

# AFA Lance P. Sijan Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2015

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## **Welcome**

President Don Kidd opened the meeting at 7:30. The meeting was held at the Lockheed Martin offices located at Space Center Drive. A list of attendees is included at the bottom of these minutes.

## **President's Comments (Don Kidd)**

### 2015 Air Force Ball

Planning for the 2015 Air Force Ball is reaching its end. This year's Air Force Ball will be held Friday, March 20, 2015 at the Broadmoor Hotel. Hank Scarengella is once again the 2015 Ball Committee Chairperson. As of today, registration stands at 282. Lockheed Martin and Boeing will be Platinum sponsors. Raytheon will be a Gold level sponsor. Gentle Rain Disc Jockey will play music after the conclusion of the Ball with the Air Force Academy Band Blue Steel providing entertainment immediately after dinner. A walk-through of the audio-visual set up is scheduled of March 9<sup>th</sup>. A meeting to finalize seating will be held March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### AFA Mentorship Program

Roy Griggs and Gayle White are leading the Chapter's AFA Mentorship Program. The program, initiated by AFA National, is designed to assist Air Force personnel with their transition to civilian life. This program, Airmen Helping Airmen, will put recently retired or separating AF personnel in touch with a mentor in their field of work. Roy is coordinating our efforts with local Base TAP program representatives. Volunteers are needed to act as mentors to out-processing or retiring Air Force service members. A mentors' reception to explain the program and the responsibilities of being a mentor is planned for April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Roy drafted a concept paper and is maintaining a list of mentor volunteers. Contact Roy Griggs or Gayle White for more information about volunteering for the program.

### Cyber Patriot Program

Twenty Four local high school cyber patriot teams (11-Service Division, 12-Open Division, 1-Middle School) are enrolled in this year's competition. Falcon, Vista Ridge, Air Academy, Lewis Palmer, Fountain-Fort Carson, and Civil Air Patrol are entered in this year's competition.

### Stellar Space Competition

Planning for the new Space Patriot Program which parallels the Cyber Patriot Program is well underway. A space problem has been finalized and rules for the competition established. Nine lessons developed by the Air Force Academy will be provided to the high school teams. Mentors to the teams are being identified. High School teams from Grand Junction, Denver, and Colorado Springs will participate in this initial competition.

The goal of the program is to encourage participation and interest in space by junior and senior high students. A \$10,000 budget was established and rules are currently being developed. Six local schools were signed up to participate in the initial competition. The schools will develop a solution to a space related problem presenting their solution to a panel of judges comprised of Air Force Officers and industry experts. An awards ceremony is planned for Wednesday night of the National Space Symposium, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Presentations are planned to be made in the AGI lab at the National Space Foundation. For more information regarding the Space Patriot competition, please contact TSgt Tishawa.

#### General Bernard A. Schriever Memorial Essay Contest

Roy Griggs is again leading the planning activities for the second, annual General Bernard A. Schriever Memorial essay contest. Dave Shiller will assist Roy with planning actions. Roy has identified a topic for this year's contest and is soliciting judges. Expect an announcement later this month regarding the timeline for submitting papers. Roy anticipates essay papers will be due mid-August with judging completed by the end of September and an award ceremony in October. Feedback from 2014 contestants indicated the financial awards were an incentive for submitting papers.

#### Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

As means of raising additional funds for the Chapter, Dave Shiller submitted an application for the Sijan Chapter to be listed as a charitable organization to receive CFC contributions. An approval of our application is expected by the end of April. Once approved, individuals making CFC contributions can allocate a portion or all of their donations to our Chapter.

#### USAFA Wing Open

The annual Air Force Academy Wing Open boxing Championship was held February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Cadet Field House. As in the past, our Chapter co-hosted a pizza party with the local chapter of the Air Force Academy Association of Graduates (AOG) prior to the Open. A total of \$950.00 was raised from the party. All proceeds were donated to this year's charity recipient Home Front Cares. Bob Cooper led this year's planning activities for our Chapter's participation and support for the Wing Open. Bob thanks all of the Chapter's Community Partners who donated items for raffle. A big thank you goes to Domino's Pizza and the Coke for their food donations.

### **Secretary's Report (Tom Ocvirk)**

February meeting minutes are being drafted and will be posted to the Chapter web site.

### **Treasurer's Report (Barbara Binn)**

Income and expenses for the previous month were reviewed and discussed. The Chapter received income from Community Partners, Air Force Ball sponsors and from checking account interest. Expenses for the month were for a donation to the Air Force Academy Wing Open Charity (Home Front Cares), Air Force Ball expenses and Wing Award Winners AFA memberships and gift cards. Sijan Chapter board

members also voted to donate \$1,000 to the Wounded Warrior ski program. The donation will be used to sponsor 11 families and their week long ski trips.

## **Vice President Reports**

### **VP, Community Partners (Jeri Andrews)**

No update was provided.

### **VP, Aerospace Education & Scholarships (TSgt Tim Tichawa)**

Essay topics for 2015 scholarships have been drafted and scholarship applications are being accepted. Applicants have until April 7<sup>th</sup> to submit their application including a 500 to 1000 word essay. All Air Force member families are eligible for the scholarships. Judges are being identified. Additional information regarding the Chapter's scholarship program can be found on the Sijan Chapter web site.

Teacher of the Year nominations are also being solicited from local elementary, junior, and senior high schools. Teachers being nominated need to have a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) focus. Notifications for Tech of the Year nominations were sent to local high schools.

### **VP, Communications Report (Bill Houth)**

The new Chapter web site is up and running ([www.lancepsijanafa.org](http://www.lancepsijanafa.org)). Please visit the site and let us know what you think. A very big thank you goes out to Bill Houth for updating the site with modern graphics and animation. Anyone wanting to post an announcement to our Chapter's web site should send the announcement to Linda Aldrich and Bill Houth.

Bill also published this quarter's Chapter newsletter. The next quarterly newsletter will be published in June.

### **VP, Veteran's Affairs (Kevin Estrem)**

No update was provided.

## **Chapter Events & Activities**

### **Events**

Events attended by Chapter Officials in February included:

- AF Wounded Warrior Charity Fund Raiser – February 4
- USAFA Wing Open - February 19
- USAFA Quarterly Awards Ceremony

### **Upcoming Events & Activities**

- Air Force Ball – March 20
- Guest Speaker, Women's History Month at F.E. Warren AFB – March 23
- Stellar Space Competition Awards Ceremony – April 15

- Wing Quarterly Awards Ceremonies

## **Other Business**

None

## **Next Meeting:**

The next Chapter meeting will be held April 21<sup>st</sup> at Lockheed Martin's office, Space Center Drive. The meeting will begin at 7:30 am.

## **Attendees**

Don Kidd

Linda Aldrich

Tom Ocvirk

Barbara Binn

Dave Shiller

Roy Griggs

TSgt Tim Tichawa

Gus Hernandez

Hank Scarangella

Mike Waters

Bill Houth