

ECHOES

Volume 2009, Issue 2

May 2009

Colorado AFTAC Alumni Association

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Colorado AFTAC Alumni Events 2009

Upcoming Events!

Picnic at Williams Lake, Buckley AFB 11:00 AM 13 Jun 2009

Lunch starting at noon. Donations accepted at picnic. Hosted by AFTAC alumni and DET 045

Alumni, Active Duty, Dependents, Guests are all invited. **RSVP NLT 7Jun 2009.**

If you do not have Military I.D. please inform Jack Smith

coafrmtkt@aol.com 303-428-1812 when giving your RSVP for attending the picnic.

General Membership Breakfast 29 Aug 08:30 Aurora Hills Golf Course

Alumni, Wives, Guests and Active Duty are invited to participate

Dinner/Dance All are invited 14 Nov 17:30 Aurora Hills Golf Course

Golf Outing at the redesigned Golf Course (Lowry AFB). Planning underway. Contact Jack Smith.

General Membership Breakfast 29 Aug 2009 08:30 cost \$12.00 — Buffet Breakfast. Eggs, potatoes, meats, toast, chili, etc., juice and coffee. Please **RSVP** to Jack Smith 303-428-1812 or email coafrmtkt@aol.com on or before 25 Aug 2009. We will collect your money at the breakfast.

Special points of interest:

- * Check the last page for dues expiration date
- * Ask around, get joiners for the CO Alumni Org.

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.

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TRICARE Payments to Change

Week of January 19, 2009 (Military.com)

Beginning in 2010, TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who pay enrollment fees will need to make their fee payments via electronic means, according to a spokesman for TRICARE. If you are enrolled in TRICARE Prime as a retired servicemember, the family of a retired servicemember, a survivor or an eligible former spouse the electronic payment will be required. These changes mean that those TRICARE enrollees who pay enrollment fees will be required to pay them by one of the following methods: (1) allotment from the sponsor's retired military pay, (2) electronic funds transfer from your

Life Changes and TRICARE

Week of January 19, 2009 (Military.com)

Special events in your life such as getting married, the birth of a child, children starting college, or military transfers are ideal for making sure your TRICARE benefits are still in place. A newborn, newly adopted or pre-adoptive child should be registered in DEERS as soon as possible. Children are automatically covered by TRICARE Prime for their first 60 days (120 days if overseas) if at least one family member is enrolled in a TRICARE Prime option.

TRICARE Guidelines for Travelling

Week of January 19, 2009 (Military.com)

Here are guidelines to insure that your TRICARE service is available if you plan to travel. Prior to your departure, verify that your information and your family's information is up to date in the [Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System \(DEERS\)](#).

Pack your uniformed services ID card and TRICARE Prime/TRICARE Prime Remote enrollment card, which you may need to present if you need medical care or prescriptions refilled. Call the number (1-877-874-2273) on the back of your enrollment card to find out what to do prior to seeking care or if you are hospitalized. Schedule any routine care with your Primary Care Manager (PCM) before you travel. [Urgent care](#) must be coordinated in advance with your PCM.

TRICARE To Require Electronic Payments

Week of February 02, 2009 (Military.com)

Beginning in 2010, TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who pay enrollment fees will need to pay their premiums by electronic means. Electronic payments will be required of retired servicemembers, family members of retirees, survivors and eligible former spouses who are TRICARE Prime beneficiaries. These changes mean that enrollees must pay by allotment from the sponsor's military retired pay, electronic funds transfer from their financial institution, or recurring credit card payment. TRICARE beneficiaries can register for electronic payments on the [TriWest Healthcare Alliance](#) website.

New TRICARE Bulletin Podcast Launched

Week of February 10, 2009 (Military.com)

As part of a continuing effort to keep beneficiaries informed, TRICARE officials added a news podcast to the TRICARE website. The Tricare Beneficiary Bulletin brings listeners the latest news about their benefits every week in a quick, easy-to-digest format. The debut podcast contains updates on TRICARE Reserve Select and points listeners to other useful online information sources. To learn more, [read the full article](#) on Military.com.

Continued on Page 4

The February Breakfast

The Alumni/Active Duty Breakfast was attended by 32 of the combined number of folks (and a young family member) with Jack Smith presiding. All there proclaimed it was indeed very tasty. The session lasted for between two and three hours. (Even the “ECHOES” editor attended and tried to take some photographs as well — which didn’t turn out that well because his 1950’s Kodak Brownie wasn’t up to the job. Maybe he’ll break down and get a decent late model Polaroid Instant.)

Discussions were held concerning the “World Wide Reunion” and who might attend from our area, the up-coming Golf date this year, and the opening of the new Golf Course at the former Lowry AFB, and the decline and attrition of our membership.

Awards were given to SRA Alex Barrera Det 45 for Outstanding Airman of the year and SSGT Robert Connell for Outstanding NCO of the year.



Then, we went around to all the tables and had each person give a synopsis of their military and civilian careers to date. It was interesting to note that some discovered they had crossed paths at various locations in the world without realizing it.



Which segways to the Alumni’s

CALL to all members, and those that read the ECHOES, to reach out to anyone that they have contact with, urging **you** to tell them about

us and see if they would consider joining, and attending, our functions. You would be surprised at what you might learn from each other.

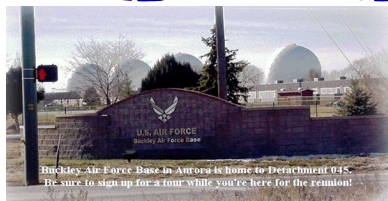


New TRICARE Contact, Local Info

Week of February 16, 2009 (Military.com)

TRICARE uses several different contractors to administer health care, pharmacy and dental benefits around the world – and their contact information can all be found on one page at the [TRICARE website](#). By going to the website, beneficiaries will find toll-free numbers to the TRICARE regional offices in the U.S. and the overseas TRICARE area offices as well as regional managed care support contractors, dental contractors, the TRICARE mail order and retail pharmacy contractor, international SOS alarm centers, and much more. The contact page also provides links to locate the nearest military treatment facilities and beneficiary counseling.

Buckle Up AFB



Air Force Aid	720-847-6708
American Red Cross	303-343-1294
Auto Registration <i>NO Longer Required</i>	
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	720-847-6144
Operator	720-847-9011
Outdoor Recreation	720-847-6101
Pharmacy	720-847-7455
Retiree Activity	720-847-6693
Ticket/Tour Info	720-847-6853
TriCare for Life	888-363-5433
Veterans Admin	800-827-1000
Visitors Center	720-847-9381

DoD Changes ID 's

Week of March 30, 2009

The Department of Defense (DoD) began the process of removing Social Security numbers from issued identification (ID) cards in an effort to prevent identity theft. The exception to this applies to Geneva Convention cardholders whose last four numbers of their Social Security number will remain on their cards. All ID card holders should wait until their cards are in need of renewal before replacing their cards with ones devoid of a Social Security number. The DoD instructed retirees with indefinite expiration dates on their cards to start replacing them in January 2010. Cardholders whose cards have expired may contact the nearest Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System site. If the cardholder does not know where their local RAPIDS site is located, they the [Rapids Site Locator](#) to find a location nearby.

Least We Forget

MULLINAX, Billy R.

June 27, 1931 - Jan. 27, 2009

A U.S. Air Force veteran who proudly served his country for 29 years. Born on June 27, 1931 in Gadsden, AL and left us on Tuesday January 27, 2009 in Sacramento, CA at age 77. Bill loved football and coached at many levels, from Pop Warner to semi-professional. Bill was also an avid golfer who enjoyed playing a round or two with his friends when his health allowed. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Jane Mullinax, and his three sons, David, Richard, and William. Bill is also survived by his three beautiful grandchildren who always made him smile, Kayla, Alex, and Tracy. The family will be holding a private service.

LtCol JACK ALLISON, USAF Retired, WCC President. Passed away on 24Jan2009.

Jack's remains, per his wishes, were sent directly to California State University, San Francisco, for research. When his remains are released by them at some unknown future date, which could be a long time from now, Jack's wife, Rosalie, and family plan to have them interred in the Sacramento Veteran's National Cemetery in Dixon, CA. In addition to being the current WCC President, Jack has also been the WCC Chairman of The Board of Directors (1999-2001). Jack was also a vital part of a number of our past AFTAC World-Wide Reunion

committees, including as a Co-Chairman for the very first AFTAC Reunion held here in Sacramento in Jun 1983 and the last one held here in May 2005.

MSgt JAMES S. "JIM" LUCAS, USAF Retired.

Born 7Nov1926, passed away on 24Jan2009 at age 82 in Minerva, OH.

Jim had been having heart problems for some time and in late September 2008 suffered a stroke and fell while walking. His daughter, Sabra Lucas, arrived on 01Oct2008 and Jim decided to sell his home in North Highlands and move to Ohio to be with her. The home sold very quickly and on 09Nov2008 they drove back to Ohio. On 24Jan2009, Jim had a massive coronary and passed away. Jim worked for many years at the 1155th Tech Ops Squadron, McClellan Central Laboratory (MCL) before his retirement in August 1978. He was preceded in death by his wife, Annie. He was interred 02Feb2009 at Mt. Vernon Memorial Park, Fair Oaks, CA. Jim was our reunion Treasurer and a vital part of most of our reunion planning committees for past AF-TAC World-Wide Reunions held here in Sacramento. Jim was also a member of the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association and enjoyed the monthly District #5 Jam Sessions at the Orangevale Grange Hall.

Lt Col (Ret) Vincent A. Bauman, on 28 December 28, 2008, at the age of 91.

He was a very proud member of AFTAC and the Alumni Association, and spoke often of his membership and contributions to the mission of AFTAC. Vincent was drafted in early 1941 and served as an infantry officer in the Army, earning two bronze stars and a purple heart for his action in Europe in WWII. After the war, he was discharged, but joined the Air National Guard in St. Louis. His unit was recalled for the Korean conflict, and he decided to stay on active duty for a full career. He proudly wore his Combat Infantry Badge on his Air Force uniform even before it was authorized for wear. If my memory is correct, he served in AFTAC from about 1956 through 1962, and those were some of his proudest moments of service in the Air Force. He took great pride in saying that one of the projects upon which he worked remains classified even today. He retired from the Air Force in 1967 after 22 years of active duty. He was buried in his uniform with full military honors.

Colonel Edward Martin, USAF (Ret.) -WARNER ROBINS - 72, passed away on Sunday, March 1, 2009. For those that don't remember, he was the Detachment 460 commander back in the mid-70s. He served in the U. S. Air Force for thirty years, mainly flying B-52s; his service included a tour in Vietnam

Chief Master Sgt. Paul W. Airey, 85, died due to complications of heart failure. He was the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force died Wednesday in Panama City, Fla.



The place for pictures, stories about dets, TDY;s, etc., sent to us.

Carl Raines was nice enough to send along some old pictures from Det 301 to the Alumni Org.

These photos were taken in 1953 outside the operations building in Ankara. Ed Gardiner is on his way home. Bill Brownlow, Willie Johnson, Bob Fernandez and his wife. Carl Raines took the pictures....



The Editor thought he would add some to "BTTF" as well.
Where do you think they were taken? Email me.



- The Shop - 1957

September 1957



May 1958

Answers to the photo quiz next time
along with a few more.



Total snowfall - 148"
12 FEB 58

February 1958



Circa 1974



April 1958

May 2009 Florida Reunion



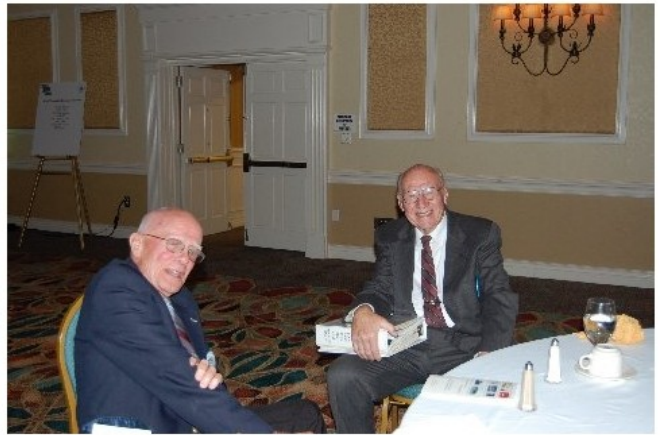
Left to right: Frank & Edna Calenda, Ed McKenna, Bill McClelland (Chief Mac), and photographer in background is Judy Milam



Left to right: Steve Herrick, Joe Goldian, John Horsch, and Bill Schmied



Left to right: Clark & Ruth Creery, Mary & Don King, John Wayne, Jerry Cauda, and Ed Gardiner



Ed Gardiner and John Wayne



Left to right: Frank Calenda, Bob Meisenheimer, Tom Eddleman, and Debbie Carson



Dr David O'Brien (AFTAC Chief Scientist) and Ed Gardiner

Two older fellows are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart when they collide.

The first old fellow says to the second guy, 'Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going.'

The second old fellow says, 'That's OK, it's a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate.'

The first old fellow says, 'Well, maybe I can help you find her. What does she look like?'

'The second old fellow says, 'Well, she is 27 yrs old, tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife look like?'

To which the first old fellow says, 'Doesn't matter, let's look for yours.'



Changes to Federal Tax Withholding

Week of April 13, 2009 (Military.com)

Public Law 111-05, The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, was signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17, 2009. This act authorized a tax credit for most workers, including recipients of Retired and Annuity Pay. This tax credit will take the form of a reduction of your federal withholding tax rates. The new federal tax rates will be in effect by April 1, 2009 for the payment of retired and annuity pay due on May 1, 2009. The new tables can be found at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/n1036.pdf>.

If after this tax credit takes affect, you wish to adjust your federal tax withholding you must submit a new W4. You can download the form at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4.pdf> or call 1-800-321-1080 to request a form by mail.

Your completed W-4 should be mailed to:

U. S. Military Retired Pay
P.O. Box 7130
London, KY 40742-7130

Or you may fax it to 1-800-469-6559.

Anyone who has taxable income for 2009 will see their federal taxes reduced and a Retiree Account Statement (RAS) or Annuitant Account Statement (AAS) will be sent by mail or electronically for those who have chosen electronic delivery.

Taxpayers to Get Rude Surprise

May 04, 2009

WASHINGTON - Millions of Americans enjoying their small windfall from President Barack Obama's "Making Work Pay" tax credit are in for an unpleasant surprise next spring.

The government is going to want some of that money back.

The tax credit is supposed to provide up to \$400 to individuals and \$800 to married couples as part of the massive economic recovery package enacted in February. Most workers started receiving the credit through small increases in their paychecks in the past month.

Some retirees face even bigger headaches.

The Social Security Administration is sending out \$250 payments to more than 50 million retirees in May as part of the economic stimulus package. The payments will go to people who receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, railroad retirement benefits or veteran's disability benefits.

The payments are meant to provide a boost for people who don't qualify for the tax credit. However, they will go to retirees even if they have earned income and receive the credit. Those retirees will have the \$250 payment deducted from their tax credit - but not until they file their tax returns next year, long after the money may have been spent.

Retirees who have federal income taxes withheld from pension benefits also are getting an income boost as a result of the new withholding tables. However, pension benefits are not earned income, so they don't qualify for the tax credit. That money will have to be paid back next year when tax returns are filed.

More than 20 million retirees and survivors receive payments from defined benefit pension plans, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute. However, it is unclear how many have federal taxes withheld from their payments.

Mail Call

Let's hear from more of you out there!

Pictures and descriptions particularly well received.

This 2009 reunion was truly a significant event centered around the theme. AFTAC's future along with its past and present were highlighted in numerous comments by the AFTAC Commander, Colonel Lisa Ann Onaga; the AFTAC Chief Scientist, Dr David O'Brien; and the guest speaker at the banquet, the Honorable James R. Clapper, Jr., Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence. Then Colonel Clapper was the AFTAC Commander in 1984 - 1985 when he received his first star. He is also remembered for providing the impetus for establishing our alumni association. Other honored guests included several more AFTAC Commanders who served after Colonel Clapper's tenure. The Friday evening icebreaker included a visit by a predecessor commander, Colonel Robert Meisenheimer. A tremendous highlight of this reunion was hosted by the active duty AFTACers on Saturday morning. The alumni and guests were escorted into the AFTAC headquarters building and treated to a very informative briefing presented by Dr O'Brien in the commanders conference room, then allowed to roam freely in the Hall of Heritage which is an inspiring display of pictures, equipment, and other artifacts from the past. This was followed by the annual AFTAC picnic which was held at Brevard Community College in Melbourne and then the reunion banquet Saturday evening at the Radisson in Cape Canaveral. This reunion is now, as with our many other reunions, a fond memory and all the people who put this one together deserve a great deal of credit and our utmost appreciation for continuing this tradition. We now look forward to the next one.



Hailing Our Future ...

Honoring Our Past

**2009 Long Range Detection
Worldwide Alumni Reunion**

1 - 3 May 2009

Florida Chapter

Patrick Air Force Base, Florida

Radisson Convention Center

Cape Canaveral, Florida

Colorado AFTAC Alumni Association

**AFTAC ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO**
c/o Jurell Moxley
4721 S. Queen St.
Littleton, CO 80127

We're **ALL** on the Web!
Colorado Chapter:
<http://www.aftacco.org/>
Florida Chapter:
<http://www.aftacalumni.org/>
West Coast Chapter:
<http://www.aftacwcc.org>
Official AFTAC Web Site:
www.afisr.af.mil/units/aftac.asp



MAIL FLORIDA DUES (\$10 PER YEAR or \$75 Lifetime)

TO: Long Range Detection Alumni Association
P.O. Box 254892
Patrick AFB, Florida 32925-0892

MAIL WEST COAST DUES (\$5 PER YEAR or \$50 Lifetime)

TO: AFTAC Alumni Association
West Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 3974
Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3974

Bumper Sticker

**You know you're getting old
when your bank sends you
their free calendar...
*one month at a time!***



**FOR COLORADO DUES SUBMISSION
OR ADDRESS CHANGE**

Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, ZIP: _____

Telephone No: _____

Email _____

Unless advised to the contrary, personal information listed above is releasable to other AFTAC members.