



Willie Flight 82 Daedalians

FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Fellow Daedalians,

Our February gathering will be on Thursday, the 12th of the month at the DoubleTree Phoenix/Mesa Hotel. The address is 1011 W. Holmes Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210. The social hour will begin at 1700, and the meeting will commence at 1800. The dinner will be a buffet featuring a house salad with ranch or balsamic dressing, rolls and butter, roasted pork loin with gravy, Yukon roasted potatoes, vegetable medley and mini red velvet cakes for dessert.

Our speaker will be Jerry G. Bryant, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.) Jerry is currently the Flight Captain of the Old Pueblo Daedalian Flight in Tucson. His presentation will be on the World War II Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs). Please see his attached biography. Jerry's wife will also be attending, and I encourage members to bring their significant others to hear about the WASPs magnificent contribution to the war effort.

As always, we need to have a head count of members and guests who plan to attend the meeting. Please contact me not later than Sunday, February 8th with a yes or no answer.

Rick Drown Cell #: 480-518-7665 Email: rickdrown@msn.com

Stay safe and be well,

Rick

Photos from January Meeting.





February 2026 Speaker

Jerry G. Bryant, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

Jerry's 23-year military career included three overseas assignments and tours of duty as a C-130 pilot and C-12 instructor pilot. He served as Assistant Air Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey and later commanded the 435th Operations Support Squadron at Rhein Main Air Base, Germany. While in Germany he flew numerous relief missions in Bosnia and led extended deployments to Angola and Croatia. Bryant completed his military career as a faculty member at the Defense Intelligence Agency's Joint Military Attaché School. He's a graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School and the Defense Language Institute.

After retiring from the Air Force, he served for 11 years as Vice President of RTCA, Inc., an aviation standards organization in Washington D.C. The organization develops technical standards for FAA regulatory guidance and policy recommendations for modernizing the National Airspace System. In 2008 he became Chief of Staff for a satellite acquisition program to serve DOD, NASA, and NOAA requirements. He is now retired and currently serves as the Flight Captain of the Old Pueblo Daedalian Flight in Tucson.