

# ECHOES

Past — Present —  
and Future

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**Special points of interest:**

- Check the last page for dues expiration date
- Update, as necessary, your address & Email

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## UPCOMING EVENTS!

ALL CURRENT AND FORMER AFTAC PERSONNEL, SPOUSES AND GUESTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. MEMBERSHIP IN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS.

**General Membership Breakfast**  
**26 February 2011**

**0830 Hours**

**Aurora Hills Golf Course Club House**

**General Membership Breakfast**  
**September 2011**

**0830 Hours**

**Aurora Hills Golf Course Club House**

**Date TBD**

**Picnic June 2011**  
**Where and when TBD**

**Dinner/Social 12 November 1700**

**Aurora Hills Golf Course Club House**



**AFTAC Worldwide Alumni Reunion**

**Will be held 12 -15 May 2011 at the**

**Lion's Gate Hotel, formerly the O'Club on McClellan AFB.**

**Please visit the West Coast Alumni Chapter web site**

**[www.aftacwcc.org](http://www.aftacwcc.org)**

**for details and registration info.**

**General Membership Breakfast 26 February**

**2011 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 [coaftrmkt@aol.com](mailto:coaftrmkt@aol.com) on or before 22 February 2011. We will collect your money at the breakfast. The meeting agenda includes a combined Det 45 and Det 46 staff briefing and our alumni award presentation to the detachments' NCO and Airman of the Year 2010.

**Yearly Membership Dues**

**are ONLY \$5.00 per year. PLEASE check your dues expiration date in the text of the ECHOES transmittal email or above your postal mailing address whichever applies. 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 [Biischmied@AOL.com](mailto:Biischmied@AOL.com). Please make checks payable to Bill Schmied.**

## TRICARE Provides Free Vaccinations

Week of September 06, 2010

TRICARE covers the seasonal and H1N1 flu and age-appropriate doses of vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Beneficiaries can visit participating TRICARE retail network pharmacies to receive seasonal flu, H1N1 flu and pneumonia vaccines at no cost. This expanded coverage is available to all TRICARE beneficiaries eligible to use the TRICARE retail pharmacy benefit. To find a participating pharmacy, visit [TRICARE's Express Scripts webpage](#) or call Express Scripts at 1-877-363-1303. TRICARE regularly adds coverage for new vaccinations based on CDC recommendations on the [CDC website](#). For more information on immunizations, visit the [Military Health System Immunization Awareness page](#).

## Keep up with TRICARE with New E-Newsletter

Week of September 06, 2010

A new e-newsletter aimed at TRICARE Standard beneficiaries is available online now at the [TRICARE website](#). It supplements the printed Standard newsletter mailed every January to all Standard beneficiaries. The new e-newsletter helps beneficiaries get the most out of the flexible TRICARE Standard and Extra healthcare plan options. For more information on TRICARE Standard or Extra, visit the [TRICARE website](#) and answer three easy questions to get connected to user-tailored information.



## Debt Panel Eyes TRICARE Fee Increases

Week of November 29, 2010

Once again the subject of increasing [TRICARE](#) costs has hit the news -- the latest proposal being offered by the bipartisan Debt Reduction Task Force. One of the stated goals of the bipartisan task force is to reduce the cost of military health care by imposing greater cost-sharing on TRICARE beneficiaries. Some retirees could see their TRICARE premiums increase by as much as \$2,000 a year.

## More Retirement Cuts Proposed

Week of December 06, 2010

The blue ribbon debt reduction commission proposed the government could save \$70 billion over the next ten years by deferring [Cost of Living Adjustments \(COLA\) for retirees](#) until age 62 and forcing older military retirees, those using TRICARE for Life, to pay the first \$500 of costs not paid by Medicare, and half of the next \$5000, out of pocket

**"Long Range Detection Alumni Association"**  
*-Originally formed as "AFTAC Alumni Association"*  
**The Logo on the left has been 'retired' from active use. It is thus appropriate for service with the association and is representative of so many who served during its tenure, 1970-2000. The right-side Logo is the 'flip side' of a coin minted for the 60th Anniversary of Long-Range Detection**



Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora is home to Detachment 045.

Air Force Aid	720-847-6708
American Red Cross	303-343-1294
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

## *Least We Forget*

**Michael. John Miller, Sr. "Mike"**, 58, of Melbourne passed away suddenly on Tuesday, August 24, 2010. Michael was born in Anchorage, Alaska on November 23, 1951. He was in the United States Air Force and the son of military parents and had the privilege of seeing many parts of the world.

**LONG, Earnest "Ernie" 77, of Denver.** Survived by wife Joyce, Additional information provided by Joyce is that Earnie succumbed to a massive heart attack and lung failure on Thursday, Sep 2, 2010. Earnie has been a member of our Colorado Alumni Chapter since our formation in 1991. From information we pieced together, he served two tours in AFTAC. The first as an enlisted Q Technique technician at McClellan and the second as a commissioned officer in the Q Technique at the Headquarters in Alexandria, VA. He retired in the 1970s as a Lt Col.

**ARNIE CELICK, COL USAF Ret.,** passed.23-Nov-2010. Further information unknown.

**Don Glore** lost his battle with cancer and passed away yesterday (11/28) at 2:10 p.m. He retired after more than 20 years in the Air Force. He worked in the Training Section of the Orderly Room. Don was stationed with AFTAC from the early 90s until his retirement

**Bobby Neal Turman, BORN:** February 6, 1944, **DIED:** November 29, 2010, **LOCATION:** Albuquerque, NM. Bob was in the satellite program as a Captain in the early 70's. From AFTAC he taught at the USAF Academy. From there he left the AF and went to work at Sandia National Lab at Albuquerque.

**Nancy Newman** (spouse of Sam Newman), passed on 12 December.

**CHIGAZOLA, Fred (Chick),** USCG & GS-11, USAF, Ret. Passed away on December 28, 2010, in Santa Rosa, CA, at the age of 91.

**Ishmael E. Lawlis, Jr.** 54, passed away December 28, 2010 in Tomah, WI. Ish led an intensive training initiative that significantly increased the mission readiness of the subsurface arm of the United States Atomic Energy Detection System.

## September Breakfast Photographs



Lots of additional photographs available on CD. Just let the Editor know.



Tom Ware



Jerry Moxley

Breakfast  
Rogue's  
Gallery



Ed McKenna



Bill Rogers



Earl Pierce



Rick Phillips



Bill Milnor



Tom Greene

## November 2010 Dinner/Social Event



Many additional photographs available.  
***Contact the "ECHOES" Editor.***



**Jack Smith, Colorado Chapter President, 'Alumni of the Year, 2010!'**

Col Prupas, AFTAC CC, made the announcement at the Colorado Chapter's Dinner/Social. Col Prupas surprised Jack with this honor and noted his many accomplishments serving not only the Colorado



Chapter but Sages in general as that Chapter hosted WorldWide Reunions and involved the active-duty in the area in the chapter's events during his tenure. Jack will also be recognized at the Florida Chapter's 'SnowBall' on January 29th and the 'Center Annual Awards Banquet' on February 10th.



## AFTAC Awards Banquet for 2010 & Alumni SnowBall 2011



**AFTAC Alumni of the Year 2010 Jack Smith enters banquet room under Arch of Swords (as did all award-ees)**



**AFTAC Commander Col Prupas presents AFTAC Alumni of the Year 2010 Award to Jack Smith with AFTAC Superintendent CMSgt Nederhoed and CMSgt (Ret) French observing**



**LRDAA President CMSgt (Ret) Lloyd French and Po-Mo Editor CMSgt (Ret) John Horsch with AFTAC Commander Col Prupas**



**AOY Clark Creery 1995. Judy Milam 1997. Jack Smith 2010, Deborah Carson 2006. Jack Jackson 2009. Joe Goldian 2004. Frank Hall 1998. Jim Payne 2001. Bob Wiley 2008. Pat Snyder-2003. John Horsch-1999**



**AOY 2010 Jack Smith & wife Helen**





**LRDAA President Lloyd French Presents AOY Letter to Jack**



**Jack & CMSgt Revels, AFTAC/IG**



**Jack & John Horsch, LRDA PoMo Editor**



**Jack & Lloyd**



**Jack Smith thanking all for their attendance and his award at the "Ice Breaker"**

***Contributing Editor:***

CLARK CREERY ALSO PROVIDED SUCH A HEART FELT AND EXCELLENT EMAIL FOLLOWING THE SNOWBALL WE GOT HIS PERMISSION TO USE IT AS THE 'SNOWBALL REPORT'-TWEAKED BY DEBORAH CARSON, 'MAJOR ARRANGER,' BILL SCHMIED, CO CHAPTER TREASURER AND YOUR EDITORS.

**SNOWBALL XIII REPORT *QUOTE:*** The wife and I have attended quite a few 'SnowBalls' over the years; however, this year the experience was especially pleasing! From the opening remarks by Alumni President, Lloyd **French** at 7PM on the dot followed by the song "Rocky Mountain High" by John Denver set the stage for an exceptional gathering. Of course in keeping with the "theme" the café was appropriately decorated in the Colorado motif by Dee and Gene **Melchior** and the 'Atmosphere and Space Directorate' donated the use

of their “GPS” satellite model. To begin, 5:30PM was the bewitching hour whereby alumni and invited guests could celebrate a social hour, enjoy some of Chef Braun’s famous hors d’oeuvres and engage in conversation. When the festivities began and all were seated I managed to attempt a head-count of those in attendance. I counted 70 but Major Arranger, Deborah **Carson**, let me know that it was more like 77. That is amazing and we feel that the date finally selected, the new location and the lack of a blizzard counted for something.

Sean **Ryan** presented the invocation for the evening and the words came from the heart, thank you Sean.

Lloyd made introductions of the VIP’s in attendance and soon summoned us to a buffet dinner by ‘playing’ a small chime made for that purpose-he amazed everyone with his musical talents! We did not mind standing in line (something we learned in the military) awaiting chow. I caught Dr. **O’Brien** attempting to dislocate a cordon-bleu but the chef captured the spoon and brought a fresh pan and we were able to partake of a very good ‘bleu’. Chef Scott **Braun** even appeared in the traditional chef hat and uniform as the meat carver at the end of the line-you could obtain a choice cut of prime as desired. One must say the food was absolutely delicious and definitely plentiful. A great job by the staff who attended to all of these folks. I cannot say enough about the service ‘with a smile’!

Following ‘grunts’ (as we ground pounders used to term eating) Colonel Aaron **Prupas/AFTAC CC**, rose to address the crowd. He told us that the New AFTAC Building would be started on June 17th at Patrick AFB. This new building will house a lab similar to the one that we had at McClellan AFB, CA, years ago. The Colonel then turned the festivities over to Lloyd who introduced the Detachment Commanders from Det 45 and Det 46 which are located in Colorado (recall these detachments, along with OLG, were a part of our ‘Colorado’ SnowBall Theme this year). Since the Snowball was kicked off during the Commander’s Conference that is held on an annual basis at Patrick we were glad that our Det 1 Commander, Lt Col Jason **Riera**, Offut AFB, NE, was also in attendance.

The Detachment Commanders from Det 45, Capt (Maj Select) Paul **Muller**, Buckley AFB, CO, and Det 46, LT Col Bradley **Graves**, Schriever AFB, CO, presented a staff briefing about their tasks. Note was made of the ‘Coors’ connection and how that great brew was started in their neck of the woods.

We did not hear a drum roll and none was needed for our recognition of the ‘Alumni of the Year, 2010,’ Jack **Smith** (CO Chapter President). What a deserving award winner and we were glad that both Jack and his wife Helen were able to travel to Florida for the ‘Snowball’ and ‘Center Awards Banquet’ that is held each year. Jack had also invited Maggie **Nagel** & Marlene **Couch**, people important to him during his AFTAC Career.

Jack gave us a rundown on his service career and of note was the name of this son, Patrick. No, it was not planned to honor the Headquarters location, it just happened that way! Jack is too kind and his service to our organization is beyond reproach while on and off active duty. I am proud to know him as dedicated alumni.

Later in the evening attendees were treated to a Colorado Trivia exercise which involved 10 questions about the State. I am old, so that is my excuse for only getting one! That exercise was followed by a ‘Colorado High’ Word Puzzle which required each of us to find hidden words. I was busy taking pictures for the new Website so I missed most of those – Well that is a pretty good excuse anyhow!

It was a night to remember and it could never have happened if Gene and Dee **Melchior**, Deborah **Carson**, Bob **Wiley**, Sean **Ryan**, Jack **Jackson** and others had not stepped up to the plate and done such a wonderful job. Any outing like this has to have planning, worker bees and creativity – those folks need to rest because they have taken the Florida Alumni way over the top. My personal appreciation to each and every one of them. It is folks like this who make me proud to call myself an AFTAC Alumnus. UNQUOTE

**Contributing Editor:**

**John Horsch QUOTE:** Wow, what a six-day period we had, Feb 05-10! It started 'rollin' with the 'SnowBall' and marched forward to the 'Center Annual Awards Banquet.' These are annual events made very special this year when our 'Alumni of the Year, 2010,' **Jack Smith**, CO Chapter President, showed his considerable respect for this once in a lifetime honor. He, and his wife, **Helen**, traveled from their home in the Denver area to be here in person to express their considerable appreciation and humility for this selection. In honor of this travel, and subsequent recognitions, we have coined a play on an old poem:

*"Jack and Helen went up the hill to fill a pail of trophy's, Jack came down, with all but a crown, and Helen came thereafter"*

Jack and Helen started the recognition period by moving into Patrick AFB quarters on the beach arranged by CMSgt John **Nederhoed/CCS**, with assistance from CMSgt Dave **Melton/TM**, our assn vice. They were also treated to a HQ Building and 'Hall of Heritage' tour by CMSgt Steve **Revels/IG**. Jack was recognized at both events in a grand style.

A portion of the well attended 'SnowBall' (02.05) was dedicated to his accomplishments and Jack had time to speak to the group about what the honor meant to him. It was very moving to hear him speak, meaning all the more because of his efforts to be there.

Jack, and others to be honored, made a grand entrance into the 'Center Awards Banquet' on the following Thursday by entering the room through 'Arched Sabers,' pictured here. Other military ceremonies performed prior to dining was the 'Presentation of Colors' by the 'Honor Guard' and the 'POW/MIA Table' ceremony ... these presentations are made all the more special as they are being done by our successors, those currently serving AFTAC's mission-there was also an invocation by Chaplain Capt **Williams** and the 'National Anthem' by Ms Rebecca **Lehnerz**, a member of the 'Greenlight Band' who has performed at numerous AFTAC and Alumni events.

Following dinner, and comments by Guest Speaker CMSgt **Ronayne**, Command Chief, National Air and Space Intelligence Center, noting the accomplishments of some of those assembled, we moved into the recognition/award phase. Some 17 AFTAC personnel, and one Sage, were recognized by Col **Prupas** and Chief **Nederhoed** during this period. **UN-QUOTE**

Please visit the new LRD Alumni Assn web site at  
<http://sites.google.com/site/lrdalumniassnneedtoknownow>  
for many more photos and other important information about our alumni.

**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/>

**NEW** Florida Chapter Location:

<http://sites.google.com/site/irdalumniassnneedtoknownow>

[irdalumniassnneedtoknownow](http://sites.google.com/site/irdalumniassnneedtoknownow)

West Coast Chapter:

<http://www.aftacwcc.org>

Official AFTAC Web Site:

[www.afisr.af.mil/units/aftac.asp](http://www.afisr.af.mil/units/aftac.asp)



**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.

**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 (\$10 PER YEAR or \$75 Lifetime)**

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

**DUES ARE \$5.00 PER 12-MONTH PERIOD PAYABLE DURING EXPIRATION MONTH. (PLEASE check your dues expiration date in the text of the ECHOES transmittal email or above your postal mailing address whichever applies. ).**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BILL SCHMIED.**

**MAIL TO: BILL SCHMIED, 2078 Kenton St., Aurora, CO 80010.**  
Membership questions may be directed to

**BillSchmied at**

**email [BilSchmied@aol.com](mailto:BilSchmied@aol.com)**