

## Enlisted Dining Out highlights Westover history

by MSgt. W.C. Pope

"Our Heritage, Our People, Our Pride" was the theme of the 439th Airlift Wing Enlisted Dining Out held at Westover Club on April 1.

The traditional military event had 193 in attendance and began with Recruiter SSgt. Sirita Day singing the national anthem.

The guest speaker was CMSgt. Gary R. Akin, the director of the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute, Maxwell AFB, Gunter Annex, Ala. He spoke on the history of the Air Force's Enlisted force and its ever increasing importance to the total force—past, present and future.

Notables included distinguished guest Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander, Senior NCO of the Year, SMSgt.

Bruce Westcott, NCO of the Year, MSgt William Pope; and Airman of the Year, SrA. Cornelia Babcock. The event was presided over by President of the mess, CMSgt. Zigmund Skawski, and Mr. Vice, TSgt. Donald Martel both members of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron.

The festivities included a music video that highlighted the history of Westover ARB from 1941 until today. The video was compiled by SMSgt. David Carbin and SSgt. Lisa Gustafson.

"Even with many of our people on deployments and the SAV going on, we had a great turnout and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves," said CMSgt. Kathleen Wood. "We need to keep these military traditions alive so that we can see where we are coming from and where we are going," she said.



**PRESENTING OF THE WESTOVER COIN — Col. Martin Mazick, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing presents CMSgt. Gary Akin the Commander's Coin at the conclusion of the Dining Out.**

—photo by TSgt. Howard Garbarsky

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BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #43  
CHICOPEE, MA

Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. William Palmieri, of Seekonk, Mass., and 2,311 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.