



Willie Flight 82 Daedalians

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Fellow Daedalians,

Our next gathering will be on *Thursday, January 9th* 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*. The dinner will be a Chinese buffet which will include a Chinese chopped salad with ginger dressing, Mandarin orange chicken, beef with broccoli, steamed rice, vegetable spring rolls with sweet chili cream, and fortune cookies for dessert.

Our speaker will be Colonel Michael D. Hanson, Army (Ret.). Please see his attached biography. Also attached you will find Sig Nelson's Captain's Corner message with information on the rest of the meetings prior to the summer break and pictures from our December gathering where we were entertained by Presto the magician.

As always, we need to have a head count of members and guests who plan to attend the January meeting. Please contact your Element Leader NLT Sunday, January 5th, using the alphabetical chart below if you will be attending. Even if you can't attend, a response lets us know that you are receiving the information we are sending out. Note: Ron Perkins, the element leader for Stark-Zettl, will be cruising the Caribbean and will not be available for responses for this gathering. Please contact me, rickdrown@msn.com, with your responses.

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:	Rick Drown	480-518-7665	rickdrown@msn.com

Stay safe and be well,

Rick



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Captains Corner

28 December 2024

With most of the holidays behind us, Happy New Year!

9 January, we can get information on the Ukraine and Afghanistan conflicts from someone who has been there, done that from an Army perspective. An evening event, which seems to get slightly more attendance than our luncheons.

13 February, Colonel Retta Dooley will give us a look back at the adjustments the Air Force made while integrating women into the cockpits.

13 March is currently open.

9-11 April has the Airpower Symposium in San Antonio, so our meeting will be moved to the 17th.

8 May will be the last meeting before the heat of the Arizona Summer gives us a break until September 11th.

Events to squeeze in will be a daytime visit to the ASU facilities supporting the exploration of Mars, School scholarship selection and Junior ROTC High School presentations. We also will be reviving the member Bio booklet for our flight.

Information from our meetings and newsletters are also on the Willie Flight 82 website:

www.Willieflight.net



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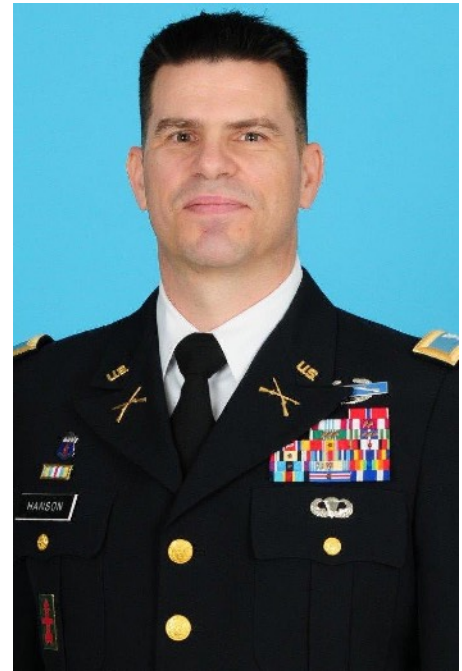
9 January 2025 Speaker

COLONEL MICHAEL D. HANSON

COLONEL MICHAEL D. HANSON is currently the Deputy Commander, 32d IBCT and enlisted into the USAR in 1988 as an Armor Crewman. He later joined ROTC upon completion of training he was commissioned as an Infantry Officer.

MILITARY EDUCATION.

He is a graduate of the United States Army War College and has completed his basic professional military education, to include Infantry Basic Officer Course (Ft Benning), Infantry Captains Career Course (Ft. Benning), and the Combined Arms Staff Services School, Command and General Staff College and Advanced Operations Course (Ft. Leavenworth). Along with numerous qualification courses he has completed, Airborne School, (Ft. Benning), Scout Platoon Leader Course (Ft. Knox), Cavalry Leaders Course (Ft. Benning), and Security Force Assistance Course (Ft. Polk).



ASSIGNMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

He held command assignments at all levels as an Infantry Platoon Leader, Battalion Scout Platoon Leader, Anti-armor Company Commander, Heavy Weapons Company Commander, Infantry Rifle Company Commander, and Cavalry Squadron Commander, Deputy Brigade Commander. In addition to his Command assignments, he has held numerous staff positions to include Company, Battalion, and Brigade Executive Officer, Battalion S1, Battalion S-3 Air, Squadron S3, Brigade S3 Plans, Brigade Maintenance Officer, Deputy Director of Security (Joint), Security Force Advisor, and Deputy Branch Chief, J19 (Joint) and Senior Advisor to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

While he has many awards and decorations, his highest honors are the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC) Award, Army Achievement Medal (4 OLC), Parachutist Badge, and Combat Infantryman Badge.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS:

Lifetime member of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS), Wisconsin National Guard Association (WINGA), National Infantry Association, U.S. Armor and Cavalry Association, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

- *As a member of NGAUS he was recognized with a meritorious service award in 2002.*
- *NIA awarded the Order of St. Maurice (Centurion) for outstanding leadership contribution.*
- *U.S. Armor & Cavalry Association awarded the Order of St. George (Bronze) for outstanding leadership, technical and tactical competence, and exceptional teamwork.*



**Willie Flight 82
Daedalians**

Photos from December 2024 Meeting

