

Lunch 'n' Learn
Myths, Legends, and Facts
Reflections of a 'Star Warrior'
Guest Speaker:
Dr. Jim Horkovich
Thursday, 4 Dec 2014



Dr. Jim Horkovich will present a history of missile defense and the Star Wars program. Since Archimedes' "Burning Glass" at the siege of Syracuse 212 B.C. through the development of the LASER man has been fascinated with the idea of using directed energy weapons. Under Reagan's "Star Wars" plan years and billions of dollars were invested in making high energy laser systems a reality. Dr. Horkovich's presentation will trace the development of these systems from the Gas Dynamic LASER laboratory in the 1960s and the USAF Airborne Laser Laboratory of 1981 through to the latest UAV systems and Non-Lethal Area Denial systems of today. In reflecting on the effort invested in developing this technology, Dr. Horkovich will demonstrate the critical role that these programs played in ending the cold war and continue to play in securing our national defense.

Jim Horkovich has recently retired from Raytheon where he held the post of Engineering Fellow and Chief Technical Architect for High Power Laser Programs in the Advanced Missiles and Unmanned Systems product line. He was initial systems architect for the Laser Area Defense System and master systems architect for the LaWS tactical laser weapon. Before joining Raytheon in 2004, Horkovich was a technical advisor on laser and space-technology programs for the Schafer Corp. and Science Applications International Corp. He was a senior systems engineer for high-energy-laser and hardware-test programs including Space Based Laser (SBL) and Airborne Laser, and senior systems engineer for the SBL Integrated Flight Experiment. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1990 after directing all Strategic Defense Initiative Organization laser-technology programs at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory. Dr. Horkovich is a Fellow of the AIAA and was the chair of the AIAA Directed Energy Program Committee and member emeritus of the Plasmadynamics and Lasers Technical Committee.

Time

11:45 AM

Location

China Garden Buffet
112 Woodman Dr.
Dayton, OH 45431

Lunch

You will be able to
purchase the buffet

