Denver Council Friday, November 20th Holiday Dinner Meeting Hosting Air Force LT. COL. Mike Kelly, Commanding Officer, Air Force ROTC, University of Colorado and Honoring Top Performers of the USCG Cryptologic Unit Colorado



The final dinner meeting of the Denver Council in 2026 is scheduled for Friday, November 20th at American Legion Post 161 located at 6230 West 60th Avenue Arvada, CO 80003.

Our guest speaker is LT. COL. Mike Kelly, who will share with us his experience as a U2 Pilot. We will also present awards for the USCG Cryptologic Unit Colorado.

As is our custom at the November meeting, we will hold a toy drive to benefit the Marine Corps Reserve TOYS for TOTS Program. Please don't forget to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the meeting for donation to this very worthwhile program that seeks to bring the joy of Christmas to less fortunate children in our communities.

We are still looking for candidates to fill the following positions: Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Council Awards, Programs Coordinator and Navy Ball Coordinator. If you have any interest or would like further information, please contact me at fmackin@mackinweb.net.

I look forward to seeing you at the November meeting.

Florence Mackin, President

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL "SHADER" KELLY USAF

Lt. Col. Michael Kelly is a Colorado Native. He received his commission in May 2009 through the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Colorado – Boulder.

After attending pilot training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, he was assigned to fly the C-130H at the 36th Airlift Squadron, Yokota AB, Japan. He held various positions there culminating with Aircrew Support



Flight Commander and C-130H Instructor Pilot. He then transitioned to the U-25 at Beale AFB, CA, deploying globally to deliver high altitude reconnaissance to combat commanders and the National Command Authority. While at Beale AFB, he served in various positions including Deputy Program Manager of Advanced Programs and Special Technical Operations, Squadron Chief of Tactics, Acting Director of Operations of the U-2 flying training squadron, the 1st Reconnaissance Squadron and the Wing Chief of Tactics. Prior to his current position, Lt. Col. Kelly was first the Director of Operations for the 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale AFB, CA, then assigned Commander of the 99th Reconnaissance Squadron where he was responsible for delivering effective, disciplined and sustained U-2 expertise and deployment-ready airmen in support of the Air Force's Global integrated Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) core function. He commanded a squadron of over 150 active duty, reserve, civilian and contract support personnel.

Lt. Col. Kelly is currently Commanding Officer of the Air Force ROTC Unit at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He resides in Superior with his wife, Kendra, son, Myles and daughter, Alice.

Lt. Col. Kelly is a senior pilot with more than 3,000 flight hours in multiple aircraft. He has flown 264 combat hours and 157 combat support hours in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, INHERENT RESOLVE and FREEDOM'S SENTINEL, as well as commanding sensitive reconnaissance missions in support of NORTHCOM, EUCOM, CENTCOM and INDOPACOM.

November Holiday Dinner Meeting Friday, November 20th, 2026, 5 PM

Your reservation may be made online no later than **Sunday, November 15th, 5pm on** our Navy League RSVP Site:

https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/navy-league-dinner-friday-november-20--2026

If you prefer to RSVP by ground mail, please print this page, complete the form and send it to arrive **NO LATER THAN SATURDAY November 14th,** with a check for $35.00 per plate payable to NLUS Denver Council to:

Mrs. Florence Mackin
2137 Night Sky Lane
Lafayette, CO. 80026
720-291-9771
fmackin@mackinweb.net

RESERVATION REQUEST for
NLUS Denver Council Holiday Dinner Friday
November 20th, 2026
5:00 PM Social Hour
6:00 PM Dinner

Name(s):_____

Guest(s):_____

Number of Dinners
@$35.00_____

American Legion Hall, Post 161
6230 West 60th Avenue
Arvada. CO 80003