



# MAN OF THE YEAR EVENT *and Youth of the Year!*



## **SOUTH JERSEY MEN'S CLUB CHERRY HILL, NJ NELSON MELLITZ**

### **OCCUPATIONS**

Retired Colonel of the United States Air Force  
U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service Northeast Area  
Chief Procurement Officer

### **GENERAL BIO**

Nelson enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1970. He initially retired after 32 years of active and reserve service in the United States Air Force. However, he was recalled to active duty by the Department of Defense/State Department, Iraqi Reconstruction Management Office (IRMO) for a tour as the Military Acquisition Advisor to the Iraqi Acquisition Director in Baghdad 2005-2006.

Nelson's enlisted career field was in Civil Engineering, Site Development Specialist/Manager. In nine-years he obtained the rank of MSgt (E-7). He received a direct commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1980 and subsequently served in the Acquisition/Contracting career field. In the ensuing 18 years he advanced to the rank of Colonel. During his career he had assignments in Europe and 15 locations in the United States; including a Pentagon tour in SAF/AQC.

While assigned to Defense Contract Management Command (DCMA) in the Brig Gen Reservist slot he managed over 3,000 Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine joint service staff and billions of dollars in supplies and services. Immediately after September 11, 2001, Colonel Mellitz managed the DCMA Headquarters Command Incident Mobilization Center that deployed troops and equipment in support of operations in Southwest Asia and CONUS.

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**WORK HONORS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- First Term Airman of the Year, Germany
- Defense Logistics Agency Junior Officer of the Year
- Defense Logistics Agency Senior Officer of the Year-Air Force Element
- U.S. Ambassador to Iraqi Meritorious Service Award

**OTHER COMMUNITY OR JEWISH ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES (NOT MEN'S CLUB)**

- Jewish War Veterans of the United States, National Commander
- Serving on the National Museum of Jewish Military History Board of Directors
- Armed Forces Heritage Museum Board of Director
- Vice Chairperson of the New Jersey State Governors Veterans Services Council, on the Camden County and Cherry Hill Veterans Council
- Taught federal government acquisition and contracting, and leadership courses at: Villanova University, Veterans Affairs Acquisition Academy, Defense Acquisition University, National Contract Management Association, National Education Seminars, and others
- Consultant to companies seeking to obtain and retain federal and State government contracts
- Provides training in best practices in leadership

**REASON FOR THIS AWARD**

Through his many volunteer activities for the South Jersey Men's Club (SJMC), Colonel Nelson L. Mellitz, United States Air Force, Retired, of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, is very deserving of the club's Man of the Year Award. Mellitz, who is also very active in the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of the United States of America and is currently its national commander, has implemented a program in which the SJMC sends Chanukah cards to Jewish men and women serving in the United States military and the Israel Defense Forces as part of "Operation Maccabee." SJMC has collected hundreds of such cards each year. Further, to honor those lost on September 11, 2001, Mellitz helped organize an effort to place nearly 3,000 U.S. flags on the grounds of the Jewish Community Center in Cherry Hill.

In addition, Mellitz coordinated a program in which the SJMC donated several dozen teddy bears for Afghanistan children who were being housed at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey. Through Mellitz's coordination, the SJMC, along with the JWV, replaced broken flag holders and added flags at the graves of Jewish veterans at a local Jewish cemetery.

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In addition to those efforts, Mellitz is a frequent SJMC volunteer at the Betsy and Peter Fischer Food Pantries of the Jewish Family and Children's Service of Southern New Jersey. He also, helped the SJMC distribute Yom Hashoa candles as part of the South Jersey community's Holocaust remembrance event, and helped with the SJMC's construction of the Sukkah at the Jewish Community Center.

Mellitz, who is a founding member of the SJMC and a current board member as well as a regular attendee of its monthly meetings, is truly deserving of the *Man of the Year Award*.

