



Mile High Flyer

Air Force Association

Denver Metro-area Colorado



Mile High Chapter # 127

Volume 60, Issue 4

Summer 2006

****UPCOMING EVENTS****

- Jul 13 – Embassy Suites Hotel Denver SE is hosting lunch for AFA at Wings Over The Rockies Museum. Guest speaker is Lt Col Ted Steil (WW II Vet)
- Aug 3 – AFA to brief SNCO Academy BAFB
- Aug 4 – UVC and Colo Air National Guard Picnic for Vets at Hangar 909 BAFB
- Aug 11 – State AFA Convention, Pueblo, Colo.
- Aug 12 – State AFA Business meeting, Pueblo
- Sep 10 – AFA membership briefing and pig roast for 240th Civil Engineer Flight, Colorado Air National Guard
- Sep 12 - AFA Mile High Chapter monthly Mtg

*AFA Mile High Chapter monthly meetings are held at Buckley AFB, 460 SW HQ, Bldg. 1030, Rm. 103

President's Corner

By Capt Ronald Geurts

All winter long, I have been waiting for summer to get here so the chapter can catch our breath. However, now that summer is here I realize we are just as busy. Either way, I am proud to share with you a portion of the things AFA 127 has accomplished and excited to share with you a glimpse of what the next three months holds in store for us.

- AFA 127 Co-sponsored the Estes Park Duck Race and raised \$1,102 for the chapter. The Duck race raised over \$100,000 in proceeds for the sponsoring organizations.
- AFA 127 presented three briefings to the Professional Enhancement Courses at Buckley AFB for ALS and NCO airmen.
- AFA 127 and NDIA co-sponsored a golf tournament on June 19 at the Inverness Golf Course in Englewood, CO. Although, the final

numbers and expenses are not complete we estimate the chapter cleared about \$4,500 in profit. All the thanks go to Rex Lucas and Don Nate for their endless hours of support.

- AFA 127 attended the state AFA Quarterly Meeting in Grand Junction
- AFA 127 attended several of the most recent Metro Defense Council meetings with local area businesses and military units from Buckley. AFA 127 is offering to sponsor one of these meetings in February 07 in order expand the community's understanding of what AFA is doing for the community.
- AFA 127 provided \$720 to the Arnold Air Society from CU Boulder to attend their national conclave (NATCON) in Florida.
- AFA 127 co-sponsored the Armed Forces Day Luncheon in May. Our honored guests included four ROTC cadets from CU and CSU plus several retired AF members.
- AFA 127 continues to meet weekly with our local and national senate and congressional staff members to inform them on the issues important to our members.
- AFA 127 has recruited three new corporate members: Embassy Suites Hotel, 4 Points Sheraton Hotel, Ball Aerospace. Thanks and special recognition goes to these firms.
- AFA 127 wishes to acknowledge two winners of the AFA National \$1,000 Spouse's college scholarship from our chapter. Their names are Shonda Janke-Stedronsky and Kristina Bragg.
- AFA 127 sponsored one ROTC Arnold Air Society cadet from Lt Col Ellison S. Onizuka squadron to attend the national conclave NATCON in Florida.
- AFA 127 presented a chapter AFA citation to Arvada CAP squadron cadet Claire E. Clancy for outstanding performance. She also

received the CAP Spaatz award from Major General Whitney.

- AFA 127 presented Cadet of the Year Award (Det 90) and a \$500 scholarship at Colorado State University awards ceremony.
- AFA 127 presented an Outstanding Cadet Citation (Det 105) and a \$250 scholarship at CU-Boulder awards ceremony in May.

The three most notable events coming up soon are:

Jul 13 – Embassy Suites Hotel Denver SE is hosting free lunch for AFA at Wings Over The Rockies Museum. Guest speaker is Lt Col Ted Steil (WW II Vet)

Aug 11 – State AFA Convention, Pueblo, Colo.

Sep 10 – AFA membership briefing and pig roast for 240th Civil Engineer Flight, Colorado Air National Guard

Please feel free to call me at 303-470-7333 or e-mail me at rgeurts@qwest.net if you have questions or comments.

State AFA Convention Aug. 11-12

The 2006 Colorado State AFA Convention Awards dinner is Aug. 11-12 at Historical Union Depot, Pueblo, Colo. The dinner will honor the Colorado Outstanding Air Force military and civilian nominees and costs \$30 for E1-E7, \$35 for all others. Attire for the dinner is service dress for military and coat and tie or equivalent for civilians.

The quarterly business meeting will be August 12, 9 AM to noon at La Renaissance Pueblo, Colo. The meeting costs \$16 and includes a continental breakfast at 8:30 AM. See attached sign up form to be sent in by July 17, 06 for early registration. For group rates, hotel reservations need to be made by July 10, 2006.

AFA Converts to a 501(c)3 organization

Many of you know on April 1, the Association moved from a 501(c)19 veterans' organization to a 501(c)(3) education organization, as AFA and its educational arm, the Aerospace Education Foundation (AEF), combined. So what does this consolidation mean to you...and what does it have to do with membership? Please check out our chapter web page at <http://www.afa127.org/>. In addition, because of the conversion we need to rewrite the chapter constitution and have it voted in as the official governing

document for IRS purposes. You can reference a draft copy on our home page. We will vote on this at the July 13, 2006 general membership meeting.

Colorado Air National Guard Heritage Celebration

Brigadier General H. Michael Edwards

Commander, 140th Wing
cordially invites you to a
COANG Heritage Celebration,
50th Anniversary of the Minuteman
55th Anniversary of the Korean War Mobilization
and
Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the COANG
the fourth of August
Two-thousand six
at five o'clock in the afternoon

Wings over the Rockies Museum

7711 East Academy Boulevard
Denver CO 80230-6929

R.S.V.P. by 26 Jul 06

Dress: Business Casual Cost:

Cost: \$20.00

Phone (720) 847-9842

Make checks payable and mail to:

COANG Heritage Celebration

140 South Aspen Street, Stop 37

Buckley AFB CO 80011-9544

VA Data theft update

All active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen can check the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil> to see if their personal data was compromised in the Veterans Administration data theft.

This is an additional effort on behalf of the Air Force to ensure affected Airmen are aware their information was compromised.

For the latest information on this issue and for more information on how to protect against identity theft, visit <http://www.firstgov.gov>.

AFA Mile High History

AFA Mile High Chapter Cordially invites you to our Awards Presentation and Celebration of 60 years of AFA history on July 13, 2006 at 11:00 AM.

Guest Speaker: Lt Col (ret) Ted Steil, WWII Veteran and Co-founder of Denver's AFA.

Lunch (Free): Hosted by Embassy Suites Hotel Denver SE/North Tech Center (No RSVP Required, However, for the sake of feeding everyone, please call Ron Geurts at 303-470-7333 if you plan to attend).

Location: Wings Over The Rockies Museum at Lowry; 7711 E Academy Blvd, Aurora, CO 80230
11:00 AM Arrival
11:30 AM Lunch—Enjoy a Free Meal & Entertainment
12:00 PM Guest Speaker
12:30 PM Award Presentations
1:00 PM Closing— All are welcome to tour Museum

Lt Col (ret) Ted Steil spent 28 years in the military and served two active duty tours in Europe. Lt Col Steil co-founded the Metropolitan Squadron now known as the Mile High Chapter of the Air Force Association. Lt Col Steil will provide us with insight into the last 60 years of AFA and AF history here in the Denver metro area. Following this, AFA Mile High Chapter 127 will present two \$1,000 AFA National Spouse Scholarship awards & several CAEF grants and scholarships to local Civil Air Patrol, Junior ROTC, and Air Force ROTC cadets.

Correct E-Mail Addresses a Must

The chapter leadership continues to provide the most accurate and current information to all members via a few different mediums.

In order to ensure the use of e-mail is productive, members must ensure the chapter has correct addresses.

Unfortunately, like any database, the e-mail database is only as good as the accuracy of the information. Currently the chapter has less than 30 percent of the total membership on our e-mail register. Increasing the registered e-mail addresses reduces postal costs for mailing a hard copy newsletter.

Please send correct e-mail addresses to Ronald Geurts at rgeurts@qwest.net.

Chapter Officers

Please call your Mile High Chapter leadership and let them know how you can help. Let them know how they can support your programs and call them for times and events because they would love to see you.

The Mile High Chapter officers are:

Ronald Geurts, President	(303) 470-7333
Rex Lucas, Executive VP	(303) 663-1710
Kenn Bowens, Treasurer	(303) 766-1188
Jade Norstrom, Secretary	(720) 252-7526
Fred Evans, VP (Buckley AFB)	(720) 847-6506
Mike Ruotsala, VP (Boulder)	(303) 465-2109
Stephanie Borecky, VP (Longs Peak)	(303)651-2448

AFA Colorado officers

Joan Sell, President	(719) 597-6652
ColoradoAFA@member.afa.org	
Gayle C. White Executive VP	(719) 488-8332
gwhite22@csc.com	
Teresa Tafoya, Secretary	(719) 564-4236
ttafoya@yahoo.com	
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Robert L. Trapp, Treasurer	
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Keith Foley, VP/Leadership Membership	
kfoley@teksystems.com	(303) 694-7187
Debbie Estrem, VP/Leadership Comm. Partner	
destrem@csc.com	(719) 380-5618

Chapter Acknowledges Community Partners

Community partners are civic organizations that extend their support to the Air Force and nation by accepting membership as an Air Force Association community partner.

They add great value and strength to the overall national defense while ensuring local chapters have the foundational support of the business community.

Mile High Chapter officers and members wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to the current community partners:

North Aurora Business Association

eBlueprint Ball Aerospace

Mass Mutual Financial Group

Aurora Chamber of Commerce

Wells Fargo Bank Holiday Inn DIA
Embassy Suites Hotel DTC
4 Points Sheraton Hotel

Chapter leaders ask all members to show support and appreciation by an expression of thanks and through their patronage.

**AFA 127 is recognized at AFA State and
AFA National Level**

Mile High extends our hardy congratulations to Ronald Geurts, 2006 Colorado AFA Member of the Year and recognizes the Lance P. Sijan chapter for being selected as the 2006 Colorado State AFA Chapter of the Year. Bravo and thank you for your continued excellent support of AFA and the Colorado state organization.

Listed below are the members who are being recognized as Outstanding Performers. They will also be recognized by the State Organization at the State Convention in Pueblo in August.

Thank you all for being the best of the best!

State Citation:

Mr. Jade Norstrom (Mile High)
Ms. Ellen Dupont (Mile High)
Mr. Kenn Bowens (Mile High)
Mr. Rex Lucas (Mile High)

State Medals of Merit

Ms. Barbara Flores (Mile High)
Mr. Tom Rice (Mile High)

State Exceptional Service

Mr. Don Nate (Mile High)
Mr. Jack Powell (Mile High)

State Chapter of the Year: Lance P. Sijan

State Member of Year: Capt Ronald Geurts

National Medal of Merit

Mr. Ron Geurts (Mile High)

Air Force Association

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Email: AFA127@bigfoot.com

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ABADAN

10733 East Bethany Drive
Aurora Colorado 80014
www.eBlueprint.com

**2006 Colorado State Air Force Association Convention Awards Dinner
Honoring the Colorado Outstanding Air Force Military and Civilian Award Nominees**

Friday, the eleventh day of August
Two thousand and six

Social six o'clock
Dinner seven o'clock
Historical Union Depot
132 West B Street
Pueblo, Colorado

_____ Yes, I (we) will attend

_____ No, I (we) will not attend

Name _____

Rank (Active Duty) _____

Office Symbol/Company _____

Duty Phone/Home Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____

Spouse/Guest's Name (First and Last) _____

Yes, I (we) have additional guests (Please provide names on the reverse side of this card)

Would you, your spouse, or your guest prefer a vegetarian entrée substitution? Yes, please provide _____ vegetarian entrées (**Circle name above**)

Cost E1 - E7 \$30.00 per person

All others \$35.00 per person

Attire ~ Civilian coat and tie

Military ~ Service Dress

The Quarterly Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 12, at the La Renaissance 217 E. Routt Ave Pueblo, CO. The cost of the business meeting is \$16.00 which includes the continental breakfast.

8:30 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - Business Meeting

_____ Yes, I (we) will attend Number Attending _____

_____ No, I (we) will attend

Make checks payable to "AFA Colorado State"

Please return check and this form to the address below, not later than July 17, 2006.

2006 Colorado State AFA Convention Awards Dinner

Attn: Jeri Andrews/Northrop Grumman/TASC

1795 Jet Wing Dr. Suite 200

Colorado Springs, CO 80916

Telephone (719) 622-5287

Fax (719) 622-5263

This is a reminder that hotel reservations need to be made by July 10 to take advantage of the blocked room reservations for the State Convention. Please see the information below.

Hotel information for visitors to our beautiful community is:

Pueblo Marriott

110 West 1st St.

Pueblo, CO 81003

Direct: (719) 296-3088

Fax: (719) 586-3293

awasson@sunstonehotels.com

www.pueblomarriott.com

Options for making reservations for yourself and your group:

- You can call the central reservations desk and ask for the Air Force Association block at (800) 228-9290. **This block of rooms will be held until July 10, so please get your reservations in early. There are many events in Pueblo at this time of year, so please take advantage of the blocked rooms. The cost of the rooms will significantly increase in price once the block is released.***
- You can also call Andrew D. Wasson, Sales and Reservations Coordinator at (719) 296-3088.*
- There is also a reservation link where you can make reservations online.*

<<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/pubdt?groupCode=afaafaa&app=resvlink>> .

All three options either someone will ask you or you will be prompted for a credit card to hold the room. Please disseminate this information as widely as possible to your chapter members! See you August 11 if not sooner!