentored many wives and continue to be an example for those who support their aviators and their careers. Their legacy will be with us forever, and the founders of this scholarship are pleased to present this award in their memory.*



**Paige Miller**  
Fairfax, Virginia

- University of Pittsburgh, Rehabilitation Science

**JAMES A. de GANAHL  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, No. 1**

Sponsored by Dorothy “Dossie” de Ganahl

*James was born in 1924 and graduated from Kent School and the U.S. Naval Academy class of 1947. He married Dossie and was winged in 1949. Jim and Dossie had four children. Jim retired in 1968 and passed away in May 2007.*



**Christian Gomez**  
Flagstaff, Arizona

- Accepted to Northeastern University

**JAMES A. de GANAHL  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, No. 2**

Sponsored by Dorothy “Dossie” de Ganahl

**William Mason**  
Damascus, Pennsylvania

- Marywood University, Aviation



**THE TAILHOOK ASSOCIATION LT STEVE  
ZILBERMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Tailhook Association

*LT Miroslav “Abrek” Zilberman was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions during a 31 March 2010 emergency while flying an E-2C Hawkeye aircraft in the North Arabian Sea. He kept the stricken aircraft stable allowing three other crewmembers to bail out successfully, but time ran out before he could follow.*



**Gabriella Herrera**  
Westlake Village, California

- Accepted to Point Loma Nazarene University



**THE VADM PAUL MCCARTHY  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Tailhook Educational Foundation

VADM McCarthy graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. He joined the Navy and earned both his surface warfare and Naval Aviator designations. During his aviation career, he flew F2H-3/4 Banshees and the A-4 Skyhawk. He made a Mediterranean Sea deployment as landing signal and operations officer of VA-12 and was a test pilot at VX-5 in China Lake. He saw his first combat in Vietnam with VA-15 and then again as XO and CO of VA-195. He flew a total of 251 missions including 38 alfa strikes, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and 27 Air Medals. He completed his operational tours as Commander U.S. Seventh Fleet and finished his career as Director of Research, Development and Acquisition (OP-98).



**Garrett Van Dyke**  
Fleming Island, Florida

- Accepted to Furman University

**CAPT ROGER “SPOOK” McFILLLEN  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Family and Friends

Roger McFillen was born in May 1938. He graduated from Kansas State and entered Naval Aviation training through Aviation Officer Candidate School. He earned his Wings of Gold in 1965 as a Naval Flight Officer (NFO). Spook was a pioneer in the NFO community and excelled as a Radar Intercept Officer in the F-4 Phantom II and progressed into the F-14 Tomcat. One of the first NFOs to be selected for Aviation Command, he commanded VF-142 in the late 1970s and went on to numerous high level assignments as an O-6. Spook retired in 1991 after 30 years of service, and continued to be extremely active in Naval Aviation and the Tailhook Association. He was personally responsible for the creation of the Colorado Springs Tailhook Chapter (“Ready Room”). He succumbed to complications, 25 April 2011, related to Interstitial Lung Disease.



**James Corcoran**  
Saline, Michigan

- Accepted to University of Michigan

**CAPT RICHARD J. JENSEN  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by the Tailhook Washington D.C. Ready Room

CAPT Jensen, USN(Ret) graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1974 and was designated a Naval Flight Officer in 1975. His operational tours included F-14 Tomcat Radar Intercept Officer with VF-14, VF-101, VF-102 and flag lieutenant to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. CAPT Jensen reported to VT-10 in February 1991 as executive officer and assumed command of the squadron in February 1992.



**Darian Wood**  
Eagle, Idaho

- Accepted to University of Southern California

**CDR CLYDE RAY WELCH AND NANCY  
MACDONALD WELCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by CAPT Rodger L. Welch, USN(Ret), his brother Mr. Scott Welch, Family and Friends

Clyde Ray Welch was born in Texas in 1928. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1951 and reported for duty on board USS Essex (CVA-9) during the Korean War. He started his aviation career in Task Force 77 embarked in USS Shangri-La (CVA-38). He flew F-9F, A-4s and F-8s from NAS Miramar and Lemoore. He was awarded numerous medals to include the Distinguished Flying Cross with combat “V” for missions in the Vietnam War. CDR Welch was killed in action while serving as VA-164’s executive officer in Carrier Air Group Sixteen on board Oriskany (CVA-34) in the Tonkin Gulf 26 October 1966.



**Clayton Skoda**  
Brentwood, Tennessee

- Accepted to Yale University

**FIGHTER PILOT RED SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Bella Luna Winery, Sherman Smoot and Kevin Healy, owners

This scholarship is in honor of courageous Naval Aviators who put themselves in harm’s way in defense of our great nation. As veterans, this is our way to thank all who support our small business and us.



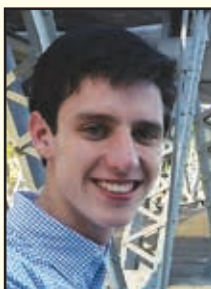
**Stephen Brao**  
Hamilton, Maine

- Accepted to John Hopkins University

**GARY “QUAIL” LAUGHLIN SCHOLARSHIP**

Sponsored by Family and Friends

Gary Laughlin left his studies at the University of Texas to serve his country with great distinction in World War II. As a Marine Aviator, he flew F-4U Corsairs in the South Pacific with the VMF-111 Devil Dogs. After the war, he completed his studies and worked in the oil business in Texas. Quail was recalled to active duty in 1951 where he served with the VMF-214 Black Sheep in the Korean War.



**Jackson Farley**  
Foothill Ranch, California

- Accepted to Baylor University

**CAPT MICHAEL “SCOTT” SPEICHER MEMORIAL,  
STAR SCHOLARSHIP, No. 1**

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On 17 January 1991, CAPT Speicher was shot down during a night combat mission over Iraq. His family, friends and the entire Tailhook Navy have not forgotten him.



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*Sales was an honorary master chief petty officer — one of the first since Bob Hope. He was awarded the CAPT R.L. “Zeke” Cormier Honorary Tailhooker of the Year in 2009 and the U.S. Navy’s Superior Public Service Award in 2005. He led more than 20 aircraft carrier distinguished visitor (DV) embarks, introducing hundreds of civic leaders to the Navy and Carrier Aviation, positively affecting and cultivating support for the Navy’s mission. He sponsored numerous visits from Naval Aviation leaders to Detroit to speak with local civic leaders and created the DV embark program at NAS Oceana.*



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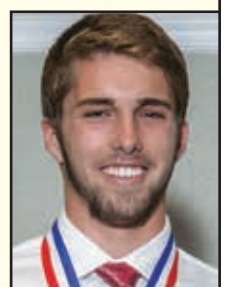


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**Gage Van Natta**  
 Castle Rock, Colorado

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*Harry began in Naval Aviation in 1976 after graduating from the University of South Carolina with a degree in mathematics. He served with the VA-93 Ravens, flying the A-7 Corsair II on board USS Midway (CV-41) and later with VX-5, China Lake, Calif., where he met his wife and co-sponsor, Stacy, a teacher and advocate for higher education. Believing Naval Aviation offers unique opportunities, this "Defying the Odds" scholarship is dedicated to female college students pursuing a science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) education who endeavor to have a career in aviation.*

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*Richard C. Allen enlisted in the Naval Aviation Cadet program in 1959. He was commissioned an ensign and designated a Naval Aviator in 1960 and a Naval Flight Officer in 1971. A graduate of Naval Postgraduate School with a bachelor’s degree in engineering science, he also completed the Armed Forces Staff College and National Defense University Capstone Training. He was selected for initial flag officer assignment in 1987. He retired from the U.S. Navy 1 April 1996 as a VADM and passed away May 2009.*



**Kristin Stitzlein**  
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*Jeep enlisted in the Navy in 1942 after graduating from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. He was appointed an Aviation Cadet and received orders to report to flight training. Commissioned an ensign and designated a Naval Aviator, his Naval career spanned 27 years and three wars including World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He was the commanding officer of the USS Hancock (CVA-19), 1966–’67. Jeep was interested in education. His favorite quote was, “Education is the great leveler. I’m interested in young people and anything we can do to assist them makes the effort and contribution worthwhile.”*



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*During his career, ADM Keating served as commander of Carrier Group Five, the U.S. Fifth Fleet, the U.S. Northern Command, North American Air Defense (NORAD) and U.S. Pacific Commands. He retired in 2009 after more than 38 years of service. He was the first Navy officer to head U.S. Northern Command and NORAD.*



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*This award is made in the name of Capt Augustus E. Brewer, USMC, who served with distinction during the 1950s and 1960s as a fighter pilot in the western Pacific. He also served as a flight instructor and Marine air group staff officer. As a civilian, Capt Brewer resided in San Diego, Calif., where he volunteered as the squadron historian for VMFA-323. He died in May 2000.*



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CAPT John C. “Fingers” Enschede, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Tom “Hedge” Hejl, USN(Ret)  
CDR James “Slug” Kidrick, USN(Ret)  
CAPT R.W. “Brick” Nelson, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Jerry Palmer, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Tighe “Tiger” Parmenter, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Gregory R. “Shifty” Peairs, USN(Ret)  
CDR Stephen J. Queen, USN(Ret)  
RADM Harry T. “H.T.” Rittenour, USN(Ret)  
LCDR Harry Thaete, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Chuck “Snapper” Wright, USN(Ret)  
CAPT Rodger “Crotch” Welch, USN(Ret)  
Mr. Jon “NORDO” Winthrop  
CAPT J.R. Davis, USN(Ret), Chief Admin. Officer  
CAPT Marc Ostertag, USN(Ret), Admin. Officer  
Ms. Beth Rollins, Executive Assistant  
Rich Carlquist, Financial Consultant