

CHAPTER NEWS

By June L. Kim, Associate Editor

LANCE P. SIJAN CHAPTER

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter (Colo.) held an impressive Casino Night in February for wounded airmen in Colorado Springs, Colo. It was a “fresh new approach” to the chapter’s annual fundraiser for the Wounded Airman Program, said Colorado State President Linda Aldrich.

Some 400 people attended the event, held on the last day of the Cyberspace Symposium, which was hosted by the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association.

The chapter raised \$6,000 from door prize tickets and donations. All of that money went toward Airmen and Fam-



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ily Programs, for the Wounded Airman Program, said Aldrich.

One of the top prizes for locals was the chance to host their own mini Casino night, which came with a gaming table and a dealer. Other prizes were Cuban cigars, gift cards to stores and restaurants, and beverages. All prizes were donated by chapter members or Community Partners.

The event was such a success that other AFA chapters asked for help to host similar events, she said.

AFA Chairman of the Board F. Whitten Peters, AFA Executive Vice President Denise Hollywood, and AFA Director Emeritus Jerry White were also present.



SHOOTING STAR CHAPTER

The Shooting Star Chapter (N.J.) heard from one of their own during a chapter meeting in February. Aviation artist Keith C. Ferris talked about his latest completed artwork, “Lightning at Sea.”

“We ask him periodically if he would like to give us a talk,” said Chapter Treasurer Howard Leach.

Ferris explained to a crowd of 20 people how he started sketching the painting on a napkin, “drawing the objects using descriptive geometry with adjustments for the horizon, [and] painting of the objects with warm and cool colors using just three basic colors,” said Leach.

This was the third and last installment of F-35 paintings commissioned by Pratt & Whitney, said Leach. The painting



shows an F-35C taking off from soon-to-be commissioned aircraft carrier USS *Gerald R. Ford*, according to a Pratt & Whitney news release.

“It’s like a photo. Only better,” said Leach.

A close-up of Shooting Star Chapter member Keith Ferris’ painting, “Lightning at Sea.” Ferris, an aviation artist, talked about the painting at a chapter meeting in February.

AFA EMERGING LEADER: Evan T. McCauley



Maj. Evan McCauley, an AFROTC instructor at the University of Maryland and Maryland State President, speaks to his cadets in March.

Home State: New Jersey
Chapter: Baltimore Chapter
Joined AFA: 2004
AFA Office: Maryland State President
Military Service: 2006-current, Active Duty
Occupation: Engineer, AFROTC instructor
Education: B.S., Computer Engineering, B.S., Electrical Engineering, North Carolina State University; M.A., Military Studies, Air University

the Air Warfare Symposium. In particular, in my role as an ROTC instructor, my AFA membership gives me the chance to connect my cadets (our future AF leaders) with unique opportunities like last year's Airpower Advocates teleconference with then-CSAF General Welsh!

What does AFA need to do to get more members?

I don't need more members. I need more *involvement*. I need more *active* members doing things in the community that support that AFA mission. ... Give me [fewer] members [who] are more actively engaged and I'll turn this state upside down for AFA!

How do we build awareness about it?

Engagement. Human connection at the field level. ... If we do a good job of engagement at the field level and develop a strong base of active membership, I expect that will snowball into both higher membership and higher awareness of AFA.

How did you first hear of AFA?
 I joined AFA as a cadet member ... and then my involvement took a nosedive when I commissioned and went Active Duty in 2006. That's probably a common trend with [Arnold Air Society] members, one that I am trying to address with our

Arnies. ... I reactivated my AFA membership in summer 2015.

What do you enjoy most about it?

Hands down, the best [things] ... are the professional development opportunities like Air, Space & Cyber Conference and

Courtesy photo

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