

# MILE HIGH FLIGHT 18

## Order of Daedalians

### *Newsletter*

May 2009

# Fly Toys and Flyboys at Platte Valley

## 2009 Flight Schedule

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 Ed Cutler.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker/activity</u>
16 Jan	Aurora Hills*	Brian Patterson, COANG
20 Feb	Aurora Hills*	Dave Parvin, sculptor
20 Mar	Aurora Hills*	MG Whitney, H/land Sec
17 Apr	Aurora Hills*	MG Mike Edwards, TAG
6-10 May	Seattle, Wash.	Daedalian Convention
15 May	Platte Valley	Lafayette Foundation
19 Jun	Aurora Hills*	Newt Moy, WWII
17 Jul	Aurora Hills*	MG Lassen, ANG/space
21 Aug	Wings O'r Rockies	Greg Anderson
18 Sept	Aurora Hills*	OPEN/WAR STORIES
16 Oct	Aurora Hills*	Spud – Flying in Egypt
20 Nov	Aurora Hills*	Business Meeting
10 Dec	Aurora Hills*	Christmas Party

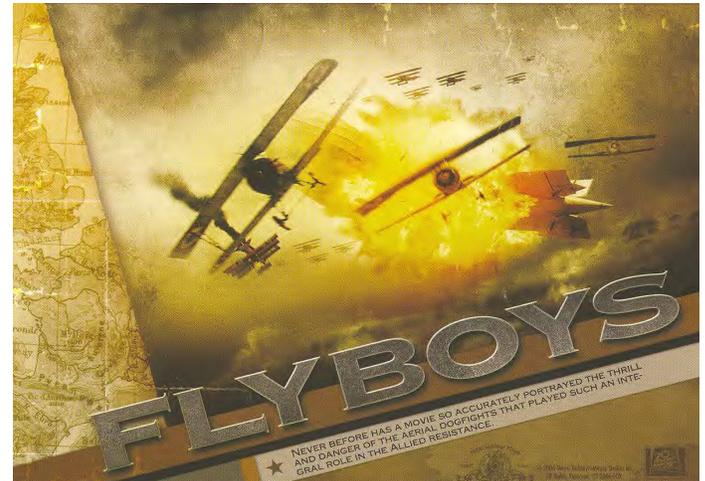
\* Aurora Hills Golf Course Tin Cup Bar & Grill

*Pilots who took part in making the movie Flyboys to relate experiences*

If it's May, it must be springtime at Platte Valley—and time for our annual visit back to bygone eras of military aviation. Hopefully, you've already made your reservations; otherwise, you might remain stuck in the present.

And, hopefully, you've seen the movie *Flyboys*, or will see it before arriving at Platte Valley on Friday 15 May. You can buy it (*available on DVD at Wal-Mart for \$7.50*) or rent it, but either way, be sure to watch the version of the film narrated by the producer and director, included as an extra feature on the DVD. You will be amazed.

The ever-evolving Vintage Aero Flying Museum opens at 10:00 A.M. Flight 18 activities get underway at 11:00,



and will feature a catered lunch of roast pig (\$20/person), plenty of airplane eyeball candy and a talk by Ken Kellet and Andrew King, who flew as pilots in the making of *Flyboys*, a dramatized, but thoroughly-researched film about the legendary Lafayette Escadrille. Wives and other guests are welcome. More about the movie on page 8.

## Flight 18 to National: “Reverse 2004 changes to Tenets & Objectives”

Meeting in 2003 the Order of Daedalians Board of Directors decided on one seemingly innocuous change to the Order's original *Tenets* and on a wholesale revision of its long-standing *Objectives*. The revised T&O were first revealed to the Daedalian membership in January 2004 with the publication of National's 2004 Bylaws; however, no justification for the changes has ever been offered.

Go to **REVERSE CHANGES** on page 2

See **NEW DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO P/V** on page 6

## Fellow Daedalians,



These are “*Our Heritage Ideas*”:

1. Sense of responsibility;
2. Work as a team;
3. See a task through to completion;
4. Work under pressure.

All of these, mentioned in our February 2009 newsletter, are still on our minds. Also, goals set for 2009 are:

1. Bring your buddy back;
2. Have good speakers;
3. Complete the Distinguished Pilot Award (DPA) case;
4. Have award reception for the 140 WG DPA’s after case is finished;
5. Bring ideas to the flight officers;
6. Award scholarships.

As for our Heritage Ideas and goals for 2009, I see a great many of them put to work as follows:

I have worked closely with the flight officers on several goals and each contact has been very rewarding. Each flight officer has followed all four!!! Thanks you for your efforts!!!

As for the goals themselves:

1. Bring your buddy members back; it’s working. Keep it up!!!
2. Our speakers – Brian Patterson, Dave Parvin, Mason Whitney and Michael Edwards have kept us informed about 120 FS activities in Iraq (Brian Patterson), sculpturing and flying stories by Dave Parvin, Colorado’s Homeland Security and how we all can be aware of our surroundings and notify authorities (MG Mason Whitney) and Perspective on Colorado Army and Air National Guard’s activities (MG Michael Edwards). Thanks again to all these fine gentlemen for coming and sharing their valuable time with us. Our 19 June 2009 speaker will be Newell “Newt” Moy. WWII – joined in 1939 flying as a B-18 A/C mech!

3. We now have a Distinguished Pilot Award case at the 120 FS Operations

Auditorium at Buckley (*see photo on page 6*). A work of art, it was built by Curtis Watkins. Thanks Curtis! The weather cancelled our award reception and the 120 FS will be leaving in early May to support AEF (Air Expeditionary Force) tasking to Iraq once again.

4. Upon their return, we will award and *ceremonialize* two new DPAs and honor past DPAs sometime in July or August of 2009. Please come and join us and bring your friends, wives or girl friends (all of the above if you choose).

5. Many ideas have come forth from the flight members. Our best was to ask Daedalian National’s Board of Directors to essentially restore the Order’s traditional Tenets and Objectives. (*See the T&O article beginning on page 1.*)

We expect our proposal will be a topic for discussion and/or decision at the 6-10 May National Convention in Seattle. Thanks to Dale Boggie and Ger Spaulding for all their diligence on this effort. Dale will again represent our Flight at the convention.

6. Scholarships. On 23 April Bill Greener presented Flight 18 scholarships of \$1,000 each to one ROTC and one NROTC student at CU Boulder.

So that’s about where we are gents, and remember this: “If at first you don’t succeed, try again. Then quit. No use being a darned fool about it!”

*Volabamus Volamus*

**Don**

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

## REVERSE CHANGES *from p.1*

When Flight Adjutant Dale Boggie, representing us at last year’s national convention as he has for many, many years, questioned the T&O changes, the concerns he expressed were summarily dismissed. *Big mistake!*

Dale will again be representing the Flight at this year’s convention in Seattle, but this time we think he may have the attention of the powers that be on this matter. Why? Because we submit-

ted a letter, signed by Flight Captain Don Neary and shared with some 50 other flights, to the National Commander and Board of Directors urging restoration of our traditional Tenets and Objectives (with two exceptions). So far, every response we’ve received from those flights has been supportive.

*(We advised Don that this effort would either make him a hero, or get him busted retroactively to Airman Recruit.)*

Here’s a comparison of the traditional T&O with the 2004 versions along with our recommended actions:

### Tenet #2

*Traditional:* “...trust and confidence of fellow Daedalians.”

*2004 version:* “...trust and confidence of a fellow Daedalian.”

*Flight 18:* Restore original language.

### Objectives

*Trad:* “To encourage military aerospace activities to ensure that the United States of America maintains its freedom and status among nations of the world.”

*2004:* “Promote Air & Space Power in support of National Defense.”

*Flt 18:* Restore traditional language.

*Trad:* “To assist in the education of deserving persons in the fields of aerospace engineering and flight.”

*2004:* “Educate Americans to the advantages of Air & Space Power.”

*Flt 18:* Restore traditional language.

*Trad:* “To encourage young people who receive valuable aerospace training to make the military their career.”

*2004:* “Promote the rewards of a career in military aviation to young Americans.”

*Flt 18:* Restore traditional language.

*Trad:* “To encourage and stimulate the younger generations in developing those attributes that are the basis of the Tenets of the Order.”

*2004:* “Honor the legacy of our Founder Members and all who have flown in defense of our nation.”

*Flt 18:* Restore traditional language.

*Trad:* “To encourage and support activities that will improve methods of flight and flight safety.”

*2004:* “Encourage and recognize improvements in Flight Safety, Weapons

*Go to REVERSE CHANGES on p. 6*

## Final Flight



**Terrel F. Johnson**  
**LtCol, USAF (Ret)**  
**Jul 10, 1937 --**  
**Jan 21, 2009**

Terrel F. "Terry" Johnson took his Final Flight on January 21<sup>st</sup>. He was born in Rockford, IL on July 10, 1937, the second of four brothers: Tom, (Terry), Larry and Fred.

He joined the Air Force in 1958, training at Lackland, Greenville, and Nellis. Following flight training he was stationed at Woodbridge, England, for three years with the 20th Fighter Wing. He also served in Ubon, Thailand, flying 80 missions and Cameron Bay, Vietnam, flying 150 missions.

After leaving the Air Force in 1967 he joined Frontier Air Lines as a pilot and eventually got a billet in the Colorado Air National Guard. When Frontier went belly up, he joined Continental Air Lines as a pilot. He retired from the Air National Guard as a LtCol in 1982. Terry was a member of many organizations, including The Order of Daedalians.

Funeral services were held at Aurora Chase Chapel in Aurora on 2 Feb. Internment was at Ft Logan National Cemetery.

**REMINDER TO FLIGHT MEMBERS.** As part of your early Final Flight preparation, please ensure Flight Adjutant Ed Cutler has your biography on file. Without it, we'll have great difficulty doing justice to your life story and military career. Ed can provide you a blank Flight 18 bio form to fill out. Please do so ASAP and help us share your story with your children and grandchildren when your time eventually comes.



## Welcome Aboard x 3

**Newell "Newt" Moy**  
**LCOL, USAF (Ret)**  
*(Daedalian Transfer)*



### Newt's thumbnail bio

DOB: 3 May 1921.

Wings: May 1944.

Assignments: Panama, Caribbean, Flight Training, Roswell, NM, Gulfport, MS, England, Brazil, Ft Benning, Pentagon.

Military aircraft flown: B-18 (air crew), B-17, C-82, C-119, B-36, gliders & various aircraft as ferry pilot in mid-1940s.

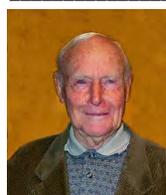
Civilian aircraft flown: Taylor Cub, T-34.

Retired from USAF: Aug 1965; from Civil Service 1984.

Civilian employment: Training device design, acquisition; Training Admin for AF Reserve.

Spouse: Lillian; two daughters.

Residence: Centennial, CO



**James A. "Jim" Hanson**  
**LCDR, USNR (Ret)**

### Jim's thumbnail bio

DOB: 12 Feb 1921

Wings: Jun 1942, Corpus Christi, TX

Assignments: Kaneohe, HI; Solomons (Black Cats), North Island, CA; Alameda, CA; Olathe, KS; Pax River, MD.

Military Aircraft: PBY, DC-3, DC-4 (3,000 hrs).

Civilian Aircraft: DC-3, 737 (31,000 hrs).

Retired from Naval Reserves: 1968, Denver, CO (26 yrs).

Civilian Employment: TWA. Retired in 1981 (13 yrs).

Spouse: Noreen

Children: One son, two daughters

Residence: Aurora, CO

Go to **WELCOME ABOARD** on page 4

## FORGET TO PAY YOUR 2009 FLIGHT DUES?

Please mail this coupon along with a check for your 2009 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, contact the Treasurer to determine the correct amount to include in the FLM space below.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daedalian # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed for: [2009 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: **Treasurer, Mile High Flight 18, P.O. Box 472976, Aurora, CO 80047-2976**

## Navy Seals arriving

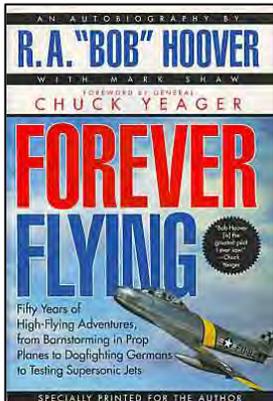


## Bravo Zulu



## Donated Hoover book is AWOL

Remember the plan to auction off that autographed copy of Bob Hoover's bio donated by Ray Rider, with the proceeds going to our Scholarship Fund?



We'd still like to do that, but first we have to know who has the book in his possession. During the Jan meeting at Aurora Hills, it was left out for folks to peruse and, we assume, someone must have inadvertently walked off with it. If that was you, please return it to any flight officer so we can get on with the auction. Assuming it's found, anyone interested in bidding on the

book please contact Treasurer Hugh Greenwood. Minimum bid is \$50.



## Welcome Aboard from p. 3

**Ruben Ace Avakian**  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt, USAAF (Sep)



### Ace's thumbnail bio

DOB: 10 Jan 1925

Wings: Jan 1944, Luke Field, AZ

Military Aircraft: AT-6 IP; P-39;

A-36 (P-51B); B-17, B-24, B-29; C-47.

Civilian Aircraft: Multiple DC-3 thru MD-80. Cessna 182.

Current CFI, CFII, MEI.

Separated from USAAF: 1946, Ft Sheridan, IL (3 2/3 yrs).

Civilian Employment: Monarch/Frontier Airlines (38 yrs).

Spouse: Janet

Children: Four sons

Residence: Castle Rock, CO

## 2009 Flight 18 Scholarships



*Flight 18 Scholarship Chairman LtCol Bill Greener with Cadet Dustin E. Carey and Midshipman Sefan M. Quan after awarding each a \$1,000 Daedalian scholarship at the Spring 2009 Tri-*

*Military Awards Ceremony at CU Boulder. Mile High Flight 18 donated these \$1,000 scholarships, which were matched by the Daedalian Foundation.*

## Meet our scholarship awardees:

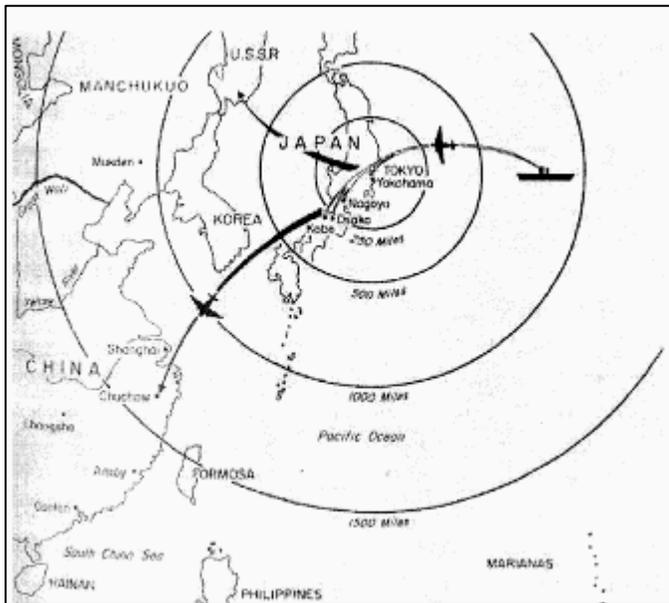
**Cadet Dustin E. Carey:** Junior, CU Boulder; major International Relations; term GPA 3.3; scored 94 on pilot score; selected by HQ AFROTC for pilot slot at UPT; considered outstanding Operations Group Commander; received Letter of Commendation from the Chemistry Department in September 2005; earned Basic Parachutist Badge, USAF, in 2008; received AFROTC Academic Award in Fall 2007 and Spring 2008; physical fitness test score 93.24 in Fall 2008; holds AFROTC Meritorious Service Award; AFROTC Commendation Award and AFROTC Achievement Award; holds Private Pilots License with 63.6 flight hours; objective is to become Air Force pilot like his father. Cadet Carey is not on scholarship and has worked hard to help his parents with his college expenses.

**Midn Stefan Quan:** Junior, CU, Boulder; English major; aptitude score 4.02; cumulative GPA 3.15; semester GPA 3.67; received Academic Commendation for semester GPA Aug-Dec 2008; belongs to CU Boulder American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics; active in Battalion intramural soccer team (league champs in 2008); involved with Silent Drill Team; has contributed as a Colorado Relay Runner for the Battalion; member of the Color Guard. Midn Quan has demonstrated a strong aptitude for aviation and wishes to become a career naval aviator.

## Senior Doolittle Raider Bill Bower does not attend group's 67<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

With the passing last Nov of retired MGen Davy Jones, Bill Bower became the senior surviving Raider and the group's only surviving pilot. He chose to skip this year's Raider reunion, which took place 16-18 Apr in Columbia, SC. Only five of the nine living Raiders attended. Two of the five became POWs after the raid, one in Japan and one in Germany.

*Below are the routes flown by all 16 B-25s that took off from the carrier USS Hornet on 18 Apr 1942—15 that went on to China after bombing Japan and one that detoured to Russia, where the crew was interned until rescued in 1945.*



*The way things are going, would anybody be surprised to see the above headline in the near future?*

## Wilhite foregoes Fantasy Camp; practices law enforcement instead



*Arapahoe County Deputy Sheriff Jack Wilhite, emulating that hard-nosed Sheriff of Maricopa County, AZ, Joe Arpaio, collars Monroe Mathias at our Apr 17 Aurora Hills luncheon. Wilhite charged Mathias with conspicuously suspicious behavior, saying, "I'm glad the perp gave up without a struggle, because they allow me only one bullet and I have to keep that in my shirt pocket." At any rate, when Monroe offered to buy Jack an adult beverage, the trumped up charges were quickly withdrawn.*

## P-8A Poseidon completes maiden flight

It's a brand new Boeing 737-800/900 "hybrid" aircraft equipped with a bomb bay for torpedoes and other weapons, wing pylons for missiles, mines and rockets, sonobuoy storage and release capability and a sophisticated array of electronic "wiz bangs" that will enable it to take on a wide variety of missions for the Navy. It will replace the venerable P-3C Orion, which is rapidly reaching the end of its service life. The P-8A's 3.5-hour maiden flight was completed successfully on 27 April. IOC is planned for 2013.

*737 Warbird*



## REVERSE CHANGES *from p. 2*

Development, Combat Support and the overall effectiveness of Air & Space Power.”

*Flt 18:* Restore traditional language.

*Trad:* “To increase the membership of the Order (to near the maximum of those eligible) so that the weight of its membership and the prestige of the Order will ensure perpetuity and augment the capabilities of the Order to affect its Objectives.”

*2004:* This Objective eliminated.

*Flt 18:* The goal of actively seeking new members remains an indispensable activity of the Order and each of its flights. We recommend restoring this Objective, but with the following new language: “To actively recruit qualified new members to perpetuate the traditions and prestige of the Order, accomplish its stated Objectives and carry on the legacy of our Founding Members and all who have flown in defense of our nation.”

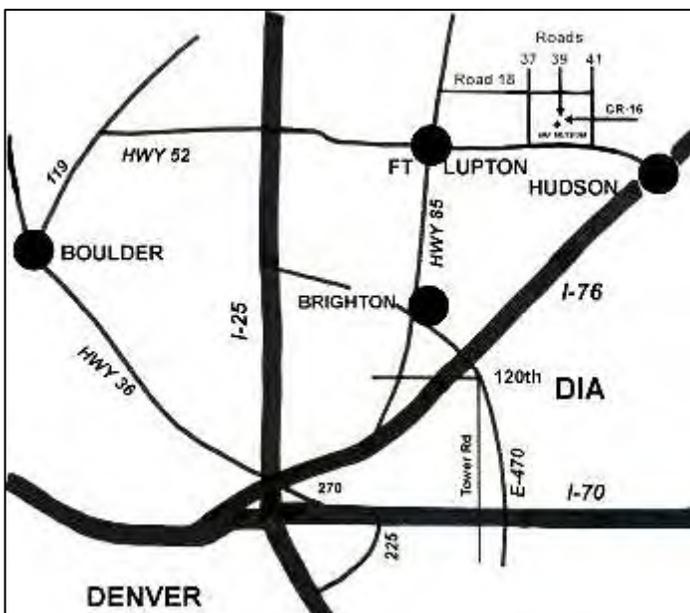
*2004: (New Objective)* “Recognize exceptional performance by military pilots.”

*Flt 18:* Excellent addition.

In sum, we believe our recommendations are sound and well considered, while *most* of the 2004 revisions were not. All other flights we’ve heard from agree with us. Some of their members have told us that they may not have become Daedalians had the 2004 T&O been in place when they decided to join.

The ball is now squarely in the court of the national Board of Directors. Stay tuned.

## **NEW** simpler driving directions to Platte Valley/ Vintage Aero Flying Museum



Follow above map to Ft Lupton or Hudson. Then...  
...Highway 52 to Road 41; north 1.5 miles to Road 16; west 1 mile to the **Vintage Aero Flying Museum**.

## *Distinguished Pilot Award display case now in place*



*Curtis Watkins, who was commissioned to build the case, poses with it in his home.*

While the crystal eagle and other accoutrements await placement inside, the case itself is finished and has been delivered to the COANG Ops facility at Buckley. Date of the next DP Award presentation is TBA.



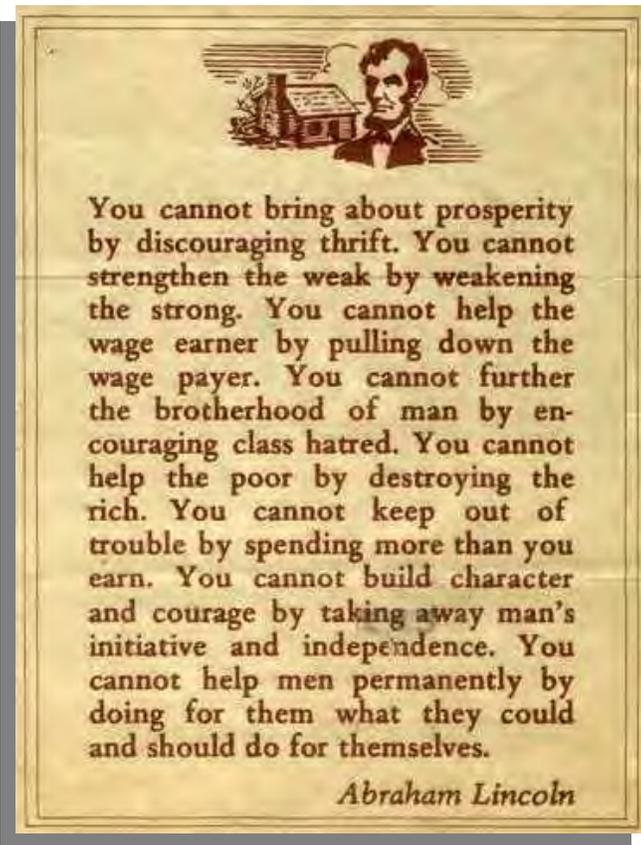
## **Background of Distinguished Pilot Award**

This award is presented to the F-16 pilot selected by the Commander, 140th Fighter Wing, COANG, as most deserving. Criteria are airmanship, leadership (or leadership potential) and personal character. DPA recipients so far are:

- CY 2003 – LCOL Mike “Fer” Loh (*joined Daedalians*)
- CY 2004 – MAJ Floyd “Sumo” Dunstan (*joined Daed’s*)
- CY 2005 – MAJ Mitchell “BC” Neff (*joined Daedalians*)
- CY 2006 – Capt Brett “Ringer” Berringer (selected; presentation pending. Details TBA.)

**CORRECTION.** To Editor: “In our Feb newsletter, you misidentified the engine used in the Chance Vaught F4U-4 Corsair as the P&W R2000. The F4U used the P&W R2800 Double Wasp. The R2000 was an upgrade to the Twin Wasp 14-cylinder R1830. Max rated hp for the R2000 was 1450. The R2800 is an 18-cylinder engine with max rating of 2500 hp and was also used on the P-47 and Bearcat fighters.” – George McCrillis  
(Good catch, George. Thanks. – Ed.)

## \*\*\* Sea Biscuits and Scufflebutt \*\*\*



### AUTORATION CRASH

While practicing auto-rotations during a military night training exercise, a Huey Cobra messes up and lands on its tail rotor.

The landing is so hard it breaks off the tail boom. However, the chopper fortunately remains upright on its skids, sliding down the runway doing 360s.

As the Cobra slides past the tower, trailing a brilliant shower of sparks, this radio exchange takes place: Tower: "Sir, do you need any assistance?"

Cobra: "I don't know, Tower, we ain't done crashin' yet."

### HOW TO PREVENT BIRD STRIKES >>>>>>

If you think you have problems, just think about this; somewhere in this world there is a Mr. Pelosi!



### The "incredible" Andy Cowan

An email references a grainy old film of "an 'F6F Hellcat', its hydraulics shot away during a strafing run, pancake on the carrier deck and slew into the island. A deckhand was crushed between the aircraft and the superstructure and killed. The number on the plane is 30. The lanky pilot sitting dazed in the cockpit is a gentleman named Andy Cowan. He is hale and hearty at 87 and lives just north of Salinas, CA. To this day he cannot recall this accident without a tear coming to his eye."

The email account continues: "Andy was the longest serving Navy fighter pilot in WWII. He was on his shakedown cruise off Gitmo on December 7th, 1941. The carrier Ranger made flank speed to Norfolk and the pilots were transhipped to San Francisco by train, then sped to Hawaii by ship. He saw Pearl not long after the sneak attack, and again is unable to speak of it... a horrible disaster. He immediately went aboard the Lexington and in the course of the war had 4 carriers shot out from under him as he fought in every major Pacific battle... Coral Sea, Midway, Battle of Santa Cruz, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima ... you name it. Credited with 4.5 kills. Flew with Butch O'Hare, Cmdr Thatch (inventor of the 'Thatch Weave'), flew with high scoring ace David McCampbell... served under Admirals Nimitz, Bull Halsey..."

*A good story, if it were true. However, virtually every aspect of this account is fiction. The longest-serving Navy fighter pilot in WW II was the late Captain Jim Daniels, an Enterprise aviator whose F4F Wildcat was shot down by American gunners on December 7 '41. On VJ-Day he was off Japan, flying from USS Boxer. The Pearl Harbor Survivors Association declared him the only fighter pilot airborne on the day the war started and when it ended. The Andy Cowan story incredible? You bet!*

### Mile High Flight 18 - 2009

- Flight Captain**..... Don Neary, COL, ANG (Ret)
  - Vice Flt Capt**..... Brian Patterson, LTC, COANG
  - Adjutant**..... Ed Cutler, LT, USNR (Ret)
  - Treasurer**..... Hugh Greenwood, CPT, USAFR (Sep)
  - Provost Marshall**..... Dale Boggie, COL, USAF (Ret)
  - Scholarships*..... Bill Greener, LTC, USAF (Ret)
  - Newsletter*..... Ger Spaulding, CAPT, USN (Ret)
- (Positions in **bold** elected, those in *italics* appointed)

♠ Flight 18 normally meets the third Friday of each month at the Aurora Hills Tin Cup Bar & Grill, located just north of Alameda and just east of Peoria. Social hour at 11:00, lunch at 12:00. *Exceptions via newsletter and caller notification.*

♠ The newsletter is published quarterly. Contact the ed. at (719) 638-5786 or via e-mail at gerkar@comcast.net.

Web site:

<http://www.ghspaulding.com/orderofdaedaliashome.htm>

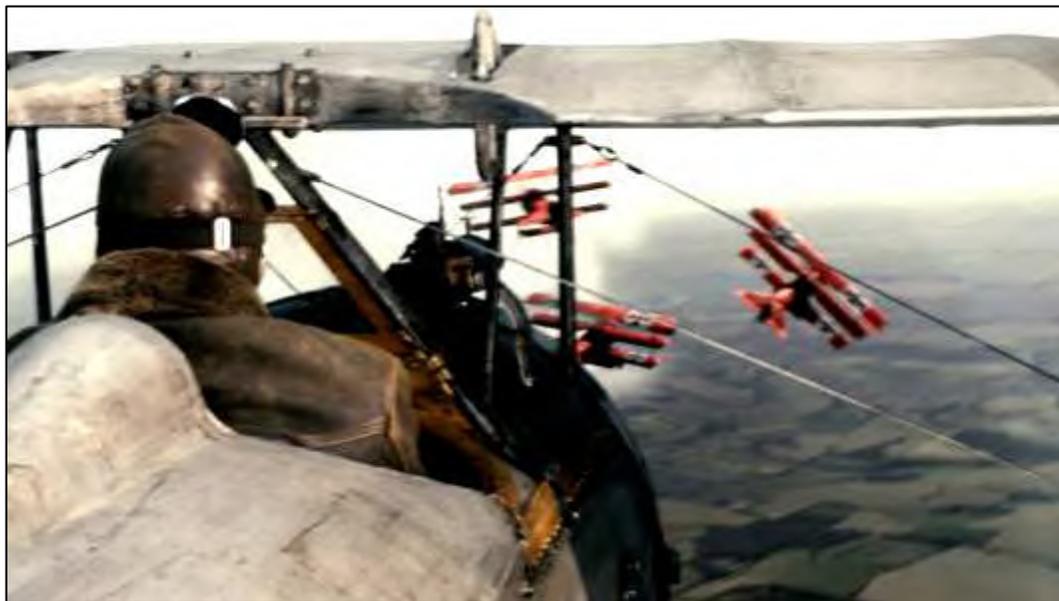
Good guy dog fighting with bad guys in the 2006 film *Flyboys*, a story blending dramatic fiction with a great deal of fact about Americans flying for the French as members of the legendary Lafayette Escadrille prior to U.S. entry into WWI.

One of the many things you learn from the film is that pilots carried hand guns but didn't wear parachutes.

Consequently, if his plane caught fire in the air, a pilot was left with only three choices: burn to death, jump out without a chute, or.....

Another factoid: pilots would often carry hammers for use in trying to free up guns jammed by misshapen rounds.

In *Flyboys*, the Escadrille kept a pet lion as a mascot. Well, that was pure Hollywood, right? In reality, the American fliers kept not one lion, but two. But most impressive of all was the degree of technological ingenuity employed in the making of this film, described in detail on the DVD's narrated special feature. *Highly recommended.*



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