



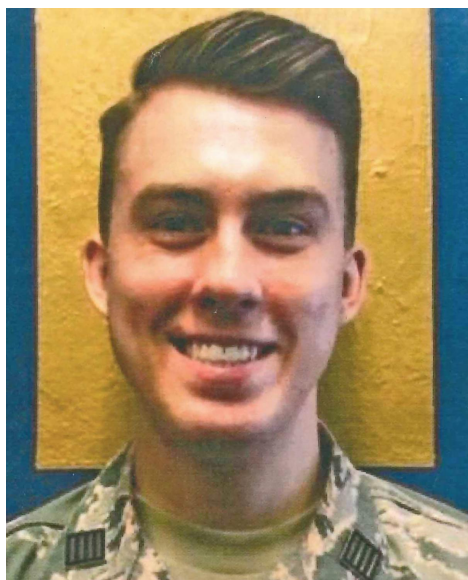
# Aviator

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VOLABAMUS VOLAMUS    SEPTEMBER 2019

## TOMORROW'S MILITARY AVIATORS

Your generosity allows these students to achieve their dreams of serving their country as aviators. Each year the Daedalians present nearly \$150,000 in scholarships to deserving youth. We're able to do this because of your generous donations.



### **Cadet William C.S. Bijansky, AFROTC**

Senior, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Major: Computer Science

Aloha Flight 28

\$2,500 Matching Scholarship

*Career goals: "I have multiple: Fighter pilot, test pilot and general in the U.S. Air Force."*



### **Cadet Charles M. Eccher, AFROTC**

Junior, Colorado State University

Major: Business Administration

Mile High Flight 18

\$1,000 Loren and Randy Spencer Scholarship

Cadet Eccher previously received a Matching Scholarship.

*Career goals: "To constantly improve and work my way through the ranks by making companions along the way; to learn from mistakes and grow upon them so I can lead people better, and lastly, to stay true to myself and adaptable to any situation active duty may throw at me."*

### **Cadet Dean K. Podaras, AFROTC**

Senior, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Major: Aeronautical Science



Willie Flight 82  
\$1,000 Loren and Randy Spencer Scholarship  
Cadet Podaras has received a pilot slot.  
*Career goals: "My main career goal is to become a pilot in the U.S. Air Force. I would ideally like to become an F-22 pilot, however, just graduating UPT, getting my wings and getting to fly any airframe for the Air Force would satisfy me. After my Air Force career, if I am still young enough, I would like to fly cargo for FedEx."*

We're proud to highlight these scholarship recipients who are pursuing careers as military aviators. If you would like to offer them career advice or words of encouragement, please email us at [communications@daedalians.org](mailto:communications@daedalians.org).

## Join us in New Member November



You can help ensure the strong future of the Daedalians by joining us in our recruiting effort, **New Member November!**

Strength is in numbers, and new members will keep inspiring generations to come through our Daedalian programs.

When you recruit a new member, you'll earn a donation to the Daedalian Foundation made in your name.

The top 4 flights that recruit the most members will win a \$1,000 Spencer Scholarship.

New members who join before the end of November will also have a donation made in their name to the Daedalian Foundation.

Get in on the action by requesting a membership recruiting packet at [membership@daedalians.org](mailto:membership@daedalians.org) or calling headquarters at 210-945-2111.

## Here's how you can recruit new members:


- Hand an application to someone with wings.
- Talk about the scholarship successes to friends.
- Go to a retirement or recruiting event.
- Man a Daedalian booth at airshows and community events.
- Get involved in military appreciation activities.
- Share on your LinkedIn page.
- Share postings on your Facebook page.
- Forward your email from the Airpower Blog or the Aviator.
- Wear your Daedalian shirt and tell people what we are all about.
- Bring an aviator to a flight meeting.
- Volunteer at your local high school JROTC program.

CHICAGO FILM PREMIERE



 **THE METTLE  
BEHIND THE MERIT**  
**THE STEVE PISANOS STORY**

A WWII ACE  
DESCRIBES HIS  
REMARKABLE  
JOURNEY TO LIVE  
THE AMERICAN DREAM.

 SPONSORED IN-PART BY  
THE DISTINGUISHED  
FLYING CROSS SOCIETY  
and  
CALAMOS INVESTMENTS



NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM

Thursday, October 3, 6pm

Tickets: [nationalhellenicmuseum.org](http://nationalhellenicmuseum.org)

## Tribute to a Daedalian Life Member

A short film featuring the life of WWII ace fighter pilot Steve Pisanos will premiere at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, at the National Hellenic Society Museum, 333 S. Halstead St., Chicago, Illinois.

Steve Pisanos used a merchant ship to work his way to the United States where he promptly fled his ship and made his way to New York City in an effort to achieve his ambition of becoming a pilot. Pisanos went on to become a fighter ace, Royal Air Force Eagle Squadron member, French Resistance fighter and the first person to be made an American citizen on foreign soil. He was a Daedalian Life Member until his death in 2016. The film is sponsored by Calamos Investments and The Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) Society. Pisanos was awarded four DFCs for heroism or extraordinary achievement in aerial combat during WWII and a fifth DFC for heroism in the Vietnam War.

“Our mission is to bring these great stories to greater audiences,” stated Bruce Huffman, Chairman of the Board for the Distinguished Flying Cross Society. “You can’t watch this film and not be inspired to reach higher, no matter your circumstances.”

The premiere is open to the public. Members of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, John Calamos, Steve Pisanos’ son, Jefferey Pisanos, film producer John Mollison and editor Dalton Coffey will also be present.

For more information on the event, please contact: Helene Genetos, National Hellenic Society Museum, [HGenetos@hellenicmuseum.org](mailto:HGenetos@hellenicmuseum.org), 317-439-1484, or Bruce Huffman, Distinguished Flying Cross Society, [bhuffman@dfcsociety.org](mailto:bhuffman@dfcsociety.org), 518-578-7089.

For ticketing, go to: <https://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/event/steve-pisanos-story/>.

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## 'BACK IN THE DAY'

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Retired Air Force Col. Rich Harper sent in these photos of himself as a captain at Long Thanh North Airfield, South Vietnam, in August 1969. He flew the O-2A aircraft.

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*Do you have a photo of yourself from early in your career? Send it to [communications@daedalians.org](mailto:communications@daedalians.org), Attn: Back in the Day.*

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## DAEDALIAN BULLETIN BOARD

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**Deadline for next Daedalus Flyer is Oct. 1**

Be sure to submit your stories and photos for the Winter 2019 edition of the Daedalus Flyer by Tuesday, Oct. 1, to [communications@daedalians.org](mailto:communications@daedalians.org)!

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# We've got you on our calendar!



We now have a calendar on our website which lists flight and Daedalian headquarters events plus military reunions. The main calendar is featured on the bottom left of the [daedalians.org](http://daedalians.org) landing page. There's also a link to events at the top of the [Flight Listing page](#).

Email us at [communications@daedalians.org](mailto:communications@daedalians.org). Include all pertinent event info, plus any graphic art, images or attachments (registration forms, etc.) We'll take care of the rest. We even have the capability now to feature a link to Google Maps.

Events will be posted on a timely basis, normally the same day we receive the requests.

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## Help find a Founder Member's Daedalian ring

The Daedalian ring belonging to Daedalian Founder Member #2128, Capt. Charles Douglas, was lost several years ago. Captain Douglas' son, Daedalian Hereditary Member Charles Douglas of Tehachapi, California, is in search of the ring. If you can help Mr. Douglas, please contact him at [661-972-0270](tel:661-972-0270) or [cdouglas2@bak.rr.com](mailto:cdouglas2@bak.rr.com).

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## AVIATION HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Find the complete daily heritage calendar [HERE](#).

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### Oct. 2, 1918

The United States successfully flight-tested a pilotless aircraft called the Kettering "Bug" at Dayton, Ohio.

### Oct. 3, 1962

Navy Cmdr. Walter M. Schirra Jr. piloted space capsule Sigma 7 during the launch of Mercury-Atlas 8 from Cape Canaveral, Florida. After 6 orbits, the spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific 275 miles northeast of Midway Island and about 9,000 yards from primary recovery ship Kearsarge (CVS 33). Helicopters dropped swimmers near the capsule and Kearsarge hoisted Sigma 7 and Schirra on board. On Oct. 16, Schirra received his astronaut wings. Schirra was a Daedalian Hereditary Life Member.

### Oct. 6, 1990

The Coast Guard's first astronaut, Cmdr. Bruce Melnick made his first space flight when he served as a Mission Specialist aboard the space shuttle Discovery on Space Shuttle Mission STS-41, which flew from Oct. 6-10, 1990. Discovery deployed the Ulysses spacecraft for its five-year mission to explore the polar regions of the sun. Commander Melnick was the first Coast Guardsman selected by NASA for astronaut training.

### Oct. 7, 2001

Operation ENDURING FREEDOM started with air strikes against terrorist and Taliban targets in Afghanistan. B-2 Spirit bombers of the 509th Bomb Wing flew round-trip from Whiteman AFB, Missouri, to Afghanistan on the longest bombing missions in aviation history. Other committed USAF aircraft included B-1 and B-52 bombers; F-15E strike

fighters and AC-130 gunships; KC-10 and KC-135 tankers; E-3 airborne warning and control system airplanes; EC-130 electronic-combat aircraft; and AC-130, MC-130, and MH-53 special-operations airplanes. Navy F-14, F/A-18, and AV-8 aircraft from three carriers in the Indian Ocean also took part in the operation. Air Force Lt. Gen. Charles F. Wald served as Operation ENDURING FREEDOM's first joint force air component commander.

**Oct. 9, 1905**

The Wright brothers wrote to the U.S. War Department, describing their new flying machine and offering it to the Army for purchase. Misunderstanding the offer as a request for funds to conduct invention research, the Board of Ordnance and Fortification turned them down.

**Oct. 10, 1911**

At College Park, Maryland, Lt. Thomas DeWitt Milling tested a bombsight and bomb-dropping device invented by Riley E. Scott, who accompanied him in a Wright Flyer. These were the first Army tests of such devices. Milling was Daedalian Founder Member #133.

**Oct. 12, 1944**

Lt. Chuck Yeager earns "ace-in-a-day" recognition as he is credited with five aerial victories in a single engagement.

**Oct. 14, 1981**

The dedication of the Naval Aviation Hall of Honor and enshrinement of the first 12 selectees took place at the Naval Aviation Museum, NAS Pensacola, Florida. Those individuals (and their Daedalian Founder Member numbers, if applicable) are: Vice Adm. Patrick N. L. Bellinger, USN, #2101; CWO Floyd Bennett, USN; Rear Adm. Richard E. Byrd, Jr., USN, #10364; Lt. Col. Alfred A. Cunningham, USMC, #4134; Glenn H. Curtiss, Civilian; Lt. Cmdr. Godfrey Chevalier, USN, #10471; Eugene Burton Ely, Civilian; Cmdr. Theodore G. Ellyson, USN, #4377; Rear Adm. William A. Moffett, USN; Rear Adm. Albert Cushing Read, USN, #9899; Capt. Holden C. Richardson, USN, #13115; and Adm. John Henry Towers, USN, #4093.

**Oct. 17, 1922**

Lt. Virgil C. Griffin (Naval Aviator No. 41 and Daedalian Founder Member #8391) completed the Navy's first carrier takeoff, flying a VE-7SF biplane, BuNo A-5932, from Langley (CV 1) at anchor at Berth No. 58 in the York River, Virginia.

**Oct. 18, 2001**

F/A-18C Hornets from VMFA-251, embarked onboard Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), made the first Marine air strikes in Operation Enduring Freedom against Taliban infrastructure in Afghanistan.

**Oct. 21, 1942**

Eight men including World War I ace Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker, USAAC (Ret.), crashed in a B-17D Flying Fortress, Serial 40-3089, in the Central Pacific as a result of a navigational error while Rickenbacker toured Allied forces in the Pacific. At one point, Sgt. Alexander Kaczmarczyk, USAAF, died and the castaways buried him at sea. On Nov. 12, Lt. j.g. F. E. Woodward and ARM2 L. H. Boutte flying a Vought OS2U-3 Kingfisher of VS-1 Detachment 14, spotted a life raft containing the pilot of the Flying Fortress, Capt. William T. Cherry Jr., USAAF. A patrol torpedo boat rescued him. The next day, Lt. William F. Eadie and Boutte crewed the same Kingfisher and spotted the raft carrying Rickenbacker; Capt. Hans C. Adamson, USAAF; and Pvt. John F. Bartek, USAAF; off Nukufetau in the Ellice Islands (Tuvalu). Eadie landed the Kingfisher, rescued the three men, and taxied 40 miles to the nearest land. The Navy later rescued the other three survivors. Rickenbacker was Daedalian Founder Member #169.

**Oct. 26, 1909**

After instruction from Wilbur Wright, Lt. Frederick E. Humphreys and Lt. Frank P. Lahm became the first Army officers to solo in a Wright airplane at College Park, Maryland. Humphreys was Daedalian Founder Member #1433 and Lahm, #211.

**Oct. 31, 1956**

## REUNIONS

As an added bonus to members, we also feature reunions now on our new Daedalian Calendar! You can see the calendar on the bottom left of our website home page at <https://daedalians.org/>, or you can go directly to reunions [HERE](#).

### OCTOBER 2019

#### **Air Rescue Association (ARA) Reunion**

(Combined this year with PRHA & TOML)

Oct. 2-5, 2019

Tucson, AZ

POC: Heidi Meisterling

<http://airrescueassn.org>

[prp19992@hotmail.com](mailto:prp19992@hotmail.com) or 520-907-7117

#### **Vance AFB UPT Class 68-G 51st Year Reunion**

Oct. 9-11, 2019

Tucson, Arizona

POC: Bob Hayden

[bohayd42@yahoo.com](mailto:bohayd42@yahoo.com) or 512-335-0029

#### **Webb AFB UPT Class 68A 52nd Year Reunion**

Oct. 17-20, 2019

Washington, D.C.

POC: Lou Hari

301-757-7031 or [louis.hari@wyle.com](mailto:louis.hari@wyle.com)

### 2020

#### **USAF UPT Class 67-G Reunion**

(Willie: Good Grief, Warlock, Boomer and Schatzi)

Jan. 21-23, 2020

Jacksonville, Florida

POC: Jimmy Brown

[jimab@comcast.net](mailto:jimab@comcast.net) or 904-635-9531

#### **12th TFW Reunion**

(Includes 12th TFW at MacDill AFB, Florida; Cam Ranh AB and Phu Cat AB, Vietnam; 12th FEW/SFW, Bergstrom AFB, Texas (Korea) and all supporting units)

May 6-9, 2020

Dayton, Ohio

POC: E.J. Sherwood

[EJ12TFW@cox.net](mailto:EJ12TFW@cox.net) or 480-396-4681

(A memorial dedication to the 12th TFW will occur during this event.)

## OUR SPONSORS





