



**Willie Flight 82
Daedalians**

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Fellow Daedalians,

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. Christmas will be here in the blink of an eye, and a week later, some of us will be rewriting checks because we keep dating them 2024. Our next gathering will be on Thursday, December 12th at the DoubleTree Phoenix/Mesa. The address is 1011 W. Holmes Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210. W. Holmes is just north of the 60 and Alma School interchange. Head east on Holmes. The hotel will be on your right a few hundred yards down the road. The social hour will begin at 1700, and dinner will be served at 1800.

Entertainment will be provided by "Presto The Magician".

As always, we need to have a head count of members and guests who plan to attend the December meeting. Please contact your Element Leader NLT Sunday, December 8th using the alphabetical chart below if you can attend:

Members	Element Leader	Phone	E-mail
Allen thru Deschenes:	Sig Nelson	602-793-4367	sigsbee.nelson@gmail.com
Dickman thru Hayes:	Art Stark	480-277-4700	artstark6160@gmail.com
Homewood thru Koeller:	Gary Zettl	623-680-2603	gzettl@msn.com
Lester thru T. Norton:	Bill Follette	602-6195445	bill@strategicquality.com
Oldroyd thru Smith:	Rick Drown	480-518-7665	rickdrown@msn.com
Stark-Zettl:	Ron Perkins	602-295-3880	rperkins@cox.net

Stay safe and be well,

Rick Drown



Willie Flight 82 Daedalians

THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER

From Sig Nelson:

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. Relatives and friends getting together is always a special time.

Our evening December meeting will have entertainment and Induction of members.

Happy Entertainment of Scottsdale will provide an hour of comedy and magic.

Ron Presto is "Presto the Magician" and has years of experience with all crowds.

The web site for his show is www.prestothemagician.com

The Induction Ceremony will play catch up with some newer members and the next year slate of Flight 82 staff

Willie Flight business

Please check your information on our flight roster at sign in. We have found some omissions, which affect keeping in contact with flight members.

2025 Willie Flight Dues are coming up. New cost \$ 50 per year.

Our Flight Website: <https://www.willieflight.net>

National Events

The election of National Leadership closes on 3 January 2025

Vote by ballot or online at Daedalians.org/vote/

The Daedalian Foundation is sponsoring the 2025 Airpower Symposium 9-11 April in San Antonio, Texas.

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SANTA'S FAA FLIGHT WOES

As we pulled our Northwest Airlines DC-9 into the gate at the cold, snowy Minot North Dakota Airport, the "aircraft" parked next to us caught my eye. No! It couldn't be! It was a bright red sleigh and seven reindeer being fueled with hay! I walked into flight operations and there he was. Santa! However, the jolly old elf didn't seem very jolly and proceeded to tell me his tale of woe.

"I had to come down here from the North Pole to get my FAA physical and take my annual flight evaluation before my Christmas Eve trip. Since I only fly once a year, the FAA really takes a hard look at me and my equipment. My FAA doctor told me I need to lose about 50 pounds, so I'm putting out the word: 'Only leave fat free milk and sugar free cookies for Santa this year'. He ordered me to get rid of my pipe because it may give me lip cancer and people were complaining about the secondhand smoke during my visit. He also told me to shave off my flowing white beard because it would interfere with the oxygen mask I have to wear at altitude. We also discussed medications. I think Mrs. Claus is going to be very unhappy when I tell her I can't take Viagra within six hours of flying. She used to have a special little send off for me before I departed on Christmas Eve, but I guess I won't be up for it this year!"

"And look at my sleigh! I have trouble seeing my reindeer because of all the equipment they made me install---radar, GPS, ground proximity warning, traffic alert and collision avoidance, wind shear alert and a flight data recorder. They even made me put a cargo fire detection and warning system in the back of the sleigh. I also can't carry any hazardous materials. No more chemistry sets for the kids! When I installed all that equipment, my sleigh exceeded maximum gross weight for takeoff. I put the reindeer on steroids, but that wasn't enough. My elves had an idea. The reindeer eat a lot of hay, and therefore produce prodigious amounts of methane laden flatulence. They invented an anal vapor ignition system that makes the sleigh afterburner powered. The only problem is that when those reindeer afterburners light, they make a hell of a bang which violates the FAA noise abatement program."

"Speaking of reindeer do you know where I can buy one? You may have noticed that I only have seven of them at the present time. Just as we lifted off on my FAA checkride, the flight examiner yelled 'ENGINE FAILURE', pulled out a pistol and shot Blitzen!"

Merry Christmas!

Rick