

# SENATOR AL FRANKEN!



Makes me smile:

Five years after he put his money behind the Swift Boat ads that helped tank John Kerry's presidential campaign, Senate Democrats gave T. Boone Pickens a warm welcome at their weekly policy lunch Thursday.

Or at least most of them did.

Kerry skipped the regularly scheduled lunch; his staff said the Massachusetts Democrat "was unable to attend because he had a long scheduled lunch with his interns and pages."

Sen. Al Franken managed to make time for the lunch – but then let Pickens have it afterward.

According to a source, the wealthy oil and gas magnate and author of "The First Billion Is the Hardest" stepped up to introduce himself to Franken in a room just off the Senate Floor after the lunch ended

Franken, who was seated talking to someone else, did not stand when Pickens said hello. Instead, Franken began to berate him about the billionaire's financing of the Swift Boat ads in 2004.

I'm happy with people who want to partner with Pickens. Fine.

But don't do it at a party caucus lunch.

Don't make your former Presidential candidate schedule lunches with his interns and pages!!