

# ECHOES

Past — Present —  
and Future

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**Special points of interest:**

- **Check** your dues expiration date
- **Update**, as necessary, your address & Email

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**General Membership Breakfast 24 September 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 21 June 2011. We will collect your money at the breakfast.

## 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  
September 24th  
2011  
0830 Hours  
Aurora Hills**

**Golf Course Club House**

The breakfast agenda will include introduction of Det 45 & 46 team members attending, discussion of our 12 Nov dinner social where we will again host the AFTAC Commander, Col Prupas, as our guest of honor, and preliminary discussion of our upcoming worldwide alumni reunion which we will host in 2013.



If you can't afford a doctor, go to the airport—you'll get a free x-ray and a breast exam, and; if you mention Al Qaeda, you'll get a free colonoscopy.



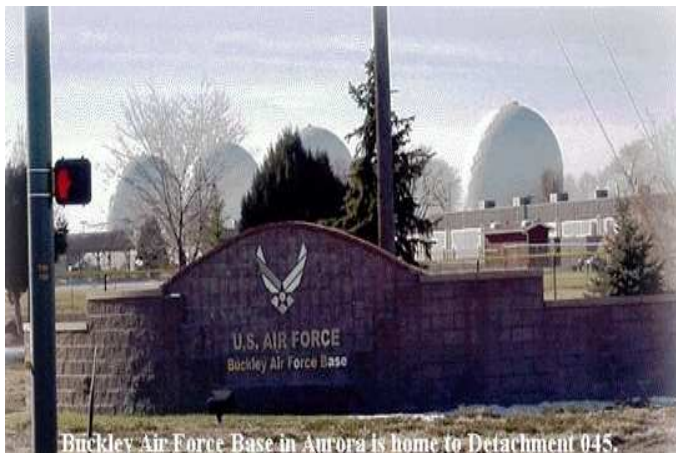
**Dinner/Social 12  
November 1700  
Hours  
Aurora Hills  
Golf Course Club  
House**

The AFTAC Commander, Col Aaron Prupas, is scheduled to be our guest of honor. The menu and agenda is yet TBD and we will send out an email notice to in-state members in mid-October announcing the dinner details.

### 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.**

**"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*

**SSgt James Walter Kehoe**, 26, passed away, Monday, June 27, 2011. He was born November 28, 1984 in Wake County, NC. SSgt Kehoe served at both the Center and Det 452.

**Brenda L. Blasco**, 64, of Satellite Beach passed away Wednesday, July 27, 2011. She was born in Eto-wah, TN to Billie and J.C. Mackenzie.

Brenda moved from Hawaii in 1968 to Brevard County. She was a member of United States Woman's Bowling Association. She enjoyed selling Avon and bowling.

**Andy Bliss, USAF SSgt retired**, lost his fight against cancer on August 6th. For those of you who didn't know Andy, he was medically retired last year. Andy worked in LSMM (GEMS) and was a warrior who fought to show up at work each and every day during his illness.

**Lt Col George P. Bowman, Jr** passed away on July 23, 2011 at Walter Reed Medical Center at age 79. George served 28 ½ years in the Air Force as a nuclear research engineer stationed in Sacramento, CA; Fairbanks, Alaska; and Washington, DC; and as an instructor of the Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH.



## Det 46 Change of Command ceremony

The AFTAC Commander, Col Aaron Prupas, presided over the Det 46 Change of Command ceremony held at Schriever AFB on 30 Jun inside the 50th Space Wing headquarters building. After a formal reception for the new commander, Maj (now Lt Col) Robert McLaughlin and his family, the detachment hosted an informal picnic for the active duty, family, and our alumni to bid farewell to the outgoing commander, Lt Col Bradley Graves and his family. See following pictures:



CoC Orders with Col Prupas, Maj McLaughlin, Lt Col Graves and Det Superintendent, MSgt Pierce, standing behind Lt Col Graves.



Col Prupas, Maj McLaughlin and wife Andy.



Lt Col Graves receives framed space memorabilia.



Lt Col Graves with alumni Jack Smith, Rick Phillips, Bryce Dunn, and Tom Ware.

## Det 45 Change of Command ceremony

The Det 45 Change of Command ceremony was held at Buckley AFB on 6 Jul 2011 inside the COANG 140th Fighter Wing headquarters building where Col Prupas transferred command of the detachment from Capt (Maj Sel) Paul Muller to Maj Barry Croker. Maj Croker comes to the detachment from the 2nd Space Warning Squadron at Buckley and Capt Muller has been reassigned to the Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration Office at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. A formal reception immediately followed the ceremony. See following pictures:



**CoC orders with Col Prupas, Capt Muller, Maj Croker, and Det Superintendent, MSgt Clark, standing behind Col Prupas.**



**CMSgt Dave Melton from HQ AFTAC talks with Jack and Helen Smith after the ceremony.**



**Col Prupas talks with Garrett Rex (Det 45 Civilian Ground Support Systems Engineer) and alumni Bryce Dunn and Rick Phillips (both of whom previously served tours as Det 45 Superintendents before they retired from active duty).**



**Alumni Ken & Cyndie Behrens enjoy refreshments at the reception.**



**MSgt Clark with Det 45 team members.**

## **Det 45 Summer 2011 Picnic**

**Det 45 hosted a picnic on 27 Aug 2011** at the Lake Williams recreation area on Buckley AFB for all the Colorado active duty AFTACers and alumni. Detachment members provided the outstanding "grillin" of burgers and brats, families provided an overwhelming supply of fine side dishes, and our alumni chapter provided a selection of drinks. This year the weather cooperated with dry, hot temperatures and no wind so everyone was able to socialize and enjoy a good time under the shade of the pavilions. A good number of alumni and family members were able to attend this year including Chuck and Donna Nye from Cheyenne, Jim and Diana Neely and family from Colorado Springs, and Herb Pabst from Sun City, AZ. Herb served for many years as the AF civilian training development manager in the Lowry AFB training squadron. He supervised the development of all the "99", detachment admin, and detco training courses conducted there. Herb and his wife Verny were in Denver to get out of the AZ summer heat. See following pictures:

## Det 45 Summer 2011 Picnic



**Pavilion overview.**

Alumni members  
Tom Ware, Chuck  
Nye, Jim Neeley,  
Chuck Toner, and  
Jin Neeley's son.





**Alumni members Ron Zoratti, Tom Ware, Ed Gardiner, Chuck Toner, and Herb Pabst.**



**Detachment team members taking a well deserved rest after providing the set up, grilling, and clean up**

## Military retiree pay dates to change

CLEVELAND (AFRNS) -- Paydays for military retirees and those who receive portions of retired pay are changing for September and December, as the Defense Finance and Accounting Service changes its pay schedule to comply with the 2011 National Defense Authorization Act.

The 2011 NDAA requires military retiree pay to be processed on the first day of the month. When that day falls on a weekend or national holiday, the pay date is moved to the previous business day.

This year payments normally scheduled for Oct. 3 will be issued on Sept. 30, and payments normally scheduled for Jan. 3, 2012, will be issued on Dec. 30. For calendar 2011, this means military retirees will receive 13 rather than the normal 12 payments.

The 13th payday on Dec. 30 falls within the 2011 tax year which could affect the tax liability of some retirees and those who receive portions of their retired pay. Customers should speak with a tax adviser, the Internal Revenue Service or their state tax authority to determine if their tax withholding will satisfy federal and state income taxes when they file returns next year. DFAS officials cannot provide tax advice.

For tax year 2012 and beyond, retirees will receive their normal 12 payments.

This change affects regular retired pay, Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay and Combat Related Special Compensation. The new rule also applies to retiree allotments, garnishments and court-ordered former spouse and child support payments. It does not affect annuity payments.

If retirees need to make changes to their federal or state tax withholding, the quickest and most secure way to do so is through myPay. Available 24/7, myPay enables eligible users worldwide to make routine changes to their pay information, including tax withholding, that become effective within days.

Customers who cannot access myPay can change federal withholding amounts by completing a new IRS Form W-4 or W-4P, or change state withholding amounts using a DD 2866. These forms can be found on the DFAS website ([www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html)) and should be mailed or faxed to the below address once completed:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
U.S. Military Retired Pay  
P.O. Box 7130  
London, KY 40742-7130  
Fax: 800-469-6559

It may take up to 30 days for changes to be made when mailing in a paper form. (Courtesy of DFAS)



## AFTAC Alumni Det 418 Reunion Project Posted at request of Frank Calenda

Det 418 Reunion Project, OPR, Frank Calenda and Al Derickson Contact/Responses Information: Frank Calenda, fcalenda@aol.com, 321-773-2046

**ATTENTION: To those who are, or know of, former Det 418 members, I am SMSgt Frank Calenda, retired and was stationed at Det 418 from July 1968 through July 1970. I and Al Derickson, also a former member of the detachment, have been communicating for the last few years and we have developed a plan to establish a Det 418 reunion at some point in the future, most likely after January 2012. To this end, we must identify and locate as many of those folks that were stationed there in the late 1960's and early 1970's. These dates are loosely established to insure that the people of interest might have interacted with each other at the det during this period of time.**

However, ANY former Det 418 assignee is welcome. Once we have as many names as possible, we would provide the list to each of you and some details on a possible reunion.

**Please provide me with the following information:**

1. Your interest in attending a reunion. On this matter, please understand that the location where we have the reunion would obviously be a determining factor in your final decision. Even if you are not interested you might want to provide the info for dissemination to the others
2. Your name, and spouse, if applicable
3. Dates you were stationed with that Detachment
4. Your mail and email addresses and your phone number. (Please indicate if you'd be willing to share).
5. Would you be more likely to attend a reunion if it were held on the East Coast, the central USA or the West Coast?
6. Any information you might have on these or other members to include their contact data if you have any. If you communicate with anyone you might know, please direct them to my email address and I'll contact them to fill them in. If they only have a phone, have them call me at 321-773-2046. Or, provide me their phone number and I'll give them a call. This request for names would also include any of your children that were there and might be interested.
7. Finally, a recent photo of you and your spouse, if applicable. Based on some of the parties we had at that location, try to provide a picture of you *sober*.... ;-)

To date, we have knowledge of the following people but don't necessarily have all their data. If you are on this list, please be sure to provide the data in 1 - 7 above- Al Derickson, Frank Calenda, Tony First, Bill Schmied, Tom Harris, Chuck Smith. Paul Hahn, Hugo Redlin, Lonnie Gibbons, Monique Miller, Joe Clien, Mark Sepelyack, Harry Joseph, Fred Aldrian, Ned Shaw, Stew Earl, Pete Wiggington, Major Kridle, Reno Clingan, Jim Graham

Here's hoping we can get something together. Regards, Frank Calenda and Al Derickson

**Colorado AFTAC Alumni**

AFTAC ALUMNI  
 ASSOCIATION OF COLO-  
 RADO  
 c/o Jurell Moxley  
 4721 S. Queen St.  
 Littleton, CO 80127

We're **on** the Web!  
 Colorado Chap-  
 ter:<http://www.aftacco.org/>  
**NEW** Florida Chapter Loca-  
 tion:<http://sites.google.com/site/rdalumniassnneedtoknownow>  
 West Coast Chap-  
 ter:<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)