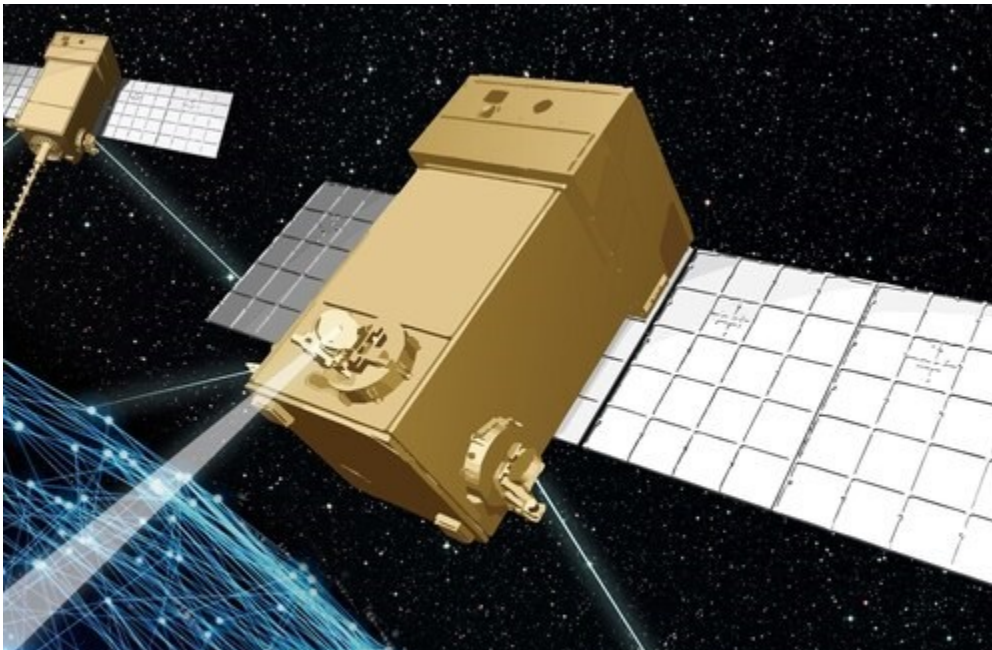




Mile High Flyer

Quarterly Newsletter

AFA CHAPTER 127



PAGE 3

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Looking back on 2020, our chapter has worked hard to make a big difference in how we support the Air force association in the Denver Metro area and Colorado....

PAGE 4

GOTTA GO FAST...

Plans for the U.S. Space Force's new Space Systems Command are all but set, with the new acquisitions organization expected in early 2021, said Chief of Space Operation, Gen John "Jay" Raymond.

PAGE 6

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Seasons greetings and our thanks to our loyal Community Partners across the Denver Metro area. May 2021 be a blessed year for all of us Let us work together to make 2021

Time to register!

Friday, June 25, 2021

*16th Air Force
Association*

Annual Golf Tournament

Spring Valley Golf Club

Elizabeth, CO



Sign Up Information:

Proceeds for the benefit of the Wounded Airman Program, Buckley Airman & Family Readiness, and the local Air Force Family! Register NOW at

www.defensetournament.golfreg.com

President's Corner

As we close out 2020, this has been a year of challenges for America, its Veterans and the US Air Force.

When COVID-19 hit Colorado, and the Denver Metro area, we were a deeply saddened at the number of people who were affected and who passed away. Some of us can recall other events in the past that seemed eerily familiar, such as the Salk vaccine for fighting polio, H1N1 and flu. But COVID-19 was far worse. We were not prepared for the impact COVID-19 would have. Thankfully, distributions of vaccines will be available to all of us soon. As an AFA chapter, we have learned a lot during this period. We have continued to meet virtually thanks to technology. While zoom conference calls cannot adequately replace our face-to-face meetings, our chapter has continued to support Air Force families on Buckley AFB and in the community. Our 2020 Golf tournament was a success with no reported cases among our participants.

Looking forward to 2021, we have already set our 2021 Golf Tournament for June 25, 2021 with the help and cooperation of Spring Valley Golf Club, Elizabeth, Colorado, to For the fourth year running. Be sure to for our charity golf classic tournament at <https://defensetournament.golfreg.com/> as soon as possible.

Realizing how important our AFA mission is, we are committed to building a digital platform for our AFA Chapter. Once it is established, our membership will have direct access to a steady flow of information about ongoing AFA activities locally, state-wide, and nationally!

Let us work together to make 2021 an outstanding year for AFA in Colorado and for our Air Force family.

Thanks,

Cliff Klein, President, AFA Chapter 127.



Gotta go fast: How America's Space Development Agency is shaking up acquisitions

The Space Development Agency was established to approach space differently than legacy organizations. How has it done so far?

By Nathan Strout

WASHINGTON – Plans for the U.S. Space Force's new Space Systems Command are all but set, with the new acquisitions organization expected in early 2021, said Chief of Space Operations Gen. John "Jay" Raymond.

"We've finalized the planning of that," Raymond said during a Dec. 15 media call. "I just took a briefing within the last couple days and kind of did the table slap on what Space Systems Command is going to look like, at least initially as it comes out of the shoot."

"But we've got the design down, and I'm really pleased with how it turned out," the general added.

Space Systems Command is [one of three commands being set up under the new Space Force](#), the other two being Space Operations Command and Space Training and Readiness Command. [Space Operations Command](#) is the first of the three to be established, officially created during a ceremony in October.

Whereas Space Operations Command will operate the nation's military satellites, Space Systems Command will be in charge of developing, acquiring and sustaining those systems. The Space Training and Readiness Command will educate the service's space professionals.

Raymond said the new Space Systems Command will build off of reforms implemented in SMC 2.0, a plan that refocused the Space and Missile Systems Center around a more enterprise approach to acquisitions.

In addition to SMC, Space Systems Command will oversee the Space Rapid Capabilities Office and the Space Development Agency, the latter of which operates outside the purview of the Space Force but will move to the service in 2022. With these and potentially other organizations purchasing space systems within the Space Force, Space Systems Command will foster competition between disruptors, prototypers and more traditional acquisitions organizations," said Raymond.



Our AFA Chapter 127 Officers:

President: Cliff Klein

Vice President: Stephen Gourley

Chapter Secretary/AFA State Secretary: MSGT Mita Stevens

Vice President, Veterans Affairs - Neil Burroughs

Vice President Community Relations: Burnett L. "Chip" Deyerle

Colorado Front Range K-12 teachers Offered Flight Experience Courtesy of Wings over the Rockies- Exploration of Flight Orientation Flight Program

Centennial, CO: Teachers from Front Range K-12 schools are invited for a free flight in a vintage 1930s biplane, (used extensively for pilot training during World War II) under the Teacher Flight Program at the Exploration of flight facility located on Centennial Airport. Front Range teachers are encouraged to take advantage of this program, provided by Wings Over the Rockies Air Museum as part of their teaching professional development.

For more information, please contact Hetty Carlson at 303-360-5360 Ext 130

Or email HCarlson@WingsMuseum.org





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News from Colorado State AFA 4th Quarter State Meeting hosted by AFA State President Linda Aldrich and AFA Chapter 127

Cliff Klein, President of AFA Chapter 127-(Top Left) receives Member of the Year for himself and Stephen and on behalf of Stephen Gourley.

Below Right: Chapter 127 - Vice President of Public Affairs Chip Deyerle receives the State President's Citation.

Below Left: CO State President Linda Aldrich recognizes Cati Roxma POC and State Chapter leader for Aerospace and STEM Education Support state-wide.

Below Left: Major General John Barry, USAF (Retired) and CEO of Wings Over the Rockies participated on behalf of Wings Over the Rockies Air Museum.

Last Below Right: Exploration of Flight Facility, Centennial Airport, Colorado.



AFA Chapter 127 Hosts State Officers Meeting At Exploration of Flight Facility

The 4th Quarter State AFA Meeting was held on October 31, 2020, at the newest element of the Wings Over the Rockies Air Museum - Exploration of Flight facility, on Centennial Airport.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 Am by State AFA President Linda Aldrich. After the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, guest speaker Major General (Retired) John Barry, a life member of AFA, spoke about how Exploration of Flight facility, just recently opened, evolved as an educational extension of the Air Museum. His slide presentation clearly indicated the direction that the Air Museum was moving toward and how it would supplement STEM education efforts in the Denver metro area, as well as across Colorado. Barry explained that his team worked with more than 200 aerospace related businesses in Colorado to support aerospace education. With the growing number of aerospace businesses and industrial investments, Colorado is on its way to becoming what he terms “Space Alley”. He added that one of the advantages of Colorado is being one mile closer to space than Cape Canaveral Space Launch Center in Florida.

To meet the future needs of the Space industry, Barry foresees the need for secondary education to initiate state of the art educational opportunities for middle and high school students to learn the ropes and apply project-thinking discipline to their curricula in preparation for work in aerospace jobs.



A COVID-19 Vaccine Update from the Veterans Administration

the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the first COVID-19 vaccine. The VA has started offering vaccines to 2 of our most vulnerable groups under a phased plan: •

Veterans living in our long-term care facilities, and •

VA health care personnel.

Vaccinating our VA health care personnel helps us continue providing care for Veterans. We've provided 9,752 vaccines as of December 18, 2020, and continue to offer more each day. This is a first crucial step in getting the COVID-19 pandemic under control. What you can expect over the next several months We'll have a limited number of COVID-19 vaccines during this time. We'll continue to follow our phased plan for providing vaccines.

Our goal is to do the best for the most people. After the first 2 groups, we'll begin to offer vaccines to more Veterans who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

If you're eligible to get a vaccine, your VA health care team will contact you.

You don't need to come to a VA facility to request or receive a vaccine until we contact you.

Our staff can't provide vaccines to anyone who isn't eligible at this time. What you can do now •

-Apply for VA health care. When more vaccines become available, we plan to offer a free COVID-19 vaccine to all Veterans receiving VA health care who want one.

-If you're not currently receiving health care through VA, you can apply now.

• Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines. For the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines at VA, go to our [main vaccine information page](#).

For information about how COVID-19 vaccines work, possible side effects, and answers to common questions, go [to the Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) website](#).



Air Force Association

Mile High Chapter 127

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Greenwood Village, Colorado 80112



TO:

The Air Force Association (AFA) is a 501c (3) nonprofit, professional military and Aerospace Education Association 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. To this end we:

EDUCATE the public on critical need for unmatched aerospace power and a technically superior workforce to ensure U.S. National Security.

ADVOCATE for aerospace power and STEM Education.

SUPPORT the TOTAL Air Force Family & Promote Aerospace Education

EMAIL: burnettdeyerle3@gmail.com

Upcoming Schedule of Chapter Events:

January 19, 2021-Monthly AFA Chapter Meeting- 4:00PM (ZOOM)

February 16, 2021 -Monthly AFA Chapter Meeting - 4:00PM (ZOOM)

March 16, 2021 - Monthly AFA Chapter Meeting - 4:00 PM (ZOOM)

April 20, 2021-Monthly AFA Chapter Meeting - 4:00 PM (ZOOM)