



The Sijan Sentinel

3RD QUARTER, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2021

WELCOME TO SIJAN CHAPTER 125!

President: SMSgt Angelo Bryant
Vice President: Paul Bailey
Secretary: Doug Kendall
Treasurer: MSgt Brylie Button



MESSAGE FROM THE SIJAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

AFA Family and Friends,

Our country has been empowered to do better, go further and break barriers that no one thought were ever possible. We are continuously working at getting better as a service and with the addition of a new branch, I believe we are on the verge of a great awakening. John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." This call to arms is what has made our country different from many others. Our local Chapter has lost some very strong board members to the recent PCS season and it has been challenging, to say the least, to keep the high tempo of an organization that at one time used to max over 2,000 members. I am very thankful for the many that are pulling over time to continue to make our organization a success. We recently were able to celebrate the Air & Space Force Ball and hosted over 867 personnel after 2 ½ years of preparation. That is not a small ordeal and the team, headed by our committee lead/event coordinator/cheerleader/State VP for Aerospace Education, Caty Rozema, deserves our sincere gratitude for putting together such a flawless event. Her special team with Brandi Mills, Jennifer Miller, Gayle Devine, Ally Darling, Vanessa Johnson, Hank Scarangella, Gayle and Sharon White, Angelo Bryant, Doc Apodaca, DJ Marquez, Brylie Button, Timothy Horton and Linda Aldrich provided the right determination and a can-do attitude that reminded me of why our local chapter continues to epitomize the core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in All We Do and makes me proud to be the president of our local Chapter.



I would also like to provide a special shout-out to Karl from Kansas, as he came through once again to MC an event that will go down in the history books as one of the biggest in the Rocky Mountain area. Special Mention: Please join me send a message of farewell to our Sijan Chapter Treasurer, Master Sergeant Brylie Button, who will be leaving us on 5 Oct to yet another Air Force assignment. She has only been with us for a few months, but again another blessing to our Chapter and has kept our financial accounts under close guard. All is accounted for my friend. May you have yet another wonderful assignment and continue being that beacon of light wherever your military career takes you!

As we have just finished one big event, we have a couple more on the schedule as we close of this year getting back in touch with our local community. Our next big event will be the Community Partners/Sponsors social to recognize and thank all our generous Community Partners from the local area. Our plan is to have a Community Partner Reception sometime in November, so please be on the lookout for the date and location. As you can imagine, with everything opening back up, venues are booking up quickly. As we focus on rebuilding relationships, let me leave you with the thought of what John F. Kennedy was meaning in his inaugural speech. If you know of ways to help our local Chapter reach those in need or even bridge the gap of our shortfalls, please reach out to us and help our efforts to make a difference. If you are interested please contact me at (michael.bryant.10@spaceforce.mil) or you can send a message to our chapter e-mail lancepsijan@gmail.com. I'm sure we have a couple of other opportunities for some of you to get involved in. Please consider joining with us to support our Airmen, Guardians and their families. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me to any of our Chapter officers.

If you ask, why do we continue to strive to support our community I can only draw my resolve from the Apostle Paul, "And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Thank you for all the support this quarter. Continue to reach out to those that are in need and thank someone today for what they helped you accomplish yesterday. As a Chapter, we will continue to look for ways to support our military and civilian families. Always excited to see what the next challenge may bring by way of helping our community heal and thrive. Hope to see you at a Chapter meeting or event.

v/r, SMSgt Angelo Bryant,

AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet

AFA COLORADO STATE AWARDS BANQUET

The State Awards Banquet kicked off with a colorful entertainment by the Omawari Mexican Folklore Dancers, made even more special by the fact that one of the dancers was the granddaughter of Ray Brown, a member of the Mel Harmon Chapter. After a warm welcome by the Colorado State President,



Linda Aldrich, the State Awards Banquet, hosted by Mel Harmon Chapter, began with the special charm and dignity provided by guest emcee, District Attorney for the Tenth Judicial District, Jeff Chostner. At the conclusion of the evening, Mr. Chostner was honored with a presentation of a framed print of the USAFA jump team donated by Mel Harmon President Mike Sumida, and created by artist Rick Broome, who is in the Colorado Aviation hall of fame.



The American Legion Post #2 provided a perfect setting with plenty of space for the Honor Guard from the Pueblo County High School JROTC to post the colors with great professionalism, followed by a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by Ms. Holley Owens. Then it was time for a special moment of remembrance, made even more special by having the grandson of Joan Sell, National Officer Emeritus, Cadet Logan Nour, honor our POWs and MIAs with a solemn observance. Members from the four Chapters in the State of Colorado turned out in force to recognize the many hours of dedication by our Chapter volunteers.



VIP introductions included Chapter Presidents, Cliff Klein (Mile High), Angelo Bryant (Lance P. Sijan), Rick Peterson (RE Huyser), and Henry Eichman, Chapter Vice President (Mel Harmon), plus National Officers Stephen Gourley and Jim Hannam, and State Officers, Linda Aldrich, Margaret Eichman, Damita Stevens and Katy Rozema. We were honored to have our very special guest, World War II veteran, Mr. Bill Barrett, join us for the evening. Then with scrumptious food smells wafting through the room, it was time for dinner provided by Lisa and Rocky Musso of Musso's Restaurant and Catering, a long-time Community Partner of the Mel Harmon Chapter. Not only was the Italian Buffet delicious, but there was so much food that Mel Harmon Chapter was able to make a large delivery to a local shelter with what was not consumed by the guests.



Mr. Matthew Albright, Director of the Center for American Values, was the guest speaker for the evening. He was thanked for his educational presentation with a donation to the Center, presented by Linda Aldrich on behalf of Mel Harmon and State AFA. The Center for American Values is a veteran's support and educational non-profit based in Pueblo Colorado. The Center's focus is to recognize selfless service and sacrifice, while helping develop the next generation of citizen leaders. Matt's passion for the Center's Mission stems from a deep sense of duty, established by the long line of military service in his family. Matt has family members who have served in every major American conflict since the American Revolution. What truly inspires Matt's passion for our military is the memory and lessons of his late father, Thomas Albright, a proud Air Force Veteran who served in Vietnam.



AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet cont.

Since 2015 as Director of the Center, the Center has grown to making a National impact and Matt has had the privilege of presenting inspiring programs to tens of thousands of students, educators, veterans, and active-duty military members. His programs foster character, community, team building and leadership skills. Matt is also the organizer of the Southern Colorado Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition, the Southern Colorado Veterans Food Distribution, and many other programs intended to assist struggling veterans in need.

Following Mr. Albright's well-received address, it was time for recognition of all the selfless volunteers that make the Air Force Association such a vital part of the Colorado Communities. Colorado had multiple National Award winners this year, and their awards were either presented at National AFA Convention in September or after that Convention when distributed by the National Staff after official announcement. Congratulations to these individuals and Chapters for their outstanding contributions to the mission of AFA.

National Individual Winners were:

National Medal of Merit: Henry Eichman (Mel Harmon) and Burnett "Chip" Deyerle (Mile High)
 National Exceptional Service Award: Mary Ann Blair (Mel Harmon) and Caty Rozema (Sijan)
 National Chairman's Citation and Mary Ann Thompson Award: Linda Aldrich (Sijan)
 National Chairman's Citation for Stellar Xplorers: Stephen Gourley (Mile High)

National Chapter Winners were:

Aerospace Education Achievement—Lance P. Sijan
 Aerospace Education Achievement—Mile High
 Aerospace Education Achievement—RE Huyser
 Community Partner Gold—Mel Harmon
 Outstanding Small Chapter—Mel Harmon

Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education, Jim Hannam, and State Aerospace Education Vice President, Caty Rozema, joined Linda Aldrich for recognition of our Chapter Teachers of the Year and the announcement of the State Teacher of the Year. As an independent, nonprofit, education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation, the AFA mission includes the promotion of teaching Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in K-12 classrooms throughout the country. This promotion takes the form of scholarships, sponsorships, educator grants, and awards. The AFA Teacher-of-the-Year Award Program, sponsored at the National level by Rolls Royce, recognizes excellence and exceptional performance in the classroom at the elementary and secondary school levels. Each Chapter may select a Chapter Teacher of the Year and recognize all that they contribute to encouraging students in the STEM programs, preparing them to contribute to today's and tomorrow's technologies.



Mile High Chapter Teacher of the Year: Mr. Robert Ferguson, Westminster High School
 Robert E. Huyser Chapter Teacher of the Year:
 Mr. Mike Pewters, Fruita Monument On-line High School
 Mel Harmon Chapter Teacher of the Year: Ms. Cheryl Farrer, Centennial High School.

In ceremonies at their schools, each of our Chapter Teachers of the Year received a Certificate of Excellence, a check for \$250, an AFA Padfolio and a Chapter Teacher of the Year pin. At the State Banquet, they received a very special gift -- a book of Medal of Honor recipients' quotes, each one of which was personally autographed by Medal of Honor recipient Drew Dix.



AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet cont.

The next big announcement was for recognition of the AFA State Teacher of the Year, who was Mr. Robert Ferguson, who received a Certificate of Excellence, a personalized jacket, a State Teacher of the Year pin and a check for \$500.00. Mr. Ferguson joined with community, industry and university partners to successfully launch the school's aerospace program. Mr. Ferguson was later recognized in front of all of his students and the faculty at Westminster High School.

Joan Sell, National Officer Emeritus, joined Linda Aldrich for recognition of all those many AFA volunteers who have given so much of their time to educate and advocate for the Air and Space Forces and to support the military families. The highlight of the State Awards was the announcement of the State Members of the Year, Burnett "Chip" Deyerle from Mile High and Gayle Divine from Sijan. Chip Deyerle has been a presence at every Mile High Chapter event, a representative to the United Veterans Coalition, writer and producer of the Mile High newsletter and was key to opening Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight to an AFA presence.

At great loss to the Chapter and the State, Chip recently moved to South Dakota, where he is already actively involved in the local AFA Chapter activities. Cliff Klein accepted on behalf of Chip and will send him his award.



Our second so very deserving Member of the Year for 2021, Gayle Divine, has been an outstanding performer in so many roles in support of Chapter and State activities, programs, and initiatives. She is an amazing lady who has been involved in AFA so long, we couldn't remember exactly when she joined us. She is a recognizable force organizing the Air Force Ball every year, she is eternally the smile that makes us all feel good, and she is a friend to be treasured. Colorado AFA would be lost without this amazing lady. We're grateful to her for being an true advocate for AFA in every sense of the word.



State President Aldrich thought she was about to provide closing remarks, but received a great surprise instead. Henry Eichman and Margaret Eichman from Mel Harmon Chapter called up all the Chapter Presidents to present Linda with a special thank you award for her continued support and commitment for so many years to the Colorado Air Force Association. The rather entertaining note about the award was that it was intended to be a thank you for the end of her tenure of several years as the Colorado State President, however, at the business meeting that occurred earlier in the day, she was again voted in as the State President for another year due to the departure of Chip Deyerle, who was slated to become State President!



There is no doubt that the evening was enjoyed from beginning to end by all the guests—great entertainment, dinner, recognition for so many and lots of good camaraderie. The special guests who were missing at the event were the military and civilian nominees for Outstanding Airmen/NCO/SNCO/Civil Service and Cadet of the Year, who AFA has always recognized at our Annual State Convention each year, but due to COVID, we were unable to have that portion of the events. We will look forward to returning to our tradition of honoring the top candidates in each category next year. The event planners, Margaret Eichman and Mary Ann Blair received kudos from AFA National President, Orville Wright in recognition for their efforts, "Hi Mary Ann and Margaret, Linda was kind enough to share with me that this year's Colorado State Convention, hosted by our Pueblo Mel Harmon Chapter, was a huge success because of your initiative, hard work and leadership. THANK YOU! Such a successful AFA event only happens when exemplary volunteer leaders like you have the experience and gumption to so visibly accomplish our AFA mission to support dominant air and space forces, Airmen and Guardians, and sustain our enduring commitment to our heritage...

Respectfully,
Orville"

Thank you to Mel Harmon Chapter, the Omawari Mexican Folk Dancers, Matt Albright, Jeff Chostner, Lisa and John Musso, and all our volunteers for coming together to honor the best of the best in Colorado.



AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet cont.

Chapter Citations recipients



Djandra Marquez and Brylie Button (Sijan). Not present: Rich Follmer

State Medal of Merit



State Exceptional Service Award recipients:



Lucille Corsentino (Mel Harmon), Charles "Doc" Apodaca (Sijan), Paul Bailey (Sijan: received later); and Marv Blair (Mel Harmon); Not present: Justin Althoff, Joe Baldwin, Jennifer Miller, Vanessa Johnson, Ally Darling, Hank Scarangella (Sijan); Rashelle Dunn (Mile High), Josephine Rasmussen (Mel Harmon)



Felipe Rodriguez, Angelo Bryant (Sijan), Neil Burroughs, Kenn Bowens, Dave Tobin (Mile High; Dave received his at a golf tournament)



Around Your AFA SIJAN Community

AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet cont.

State Presidential Award presented to:



Mark "Yak" Maryak (Mel Harmon), Damita Stevens (Mile High), Doug Kendall (Sijan), Rick Peterson (Huyser) Not Present: Brandi Mills (Sijan)

State Superior Excellence Award recipients:



Katy Rozema (Sijan), Henry Eichman (Mel Harmon), Cliff Klein (Mile High), Ray Brown (Mel Harmon), Gayle Divine (Sijan)

Special recognition for members with years of service:



Mary Ann Blair (Mel Harmon), Stephen Gourley (Mile High), Dave Geuting (Sijan), Sharon White (Sijan), Gayle White (Sijan), Margaret Eichman (Mel Harmon)



IMAGE GOLF 2021

2021 IMAGE GOLF

Article contributed by Joe Kahoe, IMAGE 2021 Chairman

Started in 2000, IMAGE provides the opportunity for military and industry to have some fun and play a round of golf for a great cause. Rocky Mountain Chapters of the Air Force Association (AFA), National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) and the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association (AFCEA) all work together to raise money for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) scholarships and related activities. Each year, we collectively award over \$100k to deserving students and STEM activities, with IMAGE providing a substantial portion of those funds. IMAGE is a premier networking event within the defense marketplace in the Springs, and is definitely a great way to meet counterparts from industry and military while gaining a better understanding of issues and opportunities facing our community. With 148 golfers teeing off in perfect weather, the event netted roughly \$33,000 to be divided three ways among AFA, NDIA and AFCEA Chapters. The golf tournament is the primary source of funds so Sijan Chapter may continue to provide annual scholarships through the aerospace education programs. After a sumptuous Prime Rib lunch, awards were handed out thanks to the gracious and generous support from our sponsors:



Sijan Chapter Secretary at IMAGE with his ENESCO team



- Title **KRATOS**
- Awards
- Lunch
- Putting Contest
- Breakfast
- Mulligans
- Golf Cart
- Drink Cart (Front 9)
- Drink Cart (Back 9)
- Hole-in-One
- Range Balls
- Closest to Hole Men's
- Closest to Hole Women's
- Longest Drive (Men's)
- Longest Drive (Ladies)
- Web Site
- Tote Bag

2021 Industry Military Annual Golf Event (IMAGE)
 18 August 2021
 USAF Academy, CO
IMAGE SCRAMBLE
 Registration Deadline: 16 Aug 2021



Around Your AFA SIJAN Community

Air and Space Force Ball

Submitted by Caty Rozema

Air and Space Force Ball Huge Success!

On September 18, the Lance P. Sijan Chapter had a ball... Literally! More than 850 attendees gathered for the first ever Air AND Space Force Ball at the fabulous Broadmoor Resort. The evening kicked off with a cocktail hour to allow everyone who hadn't been able to gather since COVID plenty of time to "oooo" and "ahhh" at how well we all clean up!

Our emcee extraordinaire, Lt Col Karl Freundt (aka Karl from Kansas), got the formal program underway. Ms. Carly Rayburg, an AFROTC Detachment 90 Colorado State University alumni, gave stunning renditions of BOTH the Canadian and American national anthems, and the Mitchell High School JROTC Honor Guard presented the colors. Among the many VIPS in attendance, a special table hosted by DeLoite honored Wounded Warrior in attendance, and AT&T hosted a table for Outstanding Airmen and Guardians from Space Operations Command, Peterson-Schriever Garrison, NORAD/NORTHCOM, 10th Air Base Wing. The Sijan Chapter president, SMSgt Angelo Bryant, welcomed attendees. Chaplain Lt Col Robert D. Ward led the invocation, then guests enjoyed the Broadmoor's delicious culinary creations with the expected amazing service and efficiency.

After dinner, Lieutenant General John Shaw spoke about the legacy of the General Jerome F. O'Malley Distinguished Space Leadership Award. Since 2002, the Sijan Chapter has presented leaders in the space community with the honor, established to recognize the 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 systems at the highest levels of the Air Force." General O'Malley was a longtime advocate for properly organizing space forces to make them more accessible to warfighters. His advocacy and leadership ultimately led to the creation of today's Air Force Space Command in 1982. Tragically General O'Malley died during an aircraft mishap in 1985 while serving as the Commander of Tactical Air Command. The presentation was particularly touching because of the participation of Sharon O'Malley Burg, General O'Malley's daughter, who has graced the event with her presence for several years. Six former O'Malley recipients were in attendance this year: Carolyn DeKok (representing her husband, Roger DeKok, Lt Gen (ret); Randall Claar, Lt Gen Stephen Whiting; Kevin McLaughlin, Maj Gen (ret); Lt Gen John Shaw; Mike Manor, Col (ret)

For the next 20 years... and beyond... the Chapter will now present the Gen Jerome F. O'Malley Space VISIONARY award. Mrs. O'Malley Burg, spoke about the heritage of the old award and the future of the new award.

Following the formal program, attendees showed off their best moves on the dance floor. The photos prove that Ball attendees have rhythm and were ready to party-on! A huge thank you to our industry partners, without whose support we would not be able to make the ball accessible to Airmen and Guardians at all stages of their career.

A small but mighty committee spent more than 2 1/2 years planning the event. If you attended and had a great time, you have them to thank--Caty Rozema (Chairwoman), Vanessa Johnson, Brandi Mills, Gayle Divine, Ally Darling, Jennifer Miller, Hank Scarangella, Djandra Marquez, Timothy Horton, Brylie Button, Gayle and Sharon White, Angelo Bryant, Joan Sell, Doc Apodaca, Linda Aldrich

Want to be part of the next Air and Space Force ball planning committee? Contact us at: email lancepsijanafa@gmail.com



Chapter President Angelo Bryant welcoming guests to the Ball



The last General O'Malley Space Leadership Award and the new O'Malley Space Vision Award



Joan Sell and her family welcoming the Wounded Warriors and Outstanding Airmen/Guardians at the reception desk



Junior Ranking Airmen and Guardians enjoying the Ball



Ball Chairperson Caty Rozema enjoying her time on stage



Air and Space Force Ball cont.

O'Malley Space Leadership Award Presentation



Sharon O'Malley-Burg speaking of her father's legacy



Previous O'Malley Space Leadership Recipients: Lt Gen John Shaw; Lt Gen Stephen Whiting Lt Gen (ret); Mike Manor, Col (ret); Randall Claar; Kevin McLaughlin, Maj Gen (ret);



O'Malley Presentation: Sharon O'Malley Burg, Lt Gen Shaw, Caty Rozema with O'Malley Space Leadership Award and O'Malley Space Vision Award



NORAD/NORTHCOM Outstanding Airman TSgt Kaivone Williams



Mitchell AFJROTC Honor Guard



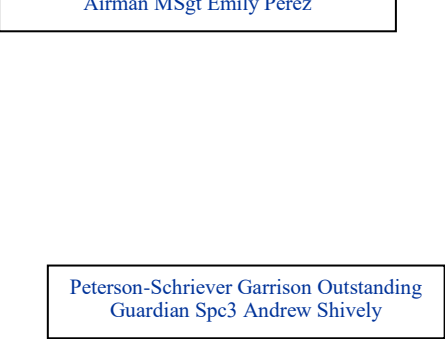
Arnold Air Society Cadets from Det 90



Space Ops Command Outstanding Airman MSgt Emily Perez



Amn Katherine R. Hunt, 10ABW Outstanding Airman



Peterson-Schriever Garrison Outstanding Guardian Spc3 Andrew Shively



Peterson-Schriever Garrison Outstanding Airman SrA Scott Wycoff



Around Your Air Force Association Community

Outstanding Airmen of the Year: Senior Airman Giovanni Pacheco

The Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2021 were formally recognized at AFA's Air, Space and Cyber Conference from Sept. 20 to 22 in National Harbor, Md. Air Force Magazine highlighted one each workday leading up the Conference. Honored from our local area was Senior Airman Giovanni Pacheco, a career development journeyman from the 50th Force Support Squadron at Schriever Space Force Base, Colorado.

The Passing of a Former AFA Chairman of the Board and Friend of the Chapter

Dear Members and Friends of the Gabriel Chapter,
It is with sadness that I report the sudden passing of Scott P. Van Cleef, Brig Gen, USAF (Retired) on the 18th of July. Scott was a close friend to many in our chapter, and very active in the AFA at the Chapter, State, Region, and National Levels, serving as the AFA Chairman of the Board from 2014-2016. Scott served our nation as a fighter pilot and Fighter Wing Commander. A summary of his impact as a leader on active duty and in retirement is included in the Air Force Magazine announcement below.

Air Force Magazine Announcement

As you keep Scott's family in your thoughts and prayers, here are details including address (to send a card or note), funeral arrangements, and request from the family regarding any donations you may consider:

Mrs. Barbara Van Cleef
3287 Springwood Rd.
Fincastle, VA 24090-3028

Instead of flowers, the family is asking for any donations to be directed to the AFA Aerospace Education Fellowship that is being set up in honor of Scott.

Respectfully,
Mike Winters | Air Force Association
President | General Charles A. Gabriel Chapter #433

The links below are for information purposes only.

2021 Support for Military Families Background Information
https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/2020SAF/August/Background_Information.pdf

2021 Support for Military Families Report
<https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/2020SAF/ActiveDuty.pdf>

Veterans Affairs Notes

Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade

The 2021 Parade is scheduled for the first Saturday in November – November 6, 2021 at 10:00AM. Planning will continue with a sharp eye on COVID-related health conditions that dictate meeting size and spacing restrictions that could cancel the Parade again this year. The theme for the 2021 Parade is “The Greatest Generation” honoring both World War II and Korean War veterans. You can monitor developments on the Parade on their website at www.csvetsparade.org and also register a parade participant.

Thank You, Linda Aldrich



For many, many years Linda Aldrich has been the editor and gatherer of articles for the Lance P. Sijan Newsletter. She has tracked our activities because of her continuous involvement in absolutely every event the Chapter has hosted or been involved in. You rarely saw her by-line on articles because she didn't highlight herself, but she has written the majority of the articles that share information and praise our Chapter volunteers. And she did this while being a Chapter officer, then State President, and Region President. She partnered successfully with Bill Houth who finds ways to insert all the articles into a logical order to create a great newsletter for the Chapter members. All of Linda's writing and editorial skills carried over with her authorship of so many State and National Awards for which Sijan and Chapter individuals have been recognized.



Around Your Sijan Chapter Community cont.

Colorado AFA State Teacher of the Year

It is a distinct honor to announce this year's Colorado State Teacher of the Year. And the winner is...Mr. Robbie Ferguson, Westminster High School, who joined with community, industry and university partners to successfully launch the school's aerospace program. Mr. Ferguson shared that "There is no better topic for student engagement during a pandemic than Aerospace. It took three years of passion, connections and support from Aerospace Alley and Spartan College to get the school-based infrastructure to offer the class." The program, built from scratch, offers students project-based learning, college credit, mentoring by industry professionals and integrated instruction that includes 3D printing, various types of simulation software and multiple hands-on projects. The course sequence focuses on the evolution and physics of flight, flight navigation, orbital mechanics and drone operations/ maintenance. Partnerships with NASA, University of Colorado, National Defense, Arvada Associated Modeler, Edge of Space Science and Spartan College enhanced the curriculum with real world issues and are integrated into the instruction at strategic intervals.

Mile High Chapter President Cliff Klein and State President Linda Aldrich followed up on the presentation at the State Convention by going to the high school on 24 September. Mr. Ferguson's students had no idea why they were going to the school theater that day along with several other classes and many faculty members because he had not shared with them his recent recognition with the honor. After a brief introduction about what how the Air Force Association selects a Chapter and State Teacher of the Year, Linda announced Mr. Ferguson as the winner and his student gave him a huge round of applause. As soon as the presentations from Cliff and Linda concluded, his students rushed to the stage to proudly have their picture taken with their instructor. The students and Mr. Ferguson also hosted Cliff and Linda in their classroom after the ceremony to show the drones that they were each building in their class projects.

The competition was extraordinary this year and we certainly want to congratulate our Robert E. Huysen Teacher of the Year, Mr. Mike Pewters, Fruita Monument on-line High School, and the Mel Harmon Teacher of the Year, Ms. Cheryl Farrer, Centennial High School. Mr. Pewters has been teaching for 20 plus years and was part of a team that developed and led on on-line curriculum for 1400 students in response to the COVID pandemic. Ms. Farrer led students in designing and building a new method to produce clean energy and she is a yearly participant in the Science Olympiads. All of these educators mentor and challenge their students in the STEM fields and open doors of opportunity so they will understand all the career choices available in the STEM arena. Congratulations Robbie Ferguson, Mike Pewters, and Cheryl Farrer -- we appreciate all you have done and will continue to do for our students in the arena of STEM education. Want to know more about the Teacher of the Year program? Contact State VP for Aerospace Education, Caty Rozema at catharine.rozema@att.com.



Community Partner Highlight

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

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, Djandra Marquez, djandra.marquez@spaceforce.mil

Community Partner Highlight

TSgt Djandra "DJ" Marquez, our Vice President for Community Partners, has been making the rounds to our Community Partners, making sure they know we appreciate their support. Please support our CPs with your business!



Allie Darling with Apex Systems



Shannon Cambra with Lockheed Martin



Ryan Roberts with Deloitte



Dan Jaworowski with Infinity Systems Engineering



Linda Jackson with Radisson Hotel



Mike Robbins with AT&T Government Solutions



Third Quarter State Business Meeting Summary

Our Colorado third quarter business meeting opened with reading of our mission statement as a reminder that we now need to focus not only on our Air Force, but our Space Force as well. All are under one umbrella of the Air Force Association.

Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense, to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their families, and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

To accomplish this, we:

- EDUCATE** the public on the critical need for unrivaled aerospace power and promote aerospace and STEM education for a technically superior and professional workforce to ensure national security
- ADVOCATE** and promote aerospace power to favorably shape policy and resourcing decisions to guarantee the strongest aerospace forces in the world.
- SUPPORT** Airmen, Guardians, and the families of the Total Air Force and Space Force, including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, civilians, families and members of the Civil Air Patrol.

The meeting was hosted by the Mel Harmon Chapter at the Weisbrod Aircraft Museum in Pueblo and the agenda covered a wide set of topics, beginning with comments from the State President, Linda Aldrich. She emphasized a need to revitalize AFA in Colorado. Membership has been lost and many people stopped attending any events during the pandemic, failing to return as restrictions are eased. Also with Peterson, Schriever and Buckley as Space Force Bases, AFA need to make a concerted effort to ensure that Space Force Guardians feel like they have an active part in the AFA. Space Force is to Air Force as Marine Corps is to the Navy. It is essential we posture ourselves to include Space Force and that we work together as one in our mission to benefit air and space missions and military families.

First, National Officer Emeritus Jerry White provided a summary of the proposed governance to be presented at National AFA Convention in September recommending the possible adoption of a membership-based rather than delegate-based organization. Jerry made specific points that thirty-four out of thirty-five comparable military organizations currently employ a membership-based (voting) organization and anyone wishing more specific information may find several white papers on the membership organization available on the AFA website. Jerry has been diligent in educating our Colorado Chapters because it is essential that delegates to the National Convention be well informed before the anticipated vote to occur at the convention. The two main tenets for change at the national level are membership and structure. Zoom meetings are scheduled to occur before National Convention to address a concern that changing to a membership-based organization will not increase membership. Multiple questions have yet to be answered and will be addressed in the Zoom calls and continuing discussion. There are questions regarding the need/possibility of new AFA Headquarters Building. National is still in the process of deciding whether to sell the current building or have a new building built, and the value of the current building is unclear. The current list of delegates who will be attending National Convention are Linda Aldrich, Stephen Gourley, Mike Sumida, Damita Stevens, Jerry White, Rick Ragaller and Kristen Christy; all were encouraged to listen in on the upcoming Zoom sessions discussing the proposed change.

In a mutual effort to establish better communications with Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings, Casey Donahue, SW National/Det 90 and Lauren Weber, AAS/Det 90 participated in the meeting via Zoom. All Chapters were reminded to make a concentrated effort to include AAS/SW/Det 90/Det 105 in all Chapter communications. The Merged Area VII and VIII Regional Convention will be in Nebraska the weekend of Nov 13-14 in Omaha and Cadet Connor Price is the current Region CC. As COVID restrictions are waning, Det 90 is looking forward to an in-person semester and hopefully greater interaction with AFA activities. They will continue to volunteer at the local foodbank monthly and current have a strong AAS with 27 members. Attendees were provided with the Sijan and Mile High contact names for AAS/SW information: Joe Baldwin joewahoo76@gmail.com from Sijan and Cliff Klein cklein1964@yahoo.com from Mile High

Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education, Jim Hannam, attended and presented the incredible lists of AE accomplishments in spite of and during COVID plus introducing "AE after COVID in 2022." The CyberPatriot XIII Virtual Finals were 20-21 March and registration for CP XIV is +350 ahead of last year at this time. There were 350 Summer Camps with a mix of in-person and virtual attendance. Stellar Xplorers VIII registration is also ahead of last year's registration at this point. Five STLX Summer Camps were fully subscribed. Fifty-seven Chapter and 28 States selected Teachers of the Year, with the National TOY being selected from Hillsboro, VA, Ms. Megan Tucker. There were 711 applications for scholarships, more than 60+ over the previous year. Twenty-seven STEM Teacher grants were approved and 15 Spring There are 880 AFJROTC units currently and 15 Springs grants were awarded. Flight Academy is a go for this summer. Civil Air Patrol is still flourishing with 1100+ units and 20 Summer CAP Unit Grants were awarded. Pitsenbarger Grants, which are presented at Airman Leadership School graduations, had 20 funded nationally and 13 Chapter funded, plus an aerospace fellowship was funded. National is considering building up the Pitsenbarger grants. AAS/SW National Convention was virtual this last year, but plans are for an in-person event in 2022. Thanks to Jim Hannam for that comprehensive run-down of all that AFA is doing in aerospace education.



All members are always welcome to attend all State Meetings and are encouraged to do so. Schedule for 2022, Mel Harmon will host 1st quarter meeting at The Center for American Values, Pueblo, on March 19; Huyser will host 2nd quarter in June; Sijan will host the State Convention in August and Mile High will host 4th quarter meeting.

AFA National Convention at National Harbor

Article Contributed by: Mike Sumida, Mel Harmon Chapter

The delegates attending the Air Force Association National Convention enthusiastically greeted each other, voicing how great it was to be able to attend in person. Due to COVID, last year's convention was held virtually. While it was well done on Zoom in 2020, the ability to meet and network is so much more successful when members can meet face to face. After credentialing of the delegate rosters (14 attended of 20 allotted from the Rocky Mountain Region) by the AFA Staff, attendees could choose which of four Workshops to attend—AFA Field Portal/IT; Advocacy; Membership, Development & Social Media and Chairman's Open Office Call—Bylaws Questions. Our Region delegates split up to make sure we had coverage at all in order to garner information to share with the local Chapters once we all returned home.



Stephen Gourley and Stellar Xplorers founders receiving the Chairman's Citation

The afternoon business session opened with approval of Convention Rules and Procedures, Board Actions and Constitution Changes, followed by a memorial and a tribute to those AFA members who had passed away during the last year. Various presenters explained and distributed reports on AFA at 75 and Beyond, Advocacy in Action (Mitchell Institute) and the Space Steering Group efforts. Also Chairman Gerald Murray and President Bruce "Orville" Wright offered their view points on the proposed By-Law changes. National Officer nominees for positions that were contested were allowed podium time to advocate for why they would be the best choice for each position.



Linda Aldrich was recognized with a Chairman's Citation

The primary big issue up for discussion was the proposed By-Law changes that suggest changes in organizational leadership and open voting by every AFA member instead of delegate-based voting. Chairman Murray said the proposed by-laws are needed for two reasons: First, to vest more responsive and accountable authority in the Board of Directors, which meets frequently throughout the year, rather than in a convention that meets annually; secondly, to empower every AFA member by enabling them to elect Association directors. President Wright added that giving every member a vote provides everyone a greater sense of ownership in the Association. Primary versions and operating concepts of the new approach were discussed, with the decision finally arrived at to table the resolution for six months for further study. There were numerous discussions via Zoom leading up to the National with significant resistant coming from the Field leadership, based partly on fears that the changes will not increase membership or provide sufficient support for Field activities.



Mike Sumida Receiving Mel Harmon's Outstanding Small Chapter of the Year Award

Another key issue was whether to rename the Association with the word "Space" in the title. A motion was proposed, seconded and approved to allow the AFA leadership to change the Association name when they felt the change was needed to gain and retain Space Force Guardian support and involvement. The AFA has surveyed both USSF leadership and Guardians to get a feel of an acceptable rename of the AFA. Interestingly, the word "Aerospace" was not well liked by Guardians surveyed.

During the Convention the new class of Emerging Leaders was introduced, and we are proud to announce that the class includes two outstanding individuals from the Rocky Mountain Region—Damita Stevens (Mile High Chapter) and Caty Rozema (Sijan Chapter). The Region is also proud to announce the election of Stephen Gourley (Mile High) as the Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education. We predict that the new ELs and Vice Chair/AE will contribute greatly to the continuing and future success of educating, advocating and supporting efforts for the AFA mission.



AFA National Convention at National Harbor cont.

A highlight each year is the introduction of the AFA National Teacher of the Year (TOY), who this year is Megan Tucker of Lovettsville, Virginia. Ms. Tucker is a 17-year veteran of teaching and has served the last five years as STEAM Specialist (K-5)/Instructional Facilitator of Technology/Gifted Teacher/Intervention Coordinator (K-5 and Professional Development), and STEAM Curriculum Consultant at Hillsboro Charter Academy, Hillsboro, Virginia. The AFA is grateful to its Aerospace Education Program Platinum Sponsor, Rolls-Royce, for their continued sponsorship of the TOY program. The TOY program dates back to the early 1990s when the mission to recognize classroom teachers (K-12) for their innovative and successful instructional programs originally began.

The other significant highlight for the attendees is the Awards Banquet, held with incredible fanfare as the long term dedicated volunteers in AFA are recognized. Stephen Gourley and the Stellar Xplorers Team earned a highly regarded Chairman's Citation for the years of establishing and then bringing the program to its currently highly successful status. Mike Sumida, President of Mel Harmon Chapter, received two awards for the Chapter—Outstanding Small Chapter of the Year and Community Partner Gold Award. Linda Aldrich, Rocky Mountain Region President, also received a Chairman's Citation for her many years of dedication to AFA at the Chapter, State and Region Level.



Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings Executive Boards—the future of our USAF/USSF and AFA

The Rocky Mountain Region held a two hour caucus to meet delegates from our three state region of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah. The result was a tremendous exchange of information, identifying which chapters have excelled in particular areas and are willing to share their lessons learned. We also learned more about how to be inclusive of Guardians through ideas presented by Damita Stevens, Guardian at Buckley Space Force Base. Linda Aldrich was also unanimously elected Region President for a third year.



Lance P. Sijan Is Looking for Volunteers

Lance P. Sijan is Looking For Volunteers



volunteering, please contact Michael Bryant at LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com to learn more. These are great networking and volunteer opportunities!

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

Volunteer Spotlight



Sijan President Bryant
with Mitchell HS Cadets,
Cinthia Davila, Hannah Baaker,
Yesica Martin

Our Volunteers in Action Thank you to these representatives who stepped up for this quarter to show Sijan and AFA in action:

- June 21—(Joan Sell) AFA CAP Cadet of the Year 2019 & 2020 awards
- June 30—(Paul Bailey) Pikes Peak Veterans Council
- July 11-16--(Angelo Bryant) Silver State Youth Camp Counselor
- July 23-29--(Angelo Bryant, Doc Apodaca)- AFA 2021 Professional Education & Development Symposium
- Aug 2--(Angelo Bryant)- Attended Town Hall w/ USSF COS & SEL to discuss USSF/USAF transition
- Aug 12--(Angelo Bryant, Caty Rozema)- Schriever Space Force Base mass in person ticket cell
- Aug 17--(Angelo Bryant) - Advanced Instructor Course Board member- selecting newest USSF instructors
- Aug 18--(Angelo Bryant)- USAFA Meeting w/10ABW Command Chief to discuss AF/USSF Ball
- Sept 15--(Angelo Bryant) - Led unit 4 TES Professional Development session
- Sept 18 (really 2019 to 2021)—(Caty Rozema, Vanessa Johnson, Brandi Mills, Gayle Divine, Ally Darling, Jennifer Miller, Hank Scarangella, Gayle and Sharon White, Angelo Bryant, Doc Apodaca, Linda Aldrich) Our amazing AF Ball Committee
- Sept 18-19—(Jerry White, Rick Ragaller, Kristen Christy, Linda Aldrich) Colorado Sijan Delegates to National Convention
- Sept 30—(Doc Apodaca) Pikes Peak Top III Council
- Sept 30--(Angelo Bryant) Coined Mitchell High JROTC Cadets that performed Flag and POW/MIA display for AF/USSF Ball.
- Oct 1—(Caty Rozema) Pueblo County High School Stellar Xplorers introductory meeting m
- Oct 1—(Linda Aldrich) AFA State Teacher of the Year Presentation, Westminster High School



Lance P. Sijan Volunteers Cont.

* The Sijan Chapter helps to award the Air Force Association JROTC medals to the six local Air Force Junior ROTC Detachments in the Colorado Springs area each year. Next year, the program will also include an award to a Space Force JROTC program being established at Falcon HS.



Caty, Brandi, and Gayle
AF Ball 2021



Joan Sell presenting CAP Cadet of the
Year Awards to Cadet Jenna Jones 2019
and Cadet Thomas Kappell 2020

Need a Volunteer to write articles for the Lance P. Sijan Newsletter

The Chapter needs someone with writing skills, editing skills, and a genuine interest in tracking down information for articles to create the Lance P. Sijan newsletters each quarter. Please let Angelo Bryant angelo.bryant.79@gmail.com know within the next month if you are interested in taking on this responsibility or if you know of anyone who would possibly like to use their creative talents for writing articles



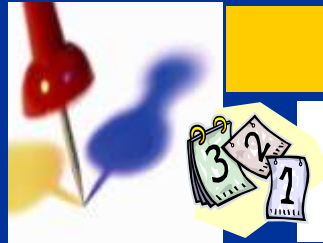
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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How To Contact AFA

AIR FORCE
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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: Announced each month

Date: Every 2nd Tuesday of each month / Time: 5:00pm

1ST QUARTER STATE MEETING/2022:

Place: Center for American Values, Pueblo

Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022

Time: Meeting at 9:30am

COMMUNITY PARTNER RECEPTION

Place: TBD

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Note: Be watching for updates on this event to honor our Community Partners

Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade

Place: Downtown

Date: Saturday 6 November 2021

Time: 10:00am

Note: The 2021 Parade is scheduled for the first Saturday in November – November 6, 2021 at 10:00AM. Planning will continue with a sharp eye on COVID-related health conditions that dictate meeting size and spacing restrictions that could cancel the Parade again this year. The theme for the 2021 Parade is “The Greatest Generation” honoring both World War II and Korean War veterans. You can monitor developments on the Parade on their website at www.csvetsparade.org and also register a parade participant.



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

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!

We're on the Web!

www.lancepsijanafa.org

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

