

ORDER OF DAEDALIANS

39th FLIGHT-EAGLE

ROBINS AFB, GA

FOREWARD

This publication consolidates information essential to a member's knowledge of 39th Flight-Eagle, Order of Daedalians, Robins AFB, Georgia. This information supplements "The Daedalian Handbook" dated 1 April 1990 and all Memoranda as of 4 December 1997. The Flight's origin, biography of our Founder member, and list of past Flight Captains were obtained from records thanks to Ken Clark, our current Historian.

HISTORY

THE FLEDGLING 39th FLIGHT-EAGLE

It started over coffee. Ken Clark and Ken Klein were shooting the breeze in January 1975 and talk turned to their past enjoyment of Daedalian meetings and fellowship at other bases. They had been screening the National Membership Directory and knew other members were in the area so they agreed to contact as many as possible to gather for a social. The response was enthusiastic. On 8 March 1975, 24 Daedalians, including the WR-ALC/CC, Maj. Gen. Holland, the WR-ALC/CV, Brig. Gen. Schneider, the AFRES/CV, Maj. Gen. Anderson, and Founder Member Guy Stone, were joined by 16 guests and wives for a memorable evening--mess dress and medals, long dress, the whole bit! Guy Stone celebrated his 78th birthday. He and Roland Neel, a WW I observer and prominent Macon business leader who helped establish Robins AFB, regaled the gathering with stories of their flying experiences. Everyone agreed the occasion should be repeated under the aegis of an established local flight.

The first business meeting of the planning group was on 11 June 1975 and provisional officers were elected: Flight Captain - Ray Smittle, Vice Flight Captain - Ken Clark, Adjutant - Erv Manning, Treasure - Roger Rothwell, and Provost Marshall - Jerry Kippenberger. Flight names of Peach, Gator and Eagle were contemplated and Eagle was selected for three reasons. As the National symbol, the eagle represents patriotism; the eagle, strong, courageous and aggressive, symbolizes military aviation's spirit; and the F-15 Eagle is depot-supported at Robins AFB. The petition for charter was signed, forwarded in July, and approved by National on 4 August 1975.

FLIGHT PETITIONERS

Col. Ray T. Smittle Jr. (Ret)	Col. Kenneth B. Clark (Ret)	Col. Ervin C. Manning (Ret)
Roger D. Rothwell	Jerome A. Kippenberger	Maj. Gen. Earl O. Anderson
Maj. Gen. Ralph T. Holland	Brig. Gen. Schneider	Curtis L. Smart
Dwight C. McDowell	Richard E. Butler	Norm G. Sexton

Charter night was held on 20 September 1975 with about 100 attendees in full regalia. Guest of honor was Lt.Gen. Jim Sherrill (Ret), National Commander-Elect, who presented the charter, installed the officers, petitioners, and inducted 16 more charter members.