

# Celebrating in Style

This year, Air Force Food Service celebrated the 50th anniversary of the John L. Hennessy Award for excellence in food service. As it does every year, the Air Force held its celebration in conjunction with the National Restaurant Association (NRA) Restaurant Hotel-Motel show, which took place May 20-23 in Chicago, Ill. The NRA has been an important supporter of the Hennessy program throughout the years, and by combining the two events into one weekend, those in town for the awards are given an opportunity to take advantage of all that the NRA Show has to offer.

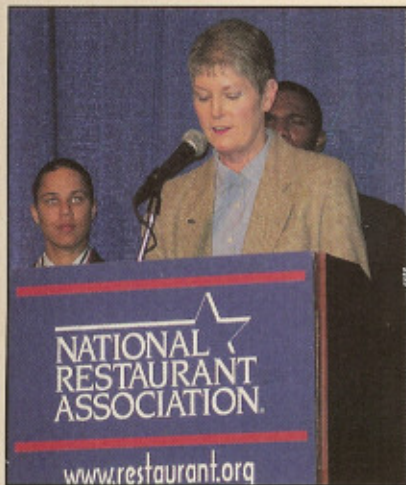
Air Force festivities began on Friday night, May 19, with a reception hosted by the Hennessy Travelers Association (HTA) at the Hilton Chicago. During the cocktail-party event, the HTA took the opportunity to recognize the Hennessy winners, distinguished guests and its many supporters. Representatives from the other branches of military food service, the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP), the International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA) and many food manufacturers and distributors were also invited to attend.

HTA president Carmen Vacalebre was the emcee for the presentations, introducing a number of distin-

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# Hennessy Awards



guished speakers, including NRA President of the Board Craig Miller, and helping to present the HTA Award of Excellence to two distinguished Air Force Food Service personnel. The winners were Staff Sgt. Cinnamon Calloway, Eglin AFB, Fla., and Staff Sgt. Santiago Padilla, Travis AFB, Calif. Calloway was selected out of a group of four nominees in the multiple-facility category, and Padilla was selected out of five nominees in the single-facility category.

Also during the weekend's festivities, 50 Air Force

Food Service professionals were selected to attend a special educational event at the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone, Calif., in February 2007, made possible by the HTA and its many sponsors, including its partner in this program, Otis Spunkmeyer. In addition, the NRA Educational Foundation will provide each of the nominated servicemembers with a \$2,500 scholarship for their use upon completion of their military service.

At the 50th annual Air Force Hennessy Awards



Breakfast, held in the Grand Ballroom at the Hilton Chicago on Saturday, May 20, honorees and guests were dressed in their finest and treated to a wonderful program. With formal introductions of distinguished guests, the presenting of the colors and a performance by the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team, it was truly an elegant affair. After breakfast was served, attendees were given the opportunity to take in the words of guest speaker Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, USAF, commander of the U.S. Transportation

Command (USTRANSCOM), Scott AFB, Ill.

The HTA Award winners were once again recognized, and video presentations were shown to demonstrate the hard work of the Hennessy Travelers and all of the Hennessy Award nominees. Presentations were also made to the 911th Services Flight, Pittsburgh AFS, Pa., in the Air Force Reserve category; the 120th Services Flight, Great Falls, Mont., in the Air National Guard (ANG) category; and the 701st Munitions Support Squadron, Klein Brogel, Belgium, in the

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# Hennessy Awards



USAF-Europe Food Service small-site category. Gen. Schwartz himself helped present the awards to the 2006 Hennessy Trophy winners. This year's winners were Travis AFB, Calif., in the single-facility category

and Eglin AFB, Fla., in the multiple-facility category.

The event was a huge success, and a good time was had by all.

—GFS

## Thank You, From Us

While in Chicago for the Hennessy Awards and NRA Show, the publishers and editors of Government Food Service magazine hosted a reception as a way of showing our appreciation for military foodservice professionals, our advertisers and our many friends and supporters. Thank you to all who attended, and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

