



# “WILLIE” FLIGHT 82

## Order of Daedalians

P.O. Box 11261, Chandler, AZ 85248

<http://www.willieflight.org>

Volume 37, Issue 7, October 2019



### FLIGHT CAPTAIN'S CORNER:



The Willie Flight 82 dinner meeting for 12 September 2019 provided a great opportunity for our members with a presentation from Col Pat Donaldson, Wing Commander, 161<sup>st</sup> Aerial Refueling Wing, Arizona Air National Guard on the subject of wing operations

around the world. Col Donaldson also provided a very special treat by bringing his mother to the meeting. She was an absolute delight; and, it happens that she began her pilot training in the Phoenix Valley in 1952, holding the rating of Private Pilot.

We have all seen the KC-135R tankers located at the south side of the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport. Their location has recently been renamed “Barry Goldwater Air National Guard Base.” Col Donaldson was raised in Phoenix before attending college at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn., on a ROTC scholarship. After nine years on active duty, Col Donaldson returned home to Phoenix and joined the 161st Air Refueling Wing in 2003. The 161<sup>st</sup> ARW supports the Air Force mission of global reach through rapid mobilization, airlift, aeromedical evacuation and aerial refueling operations for United States and partner nation air forces. Col Donaldson’s presentation was very well received, and we hope to have him join the flight soon.

Our current member population in Willie Flight 82 stands at 95. We continue to urge our flight members to bring guests to our dinner meetings, and especially those eligible to join the Order of Daedalians. I commend again those who are keeping our flight in mind as they watch for potential members.

Our speaker for 10 October 2019 is Willie Flight’s very own Lt Col Larry Brown, USAF Retired. Lt Col Brown graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 1974 with a BS degree in Physics and Earth Sciences and received his Air Force commission through the 4 year ROTC program. He was also a graduate student at Arizona State University, School of Engineering. He graduated from pilot training at Williams AFB and flew the F-4E with the 512<sup>th</sup> Fighter squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. In 1985, Larry was selected to the SR-71 program, 1<sup>st</sup> Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale AFB, California where he flew over 100 classified operational missions from various overseas locations. Lt Col Brown will concentrate his presentation on the SR-71 program. We can well imagine he is one of the members of the distinguished Mach 3+ club!

This should prove to be a fascinating meeting, and as I have suggested before, tell your guests their time will be well spent. I look forward to seeing you. V.V. -- [Frank](#)

### NEXT MEETING:

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 10 October at *The Dobson's Restaurant*, at the Dobson Ranch Golf Course, 2155 South Dobson Rd, Mesa -- [click for a map](#).

Speaker: Lt Col Larry Brown, USAF Retired (bio on page 2).

Topic: Flying the SR-71 “Blackbird” ([click for more](#)).

(Note: At this meeting, we’ll do Officer Nominations for 2020.)

Time: 1800 Social Hour, 1900 Meeting/Dinner.

Dress: Dressy Casual (slacks & shirt with collar).

Menu: Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Fettuccini, or Fish & Chips.

(All served with vegetables, salad, rolls, dessert, and coffee.)

Price: \$30.00 per person. (Includes toasting wine).

Note: Please pay with a check (raffle tickets are 6 for \$5).

**Reservations:** To make a reservation, please contact your Element Leader (page 2), by Saturday, 5 October. For questions, please call Tom Waldron (602-743-3661).

**Cancellations:** If you’ve made reservations and you can’t attend, please contact Tom Waldron (602-743-3661) as soon as possible, so he can notify the restaurant.

**Need a ride?** Call Tom Waldron (602-743-3661) for help.

### MEETING CALENDAR:

<b>10 Oct:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	14 Oct:	Staff Meeting
<b>14 Nov:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	18 Nov:	Staff Meeting
<b>12 Dec:</b>	<b>Christmas Meeting with Spouses/Guests</b>	16 Dec:	Staff Meeting
<b>9 Jan:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	13 Jan:	Staff Meeting
<b>13 Feb:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	17 Feb:	Staff Meeting
<b>12 Mar:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	16 Mar:	Staff Meeting
<b>9 Apr:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	13 Apr:	Staff Meeting
<b>14 May:</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	18 May:	Staff Meeting

### OFFICERS & STAFF:

#### Elected Officers:

Flight Captain:	<a href="#">Frank Stookey</a> , USA	480-985-4561
Vice Flt Capt & A-V:	Art Stark, USAF	480-288-9301
Treasurer:	Bill Follette, USAF	602-619-5445
Scholarships Chairman:	Gary Zettl, USAF	480-415-6854
Provost Marshal:	Ron Diedrichs, USAF	602-908-3496

#### Appointed Staff:

Flight Adjutant:	Arlan Allen, USA	602-283-5862
Elements Coordinator & Chaplain:	Tom Waldron, USAF	602-743-3661
Asst A-V Support:	Kurt Gearhart, USAF	480-329-1936
Biographies:	Gary Klein, USMC	480-650-5522
Asst Scholarship/Awards:	Gerry Homewood, USAF	480-496-9879
Membership & Publicity:	Pat Dooley, USAF Ret	480-802-9914

### The Lockheed SR-71:

SR-71, unofficially known as the "Blackbird," was a long-range, advanced, strategic reconnaissance aircraft. The first flight took place on Dec. 22, 1964. The U.S. Air Force retired its fleet of SR-71s Jan. 26, 1990, but returned them in 1995 until January 1997. Throughout its nearly 24-year career, the SR-71 remained the world's fastest and highest-flying operational aircraft. [Click here for more information on the SR-71.](#)

**Speaker Lt Col Larry Brown, USAF Retired:**



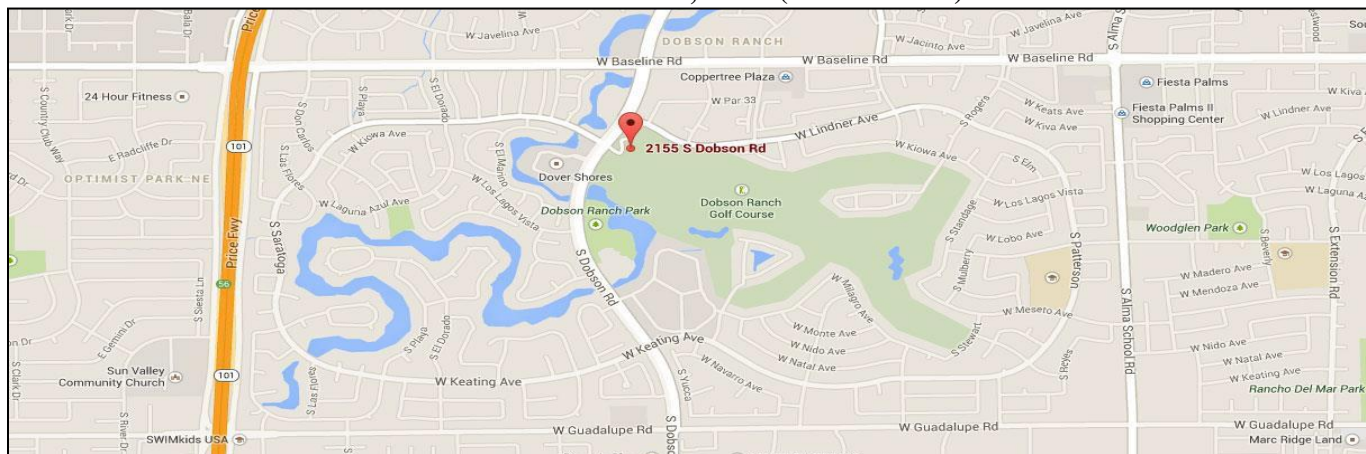
Larry graduated from the University of N Colorado in 1974 with a BS degree in Physics and Earth Sciences and received his Air Force commission through the 4 year ROTC program. In 1975, Larry graduated from pilot training at Williams AFB and flew the F-4E with the 512<sup>th</sup> Fighter squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. From 1980 to 1983, Larry was assigned to the 425<sup>th</sup> Fighter Training Squadron as an instructor pilot in the F-5, Williams AFB, and graduated from the Navy adversary course at Top Gun School, Miramar Naval Air Station in 1982.

In 1985, Larry was selected to the SR-71 program, 1<sup>st</sup> Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale AFB, California where he flew over 100 classified operational missions from various overseas locations. He also served as T-38 and SR-71 instructor pilot and Assistant Operations Officer at the 1<sup>st</sup> SRS.

In 1990, Larry separated from active duty to pursue a commercial career at American Airlines, while serving in the Reserves. While at American Larry accumulated over 13,000 hours in the Boeing 767, 757, 737, and DC-10.

Larry has over 18,000 hours of flight time in military and commercial aviation. In retirement, Larry has become an avid mountain climber, climbing some of the world's tallest mountains and leading climb expeditions.

**Dobson's Restaurant at the Dobson Ranch Golf Course  
2155 South Dobson Rd, Mesa (480-644-2600).**



**Flight 82 Dinner Reservation Procedures:**

When you get this newsletter, please contact your Element Leader (shown below) to make a reservation by the Saturday prior to the meeting. If that doesn't work, please contact Tom Waldron (602-743-3661).

**Members:**

- 1) Allen to Dickman
- 2) Diedrichs to Grayson
- 3) Gregory to Karp
- 4) Kiehlbaugh to Macdonald
- 5) Marusiak to Pelton
- 6) Perkins to Sloan
- 7) Smith to Vandeventer
- 8) Vangsnes to Zettl

**Element Leaders:**

- Tom Waldron
- Ron Diedrichs
- Gary Zettl
- Dave Oldroyd
- Ron Marusiak
- John Slaughter
- Tom Waldron
- Clyde Williams

**E-Mail Addresses:**

- [mojack7@msn.com](mailto:mojack7@msn.com)
- [diedrichs2@q.com](mailto:diedrichs2@q.com)
- [gzettl@msn.com](mailto:gzettl@msn.com)
- [doldroyd3@cox.net](mailto:doldroyd3@cox.net)
- [ron@marusiak.com](mailto:ron@marusiak.com)
- [john.slaughter@outlook.com](mailto:john.slaughter@outlook.com)
- [mojack7@msn.com](mailto:mojack7@msn.com)
- [Bunnieace@msn.com](mailto:Bunnieace@msn.com)

**Phone Numbers:**

- 602-743-3661 or 480-883-0853
- 602-908-3496
- 623 236-9513 or 480-415-6854
- 480-844-0445
- 480 949-5957 or 480-318-8883
- 602-684-8463
- 602-743-3661 or 480-883-0853
- 480-897-8440



**FLIGHT 82 DUES FOR 2020:** If you need to pay your local dues, please complete the form below, clip at dotted line, and send to: *Willie Flight 82, P.O. Box 11261, Chandler, Arizona 85248*. Enclose a check for Flight dues (\$15) and add any scholarship donations you'd like to make. Please make your check out to "Willie Flight 82":

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(First) (MI) (Last)

RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_ ACTIVE \_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_ or OTHER \_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: Annual Flight Dues (\$15): \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_