

AFA Lance P. Sijan Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2011

Welcome

President Kevin Estrem opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 and then asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

President's Comments (Kevin Estrem)

Kevin recognized Christine Tharaldson from Hyatt's Summerfield Suites. They are a Community Partner and provided pastries for our meeting.

We have decisions to make about the Ball. Tops in Blue (TIB) has changed their schedule and will no longer be available in February 2012 but could support us in January 2012. TIB can support us in September-October 2011, which is probably too soon for the next Ball, or September – October 2012, which is 20 months away. We discussed about decoupling the Ball from TIB but the consensus was not to do that. The chapter's budget could tolerate waiting until September – October 2012 for the next Ball and that was the consensus of the meeting. There may be a conflict with the NDIA Ball, which is usually in September.

The Air Force Ball was very successful financially and many reported having a very good time. Tops in Blue was, once again, the highlight of the evening.

The AFA Regional meeting will be June 25, 2011 in Grand Junction, CO.

Kevin introduced Vic Andrews who presented an informational briefing about the choices the city faces with respect to Memorial Hospital. Memorial is the largest non-military provider of Tricare services west of the Mississippi.

Secretary (Hank Scarangella)

Hank reported that the minutes of the February 8, 2011 meeting have been posted to the website.

Treasurer (Dave Shiller)

Income: Finally got our AFA National Subsidy for 9/30/10 National still owes the chapter the subsidy for qtr ended 12/31/10 and they have not paid us for any community partners since August last year (\$850 owed) – the problem is the new iMAS system.

AF Ball: we did well but cannot say until all the bills are paid. Anyone with invoices or checks need to get them to Dave ASAP.

Other payments this past month: AFJrROTC Drill Meet, Tax preparation (they did a phenomenal job – very professional), USAFA Arnold Air Society, Sky Sox Tix, \$1200 to Boxing, Mitchell HS Honor Guard, All annual awards paid, YMCA paid, office supplies

First SCWS AMEX processed.

Dave will do a budget recap soon to see what typical donations are outstanding and he will develop recommendations to send to the exec committee

TAX: everything filed thru end of FY (9/30/10). Dave will file paperwork this month to change FY to calendar year – that will drive the need for another return for the 3 months Oct-Dec 10.

Bank – have not locked in a bank yet – Dave is meeting with ENT Credit Union next week and then will decide. So far the response from 5 Star has not been very promising.

Cyber Patriot Program (Jim Ragaller)

No report.

Kevin reported that Rags is trying to get a debrief from AFA National that will give the losing teams feedback their performance.

Community Partners & Sponsorships (Debbie Estrem)

There were twelve CP Renewals are coming in January.

Debbie did a great job selling AF Ball sponsorships. Lockheed Martin has taken the Platinum sponsorship. HP took Diamond. ATK, Scitor, Honeywell, Northrop Grumman and US Falcon took Gold sponsorships and Booz Allen Hamilton took a Silver sponsorship.

External Awards (Ray Powell)

No report.

Other Awards (Kevin Estrem)

Kevin continues to work with USAFA and HQ AFSPC to present the National Awards earned by those two organizations.

General Edwin Rawlings Award, Management Division to Ms. Tammie Boyd, USAFA

AFMC Management Award, Junior Division to Captain Robert Carden, AFSPC

USAFA has asked the chapter to support the Pitsenbarger Awards this year, which we will do.

Operational Excellence

Don Knight will again chair the committee, assisted by Elaine Knight and Usto Schulz.

There will be a single officer and enlisted award for both the space and cyberspace career fields.

Veteran's Affairs (Dan Beatty/Brad Butler)

No report.

Membership (James Wood)

No report.

Communications (Jeanin Damery)

No report.

Aerospace Education (Roy Griggs)

Roy is working with Chuck Zimkas of the National Space Foundation to evaluate 56 applicants for Teacher of the Year.

Scholarship information is on the web site to advertise the program. The plan is to select members in May. No applications have been received as of today. We had an interesting discussion about the effectiveness of the scholarship program to advance interest in STEM. Gayle White suggested that we consider using the funds to sponsor science or math clubs at the elementary or middle school level to generate an early interest in STEM. The scholarships don't incentivize students to study STEM and just giving them a relatively small scholarship isn't advancing STEM education; it just makes it a little easier for the student and their family.

Professional Development (Charlie Bryant)

Charlie is looking for another champion now that Brig Gen Raymond is leaving.

The Schriever Essay Contest is not progressing so that the winner will not be recognized at SCWS. If it goes at all the winners would be recognized in October. Colonel Shaw has volunteered to sponsor the contest and Kevin spoke with him again February 4 to enlist his active support and will speak with him again. No one had shown any interest in this program since Brig Gen Hyten left the command several years ago. It may be time to stop trying.

AFA National Field Council (1LT Leanne Babcock)

Leanne is deploying and was not in attendance to give a report.

Events

Air Force Ball (Tim Lemons)

The Ball was a great success on February 18, 2011 at the Broadmoor. Financial results are not complete but it was a profitable event. Tim will hold an after-action meeting with the committee to review all their work and make recommendations for the next event.

Wing Open Boxing Pizza Party (Mike McCoy)

A very successful was held on March 3, 2011 with over 100 people in attendance (most ever) and some great door prizes. The USAFA JAG directed a last minute change in the donor. They determined that the proceeds could not go to the Wounded Warriors program so they were given to the Air Force Assistance program. The chapter made \$1,200 and doubled that amount, as is the chapter's practice, for a donation of \$2,400.

Space and Cyberspace Warfare Symposium (Hank Scarangella & Tom Ocvirk)

Planning for the event continues. Lt Col Reagan will brief Gen Shelton on March 11 and, hopefully, gain his support and commitment to participate.

IMAGE Golf Tournament (Joe Kahoe)

The 2011 event will be sponsored by NDIA on August 12 and Joe represents AFA on the committee.

State Convention & Meeting (Jim Hale)

Jim is organizing the agenda and logistics for the event that will occur July 23, followed by the State Meeting on July 23. Jim is searching for a venue that will accommodate about 250 people.

Miscellaneous

Gayle White reported that AFA National continues its study of the causes and solutions to a declining membership, now at about 2.5% per year. It is a problem common to many organizations like Kiwanis, Rotary, etc. Younger generations are not "joiners" in the same way older generations are. National is surveying chapter Membership VPs for input. National is even considering restructuring.

Next Meeting – April 12, 2011.

Attendees

Kevin Estrem	Debbie Estrem	Jim Hale	Christian Daehnick
Fred "Taco" Bell	Christine Tharaldson	Kevin Hoskins	Nancy Casey
Vic Andrews	Roy Griggs	Bill Houth	Gayle White
Sharon White	Linda Aldrich	Hank Scarangella	