



ECHOES

March, 2008

Colorado Chapter Events 2008

RSVP to Jack Smith

303 428-1812 or email COAFTRMKT@AOL.COM

General Membership Breakfast	8 Mar 2008	08:30	Aurora Hills Golf Club
General Membership Breakfast	13 Sep 2008	08:30	Aurora Hills Golf Club
Summer Picnic TBA Sat in June			
Club Dinner/Dance	15 Nov 2008	17:30	Aurora Hills Golf Club

AFTAC Breakfast

There are some souvenirs still available for purchase on a first come basis send your request to Bill Schmied. He has a limited number of insulated coffee cups. The price for the cup is \$10.00. Picking items up at the breakfast will save you a \$5.00 shipping charge. Checks to Bill Schmied. Pictured on right. The general membership breakfast is your opportunity to help plan our events and hear the latest news. We are planning on having the new Det 45 Commander Capt Brian Chellgren attend with a briefing and a presentation by Alumni of 'How it Was'. We, the Colorado AFTAC Alumni Association, will be recognizing the Detachment 45 Outstanding NCO and Airman of the Year for 2007 where we present them gift certificates to have a nice dinner on us in appreciation for their service to our alma mater, AFTAC. The Outstanding NCO of the Year is TSgt Randy Blomstedt and the Airman of the Year is SrA Rob Metthe. Buffet Breakfast, eggs, potatoes, meats, toast, chili,.....juice, coffee. Please! RSVP to Jack Smith at 303-428-1812 or email COAFTRMKT@AOL.COM. He needs a count by 4 March. The cost will be around \$12.00, collected at the breakfast. Looking forward to seeing many alumni and Det 45 active duty. Det 45 is planning to have a good turn out, at this time. Bryce Dunn is working on a continuous slide show of different Dets, places, etc.....



Airborne Reunion @ Las Vegas Nov 6 - 9th

By Charlie Penn (from web site & Depot Fallout)

All past & present Airborne folks (SEOs, F-Troop, & Lab Airborne)! A reunion is really gonna happen in Las Vegas, November 6 - 9, 2008 to coincide with the Aviation Nation Air Show in a venue that is yet to be decided. The weather will not be as hot as the war stories. The plan for this event is to have a formal banquet and other events scheduled such as golf, Boulder Dam tours, etc. or any other activities that "you" decide should be included. We have enough people interested to press forward, setting up the venue and contacting hotels/casinos for package deals. Jimmy Frits is getting information about renting some Harleys for those of you that like to ride. If anyone has any experience in setting up this type of function please volunteer your expertise. We will soon be asking for deposits. Please spread the word about this reunion to anyone who might be interested as the more "green baggers" the better. Our website, (<http://chaspenn.tripod.com/>) is dedicated to keeping interested SEOs and other airborne folks updated on the reunion.

Please take time to check the website for further updates, make sure your information is correct. Contact me, Charlie Penn at 916-624-1067 (chaspenn@sbcglobal.net), or 'Butch' Kemna at 916-722-8509 (jklk@mindsync.com), if there are questions, information, or comments. Let's get the "Green Baggers" reunited to exchange and relive old war stories.

Yearly Membership dues

Are only \$5 per year. Please check your expiration date on your mail label. 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. Please make checks payable to Bill Schmied.

Lest We Forget

CHARLES, Sr., Richard J. "Rich"

Born in Wilkes-Barre, PA on March 18, 1928, Rich passed away peacefully at home on August 30, 2007. He is survived by Jean, his devoted wife of 58 years, along with his children and their spouses Richard Jr. and Kate, Robin and Steve Hutcheson, and Dawn and Terry Klundt, along with his grandchildren Jennifer, Jaclyn, Peter, Matthew, Timothy and Mary, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews. He also leaves a brother, John and sisters Jean Namey and Naida Abraham of PA. Rich was a graduate of GAR High School in Wilkes-Barre, PA, and attended the University of Connecticut where he was both a student and an Air Force ROTC Instructor. He also graduated from American River College in June 1977.

Rich retired from the US Air Force after 22 years. He was employed at McClellan AFB where he subsequently retired in October 1988 after 20 years with the 2852nd Air Base Group. Rich was a veteran of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. He was a life member of Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 1322, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 4647 and the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 93. Rich served overseas in Greenland, Newfoundland, and Germany.

He was also a dedicated volunteer for the Air Force Retiree Activities Office at McClellan AFB since 1992. Rich is best remembered as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He was truly dedicated to the well being of his family with his wit, good nature, and kindheartedness. Rich will be truly missed by those whose lives he touched. Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Lawrence Church, No Highlands CA on Sept 5th followed by interment in the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon, CA. Published in the Sacramento Bee 9/2/07 9/3/07. (www.legacy.com/SacBee/)

We received the following in an email from Geno Wagner:

"I'm attaching an obituary for Jay E. Montgomery. Jay was stationed at the HQ in Alexandria VA when I was there in 1968. He then went to the squadron in Hawaii and to a detachment at Edwards AFB CA. He was released back to the AF after that assignment. I've kept in touch with he and Lois every since to the point that they introduced me to my present wife, Sandy. Jay had heart surgery around 1995 and hasn't been really well since. His heart finally gave out on Sunday. Lois is doing well considering everything. They were living a quiet life in Blackshear, GA."

Jay Montgomery Jay E. Montgomery, 63, of Blackshear, died Sunday afternoon (Oct. 28, 2007) at Sattilla Regional Medical Center following a sudden illness. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Kathryn Succese Montgomery, and a sister, Dona Haverstock. He lived many years in Massena, N.Y., and Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before moving to Pierce County earlier this year. He was a retired Master Sergeant of the United States Air Force with 20 years of service, and was a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

He was a member of Truth Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church in Blackshear. He is survived by his wife, Lois Montgomery, of Blackshear; a daughter, Faith E. Hevlow (husband Richard), of Coral Springs, Fla.; a son, Robert Montgomery, of Coral Springs, Fla.; four grandsons, John Shipley, Brandon Shipley, Chris Hevlow, and Taylor Hevlow, all of Coral Springs, Fla.; a sister, Ellen Montgomery, of Albany, N.Y.; a sister-in-law, Linda Barry, of Blackshear; a brother-in-law, Bill Mansfield (wife Kay), of Longview, Wash.; two aunts, Catherine Barry (husband Clarence), of Massena, N.Y., and Irene Prewitt (daughter Bonnie) of Jackson, Miss.; and several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Memorialization will be by cremation. A memorial service will be held 7 o'clock this evening at Truth Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church in Blackshear. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions be made to Truth Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church in Blackshear. Online condolences may be expressed at www.smithfuneralhome.us Smith Funeral Home of Blackshear is in charge of the arrangements.

HORNE, Colonel Lewis Clay USAF (Retired)

Born in Detroit, Michigan in 1928, Lewis passed peacefully in Sacramento, CA on December 7, 2007. His wife of fifty years, Laura, and three living sons Lewis Jr., David, and Douglas were by his side. Lewis Horne will be severely missed by his family. His character, code of ethics, values, and selflessness continue to be our model for living life. Services were held at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Carmichael, CA) on December 13th with interment at the National Cemetery in Dixon, CA. on Dec 14th. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Angelman Syndrome Foundation (info@angelman.org). Published in the Sacramento Bee 12/11/07 - 12/12/07. (www.legacy.com/SacBee/)



Buckley AFB

For your convenience, here are some contact numbers:

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

Good Health Wishes

Last Minute News

TO EVERYONE - Take care of yourselves we want to see you at the next reunion.

Mailbag

New Detachment Opens in Nebraska

by CMSgt Steven Herrick, AFTAC Superintendent (from Post Monitor)

I was proud to represent the many past and present Special Equipment Operators and Atmospheric Research Equipment technicians on November 27th as we formally cut the ribbon on our newest detachment. While I stood by, the AFTAC commander presided at the activation ceremony of Det 1 AFTAC, Offutt AFB, Nebraska. Ever since the closure of McClellan AFB in the late 1990s, the crews flying the WC-135 as well as the aircraft themselves were located separately from the SEOs handling the collection mission and the ARE techs keeping the equipment operational. That separation posed numerous logistical and timeliness challenges. The solution for enhancing mission effectiveness lay in rejoining the SEOs and maintenance personnel with the aircraft and crew.

Our first commander for Det 1 is Major Bryan Rogers, who came to us from the 55th Operations Group at Offutt. He along with his new superintendent, MSgt Matt Brown, our former Det Chief of Det 415, worked hard to transform a dirty, unused corner of a former B-29 assembly facility into a fine detachment. Most of the new SEOs and maintenance folks are on-site and more are inbound. Once all the Airmen are assigned, Det 1 is destined to become our largest detachment. Congratulations to Major Rogers and his new command. I'm confident that our superb Airmen will continue the record of success operating America's only nuclear treaty monitoring aircraft.

From John Macaluso:

I came across this site, which brought back old memories of 121, 464, and 514 aircraft. Terry, you may have given this site to me in the past. Anyway, I thought it would be interesting to share this with you. John Mac Denver AFTAC from the past.

<http://www.geocities.com/recce135/>

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

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