



NORTHERN ILLINOIS PARENTS CLUB

A publication for the 64 member families of the NIPC

Jan. / Feb. 2010

A club dedicated to the support of USAFA Cadets and their Parents
"Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence In All We Do"

OFFICERS:

Presidents:

George & Sandy Primm

Vice Presidenst:

Tom & Mary Kashul

Treasurers:

Bruce & Terri Lanphear

Secretarys:

Fred & Karen Bell

Past Presidents:

Joe & Pat Budzyn

Class Reps:

2010:

Michael & Austyne Bean
Nancy Greener-Parker

2011:

Robert & Jodie Ells

2012:

Chip & Carol Wilson
Bob & Wanda Glitz

2013:

Tom & Dottie Suhrhoff

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Nominee Brunch, February 14, 2010 ***At Itasca Country Club***

It does not seem like one year ago that we were preparing for the Class of 2013 Nominee Brunch. It is here and we have our first chance to help the Nominees and their families start to understand the challenges, opportunities and pride that comes with being a part of the United States Air Force Academy !! Class of 2013, here is your first opportunity to give to others what you received at your Nominee brunch.

This year's event is going to be excellent. To make sure it will be, we would like to have at least 19 NIPC family members attend. Based pm last year's attendance of 186 this will provide one experienced NIPC family at each of the estimated 19 tables. This will give the Class of 2014 families the opportunities to ask questions at each table. For many, this is will be the first and only chance to get their questions answered and make their decision. You need to be there to help with their journey to join the Long Blue Line.

The invitations have been sent to the Nominees and the email response and visits to the websites have been vey good. There are a few things that you as NIPC members need to know about the event.

- Once again, we will have Marty Marcolongo, aka "The Webguy", as our speaker. The exciting thing is that because it is Valentine's weekend, Marty is bringing his wife Renae !! Last year was the first time he had spoken at any Nominee brunch and he did an excellent job. He is really looking forward to this year's event and has made his arrangements. The Class of 2014 Nominees & parents have no idea the treat they are in for.
- If you would like to attend, please go the club's website, www.usafanipc.org and there you will find both the Invitation and the Response Card. You can either print the Response card from the website or use the one included with this newsletter.

NOMINEE BRUNCH CONT.

- We currently know of 2 4-digs who will be home for the 3-day Presidents Day weekend. If your Cadet will be home, or want an excuse to have them come home, please consider having them attend. Last year we did an outstanding job of having Cadets available to answer questions prior to and after the brunch as well as sitting at the tables. Let's do that again. If your Cadet will be attending, please let Tom & Mary Kashul know, 847-825-2876. We need a female cadet.
- If your cadet is coming home, make sure they complete the necessary paperwork ASAP, including the Triple-S (that's the form that assures that they can get off even if their Squad is restricted to the Hill for any reason).
- For any cadet attending, the *NIPC* will send a letter of commodation to their AOC (Air Officer Commanding) so that their efforts will be acknowledged and placed in their personnel file (that's always a good thing!).
- The program starts at 11am and the weather and bad travel can complicate our plans. There are some *NIPC* members coming from Central Illinois and they mentioned that they are looking for a place to stay Saturday night so they don't have to worry about travel and arrival time. Well, if you would like to begin the day just 1.5 miles and 3 minutes from the Itasca Country Club, the Hyatt Place is offering rooms at \$69 for Saturday night. There is a link on the club's website (www.usafanipc.org) but this rate includes rooms with 42" flat panel TV's, breakfast buffet, pool and exercise rooms and each room has separate sleeping and living areas.

Fares for flights to and from Denver remain reasonable. Flying into O'Hare can be as cheap as \$206 RT and Midway is as low as \$179 RT on Frontier and Southwest.

Please make it a habit to check the Club's website on a regular basis. There are many items posted and changes made constantly. It is your best source of information regarding the Nominee Brunch.

This is the *NIPC*'s first opportunity to be of service to the Class of 2014. When the Primm's attended the Nominee Brunch in 2007 we had the privilege of sitting with current *NIPC* members Mike & Linda Keane and Erin their daughter, who was a 4-dig at the time. She is now a Firstie and will be going to Undergraduate Pilot Training upon graduation. Don't sit on the sidelines, get involved. See you there.

- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 6th -

The March meeting is our Annual meeting where we elect the officers for 2010-2011 and make any changes to the By-Laws. While we have the date, as soon as we know the location and time, that information will be provided on the website, www.usafanipc.org and through emails.

We know of one recommended change to the By-Laws and that has to do with the quorum requirement for Board meetings to be official. Prior to the annual meeting in March, 2008, for a Board meeting to be official, the club needed a quorum of the Executive officers (Pres, VP, Treasurer, Secretary and Past President). At the March, 2008 annual meeting, the By-Laws were changed to include the Class Reps to make a quorum. That requirement has made it almost impossible to have a quorum for Board meetings and we must have 4 Board meetings each year. The Class Reps have been polled and they support this change. Believe us when we say this change will make things much easier.

- CHICAGO NITE AT USAFA, APRIL 17, 2010 -

Plans for our 3rd Annual Chicago Nite at USAFA are well underway. Arnold Hall has been reserved and we have experienced people who will make this a pleasant and easy event to do.

Once again, Dave & Janine Nyre (Erin, C3C, CS-15) will be driving out for the event. That will make it easier for us to get items out there. They are also helping with organizing the event. Once we get through the Nominee Brunch we'll concentrate more on this event, but for now we want to know who might be thinking of going so that the plans / job responsibilities can be filled; more in the March/April newsletter and the website. For those who have attended, many hands make it an easy event to do.

- 1). Consider helping at the event at USAFA. That would require you flying out to the event and being available to set-up the room, cook the food and clean-up. Many hands make light work of this task and it goes quickly. It was so worth all the effort with the reactions of the Cadets as they enjoyed a few hours of "Chicago" on the Hill.
- 2). Asking for monetary donations and Chicago related items such as sports caps, snack food for the room, Sports teams items, etc. If you have a contact at any of the Chicago sports teams please contact them. If you know a store that will donate those items, that will work also. You've already started so continue the efforts. Updates to come via the website, newsletter and emails.

If you need a Donation Letter on *NIPC* letterhead, please contact George Primm at gprimm@comcast.net or Tom Kashul at tkashul@comcast.net Also check the club's website as it will be posted there for you to print.

- 2010 / 2011 OFFICERS -

Officer elections are coming up at the March 6th meeting. All offices, except the Past President, need to be filled. If you are interested in the positions, please contact George & Sandy Primm and let us know. Our contact information is 630-305-9537. We'll also be contacting some members to ask them to consider. It is most helpful for members who have been in the club before to step forward and get involved. Experience helps !! That means any class reps can "step-up".

- 2010 ALL ACADEMY BALL, WE ARE IN-CHARGE -

On Monday, January 25, the USAFA Northern Illinois Parents Club begins our duty of organizing and hosting the 2010 All Academy Ball. This will happen at the Marriot Resort in Oak Brook at 7pm. Details on the website (www.usafanipc.org). Each year a different service academy hosts the Ball. For 2009 the Naval Academy Parents Club hosted and did an excellent job.

The main participants for the *NIPC* has been Terri Lanphear and Jeff Lutz. Terri will not be able to get too involved. That means we need many hands. Depending on what you want to do, helping may not take a lot of time, but the fact is the more we have helping, the easier it is. It cannot fall on a few people to do all the work. Please come to the Monday, January 25th meeting.

- ALL ACADEMY BALL RECAP -

The weather cooperated some by not snowing the day of the Ball and that helped the 414 attendees arrive for a special evening. The host Parents Club, the Naval Academy, did an excellent job and the starting time was perfect for completing dinner and getting home with plenty of time. The *NIPC* had 40 members in attendance, down from last year's 80. We did our best to represent USAFA. For those who could not attend, we surely wish you had. The night is special and Presentation of the Colors by each of the Academies Cadets / Midshipman is something to see.

ALL ACADEMY BALL CONT.



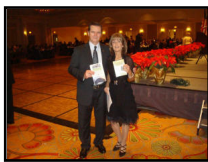
First, we must thank the Lanphear's and the Lutz's for representing the *NIPC* on the AAB Committee. They assisted in all aspects of the Ball and prepared the Hospitality Suite for the event. If you are not involved with the AAB you do not know the amount of work required. Thank you so much. We appreciate everything you did.



This year's attendance in the Hospitality Suite was very good. The suite was available at 3pm and from that time until 4:30pm many *NIPC* members enjoyed the food and company the suite provided. We even had some members of the Air National Guard Band of the Midwest - 366th Air Force Band join us.



Around 4:30pm we started moving down to the Ballroom, the Raffle tables and the Photo Memories



photography set-up. The auction went very well and the raffle was very good with prizes ranging from Lazer Tag, Helzberg's diamond necklace, to a week's stay at a condo in Naples, FL. The nice thing was that each raffle had it's own bowl, so if you wanted to put 25 tickets in the Naples, Florida raffle to increase your odds, you could. *NIPC* members did well



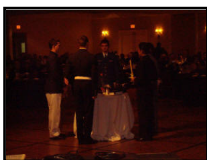
in the raffle, with at least 3 raffle winners, including Terri Lanphear winning the diamond necklace (that's Terri on right with the big smile!). On the left, Rowley's show the raffle they won; a tour of the Pritzker military museum.



At 4:45pm we had the welcome and 5pm the Presentation of the Colors. Representing USAFA as color guards were C4C Evan Rowley and C4C John Yang, Jr. They arrived early so they could practice with the other service academies and we want to thank them for doing that. The picture on the right is of Evan and John with the Air Force flag.



Following the Presentation of the Colors we had the Toast to the Colors, Toast to the President, Toast to the active duty service men and women and then the toasts for each of the five Service Academies. USAFA's Toastmaster was Lt. Col. (Ret.) John Michels, Jr. A 1977 Distinguished Graduate majoring in Soviet studies. He is pictured in the tux on the right with the Lanphear family. C2C Brendon Lanphear will be in Russia next summer. Lt. Col. Michels is a partner in Baker & McKenzie and with an office in Russia, Brendan already has a contact. Pays to attend the Ball !



After the toasts, a cadet from each academy participated in setting table places at the table of the [*Fallen / Missing in Action*](#). Each item on the table has a significance which is very neat. Each academy has a cadet that lays down their gloves and hat. It is something to see our future military leaders honor those who have gone before and given their all.



After this dinner started. After dinner the raffle prizes were awarded and the dancing started. It was a very enjoyable night. Next year it is the Air Force's turn to host the Ball. There will be much to do and many hands needed to get this done and represent USAFA in a manner befitting its reputation. Be prepared to get involved and help.

For many more pictures please go the club's website, www.usafanipc.org.

- USAFA WOMEN'S GYMNASITCS AT ILLINOIS STATE, JANUARY 24TH -

The women's gymnastics team of USAFA will be at Illinois State on Sunday, January 24th. The NIPC has been invited by the AFA to attend and support the cadets as they compete. Here is the message to the members:

"I am writing on behalf of the women's gymnastics team at the Air Force Academy. We have a meet on January 24, at 1pm in Normal, IL at Illinois State University, and I wanted to pass this information along to you so that you could help us get the word out and have some fans in the stands cheering for the blue and silver! Academy parents are always great supporters of any USAFA event, so I wanted to see if you could advertise this event for us in your area! You don't have to know anything about the sport, just cheer loud for our kids and I know they'd appreciate it! Thanks so much and we hope to see you in Normal !"

Nelle Barriteau

Assistant Coach

Air Force Academy Women's Gymnastics

- PRESIDENTS COLUMN -

Have you found that wearing USAFA apparel provides opportunities for some interesting conversations? The connections people have to the AFA are sometimes surprising and always interesting to hear. While at a car show a man in a wheelchair told me his son graduated in the 80's and how much he appreciates any young person who volunteers to serve their country. One of our daughter's classmates mother told us her brother graduated in the 90's. While at a personal residence in Big Rock, IL, the retired gentleman had his daughter's USAFA sword over the fireplace and let us know that she and her husband (also a USAFA grad) are in Germany on active duty. Recently, an email from a fellow Chevrolet enthusiast was received. He knew Joel was at the Academy and was motivated to send the following note:

"Regarding your son and the Air Force Academy. My wife and family have been there a number of times, the latest was for the funeral in 1997 for our cousin Capt. Amy Svoboda, who being one of 14 female fighter pilots was training for deployment to Kuwait and crashed her A10 in the desert on a night bombing mission. She was also the Captain of the Air Force Volleyball team and that took up a lot of her time so she fell behind in the training program and had to do double duty and it caught up with her. I congratulate your son and wish him the best. Charlie"

Charlie has been a friend for years, but his USAFA connection was new; a unique connection that prior to December was not known, but will now be a regular point of discussion. Doing a Google search revealed more information on Amy; from Glen Ellyn, one of a few women qualified for fighters and someone her fellow servicemen thought a lot of. Those who served in the military know the bonds formed. At the service academies those bonds start forming and get the cadets through four hard years of academic, mental and physical challenges.

The point? All of us now have the privilege of being connected to a highly regarded institution. We learn more everyday. Let's grow those connections and help others by attending the NIPC functions in 2010, starting with the Nominee Brunch. You will have the opportunity to help the Class of 2014 as they come with the excitement of nearing a goal, but nervous because they do not know what to expect. Please come and share your knowledge and passion.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 14** **Nominee Brunch**, Itasca Country Club. *Registration info on the website.*
- March 6** **Annual Membership** Meeting and Officers Elections. Location TBD.
- April 17** **Chicago Nite** at USAFA. We have it reserved and it's just repeating what we've done before.
- May 2** **Firstie Salute and General Meeting.** Location TBD.
- May 21** **Ring dance** for the Class of 2011.
- May 26** **Graduation** for the Class of 2012.
- June 6** **Appointee Banquet**, Monty's in Bensenville. Details to come.

Make it a regular habit to visit your club's website:

www.usafanipc.org

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