



# NORTHERN ILLINOIS PARENTS CLUB

A publication for the 49 member families of the NIPC

Jan. / Feb. 2011

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

## **OFFICERS:**

### **Presidents:**

*Tom & Mary Kashul*

### **Vice Presidents:**

*Elvin & Sara Harms*

### **Treasurers:**

*Mike & Ann Sambo*

### **Secretary's:**

*Tom & Dottie Suhrhoff*

### **Past Presidents:**

*George & Sandy Primm*

### **Class Reps:**

#### **2011:**

*Robert & Jodie Ells*

#### **2012:**

*Robert & Wanda Glitz,  
Chip & Carol Wilson*

#### **2013:**

*Curt & Barb Calderone*

#### **2014:**

*Mark & Randi Forest  
Len & Francis Johnson*

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## ***Nominee Brunch, February 13, 2011*** ***At Itasca Country Club***

We are preparing to begin our mission of assisting the Class of 2015 at the Nominee Brunch. The time is here and we have our first chance to help the Nominees and their families begin their understanding of the challenges, opportunities and pride that comes with being a part of the United States Air Force Academy !! Members, here is your opportunity to give assistance to others as you received at your Nominee brunch.

Last year we had approximately 174 attendees. With 10 people per table, we'll need at least 19 NIPC members there to be at the tables. Your attendance will help and this will allow one NIPC member at each of the estimated 19 tables. This year's event will continue to provide an excellent basis for the Nominee's and their families. You'd be surprised how many do not know what to expect. You need to be there to help with their journey to join the Long Blue Line.

The invitations are being sent to the Nominees as the information is received from the Congressional personnel. 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. This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that he has taken the time to help the Illinois Nominee's in their decision. He is really looking forward to this year's event and has made his arrangements. The Class of 2015 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](http://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 are in need of cadets for the Nominee brunch! If your Cadet will be home, or you want them home, here is a reason 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, 847-825-2874.
- 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 commendation 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!). Also, their ticket will be paid for, and Cadets always love great food.
- Registration 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 \$89 for Saturday night. There is a link on the club's website ([www.usafanipc.org](http://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. Call 630-875-1400 to make your reservation.

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 2015. Each one of us has benefited from this event. Don't sit on the sidelines, get involved. See you there.

### **- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 5th -**

The March meeting is our Annual meeting where we elect the officers for 2011-2012 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](http://www.usafanipc.org) and through emails.

### **- CHICAGO NITE AT USAFA, APRIL 9, 2011 -**

Plans for our 4th Annual Chicago Night at USAFA are underway. Arnold Hall has been reserved, sponsorships are being obtained and we have experienced people who will make this a pleasant and easy event.

- 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 enjoy 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.

## **CHICAGO NITE CONT.**

If you need a Donation Letter on *NIPC* letterhead, please contact Tom or Mary Kashul at 847-825-2876 or [tkashul@comcast.net](mailto:tkashul@comcast.net) Also check the club's website as it will be posted there for you to print.

Additionally, Karen Schastiek, *NIPC* member and the Central IL. Parents Club has made a special arrangements for accommodations for Chicago Nite. The note below is from the Hampton Inn and they want our business. This is an excellent deal.

***"I reserved a group block for 10 rooms (7 king rooms and 3 rooms with two queen beds) so far for the "Chicago Night" event. That really simplifies it for the guest making the reservations and our front desk staff. The rate is \$79.00/night and that includes our hot breakfast bar. If you think we need to add more rooms please let me know. Thank you Karen! I appreciate your time.***

***Kind Regards, Lauri Bumann***

Guest Relations Manager  
Hampton Inn & Suites AFA  
I-25 @ Interquest Parkway  
719.598.6911

### **- 2010 / 2011 OFFICERS -**

Officer elections are coming up at the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. All offices, except the Past President, need to be filled. If you are interested in the positions, please contact Tom & Mary Kashul and let them know. Our contact information is 847-825-2874. You might be getting a call to see if you would consider helping. The plan has been to get the younger classes involved early so that they can learn what is 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".

### **- ALL ACADEMY BALL RECAP -**

Every year the All Academy Ball is hosted by one of the 5 Service Academy parents club. This year it was the *NIPC's* turn. From all accounts, the reviews of the event are excellent and this is due to the leadership of the Lutz's and the Lanphear's (Co-chairs) and the many volunteers who



were involved. Attendance for the last few years has been decreasing and we didn't know what to expect, but this year there was 485 in attendance (up from about 350 last year). There were many variables to deal with; a new location, unknown attendance response, weather etc. The Lutz's, Lanphear's and the AF team had their work cut



out for them and they succeeded spectacularly!! All *NIPC* members owe all those who volunteered a sincere thank you for representing the Air Force in such an excellent manner. We changed hotels from the past years to the Westin / Lombard, and everyone involved was glad the change was made; they were very cooperative and accommodating. They appreciated our business.

Those who we'd like to specifically thank:

*The Lutz's, Lanphear's, Harms, Kashul's, Bells, Primm's, Carol Wilson, Karen Basek, Jamie Bennett and Karen Schastiek.*

Now, here is a recap of a wonderful evening.

This year included an all new venue, the Westin of Lombard and it seemed to work well as we had 485 in attendance. *The Air Force had 147 people in attendance* which is the highest we have had in years. Thank you for all who came out to enjoy this special evening.

## **ALL ACADEMY BALL CONT.**

The Hospitality room, Suite 1121, was open at 4pm and prior to 5:30pm we made our way down to the "Jr. Ballroom" where there were drinks, the raffle and silent auction items. There was food and drink, along with nice conversation. Raffle tickets were on sale and it was a Chinese raffle where you could put as many tickets into the bowl of the specific raffle item you wanted. It must be commented that the staff at the Westin moved the items from the Jr. Ballroom to the Main Ballroom very quickly. It seemed as they arrived in the Main Ballroom before we did. The Hospitality Suite was absolutely full. Rumors are that one or two other Service Academy's suites were not open, so their members came to ours. Glad we could help.



From the Suite we went to the Jr. Ballroom. Here are some pictures from that.



The Ballroom was set-up prior to the event. You could tell by the number of tables in the room that the attendance was much better than last year. The high ceilings really added a lot to the atmosphere and it was very convenient to move around.



Since the Air Force was in charge of the event, we provided the Master of Ceremonies, and that was handled expertly by Bruce Lanphear. Not only was he clear in his directions, he was also very punctual and keep everything moving right on time!! Excellent job, Bruce. Job well done. This is a picture of Bruce prior to the event starting.

Bruce started the evening with the welcome at 6:15pm. At 6:30pm we had the Presentation of Colors by several Cadets / Midshipmen. There are pictures of this on the website. It is really something to see these future leaders doing this.

Then one of the most memorable items of the evening, the setting of the table for the Fallen/Missing in Action Table. Each branch of the Service has a representative that sets a table for those Fallen / Missing that could not be in attendance.



Then dinner was served, the raffles were awarded and the silent auction item winners were announced. Then the Ball portion of the evening started. It was a great evening; AF was represented well with 148 in attendance. Overall, just under 500 which is significantly more than last year.

For many more pictures please go the club's website, [www.usafanipc.org](http://www.usafanipc.org).

### **- FIRSTIE SALUTE, MAY 1, 2011 -**

For the class of 2011, it is absolutely unbelievable that the USAFA journey is almost over. As last year all of the *NIPC* membership is invited to the Firstie Salute and Spring Meeting at the Itasca Country Club to honor the Cadets who are about to graduate and share the joy with their parents. It will be your time soon and you'll very much appreciate the company of your fellow members at this special event.

The Class of 2011 parents should be preparing to have the questionnaire completed, many pictures of your Cadet from baby through USAFA and the song of your Cadets choice to serve as their background while their pictures are shown. A video presentation will once again be prepared, played at the event and then each parent will get their copies. Keep updated by the visiting the website and email notifications. Let's use technology to make things easier.

**- PRESIDENTS MESSAGE -**

*Tom & Mary Kashul*

Happy New Year *NIPC*! Mary and I would like to thank everyone who took part in the All Academy Ball. Jeff and Lisa and Bruce & Terri did an outstanding job (Co Chairmen – Jeff & Terri). It was the best ball in years! You just raised the bar for the other service academies.

I don't know if all of you know how high Fred Bell raised the bar on the fundraising effort. A New AAB high! (Over \$11K in donations) Wow! How about that Hospitality Suite! Bruce & Terri are the King and Queen of hospitality! Elvin & Sara, Karen, Jamie, Karen, George & Sandy and Mary thank you.

Nice turn out *NIPC*. The last I heard the count was 147 attended in the name of USAFA. That's up 100 from last year! Way to go. It was fun too.

The New Year is upon us! Elvin, Sara, George, Sandy, Mary and I are working on the Nominee Brunch. We hope to have as great a turnout as last year. Mark you calendars for Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at Itasca Country Club.

In March we have our general membership meeting. We hope to have enough people attend to elect new officers. Volunteers for officer positions needed (that's how Mary and I, Elvin and Sara, Mike, and Ann, and Tom & Dottie got here). We are still deciding on a location so reserve March 5<sup>th</sup>. What do you think about Clow Airport? Elmhurst Sports Bar we met at for AF verses Army? My Church in Palatine? Send me an email with suggestions. I like the Clow Airport atmosphere.

Chicago Nite is April 9<sup>th</sup>. Look out for deals on Chicago Sports memorabilia. If you have any corporate sponsor contacts who might be interested in donations for Chicago Nite jump right in. We also have Recognition just before spring break, 100's Nite for Firstee's, Firstee Salute (this will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> year there). It is really a neat event, but it goes so fast. May 1<sup>st</sup>, Itasca CC, then Ring dance for the Juniors, then graduation. Lets gear up for the brunch and go from there! If you ever have any questions, call or send us an email.

***Nominee Brunch Response Card***  
***Please respond by February 5, 2011***  
*(please print)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ *(circle: Nominee, NIPC Member, ALO)*

Names of additional guests: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$32.00 each

Total check amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee ALO: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return response card with payment to:*  
**Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Harms 609 S. Forest Ave. Batavia, IL 60510**  
**Make check payable to: USAFA Northern Illinois Parents Club**  
*Nominee families, please write a question or two that  
you would like answered, on the back of this card.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 13**      **Nominee Brunch**, Itasca Country Club. Registration info on the website.
- March 5**      **Annual Membership Meeting and Officers Elections**. Location TBD.
- March 10-12** Recognition for Doolies
- March 18-27** Spring Break
- April 9**      **Chicago Night** at USAFA. We have it reserved and it's just repeating what we've done before.
- May 1**      **Firstie Salute and General Meeting**. Itasca Country Club.
- May 21**      **Ring dance** for the Class of 2012.
- May 25**      **Graduation** for the Class of 2011.
- June**      **Appointee Banquet**, Monty's in Bensenville. Details to come.

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

*[www.usafanipc.org](http://www.usafanipc.org)*

**USAFA-NIPC  
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