

**E-9ERS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

27 April 2011

1. Meeting convened at 1130 at Mr. Panda Buffet, 2852 S. Havana Street, Aurora CO. Ken Melcher led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Tom Smola gave the invocation.

2. Marie Moll thanked those who attended the birthday party for Wally. Marie introduced her daughter, Yvonne, who brought her and Wally to today's meeting. Acting President Ken Melcher welcomed Yvonne. He also welcomed Jerry Gamache,



Rae and Walt Wilson, and Kathy and Frank Forsyth. All of them are members, but recently have been unable to attend meetings. Mike Phelps



reported that Walt Walko is still in a Colorado Springs care facility and is holding his own.

3. Plans and Programs Director Mike Phelps introduced today's speaker, Joe Clark. Joe was in the Army/Air Corps during WWII. After training, he went from co-pilot to pilot on the B-17 aircraft. Joe's first assignment was in England, where he flew 31 combat missions in seven months. Joe told several stories about the missions he flew, including one about parachuting from his damaged aircraft. His final story was about a "target of opportunity" bombing of a small village near Munich, which has troubled him ever since. Joe was given an E-9ers plaque to thank him for his interesting presentation.



4. Accompanying Joe Clark to today's meeting was Matthew, who is a student at Regis University. Matthew is writing a paper on Joe Clark. Joe donated his military uniform to the Regis War University, as well as the ripcord from the parachute he used when he jumped from his damaged B-17. Matthew invited anyone who is interested to sit in on their "Stories of

Wartime” class on Tuesdays from 6 to 9 PM. Go to [CenterForWarExperiences.org](http://CenterForWarExperiences.org) for more information.

5. Copies of the minutes for March 2011 were distributed. Minutes were accepted as written.
6. Copies of the Treasurer’s Report were distributed. Report was accepted as written.
8. Plans and Programs Director Mike Phelps said that our speaker in May will be Jasper Freese, Lt Col (Ret), Army Reserve. In June, we will hear from another of our members, MCPO USN (Ret) David Jones, a Veterans Service Officer from Kremmling.
9. Tom Smola said that our next social will be at the home of Mike and Cheri Phelps on June 18. Please sign up today or at the May meeting and RSVP to the Phelps by June 14. Maps to the event will be available at the May meeting.
10. In the absence of Bob VanSciver, Ken Melcher gave an update on the new VA Hospital and the renovation of the building that will be home to the Buckley Clinic.
11. Marie Moll reported that Toshi Sherburne’s brother lost everything in the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. He lived near the nuclear power plant.
12. Ken Melcher said that the Armed Forces Recognition luncheon will be held on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:00, at the Crown Plaza Hotel, I-70 & Chambers. Ken said that in past years our E-9ers Association has donated \$350.00 to sponsor an award. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to donate \$350.00 to sponsor an award. Ken said to let him know if you are interested in attending this event, since six seats come with our donation.
13. Mike Phelps gave information on the Rockies Military Appreciation Day on May 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in complementary tickets to the game that day against the Cardinals, contact the individual on the information sheet.
14. Meeting adjourned at 1255.
15. 50/50 drawing: Winners – John Smith (\$18.00—John donated \$5.00 to the E-9ers); Don Young (\$9.00—Don donated \$5.00 to the E-9ers); Gladine Dracon (\$9.00—Gladine donated \$4.00 to the E-9ers).

***Sharon***

SHARON K. MELCHER  
Secretary

