

PLANE TALK



AIR & SPACE FORCES ASSOCIATION

AF195 - SHOOTING STAR CHAPTER
NEW JERSEY

January 2026

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www.afa195.org

HOT NEWS

**Join us for our next meeting:
Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 1:00pm
Florham Park Diner**

Please RSVP to Howard Leach

WELCOME

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR NEXT FEW MONTHS

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

MARCH 28, 2026

APRIL 25, 2026

MEETING AGENDA

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of new members / guests
- Discuss the latest Air Force Association news
- Lunch and Guest Speaker

LUNCHEON SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT

We are pleased to welcome a recently retired Chief Master Sergeant (E-9) and career Airman as our upcoming luncheon speaker.

I had the opportunity to meet him while we were jointly interviewing candidates for the U.S. Service Academies on behalf of Congressman Kean. Since then, I've come to know him as an exceptionally enthusiastic and committed supporter of our military and veteran communities.

He is joining the Air Force Association as a Life Member and is actively involved in several Veterans organizations. His energy, experience, and passion for service are infectious, and I am hopeful we can channel some of that enthusiasm into our Shooting Star program and other Chapter initiatives.

We look forward to an engaging and inspiring discussion.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN AFA ACTIVITIES

A question I often ask myself, and one I encourage each of our members to reflect on is simple:

Why do we put our time and energy into our Chapter, our monthly meetings, and the many AFA activities we support?

For me, the answer begins with the people.

We are fortunate to be part of an exceptional group. I genuinely enjoy seeing everyone each month - the camaraderie, the good-natured banter, and the shared sense of purpose that makes our gatherings something to look forward to.

Our Chapter represents a remarkable blend of backgrounds and experiences. We span generations, from those whose service dates back to the late 1940s to those who have served more recently. Officers and enlisted. One-term Airmen and career professionals. Civilians. Men and women. All united by a shared respect for and commitment to the Air Force and Space Force.

We understand, perhaps better than most, that America's freedom depends on air and space power. We remember the pilots who launched Winchester on 9/11. We honor the aircrews who flew missions like Midnight Hammer. And, we recognize the countless Airmen and Guardians whose dedication made every mission possible.

So, why do you attend?

I know we're not a shy group and I truly look forward to hearing your answers at our next meeting.

AFA OFFICERS - 2025

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For more information about the Shooting Star Chapter, please visit our site at www.afa195.org