



The Sijan Sentinel

4TH QUARTER, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2017

WELCOME TO SIJAN CHAPTER 125!

President: Kristen Christy
Vice President: Tim Tichawa
Secretary: Doug Kendall
Treasurer: William Houth



PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE CHAPTER

Message from the President

As 2017 comes to a close, we are reflecting on the difference our Chapter made in the community this year. We were named the **Outstanding XL Chapter** of AFA this year because of the programs and events impacting our community and the Air Force. We gave more than \$11,000 in scholarships to airmen and their family members; provided more than \$50,000 sponsoring our Warfighters (Active Duty and Reserves), Key Spouses, JROTC, Wounded Airman Program, StellarXplorers, Teacher of the Year, CyberPatriots, installation events, and many more. Our newsletters give highlights of events this year. See them all at <https://www.lancepsijanafa.org>

We had seven main events in 2017. These require countless hours by our volunteers to make them successful. The **2017 Air Force Ball** was attended by 800 people with welcoming remarks by General Lori Robinson. We had a great time and the weather held out for us. Thank you to our sponsors Braxton Science and Technology Group, Lockheed Martin, The Boeing Company, Northrop Grumman, MTSI, Orbital ATK, and ENSCO for helping defray the cost of tickets.

We hosted the **Wounded Airman Benefit** with a Casino Night at the Broadmoor on opening night of the Cyberspace Symposium. We were able to donate \$6000 to the Wounded Airman Program from donations from the event – more than double the donation the year before. This year we will host the event on Monday, 5 March 2018. August found the Chapter busy hosting an **Enlisted Professional Development** conference, the **Multi-Domain Command & Control Symposium**, a **Craft Brew and Spirits Festival**, and the **IMAGE Golf Tournament** in three days! We had 120 attendees for the professional development, more than 260 for MDC2, and raised \$32,000 for STEM scholarships for the IMAGE tournament. IMAGE is scheduled for 25 August 2018, and the MDC2 symposium is TBA.

Our **General Bernard Schriever Essay Contest** had more entries than ever before at 34 in two categories – Open division and Airman/NCO division. An awards ceremony will be scheduled in January/February.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2018! We will again host the **Air Force Ball**, the **Wounded Airman Benefit**, **MDC2**, and co-host **IMAGE**. We will also participate in the **Warrior Games** at USAFA 2-9 June and the **US Senior Open** at the Broadmoor 25 June (Military Day) – 2 July.

We wish you a very Happy New Year! We hope you can attend our events and help us support our Air Force and Colorado Springs communities in 2018.

Kristen Christy

Lance P. Sijan Chapter Save the Dates for 2018

Save the Date, February 17th, for the 2018 Air Force Ball!!

Onward. Together. Celebrating our service family: past, present, and future.

If you've never been to the Air Force Ball at the Broadmoor, now is the time to be making your plans for this hugely popular and extremely special event, this year to be held on Saturday, February 17 and hosted by the Lance P. Sijan Air Force Association

Chapter. The cuisine is exquisite, the setting is unequalled anywhere else in Colorado Springs, and you can dance the night away after the dinner. Active duty and retirees, corporate sponsors, community partners, cadets all gather to celebrate in black tie and evening gown. Special guests will include ranking general officers, the most junior ranking airman from all the surrounding AF units and Outstanding Airmen from the major commands. The General Jerome F. O'Malley Distinguished Space Leader Award is announced to recognize a leader who has contributed at the highest levels to achieving General O'Malley's vision of "... *providing an intensified space focus and reorienting USAF philosophy toward and operational approach by advocating the operations use of space systems at the highest levels of the Air Force.*" Maybe you can treat your sweetheart to an "almost on Valentine's Day" night out or just come to enjoy this one-of-a-kind gala. The theme of Onward. Together. Celebrating our service family: past, present, and future is well worth celebrating for this dazzling evening of entertainment and comradery.

Sign up now through the link on the Lance P. Sijan Chapter website at <https://www.lancepsijanafa.org>

Questions? Send your questions to lancepsijanafa@gmail.com or use the "Contact the Chapter" on the website

2018 College Scholarship Opportunity

Each year the Chapter awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors who have been accepted for enrollment at a college or university, and to current outstanding freshman, sophomore and junior students at a college or university. Scholarships are open to children of active duty and retired Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members, Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members, plus spouses of active duty Air Force members (a new opportunity for spouses). The Chapter scholarships are awarded based on the overall character and leadership potential of the student, which includes the academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, community service and writing composition. There is no specified restriction on the use of the scholarship monies, however, it is the intent of the Sijan Chapter that they be utilized in the direct support of academic

pursuits. All applications must be postmarked no later than 6 April 2018 and winners will be notified no later than 4 May 2018. Complete application information will be posted on the Chapter website at: <http://www.lancepsijanafa.org>.



Lance P. Sijan Chapter Excels in 2017

Article by Linda Aldrich, AFA Colorado State President

What an amazing year 2017 has been for the Lance P. Sijan Chapter. It isn't enough to say you are the National Extra Large Outstanding Chapter of the Year, which, yes, you are, but that doesn't really explain all that you have achieved together as a voice in the community for aerospace power and the Air Force family. Our AFA purpose is to connect service members, and the total Air Force family, through professional development, unique programs, and support initiatives before, during, and beyond their time in uniform. As we review the Sijan 2017 accomplishments, you have adhered to our purpose and succeeded in our mission of promoting a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense while honoring Airmen and our Air Force Heritage through educating, advocating and supporting in our community.

Let's journey through 2017 to review what the Chapter activities encompassed. As a team, your members were heavily into planning the AF Ball at the first of the year, an effort that resulted in attendance of 800 individuals at the festive event at the Broadmoor. More dynamic teamwork put together a Casino Night that raised \$6000 for the Wounded Airman Program, a Lunch and Learn with the Space Foundation and a Career Management Lunch and Learn with Webster University. You hosted a State Business Meeting for the four Colorado AFA Chapters and honored your Community Partners with a reception at Mt. Carmel Center for Excellence. Your volunteers ensured the Stellar Xplorers teams were well fed during competition and assisted the AFA State Board in organizing a CyberPatriot team state-wide recognition ceremony. The first time ever Multi-Domain Command and Control Symposium attracted leadership from across the nation and provided a day of professional development for our enlisted personnel. Of course, the concluding event of a Craft Brew and Spirits Festival received high marks from all attendees. In partnership with AFCEA and NDIA, the Image Golf tournament raised over \$32,000 for local scholarships. Community Partners throughout the Colorado Springs area proudly displayed their support for AFA and the Chapter.

Your member contributions and projects provided funding for the multi-school JROTC Drill Meet; support for three AFJROTC units, including a new JROTC Unit at Vista Ridge High School; scholarships for High School Seniors; recognition for the Chapter Teacher of the Year and the Outstanding Squadron at the Air Force Academy; assistance to the Mt. Carmel Center of Excellence and Home Field Advantage Celebration of Service; Pitsenbarger Awards for Community College of the AF; Pearl Harbor Ceremony; AFA State Awards Banquet; USAFA Systems Engineering Top Student; and Schriever Essay Contest winners. The awards programs at the five local Wings and three Headquarters units depend on our Sijan Chapter to support honoring our local Airmen as we represent AFA at over 20 quarterly and annual events. Our efforts with STEM education garnered a National AFA Aerospace Education Achievement Award.

Individual chapter members excelled in reaching out within the community and the nation through a variety of venues. Members represented AFA and the Chapter at Key Spouse Events, a reception for CMSAF Kaleth O. Wright, National AFA Convention and a meeting with AFA Chairman of the Board Whit Peters. Sijan Chapter members served on the National Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings Scholarship Board and the nomination board for Representative Ken Buck's Congressional appointments for military academies. Our ranks also included the AFA Rocky Mountain Region President for Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah; the Colorado AFA President; and a National AFA Medal of Merit recipient. Sijan members have run in two Cheyenne Mountain Tunnel Runs; traveled to San Antonio to run for charity, and represented the Chapter at the Lance P. Sijan Memorial Dedication at USAFA. Our members are well recognized as Air Force, community, and Department of Defense affiliated businesses' leadership.



Thank you Lance P. Sijan Chapter members for a truly outstanding 2017 Year of Excellence!

Local USAFA Grads Honored with Sijan Service Award

Article by Stephen Base

In 1976 I was a cadet standing in parade while the new US Air Force Academy (USAFA) dormitory was dedicated to Air Force hero and posthumous Medal of Honor recipient Lance P. Sijan, class of 1965. At the ceremony Sijan's brother remarked that during the worst circumstances imaginable Lance never gave up. He asked the cadet wing to follow his brother's example and never give up. Four decades later Lance's sister Janine told us that Lance was the force at the center of concentric rings that radiated outward in time and space to positively influence others. Almost 50 years after his shoot down, a local service organization called Home Field Advantage (HFA) presented the new Sijan Celebration of Service (COS) Award to two USAFA graduates for outstanding service to others. On 4 Nov 2017 Jim Dolan (76) was recognized for founding Heroes on the Water foundation, which uses water sports as therapy and has helped over 40K veterans. Harvey LeCato (72) was saluted for being the National Sertoman of the Year, an organization that aids those with hearing loss and neurological issues.



The formal awards ceremony was held Saturday morning at the SEA Pavilion at the Academy, a special place located in secluded woods near the Doolittle Alumni Hall. There are bronze plaques commemorating the service of USAFA grads during the Vietnam War, including the 150 who gave their lives, as well as maps and informative displays about the conflict. A small adjacent courtyard has a beautiful bronze statue depicting Sijan in the jungle. Jon Holloman, a USAFA Liaison Officer and President of the Wisconsin AFA Parents Association, had assembled cadets from Sijan's home state for the ceremony. Mr. Nolan and Mr. LeCato were presented plaques with Sijan's image to honor their past and ongoing efforts to assist those in need on the home field in addition to receiving special challenge coins from Janine Sijan. Lance Sijan's ordeal is well documented in INTO THE MOUTH OF THE CAT, a book by Malcom McConnell, copies of which were distributed to the cadets after the ceremony.

According to founder and USAFA graduate Russ Laney, the new COS Award was recently created by HFA and organized by local USAFA graduates concerned about insufficient networking within the Air Force compared with West Point and Annapolis alumni. It is dedicated to healing divisive social problems plaguing the domestic United States. In addition to the new Sijan COS Award, Mr. Laney and others sponsored a series of weekend events to commemorate and encourage "home field" service.

The weekend events included a panel discussion on COS led by former AF football coach Fisher DeBerry, and former USAFA football players Neal Starkey (68) and Robin Wright (96). Coach DeBerry coached from 1984 to 2006 and is in the College Football Hall of Fame; Neal Starkey was a football All American and is an author; Robin Wright is CEO of the large and profitable Tapestries corporation. Coach DeBerry observed that presently 42% of children in the US are brought up in single parent families, usually by their mothers. The discussion focused on the need to provide after school recreational and sports activities, adult role models, and mentoring as a counter to the tremendous pressure from peer-driven social media. Coach DeBerry's Football Foundation trains and mentors 750 young people a year. He also stressed the importance of religious faith as the cornerstone for a commitment to helping others. This was echoed by Mr. Starkey who helped found the Fellowship of Christian Athletes while playing at USAFA. Mr. Wright provided thoughtful guidance on overcoming personal obstacles in the path to becoming mentors.



Local USAFA Grads Honored with Sijan Service Award Cont.

Article by Stephen Base

HFA also sponsored a well-attended dinner that included Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers and El Paso County Commissioner Peggy Littleton. The attendees were entertained by a local trio, the Liberty Belles, who sang patriotic songs. Army Major Ben Fisher provided a moving account of an F16 pilot who lost his life on a low level night strafing run supporting operations in the sandbox. The evening included two formal presentations: the “DeBerry Award for Support of Youth,” presented by Mayor Suthers to the youth service organization 4kidzsport and the “DeBerry Award for Support of Front Line Forces,” presented by Commissioner Littleton to the Mount Carmel Center of Excellence, an



organization helping veterans transition to the civilian world. This extremely enjoyable event concluded with Coach DeBerry giving a humorous talk reinforcing the theme of service.

Vietnam warriors like Lance P. Sijan required a great of moral courage as well physical courage due to the unique circumstances of that conflict. Sijan’s F4 Phantom exploded over Laos on 9 Nov 1967 when one of the bombs prematurely detonated; Lance was badly injured during his ejection. Rescue efforts were abandoned because of severe enemy flak, and Lance, unable to walk, continued to evade capture by crawling through the jungle for seven weeks, until he was captured on Christmas day. Despite his debilitated condition, having lost 140 pounds, he managed to overcome his guard and crawl into the jungle again before being recaptured. As his condition deteriorated, Lance was transported to Hanoi and died on 22 Jan 1968. President Gerald Ford presented Captain Sijan’s posthumous MOH to his parents on 4 March 1976.

The nation’s political leadership imposed policies that included enemy sanctuaries, ROE, strategy and even tactics that increased US casualties and made military victory impossible. The military establishment was unprepared to conduct such a war, despite the lessons from Korea. The Air Force “borrowed” the Phantom from the Navy as there were no Air Force fighters that could compete with the Mig-21. The US had developed PGMs during WW II, but none were available for Vietnam until the very end. The prolonged military stalemate, high casualties, the draft, hostile reporting, communist propaganda, as well false predictions of imminent victory combined to turn a large portion of the American public and a majority of the elite against the war. Returning veterans were treated with indifference or worse. Still, Sijan and the overwhelming majority of Vietnam veterans kept faith with their country and did everything humanly possible. The justness of their cause was evident in the oppression, starvation, mass migrations and genocide that occurred after the 1975 Viet Minh and Khmer Rouge victories.

Fixing the Home Field is recognizably a tremendous challenge. The Lance P. Sijan Chapter contributed \$750 to support the Sijan Service Award Presentations to support this worthwhile cause. Lance P. Sijan, as well as the first COS award recipients provide us with wonderful examples of how much each of us can accomplish if we keep faith and continue to provide needed services to our warriors.



It all Started with a Picture

Article by Heather McKinney

One morning while having breakfast with my dad, we went into our normal conversation about everyday life. Being the daughter of a USAFR Senior Master Sergeant, our topics usually become intense conversations about government and military. My dad had brought up the topic of a magazine he gets monthly that keeps him updated on the happenings of the Air Force. He proceeded to tell me about a picture that was in that particular month, of a gentleman that he had served in Vietnam with. We discussed some memories that he had and talked about where he was today (Dad had no idea). Dad told me that he hadn't talked to him since Vietnam in 1970. We both carried on in conversation and finished our breakfast. Then I went on my way to work.

A few days later I stopped by my parents' house just to check on things. While I was there Dad had pulled out the magazine he was telling me about. In the picture was a Mr. Thomas Dowell. He was the Vice President of a Vietnam veterans group out of Colorado Springs, Colorado. It showed him, giving a recipient pin in recognition of ones service in Vietnam. Dad and I spoke for a few minutes about the photo again and I went on my way.

It took me a few days to figure out how I would manage it, but I started my research. I immediately went to Facebook and got nowhere. So I thought I would try Google. The only things I knew about this man was his name, race, and an estimation of his age. Nothing on Google helped me whatsoever. Until I searched photos. There were tons of photos of Mr. Dowell presenting several different recipients these Vietnam commemoration pins. But there was still nothing to go off of with just a picture. So I took to Facebook once again and contacted several different Vietnam veteran pages. Nothing. No one was showing any record or just couldn't help me with anything.

After some digging and trying to figure things out, my only option was the photos on Google. They were all linked to the same email address so I figured I'd give it a shot. I sent out an email explaining who I was and what I was trying to do. To no avail I got an email in return saying they had no record of Mr. Dowell, but my email had been forwarded on by Kristen Christy, President of the Lance P. Sijan AFA Chapter, to see if anyone could help in the search. We kept in contact over the next couple of weeks to see if either of us had gotten any leads. One day Ms. Christy emailed me and stated that she had come in contact with a friend of Mr. Dowell and was waiting for confirmation to give me his contact details.

On February 18, 2017 I received an email that would change all of my luck! I got an email from Mr. Thomas Dowell himself! I was so nervous and shaking, I had to gain composure before I could even open it! I immediately replied back to him once I read it. We continued to email a few more times before I told my Dad that I had found him. After a few times contacting each other back and forth, I told my Dad what I had done.

After giving Dad the email address, I kept in contact a few more times over the next few weeks to make sure that they got in touch with one another. I talked about Mr. Dowell's schedule with his schedule to get him and Dad together. So on Mother's Day weekend 2017, I put my parents on a plane to Denver, Colorado for a four day trip to meet with Thomas and Mary Dowell. I, however, did not get to be there for the reunion, but was sent lots of pictures and kept frequent contact with my parents while they were there. To so many people this doesn't seem important, but for it did for two men who hadn't seen each other since leaving Vietnam. There's no word to explain the feelings they had.

When Dad got home from his trip I couldn't wait to hear his stories and about the time he had while they were there! The joy and excitement he had while telling us all was like a kid on Christmas morning and it makes me happy to know that I could be the one to make him so happy! Especially with all he's done for me in life.



The picture that started it all



Mary Dowell, Thomas (Tommy) Dowell, Kristen Christy, Ron Mckinney, Tammie Mckinney



Thomas (Tommy) Dowell, Ron Mckinney



Sijan Chapter 125 Teacher of the Year Still Helping Students Excel

Our Sijan Chapter Teacher of the Year from 2015, Ms. Rae Ann "Randi" Dotter, recently provided an update on her students' activities, noting that the funds provided through AFA are being put to good use to encourage interest in STEM courses. Ms. Dotter teaches at the Cotopaxi Consolidated Schools in Fremont County, Colorado. Cotopaxi Consolidated Schools is a small, rural school district in south central Colorado serving over 200 preschool to high school students. Randi became a teacher after retiring from the Air Force as a KC/EC-135 pilot and former professor of chemistry at the Air Force Academy through the Troops to Teachers program. Ms. Dotter provided the following information about her students' recent trip to Colorado Springs and the Air Force Academy.

On Friday, December 1st, 22 Cotopaxi High School students and 4 staff members traveled to Colorado Springs to visit several United States Air Force Academy programs involved in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Cotopaxi students and staff were treated to tours of the Aeronautics department wind tunnels and engine testing rooms, the Astronautic department laboratories and museum, and the Observatory, which boasts a telescope that was used to scout the Moon for landing sites during the Apollo era of space exploration.

Lt Colonel Kara Greene guided the tour of the Aeronautics labs. The students and staff were amazed by the technology and the myriad opportunities for research. The tour included three types of wind tunnels including a rare "tri-sonic" model that can generate sub-sonic, trans-sonic and supersonic winds to study airflow over aerodynamic surfaces.

Cadet First Class Covert's tour of the Astro museum and labs was informative and entertaining with several side-stories of mishaps and adventures in space exploration. The students were especially thrilled to be standing next to things that had actually orbited us in space and impressed to learn that cadets can be trained to control and take data from them.

Dr. Devin Della-Rose's Observatory tour was a highlight of the visit. Students and staff were fascinated by space and the chance to view stars, the planet Uranus, and our very own Moon up close and personal. It was an experience that will remain in their memories forever.

This science field trip, as well as the annual Challenger Learning Center "Voyage to Mars," "Space Station Alpha," and "Moon, Mars & Beyond" missions would not be possible without financial support of organizations such as the Air Force Association. During the trip, Linda Aldrich, AFA Colorado State President, delivered a check for \$500 to Cotopaxi Science Teacher, Randi Dotter, in connection with her selection as AFA Colorado State Teacher of the Year. Cotopaxi High School wishes to thank AFA for all of their generous support of our STEM programs.

Cotopaxi High School also wishes to extend our thanks to all of the Air Force Academy organizations and personnel involved in hosting our visit. In addition, they wish to thank Sandra Lamb, the K-12 STEM Outreach Coordinator, for arranging the details of the visit and being the tour guide for the afternoon. Cotopaxi school deeply appreciates the opportunity provided by this program for their students to see real science-in-action and to spark their interest in STEM



Back Row, Standing L to R:

Gino Husser, Kurt Voll, Claire Carlson, Kali Carlson, Kyle Buss, Chellis Richards, Thunder Burnham, Shealee Coleman, Koylynn Gulliford, Brooke Cooper, Owen Voll, Jacob Maestas, Savannah Serfoss, Dalton Lewis, Hannah Karg, Alexandra Cole, Emily Ward, Jonah Bertolino

In Front, L to R

Aubrey Whipple, Taylor Key, Abigail McNeal, Collin Whipl

Staff (not pictured)

Teachers Randi Dotter and Peter Lutz,
Paraprofessional Reta Martinez,
Transportation Dean Ward



Pearl Harbor Ceremony

The 7th of December is a day that will live in infamy; so stated President Roosevelt 76 years ago when 353 Japanese aircraft surprise attacked Pearl Harbor, putting 22 Navy ships and 347 Aircraft out of action, and killing 2459 US service members. Since that day, America has remembered and observed December 7th as Pearl Harbor Day so that America will continue to honor those who were wounded or died in the attack, and so that we may remember it and never again suffer another “Pearl Harbor.” The Air Force Association (AFA) also remembers and observes that day of infamy every year. Chapter members Willie Kalaskie (VP, Veterans’ Affairs) and Doug Kendall (Board Secretary) represented the Lance P. Sijan Chapter at the Pearl Harbor Observance at the historic Pioneers Museum in downtown Colorado Springs on December 7th. The Chapter is a proud Silver Sponsor of the Navy League commemoration, an event which forever changed the course of history for the United States.

This momentous event was attended by over 70 government officials, veterans, active duty service members, cadets, and community members. It was a solemn event with several interesting speakers which included Mark Waller, a county official, who read a proclamation from the Board of El Paso County Commissioners; CAPT Randel Zeller (USN Ret), CAPT Thomas Gregory (USN Ret), and Dr. Lance Blyth, the Command Historian (NORAD & NORTHCOM). They spoke of the bravery of all the service members, the many acts of heroism that day, and ensuring we continue to honor those who died or were wounded, as well as the survivors, four of whom live in the Colorado Springs area. Retired Navy CAPT Thomas Gregory, with obvious emotion, said, “Our nation owes the survivors of Pearl Harbor an enormous debt of gratitude.” The family of Donald Stratton acquired a piece of the USS Arizona battleship and it will be presented during next year’s ceremony. Donald Stratton is a survivor of the USS Arizona, one of the 22 ships put out of action during the attack, and the location of almost half of the American casualties.

The highlight of the event was the wreath-laying ceremony by the Joint Color Guard from NORAD and NORTHCOM; the five wreaths were placed by a member from each of the services—the Navy, Marines, Air Force, Army and Coast Guard. It was a moving moment which captivated the audience, and was made even more special and hit an emotional nerve when a Fort Carson soldier played “Taps” on the trumpet. It

ended with a benediction by an Army chaplain and the retiring of the colors by the Widefield High School Naval JROTC. It was indeed a privilege for the AFA Sijan Chapter to sponsor and support this event which all Americans should remember and observe—we must always remember Pearl Harbor Day.



Sijan VP for Veteran Affairs Willie Kalaskie with Navy Captain (Ret) Thomas Gregory



Memorial wreaths were placed by a member of each service



Memorial wreaths for all services at the Pearl Harbor Ceremony



Cheyenne Mountain Zombie Run Results in Two Captures

Article by Steven Base

The second 2017 mountain tunnel run at Cheyenne Mountain AFS occurred on Friday, 20 October. On this beautiful autumn day, there were over 400 participants, mostly active duty military and dependents and also 50 pre-registered civilians. The route was a grueling uphill slog to the south entrance, over a mile through the heart of the mountain and then a steep descent to the finish. However, a “Zombie Run” is a far different experience from the spring tunnel run! This time the participants were sick with fear, frantically dodging the threats in the tunnel and unaware that they were part of an elaborate plan to solve a longstanding mystery plaguing Cheyenne Mountain for years.



Large engineering projects sometimes have specters that “haunt” the site. For example, the Queen Mary passenger liner is reputed to have “ghosts” of deceased passengers on board and the Hoover Dam is haunted by long dead construction workers. These apparitions look human, but do not interact. Cheyenne Mountain is different case, indeed. For a decade there were rumors of human-like beings observed in the deepest places. These “humans” were nonverbal, ambulated with neurological deficits and had disfiguring skin changes. They appeared only rarely and sometimes chased their observers. The sightings have increased since 2012, when the Space Command Office of Special Investigations (OSI) started interviewing witnesses. A deep patrol precipitated an incident in the fall of 2016. A retired general recounted one airman had her arm bitten while unsuccessfully trying to capture one, and she required surgery and antibiotics.

Another anonymous source reports this drew the attention of senior DOD Officials. HQ AFOSI created a Tiger Team supported by the Aerospace Medicine Division at Wright-Patterson. The working hypothesis is that these sightings were humans sick with chronic radiation disease. Initial Cheyenne Mountain construction resulted in radon gas accumulating in lower unmapped spaces. This radiation affected “lost” workers and airmen, causing the reported symptoms. Wright-Patterson allegedly believes in this scientific explanation. Investigators noted a spike in sightings after the first run in May of 2017. As a result, a “Zombie Run” was organized to flush out these beings using the participants as bait. According to one source the ethical concerns about exposing civilians and dependents to this risk were over ridden by a “very high civilian authority.”

To help the beings reach the main tunnel some lower level barriers were temporarily removed. At the start of the race a senior officer implored the runners to seek assistance from a “defender” if they saw an emergency. These defenders were specially trained Security Police on four wheelers equipped with nylon nets and HAZMAT gear. During the race there was a lot of screaming as hysterical runners bobbed and weaved around these ghastly and smelly creatures as they emerged from hidden recesses in the main tunnel. When the runners emerged at the north entrance, a nose count at the finish thankfully confirmed no casualties. Two of the beings were captured, labelled CM Specimen 1 and 2, both were immediately flown to a secret medical clinic at Lackland AFB for study and treatment.



Organizers are sure this coverage of the event will most certainly encourage the bold and the brave to participate in the next Zombie Tunnel Run, all in the interest of national security, of course!

Lance P. Sijan Is Looking for Volunteers



Lance P. Sijan is Looking For Volunteers

Your Lance P. Sijan Chapter relies on dedicated volunteers for our projects and contributions to the Air Force Family. We urge you all to consider volunteering with your Air Force Association. The AFA, like every other like-minded organization here in town, needs help. We need people dedicated to our mission, anxious to ensure we are visible and committed to our community and our Air Force family. Don't worry about whether or not there will be anything for you to do...there's plenty to go around. So please join us. Come to our monthly Board meetings, or just call one of us to let us know you're available. We'd love to see you!

We are also looking for members to fill these specific positions: (1) If you have a heart for working with young students in JROTC, ROTC, CAP, Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings, we need a liaison with the units here in Colorado Springs. (2) How about helping with our heroes? We need volunteers for the Wounded Airman Benefit Committee. (3) Are you well--connected within the Colorado Springs community? Help AFA by being our Chapter Public Relations Liaison.

If you are interested in these positions, please contact Kristen at LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com to learn more. These are great networking and volunteer opportunities!

Recognition for Our Very Special Chapter Volunteers

As 2017 comes to a close, it's time to say a very special thank you to our volunteers who have contributed their time over the course of the year. We have had several new faces and willing workers who have joined us in addition to the "old timers" who've been volunteering for years. They have contributed in a variety of ways, such as the AF Ball, veterans events, publicity, MDC2 Symposium, and so many other arenas. The Chapter is extremely grateful for these hours of service. The awards programs at the five local Wings, three Headquarters units and local JROTC depend on our Sijan Chapter to support honoring our local Airmen. Annually we represent AFA at over 20 quarterly and annual events, providing gift cards to winners and offering free memberships, as well as sponsoring many of the events. Thank you to these representatives who stepped up for this quarter to show Sijan and AFA in action:

Volunteer activities for the last quarter:

- 10 Sept – Marion Travis Foundation 5K, San Antonio – Stephen Base
- 16-17 Sept – National AFA Convention – Kristen Christy, Linda Aldrich, Rick Ragaller
- 30-31 Sept – Pikes Peak Airshow -- Joan Sell, Jeri Andrews
- 4 Oct – 21st SW State of the Base – Kristen Christy
- 14-15 Oct – Interviews for Congressional nominations to Military Academies -- Linda Aldrich
- 17 Oct – Peterson CCAF Graduation/Pitsenbarger Award – Dave Geuting
- 20 Oct – Cheyenne Mountain AFS Zombie Tunnel Run – Stephen Base
- 24 Oct – 21st SW Quarterly Awards – Kristen Christy, Dave Geuting
- 2 Nov – HQ AFSPC Quarterly Awards – Kristen Christy
- 4-5 Nov – Home Field Advantage Celebration of Service – Stephen Base, Doug Kendall, Cordelia Kendall
- 8 Nov – 50th SW Quarterly Awards – Chapter financial support
- 15 Nov – Community Relations Breakfast – Kristen Christy
- 16 Nov – Joint Defense Council Meeting – Kristen Christy
- 17 Nov – Senior Enlisted Breakfast – Kristen Christy
- Nov – Schriever Essay Contest Judging -- Dave Shiller
- 25 Nov – USAFA Superintendent – hosted Thanksgiving Theme Football Game – Kristen Christy, Sean Lange
- 1 Dec – Military Affairs Council (MAC) Holiday Party -- Kristen Christy, Sean Lange
- 2 Dec – Tri-Command Holiday Party – Kristen Christy
- 7 Dec – Vosler NCOA Change of Leadership – Kristen Christy
- 7 Dec – Pearl Harbor Remembrance -- Willie Kalaskie, Doug Kendall
- 16 Dec – Wreath-laying Arlington National Cemetery – Kristen Christy



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4TH QUARTER, ISSUE 1

PAGE 11

How To Contact AFA

AIR FORCE
ASSOCIATION
LANCE P. SIJAN
CHAPTER 125

AFA LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER



Points of Interest & Upcoming Events

- To be added to the Lance P. Sijan chapter distribution list, please email us at: lancepsijanafa@gmail.com
- To update your physical and email address with National AFA, please email: membership@afa.org
- To join AFA or renew your membership, visit: www.afa.org
- For details on your AFA member benefits, go to: <https://www.afa.org/afa/memberbenefits>

LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Place: MTSI, 985 Space Center Dr., Ste 155, CLSP., CO. 80915
Date: Every 2nd Tuesday of each month / Time: 4:30pm

AIR FORCE BALL

Place: Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave. CLSP., CO. 80906
Date: February 17, 2018

CASINO NIGHT WOUNDED AIRMAN BENEFIT

Place: Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave. CLSP., CO. 80906
Date: March 5, 2018

JTROTC DRILL TEAM COMPETITION

Place: : TBD
Date: January 28, 2018

UPCOMING 2018 EVENTS: BE WATCHING FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be Watching for Announcements of Specific Dates!

JROTC Drill Team Competition
Warrior Games
Whislling Pines Shooting Night
Dinosaur Resource Center
Community Partner Reception

2018 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORUTNITY

Each year the Chapter awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors who have been accepted for enrollment at a college or university, and to current outstanding freshman, sophomore and junior students at a college or university. Scholarships are open to children of active duty and retired Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members, Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members, plus spouses of active duty Air Force members (a new opportunity for spouses). The Chapter scholarships are awarded based on the overall character and leadership potential of the student, which includes the academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, community service and writing composition. There is no specified restriction on the use of the scholarship monies, however, it is the intent of the Sijan Chapter that they be utilized in the direct support of academic pursuits. All applications must be postmarked no later than 6 April 2018 and winners will be notified no later than 4 May 2018. Complete application information will be posted on the Chapter website at: <http://www.lancepsijanafa.org>.



Military One Source 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/>

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

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

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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

We're on the Web!
www.lancepsijanafa.org

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter is one of the largest, most active chapters in AFA, with more than 2100 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 \$40,000 and thousands of volunteer hours in support annually!

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.

To update send message to: membership@afa.org your updated information, or mail changes to AFA National address at:

Air Force Association

Member Services

1501 Lee Highway

Arlington, VA 22209



NEW AND RENEWED COMMUNITY PARTNERS

