

INSIDER TIPS TO KNOW



Giving Back to Your Community

Lt Col (ret) Scott Hente '75

Former Owner of Construction Company | Former President, Colorado Springs City Council

- Why should I get involved in a local Community when I may be there only a few years? One's commitment to serve isn't about just serving in the military. Local communities are desperately in need of smart and hard driving individuals who can assist in any number of ways. All too often, local communities mistakenly think that military members are transient and don't want to get involved - Prove Them Wrong!
- Should I wait until I retire or separate before I volunteer in the Community? Every community can benefit from the leadership skills and commitment to service you have learned at USAFA. Try different volunteer activities at different locations - you'll have a much better feel for what types of service you'd like to do once you do permanently settle in one place.
- What types of positions are available in a Community that I can volunteer for? The sky's the limit in terms of volunteer activities. And it's not just civic activities that are seeking volunteers - school boards have advisory groups, religious organizations and churches have different boards, local boys and girls athletic teams are always looking for good coaches (and you don't have to have kids!)
- I'm interested in politics, what about local elected positions? An elected position may prove to be problematic while you are still in uniform. My advice would be to speak with your local JAG office before venturing forth in this area. However, there are various Boards and Commissions you can serve on and it will give you a feel for local civic opportunities later in life.

