



# ECHOES

June 1, 2005

## Colorado Chapter Picnic June 11, 2005



Jack Smith holds court at the Plainsman Breakfast

### Colorado Chapter Picnic - June 11, 2005 Starts 11:00 - Food at 12:00

Detachment 45 has volunteered to cook at the picnic to be held at Buckley AFB. Due to construction in the ballfield pavilion area, the location this year at the base will be Lake Williams accessed from the 6th Avenue Gate. Make a left at the first stop sign after entering the base.

Please have your reservations into Bill Schmied by June 6, 2005, e-mail works best. Cost of the event is just \$2.50 per person and the kids get in free! Money to be collected at the picnic.

If you cannot reach Bill, Tom Miller (303) 755-7044 has volunteered to be an alternate. If you do not have an ID card you need to get names (of all attending) and social security numbers to Bill so he can get you access.

Detachment 45 is providing their great grill and back by popular demand will be beer brats, and burgers. Beverages will include both a variety of soft-drinks and of course beer and wine for those of us who are old enough to partake.

Besides the conversation and fellowship, horse-shoes will be flying in formation over the base. The lake is reported to have some fish in it, but the word from Det 45, is a state fishing license is required.

### Colorado Chapter Events 2005

- 11 June 11:00 AFTAC alumni picnic.
- 17 September 08:30 - 10:30 General Members & Guest
- Breakfast Country Buffet in Aurora  
Pay at entrance, AFTAC alumni meets in room in back.  
**RSVP to Jack Smith**  
303 428-1812 or email COAFTRMKT@AOL.COM
- 12 November Dinner Aurora Hills Golf Course - menu and details TBD



Jack Smith, Bill Schmied, Major Merchant - Commanders Call

Jack & Bill were presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Alumni for the gift certificates that the association provided to Det 45. The gift certificates are awarded to the Airman and NCO of the quarter.

### Yearly Membership dues

Are only \$5 per year. If you have not paid your dues, please send it in. MAIL TO: BILL SCHMIED, 2078 Kenton St., Aurora, CO 80010. Membership questions may be directed to Bill Schmied [Bilschmied@aol.com](mailto:Bilschmied@aol.com). Please make checks payable to Bill Schmied.



## Lest we Forget

Born in Liberty, NE, on July 30, 1924, Francis (Frank/Fran) Goodreau passed away peacefully with family by his side on March 4, 2005. Frank never ceased to impart wisdom to his loving family and the lessons he taught in the last few days of his life will live forever in his children and grandchildren.

Raised on a small farm in Liberty, NE, he graduated from high school at the age of 16. He moved to Kansas City, MO, to attend radio operator school. He was employed by Northwest Airlines during WWII, and later enlisted in the Navy in 1944, serving in the Pacific during the last year of the war. He was recalled to military service during the Korean War, and the Air Force became a lifetime career. His military duty brought him to Sacramento in 1964, and he proudly made this area his home. After retiring from military service, Frank worked with Sacramento Valley tomato farmers in the development and maintenance of mechanical harvesters; was employed by the Civil Service; and at an age when most people have long retired, taught himself new skills on the computer providing him an outlet to utilize his many talents assisting local doctors with insurance billings.

Frank married the love of his life, Irene Balcer, on April 10, 1947. Frank is survived by his wife, Irene; four children, Larry (and wife Bev), Jan (and husband Chris), Joy (her friend, Ken) and Ed (his wife, Cindy); four grandchildren, Jennifer, Meredith, Tiffany and Trevor; and three great-grandchildren, Noah, Brenda and Aidan.

Frank's family would like to acknowledge the many skilled nurses (too numerous to mention by name) at Sutter General Hospital, who provided loving and tender care in the last few weeks of his life. In particular we salute the nurses in ICU, BMT unit, Four West, Five West and the Transitional Care Unit. Frank was an avid sportsman, traveler, computer buff, and at the top of the list a devoted husband and father. A very special place in his heart was reserved for his grandchildren. He always had the time to help them with homework, attend their games and special events, and help with special projects. Most important of all, he taught them self respect and gave them confidence to gain their place in the world. He never quit trying to help them and his devotion to them was returned many times over in the final days of his life as they watched over him, caressed him and took such loving care of him that his face would light up when they entered the room.

The family requests donations to the American Cancer Society or Sutter Cancer Sutter in lieu of flowers. Memorial service to be held at Calvary Cemetery, Sacramento, on March 10 at 1:00 PM.

Published in the Sacramento Bee on 3/8/2005.



Buckley AFB

## For your convenience, here are some contact numbers:

Air Force Aid	720-847-6708
American Red Cross	303-343-1294
Auto Registration	720-847-9381
Base Exchange	720-847-9628
Casualty Assistance	720-847-6123
Chapel	720-847-6411
Commissary	720-847-7100
ID Cards/Deers	720-847-9159
Legal Office	720-847-6444
Operator	720-847-9011
Outdoor Recreation	720-847-6101
Pharmacy	720-847-7455
Retiree Activity Office	720-847-6693
Ticket/Tour Information	720-847-6853
Tri Care for Life	888-363-5433
Veterans Administration	800-827-1000
Visitors Center	720-847-9381

## Good Health Wishes

Marianne Pierce (wife of Earl)  
Hugo Redlin

## Editors Corner

Unfortunately a good portion of this edition of ECHOES was devoted to honoring those who have died in the past few months. As an organization we only have the opportunity to meet and remember a couple of times a year. For many of us belonging to AF-TAC was a pivotal point in our lives and set the foundation for the careers that followed, either as a continuing Air Force career, or like myself a civilian career. As in any endeavor, you only get out of an activity what you put into it. The Alumni Association is no different, if at all possible come to the breakfast, attend the picnics. Have some fun, share some memories!

AFTAC Alumni Association of Colorado is a non-profit organization.  
President: Jack Smith COAFTRMKT@aol.com  
Vice President: Earl Pierce emxanadu@msn.com  
Treasurer: Bill Schmied bilschmied@aol.com  
Webmaster: Bill Harris billharris@ix.netcom.com  
Newsletter: Bruce Deffler bhdeffler@sudiweb.com



I thank you for the card, support and prayers. It seems only a little while I was a young boy chasing fish in the lake on Buckley at the reunion picnics. Truth is, Iraq is much like that area-except we don't have many lakes here, the very random tree and the Rockies can't be seen in the back ground (which breaks my heart each day and makes me long to come home and see them).

While you all thank me for what I am doing, I do the same for you. Even if you never set foot on foreign soil in the Service, you're still important. My dad (Bryce) told me that what every job boils down to is getting the information us shooters need to do our job and do it well. We are doing just that, but rest assured, whether you're retired or still in, you're as equally important, if not more so. The FLIR technology that my dad told me was used during the first Gulf War is not in the back of the Humvee and the turrets of Bradley Fighting Vehicles and Abrams Tanks in the targeting systems they use. But you all pioneered that technology on the satellites (at least to this grunts understanding).

I cannot thank you enough for your support of the men over here: they need it. It is hard enough to be over here so far away from all you love and care for, watching your buddies get injured or even killed, and then to come home to an un-supporting nation. Thank the Lord that the days of Vietnam are over, and the people have realized that the soldier has no choice in his actions. He voluntarily gave away his right to object and lives by what his superiors tell him.

I would look forward to attending a picnic or banquet upon my return, although I am unsure how close of a time it would be. No matter what, those who serve share the same tasks, even though the jobs vary so much...

*Ok, so enough with the proper speech stuff. Over here its different, like a boy scout camp where everyone carries rifles. It's something different to have to carry around live ammunition every where you go, and to wake to the sounds of explosions or impacts.*

*If you don't know, I'm a night Battle Captain for 1<sup>st</sup> Battulion, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment-I'd encourage any and all history buffs to look the unit up if you haven't already. What that means is that from 1900-0700 I track the actions, maneuvers and situation for 3,000+ people. I also am forced to make decisions daily that affect al of their lives, and sometimes could mean life or death. Not exactly what I thought I'd be doing a year and two months ago when I first went on active duty. Each day I anxiously wait to do what I am supposed to do, which is lead about 25 young men (a platoon-equivalent of a "flight") into battle.*

*I'm in a mechanized infantry battalion, which means we fight with the mean, tough Bradley Fighting vehicle. We have only lost one since the unit got here last August, and that was to an old SA-3 warhead buried in the road, wired as a command detonated*



bomb. It's a faster and bigger form of battle than you see in the movies. You never see movies with Mechanized forces in it, although word is they're going to make a movie on the siege of al Falleujah.

I'm just outside a small town north west of Baghdad called Ar Ramadi. It's the Wild West in Iraq. It's the last place the insurgency has a foothold left, and with the looks of it, not for long. Our current operations have done such good; we truly are beginning to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. On a daily basis we receive information from nameless informants that want to improve their city; we hand soccer balls to children and protect their schools, also allowing women to attend. We repair and pay for damages the insurgency creates. We do the good here, while the "bad guys" continue to target other Iraqis, as well as us.

I find it interesting that an Islamic "Jihad" is not a "Holy War" as often stated, but a call to rise over evil. The fundamentalists have used it to target us as being completely evil in our ways. The Jihad has two parts, to overcome external evils and to overcome internal evils. Even as fascinating as Islam is, it truly is an outdated religion. I could go on about this forever.

You can hear prayers here over loud speakers daily, and it's amazing to hear it, although sometimes certain mosques use it to transmit plans to insurgents. And most of all with any luck, the national army will soon be able to police its own country. We learned you can't recruit from the local populous; you have to import them in a sense. You also have to be wary of tribe on tribe acts of violence.

I'm not sure what else to say other than I do have an actual bed and one other Lieutenant for a roommate. They have a small PX, computer lab, and lounge and chow hall here that all are good for the conditions. They serve Coke, sprite Pepsi and other such drinks, and they serve seafood on Sundays every so often, although it's not that great. Here are two running water latrines here, but I don't take the time for the five minute walk to either when there's perfectly good fiberglass ones less than a minute away. We have running showers here, and for the most part, you can leave the water running the whole time as long as you only do your business in there and get right out, not stand under and enjoy the warm water. I tend to read a lot (I've got The Bourne Identity and a Good Ernest Hemmingway going) and tend to watch a lot of DVDs on my laptop, usually when cleaning my rifle, even though I haven't fired once since I landed in Iraq. We do get regular mortar and rocket attacks, but for the most part they are inaccurate. It's more like shooting two to five rounds off and hope for a good landing. I DID have one fly right over my head about a week ago and land about 50 feet from outside my room while I was brushing my teeth.

The one thing I must say before concluding this is that things over here are not as bad as any media agency makes it out to be. US soldiers do not die every day, and the insurgency does not have the upper hand. Suicide bombers are not common place, and while the "IEDs" (Improvised bombs) go off regularly, they are usually small enough that they do little more than kick up dust-even the use of big artillery rounds. The real

*danger is the back roads that we don't patrol regularly where they tie four of the rounds together and bury them in the middle of the road-I lost a friend two weeks ago to that tactic.*

*Once again, I thank you for your card and all your support. I look forward to return as the grown up version of the little boy you all remember from the picnics and functions of he unit there. Take care.*

Yours,



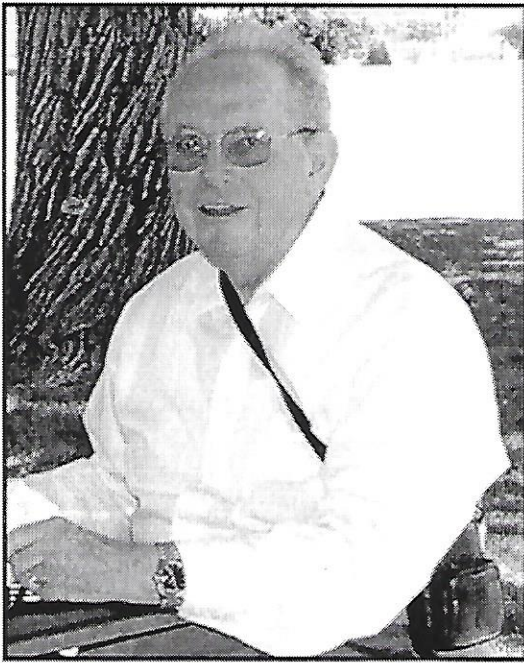
2LT Daniel B. Dunn

PS- Below is a good B/W picture from over here at a Marine Airbase. My unit is attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division (soon to be transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division).





## Lest we Forget



**Milo Lee Colton**

July 18, 1922 — February 4, 2005

Milo Lee Colton passed away after a lengthy illness on Feb. 4, 2005

Milo's greatest loves were his country and family. A man of integrity and honor, Milo served his country in the Army Air Corp. during World War II, stationed at Pearl Harbor during the bombing of Hickam Field. He retired with honors after 37 years of service as a training specialist at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, Colorado on Dec. 31, 1977.

Milo married the love of his life, Garnet Bowker on Nov. 21, 1945. They shared 59 years together.

Milo is survived by his wife, Garnet and daughter, Donna and husband Jim Baiamonte, nine grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren. Preceded in death by his son, Carl Colton.

A funeral service is to take place on Tuesday, February 8, 2005 at 10 a.m., at Callahan-Edfast Mortuary.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

"Dear Bill, I wanted to let you know of Milo's death. He suffered from congestive heart failure and many other things to numerous to tell. Our son, Carl, died also of a massive heart attack just 10 days before Milo.

Sincerely, Garnet Colton"

Here's some additional info I got from Hugo Redlin and a few words of my own: (From Bill Schmeid)

Milo served AFTAC for many years as a civilian training specialist assigned to SPINSTR. During the 1960s he was a test and measurement specialist for the 99125 resident training courses then became one of the training development specialists for these courses until his retirement in 1977. Most of us remember that during those years SPINSTR was training a large number of 99125 technicians to operate and maintain the myriad of "Techniques" we were using as well as the officers to command the many detachments located all over the world. During his tenure with SPINSTR Milo contributed to many structural changes in the training courses, developing new training courses, and ensuring trainees met course requirements so they would have the necessary skills for assignment to AFTAC units. Milo was assigned to ATC but served AFTAC for many years and many of us owe him a debt of gratitude.

Obituary from Grand Junction  
Daily Sentinel Feb 6, 2005

Wallace W. Funk Sr., 75, of King George County died Thursday, April 14, 2005, at Mary Washington Hospital.

Born in Sperryville, he had retired as a master sergeant in the Air Force after 20 years of service. Later, he was president of King George Enterprises and was last employed at Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland.

Survivors include his wife, Flora Louise Funk; two daughters, Belinda Mudd and her husband, Danny, of King George and Janet S. Jones and her husband, Dale, of King George; a son, Wallace W. Funk Jr. and his wife, Carri of Virginia Beach; two sisters, Linda Perovich and Patsy Phillips, both of Elkton, Md.; three brothers, Joseph Funk of Lynchburg, and William Funk and R. Van Funk, both of Elkton, Md.; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, April 18, at Nash & Slaw Funeral Home, King George, with the Rev. Jerome Magat officiating. Burial will follow in Historyland Memorial Park, King George.

Visitation will be from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 17, at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to Dahlgren Rescue Squad, Box 1375, Dahlgren, Va. 22448.