



The Sijan Sentinel

Volume II – 2026

May 2026

WELCOME TO AFA SIJAN CHAPTER #125



President: Dave Geuting
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Gayle Divine
Treasurer: Bruce Hall

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings Fellow Members,

Spring is finally here (although it snowed at my house yesterday). Our year has started out strong, and your chapter continues its steady push to be a leading service organization in the Pikes Peak region. For example, every year, the Sijan Chapter presents the AFA Outstanding Cadet Award at the six participating AFJROTC and SFJROTC high schools. A chapter member is always on hand to present the award personally. This year was no exception as chapter members divided up the high school presentations. A highlight was chapter member Sgt Momomi Atkinson presenting at

Mitchell High School, where she showed up in US Space Force Service Dress and provided a model to cadets for what they could achieve in just a few short years after graduation. Way to go Momomi!

The Sijan Chapter was also a main sponsor of the 2026 US Space Force Space Ball. Our monetary donation played a significant role in the success of the event and we were singled out for our support. On a less formal note, the chapter also sponsored our Quarterly Birthday Celebration in February at the Peterson SFB Hub (formerly the Club). Our members distributed cake to all present and held a raffle for those who had birthdays during the quarter. We use this event to talk about the contributions of AFA and to recruit new chapter members. Don't miss the next celebration on May 21st!

As mentioned earlier, we strive to stay recognizable throughout the Pikes Peak region. One way we do this is through our annual scholarship program for high school seniors and current college students. This involves sending applications to every high school (23) in the Colorado Springs area and to past recipients. This year, we presented two scholarships to current college students to assist in their ongoing education. Another way we support our community is through our Teacher of the Year program. In 2026, we sent nomination packages to every school district (11). The recipient of the Chapter award will go on to compete at the Colorado AFA level.

As always, we cannot continue our community support without help from our membership. If anything I mentioned interests you, or you have new ideas, please contact me or any Executive Council member.

Respectfully,
Dave

DAVID C. GEUTING, Colonel, USAF (ret)
President, Lance P Sijan Chapter 125
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WildWestCon! – A Huge Success for Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings

-- By Linda Aldrich



Arnold Air Society (AAS), comprised of cadets throughout the USAF and USSF officer candidate training programs, is a professional, honorary service organization advocating the support of aerospace power. Silver Wings (SW) is a national, co-ed, professional organization dedicated to creating proactive, knowledgeable, and effective civic leaders through community service and education about national defense. Arnold Air Society & Silver Wings are sister organizations at their universities, and they are all members of the Air & Space Forces Association. Each year there is a national gathering of AAS and SW to provide the members with an opportunity to meet each other from across the nation and to experience personal interaction with top military and civilian leaders. This year's gathering in April was named **WildWestCon!** since it took place in Dallas, Texas.



Cadet Bailey Dodson with Astronaut Mike Finke

The **Lance P. Sijan Chapter** joined in the unified all Colorado AFA chapters approach for contributions to send two Arnies and two Silver Wings (registration and airfare) to WildWestCon! in Dallas at no expense to the students. The attendees were treated to an amazing experience with briefings from AF Chief of Staff, AF Chief Master Sergeant, Astronaut Mike Finke, Hap Arnold's grandson—plus many other briefers. There was time for fun and shenanigans as well as each different area across the country attempted to swipe each other's mascots, which ranged from stuffed animals to flight helmets.

It was also great entertainment to watch 125 students all trying to learn how to line dance at the same time. Region VIII, which includes Colorado, received recognition for the most volunteer service hours in the nation and for the best SW Commander in the nation, Autumn Stiens, from Colorado State University. AAS and SW represent the best of the best who are the future of the Air Force and Space Force—and the future of the Air & Space Force Association. The Lance P. Sijan Chapter is proud to support these amazing young students.



OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE SIJAN CHAPTER



US Space Force Northern Command Activation, 30 January 2026

Above: Left-North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command commander, Gen. Gregory Guillot. Right-Brig. Gen. Robert Schreiner, SPACEFOR-NORTH



MC Matt Meister contemplates the stellar turnout of the 2026 Space Force Ball at the Hotel Polaris.

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE SIJAN CHAPTER – CELEBRATE!

Congratulations to our AF JROTC Outstanding Cadet Award Winners



Above, left to right: Cadet Vivicka Torres, Sand Creek High School; Cadet Delilah Epps, Mitchell High School; Cadet Ian Alvarez-Villanueva, Harrison High School.

Right: Cadet Robert Zupan, Air Academy High School.

Not pictured: Cadet Lavai'ah Trujillo, Vista Ridge High School



And to the 2026 Lance P Sijan AFA Scholarship Winners:

Nichole Vizvary and Bowen Hartman



Nichole has a 3.5 GPA and is studying to become a nurse at Pikes Peak State College. She is currently a medical assistant and GI technician at USAFA and Evans Army Hospital.



Bowen is a Civil Engineering student at University of California, Berkeley with a 3.4 GPA. The award was accepted by Bowen's mother. "Bowen is a well-rounded, capable, and community-oriented young engineer." – Cruz Carlos, Jr, PhD, PE

COMING UP!

NEXT THURSDAY! - 2nd Quarter Birthday Party, May 21st, 4:30-6:00 pm

**2nd Month of the Quarter on
the Third Thursday
Time: 4:30 – 6:00 pm**

**Location: The Hub
at Peterson SFB
260 Glasgow Ave**

**Questions? Email us!
LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com**

Everyone is welcome!

Have a birthday in the quarter? Enter a drawing for birthd



**Swing by, say hi, and
grab a slice of cake on
us!**

**The bar will be open for
drinks and dinner.**

**We can't wait to see
YOU!**



Colorado State AFA Awards Banquet

Save the Date! 15 August 2026

At the Doubletree in Colorado Springs

Industry Military Annual Golf Event (IMAGE) 2026

Eisenhower Golf Course
USAF Academy, CO
Tuesday, 25 August 2026

Benefits STEM scholarship activities of our
local chapters of NDIA, AFA, SFA, & AFCEA



[Click to Register or Sponsor](#)



HOMEFRONT HELP FREE CHILDCARE TRAINING

HomeFront Help aims to address the lack of childcare available to families by training individuals who are already providing care in their communities, giving them CPR training, fingerprinting and background checks, and coursework in early childhood care and education. The HomeFront Help training is free and provides up to \$335 in training incentives for individuals who complete the online training portion and one in-person cohort day.

NOW ENROLLING

Train to Care. Serve Your Community.



Become a trusted, vetted caregiver for military families – or build confidence caring for your own little ones. Free.

THIS IS FOR YOU IF...

- You care for kids in your community**
Babysitters, nannies, family helpers, neighbors
- You're a parent or guardian at home**
Caring for your own children under 5
- You want to support military families**
Military spouse, veteran, or community member
- You want flexible, on-your-terms work**
Connect with military families needing support on a schedule that works for you

WHAT YOU GET – COMPLETELY FREE

CPR & FIRST AID
Adult & pediatric certification

CHILD SAFETY
Safe sleep, emergency prep, abuse prevention

DEVELOPMENT
Ages 0–5 milestones & play-based learning

BACKGROUND CHECK
FBI, state & national – on us

COMMUNITY
Monthly meetups & local resources

EXPERT SUPPORT
1-on-1 guidance from care professionals

ECE-ALIGNED FOCUS

Caring for other families' children
For community caregivers who also want to explore early childhood education foundations.

COMMUNITY CAREGIVER FOCUS

Parents & guardians at home
For those caring for their own children under 5. Build confidence and connect with local resources.

Ready to make a difference?

- Must be 16+
- Cohorts fill quickly – apply today



SCAN TO SUBMIT INTEREST

OPPORTUNITY CORNER

Become a Community Partner!

“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.

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!”

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.

Want to know more? Check out <https://www.afa.org/membership/community-partners>

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Do you like golf? Birthday parties? Races? Ball games? Corn hole? *Send us a note, stop by an event, or join us for our monthly leadership meeting.*



VOLUNTEER! Whether one hour one time or one hour a week, your AFA Sijan Chapter has opportunities for involvement in multiple areas. Areas of most need are in support of veterans and government outreach, community partnerships, and programming/events.

CHAPTER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

- To contact us or to be added to the Lance P Sijan chapter distribution list, please email us at: lancepsijanafa@gmail.org
- To update your contact information, email National AFA at membership@afa.org. Note that the chapter cannot change your email, mailing address, or other contact information. It must be done on your National membership profile.
- To join or renew your AFA membership, visit www.afa.org
- For details on AFA member benefits, visit <http://www.afa.org/afa/memberbenefits>

Make sure you continue to receive our communications. You don't want to miss out on \$1 ice cream sundaes, free birthday cake, or any of the other exciting events we have in the works. Update your contact information today. Email National at Membership@afa.org.

While we can update our mailing list, Sijan representatives cannot update your official AFA contact information. You must contact National.

Do you know someone who would like to know about our events but isn't a member yet? We're happy to add them to our mailing list. Have them send a request to us at LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com.

CONTACT US!

Sijan Chapter

Website:

www.lancepsijanafa.org



AFA National Website:

www.afa.org

Email

lancepsijanafa@gmail.com

Mailing Address

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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 chapters in AFA, with nearly 3000 members. The Sijan Chapter, one of four AFA Chapters in Colorado, primarily focuses on support to the Colorado Springs area, including Peterson SFB, Schriever SFB, 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 & Space Forces community. We pride ourselves on active support to the local Colorado Springs "Air & Space Forces Family," providing approximately \$40,000 and thousands of volunteer hours in support annually!