



# THE ROADRUNNER NEWSLETTER



## Roadrunner Reunion... 2014

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2014

### Reunion At A Glance:

- DATES: 5 - 8 Nov 2014
- WHERE: Gold Coast Hotel and Casino
- ROOM RATE: \$33.00

### Reunion Day-by-Day:

**Wed - 5 Nov**

- Registration
- Welcome Reception
- Buffet dinner

**Thurs - 6 Nov**

- Hospitality Suite
- Day at leisure, or
- Creech AFB tour

**Fri - 7 Nov**

- Hospitality Suite
- Nellis AFB : Aviation Nation Air Show

**Sat - 8 Nov**

- Champagne Brunch
- Hospitality Suite
- Banquet and Dance



**We pause a moment...** As we begin to organize yet another opportunity for fun and fellowship... we do it with a much heavier heart. In recent weeks two very special Roadrunners made their final flight as they slipped the surly bonds of earth... and put out their hand and touched the face of God. Most recently, Maj Gen Ken Miles passed away on 27 Apr 2014. Gen Miles and his wife Karen were very active supporters of the Roadrunners and attended most reunions... only absent when important family priorities dictated. Gen Miles joined the wing as the Vice commander in 1970 and later became commander and is remembered for bring the first USAF F-111 wing to combat - ready status. Gen Miles relinquished command to then Col. William R. "Dick" Nelson in Jun 1972.

And sadly, "Mr. Roadrunner himself", Lt Col William G. "Bill" Meyer also reached out and touched the face of God on 5 Mar 2014. As the 474th Wings Plans Officer in 1972 he led the efforts to get us to war when many senior leader in the theater would have rather we stayed home. And, Bill Meyer is the reason we exist... It was his vision and impetus behind the formation of the 474th TFW Roadrunners and he pretty much single handedly organized our first reunion in 1997. Bill and his wife and soul mate Mary continued to serve as two of the most committed working members of your reunion committee. We know that God has received and blessed these departed members and he will continue to bless their families.

**About the Reunion...** The publication of this newsletter marks the beginning of initial planning for reunion 2014. Again, your committee will endeavor to provide you opportunity for great fellowship and celebration as we gather again at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Mark your calendars now and watch for those special "Vegas" air fare deals frequently offered by your favorite airline... we promise to do the rest.

Again this year the **Aviation Nation Air Show** will be our featured event. We are also working with the 432nd Wing, Creech AFB, for a tour and mission briefings on Thursday, 6 Nov for those who might like to attend. The 432nd Operations Group employs remotely piloted aircraft in 24/7 Combat Air Patrols worldwide. in support of combatant commander needs. This includes combat command and control, tactics development, intelligence support, weather support, and standardization and evaluation oversight for the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command, Air Forces Central Command, Air Force Material Command, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command, and Royal Air Force remotely piloted aircraft units.. The group is also responsible for all air traffic control, airfield management, and weather services at Creech. The group currently oversees global operations of six operational squadrons.



## Registering for ROADRUNNER – 2014

**TO LOWER MAILING COSTS AND REDUCE PAPERWORK WE WANT TO DISTRIBUTE AS MANY REGISTRATION PACKETS AS POSSIBLE VIA THE INTER-**

**NET...** We currently have email addresses for more than 200 of our members. However, we believe there may be many more of you with internet capability. If that is so, please provide Greg Ellis (gregellis@att.net) your contact information and you will be added to our "electronic" list.

All other members will receive a copy of the registration packet in the mail by mid to late July. As always, our goal is to provide a great reunion venue and lots of great fellowship and fun at the least possible cost.

**START YOUR PLANNING NOW TO ATTEND THE ROADRUNNER REUNION 5 – 8 NOVEMBER 2014**

## **Nellis AFB - “Aviation Nation”**

Aviation Nation is the annual (less 2013's 'Sequester cancellation') Nellis AFB Open House and the largest free public event in Nevada.

This year Aviation Nation celebrate 74 years of airpower in Las Vegas and the Air Forces accomplishments in the air, space and cyberspace. Several military air Demonstration teams, including the U. S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, The “THUNDERBIRDS”, will perform with other military and civilian sponsored aerial acts.

The three day event will depict the history of American aviation and will salute the recent accomplishments of America’s military in operations Around the globe through numerous military and civilian ground displays.

This award winning air show features war planes from all eras and includes several civilian sponsored events, Several of the planes on display even allow guests too board and view first hand. For all, the best part of the day is the viewing of the daring aerial exhibitions that “WOWS” spectators of all ages.

Aviation Nation is arguably the best air show held in the United States on an annual basis.

Joe Otto, our transportation coordinator, is Hard at work defining the details of our transportation plan to support the Aviation Nation and Creech AFB events. Lunch will be provided for both events (Prepared ‘bag’ lunch for Creech and a Red River Rats hosted flight line lunch for aviation Nation).



## **Your Roadrunner Reunion Committee:**

Committee Co-Chairs: Dick Browning, dickpegb@cox.net (702) 207-0486

Bill Shunney, bshunney@cox.net (702) 896-3400

Membership: Greg Ellis, gregellis@att.net (405) 732-7211

Historian: Rick Sine, fsine@aol.com (206) 855-1300

Hospitality: Pete Gamage, gamage2@cox.net (702) 521-4028

Finance: Harry Richard, richardharryj@aol.com (702) 375-7599

Transportation: Joe Otto, joe@theottoteam.com (702) 403-9875

Program: Dave Broxterman, broxtdc@cox.net (702) 361-6264

## **The Roadrunner Missing List... (as of 29 May 2014)**

Anderson, Bruce W.	Kazilek, Charles J.	Schneider, Carl M.
Anderson, Milton W.	Kalinauskas, John J.	Sealy, William F.
Arnet, David L.	Kazilek, Charles J.	Simmons, Thomas W.
Ashley, Bruce H. USN	LeVan, Jay	Smith, Mickey
Austin, Howard C.	Locher, Clara M. "Patty"	Stewart, Joseph
Autry, Robert	Kemp, Tom	Swain, James M.
Biestschel, Phil	Kennedy, Patrick V.	Thomas, William L.
Billingslea, William	Lewis, Brian W.	Thompson, Thomas W.
Bowman. Robert G "Bob"	Lu, Jimmy	Tinkler, Steven B.
Boyd, J. T.	Luke, John A.	Tolle, Thomas
Brewer, Richard R.	McClelland James N.	Walker. Ronald M.
Brown, Gene D.	McKeller, Milton L.	Weavil, N. R.
Brown II, Guy E.	McKelvey, Robert	Welch, Harold "Hal"
Caskey, Dave	Mickelson, Robert B.	Williams, Perry
Charters, Thomas R.	Miller, Robert	Williams, W. Jr
Christie, Vern	Monroe, George M.	Wilson, Larry J.
Clark, Howard	Morgan, Steven N.	Youngblood, James H.
Cooney, James M. "Jim"	Morrissey, Ann	
Cooper, Kelly S.	Meyers, Ronald F "Ron"	
Davis, Michael R.	Narsavage. Joseph M.	
Denton, John R.	Neilands, Harry D.	
Donahoe, Jeffery E.	Nichols, JimmynL.	
Dorch. Harold	Nunemaker, Roger P.	
Evans, Clive RAF	Oakden, Donald RAF	
Everman, Russ	Parks, Al	
Field, James I.	Peschiet, Willard	
Fierman, Paul	Phillips, David	
Fowler, Ivan H	Phillips, John D.	
Fritz, Kenneth	Pobre, Melvin	
Gardner, Larry	Powers, William R.	
Gibbs, Rich	Randall, James E.	
Gregory, Bill	Ray, James	
Hall, Donald M.	Rivers, Henry A.	
Hand, P. D.	Roberts, William R.	
Heagle, John M.	Robinson, Larry A.	
Hornbergerm Rick	Rogers, Timothy A.	
Huff, Stephen A.	Rosenthal, Edward P. "Rosy"	
Johnson, R. M.	Sacker, W. S.	
Johnson, Wayne A.		
Jones, Robert "Honez"		
Kalinauskas, John J.		

### **HELP...**

**These Roadrunners have dropped "off the radar". If you have any information that may help us contact them, please contact Greg Ellis at [gregellis@att.net](mailto:gregellis@att.net) or 405-732-7211**

## Roadrunner TAPS

Calvin T. Broadway*	(* Unknown Date)	Capt George G. Benson (11 Feb 2009)
CMSGT James R. Cain*		Col Joe G. Cabuk Jr (12 Apr 2009)
Craig M Campbell*		Lt Col Robinson W, "Rob, Ringo" Van Sicikle (16 Apr 2009)
Charles F. Christenson*		Maj Gen Herbert J. Gavun (27 Jun 2009)
Lt Col Fred H. De Jong*		Col Charles E. "Chuck" Van Drill (22 Jul 2009)
Leslie R. "Les" Holland*		Capt Chessman Kittredge III (4 Oct 2009)
Lt Col Donald J. Rowley*		Maj Thomas "Wayne" Sharp (20 Nov 2009)
Donald Waltman*		Phillip "Phil" Straley (Dec 2009)
Paul James Wright Jr. (Feb 1992)		Lt Col Jack D. M. Dale (18 Jan 2010)
Col Claude Hill (1994)		Gary J Morehead (15 May 2010)
Major Alan L. "Al" Gasho (8 Aug 1996)		Col Ronald D. "Doug" Tingley (8 Oct 2010)
Col Bobby J. Mead (27 Mar 1998)		Brig Gen Thomas E. Lacy (15 Oct 2010)
Maj Dana M Dieckman (31 Mar 1999)		CMSGT Oliver C. Bell (15 Oct 2010)
Lt Col Andrew J. "Andy" Peloquin (5 Jun 1999)		Col Donald E. "Don" Langwell (6 Nov 2010)
Lt Col Grover C. Poole (7 Jan 2000)		Col James H. Caldwell (27 Nov 2010)
Lt Col Steve Huisenfeldt (15 Jul 2000)		Lt Col Robert J. Leland "Bob" Tidwell (6 Jan 2911)
Col Roger Mathiasen (16 Sep 2000)		Lt Col Richard A. "Dick" Fleitz (16 Jan2011)
Charles J. Phippen (Jan 2001)		George W. Kronsblen (28 Jan 2011)
Col Robert D. Balph (Jan 2001)		Lt Col Larry H. "Larry" Colliflower (27 Feb 2011)
Gen James V. Hartinger (2002)		Maj Carl s, Hicks Jr (23 mar 2011)
Capt Robert M. "Bob" Lathrop Jr (May 2002)		Lt Col Robert O, "Bob" Balance (1 May 2011)
Col Mike Same (July 2002)		Maj Charles R. "Chuck" Stoltz (8 May 2011)
Homer D. Boswell (18 Jul 2002)		Thomas "Tom" Fisher (Jun 2011)
Col William W. "Bill" Hopkins (2003)		Maj Francssco P. "Frank" Frulio (23 Jul 2011)
Maj Fred A. Guillot (1 Feb 2003)		Herbert T. "Tom" Pickering (23 Oct 2011)
Col Robert G. "Bob" Morrison (25 Mar 2003)		Wg Cmdr Alan R. Lockett, RAAF (25 Oct 2011)
Maj Joseph G. Parker (1 Jan 2004)		Col Dave Hubbard (1 Nov 2011)
Brig Gen Thomas E. "Griz" Wolters (Feb 2004)		John E. Owens (18 Nov 2011)
Col Robert E. "Bob" Irwin (3 Dec 2004)		Col Nick Muralt (24 Feb 2012)
Lt Col Victor L. Hackman (14 Dec 2004)		Gerald D. "Jerry" Robinson (10 Mar 2012)
Robert T. "Bob" Saffel (2005)		Maj William C. "Bill" Erickson (20 Apr 2012)
Col Robert K. "Bob" Crouch (2005)		Frank App (19 May 2012)
Capt Lee Bafalon (18 Mar 2005)		Maj Robert R. "Bob, OB" Oberg (6 Jul 2012)
Col Ivan "Ike" H. Dethman (24 Mar 2005)		Lt Col Albert E. Hanneman (20 Jul 2012)
Col William S. "Will" Turner (9 May 2005)		Maj Aarron O Philibert Jr (19 Aug 2012)
Neil Pollock, RAAF (24 Jun 2005)		Lt Col Edwin P. "Ed" Whitfield Jr (1 Oct 2012)
Maj Mortimer J. "Mort" Hall (Jul 2005)		Maj Gen Frederick C. "Boots" Blesse (31 Oct 2012)
Maj Marius F. "Fred" Kempf (16 Aug 2005)		Maj H Phillip "Phil" Brandt II (3 Nov 2012)
Col Lynn Lovegren (Sep 2005)		Lt Col Lothar A. "Andy" Olman (13 Jan 2013)
Col Lawrence C. Pearce (30 Oct 2005)		Lt Col Thomas Jerod "Tommy" Taylor (9 Feb 2013)
Kirby F. Ludwick (22 Nov 2005)		Maj Cyril James "Jim" King (12 Feb 2013)
Maj William "Bill" Hamilton (31 Mar 2006)		Col James E. McQueen (2Mqy 2013)
Col Dean Salmeier (12 may 2006)		Col Danny L. "Dan" Eckles (20 Jun 2013)
Col James C. "Jim" Sharp (23 May 2006)		Lt Col Kenneth S. "Ken" Law (7 Jul 2013)
Lt Col Robert "Bob" McClure (5 Aug 2006)		Lt Col John Dejardine (23 Sep 2013)
Lt Col Alexander A. "Sandy" Marquardt (22 Aug 2006)		Lt Col Ralph C. "Chris" Kellum (26 Sep 2013)
Lt Col Edward A. "Ed" Kowalczyk (7 Sep 2006)		Lt Col Thomas "Tom" Murch (11 Nov 2013)
Kalman E. "Kal" Reistetter Jr (( Sep 2006)		Col Robert L. "Bob" Bobbett (2 Jan 2014)
Col James R. "Slip" Arthur (4 Dec 2006)		Col Robert P. "Slick" Andrews (2 Jan 2014)
Lt Col Norman J. Thouvenelle (Feb 2007)		Lt Col William E. "Bill" Brummett (16 Jan 2014)
Lt Col Adrain E. "Jack" Geraghty (5 Jul 2007)		Col Gabriel P. "Bart" Bartholomew (30 Jan 2014)
Col Lloyd Houchin (18 Jul 2007)		Lt Col William G. "Bill" Meyer (5 Mar 2014)
Stephen J. "Steve" Feaster (22 Aug 2007)		Col William F. "Bill" Palmer (8 Mar 2014)
Lt Col Fredrick R. "Fred" Fine (Nov 2007)		Maj Gen Kenneth P. "Ken" Miles (27 Apr (2014)
Allan R. Earls (Dec 2007)		John D. Palm Jr. (18 May 2014)
Lt Col John E. Malone Jr (28 May 2008)		Maj Glenn J. "Andy" Anderson (23 Jun 2014)
Col Robert D. "Bob" Anderson (9 Sep 2008)		Lt Col Wallace A. "Mike" Kulczyk (27 Jun 2014)
Lt Gen William R. "Dick" Nelson (3 Oct 2008)		
Bob McWhorter (2009)		
Lt Col Donald L. Hutchinson (25 Jan 2009)		
Maj Don Primas ( 6 Feb 2009)		

**... Every Roadrunner listed here, was above all, a great airman, a brother in arms, a patriot and a national hero. Most were the best of husbands and fathers as well as leaders in their communities. In every case they left this world too soon, but they clearly left it a better place for having been. Please continue to honor them and their families in your prayers.**