

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

Captain's Corner

Flight 82 members. This will be a short first corner. We talked about membership at our January meeting and discussed it even more at our staff meeting. One of the things we focused on was dues. So, we decided that if you haven't paid your local dues by the 31st of March, 2026 you will be dropped from our local membership roster. We want to see you at our meetings, so please pay your dues. See you in February.

Dave





HOW TO PAY YOUR 2026 DUES:

The Willie Flight local dues for 2026 is \$50.00. If you haven't paid and will be attending the February 12th meeting or the March 12th meeting and wish to pay your dues in person at either of those times, you may pay with cash or a check. If you wish to pay by mail, please send a check made out to Willie Flight 82. The mailing address is Willie Flight 82, P.O. Box 11261, Chandler, AZ 85248.

To help us make sure our roster is up to date, please include your rank and name, your spouse or significant other's name, your address, e-mail, and telephone number (cell and/or home). You can include a note with the information, or you can go to the "Willie Flight 82" website and download a dues form. It will say 2025 dues. Disregard. We are asking for 2026 dues. If you wish to add an additional contribution to the scholarship fund, your donation would be greatly appreciated.

Once again, please make sure you pay your dues not later than March 31st 2026 to remain on the roster.

Thank you,
Willie Flight 82 Staff

Check out the February Newsletter below for additional information.

Volabamus Volamus
Ron Perkins, Col USAF (Ret)
Immediate Past President

Photos from January Meeting.







Willie Flight 82 Daedalians

Jerry G. Bryant
LtCol, USAF (Ret.)

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.