



# ECHOES

Sept 1, 2005

## Colorado Chapter Breakfast September 17, 2005



Colonel Guy Turner - Msgt Darrel Kline - Captain Oscar Robertson  
Assumption of Command Ceremony - July 14, 2005

Captain Oscar G. Robertson - New Commander of Det 45

### Excerpt from Detachment 45 History

Detachment 45 (Det 45) was activated October 1985 at Buckley Air National Guard Base, Colorado. Det 45 is the primary ground site for providing nuclear detonation detection data and analysis to the Air Force Technical Application Center (AFTAC) and Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) in support of the Nuclear Treaty Monitoring and Integrated Tactical Warning and Attack Assessment missions.

Captain (Major Selectee) Robertson was kind enough to invite some of the members of the Alumni organization to attend the Assumption of Command Ceremony. Colonel Guy D. Turner Commander of the Air Force Technical Application Center, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla. Presided over the ceremony. Personnel from Det 46 joined the ceremony which gave the Alumni a chance to meet some of their people.

### Excerpt from The Tradition

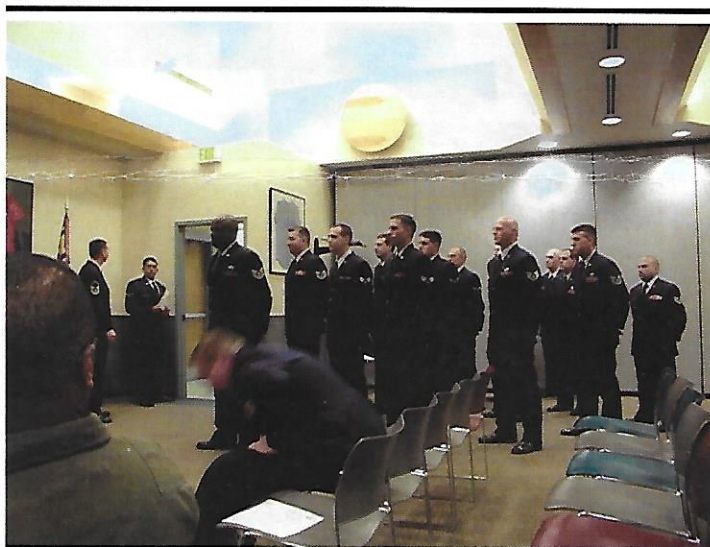
The custom of acknowledging a change in commanding officers in a formal ceremony traces back to early as Roman times. The purpose of a change of command ceremony is to emphasize the continuity of leadership and the unity identity despite changes in individual authority. The next senior commander traditionally performs this transfer from the outgoing to the incoming commander. This formal ritual is con-

## Colorado Chapter Events 2005

17 September 08:30 - 10:30 General Members & Guest

Breakfast Country Buffet in Aurora  
Pay at entrance, AFTAC alumni meets in room in back.  
1026 S. Sable Blvd. NE corner of Sable & Mississippi  
**RSVP to Jack Smith**  
303 428-1812 or email COAFTRMKT@AOL.COM

12 November Dinner Aurora Hills Golf Course - menu and details TBD



Det 45 - Personnel

On the lighter side, the Ceremony was ended with refreshments and a hearty rendition of the Air Force Song. Proving once again that for all the talents that AFTAC possesses, singing is not high on the list.

## 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.



# June Picnic at Buckley

Our hats off once again to Det 45. They provided the grill and cooking for everyone.



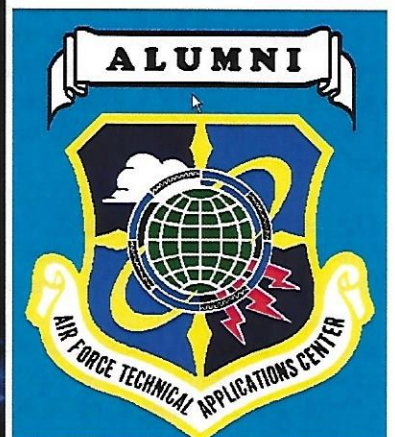
**What a day!** This year the weather cooperated and we had great day. With lots to eat, everyone enjoyed brats & burgers along with a variety of side dishes and drinks. The new pavilions offered a wonderful place to picnic, with lots of room to sit and enjoy your meal.

**And** us older folks came to appreciate the spot-less restrooms at the site.

**Activities** included horseshoes, some good conversation and catching up on news. This year we had a number of the Det 45 Airman participate and I'm sure the Alumni did their best not to bore them with too many war stories. Although the murmurs of golf (lies) stories were freely flowing.



At the breakfast meeting Jack Smith proposed the idea of producing a coin for the up coming (2006) alumni reunion that is being hosted by the Colorado Chapter. This will be an item for discussion at the September Breakfast. Below are a few examples of what a representative coin looks like (left two) along with a couple of ideas of what could be on the Colorado Chapters.





## Lest We Forget

FOLLOWING IS FROM SACRAMENTO BEE (8-6-05):

### SEPELYAK, Michael R.

Born September 9, 1936. Died July 30, 2005. A resident of Valkaria, Florida, died July 30th, 2005 in Greenville, NC after undergoing heart surgery. Mike was born September 9th, 1936 in Dunmore, Pennsylvania to Helen and Michael Sepelyak. He is survived by two brothers, Robert Sepelyak and Jack Sepelyak of PA; a son, Mark B. Sepelyak and wife Tina of Elk Grove, CA; two daughters, Bettina Sepelyak of FL and Kimberly Allen and husband Steve of FL; and seven grandchildren, Rachelle Sepelyak, Andrea Sepelyak, Jamie Ebert, Aaron Symonette, Tanner Sepelyak, Zak and Jake Allen. Mike was a retired Master Sergeant from the 1155th squadron at McClellan AFB having served 20 years. After his military career Mike received his Bachelors degree from Barry University in Florida where he worked and then retired from a second career with Harris Corporation as manager of ESS Field Operations.

Mike was a devoted grandfather, father, avid fisherman "liar", and golfer.

Mike spent his retirement years traveling between California and Florida to be with his grandchildren. Services will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Melbourne FL, at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday August 13th.

Mike will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on August 23rd.

Published in the Sacramento Bee on 8/6/2005.

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### Received from Det 45

August 22, 2005

Dear Friends Of Colorado's Military:

Since we became a state in 1876, Colorado's sons and daughters have answered the call repeatedly to serve their country and defend freedom around the world. From the Spanish-American War of 1898 to Operation Iraqi Freedom today, thousands have served proudly and returned to productive lives building the Colorado we enjoy today. Others, over 6000 that we know of, were killed in military action and did not return. Do you know who they were? How have you honored their sacrifice?

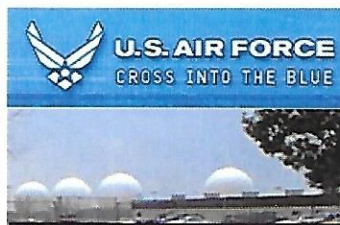
I am inviting you to join the campaign to build the Colorado Freedom Memorial and honor the over 6000 who gave their lives that we might be free. The Memorial will be etched with the names of Colorado's fallen veterans and will show those families left behind that we have not forgotten their sacrifice. It will also be a place of learning for future generations, and a place of remembrance for comrades who served beside them. For more information visit [www.cfmf.net](http://www.cfmf.net) and see how you can become a part of this project. The Colorado Freedom Memorial will be the first military memorial in America to list by name all wars, and all branches of service in one place.

Please pass this invitation along to all the folks you know in Colorado who might be interested in the project. We are looking for donors, volunteers, and information about those from Colorado who served and were killed. This is a state-wide project so we need information from all four corners of Colorado.

Thanks for your support. God bless the brave men and women of Colorado who have served their nation.

Sincerely,

Rick Crandall  
Colorado Freedom Memorial  
President



Buckley AFB

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

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|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 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 |

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### Good Health Wishes

TO EVERYONE - May your spirits be high, and you and your families stay healthy and safe...

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### Editors Corner

Ironically at the breakfast meeting we were discussing up coming events for the association and the contents of the next ECHOES publication. I remarked that for the first time in a long while we would not have a Lest We Forget section. The next week I received Mike Sepelyak's notice from the California Chapter. This one brought back memories for me, because I was stationed with Mike at McClellan. Although my memories are faint after all these years, I remember him as a imposing "Master Sergeant" that made sure the depot ran smooth, determining who was doing what and signing off on parts that needed to be ordered.

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AFTAC Alumni Association of Colorado is a non-profit organization.

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|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 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    |

**A special welcome home!**

**Lt. Dunn**

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**Thanks!**

**Colorado AFTAC Alumni**