



# MILE HIGH FLIGHT 18

## Order of Daedalians

### *Newsletter*

May 2010

# Platte Valley happy day is here again

## 2010 Flight Sked

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 Mitch Neff.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker/activity</u>
15 Jan	Aurora Hills*	Officer installation
19 Feb	Aurora Hills*	Thompson/Reeves
1-3 Mar	<i>San Antonio</i>	<i>F/C's meeting</i>
19 Mar	Aurora Hills*	BG Carl Miller
16 Apr	Aurora Hills*	Newt Moy
21 May	Platte Valley	Lafayette Found
18 Jun	Aurora Hills*	MG Whitney-CO H/Sec
16 Jul	Aurora Hills*	LTG Edwards, TAG
20 Aug	Wings O'r Rockies	Greg Anderson
17 Sept	Aurora Hills*	MG John France
15 Oct	Aurora Hills*	Dave Kulaas – P-51
19 Nov	Aurora Hills*	Business Meeting
16 Dec	Aurora Hills*	Christmas Party

\* Aurora Hills Golf Course Tin Cup Bar & Grill

## *Fokkers' x-country to Dayton subject of "Wings of Time" documentary*

Imagine flying 2400 miles round trip in a replica WWI aircraft with an average speed of 110 mph and a total fuel capacity of only 16 gallons—about 100 miles worth of gas. Now imagine making that trip as a flight of three vintage aircraft, all full-size replica Fokkers belonging to the Lafayette Foundation. They were designed for aerial combat, not for cross country flying.

The reason for the trip was to participate in the 2009 Dawn Patrol Rendezvous, an event held every two years at the National Museum of the USAF in Dayton, OH. The Rendezvous included an air show, re-enactors, model RC aircraft, a parade of era automobiles, and a collectors' show for WWI items. In 2009 it was held 25-27 Sept.

Of the approximately 30 replica airplanes that flew to Dayton for the event, only four were full size. Three of those were the Fokker Dr.I, D.VII and D.VIII from Platte Valley. Two-thirds of the participants were replicas of Allied planes, while the rest, including the three Lafayette Foundation Fokkers, replicated German aircraft.

The adventure was not without mishap, and the whole thing was captured in a feature-length documentary called "Wings of Time," now in the final stages of production. It is expected that either Kurt Russell or Morgan Freeman will narrate the finished product. Lafayette Foundation CEO and Mile High Flight Associate Andy Parks will discuss all this and more during Flight 18's annual picnic with wives at Platte Valley, this year on **21 May**.

Lunch, catered by Bennett's BBQ, will begin at noon and will cost \$20 per person. The Vintage Aero Flying Museum, with plenty new to see, opens at 10:00 AM, with flight demos set to begin at 11:00, weather permitting.

Wives and other guests—the more the merrier—are welcome, as are donations to the Foundation.

See **DAWN PATROL/DIRECTIONS TO P/V** on page 6

## Bower misses Raider reunion

The Doolittle Raiders' senior member, Bill Bower was feeling poorly (grounded) and unable to attend the Doolittle Raider's 68th Reunion, which took place 16-18 April at the National Museum of the USAF in Dayton, OH.

As it happened, Flight 18's April luncheon was on day one of the reunion. As soon as the Flight was called to order, we called Bill via cell phone to cheer him up with three rousing "Hip-Hip-Hoorays!" It seemed to work.

See **AFTER THE DOOLITTLE RAID** page 4

## Fellow Daedalians,



Once again our goals for 2010:

1. Bring a buddy. Solicit qualified new members to join the flight.
2. Have good guest speakers and warrior stories from our own members.
3. Hold a Distinguished Pilot Award ceremony in coordination with the Colorado Air National Guard.
4. Solicit ideas from members that would improve flight operations.
5. Seek support from other Daedalian flights across the nation who share our views on what the Tenets and Objectives of the order should be.
6. Award scholarships to deserving students who are involved in Aerospace studies with participating emphasis on those who aspire to become military pilots.

Overall, we are meeting our goals with one exception, number 5 above. New leadership at national, as witnessed at the 1-2 March 2010 Flight Captains meeting in San Antonio by myself, showed little interest in changing Tenets and Objectives.

While new national leadership may take up where we left off, my gut feeling is it's a dead issue.

Relating to goal number 3, the distinguished pilot award should be decided when the 140 Operations Building opens sometime after June.

Some 40 Flight Captains were at the very first (and only Flight Captains meeting) and most of the discussion revolved around streamlining our processes by instituting a paperless process in all phases of communications.

I spent \$1,000 to travel to and from San Antonio and to be honest, the best part was the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the flight at Ft. Sam celebrating Gen Foulois' first flight on the very same field

100 years ago – a great experience to see two Wright-Flier aircraft (one yellow and one brown) taxi and then fly over!!!

Stinson's Flight Number 2 did a great job hosting all events!

### From our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010 Report:

Membership activity

Total members last quarter - 133

(Named – 132; Hereditary – 1)

Recruited this quarter – 2

Transferred in this quarter – 2

Deceased this quarter - 1

Net change +3

Total members 31 Mar 2010 – 136

Members Gained: Lt Col Fred Buhl, Capt Josh Burger, 1Lt James Edwards, Maj Ed Quick.

Final Flight: Lt Col (Ret) Robert H. Burris

#### Meeting 15 Jan 10:

Attendance 35; Guest Speaker: None. War stories by a few select members of Flight 18.

Installation of new officers and announcement of speakers for the upcoming year. Introduction of two transferred members, Capt Josh Burger, 1Lt James Edwards.

#### Meeting 19 Feb 10:

Attendance 35; Guest Speakers: Col (Ret) John Thompson and Col (Ret) James Reeves.

Welcomed two new members, Lt Col Fred Buhl and Maj Ed Quick.

#### Meeting 19 Mar 10:

Attendance 34; Guest Speaker: BG (Ret) Carl Miller. Story of BG Miller's flight over North Vietnam and his bombing raid on a power plant.

Six guests from the Army National Guard, Buckley AFB.

**See you at Platte Valley 21 May 2010!!!**

*Volabamus Volamus*

#### *Don*

Donald O. Neary, COL, ANG (Ret)  
Flight Captain

## Final Flight



**Robert H. Burris**  
**LtCol, USAF (Ret)**  
**Aug 5, 1925 --**  
**Mar 9, 2010**

Robert graduated with a B.A. from UC, Berkeley, in 1957. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1943-46, 1949-67. In WWII, he was a B-29 navigator on 34 combat missions in the Pacific. He completed pilot training with Class 51-C, and during the Korean War, flew 100 combat missions as an F-80 pilot. He was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses and seven air medals.

He led the last flight of fighter jets from Lowry AFB in 1965. After retiring from the Air Force in 1967, he served as Chief pilot with NCAR, Boulder for 18 years until 1986.

Robert was married to Miriam Buzzell Davis in 1953.

He is survived by Miriam, children, Anne, Robert Jr. and John "Randy", and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son Joel S. and brothers, John C. and James C.

Robert volunteered at the Wings over Rockies Museum, was an avid golfer and sportsman, a member of the F-86 Sabre Pilots' Assn, and a Life Member of The Order of Daedalians.

His memorial service was March 19 in Aurora. The family invited contributions in his name to the Wings Over the Rockies Museum or the Colorado Boys Ranch, La Junta.

**Pamela Murphy**, 90, widow of WWII hero and actor Audie Murphy, died peacefully at her home on April 8. Survived by two sons, Pam established her own distinctive 30-year career working as a patient liaison at the Sepulveda VA Hospital, where she was much beloved. Audie Murphy was killed in a plane crash in 1971.



## Welcome Aboard

**James "Fred" Buhl**  
LtCol, USAF/ANG (Ret)



**Fred's thumbnail bio**

**DOB:** 4 Nov 1947

**Wings:** Class 72-02 Moody AFB, GA

**Assignments:** Davis-Monthan AFB; Korat RTAFB Thailand; Myrtle Beach AFB, SC; HQ USAF, Pentagon; Buckley ANGB, CO.

**Military aircraft flown:** A-7D, F-16C (3,387 military hrs)

**Civilian aircraft flown:** B-727, B-737, B-757, B-767 (20,508 civilian hrs)

**Retired from COANG Buckley:** 1997 after 26+ yrs of svc

**Civilian employment:** Retired from Continental Airlines after 30 years. Now a real estate investor.

**Spouse:** Dorothy ("Kelli")

**Offspring:** Two, Robyn and Mark

**Residence:** Elizabeth, CO

## Other new members (Awaiting completed bios)



**Josh Burger**



**James Edwards**



**Ed Quick**

## New "Don't Ask Don't Tell" Uniform

*It also comes in  
a "Cammie"  
version with  
high-heel boots  
and  
mosquito-net  
stockings*



## Flight 18 Life Membership Dues

(Annual Flight dues = \$12.00)

Age Group

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

## 2010 FLIGHT DUES

Please mail this coupon along with a check for your 2010 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: [2010 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: **Mile High Flight 18, P.O. Box 472976, Aurora, CO 80047-2976**

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## 1stLt Bill Bower's Mission Report to BG Doolittle

Chunking, Szechwan, China,  
May 2, 1942.

SUBJECT: Mission report of Doolittle project on April  
18, 1942.

TO: Brigadier General James H. Doolittle.

AIRPLANE TYPE : B-25-B 402228

CREW (# 12) Pilot -- 1st Lt. William Bower; Co-Pilot -- 2nd  
Lt. Thadd Blanton; Navigator -- 1st Lt. William Round;  
Bombardier -- T/Sgt Walso J. Bither; Engineer-Gunner  
S/Sgt Omer A. Duquette.

### ORDERS:

To proceed from Minneapolis to Columbia, S.C. where  
was completed, then to Eglin Field, Florida, at which time the purpose of the mission was to be revealed. Necessary training of  
crew accomplished and alterations of the ship made. Preparation to be made at McClellan Field, Sacramento, California,  
prior to boarding the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Hornet at Alameda, Calif.

Target location was revealed at sea and all maps, charts, folders and navigation data were covered by the crew enroute.

Take-off was ordered at 7:30 AM April 18, 1942 with sufficient warning to enable crew to gather necessary position,  
weather, etc., data.

Individual orders were to report to Chuchow for, then proceed to Chungking or if  
forced to land elsewhere or otherwise hold at Chuchow for further orders.

### TIME OF T.O.

0910 April 18, 1942.

### WEATHER :

Broken clouds from ship to landfall.

Clear from that point to target with high overcast 100 miles south to 300 S.W.

Clear to southern tip of Japan.

Broken to overcast 1000 ft. turning to W.

Instrument conditions encountered 1:30 hrs. before fall of China coast.

Over China overcast from surface to 11,500 occasional breaks heavy rain.

### ALTITUDE DESIRED :

Approach: below 1500 ft.

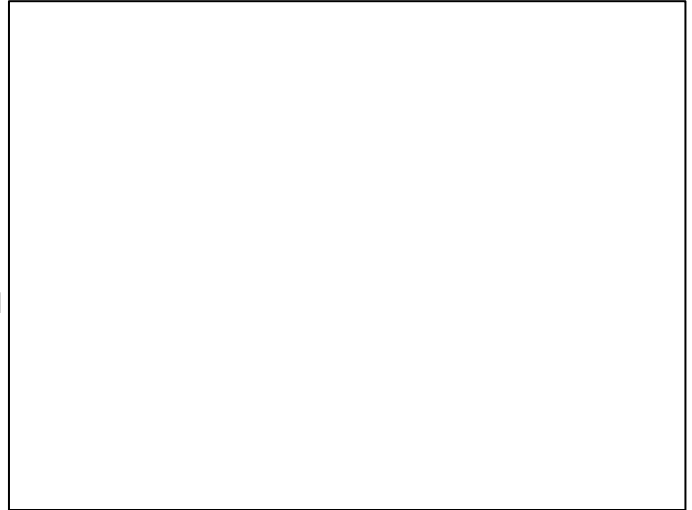
Bombing: 1500 ft.

### ACTUAL ALTITUDE :

Surface and ground level approach, bombing at 11,000 surface to point :30 before E.T.A. of China, gradual climb to  
11500 ft.

### BOMBS:

3 - 500# demolition 1 - incendiary cluster (500#).



More recent photo of Bill Bower