

# The Sijan Sentinel

4TH QUARTER, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2019

## WELCOMETO SIJAN CHAPTER 125!



**Vice President: MSgt Angelo Bryant** 

Secretary: Doug Kendall Treasurer: William Houth



## MESSAGE FROM THE SIJAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

#### To the Sijan Chapter Members:

To echo the words of our AFA National President, we, the AFA, must fully embrace and emphasize a theme that sounds like, "Air Force Association Continues its Decades of Support for Space Operations." We face particular challenges here in the Colorado Springs area as Space Force comes into being, Air Force bases become Space bases, and personnel, both officer and enlisted, transition to the US Space Force in the Department of the Air Force. President Orville Wright sent a message that, "we can and should lead our Association to a much expanded level of public awareness in support of our Airmen and Families. Our sustained, focused advocacy for resources and decisive weapon systems for our Airmen to fight across the integrated air, space, and cyber warfighting domains will further define our persistent and compelling leadership message." Because of our proximity to Schriever and Peterson, the changes that are occurring right now are front and center in determining what impact and contributions the Lance P. Sijan Chapter will make to support the Air Force Association 2020 Mission:



TO PROMOTE A DOMINATE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE, TO HONOR AND SUPPORT AIRMEN AND THE AIR FORCE FAMILY, AND TO REMEMBER AND RESPECT OUR AIR FORCE HERITAGE.

The Chapter needs your volunteer hours, your support, and your involvement in determining who we are and what we are becoming. We have exciting plans for 2020 with a "Heroes and History" General Membership Meeting, full involvement and support of our Colorado AFROTC Detachments 105 and 90, interaction with our amazing Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members, and a change for the Air Force Ball to September 18th, actually on the date of the Air Force Birthday. In Mid-January, 2020, a new movie opens called 'The Last Full Measure." This is the story of the A1C William Pitsenbarger, an Air Force Vietnam paramedic, who gave aid and care to Army soldiers trapped in a jungle ambush. Bill Pitsenbarger helped save the lives of wounded soldiers in a jungle firefight when he came under fire from the Viet Cong. Risking his life to save the wounded soldiers, he remained with the troops until there was no hope of escape and gave his life that others might live. Recently, Pitsenbarger was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously by President Trump. The story is quite moving and provides visuals that generally reflect the events he endured that day. Our AFA Chapter is considering sponsoring a special showing on Peterson AFB as we pursue opportunities for leadership development. Please consider reaching out to me at charles.apodaca@us.af.mil or to any of our Chapter officers to help us make the Lance P. Sijan Chapter stronger, more relevant, and fully capable of embracing our Air Force and Space Force membership. We wish you a very Happy New Year and great 2020!

## Regional and State Presidents and Emerging Leaders



Chairman of the Board Gerald Murray sharing his vision with the Regional and State Presidents and Emerging Leaders.

AFA Regional and State leadership along with new Emerging Leaders gathered in Arlington, Virginia, for nearly two days packed with information, vision and ideas exchange. Attendees had the opportunity to spend time with new elected Chairman of the Board, Gerald Murray, who discussed the AFA mission and his vision for our organization. Chairman Murray thanked all for their unwavering leadership and support for AFA in carrying out the mission. During the course of events, he made a concentrated effort to make the rounds and try to become acquainted with everyone, to hear their stories, and understand the challenges and accomplishments of the various regions and states. Ultimately he shared with everyone that he came away with "greater knowledge, inspiration and commitment to be better and do more for our worthy cause ... our Air Force, Nation, Airmen and their families, past and present."

President Orville Wright was also present throughout the entire event and shared his thoughts, "...this is a challenging time for our U.S. Air Force as our Nation faces unprecedented threats around the world including weapons systems with advanced technologies on a par with our own that we have rarely seen in the history of our Air Force. There is no doubt in my mind that the combined experience of our AFA leadership is unmatched in our experience to take on a tough fight for the security and safety of all Americans." He pledged, "to work closely together with you every day to lead and support the mission of our Air Force Association to promote a dominant United States Air Force, a strong national defense, to honor and support Airmen and the Air Force Family, and to remember and respect our Air Force Heritage." President Wright reminded all of the three guiding principles provided by General Doolittle still endure today: To assist in obtaining and maintaining adequate airpower for national security and world peace; to keep AFA members and the public abreast of developments in the field of aviation; and to preserve and foster the spirit of fellowship among former and present members of USAF.

The hours were filled with a plethora of information to assist chapters with community partner relationships, aerospace education, legislative updates, and leadership development. Attendees also had the opportunity to meet all the amazing AFA staff members who are the daily responders to every question and request from the field. Everything learned at the event will be distributed to the chapters and to specific program leadership for dissemination and

implementation to make our chapters stronger and more effective as an influence in our communities.

#### The Fourth Annaual Run to Remember 5K

Article Submitted by Audrey E. Mayer, AASSQ/CD, Mark Giles Danielson Squadron, Region VIII

For the past four years, the Arnold Air Society Danielson Squadron at Colorado State University has held a 5K in honor of Second Lieutenant Benjamin Walder, who took his own life shortly after entering active duty. All proceeds are donated to the Larimer County Alliance for Suicide Prevention, to raise awareness about suicide, especially within the military. This year, the race will be held on 26 April on Colorado State's campus.

Lieutenant Walder was a respected Air Force ROTC cadet, member of Arnold Air Society, and Colorado State University alumni. He took his own life after commissioning and becoming a Second Lieutenant. The Danielson Squadron feels it is very important to carry on his legacy for his family, friends, and those who have been impacted by suicide. On the fourth anniversary of the Run to Remember, our squadron hopes to boost our registration numbers. This year the race has been made a qualifier for the BOLDER Boulder 10K, which will be held on 25 May. We are looking forward to seeing runners from across the state participate in the event, and encourage all to register in support of a great cause.

This past year, we raised over \$2000 for the Alliance for Suicide Prevention. We hope to exceed that amount this year, and continue to grow this event in Lieutenant Walder's honor. Registration for the Run to Remember can be found on Active.com. A T-shirt is included with the registration for and military discounts are offered. More information of



Second Lieutenant Benjamin Walder

included with the registration fee, and military discounts are offered. More information about the location, time, and details of this event are featured on the registration website.

## Lance P. Sijan in Action

#### Sijan Chapter Sponsors 78<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Anniversary Ceremony

Annually the Sijan Chapter joins with other local organization to sponsor the remembrance ceremony for Pearl Harbor. In the December 7, 1941 attack, 353 Japanese aircraft conducted the attack in two waves launched from six enemy aircraft carriers over a period of 90 minutes. 2459 individuals were killed in action and 1809 were wounded. 22 US ships and 347 US aircraft were out of action because of the attack, constituting 40% of the Pacific Fleet. War was declared by the United States on December 8, 1941.

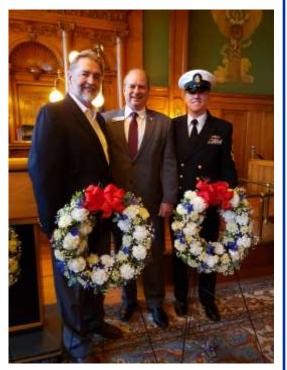
At the December 6th ceremony at the Pioneer Museum in Colorado Springs, several local heroes from the Japanese attack were recognized, "including Petty Officer 1st Class Daniel T. Griffin, a Colorado Springs resident who is believed to be the first American casualty of World War II. Leaders also paid homage to Lt Jim Downing, who was ashore when the Japanese planes struck the unprepared American Pacific Fleet. After making his way to the stricken USS West Virginia, Downing sprayed seawater on ammunition stored on the deck to prevent more explosions. Downing, who was the second-oldest survivor of the attacks, died last year at 104 years." (Excerpt from The Gazette, Dec 7, 2019)

Donald Stratton, 97, one of the last USS Arizona survivors in the Pikes Peak region, lives in Colorado Springs, but was unable to attend as he was recovering from pneumonia. 1177 crew members died in the Pearl Harbor bombing and sinking of the Arizona. Stratton suffered burns across more that 60% of his body, a cruel statistic shared by most of the 355 surviving Arizona crew members.

City Councilmember Andres Pico was guest speaker, the Proclamation reading and remarks were provided by Mr. Pico and Stan VanderWerf, El Paso County Commissioner, and the wreath laying was solemnly performed by the Joint Color Guard NORAD and US Northern Command.



The Chapter is proud to be an annual sponsor of this vital remembrance of the heroes who sacrificed their lives serving our country. Thank you to Willie Kalaskie, Chapter Vice President for Veterans Affairs for attending to represent Sijan Chapter.



Sijan Chapter Veterans Affairs VP Willie Kalaskie; Stan VanderWerf, El Paso County Commissioner; and Chief Michael Fulcher, Joint Color Guard, NORAD & USNORTHCOM

## In Remembrance

**AFA Members**: We sadly report the loss of Tiffany Haley, Sijan Chapter Teacher of the Year and Colorado State Teacher of the Year. The following letter was sent to Dave Geuting, Chapter VP for Aerospace Education.

October 16, 2019;

Dear Colonel Geuting,

I cannot express the pride we felt in receiving your fabulous package yesterday containing Tiffany Haley's State Teacher of the Year certificate, jacket, pin, book and check. She was such a phenomenal teacher with a passion for space science, and loved her many connections with the space community. She would not have missed this State Banquet for anything in the world.

It is with the greatest sadness a parent should ever have to face that we must share with you that Tiffany has passed away. She was in a doctor's office having a routine procedure with a common light anesthetic when her heart stopped. Although CPR restarted her heart in 81 seconds, she never regained consciousness, was in a coma for 17 days, and died on August 8, 2019. Her memorial service was held on August 24th.

Tiffany was extremely honored to have been recognized at the local level and was so very excited to attend the state banquet and program. Unfortunately, we have never been able to open Tiffany's Apple computer or cell phone, nor could the Apple professionals. (She once told me liked to use Greek passwords!) I know there are people and events we wish we could have notified ahead of time, but instead must wait to be contacted by people such as yourself. There was such an outpouring of grief in the community that a GoFundMe scholarship fund was started in her memory. It has around \$5,000 in it to date, and will be awarded to an Air Academy High School graduating senior pursuing a science degree next spring. We will be adding your check to this scholarship fund. Thank you so much for recognizing what an exceptional young woman Tiffany Haley was. With much respect, gratitude and sadness, Nancy and Tim Haley nancyhaley@yahoo.com

#### **AFA Family**:

It is with a heavy heart that we let you know that Bob Cancellieri, a vital member of the Mel Harmon Chapter in Pueblo, passed away December 18th. Services celebrating his life were held December 26th at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Pueblo West. As BGen Paul Maye stated, "God Bless her (wife Linda) and the family as we honor Bob—an outstanding warrior and gentleman." Bob's dedicated service in the Mel Harmon Chapter was undeniably a huge contribution to the success of the chapter. Condolences may be sent to Linda Cancellieri and family at 542 E. Abeya Dr., Pueblo West, 81007



## <u>Disabled Veterans Eligible for free</u> National Park Service Lifetime Access Pass



Many Veterans, with a service connected disability rating, are entering Federal recreation lands and national parks for free with an America the Beautiful-the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands lifetime Access Pass through an interagency partnership between the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation. Good for entry into thousands of federally managed recreation sites across the country, the Lifetime Access Pass is another way a grateful nation says thank you for the service and sacrifices of U.S. Veterans with disabilities.

The Access Pass admits the pass owner and any passengers in a single, private vehicle (non-commercial) at per-vehicle entrance and day use fee areas; or, the pass owner plus three additional adults where per-person fees are charged. In addition to free entry at participating sites, the Access Pass includes discounts on some expanded amenity fees such as camping. Sites recommend that pass owners check with each site before visiting for details about Access Pass entry and discounts.

Veterans who have been medically determined to have a disability are eligible for the Lifetime Access Pass — with three options for obtaining the pass: First, Veterans with disability documentation can order the Access Pass online for a \$10 processing fee which includes standard shipping. Documentation required includes:

- Proof of residency
- VA disability award letter, VA summary of benefits, or proof of SSDI income

Second, the Interagency Access Pass may be obtained through the mail. Download a paper application from https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass. Follow the instructions on the website and pay the document processing fee of \$10. Once the application package is received by USGS, the documentation will be verified and a pass imprinted with the pass owner's name will be mailed to the applicant. Passes ordered online or through the mail will be delivered 3 to 4 weeks after receipt of documentation and processing payment.

A third option is for disabled Veterans to visit a participating federal recreation site where interagency passes are issued, present photo identification (e.g., Driver's license, State ID, birth certificate, Passport, or permanent resident card), provide documentation of permanent disability, or read and sign a Statement of Permanent Disability affidavit. That's It. The Pass is free and issued at the time of entry.

Make sure to have photo ID available when using your Lifetime Access Pass and enjoy the majestic scenery and abundant recreational opportunities our National Parks provide. For additional questions regarding the pass, please check out the Frequently Asked Questions.



## <u>United States Air Force Academy Hosts</u> <u>Arnold Air Society and Sliver Wings Region VIII Conclave</u>

Information contributed by: Chhandashiki Das, National Advisory Consultant, AAS/SW Executive Management Center



Arnold Air Society, Silver Wings and National Consultant enjoying the Region VIII Conclave at USAFA (Michaela Mesiti, Theresa Sawiki, Shiki Das, April Patko, Eryn Dolan)

Nearly 100 Arnies and Silver Wings members from Colorado and the five nearby states attended the Region VIII Conclave, hosted by the USAFA Falcon Squadron. Special guests were Major General Steve Lepper, USAF, Retired (Deputy Judge Advocate General) and Major General Larry Stutzriem, USAF, Retired, from the Mitchell Institute. This year's fundraising efforts will benefit AFA's Wounded Airman Program and Aerospace Education Council. Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members are raising money towards their goal of \$10,000 this year. Additionally, the student leadership of this region will be hosted at University of Colorado-Boulder and Colorado State University in Fort Collins for next year. The leaders will take over at NATCON next April and remain in position for a year.



Arnies and Silver Wings gather to be welcomed to the Region VIII Conclave

Colorado and Utah AFA Chapters were represented by AFA Leadership Fran Bradshaw, Utah President; Stephen Gourley, National Stellar Xplorers representative and Colorado AFA Veterans Affairs Representative; and Angelo Bryant, Lance P. Sijan Chapter Vice President.



Ms. Das, National Advisory Consultant, noted, "The USAFA Falcon Squadron did a fantastic job of organizing and hosting the event. Everyone gained valuable information to take home to improve their squadrons and chapters."

## Community Partner Highlight Webster University

#### Our Community Partners make the Air Force Association and Sijan Chapter projects possible.

Our Community Partners have a unique opportunity to make an investment in the future of the United State Air Force, to provide support and assistance to the airmen who provide the aerospace defense of our nation and to increase their involvement with and access to the senior AF leaders in the Chapter area. By becoming an AFA Community partner, they demonstrate to their customers and the community that they support the AFA and its mission. Be sure to see the list of all of our Community Partners on the last page of the newsletter and we encourage you to support their many businesses. If you have any questions, please contact our Chapter Vice President for Community Partners, Jeri Andrews, at 719-660-4671 or jerry.a.andrews@lmco.com.

#### Highlight on Community Partner Webster University, Peterson AFB

Webster University offers accredited undergraduate and graduate school education to students in Colorado and across the world. With opportunities to study in Colorado Springs or earn a degree online, academic programs are focused on student success and taught by faculty with professional experience in their academic fields. Convenient location on Peterson AFB, many students find that the location, small class sizes and individual attention result in better networking opportunities and successful learning outcomes within



their profession or local community. Webster personalizes education to meet specific goals, schedules, TDY's, and deployment demands while maintaining full-time <u>employment</u> or actively serving in the military. In Colorado and around the world, Webster University is recognized as a leader in global education and a pioneer in adult and military education. Webster University won awards: 2019 best of Colorado Springs and Webster earned its highest ranking in 37-years moving from 23 to 17th best school in the Midwest regional university category.

Webster University's Peterson AFB campus location offers unique degrees in space systems operations and cybersecurity, was named the school for research for Spaceport Colorado, and helped STEM in the state of Colorado to win a grant in support of K-Higher Education STEM in conjunction with Spaceport Colorado. Accredited by the Better Business Bureau of Southern Colorado, Webster University Peterson AFB offers unique 9-week courses, such as graduate classes in space systems operations and cybersecurity, where students complete projects that support professional development. With full-time, part-time, Web Net, and online programs available, students who enroll in classes at Webster position themselves for career advancement and new professional opportunities. In the Master of Science in Cybersecurity, cybersecurity graduate students learn to create communications networks protected from cyber crime, cyber fraud and cyber espionage and solve real-world problems such as securing cyber networks and ensuring online security. National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) jointly sponsor the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAE-CD) program and Webster is now a cyber designated institution.



For more information about our AFA Community Partner, Webster University, visit 201 West Stewart Ave., Bldg. 1171, Suite. 106, Peterson AFB, CO 80915, or contact (719)574-7562, email williamhouth26@webster.edu, or visit our website a webster.edu/Peterson.

### **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! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Doc Apodaca at <a href="LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com">LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com</a> to learn more. These are great networking and volunteer opportunities!

#### **Volunteer Spotlight**

Dr. William "Bill" Houth is Treasurer and VP of communications for the Air Force Association, a Committee Member for the Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Council (MAC), a member of the VFW, American Legion, NRA, and is active in other service orientated committees associated with Calvary Chapel East Side Colorado Springs.

In his professional career Bill is the director of Webster University Peterson Campus and is an Adjunct Faculty instructor for Webster. His focus is on education and being an educator. Prior to Webster University Bill is an eligible Colorado State teacher and served as a substitute teacher for many of the school districts in Colorado Springs and the surrounding area.



Bill earned a Doctorate Degree in Education in Education Leadership with an emphasis in Curriculum and Instruction. Three Master Degrees M.B.A., M.S. Project Management, and a M.A. Management & Leadership. Finally three Associate Degrees A.A. General Studies, A.S. Science and Technology, and a A.S. Communications.

Bill's Air Force Career spanned 20-years, mostly in the space and missile arena. He commanded off site operations in radar and satellite positioning for Operation Desert Storm. He served multiple deployments in Operation Enduring Freedom. He established command and control during 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers while serving in the Command Center at Cheyenne Mountain Air Station.

Bill is married to Wendy, his wife of 32-years. They have two kids a boy (26) and a girl (30). His family loves outdoor activities such as snowboarding, mountain biking, rock climbing, and back packing.

Bill is a servant leader, this is evident in his life, family, and career. He is a teacher at heart and helping people learn the necessary information for them to succeed in life and in their career is his commission in life.

#### **Our Volunteers in Action**

14-15 Sept - National AFA Convention - Caty Rozema, Jerry White, Kristen Christy, Linda Aldrich, Rick Ragaller

21-22 Sept – Pikes Peak Airshow -- Joan Sell, Jeri Andrews, Linda Aldrich

8-9 Nov – Region VIII Arnies/Silver Wings Conclave – Angelo Bryant

9 Nov – Veterans Day at Missouri State Veterans Home – Linda Aldrich

Oct – 21st SW Quarterly Awards – Dave Geuting

2 Nov – Lance P. Sijan Foundation events – Gayle Divine

5 Nov – Vista Ridge JROTC Change of Command – Doc Apodaca

10 Dec - Tri-Command Holiday Party - Doc Apodaca, Doug Kendall, Gayle Divine, Linda Aldrich

6 Dec – Pearl Harbor Remembrance -- Willie Kalaskie



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### **How To Contact AFA**

AIR FORCE **ASSOCIATION** LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER 125

- 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



AFA LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER

Points of Interest &

**Upcoming Events** 

#### LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Place: Community Partner Location: TBD

Date: Every 2nd Tuesday of each month / Time: 4:30pm

#### AIR FORCE BALL SAVE THE DATE

Place: Broadmoor Date: September 18, 2020

Time: 6am to 11pm

Message from Sijan President Doc Apodaca: By now you've probably seen the notice that we are moving the Air Force Ball. Don't fret! We have a team in place that will make sure the event is even more successful. There were a few challenges and many questions that needed to be answered to make the move happen, but we finally made the call and moved it to Fall of 2020 with the primary purpose of getting back in line with the Air Force birthday. Be on the lookout for more details and please let us know if you are interested in helping out. Please contact the team at afball.lancepsijanafa@gmail.com.





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/admined\_pages/?id=100004188004907#!/pages/

**Email:** charles.apodaca@us.af.mil

### For more information contact:

lancepsijanafa@gmail.com Or williamhouth26@webster.edu





## Primary Business Address

Air Force Association Lance P. Sijan Chapter #125 P.O. Box 15007 Colorado Springs, CO 80935-5007

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

## Chapter Officers:

President: Executive VP:

CMSGT CHARLES "DOC" APODACA: MSGT ANGELO BRYANT:

(575)442-9939 (719)636-2605

CHARLES.APODACA@US.AF.MIL ANGELO.BRYANT.79@GMAIL.COM

Secretary: Treasurer:

DOUG KENDALL: DR. WILLIAM "BILL" HOUTH:

(310)982-0042 (719)574-7562

KENDALL.DOUGLAS@ENSCO.COM WILLIAMHOUTH26@WEBSTER.EDU

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 <a href="https://www.aFA.ORG"><u>www.aFA.ORG</u></a>

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: <a href="mailto:membership@afa.org">membership@afa.org</a> your updated information, or mail changes to AFA National address at:

Air Force Association Member Services

1501 Lee Highway

Arlington, VA 22209































RIM TECHNOLOGIES

















**Borg Warner Cleaners** 















































