



The Sijan Sentinel

Volume 2 – 2025

April 2025

WELCOME TO AFA
SIJAN CHAPTER #125



President: Caty Rozema
Vice President: Aaron Prupas
Secretary: Gayle Divine
Treasurer: Bruce Hall

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Our Mission Unites Us!

Recently, I've been rewatching "Band of Brothers." It's an amazing series for many reasons—the acting, the cinematography, and interviews of WWII veterans among them.

It is more than an account of WWII paratroopers; it is a character study. Maj. Winters, Capt. Nixon, TSgt Malarky, and the rest of Easy Company become old friends as we watch. They came to Easy Company with diverse backgrounds, beliefs, experiences, hopes and dreams.

Their mission united them.

If you have spent any time in uniform, it's likely you have been surrounded by a similar cast of characters throughout your service. Your mission united you.

Members of the Lance P. Sijan AFA chapter come from many backgrounds and life experiences. We are active duty and veterans, spouses and dependents, government civilians and contractors, students and teachers, from all walks of life. Our mission unites us:

[T]o promote dominant U.S. Air & 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.

Who you are and where you come from make you special. Who we are together makes us great.

We're glad you're part of our mission.

In service,

Caty

President, Sijan Chapter

Co125.Sijan.President@afa.org

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US for the annual Doolittle Raiders Memorial Toast on April 17, 2025.

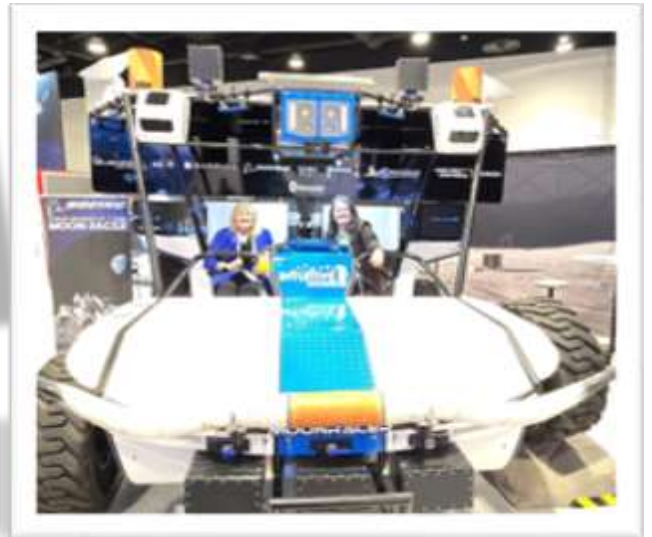
Continuing a decades-long Air Force tradition started by AFA's founding president Gen. Jimmy Doolittle and his fellow Raiders in 1945, Air and Space Force units and AFA members around the world will raise a glass to the 83rd anniversary of the legendary Doolittle Raid and the Raiders' enduring warfighting spirit, bravery, and innovation. **Members of your Sijan Chapter and the Friends of ISR will raise a toast to the Doolittle Raiders during Thirsty Thursday at Rhino's (4307 Integrity Center Point, Co Spgs) at 1630, April 17.** This monthly gathering, held every third Thursday, is a no-host social event.

OUT AND ABOUT WITH SIJAN



Left: Sijan chapter secretary, Gayle Divine, and longtime friend of the Sijan chapter, Sharon White, volunteer at the Space Foundation's 40th annual Space Symposium April 7-10, 2025. Each year our local space community welcomes thousands of military, industry, commercial, and government attendees from around the world to the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs.

Right: Gayle takes the Moonracer for a spin at a symposium booth.



The Future of Our Mission – Be A Part Of It!

The **Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC)** is a citizenship training program designed for high school students. AFJROTC objectives are to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship and life skills, promote community service, instill a sense of responsibility and develop character, leadership and self-discipline through education and instruction in air and space fundamentals and the Air Force's core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do.

AFJROTC is offered in over 870 high schools across the nation and overseas, providing a variety of curricular and co-curricular activities, including aerospace science and leadership training. Additionally, AFJROTC offers scholarships for cadets to attend accredited pilot training programs.

The youth involved in the JROTC programs across our Colorado Springs community are training now to be tomorrow's leaders. Come out and show your support and encouragement for these young people as we present the AFA awards at the spring JROTC awards ceremonies.



Spring 2025 JROTC Award Ceremonies

No pre-requisites, just show up and cheer them on. Would you like to present an award? Questions? Email us at lancepsijanafa@gmail.com.

- 30 Apr, 0945: Mitchell HS, 1205 Potter Dr**
- 30 Apr, 1830: Sand Creek HS, 7005 N Carefree Cir**
- 1 May, 1800: Harrison HS, 2755 Janitell Rd**
- 8 May, 1800: Falcon HS, 10255 Lambert Rd, Peyton**
- TBD: Air Academy HS and Vista Ridge HS**

The Future of Our Mission – Be A Part Of It!



STEM Model

Rocket Launch Accepting Volunteers

Attention all STEM enthusiasts. The El Paso County 5th Grade Rocket Day (5GRD), D-11 Fall Edition, is seeking volunteers for Apr 28 - May1 2025.

5GRD's goal is for every 5th grader in El Paso County to have the opportunity to build and launch an Estes model rocket. With AFCEA as the title sponsor and the Rocky Mountain NDIA Chapter and Lockheed Martin as key partners, we are supporting Colorado Springs School District 11's (D-11) 1,700 5th graders.



El Paso County and the City of Colorado Springs have approved the use of the Memorial Park's Rose Bowl (northwest corner off Hancock Ave) for our "launch campaign" so the plan is to use three one-hour launch slots over the course of four days. To reach this goal, we need 30 volunteers each day to help with range operations from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm.

No model rocket experience required.

Please contact Tom Walker, thomas.c.walker@lmco.com, 719-466-7919 to volunteer or for more information. **We are on a quest, and you can be an integral part of reaching our El Paso County-wide STEM goal.**

The Future of Our Mission – Be A Part Of It!

Please join us for the IMAGE 2025 to benefit STEM scholarship activities of our Colorado Springs local chapter of AFA, NDIA, & AFCEA on **26 August 2025** at **Eisenhower Golf Course, USAF Academy, CO**. **Sign-in and Breakfast starts at 0630; Shotgun start 0800.**

[Register now](#) and remember to invite your friends to play.



Industry Military Annual Golf Event (IMAGE) 2025

Eisenhower Golf Course
USAF Academy, CO
Tuesday, 26 August 2025

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

Register at <https://birdease.com/30061>

AIR FORCE
GOLF

Started in 2000, IMAGE has grown in size every year and provides the opportunity for military and industry to have some fun and play a round of golf for a good cause. The local chapters of [NDIA](#) – National Defense Industrial Association, [AFCEA](#), and [AFA](#) – Air & Space Forces Association, all work together to raise money for science technology engineering and math (STEM) scholarships and other related STEM activity for local middle/high school and college students. Each year we collectively award over \$150,000 to deserving students. This event provides a sizable portion of those funds.

The IMAGE Golf Tournament has become one of the largest networking events within the defense marketplace in Colorado Springs. It's an ideal opportunity to enjoy a round of golf, meet industry and military leaders, and gain a better understanding of issues and opportunities facing our community.

We look forward to seeing you on the course and sincerely appreciate your charitable support to this STEM event. We will have a great day of golf at the beautiful [Eisenhower Golf Course \(Blue\)](#) at USAFA. The event will include breakfast, range balls, a 4-person scramble complete with fun games, and prime rib lunch / awards reception following the tournament.

Thank you for your support of STEM education and the AFA, NDIA, & AFCEA!

[Sponsorships Available](#)

Deploying a Weapons System



Minuteman III Test Launch

Sentinel Programmatic Agreement Meeting (contributed by Linda Aldrich)

What are some of the cultural aspects involved with deployment of the Sentinel Weapon System and decommissioning and disposal of the Minuteman III Weapon System in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah and Wyoming? Not only is that a mouthful to say, but it's probably not your average dinnertime conversation unless you happen to be directly connected with the topic. That was the focus of the Sentinel Project Programmatic Agreement Annual Meeting convened February 18-19, 2025 in Estes Park, Colorado.

The Programmatic Agreement (PA) exists among Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC); Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC); the three affiliated tribes of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation; multiple State historic preservation units; the National Park Service specific region and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Among many specifics in the PA is acknowledgement that the lands impacted are the ancestral lands of Indigenous People represented by over 63 Tribal governments. Some Tribes have expressed to AFGSC and AFMC that the undertaking may result in

adverse effects on historic properties that have religious and cultural significance to the Tribes. In turn AFGSC and AFMC acknowledged the specialized expertise that Tribes have in identifying and assessing historic properties that may possess religious and cultural meaning to them, also recognizing that each Tribe has its own unique perspective.

After a traditional blessing and moment of silence, the gathering opened with remarks from Colonel Ty Moore, Deputy Director, ICBM Modernization, AFGSC, who stressed the goal of a successful partnership that balances cultural consideration and needed modernization. He offered his thank you for this effort to help strategic deterrence and to preserve cultural heritage. Next Ms. Kathryn Parks, Deputy Program Executive Officer, AF Nuclear Weapons Center (AFNWC), offered appreciation for the collaborative effort while recognizing the difficulties faced and improvements needed in contracting and other areas. The Overview and Update presented by Mr. Russell Bartholomew, AFNWC, highlighted the complexity of the Sentinel installation and the Minuteman III removal, at both on and off base locations. Establishing up to 3,100 miles of new utility corridors, conducting activities with 4,900 miles of existing utility corridors and easement, and acquiring property rights for construction of communication towers within three missile fields emphasized the challenges of the tasks to be accomplished.

When addressing the Project Planning and 2024 PA Activity review, a wide variety of issues were discussed in areas of potential effects. Some mitigation efforts accomplished and ongoing are Cultural Awareness Training, photographic records, National Historic Landmark nominations, and developing protocols to request proposals from Tribal Nations regarding ethnobotany (study of tradition knowledge and customs concerning medical, religious, and other uses of plants) and toponymy (study of place names). Included in this discussion was the highlighting of *"The Silent Sentinels: Minuteman Artwork Revealed,"* sponsored by the Association of Air Force Missileers. Two copies were sent to each of the 77 entities associated with the PA.



First full-scale static test fire of the LGM-35A Sentinel stage-one solid rocket motor. March 2, 2023. -- U.S. Air Force photo by R. Nial Bradshaw

Deploying a Weapons System (Continued)



An environment of respect for Tribal representatives permeated the open discussion that occurred throughout the rest of the meeting. Opinions on past history were presented with forward looking comments as to how to uncover all possible obstacles while trying to maintain reasonable timelines. Of great concern was the preservation of artifacts to include the issue of artifacts which the Tribes believe should be returned, but that are currently residing in museums. Dialogue also addressed work ethics plus changes in funding, personnel, environmental policies and others that could potentially occur with the recent change of Administration. There's a long way to go in resolving the many concerns, but the discussion laid

both emotional and organization issues open for further debate and resolution.

COMING UP

Be sure to visit our [website](#) for details on upcoming events or email us at LancePSijanAFA@gmail.com if you have questions. Your participation in these activities and events is a fantastic way to support our future leaders and connect with the local Air & Space Forces community!

- 28 Apr-1 May, 0830-1300: 5th Grade Rocket Launch
- 30 Apr, 0945: Mitchel HS JROTC Awards Ceremony
- 30 Apr, 1830: Sand Creek HS JROTC Awards Ceremony
- 1 May, 1800: Harrison HS JROTC Awards Ceremony
- 8 May, 1800: Falcon HS JROTC Awards Ceremony
- 8 May, 4:30-6:00 pm: Q2 Birthday Party at The Hub
- 9 May, 3:30-5:30 pm: Sijan New Member Mixer at The Hub



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>

**Do you like golf? Birthday parties? Races? Ball games? Corn hole? We want to hear from you!
*Send us a note, stop by an event, or join us for our monthly leadership meeting.***



Your AFA Sijan Chapter has opportunities for involvement in multiple areas, as little or as much as you would like. Areas of most need are in support of veterans and government outreach and programming/events.

Lance P Sijan Chapter Monthly Leadership Meetings

Every 2nd Tuesday of Month, 5:00PM, Visit our [website](#) to confirm date/time and for in-person location and online link. These are our regular business meetings, but all are welcome to listen in. It's a great way to learn more about what's happening inside Sijan and find out about volunteer opportunities.

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

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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, most active chapters in AFA, with more than 1600 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!