

MILE HIGH FLIGHT 18

Order of Daedalians

Newsletter

May 2007

Platte Valley pilgrimage 18 May

Remaining 2007 Flight Schedule

Flight 18 normally meets on the third Friday of each month. Exceptions are announced in the newsletter and through the caller phone tree. Your caller should contact you via phone/e-mail 7-10 days prior to each meeting. If not, please advise Flight Adjutant Ron Smith.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker/activity</u>
18 May	Platte Valley	Lafayette Foundation
13-16 Jun	Colo Springs	Daedalian Convention
22 Jun	Sterne Park	Picnic in Littleton
20 Jul	Aurora Hills*	Spaulding – T-28 CQ
17 Aug	Aurora Hills*	Terry Bernhart - Jepp
21 Sep	TBA	TBA
19 Oct	TBA	TBA
16 Nov	Aurora Hills*	Annual Business Mtg
12 Dec	Aurora Hills*	Christmas Party

* Aurora Hills Golf Course Tin Cup Bar & Grill

Expanding smorgasbord of new things to see

The Lafayette Foundation facilities at Platte Valley are growing so fast we may not recognize the place when we gather there on 18 May. This year we'll be meeting in one of the two new hangars constructed since our last visit.

And in addition to the customary flight demonstration during lunch, there will be many new attractions to experience. These include antique cars, a Stuart tank, a display by members of the 10th Mountain Division, WWI & WWII "Living History" displays (featuring people rather than manikins), new Korean and Vietnam War fighter pilot materials, and rides available in a C-45 and BT-13 for those wishing to make a \$75 or \$150 donation, respectively. Activities will begin at 11:00 AM.

Lunch will be catered by the Cherry Point Restaurant and will consist of a whole roasted pig, with a chicken option for those who don't want pork, sides and dessert. Cost will be \$20/person. Beer available for purchase; wine to be provided by the Flight. Wives/guests welcome.

We'll be joined this year by a small group of local 8th Air Force retirees (including, we assume, some current or potential Daedalians) and their wives. After lunch we'll hear from two authors about their new books, both researched at Platte Valley.



Then Andy Parks will update us on PV developments, such as the big new museum facility and pilots' retirement home, construction of which is imminent.

Picnic BBQ set for fourth Friday in June

Our June function, an evening picnic BBQ at Sterne Park in Littleton, will take place 22 June, scheduled on the fourth Friday of that month rather than the third, so as not to conflict with the Daedalian National Convention in Colorado Springs the previous week.

This will be a more traditional affair (like we used to have) beginning at 5:00 PM and featuring burgers, brats, beer, wine and customary sides. Wives or significant others welcome. Cost approximately \$10/person.

See map and driving directions to Sterne Park on p. 4.

See updated map and driving directions to PV on p. 4.

From the Flight Captain



Fellow Daedalians:

I'd like to congratulate Flight 18 members Jim Harrison and James Harvey for their receipt of the Congressional Gold Medal, long overdue recognition for their contributions as Tuskegee Airmen during and after WWII.

Flight 18 has an exciting meeting planned for Friday, May 18th. We'll be hosted by Andy Parks at his museum at Platte Valley Airport again this year. Andy has a special treat for everyone with former members of the 8th Air Force joining us for lunch and new facilities to show off. As always, wives and guests are welcome. Please see more details of this very special program on p. 1 of this newsletter.

Also please refer to the updated map and driving directions to Platte Valley on p. 4, column 2. When approaching the airport, be sure to look for signs guiding you to the new hangar where we'll be meeting.

The June meeting will take place on Friday, June 22nd (fourth Friday in June, after the National Convention is over). We're planning a picnic at Sterne Park in Littleton. This will be a purely social event beginning at 5:00 PM. Wives or girlfriends (but not both) are invited. I expect the menu will be burgers or brats with beer and wine being served. I have not calculated the exact cost, but it will be in the \$10 range. (See directions and map to Sterne Park on p. 4, col 1.)

The July meeting will be our normal noon luncheon at Aurora Hills on Friday, July 20th featuring our own Gerry Spaulding with a slide show and clever repartee about his first aircraft carrier landings in the T-28C. Anti B/S pills will be available for all.

The August meeting will also be our normal noon luncheon at Aurora Hills and will feature Terry Barnhart, author of *Capt. Jepp*, the book that many of us purchased about Elrey Jeppesen, barnstormer, aviation pioneer and Honorary Daedalian. Thanks to Ray Lee for obtaining the books for us.

For long range planning, the Flight 18 Christmas party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12th at Aurora Hills. More details to follow.

Finally, this flight relies completely on volunteer help to make things run smoothly. Sometimes we become so accustomed to one member carrying the load for many years that we just take for granted that this volunteer will continue forever. Unfortunately, even the most dedicated volunteer can become overloaded and a new volunteer is needed to replace him. Our long time newsletter editor Gerry Spaulding has reached this point. I am requesting that one of our members step forward and volunteer to take over the task. Help guys!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Volabamus Volamus

Tom

Thomas C. Martin, LTC, USAF (Ret)
Flight Captain

Flight awards pair of scholarships for 2007



At the Tri-Military Awards Ceremony at Colorado University at Boulder, Cadet Christopher T. Prem of AFROTC Det 105 and MIDN Brian L. Sims of the Naval ROTC unit received \$1,000 Daedalian Scholarships from Mile High Flight 18. Scholarship Chairman Bill Greener, who presented the awards, has requested matching funds from National.

Meet our 2007 awardees.

Cadet Christopher T. Prem is a Junior at CU Boulder majoring in International Affairs and Political Science. He has a GPA of 3.44 and scores near a perfect 100 on the physical fitness test. He was on the Dean's List for 2006, and received Academic Awards in AFROTC for 2004 through 2006. He is president of the CU Water ski team, and has been president of the CU Flying Club for the past two years. He actively participates with the CU USCSA alpine ski race and aerobic teams. He was the USA Waterski Association MN State Champion from 2003 to 2007. With 290 flying hours, Cadet Prem is an active pilot, holding private, instrument, and multi-engine ratings. He was also the AFROTC detachment's Civil Air Patrol Flight Commander for the Fall of 2006 and has successfully completed all pilot physical examinations. Having shown outstanding leadership abilities, Cadet Prem is highly motivated to become an Air Force pilot.

Midshipman Brian L. Sims is a junior Aerospace Engineering major at the CU Boulder. He has a cumulative GPA of 3.20. His current GPA is 3.65. He was on the Dean's Academic Honors list in the Fall of 2006 and the President's list of Academic Honors in the Spring of 2004. MIDN Sims has been extremely active in the battalion where he has always been involved with the drill and silent drill teams, to include participation in numerous competitions. He has earned strong evaluations for his performance during his summer cruise. He has passed 75 % of his aviation flight physical so far and has earned a formidable score on the ASTB. During his tenure in naval ROTC, he has maintained a high GPA despite holding down a part time job.

He is actively involved with St. Thomas Catholic Church as a small group leader. MIDN Sims has a strong desire and is highly motivated to become a naval aviator.



Final Flights



Phillip A. Tague III
Maj, USAF (Ret)
Jan 31, 1931 - Feb 22, 2007

Phil Tague took his final flight at 0450 on 22 Feb following a courageous battle against pancreatic cancer. While undergoing at-home hospice care, "He quietly quit breathing," reported his wife Diane.

After wings in 1954, Phil spent 13 months in French Morocco flying F-86s. He then joined Ferry Command at Kelly conducting "Operation High Flight," the ferrying of F-100s, T-33s and F-86s across the Atlantic without benefit of in-flight refueling. Tours with the 93rd FIS at Kirtland (F-86L), the 83rd FIS at Hamilton (F-101, T-33 and U-3A), and the 78th Fighter Wing at Malmstrom (F-101) followed. In 1966-67, he served as a FAC flying O-1E/Fs out of Bien Hoa.

From Vietnam Phil reported to ADC HQ in Colorado Springs, where he edited *Interceptor* magazine and flew T-33s and T-39s. He retired from the Air Force at Ent AFB in 1971, after which he continued flying as a charter pilot, flight instructor, sky diver pilot, and corporate pilot. Even though afflicted with arthritis, he enjoyed motorcycle riding with Diane. Phil is survived by Diane and three adult children from a previous marriage.

Former Flight Captain Bill Hendrix, 94, took his final flight on 30 Jan 2007 of complications resulting from a fall at home. Burial was private and Bill's family asked that we not publish a Final Flight article at this time.

Oops! Imminent promotion to colonel 58 years overdue for John Thompson

"Well, now, we all know the Navy's never wrong, but in this case, they was a little weak on bein' right."— CINCPAC (Henry Fonda) announcing the belated selection to flag rank of Rockwell Torrey (John Wayne) in the film *In Harm's Way*. Of course, that was WWII Hollywood style.

Fast forward to today. It appears Flight 18's John Thompson, age 94 and medically retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel since 1949, is about to be promoted to colonel. According to a Mar 2007 memo to the Air Force COS, the Board for Correction of Military Records has determined that the Air Force was a little weak on bein' right when it failed to promote him some 58 years ago. While the memo states that his records have now been corrected, John still awaits official notification that he has been promoted.

The Air Force began investigating this matter only recently following an inquiry by the White House. Now folks at DFAS are busy trying to compute whatever back pay John may be entitled to once everything is made official.

Meanwhile, the champagne remains on ice.

Flight 18 Life Membership Dues

(Annual Flight dues = \$12.00)

Age Group	
30/under.....	\$305
31 - 35.....	295
36 - 40.....	280
41 - 45.....	260
46 - 50.....	240
51 - 55.....	215
56 - 60.....	185
61 - 65.....	\$165
66 - 70.....	135
71 - 75.....	110
76 - 80.....	90
81 - 85.....	75
86/0ver.....	60

FORGET TO PAY YOUR 2007 FLIGHT DUES?

Please mail this coupon along with a check for your 2007 plus any delinquent Flight dues you owe. Add any amount you desire to donate to the Scholarship Fund. *Only Daedalian Life Members (LMs) are eligible to purchase Flight 18 Life Memberships and stop paying annual dues. If you qualify and choose this option, please select the appropriate dues amount from the above schedule, enter that amount in the FLM space below and include it in your check.*

Name: _____ Daedalian # _____ Home Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Amount enclosed for: [2007 Flight Dues \$12.00 or FLM DUES \$ _____] + Flight Dues for prior years @ \$12.00/yr \$ _____ + Scholarship Fund \$ _____ = Total Enclosed \$ _____

** Make check payable to: **DAEDALIAN FLIGHT 18**

** Mail to: **Treasurer, Mile High Flight 18, P.O. Box 472976, Aurora, CO 80047-2976**

So, where the hell is Sterne Park?

Refer to the map and inset below to find your way to the 22 June event, a BBQ with wives or significant others at Sterne Park in Littleton. Locate Sterne Park on the map below roughly in the middle of an area bounded by W. Bellevue on the north, W. Mineral on the south, S. Santa Fe on the west, and S. Broadway on the east. Now drop down to the Inset and note the streets immediately around the park. Your destination is the represented by the white triangle at the intersection of W. Sheppard and S. Spotswood Streets.



“Koat King” Mike Daciek reports wee price increase for Daedalian blazers and crests

With a wink and a sly grin and holding his thumb and forefinger a tiny fraction of an inch apart, “Koat King” Mike Daciek (see photo p. 6) says the price for blazers and crests has recently increased—but only this much. Reminding us that wearing the blazer is guaranteed to improve one’s sex life, Mike adds, “I’ve ordered 27 blazers thus far, so there’s 27 happy women sending me Christmas cards.”

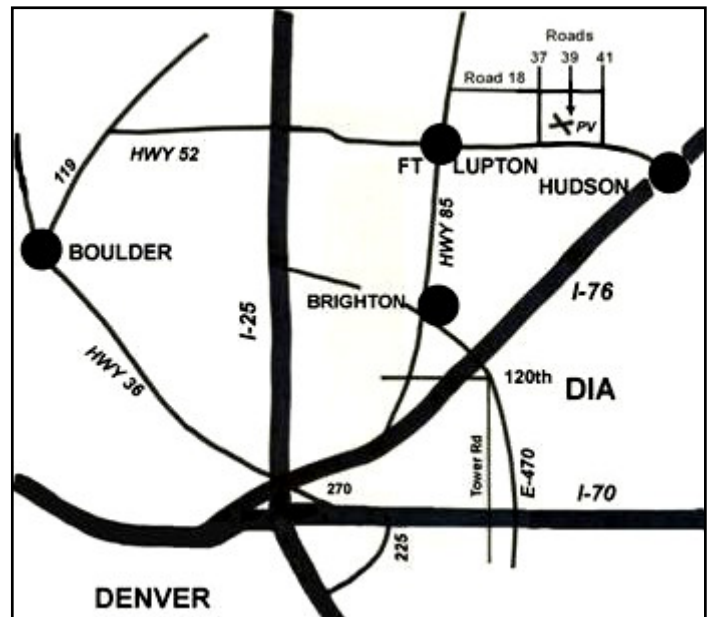
The new blazer price is \$99 for sizes 36-50 and \$107 for sizes 52-60. Crests cost \$23. Prices include shipping.

To order yours stock up on Christmas cards, then contact Mike at 303-470-0341; e-mail mikedaciek@comcast.net.

Bower attends Raiders’ reunion

Flight 18 member Bill Bower was among seven of the 14 surviving Doolittle Raiders who gathered in April in San Antonio for the group’s 65th anniversary reunion. Bower is one of only two surviving pilots from the legendary B-25 raid, which launched from USS *Hornet* on 18 April 1942 to bomb five cities in Japan before attempting recovery in China. The other surviving pilot is MGen retired Davy Jones. The group lost two members since its 2006 reunion.

Map, driving directions to Platte Valley



Follow above map to Ft Lupton or Hudson. Then...

From Ft Lupton: Hwy 52 east to Road 37, north to Road 18, east to Road 39, south to airport. Follow signs to new hangar.

From Hudson: Hwy 52 west to Road 41, north to Road 18, west to Road 39, south to airport. Follow signs to new hangar.

*** Sea Biscuits and Scufflebutt ***

'Exit strategy' — a mere phrase, not a strategy

By Timothy Kane 6/19/2005

Arguments for and against the U.S. troop presence in Iraq assume that having an "exit strategy" is a fundamental military principle. It isn't. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was right in April to say, "We don't have an exit strategy, we have a victory strategy."

Yet with public support here waning and suicide attacks in Iraq persisting, the calls for an exit strategy are being heard not just in the news media, but also in the halls of Congress.

As for rhetoric, "exit strategy" didn't appear in any major U.S. publication before 1980. That was seven years after American forces left Vietnam, an exit that could hardly be called strategic, let alone triumphant. It was a business term, coined by the CEO of Docutel Corp. (which invented the ATM) in a story in *The New York Times* on June 4, 1980. A LexisNexis search identifies the phrase in only 17 newspaper articles during the 1980s, all business stories.

Not until 1993 was "exit strategy" used in a military context. During testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee on April 27, 1993, Secretary of State Warren Christopher listed the Clinton administration's four conditions for military engagements, concluding, "an 'exit strategy' for getting out quickly must exist." This new approach was part of Christopher's justification for intervening in Bosnia. A writer for *The Boston Globe* warned that the exit strategy would take a century. And in one sense, such critics were right — 951 troops remain deployed in Bosnia today. The troops have not exited, but the genocide did.

The obvious lesson is that exit strategies are superfluous to strategy, yet pundits conceive of them as inviolate. Syndicated columnist Molly Ivins wrote twice on the topic in the months before 9/11 — claiming the 37,000 GIs in South Korea were a useless leftover from the 1950s conflict, remaining only because "we didn't have an exit strategy at the time, and no one has thought one up since." In another column, Ivins asserted that one of the two big lessons from Vietnam is "have an exit strategy."

That's pure revisionism.

The notion of planning (that is, controlling) a war is a fantasy, and timing an orderly disengagement from an active enemy is worse than fantasy. These aren't football games with clearly defined teammates, referees and an official clock.

A review of U.S. military engagements is useful here. American soldiers were deployed to Germany and Japan as occupiers after World War II. But the threat of tyranny did not fade after 1945, and the Cold War demanded America's engagement. Six decades on, troops remain widely deployed.

Pentagon data reveal that 29 countries today host more

than 100 American soldiers. In all, 387,463 troops were stationed abroad last year, which is actually lower than any year from 1950 to 1992. On average, 22% of U.S. troops serve overseas, which makes 2005 relatively normal. The successful strategy of the past 50 years has been engagement and alliance, not exit and pacifism.

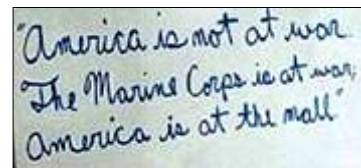
Despite the evidence of history, politicians such as Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., see the U.S. military presence in Iraq as "part of the problem." *The New Republic* has said "the United States should pack up and come home," once Iraqi forces have been trained. But that's exactly the question: When will Iraq be ready to defend itself?

Patience erodes when bloodshed seems constant. But my research confirms that the enduring presence of U.S. troops enhances economic growth among host countries. Indeed, countries with high U.S. troop presence during 1950-2000 saw their economies grow nearly twice as fast as the world average. Such growth is essential now to cutting the roots of terrorism.

But don't confuse this as an argument for maintaining military forces on foreign soil ad infinitum. The argument is that the United States should do whatever is necessary to preserve peace and to promote liberty. Those are the ends. Exits and entries are the means.

--- *Timothy Kane is a research fellow in the Center for Data Analysis at The Heritage Foundation.*

Note on a bulkhead in a Marine barracks somewhere:



Mile High Flight 18 - 2007

- Flight Captain**.....Tom Martin, LTC, USAF (Ret)
 - Vice Flt Capt**.....Don Neary, COL, ANG (Ret)
 - Adjutant**.....Ron Smith, COL, USAF (Ret)
 - Treasurer**.....Ed Cutler, LT, USNR (Ret)
 - Provost Marshall**.....Dale Boggie, COL, USAF (Ret)
 - Scholarships*.....Bill Greener, LTC, USAF (Ret)
 - Asst Treasurer*.....Hugh Greenwood, CPT, USAFR (Sep)
 - Newsletter*.....Gerry Spaulding, CAPT, USN (Ret)
- (Positions in bold elected, those in italics appointed)

♣ **Flight 18 normally meets the third Friday of each month at the Aurora Hills Tin Cup Bar & Grill, located just north of Alameda and just east of Peoria. Social hour at 11:00, lunch at 12:00. Exceptions via newsletter.**

♣ **The newsletter is published quarterly. Contact the ed. at (719) 638-5786 or via e-mail at gerkar@comcast.net.**

Web site:

<http://www.ghspaulding.com/orderofdaedalianshome.htm>



“On 24 Feb, a cool, gorgeous day in Phoenix, I went to Stellar Air Park where Billy Walker keeps his 1943 Stearman. I took the front seat, Billy the back, and we took off. We joined in flight with three other Stearmans and flew in formation to Casa Grande for an air show. After landing we refueled and repeated the same over Glendale Airport, landed, had lunch, and took off again for return to Stellar. We logged three hours and it was a flight I’ll never forget.” – Mike Daciek (in his Foster Grants).



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