



The Sijan Sentinel

1ST QUARTER, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2014

WELCOME TO 2014 SIJAN CHAPTER 125!

President: Dave Shiller
Vice President: Linda Aldrich
Treasurer: Barbara Binn
Secretary: Tom Ocvirk



Our Chapter kicked off 2014 with a very successful Air Force Ball. The Lance P. Sijan Chapter of the Air Force Association organized and hosted the annual Air Force Ball at the prestigious Broadmoor resort to provide a wonderful social event for the Air Force community of the Front Range. This year the Ball fell on Valentine's Day, making it even more special, and the Chapter welcomed over 930 attendees to the festivities.



The evening began with a cocktail reception, followed by an exceptional dinner and dancing. The Mitchell High School Junior ROTC Cadet Honor Guard presented the colors with great professionalism for which they are known, and Mr. Matt Cook, son of Colonel Kathleen Cook, performed a spectacular rendition of our National Anthem. The featured entertainment was provided by The Air Force Academy Band—Blue Steel. As the Chapter does each year, we honored the Outstanding Airmen nominated by their commands to be recognized during the evening. A new ball event this year was the presentation of the General Jerome F. O'Malley Distinguished Space Leadership Award, an award established by the Sijan Chapter to recognize the contributions of outstanding space leaders. The honored recipient this year was Brigadier General David J. Buck, who received his award from General O'Malley's daughter, Mrs. Sharon O'Malley-Burg.

We owe a special thank you to our generous corporate sponsorships and corporate table sales that subsidize the ticket prices to make this event affordable for all.

Corporate Sponsorships:

Platinum Level – Lockheed Martin Corporation
Gold Level – ATK, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Raytheon Company
Silver Level – Booz Allen Hamilton sponsoring the Outstanding Airmen Table
Bronze Level – ASRC Federal, Exelis Inc., Scitor Corporation, AT&T Government Solutions

Table Sales: ASRC Federal, ATK, AT&T Government Solutions, Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation, Booz Allen Hamilton, COLSA Corporation, ENT Federal Credit Union, Harris Corporation, Exelis Inc., L-3 National Security Solutions, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Lockheed Martin IS&GS, Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems, Northrop Grumman IS, PAE, Raytheon, Scitor Corporation, Serco Inc., Space Foundation, Stellar Solutions Inc., Summit Technical Solutions LLC, The Aerospace Corporation, The Boeing Company, The Broadmoor Hotel, The SI Organization Inc., United Launch Alliance, USAA.



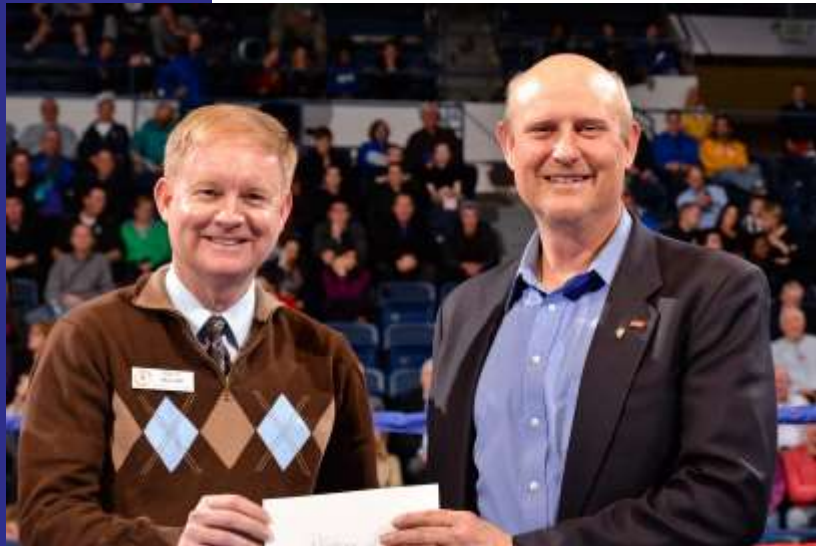
Around Your AFASIJAN Community Cont.



2014 AIR FORCE BALL OUTSTANDING AIRMEN



In the picture left to right: SSgt Traci Blakely/ USAFA; SrA Nathan Powell/50th SW; SrA Maribel White/AFSPC; SSgt Brenda Sherrill/ NORAD/USNORTHCOM; MSgt Charles Apodaca/21st SW



The boxing tournament was held February 20th at the Cadet Field House. The pizza party was held prior to the tournament, and was co-hosted by the Sijan chapter and the local chapter of academy's Association of Graduates. Sijan Chapter event leaders, Bob and Cathy Cooper, stated this event brings the best of both local organizations together for a great time of food and fellowship, supporting a first-class charity that has a wonderfully positive impact on the local military community. Pizza and soda have been donated by Colorado Springs vendors for this event for over ten years, allowing all donations to go directly to the charity.

Wing Open Boxing

Each winter, the U.S. Air Force Academy conducts a charity drive during its Wing Open Boxing Tournament, and the Lance P. Sijan Chapter of the Air Force Association co-sponsors a pizza party to support its cause. This year the Senior Class of the Cadet Wing chose The Home Front Cares as its Wing Open charity. The Home Front Cares is a Colorado 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose sole purpose

is to help needy veterans and military families with rent/ mortgages, utilities, car and home repairs, childcare and other essential life needs.



Eighty guests donated to the cause, enjoying all-you-can-eat pizza and soda; Sijan Chapter community partners donated door prizes that were raffled to attendees during the meal. Donations tallied \$900 from the pizza party attendees and another \$1200 from the Sijan chapter. Total donations from the party and the boxing audience netted over \$5400 for The Home Front Cares!



Distinguished Space Leadership Award Presentation At the 2014 Air Force Ball The General Jerome F. O'Malley Award



The Air Force Association Lance P. Sijan Chapter presented the General Jerome F. O'Malley Distinguished Space Leadership Award to Brigadier General David J. Buck, USAF, in recognition of his space mission contributions throughout his career, application of space systems in direct support to the warfighter and leadership in bringing innovative application of space capabilities to critical Air Force mission areas. General Buck is the Director of Air, Space and Cyberspace Operations, Air Force Space Command and has held a variety of command, operations, test and evaluation and staff assignments. He commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels.

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter established the O'Malley Award to recognize contributions of leaders in achieving General O'Malley's vision of "...providing an intensified space focus and reorienting USAF philosophy toward an operational approach by advocating the operational use of space at the highest levels of the Air Force."

General O'Malley, who died

tragically during an aircraft mishap in 1985 while serving as Commander, Tactical Air Command, was a longtime advocate for properly organizing space forces to make them more accessible to warfighters. He was a highly decorated command pilot with more than 5,000



flying hours who provided the leadership during various senior assignments at the Air Staff that resulted in the creation of today's Air Force Space Command on October 1, 1982.

Of special significance was the presentation of the O'Malley Award by his daughter, Mrs. Sharon O'Malley-Burg. She shared many of her personal observations on her father's passion for space and space assistance to the warfighter. Also present for the evening was Major General (Retired) Wes Clark who worked with General O'Malley and assisted in the selection of this year's recipient.



Around Your AFASIJAN Community Cont.



2014
SnoFest



Lance P. Sijan at SnoFest

This year's Snofest was hosted by Peterson Air Force Base. The event was a huge success providing much needed relaxation for Air Force service personnel. As with previous Snofests, your Lance P. Sijan chapter was a sponsoring organization. President Dave and wife Margy Shiller; Treasurer Barbara and husband Brian Binn Attended Snofest events.



JROTC Drill Meet

On Saturday, January 25, 2014, the Lance P Sijan Chapter 125 sponsored the 4th annual Colorado JROTC Drill Meet at Mitchell High School in Colorado Springs. The competition included JROTC units from school in the surrounding area. An exciting day of completion concluded with Mitchell High School receiving the Commander's Trophy as the overall champions. Individual results are listed below. The picture shows Chapter President Dave Shiller and Secretary Tom Ocvirk presenting the trophy to these outstanding competitors.



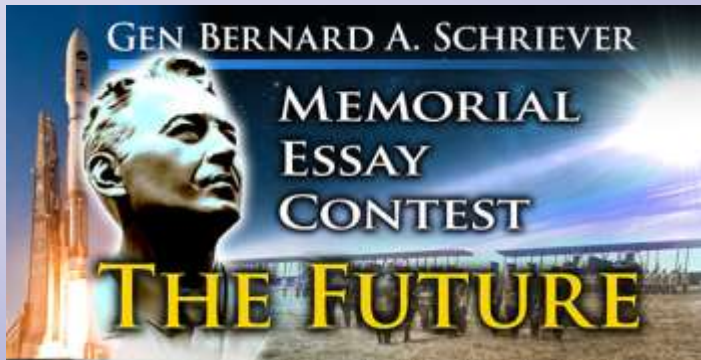
Inspection:
 1st Place: Mitchell High School
 2nd Place: Falcon School
 3rd Place: Sand Creek High School
 4th Place: Westminster High School

Color Guard:
 1st Place: Adams City High School
 2nd Place: Mitchell High School Team A
 3rd Place: Mitchell High School Team C
 4th Place: Westminster High School
 5th Place: Harrison High School

Unarmed Regulation:
 1st Place: Mitchell High School Team A
 2nd Place: Mitchell High School Team B
 3rd Place: Westminster High School
 4th Place: Skyview High School

Unarmed Exhibition:
 1st Place: Mitchell High School
 2nd Place: Skyview High School





In the name and memory of a great Air Force pioneer, the Lance P. Sijan Chapter of the Air Force Association is pleased to sponsor the General Bernard A. Schriever Memorial Essay Contest. The annual contest is open to all current Air Force military and civilian personnel including Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members. The purpose of the contest is to stimulate thought, discussion, and debate on matters relating to how the Air Force and Air Force Space Command provide space and cyberspace capabilities for the Joint Force and the Nation. Air Force Space Command and the Air Force as a whole relies on thoughtful

reflection and critical assessments to maintain its cutting edge. This contest is a great opportunity to share your ideas with other space and cyber professionals. The Air and Space Power Journal will publish the top three essays with honorable mentions given to other noteworthy entries. For the upcoming contest, the Lance P. Sijan Chapter of the Air Force Association will sponsor three awards for the best essays. In addition to trophies, the winning essay will receive \$1,000, the second place winner will receive \$750, and the third place winner will receive \$500.

The theme for this year's contest is the future. Specifically, how does AFSPC change/prepare/plan to deal with the contested environments the command will face in both the space and the cyber domains. What should we, as an organization, do differently? In addition, how can we integrate space and cyber capabilities to meet these new challenges?

Visit the AFA Lance P. Sijan website to view detailed guidelines: <http://www.afasijan.com/>

Cyber Patriot VI 2014 Award Winners



National Finalist All Service Division

Peterson AFB CAP

Colorado All Service Division

1st Place: Falcon High School JROTC

3rd Place: Falcon High School

Colorado Open Division

1st Place: Falcon High School

3rd Place: Vista Ridge High School



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Tax Breaks for Higher Education Cost Often Missed by Taxpayers

By H&R Block

There are more than 18 million people in college, but only two-thirds are claiming one of the higher education tax breaks. These higher education tax credits, such as American Opportunity Credit and Lifetime Learning Credit, can help parents and students manage the costs of education while also boosting that tax refund, but they are frequently overlooked. In addition, the tuition and fees deduction helps reduce taxable income by up to \$4,000.

Higher education tax breaks can help parents manage the costs of education, but these are frequently overlooked:

The American Opportunity Credit was extended through 2017, allowing taxpayers to claim \$2,500 for the first four years of college education for each student

The tuition and fees deduction (expired Dec. 31, 2013, but can be claimed on 2013 returns) provides a reduction in taxable income of up to \$4,000 per tax return

The Lifetime Learning Credit is worth up to \$2,000 per return for post-secondary degree programs.



Overlooked Earned Income Tax Credit

As a frequently overlooked tax credit, only 20 percent of those eligible claim this credit.

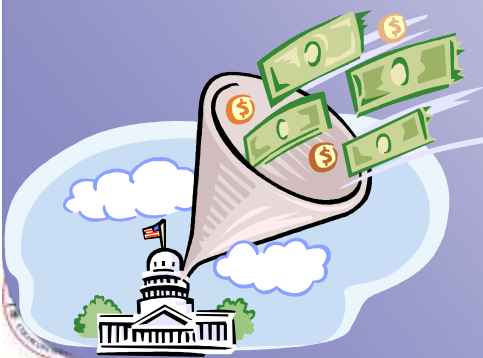
Low-income workers may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (maximum credit of \$487 to \$6,044) based on the number of children they have and if their income is below these requirements:

- Single with no qualifying children – \$14,340 (\$19,680 married filing jointly)
- Single with one qualifying child – \$37,870 (\$43,210 married filing jointly)
- Single with two qualifying children – \$43,038 (\$48,378 married filing jointly)
- Single with three or more qualifying children – \$46,227 (\$51,567 married filing jointly)

Reasons for confusion about eligibility/not getting the credit

Eligibility is not static; financial, marital and parental changes can cause a taxpayer to be ineligible one year and eligible the next

Not making enough money to have to file a return (and then not filing the return) – generally, anyone earning income should consider filing a return



TAX TIP

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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How To Contact

AIR FORCE
ASSOCIATION
LANCE P. SIJAN
CHAPTER

- To be added to the AFA Update distribution list, please e-mail us at: service@afa.org
- To change the e-mail address to which you receive the AFA Update service@afa.org Please provide the old and new e-mail addresses.
- For questions or comments about the AFA Update, e-mail (srubel@afa.org).
- To change the mailing address or other information for your AFA membership record, and
- To join AFA or renew your membership, visit: <https://www.hqafsa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Renew&Template=/MembersOnly.cfm&NavMenuID=780&ContentID=12875&DirectListCombind=D>
- For details on your AFA member benefits, go to: <http://www.afavba.org/AboutUs/memben/>



MilitaryHOMEFRONT is the Department of Defense website for official Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) program information, policy and guidance designed to help **troops and their families, leaders, and service providers**. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you'll find what you need. Visit: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/>



AFA LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER

Points of Interest & Up Coming Events

LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

PLACE: LOCKHEED MARTIN OFFICE, 985 SPACE CENTER DR., STE. 225 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. 80915

DATE: EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

TIME: 07:30AM

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.AFASIJAN.COM](http://WWW.AFASIJAN.COM)

USAFA QTRLY AWARDS LUNCHEON (SPONSOR)

PLACE: USAFA FALCON CLUB

DATE: APR 24, 2014

50 SW QTRLY AWARDS BREAKFAST (SPONSOR)

PLACE: SCHRIEVER AFB

DATE: APR 25, 2014

21 SW QTRLY AWARDS BREAKFAST (SPONSOR)

PLACE: PETERSON AFB CLUB

DATE: MAY 2, 2014

AFA STATE MEETING

PLACE: NICKI'S, ESTES PARK

DATE: MAY 3, 2014

SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECEPTION

PLACE: SPACE FOUNDATION

DATE: MAY 6, 2014

HARRISON HS JROTC AWARDS CEREMONY (SPONSOR)

PLACE: SPACE FOUNDATION

DATE: MAY 6, 2014

ARMED FORCES LUNCHEON

PLACE: THE BROADMOOR

DATE: MAY 13, 2014

USAFA OUTSTANDING SQUADRON PRESENTATION (AFA AWARD)

PLACE: USAFA PARADE FIELD

DATE: MAY 26, 2014

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING

PLACE: TBD

DATE: MAY 26, 2014

GEN. BERNARD A. SCHRIEVER MEMORIAL ESSAY CONTEST

SUBMIT TO AFASCHRIEVER@GMAIL.COM

DATE: 30 JULY 2014

For up-to-date chapter happenings follow us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/browse/adminded_pages/?id=100004188004907#!/pages/Lance-P-Sijan-AFA-Chapter-125/378580798874849

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Membership Changes

Any changes to members' home / work addresses and email addresses must be sent to AFA National not the Sijan Chapter because we cannot add, delete or change a members mailing address due to privacy laws.

[Click here](#) to update your address and email, or mail changes to AFA National address at:

Air Force Association
Member Services
1501 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22209

We're on the Web!

www.afasijan.com

The AFA is an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA publishes Air Force Magazine, conducts national symposia and disseminates information through outreach programs. It sponsors professional development seminars and recognizes excellence in the education and aerospace fields through national awards programs. AFA presents scholarships and grants to Air Force active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members and their dependents, and AFA awards educator grants to promote science and math education at the elementary, secondary, and high school level. Nationally, AFA has more than 100,000 active members. The AFA National Website is WWW.AFA.ORG

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter is one of the largest, most active chapters in AFA, with more than 2300 members. The Sijan Chapter, one of four AFA Chapters in Colorado, primarily focuses on support to the Colorado Springs area, including Peterson AFB, Schriever AFB, Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, and the USAFA. The AFA Sijan Chapter is proud of our rich heritage and strong support for the Colorado Springs Air Force community. We pride ourselves on active support to the local Colorado Springs "Air Force Family," providing approximately \$50,000 and thousands of volunteer hours in support annually! Representative 2013 activities

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