



MILE HIGH FLIGHT 18

Order of Daedalians

Newsletter

Nov 2003

Christmas party 11 December

Stand-up affair at Richthofen Castle



Richthofen Castle

7020 E. 12th Avenue, Denver
(NW of Lowry between Monaco and Quebec)

Baron Walter von Richthofen came to Denver in 1877—long before the birth of his famous nephew—and founded the town of Montclair. He erected this castle in 1887 as the show home of his suburban real estate scheme.

The original structure, patterned after Walter's home in German/Austrian Silesia and built of volcanic rhyolite quarried near Castle Rock, was remodeled in 1910 by Edwin Hendrie who had purchased it as his home. The south wing was designed in 1924.

The 35-room castle features an oak-paneled entry hall, hand-tooled leather walls, and a parquet-floored music room that seats 150. The east gatehouse has been converted to a separate residence.

For perspective, Denver's Richthofen Castle was more than 30 years old when Walter's nephew Manfred von Richthofen, the *Red Baron*, was killed in the skies over France in 1918 at the age of 25.

A Daedalian Christmas party at Baron von Richthofen's Castle. Has a nice ring, doesn't it?

It promises to be a memorable event, one that will differ markedly from Mile High Flight's customary holiday get-together. There will be no sit-down dinner and no gift exchange. Instead, we'll enjoy a repast of heavy *hors d'oeuvres*, a Christmas choir program, an open bar and tours of the castle. There will also be valet parking at the front entrance.

Here are the details (also see F/C's letter, p.3):

Date: Thursday, 11 December 2003.

Time: 1800 to approximately 2200.

Attire: Coat and tie, including the green Daedalian blazer. (*Mess dress optional.*) Compatible attire for ladies.

Cost: Approximately \$15.00 per person.

Guests: Only flight members may bring guests.

RSVP: Reservations via your caller. Reservation = commitment to pay.

Driving directions: On the south side of 12th Ave. three blocks west of Quebec.



Final Flights

Andrew M. Riddle

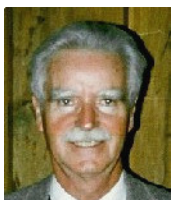
Died
Aug 12, 2003



Born in Pueblo, CO on 17 July 1922, Andy graduated from South High School in Denver and had completed one year at CU when he was bitten by the flying bug. Too young for the Army Air Corps, he went to Canada where he earned his wings and a commission from the RCAF. He was later assimilated into and spent the bulk of WWII flying for the USAAF.

Returning to civilian life after the war, he was recalled for Korea and retired from the Air Force 27 years later. He spent most of his time in SAC, completing 102 B-52 combat missions in Vietnam. He also served tours in the Pentagon, with the FAA and as Air Attaché to the Netherlands. He retired in 1977 with the rank of colonel.

After retirement, he earned a real estate license, worked on astronaut Jack Schweikert's senate campaign and served as president of the local TROA chapter. A Flight 18 member for more than 25 years and a Daedalian Life Member, Andy is survived by his wife Jean, three children and four step-children.



Thomas B. Green

Died
Sep 17, 2003

Tom was a naval aviator who served in WWII and Korea and later retired from Mountain Bell.

He became a Daedalian in 1985, a Life Member the following year.

Born in Boulder, CO on 22 Dec 1922, he earned an MBA from DU after the war.

Tom is survived by his wife Shirley, a sister, two children and three grandchildren. He was interred at Fort Logan.

Edward M. Potter

Died
Jun 16, 2003



Mac Potter, a Pennsylvanian by birth, was a sophomore at American University when he dropped out to enlist in the cadet flying program. He was commissioned in La Junta in June 1942 at the age of twenty. He served in the 445 Group in the UK as first pilot in the B-24 and later, based on Okinawa, flew 58 B-29 missions over Korea. He went on to fly KC-97s and KC-135s and would also complete tours in the Pentagon and at USAF HQ in Wiesbaden. He moved to Denver after his retirement in 1969 with 29 years of service.

He is survived by his wife Carol, two sons and two grandchildren. Burial was at Fort Logan.

Mac spent his last weeks under hospice care at the new **Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home** at Fitzsimons. Carol is enthusiastic in her endorsement of this facility and the wonderful attitude of its staff.

Note: None of our recently departed flight members had biographies on file with the Adjutant. We are indebted to their families for providing the above information.

Welcome Aboard New Members

Dennis M. Kaan, Col, USAF

In July Dennis took over the PAS job at CSU, where he heads up the AFROTC program. Flight 18 has awarded scholarships to five ROTC students at CSU in the last four years.

Dennis is a command pilot with over 3,200 flying hours in T-37s, T-38s, T-41Cs, KC-135As & Rs and the KC-10.

He flew operational missions supporting the Cold War, *Just Cause* in Panama and *Southern Watch* in Saudi Arabia. He also commanded a T-41C training flight at the AFA, the 350th ARS at McConnell, the 437th Support Group at Charleston and the 72nd ABW at Tinker. A Daedalian since 1995, Dennis and his wife Betty live in Fort Collins. They have two sons, one of whom is an AFROTC cadet at CSU.

Joseph B. Niemeyer, Col, USAF (Ret).

Joe retired on 1 Nov following a tour as ODC Chief at the American Embassy in London, the culmination of a 26-year Air Force career. He recently signed on with Lockheed in Aurora.

A 1977 Air Force Academy grad, he accrued over 4,200 hours in C-141s, which included dropping 82d Airborne troops into Panama in Operation *Just Cause*—the Division's first combat jump since WWII. Joe also participated in both *Desert Shield* and *Desert Storm*. Subsequently he was part of the C-17 initial cadre and commanded AMC's C-17 operational test squadron, helping bring the program to acquisition decision. He wound up with 700 hours in the C-17.

After a year at ICAF, he served as a staff officer with OSD, then as Deputy Commander, 62nd Operations Group at McChord before reporting to London.

Joe is a seasoned Daedalian with some 23 years under his belt. He and his wife Louise reside in Highlands Ranch and have one son.

Continued page 5, column 1

From the Flight Captain

Fellow Daedalians:

What a great year we've had so far and next year should be just as good if not better. My thanks go out to all of the Mile High Flight Officers who have worked hard to make it happen and for the participation of the membership that makes it all worth while.

First, old business: Thanks to the membership for those great War Stories last September; they were exceptionally interesting, very entertaining, and of course completely true!

Outstanding job by John Shinn in October telling us about his experiences in RF-86 reconnaissance overflights of China and the Soviet Union way before the U-2 and SR-71.

If you missed LCDR Black's presentation on modern technology transfer from the military and commercial aviation to general aviation as defined by the Cirrus SR 22, too bad...it was very interesting.

Next on the agenda for new business is the **Christmas Party** at the Richthofen Castle. (*Details, page 1.*) You don't want to miss this gala event. I personally guarantee an incredible experience for all. The event starts at 1800 and continues until about 2200. Costs should not exceed \$15.00 per person. *Caution, the castle is on the south side of 12th Ave, not on Richthofen Parkway which is one street south.*

When you pull into the castle driveway, we should have valet parking available. There will be a short receiving line to introduce you to our hosts, Jerry and Ester Priddy. Formal pictures will be available for couples and groups on the grand staircase and in other areas of the castle. Come hungry because there will be heavy *hors d'oeuvres* available throughout the castle and a free bar consisting of beer, wine, and associated mixed drinks and sodas. There will also be a formal **Christmas Pageant** presented by the Greenfield High School Chorale Group, *Bella Voca.* (continued)

The castle is a museum within itself and we'll have tours for those who want them; otherwise, feel free to mingle and wander around. Downstairs in the Red Baron's Fighter Bar, toasts using several of the Red Barons personal victory shot cups will take place with an appropriate donation made to the Lafayette Foundation for those wanting to participate.

There will be no exchange of presents as in the past. **However, gentlemen are highly encouraged to bring a little something nice wrapped up for your lady to present to her during the evening at your bidding (recommended costs not to exceed \$20.00).** The idea is to show appreciation to our wives/wingladies who have put up with us for so long.

Other news includes the re-election during the November meeting of the current Mile High Flight Officers for another term. They do an outstanding job in all their departments and I could not do my job without their excellent support. My personal thanks to them for all their effort and support.

Next year we expect to have many guest speakers to include:

- Representatives from the Laotian Air Forces to tell us of their contributions in Vietnam.
- Daedalian member, Lucile Wise to tell us about the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP).
- Representative commanders from Fort Carson to tell us about what is going on in Iraq from their perspective.
- Lockheed presentation on the F-22 Raptor, and
- Two sessions of War Stories

May you all have a very Merry Christmas and the most outstanding of holidays. Daedalians, I look forward to our continued fellowship next month and throughout 2004.

Volabamus Volamus

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GREGORY D. BLACK, USAF (Ret)
Flight Captain
Mile High Flight

2004 FLIGHT DUES

For your convenience, please cut out and mail this coupon along with a check in the amount of \$12.00 for your 2004 flight dues. Add any amount you desire to donate to the Scholarship Fund. (Scholarship donations are tax deductible.) *And, remember, your annual Order of Daedalian membership dues are billed by and paid separately to National in San Antonio.*

Name: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ e-mail: _____

Amount enclosed for: 2004 Flight Dues \$12.00 Scholarship Fund _____ Total _____

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

** Mail to: **Treasurer, Mile High Flight 18, P.O. Box 470141, Aurora, CO 80047-0141**