

USAFA Parents' Club of Metropolitan St. Louis
Minutes of August 9, 2009 General Membership Meeting

1. Al Ludwig called the meeting to order at 2:37pm at the home of Tom and Carolyn Petry in Wildwood, MO. The meeting was held in conjunction with the BCT/OP AF Picnic. Everyone participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. Al Ludwig gave the invocation.
2. Attendance:
Board Present: Presidents Al and Margo Ludwig
 Secretary/Treasurer Tom and Beth Tracy
 2010 Class Reps Kyle and Victoria McCarter
 2011 Class Rep Laura Kuensting
 2012 Class Reps Tom and Carolyn Petry
Committees: All Academies Ball Laura Kuensting
 Historian Cathy Shackelford
 Fundraising Coordinator Sara Wise
 Website Coordinator Dan Harrier
 Mug Sales Ann Ryherd
Absent: 2011 Class Rep Steve Kuensting
 Birthday cards Randy and Stephanie Lee
Club Members present: Bob & Louise Nation, Jim & Cindy Schneider, Doug & Sonia Mamroth, John Olejnik, Russ Hartz, Terry & Chris Zerr, Scott & Cindy Cusimano, Ann Ryherd, Sara Wise, Barbara Paddock, Dan & Lourdes Harrier, Terry & Janis Shetley, Jan & Beth Schaeuble, John & Anita Gleason, John Shackelford, Bill Wetzig.
3. New members introduced themselves – Cindy & Jim Schneider, John Olejnik, Russ Hartz, Terry & Chris Zerr, Bill Wetzig. Nametags and Cadet Parent Guides were distributed.
4. Minutes from the June 7, 2009 General Membership meeting were presented. Sara moved to approve the minutes; Cindy Cusimano seconded the motion. All present approved the minutes.
5. The Treasurer's Report was presented. The bank balance as of August 9, 2009 is \$16, 851.64. Copies of the Income/Expense Report and Treasurer's Report were provided and reviewed. Kyle McCarter moved to approve the report; Laura Kuensting seconded the motion. All present approved the report.
6. Class Rep reports: 2010 The McCarters treated the USAFA cadets doing Ops at Scott Air Force Base to a trip to Springfield, IL to tour the Capitol and to a delicious barbecue.
 2011 Laura Kuensting asked for a donation to the Junior Class Ring Dance. Last year, the club donated \$150. Beth Tracy made the motion to donate the same amount; Tom Petry seconded the motion. All present approved.
 2012 The Petry's welcomed all present to their home
 2013 Volunteers were solicited by Al Ludwig to become Class Reps for the newest group of cadets. Terry & Chris Zerr graciously filled this position.
7. Committee Reports:

- (a) All Academies Ball – Laura Kuensting, Co-Chair, presented the report in Cathy Shackelford’s absence. A General Officer Academy Graduate will be the speaker. It is anticipated that schedules will be known after Labor Day thus allowing the officer to commit to the date. The other difficulty in getting a speaker is the proximity of the Ball to Christmas. Multiple reminders will be sent to the Cadets to attend the Ball and to bring their dress uniforms home with them at Christmas Break. The first reminder will be enclosed in the Cadets’ Halloween boxes. Boeing has committed again to provide the wine glasses as mementos. Boeing has also contributed a cash gift, as in the past, to help defray costs of the event. Disney is most likely donating a cash amount to cover the cost of the 4 string quartet hired to play during the cocktail hour. In years past, Anheuser Busch has provided beer steins to the Cadets/Midshipmen as their gift. Since this is not possible, we are looking into alternative gift ideas. John Shackelford brought a commemorative coin (all services except the Merchant Marines are represented) from USAA. The problem with this gift is that USAA is asking for the names and addresses of all the recipients. Cindy Cusimano and Laura Kuensting also discussed giving a coin rack.
- (b) Historian – John Shackelford reiterated Cathy’s recent email that she is requesting pictures (sent by email or hard copy) for the scrapbook. Please include your Cadet’s name, class year, and describe the event in the photo.
- (c) Fundraising Coordinator – Sara Wise will be attending a meeting at Scottrade on Saturday, August 15th. The club is working at the American Idol event on August 29th; 15 people have signed up to work! Sara will let us know about requirements for alcohol awareness training, dress code, dates, etc. as she learns this information. It is important that everyone work at least one event. The club spends more on each cadet than what is covered by our dues. The Scottrade events are fun and a great way to get to know the other parents. If you are unable to work, you are strongly encouraged to send a donation to the Secy/Treasurer to help defray costs.
- (d) Website Coordinator – Dan Harrier presented an overview of the benefits of having a website. Our yearly cost is about \$100. No credit card transactions can occur on our site, but it is filled with photos, forms, links to other Parent Club fundraisers, etc. The email address is: www.usafpcstl.org. The Minutes of meetings and Treasurer’s reports are also on the web site. Dan discussed how to access the club Roster which is on a separate pdf file to protect our privacy.
- (e) Mug Sales – Ann Ryherd has been at work obtaining the crest and placing the initial order for 288 mugs which should be received by August 25th. Members attending Parents’ Weekend are asked to sign up for one hour shifts at our table in Arnold Hall where we have the opportunity to promote our class mugs and hand out order forms. We are not allowed to actually sell our product that weekend. We did sell ALL of the mugs we ordered for the Class of 2009! AOG will now be requesting 15% of our profit; this money goes to the graduating class to be used in the future for reunions, etc.
- (f) Birthday Cards – Randy and Stephanie Lee live in Columbia, MO and have taken on the job of sending our cadets cards to be received in their birth month. Check with your cadets to see if they have received one.

8. Old Business:
 - (a) T Shirts that had been ordered were distributed. The order form is on our website. If you would still like to order one, complete the form and send it to Tom and Beth Tracy.
 - (b) September Parents' Weekend at USAFA Sept. 5-7, 2009. The schedule is online. Our block of tickets is in L24. The game starts at noon; all the squadrons host a tailgate party before the game.
9. New Business:
 - (a) Donation – Richard and Sally Baudendistel, parents of three Academy graduates, donated an Academy saber given to them by their eldest son, a 1977 graduate. The Baudendistels are moving to a smaller residence and no longer have a place for it. The Club members present discussed using it in some fashion as a decoration at the All Academies Ball. Laura Kuensting took the saber for safe keeping.
 - (b) September Encouragement Gift – a gift is given to all of our cadets toward the end of September as they are getting ready for mid-terms. Keeping in mind that the Fourth Class Cadets have limited privileges, Beth Tracy motioned for \$15 AAFES gift cards. Carolyn Petry seconded the motion. All present approved. The Tracy's will order the gift cards and send them out.
 - (c) October Meeting – this will take place on October 18, 2009 at 1pm at the home of Kyle and Victoria McCarter. Invitations will be sent out by email. All are to bring candy/goodies for the Halloween treat boxes. Those who cannot attend are asked to send a monetary donation to the McCarters at least one week before the meeting so treats can be purchased in time for the meeting. If any club members will be driving out to the Academy between the 18th and Halloween and would be willing to drive the boxes out, please let the McCarters know. The club would save approximately \$600 in shipping costs.
 - (d) The January Meeting date and location have yet to be determined. Al Ludwig asked the new Class of 2013 reps (Terry and Chris Zerr) to plan this and they accepted this task.
 - (e) The March/Spring Meeting to recognize the graduates will take place in early to mid March so as not to conflict with Spring Break. Laura Kuensting will email parents of any First Class Cadets not present at today's meeting to ask their preference as to location. The event has been held at Our Lady of the Snows for a few years. This venue has been very accommodating and economical. Parents of graduates need to remember to start gathering photos of your son/daughter (from childhood to present) to send to Laura. A video/disc will be compiled and presented.
 - (f) Victoria McCarter told the club members about a website called "Products for Good." This site sells coins from Iraq. The proceeds go to families of fallen soldiers.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Tracy
(Secretary)