

The Sijan Sentinel

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2009



Air Force Association
Lance P. Sijan Chapter

2009 Air Force Ball

“Send Me First – A proud American Airman”

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- State of the Air Force
- Rumored Changes to Tricare and Tricare for Life

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The Lance P. Sijan Chapter, 2008 Air Force Association Unit of the Year, sponsored the annual Air Force Ball on Friday, Feb 27 at the Broadmoor. The 2800 member Sijan Chapter sponsors this event to provide a special social occasion for the Air Force community based on the theme “Send me first – A proud American airman.” This event was only made possible by the generous contributions of our many industry partners such as Lockheed Martin, ATK, Scitor, Barrios Technology and ManTech International and chapter members who volunteered their time to organize the evening.

General C. Robert Kehler, Commander Air Force Space Command was the senior honored guest and Airman



Gen Kehler and youngest Airman AB Candace Philippo cutting the celebration cake.

Basic Candace Philippo our most junior honored guest (she joined the Air Force on 26 August 2008). They helped wrap up the evening by cutting the celebration cake.

We were also graced by the presence of Colonel (Ret) Bill Baugh and his wife Mary. Colonel Baugh was a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War, spending more than six years in the infamous Hanoi Hilton, as did our chapter namesake, Captain Lance P. Sijan. Col Baugh was joined by five members and their guests who had recently returned from Iraq, Qatar, Kyrgyzstan, and Kuwait at our Warrior Table.

The evening began with a cocktail hour in Colorado Hall and transitioned to dinner in the International Center where 725 guests enjoyed some of the Broadmoor’s best cuisine. The very professional Mitchell High School AFJROTC posted the colors. For the fifth consecutive year the Air Force’s incomparable Tops in Blue provided the entertainment. They treated everyone to a spectacular show featuring talented musicians, singers and dancers. Tops in Blue makes any

CHAPTER GOALS

SUPPORT OUR AF PEOPLE: SUPPORT, PROMOTE AND RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AIR FORCE MEN AND WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

EDUCATE OUR COMMUNITY: EDUCATE THE GREATER COLORADO SPRINGS COMMUNITY ON THE BENEFITS OF A STRONG AIR FORCE.

MAINTAIN STRONG RELATIONSHIPS: MAINTAIN A STRONG RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION WITHIN THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL TEAM.

evening special and they did not disappoint.

This year’s Ball was led by the Lance P. Sijan Chapter Secretary, Hank Scarangella, from AT&T. His planning committee this year consisted of:

- Judee Albert-Lockheed Martin
- Jeri Andrews-Northrop Grumman
- TSgt Greg Baker-Air Education and Training Command



This years event was graced by Colonel (Ret) Bill Baugh who was a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War, spending more than six years in the infamous Hanoi Hilton, as did our chapter namesake, Captain Lance P. Sijan.

2009 Air Force Ball-Con't

Continued from Page 1



General Kehler addressing audience at the 2009 Air Force

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For the fifth consecutive year, the **Air Force's** incomparable Tops in Blue provided the entertainment

- Dan Beatty-MedTrans
- Tom Cavalli and Gayle Divine-Barrios Technology
- Jeanin Damery-CSC
- Debbie and Kevin Estrem-Braxton Technologies
- Duncan Fisher-RSVP Events
- Maj Lisa Franz-US Air Force Academy
- Jim Hale
- Maj John Hardee-USNORTHCOM
- Maj Nick Lynch and JoAnn Fruge-Air Force Space Command
- Victor Meyer-Sculptures in Glass
- Brandon Miera-BAM Design Studios
- Sharon White

The Lance P. Sijan chapter is proud to have given this evening to the Colorado Springs Air Force community.



Youngest Airman, AB Candace Filippo and Tom Cavalli, Sijan Chapter President, choosing the centerpiece winners



USAFA Wing Open Boxing Another successful year!



Tom Cavalli, Sijan President, and Dan Beatty, immediate Past President of the Rampart Chapter and Sijan VP for Veterans Affairs, presented a check for the Fisher House prior to the last bout.

Article submitted by Tim Lemons—USAFA Wing Open AFA Chairman

The USAFA Wing Open Boxing Championships, which began in 1958 has grown into one of the most anticipated events on the USAFA calendar. The 51st annual event was held on 8 March 2009 in the USAFA Field House with 12 exciting bouts closing out three weeks of boxing action. This year was awesome. The bouts, each scheduled to go three rounds, demonstrated the skill and determination of these young men to win. Several of matches brought the crowd to their feet cheering as contestants gave all they had to go all three rounds.

This exciting event has been a key charity fund raising opportunity for the Lance P. Sijan Chapter. For the past 18 years, our chapter has partnered with the Rampart Chapter of the Association of Graduates to support raising money for the graduating class' charity of choice by sponsoring a Pizza Party prior to the boxing matches. This year the Class of 2009 chose the Fisher House Foundation. The Fisher House supports America's military in their time of need. Because members of the military and their families are stationed world-wide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, the Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes" built on site with major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the time most needed – during hospitalization for unexpected illness or injury.

As in past years, we worked close with our community partners to garner donations to help us raise funds for this



year's charity. For the third consecutive year the Coca-Cola Bottling Company donated 10 cases of Coke products and Dominos Pizza donated 25 pizzas. Many of our other community partners generously donated various items for raffling off as door prizes. All of these efforts worked in concert to help us raise an amazing \$2625. Tom Cavalli, Sijan President, and Dan Beatty, immediate Past President of the Rampart Chapter and Sijan VP for Veterans Affairs, presented a check for the Fisher House prior to the last bout. Our proceeds were combined with the cadet's fund raising efforts for a total of \$6582.

We had just fewer than one hundred people RSVP and attend to help us make this possible. This was my first year leading the effort in conjunction with Dan Beatty representing the Rampart AOG. We received a great out-pouring of support this year with volunteers and sponsors, and generous community partners. Thanks to all who helped out...oh, but what about the boxing results. The winners of this year's Wing Open are forming the core of the team that will represent the Air Force Academy in national competition. Congratulations to all the winners.



Special thanks to all the Sponsors for this event

For the third consecutive year the Coca-Cola Bottling Company donated 10 cases of Coke products and Dominos Pizza donated 25 pizzas.



Around Your AFA Community

The Sijan Chapter would like to welcome several new Community Partners who recently attended our Chapter's Monthly Board meeting. They received their Community Partner plaques from Debbie Estrem and Tom Cavalli. Welcome to our CP Team!

Becoming a Community Partner in the Sijan Chapter helps give back to your Air Force Community as shown on pages 8 & 9!



Mr. Keith Klaehn of Town & Country Realty



Bank of Colorado, Mr. Brad Kreikemeier and Ms. Vickie Drew



Concept Vision, LLC—Mr. Chris Vestal



Tim Lemons, General Dynamics C4 Systems



Jerry Hilderbrand, Hilderbrand & Associates, P.C.



Quinn White, Fidelity Mortgage



Pat Victor and Cris Johnson, Hilton Garden Inn Airport



Hail New Officer!

One of the things I try to do is stay organized. Following this theme, I've decided to establish a chapter officer position for sponsorships. The Vice President for Sponsorships (VP-S) will be the Executive Committee's focal point for all chapter sponsorship activities. Currently for every major project, we solicit a volunteer to lead our efforts to raise funds to help us sponsor programs for the Air Force Family. With as many projects that we sponsor it can become difficult to find an available volunteer. This position will enable the chapter to always have one person dedicated to leading our sponsorship efforts. Now, does this mean that other volunteers who have been working on specific projects will no longer continue? No, not at all. They can continue to volunteer their time and

energy in supporting their specific project, only now they can report their progress to our VP for Sponsorships who will ride herd over all of our projects. Case in point, Debbie Estrem has been our lead for soliciting sponsorships for the Space Warfare Symposium and she will continue. Now she will keep our new VP-S apprised for her progress and status. The Executive Committee will only have one belly button to pulse on overall sponsorship status.

I would like to introduce you to our new Vice President for Sponsorships, Ms. Gayle Divine from Barrios Technology. Gayle recently moved to Colorado Springs from my company's home office in Houston, TX. Gayle is our corporate Marketing Communications Specialist, where she designs

and develops corporate press releases, marketing materials, coordinates tradeshow participation, chairs the company's United Way campaign and represents Barrios at various community and professional organizations, and other projects. Ever since her arrival this past summer, Gayle has hit the ground running. She is helping Debbie Estrem with the Community Partner program, and she is our current sponsorship lead for the AF Ball. She was recently chosen to be an Ambassador for the Chamber of Commerce. Gayle brings years of community service to our chapter and she has eagerly accepted this new and innovative position. I know she will be a total success. So, next time you see Gayle, please congratulate her on her new chapter position.

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SPACE WARFARE SYMPOSIUM

June 9-11, 2009

Join us along with Gen Kehler-AFSPC/CC, Maj Gen Lord-Cyber Command/CC, Senior Enlisted Leaders: FLTCMC Nissen-USSTRATCOM, CMSgt Small-AFSPC, CSM Borja-ARSTRAT/SMDC, CMSGT Narofsky-14th AF/JFC C-S and along with other Senior Leadership for a thought provoking look at the future of Integrating Air, Space and Cyberspace Domains.

Register Now On-Line! www.spacewarfare.org

**Air Force Association
Lance P. Sijan Chapter**

Lance P. Sijan Chapter Colorado Springs, CO



Note from AFA President -- State of the Air Force

Extracted from AF Magazine—Tuesday, February 3, 2009



MC-130E / HCOMBAT
TALON I/II

AFA members, Congressional staffers, civic leaders, and DOCA members, it's February and soon President Obama will deliver his State of the Union Speech to the nation. I thought I would take the opportunity to give you some data on the State of the Air Force."

First, your AF is strong. Its members are serving all over the world, participating in the many on-going operations, delivering precise intelligence, ordnance, and supplies, fuel, and effects to support joint commanders world-wide, flying satellites, sitting air defense and missile alert. Last year the Air Force flew over 18,000 tanker sorties, 13,000 ISR sorties, 49,000 airlift sorties, 18,000 CAS sorties in Iraq, and 19,000 CAS sorties in Afghanistan. Several airlift records were set – including the largest amount of cargo moved in one day (3.92 million lbs), largest # of passengers moved in a month (119,394), and largest amount of cargo moved in a month (8 2 + million pounds)

*We simply stopped
buying airplanes*



F-15 Eagle

[For a more detailed breakout, go our website at this link: <http://www.afa.org/edop/2009/2004-08CFACCstats123108.pdf>]

Second, your Air Force continues to get older.

- Fighter Aircraft: over 20 years old (oldest – F-15 A/B – over 31 years old)
- Bomber Aircraft: 33 years old (oldest – B-52H – over 47 years old)
- Tanker Aircraft: 45 years old (oldest – KC-135E – over 50 years old)
- Strategic Lift: 16 years old (oldest – C-5A – over 37 years old)
- Tactical Lift: over 24 years old (oldest – C-130E – over 44 years old)
- C2 Fleet: 23 years old (oldest – E-4B – over 34 years old)
- Manned ISR Fleet: 31 years old (oldest – NC-135W/OC-135B/RC-135S/RC-135W/
- TC-135W/WC-135W – over 46 years old)
- Special Ops Fleet: over 26 years old (oldest – MC-130E – over 43 years old)
- CSAR Fleet: over 23 years old (oldest: HC-130P – over 42 years old)

- OSA/VIP Fleet: 27 years old (oldest – UH-1N – over 38 years old)
- Trainer Fleet: over 25 years old (oldest – AT-38B – over 45 years old)
- ICBM Force: over 34 years old

The press has asked me to simplify this and the best way to do so is to look at a chart on fighter procurement. We simply stopped buying airplanes. The one I showed many in the press can be found on our website at this link:

<http://www.afa.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/IssueBriefs/fighters.pdf>.

Third -- During FY09 – the Air Force intends to acquire 117 aircraft and retire 188. Of the 117 acquired, many are ISR aircraft: [9 -- MQ-9s, 5 -- RQ-4, 38 -- MQ-1, 24 -- RC-12] = 76 of the 117

Fourth, many aircraft are either grounded or have restrictions to their use. In the past 14 months, the AF has had to ground the entire F-15 fleet, the T-38 fleet, the A-10 fleet, and the B-2 fleet.

The complete story can be found at: www.afa.org under Daily Report-The President's Corner.



AFA/VBA Benefit Highlights

RUMORED CHANGES TO TRICARE AND TRICARE FOR LIFE

Several of you have written in about possible Congressional action to reduce the Tricare-for-Life benefit. Here is what I have passed to our AFA leaders:

Recently, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released the first of a two-volume report intended to help Congress address the rising costs associated with healthcare by compiling numerous budget options. According to its website, the mandate of CBO is "to provide the Congress with the objective, timely, nonpartisan analyses needed for economic and budget decisions and with the information and estimates required for the Congressional budget process." Though this report is consistent with that mandate and a long-running set of similar CBO reports exist, AFA has been contacted by many of its members with specific concerns about the options that were offered regarding TRICARE for Life (TFL.)

It is worth noting that only four of the total 115 options (options 95-98) specifically address military retirees and veterans. Of those four, only option 96 is specific to TFL. CBO analysts suggest the government can recoup about \$2 billion annually by requiring that beneficiaries pay the first \$525 in costs out-of-pocket and half of the following \$4,725 in Medicare cost sharing. It would also impose user fees for TFL beneficiaries who use their Military Treatment Facility.

AFA has followed this issue closely in recent days and can find no evidence that President Bush, President-Elect Obama, nor any Member of Congress has publicly supported any of the options in this CBO report. The report does not suggest or provide any option for the dismantling of TFL, and AFA sees no reason to believe that military retirees are in danger of suddenly losing their TFL benefit. Finally, the CBO report unequivocally states that such a cost-shift to the recipient "could discourage some patients (particularly low-income patients) from seeking preventive medical care or from managing their chronic conditions under close medical supervision, which might negatively affect their health." In recent years Congress has consistently opposed initiatives that would discourage veterans and military retirees from seeking the care that they have earned and we see no evidence that this bipartisan viewpoint has changed.

AFA has been an ardent supporter of TRICARE for Life, dating back to the demonstration program. TFL is a benefit earned through service to our country that should not be diminished; our membership can rest assured that AFA will continue to support a robust and affordable health care option for our military retirees. Interested persons should go to the source and read what the report says. It can be found at <http://www.cbo.gov/>

<ftpdocs/99xx/doc9925/12-18-HealthOptions.pdf>

Michael M. Dunn

President/CEO AFA

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

AFAVBA's Insurance Programs

- * Accident Insurance
* Members are guaranteed acceptance
- * Auto & Home Insurance
- * Cancer Care Insurance
- * Hospital Indemnity Insurance
- * Medicare Supplements
- * Term Life Insurance Plans for individuals or family
- * TRICARE Supplements

VISIT
www.afavba.org

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Welcome New and Renewed Community Partners!

Our Community Partners continue to renew their memberships to help support the Sijan Chapter with their support and involvement within the Air Force Community



ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY



Booz | Allen | Hamilton
delivering results that endure



Andy Burwell



HILDERBRAND & associates, p.c.



invent

More New and Renewed Community Partners!



LOCKHEED MARTIN



NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Nicky's LTD

Raytheon



Shane Ray



Teresa's Oatmeal Overboard!



Zimkas Heating & Air Conditioning



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

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Colorado Springs Co.
Permit No. 434

Chapter Officers:

President:
TOM CAVALLI – 572-1391
TOM.CAVALLI@BARRIOS.COM

Executive VP:
KEVIN ESTREM—238-4366
KEVIN.ESTREM@BRAXTONTECH.COM

Secretary:
HANK SCARANGELLA – 596-5395
SCARANGELLA@ATT.COM

Treasurer:
JIM HALE – 233-5316
SKIBUMPS2@MSN.COM

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.

[Click here](#) to update your address and email, or mail changes to AFA National address at:

Air Force Association
Member Services
1501 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22209

We're on the Web!

www.afasijan.com

The Air Force Association Sijan Chapter 125 covers the Colorado Springs area.

The entire Air Force team has a stake in keeping the Air Force Association strong and vital. The plain fact is that every federal budget must compete with every other federal budget for every dollar it gets.

Not one doubts the need for a strong Air Force. But we still need to keep our message out in front of every decision-maker at all times.

Your membership in the Air Force Association enables us to continue our strong advocacy of the rightful priority of air superiority. Shoulder to shoulder, your AFA membership brings solidarity and weight to our noble cause.

AFA helps you make the most of your Air Force affiliation, throughout your career and the rest of your life. Your membership automatically makes you an integral part of a powerful network of committed men and women in the military, in public service, and in private industry.

Advisory councils and committees of the AFA work constantly on issues that matter to members of the Air Force, during and after their service. Initiatives of the AFA through these efforts provide significant benefits to members, even when they transition back into civilian life.

Calendar of Events

LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS
PLACE: ARMED FORCES YMCA-SOUTHEAST LOCATION ON JETWING DRIVE
DATE: EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.AFASIJAN.COM](http://www.afasijan.com)

ARMED FORCES WEEK LUNCHEON—
MILITARY PERSONS OF THE YEAR BANQUET
PLACE: BROADMOOR HALL, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
DATE: MAY 09, 2009

SPACE WARFARE SYMPOSIUM 2009
PLACE: KEYSTONE RESORT, CO
DATE: JUNE 9-11, 2009
WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.SPACEWARFARE.ORG](http://www.spacewarfare.org)

AFA STATE ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
PLACE: PUEBLO, CO
DATE: JUL-AUG TIMEFRAME, 2009
WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.SPACEWARFARE.ORG](http://www.spacewarfare.org)