

# The Sijan Sentinel

3rd QUARTER, ISSUE 3

Sept 2022



## WELCOME TO SIJAN CHAPTER #125!

**President: Paul Bailey**  
**Vice President:**  
**Secretary: Doug Kendall**  
**Treasurer: Bill Mills**



## MESSAGE FROM THE SIJAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Sijan Chapter Members, Friends, and Family~

Now that we have our children back in school and we are looking forward to the upcoming holidays, I would like to introduce myself to you as your new Chapter President. I successfully complete a thirty-year career in the US Air Force serving in the Space, Missiles and Intelligence career fields. I am honored to have been selected to serve as your Chapter President and welcome any and all suggestions that you may have in regard to the Lance P Sijan Chapter #125.

Our last Chapter President, Angelo Bryant reiterated many times his determination to execute AFA's three strategic mission pillars to educate, advocate, and support. I will do no less and will further that determination to execute those mission pillars.

We continue to outreach to the community in many different ways in order to work and support efforts that both forge new relationships while maintaining existing relationships that will allow us to bring the Air & Space Forces Association efforts in Colorado Springs to a new and heightened level. We are always looking for those who are interested in helping the chapter increase our activities for our community programs. Should you be interested in volunteering in the Chapter, please contact us.

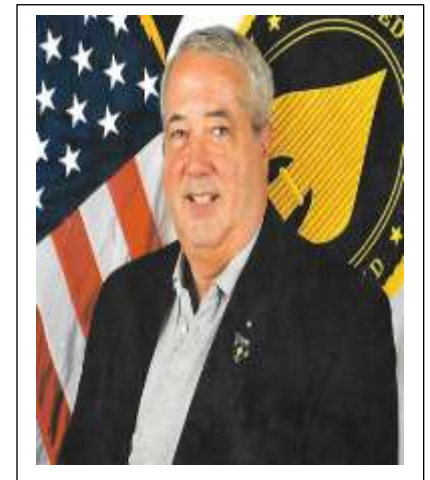
The Chapter is in urgent need of a Volunteer Leader to plan and prepare for the planned Air Force Ball scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Broadmoor Hotel. Should you have the time and energy to lead this planning and preparation effort, please contact either me or any of the Chapter staff listed in this newsletter no later than October 31, 2022.

We are looking forward to November Veterans Day when the nation honors all Veterans – Active Duty, Reserve, Air National Guard, and their families. There are several opportunities posted in articles in this newsletter to help you decide how you may want to observe and participate in Veterans Day activities.

Thank you once again for your support of the Sijan chapter. We are proud to serve with you to educate, advocate, and support our Airmen, Guardians, Air and Space Force Civilians, Veterans, and their families. I am looking forward to continuing my service to the nation as the leader of your local Professional Organization. We can't wait to see you at our next event.

Very respectfully and with best personal regards,

Paul L Bailey  
President, Lance P. Sijan Chapter #125



## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

# AFA Sijan Chapter Awards Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) to Local High School Programs

*Paul Bailey, President*



Paul Bailey presents Cadet Eric Swingly his AFA Cadet Medal and Certificate at Air Academy HS.

Part of AFA's mission has always been to support our warriors to-be and programs leading to military service to the nation. In April, May and June of this year, the Sijan Chapter of AFA demonstrated that support to the five Air Force Junior ROTC programs in the local area. Air Academy High School, Harrison High School, Sand Creek High School, Mitchell High School, Vista Ridge High School all were presented with AFA Cadet Medals and Certificates. One of the presentations is shown above. Additionally, Falcon High School has one of the first-in-the nation Space Force JROTC programs and they were also presented with Air & Space Forces Association Cadet Medal and Certificate. The Colorado Springs area is fortunate to have five US Air Force Junior ROTC and one Space Force JROTC programs that allow young people to find out more about serving in the US military while providing a pathway for them to join with benefits in both rank and military knowledge and bearing. We look forward to continuing our support to these programs.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### US Northern Command 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Paul Bailey, President*

The United States Northern Command celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 30, 2022. The event was held at Peterson SFB in Hanger 140. General Glen D. VanHerck, USAF, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command presided at the festivities. The Keynote Speaker was General Richard B. Myers, USAF Retired who spoke from the perspective of being a previous Commander of US Northern Command. The Sijan Chapter President Paul Bailey and his spouse Debbie Bailey were invited to the event. Following the program, a special US Northern Command cake and other refreshments were enjoyed by all.



(R-L) Sijan Chapter President Paul Bailey and his spouse Mrs. Debbie Bailey prior to ceremony start.



(L-R) Gen Richard B. Myers and Sijan Chapter President Paul Bailey



Special US Northern Command Anniversary cake enjoyed by all.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### Air and Space Forces Association National Convention

*Linda Aldrich, Past AFA Colorado State President*

As the AFA delegates streamed into the Gaylord Resort, National Harbor, Maryland for the 2022 National Convention, it was a time to meet and greet, network and renew long time friendships. After credentialing the delegate rosters (15 attended of 21 allotted from the Rocky Mountain Region) by the AFA Staff, attendees could choose which of four workshops to attend: Membership-Best Practices from the Field and New Opportunities; How AFA Best Supports our Air and Space Forces-AFA Advocacy Information You Can Use; Making AFA Relevant in our Communities; AFA Field Leadership-Investing in Ourselves and Growing the Future. Also the IT Staff was on standby to solve any and all problems at Chapter and State levels. Our Region delegates spread out to gather information from all areas to take back home to help local Chapters.

Saturday afternoon was the first of two days of business sessions and our elected board members efficiently went through the required formalities for a session with Welcoming Remarks from Chairman Gerald Murray, Credential Committee Report, Approval of Convention Rules and Procedures, Board Actions and Constitution Changes, followed by further remarks from Chairman Murray and President Bruce "Orville" Wright. The National elections were uncontested so following votes from the floor the following individuals became National Officers:

Chairman of the Board: Bernie Skoch

Vice Chairman of the Board, Field Operations: Jim Simons

Vice Chairman of the Board, Aerospace Education: Stephen Gourley

National Secretary: Michael Liquori

National Treasurer: Charles Martin

National Director, At Large: Paul Hendricks

National Director, At Large: Gabbe Kearney

National Director, Central Area: Janelle Stafford

National Director, At Large: Robin Rand

The primary discussion item was the Governance update, which was tabled from last year's convention in order to further refine the proposal and to work through some highly controversial areas. Mike Liquori and Molly Mae Potter led the discussion and fielded questions from the floor, noting that the proposed bylaws had been drafted by the Governance and Bylaws Committee with the goal of producing a set of bylaws which allows for growth and strength in the Association for another 75 years and beyond. The recommendations set forth by the committee were evaluated, discussed, and reviewed by field leaders, board members, former Chairmen, staff, and the legal team. Some of these updates included: Maintaining but modernizing our delegate structure; Clearly defining classes of membership and voting privileges; Updating the title of President to President and Chief Executive Officer; Including and defining a skills matrix guidance for candidate selection by the Nomination and Governance Committee; Clearly defining the purpose of the convention as well as the delegate selection; Allowing for electronic voting to be implemented for elections and other matters requiring voting;

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

Setting the number of voting board members from 11 to 21; Defining the minimum standing committees and councils needed to run the organization, leaving the opportunity to add or dissolve committees in the future. At the business session on Sunday, the proposed By-Laws passed with a majority vote.

There will need to be a transition of execution before full institutionalization and realization of the bylaws into our current operations. To address this transitory time, the committee will have a proviso document accompanying the bylaws that will outline transition timelines as it relates to specific aspects of change management. The committee will remain in existence and will continue to work building out a complimentary governance manual. This governance manual will include the Articles of Incorporation, the newly established bylaws, and an operations manual to include updated committee and council charters, processes and procedure updates to compliment and support the bylaws, as well as any additional operational support documents needed to effectively and efficiently run our Association. Following the Governance discussion, Len Vernamonti presented a moving tribute on the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, many veterans of which were in attendance as AFA members. Chairman Murray closed Saturday's session with a reminder of the Annual Awards Banquet, which was scheduled for the evening.

The Awards Banquet at the Air and Space Forces Association annual convention might well have been called the Colorado Mel Harmon Chapter show. Many exceptional chapters across the continent and overseas were recognized, but Mike Sumida, Mel Harmon Chapter President, made so many trips up to the stage that it became evident which Chapter had had an extraordinary year. One year ago the Mel Harmon Chapter was the Outstanding Small Chapter of the Year, an accomplishment which the Chapter repeated again for 2022— however, it didn't stop there. Mel Harmon was also recognized for the Donald W. Steele Sr., Memorial Award for "Unit of the Year," AFA's highest unit award. A single such award is made to the AFA chapter which has distinguished itself in all fields of the AFA mission, new member procurement, community relations, aerospace education, overall programming, best single program, and communications over and above the service for which Exceptional Service Awards (Unit) and Outstanding Chapter Awards are presented for such service. Direct nominations are not accepted for this award, the Awards Committee selects the recipient from among units selected as the outstanding chapter in their respective size categories. Congratulations to all the members of the Mel Harmon Chapter for exceptional service and two great years of recognition by the National Awards Board.

Saturday evening closed with Regional caucuses, one being held for Rocky Mountain Region to elect a new Region President to follow Linda Aldrich's end of three-year term. Our new Region President is Fran Bradshaw from Utah, a long-time member of Utah AFA, former Chapter and State President. Fran is completely familiar with all thing AFA and will easily step into to fill Linda's shoes for the Region. Congratulations Fran on your new position in AFA!

The Sunday Business session covered a host of topics including a summary of the Legends tour, one segment of which included USAFA, Buckley, Peterson and Schriever Space Force Bases. General Officers with a wealth of history and experience to share provided panel discussions and conducted multiple question and answer sessions with active duty and civilian personnel during the tours. In our area, Stephen Gourley (Mile High Chapter) and Linda Aldrich (Sijan Chapter) were the accompanying members to ensure a smooth execution of the tour in our area. The Aerospace Education update from National Officer Stephen Gourley covered the success and lessons learned for Stellar Xplorers, CyberPatriot, scholarships, grants and other related AE topics. The attendees were able to meet the National Teacher of the Year, Nancy Parra-Quinian, King Junior High School, Mesa Arizona followed by a visit from all the Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members who were attending sessions for the weekend. Vice Chairman, Field Operations, Jim Simons provided an AFA Field update with Chapter Best Practices to help all Chapters learn from what has been successful in the Field.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

Departing Region Presidents, to include Linda Aldrich, were recognized and thanked for their long-time devotion to AFA. After a financial update, attendees were off to services at the Washington National Cathedral

The service entitled Honoring Our Heritage, Standing on the shoulders of Giants Yesterday and Today, was graced with participation by the United States Air Force Band, remarks from AF Chief of Chaplains Maj Gen Randall Kitchens, and greetings from AF Chief of Staff Gen Charles Brown, Jr., Chief of Space Operations Gen John "Jay" Raymond, and The Honorable Frank Kendall, Secretary of the Air Force. The service of worship with sacred readings was presented in English, Hebrew, Arabic and Greek. Chaplain Maj Gen William Dendinger offered the Words of Address regarding our heritage and observance concluded with prayers and the Air Force Hymn.

The AFA National Convention was jam-packed with information, events, awards, ceremonies and a host of materials provided to take back to the Chapters for use in the field for the mission of AFA. Any AFA member who was able to attend benefited in multiple ways and will bring home more skills to share with other members. Thank you to the amazing AFA National Staff for the incredible organization that brought this event together with such success



(R-L) Now Past AFA Colorado State President Linda Aldrich and now new AFA Colorado State Vice President Catherine Rozema at the AFA National Convention

AFA Awards won by AFA Colorado

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### Air Force Academy Cadet Squadron 14 Recognized as Best Squadron for 2021-2022

*Paul Bailey, President*



The Air & Space Forces Association (AFA) Lance P Sijan Chapter #125 presented the 2021-2022 US Air Force Academy Best Squadron Award to Cadet Squadron 14 on May 23, 2022. Cadet Squadron 14 was presented the AFA Award to both Cadet Commanders for the last school year at ceremonies at the Air Force Academy shown in the picture at left are (L-R) Cadet 1st Class (Now 2nd Lt) Michaela J. Donohoe, Paul Bailey, Chapter President and Cadet 1st Class (Now 2nd Lt) Kevin A Brisker III.

### Lance P. Sijan Member of the Year Recognized

*Paul Bailey, President*



Past Chapter President Angelo Bryant presents Secretary Douglas Kendall his Member of the Year Award. Douglas conducted many "extra efforts" on behalf of the Chapter and his efforts were truly appreciated! Congratulations to Douglas!

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### AFA Colorado State Awards Banquet: The Future is Now

*Linda Aldrich, Past AFA State President*

The State Banquet kicked off in full swing with the outstanding Gypsy Jazz music of Aulternate Reality, a trio led by AF veteran Dan Ault. Then the entertainment really attracted everyone's attention when active duty Capt Robert Scott, who had volunteered his time to play the National Anthem with his trumpet, showed off his professional musician skills by joining Aulternate Reality for several numbers. They were so entertaining that we're not sure if our guests really wanted to interrupt them to start the actual program for the evening! And all this was taking place from the top level convention room of Weidner Field, the Switchbacks soccer field in Colorado Springs, providing a glorious view of the front range as the sun was setting.



Colorado State President Linda Aldrich welcomed our guests and thanked the Lance P. Sijan Chapter for being the host Chapter, then introduced our emcee for the evening, Ms. Caty Rozema. Caty is the Director-Client Executive for AT&T Public Aerospace Education Vice President, is on the National Aerospace Education Committee, and is a National AF Emerging Leader. In addition to her AFA expertise, Caty was extremely witty as our emcee, bad jokes included, and kept the evening moving at a fun and efficient pace. She shared a brief history of the Air and Space Forces Association before explain the theme for the evening, "The Future is Now" focusing on all the talented and extraordinary individuals who are on active duty right now and those who soon will be on active duty after finishing their education.

The very professional cadets from the District 20 Air Force Junior ROTC Color Guard under the command of Cadet Second Lieutenant Sam Wilhelm showed us a look at the bright hopes for our future, accompanied by Capt Robert Scott playing the National Anthem. Then it was time for a special moment of remembrance, again with the professionalism of the AFJROTC Color Guard, honoring our Prisoners of War and our Missing in Action with a solemn observance and the reminder to never forget their sacrifice and the hope to bring them home. VIP introductions included Chapter Presidents Cliff Klein (Mile High), Paul Bailey (Sijan), Mike Sumida (Mel Harmon) and Rick Peterson (RE Huyser), plus Region President Linda Aldrich, National Officer Stephen Gourley, new-elected State President Cliff Klein and Space Force Association Representative Greg Sears. With the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation, the formalities were completed, so everyone headed for the buffet line while Aulternate Reality provided the music that kept our feet dancing under the table all through dinner.

After dinner, Caty welcomed our guest speakers for the evening who are current student and ROTC leaders—and the future leaders in the United States Air Force—Cadet Lauren Weber from Arnold Air Society and Cadet Ashlynn Lutz from Silver Wings. Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings are national sister organizations, working together to develop future leaders through community service, professional development and education about our national defense. These are nation-wide organizations and all the members are also



members of the Air and Space Forces Association. Cadet Lauren Weber is a rising senior at Colorado State University studying civil engineering. While at CSU, she has been an inspiring leader within the AFROTC program at Detachment 90 and within AAS at the Mark Giles Danielson Squadron. Her interest in joining the Air Force stems from her parents and her dream to be a B-52 pilot like her father and to gain life experiences within the military, hopefully, stationed overseas, like her mother. Her genuine leadership, dedication to serve, and innovative thinking are strong characteristics that recognize Lauren as a great example of a future Air Force officer.



Cadet Ashlynn Lutz is the Vice President of Silver Wings for the Columbine Chapter in Region 8 for Silver Wings nationally. She attends Colorado State University and is receiving her major in biological science with a minor in chemistry. She is currently in Air Force ROTC with the hope of becoming a military doctor. Ashlynn played soccer for Colorado State University and enjoys volunteering for her community - the main reason she joined Silver Wings. The cadets were especially surprised at the gift they received for being our guest speakers—tickets to the USAFA/CSU football game in November, a gift donated by Brigadier General (Ret) Paul Maye of the Mel Harmon Chapter.

Following the amazing vision of the future provided by the cadets, which definitely made us all thankful for the generation that is coming along to carry on the mission of the US Air Force, it was time to recognize all the selfless volunteers that make the Air and Space Forces Association such a vital part of the Colorado communities. Colorado had multiple National Award winners this year, and those awards were to be presented at the National AFA Convention in September or distributed to individuals after the Convention. Congratulations to these individuals and Chapters for their outstanding contributions to the mission of AFA.

National Chapter Winners were:

- Aerospace Education Achievement—Mile High Chapter
- Aerospace Education Achievement—RE Huyser Chapter
- Aerospace Education Excellence Award—Mel Harmon Chapter
- Exceptional Service Award/Airmen and Family Programs—Mile High Chapter
- Exceptional Service Award/Community Relations—Mel Harmon Chapter
- Outstanding Small Chapter—Mel Harmon Chapter
- Donald W. Steele, Sr. Memorial Unit of the Year—Mel Harmon Chapter

National Individual Winners were:

- Medal of Merit—Cliff Klein, Mile High Chapter
- Medal of Merit—Mike Sumida, Mel Harmon Chapter
- Exceptional Service Award—Henry Eichman, Mel Harmon Chapter

Vice Chairman of the Board for Aerospace Education, Stephen Gourley, announced that our 2021 State Teacher of the Year, **Mr. Robbie Ferguson**, was recognized in the National Teacher of the Year (ToY) competition. The National Teacher of the Year award is presented to a dedicated K-12 educator and AFA State Teacher of the Year winner. This honor recognizes Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) educators for their outstanding classroom performance, collaborative initiatives, educational outreach, leadership, and significant impact in the school and community. To be eligible the candidate must be submitted by their respective AFA State leaders. The candidate must be a former AFA State Teacher of the Year selected during the most recent past two years. When we spent time with Robbie Ferguson last year we knew we had met someone absolutely extraordinary. This year we submitted Robbie to compete against AFA State Teachers of the Year from across the National and overseas chapters. In this unbelievably tough competition with nominees who have devoted their careers to STEM education, we are so proud to announce Robbie as the Second Place Winner for the Air & Space Forces Association/Rolls-Royce National/STEM Teacher of the Year. Robbie was presented with a certificate and a \$2000 check in honor of his accomplishments.

Robbie then joined Stephen to recognize our 2022 Chapter Teachers of the Year. As an independent, non-profit, 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 (STEM) in K-12 classrooms throughout the country. Each Chapter may select a Chapter Teacher of the Year and recognize all they contribute to encouraging students in the STEM programs. Each of our Chapter ToYs received a Certificate of Excellence, a check for \$250, an AFA Padfolio and a Chapter Teacher of the Year pin, plus a very special gift - a book of Medal of Honor recipients' quotes

and each one was personally autographed by Medal of Honor recipient Drew Dix. Congratulations to these amazing educators.

Mel Harmon Chapter ToY: **Ms. Sharon Kok-Pollock**, Pueblo Academy of Arts, Pueblo. Sharon is a Math Teacher for sixth, seventh and eighth graders and was the force behind establishing a MathCounts team for annual competitions and providing the opportunity for students to show their skills at a higher level.

Mile High Chapter ToY: **Mr. R. Al Godman**, Legacy High School, Broomfield. Al is an 18-year Aeronautics instructor and developed a class that went from an overview of aviation opportunities to hands-on participation in skills and knowledge for students to become private pilots. He obtained flight simulators and accompanying software to provision an entire high school computer lab.

Robert E. Huyser Chapter ToY: **Ms. Katharine Smushkov**, Dual Emersion Academy, Grand Junction. With the challenge of bringing science into the lives of first graders, she has “signed on” with the Space Foundation to serve as an International Liaison, a role giving her new tools to forward the connection between operations in the space world and STEM education.

Lance P. Sijan Chapter ToY (Two educators this year): **Ms. Valerie DeLello** of Bear Creek Elementary, Colorado Springs. Valerie signed up all her sixth-grade classes with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory to help kids learn more about how the Mars rover works by having students design their own rovers.

**Mr. Bryce McLean**, Coronado High School, Colorado Springs. His principal gave him full credit for building the engineering program and for starting the Robotics Team

The State AFA may also recognize a State Teacher of the Year who receives a check for \$500, a Certificate of Excellence, a personalized jacket and a State Teacher of the Year pin. We are proud to announce our State Teacher of the Year is **Mr. Bryce McLain**. As a master teacher for the Project Lead the Way aerospace course, Mr. McLain has had the opportunity to travel the country educating other while expanding his own teaching skill and techniques. As coach of Cougars Gone Wired, Coronado’s First Robotics team, shared that his students “will amaze you with their abilities and their drive and curiosity.” The program has allowed students to gain post-secondary workforce readiness skills and build leadership and teamwork. Congratulations to Bryce McLean, and we appreciate all you have done and will continue to do for our students in the arena of STEM education.

State Vice President Margaret Eichman joined Linda Aldrich for recognition of all those many AFA volunteers who have given so much of their time and talent to educate and advocate for the Air and Space Forces and to support the military families. Members who were unable to attend received their awards at Chapter meetings.

#### Chapter Citations:

Mile High Chapter: Barb Cline, Marisa Bowens, Pauline Robinson

Sijan Chapter: Bruce Hall, Bill Mills, Jeff Womelsdorf

#### State Medal of Merit:

Mel Harmon Chapter: Marv Blair, Ray Brown, Eric Tyler

Mile High Chapter: Emily Murry-Sawicki

#### State Exceptional Service Award:

Sijan Chapter: Charles “Doc” Apodaca, Paul Bailey, Joe Baldwin, Jennifer Miller, Vanessa Johnson

#### State Presidential Citation:

Mile High Chapter: Neil Burroughs

Sijan Chapter: Angelo Bryant, Felipe Rodriguez

#### State Superior Excellence Award:

Mel Harmon Chapter: Mary Ann Blair, Henry Eichman, Margaret Eichman, Mark “Yak” Maryak

Mile High Chapter: Damita Stevens  
 RE Huyser Chapter: Rick Peterson  
 Sijan Chapter: Gayle Divine, Brandi Mills

The highlight of the State Awards for AFA volunteers was the announcement of the State Members of the Year. Every year, very select AFA members are recognized for their consistently outstanding dedication, leadership, commitment, and service to the AF and our Air Force and now Space Force families. He or she is not a flash in the pan, but rather they cover the entire spectrum of service, many times in a little noticed, behind the scenes manner. They are always dependable and thus we call them the "Member of the Year." Our first Member of the Year is **Mr. Doug Kendall**, long serving secretary and recorder of all the events for the Sijan Chapter. Doug is ever present at Chapter and State events, is not only a faithful volunteer in the chapter, but is an ambassador for AFA in the local and Defense contractor community. SMSgt Angelo Bryant received Doug's award for later presentation as Doug was on a long planned, COVID-delayed trip to Europe. Our second so very deserving Member of the Year, **Mr. Kenn Bowens**, has been an outstanding performer in many roles in support of Chapter activities, programs, and initiatives. He has had unswerving dedication as the Chapter Treasurer for 12, 13, 14? years along with being a "ready to jump in" volunteer at every event, including the Annual Charity Golf Tournament raising funds for the Wounded Airman Program. Our final Member of the Year, **Mike Sumida**, has a long history of support for Aerospace Education, in particular Stellar Xplorers in Pueblo where we've have student teams make the top 10 in national competition. He also is an avid docent at the Weisbrod Aircraft Museum, having shared Air Force history with literally hundreds of students. His devotion to the Mel Harmon Chapter is certainly reflected in their recognition as the best chapter in the nation. Congratulations to our Members of the Year for being a true advocates for AFA, the Air Force and Space Force in every sense of the word.

Traditionally, Colorado AFA has recognized Outstanding Military Members each year, but that tradition had to be set aside during COVID restrictions. We are so pleased that we were able to return to that tradition for the State Convention and to add a category for Space Force personnel as well as Air Force. We also welcomed Greg Sears as a representative from the Space Force Association to assist in presenting the trophies to the Guardians from Space Force. These individuals are the top individuals in their units and their commands. The judging committee reviewed a large stack of nomination packages before selecting these amazing individuals as the top in each category. This portion of the State Awards Banquet was all about recognizing the excellence of our Airmen and Guardians, so emcee Caty made sure that everyone knew that whooping and hollering from those who came to support their candidate was highly encouraged!! A few of the nominees were TDY or unable to attend so a representative from their unit received their award. We are thankful for the leadership and service to this great country by these warriors.

Outstanding Arnold Air Society Cadet: Cadet Lauren Weber, Colorado State University

Outstanding Silver Wings Member: Cadet Ashlynn Weber, Colorado State University

Outstanding Airman and Guardian of the Year:

Air Force: Senior Airman Phillip Taylor, USAFA

Space Force: Specialist 4 Shelethia Statham, STARCOM (Received by Lt Col Anna Gunn-Golkin)

Outstanding Company Grade Officer of the Year:

Air Force: Captain Bobbi-Jean Johnson, ARPC (Received by Command Master Chief Vicki Robertson)

Space Force: Capt Daniel Reynolds, STARCOM

Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year:

Air Force: Technical Sergeant Jake Velasco, NORTHCOM

Space Force: Sergeant Gerald Griffin, STARCOM

Outstanding Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year:

Air Force: Senior Master Sergeant Jenny Sanchez, ARPC

Space Force: Master Sergeant Christopher Salch, STARCOM

Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year:

Air Force: Master Sergeant Allita Ramos, Space Operations Command

The evening wrapped up with special thanks for Cliff Klein, Stephen Gourley and Caty Rozema for their many contributions. These individuals have already received numerous Chapter, State and National Awards, so they were recognized for their special contributions over a long period of time. Margaret Eichman took the opportunity to thank Linda Aldrich also for her long term contributions as the Colorado State President and Rocky Mountain Region President. Additional thank yous were extended to Paul and Deborah Bailey, Mary and Marv Blair, Angelo and Heather Bryant, Margaret and Henry Eichman, Bill and Brandi Mills, Rick and Ann Peterson, Mike and Sue Sumida, Caty Rozema and David Whitman, and Linda Aldrich and Felipe Rodriguez for their generous donations to sponsor award winners and the entertainment. Without their support, the event would not have taken place.

There is no doubt that the evening was a huge success from beginning to end—great entertainment, dinner, recognition for so many outstanding individuals and lots of good camaraderie and networking. We'll look forward to another great year of contributions from our AFA Chapters and continuing support of the Air and Space Forces mission 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.



(L-R) Mr Bryce McLean, Sijan Chapter State Teacher of Year (TOY); Ms Sharon Kok-Pollock, Mel Harmon Chapter TOY; Ms Valarie Delello, Sijan Chapter TOY; Mr Robbie Ferguson, Mile-High Chapter TOY; Mr Steven Gourley, AFA National Aero-Education VP; Ms Catherine Smufhkov, Robert Huyser Chapter TOY; Mr Al Goodman, Mile-High Chapter TOY.

**AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY**

**SERVING THE FORCES FOR  
MISSION SUCCESS**  
★★ VETERANS DAY PARADE ★★  
November 5th, 2022 Saturday 10:00 AM

Colorado Springs Utilities  
BUSINESS JOURNAL  
iHeart RADIO  
FRANKLIN D. AZAR & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
Every Detail Remembered | Dignity  
Ent Credit Union  
FLEXTEC  
SECURITY SERVICE  
LART  
NISSAN  
NISSAN

Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade  
Downtown Colorado Springs - Tejon Street from Boulder to Vermijo

## Veterans Day Parade

*Paul Bailey, President*

Begin your celebration of all Veterans, on November 5, 2022, 10 AM, while attending the Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade in downtown Colorado Springs on Tejon Street from Boulder to Vermijo. As of last week, there were well over sixty parade entries at one of the only free parade participant Veterans Day Parades in the country. My grand-daughter has enjoyed this event for the last several years, and she looks forward to getting a piece or two of candy that parade participants provide as they pass!

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### Vietnam Era Veterans Pin Presentation November 30, 2022

*Paul Bailey, President*



The Chapter will host a Chapter Membership meeting on November 30, 2022. As one of the agenda items, the Chapter will present to seasoned Vietnam Veteran members the Vietnam-era Veterans Pin to any Vietnam-Era Veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces any time between November 1, 1955 and May 15, 1975 regardless of duty location. **The meeting will be at the Venue, 21C Library at 5 PM located at 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80919.**

### Community Partners Relaunch

*Doug Kendall, Secretary*

#### Community Partners Relaunch

The AFA Lance P. Sijan Board proudly announces the “Community Partners Re-Launch” event being held on **October 25, 2022, 4:30 – 6:30pm at the ENSCO Building, 1050 N Newport Rd** just outside Peterson SFB near Powers Blvd and Aeroplaza Dr. The purpose of this event is to reinvigorate the Sijan Chapter’s Community Partner (CP) program; to better engage and support businesses in Colorado Springs; and in turn, get them engaged and supportive of the Sijan Chapter’s STEM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) which are aimed toward building and preparing the next generation of Air and Space Warriors.

Becoming a Community Partner is a great way to get your business involved with your local Air Force and Space Force community! For more than 40 years, businesses have been joining the Air & Space Forces Association to support both AFA National and local AFA chapters. By forming a partnership with your local AFA chapter, your business will help AFA fulfill its mission to promote dominant United States Air and Space Forces and a strong national defense. There are two options for membership:

Category One (CP I) \$90.00 annually - Business can designate one person to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Category Two (CP II) \$180.00 annually - Business can designate two people to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Not only does a Community Partner receive all the benefits of an AFA membership, such as a variety of product and service discounts, insurance programs, and much more, but the partner will also receive a wooden plaque with a date medallion and a window decal. These will show customers and clients that your business supports our troops! See page 15 for additional information.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

The following are some of STEM activities that the Sijan Chapter supports and will be discussed at the CP Re-Launch event:

- CyberPatriot and StellarXplorers: both have week-long camps all summer and competition all school year.
- Scholarships: there are LOTS! We highly encourage anyone who is or knows a college student to take a look. You do NOT have to be military/military family for many of them.
- Teacher grants: \$500 available. Help a teacher get a little boost for STEM in their classroom.
- Teacher of the Year: One of AFA's flagship programs. Recognize an outstanding STEM teacher in our community
- Mitchell Institute: The premier think tank for all things AF. Provides free presentations and daily insight

Furthermore, at this Re-Launch event we will discuss all the benefits of being an AFA Community Partner. So, plan today to attend this event. We'll have snacks, sweets and drinks. You can interact with others from our Colorado Springs defense and commercial business community and learn how you can also support STEM in our community. RSVP to Doug Kendall at [Kendall.douglas@ensco.com](mailto:Kendall.douglas@ensco.com) or call / text him at 310-982-0042. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Sijan Chapter Scholarship Winners

*Jeff Womelsdorf, Chapter VP Aerospace Education*

This year's Lance P. Sijan Chapter Scholarship winner was Mr. Chris Herz, a biology student at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. The check for \$1000 was presented to Mr. Herz by Jeff Womelsdorf on 12 Sep 2022 at UCCS. Mr. Herz is a multiple time AFA scholarship winner and is currently working to finish his degree in Biology. After he receives his Biology degree, Mr. Herz plans on attending medical school. Regarding the scholarship, Mr. Herz said "This really helps with the cost of books and other essential materials for my schooling and I truly appreciate the AFA for giving me this scholarship."



Mr. Chris Herz shows off his scholarship check on the UCCS campus



Chapter VP for Aerospace Education. Mr. Jeff Womelsdorf presents the scholarship check to Mr. Chris Herz, UCCS Biology Student.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### Arnold Air Society & Silver Wings

*Ms. Linda Aldrich, Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings Coordinator*

Our Air Force ROTC organizations, the Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings, will hold their Region 8 Conclave during the day at the Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec St, Denver, CO 80207 on November 5, 2022. Chapter members are invited to the \$75.00 evening Dinner and social on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6PM using the ticketleap hyperlink below with a control/click. More information is available through the hyperlinks below.

<https://aas-sw.ticketleap.com/colorcon/>



#### [COLORCON - Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings Region 8 Conclave](#)

COLORCON is a two-day event held on November 4th and 5th. A brief description of each day is as follows: November 4th is a travel day for attendees, and that evening, a veteran-focused service event will be hosted. The following day, RCON staff will host business conferences in the morning through lunchtime.

[aas-sw.ticketleap.com](https://aas-sw.ticketleap.com)



**AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY**

## Lance P Sijan Chapter Participates in Space Force Association's Guardian Industry Night

*Paul Bailey, President*



The Air and Space Force Association (AFA) Lance P Sijan Chapter #125 participated in the Space Force Association's (SFA) recent Guardian Industry Nights. The event was held at the Hub, Peterson Space Force Base for two nights on 27-28 July 2022. Shown in the picture with Chapter's new table banner is (L-R) Paul Bailey, Chapter President and Chapter Member SrA Phillip Taylor at the Chapter table at the event. Participants at the event answered questions, explained about their organizations and greeted visitors at the event.

## AROUND YOUR SIJAN COMMUNITY

### Space Force Anthem Debut

*Paul Bailey, President*

The Space Force has a new Space Force Anthem that was presented at the AFA National Convention and Exhibition in Washington DC last month. You can read the article on it at <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/09/20/space-force-unveiled-its-official-service-song-its-not-banger.html> or listen to it at <https://www.militarytimes.com/video/2022/09/23/hear-the-new-space-force-official-song/>

Chief of Space Operations Gen. John "Jay" Raymond unveiled the song -- titled "Semper Supra" after the service's motto, which means "Always Above" in Latin -- at the recent Air Force Association's Air, Space & Cyber Conference, describing it as "something we can be proud of."

The lyrics are: "We're the mighty watchful eye, Guardians beyond the blue, The invisible front line, Warfighters brave and true. Boldly reaching into space, there's no limit to our sky. Standing guard both night and day, We're the Space Force from on high."

### Chapter Has a New Mailing Address

*Paul Bailey, President*

Should you have anything you wish to mail to the Chapter, please be advised that our new mailing address is:

**Air & Space Forces Association**

**Lance P Sijan Chapter #125**

**PO Box 244**

**USAFA, CO 80840-0244**

### November Chapter Membership Meeting

*Paul Bailey, President*

The Lance P Sijan Chapter #125 will hold a membership meeting on November 30, 2022 at the Venue Room at the Colorado Springs 21C Library, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80919, 5 PM to 7 PM. Page 9 of this Newsletter explains one of the Agenda items – the Vietnam Era Veterans pin. More information on this meeting will be posted on our website.

## AFA Changes Name to the Air & Space Forces Association

*Amy Hudson* (This article is repeated to place emphasis on the changes to the AFA)

After 76 years, the Air Force Association is changing its name to the Air & Space Forces Association to better match its mission supporting and advocating for both Airmen and Guardians.

AFA was incorporated on Feb. 4, 1946—more than a year before the Air Force broke away from the Army and became an independent service under the National Security Act of 1947. The Space Force was established on Dec. 20, 2019, creating a new military service for the first time in more than seven decades, and marking one of the most significant changes in the history of the Air Force.

“Today, both military services are represented by the Department of the Air Force, and thus, both are fully represented by our Association,” said AFA Chairman Gerald Murray, former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. “This change makes clear to everyone that space is integral to our mission.”

Although the association will retain the AFA acronym, which it has used since its inception, it also unveiled a new Star-Delta logo intended to “redefine what those letters stand for,” according to an AFA release. The logo merges a modernized blue star on the left, derived from the original “Hap Arnold” Army Air Corps Star, with the Space Force’s black Delta and Polaris.

“These elements have been combined to present a unique visual identity that reflects the dynamism and permanent bonds between these two services and their respective warfighting domains,” said Murray. “The Polaris in particular is of note, as it represents the Space Force’s unique role as a guiding light and enabler for the whole of the joint force.”

The rebranding is intended to capture the association’s full mission:

- To educate the public about air and space power
- To advocate for the most capable, lethal, and effective Air and Space Forces
- To support Airmen, Guardians, and their families.

“AFA has always been fully committed to supporting both the Air Force and Space Force as the most indispensable elements of our joint force,” said AFA President Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, USAF (Ret.). “Even now, as the Space Force grows, expands, and builds its own, unique warfighting culture, air and space remain inextricably linked. The Airmen and Guardians who are the masters of those domains nevertheless remain tightly integrated within a single Department of the Air Force. So it is with our Association.”



## COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

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

### How Can Your Company Become a Community Partner?

Want to know more about how to become a Community Partner? Check out <https://www.afa.org/membership/community-partners> From the website:

“Becoming a Community Partner is a great way to get your business involved with your local Air Force and Space Force community! For more than 40 years, businesses have been joining the Air & Space Forces Association to support both AFA National and local AFA chapters.

By forming a partnership with your local AFA chapter, your business will help AFA fulfill its mission to promote dominant United States Air and Space Forces and a strong national defense. There are two options for membership:

Category One (CP I) \$90.00 annually - Business can designate one person to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Category Two (CP II) \$180.00 annually - Business can designate two people to receive AFA Membership and enjoy all benefits thereof.

Not only does a Community Partner receive all the benefits of an AFA membership, such as a variety of product and service discounts, insurance programs, and much more, but the partner will also receive a wooden plaque with a date medallion and a window decal. These will show customers and clients that your business supports our troops!”

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

### Volunteers Make a Difference!

Your Lance P. Sijan Chapter relies on dedicated volunteers for our projects and contributions to the Air and Space Force Family. We urge you to consider volunteering with your AFA.

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 and Space Force family. Don't worry about whether or not there will be anything for you to do...there's plenty of work to go around! 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 Paul Bailey at [Baileypaul0@googlemail.com](mailto:Baileypaul0@googlemail.com) to learn more. These are great networking opportunities!

As Jimmy Doolittle said, "There's nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer."

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

#### [Lance P Sijan Chapter Monthly Meetings](#)

Online – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month 5:00PM

#### [Community Partners Relaunch](#)

October 25, 2022 16:30 – 18:30 1050 N Newport Rd.

#### [Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade](#)

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM Tejon Street from Boulder to Vermijo

#### [Arnold Air & Silver Wings Regional Meeting & Dinner](#)

November 5<sup>th</sup>, Denver Doubletree Hotel AM Meeting & Dinner 6 PM On Website

#### [Sijan Chapter Membership Meeting](#)

November 30, 21C Library Venue 1630-1930L

## CHAPTER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



### Primary Business Address

Air Force Association  
Lance P. Sijan Chapter #125  
P.O. Box 244  
USAFA, CO  
80840-0244

### We're on the Web!

[www.lancepsijanafa.org](http://www.lancepsijanafa.org)

### AFA National

#### Website:

[www.afa.org](http://www.afa.org)

### Chapter Officers:

#### President

PAUL BAILEY

(719)548-5016

[BAILEYPAULO@GOOGLEMAIL.COM](mailto:BAILEYPAULO@GOOGLEMAIL.COM)

#### Vice President

#### Secretary

DOUG KENDALL

(310)982-0042

[KENDALL.DOUGLAS@ENSCO.COM](mailto:KENDALL.DOUGLAS@ENSCO.COM)

#### Treasurer

BILL MILLS

NOT AVAILABLE

[BILL@INTOUCHHOMETEAM.COM](mailto:BILL@INTOUCHHOMETEAM.COM)

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

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter is one of the largest, most active chapters in AFA, with more than 1800 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 member's mailing address due to privacy laws.**

**To update send message to: [membership@afa.org](mailto:membership@afa.org) your updated information, or mail changes to AFA National address at:**

Air Force Association  
Member Services  
1501 Langston Blvd  
Arlington, VA 22209

**NEW AND RENEWED COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

