

Arizona Chapter MOAA November Program

Luke Air Force Base, the F-35 Lightning and More

Guest Speaker
Major Raymond H.
Chester, Jr.



The F-35 Lightning II is the world's most advanced multi-role fighter providing unmatched capabilities to military forces around the world, securing high-tech, high-skill jobs for hundreds of thousands of people worldwide, and elevating international security by allowing for more integrated coalition operations. The F-35 is the most flexible, technologically sophisticated multirole fighter ever built. By combining advanced stealth design with fighter speed and agility, fully-fused sensor information, network-enabled operations and advanced sustainment, the 5th Generation F-35 delivers innovative capabilities to meet security needs for nations across the world. Luke AFB was chosen as the training base for Air Force and allied pilots and crews.



Major Raymond Chester Jr. is Commander, 56th Communications Squadron, Luke Air Force Base. Major Chester graduated from Park University and received his commission through Officer Training School in 2000. He has served in a variety of positions at the base and major command levels. He has deployed multiple times in support of Operations NORTHERN WATCH, SOUTHERN WATCH, and ENDURING FREEDOM. Major Chester and his wife Michele have two children.



In August 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt directed the military to produce 12,000 pilots annually. On 6 June 1941 a newly constructed installation became Luke Field, named for 2nd Lt. Frank Luke, Jr., a Phoenix native who was a World War I ace and the first aviator to be awarded the Medal of Honor. During World War II, Luke Field produced 17,321 graduates from fighter training programs. The base closed in 1946 and reopened in 1951 due to the Korean Conflict. Luke has been home to the F-51 Mustang, F-84 Thunderjet, F-100 Super Sabre, F-104 Starfighter, F-5A Freedom Fighter, F-4 Phantom II, F-15 Eagle and F-15E Strike Eagle and F-16 Fighting Falcon. Since 1941, Luke has produced more than 57,500 graduates and is truly : "The Home of the Fighter Pilot."

Saturday, November 15, 2014,

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

REGISTRATION must be received by 4:00PM Tuesday, November 11, 2014
\$22 per person includes lunch. Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA
Send to: Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85050, 480-948-3609