

**Minutes of the General Meeting of
The Southeast Texas Air Force Academy Parents Assoc.
Jan. 28, 2006
Events Center, 5800 Airline Drive, Houston, Texas**

Steve Vorhies, President, called the meeting to order. Steve then played a video clip from a recent CBS Morning News session about family views on military service. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and then recognized the Prep School parents, and parents of each of the Classes of the Academy and particularly recognized the support of the new members, Class of 2010. He also introduced the Air Force ALO Staff – Toby Zollers and Colonel Raymond Taylor.

Steve then recognized and thanked Steve and Carmen Collins for making the Events Center available for the meeting. A collection was passed to cover the Collin's maintenance and utility costs for the meeting.

Steve then invited parents of Class of 2008 to give a quick update on their cadets. Steve recognized the value of club contacts on cadet issues, and mentioned an example of the eyesight exams and alternative approaches to address possible issues.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last meeting were made available. Steve asked for any corrections, and none were noted. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and approved.

Draft minutes from this meeting will be posted on the website for review/comments prior to the next quarterly meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Louanne Reeves summarized the current financial situation of the Budget. There is a current balance, as of 1/28/07, of \$5749.99. Income is \$1228.00, including membership fees, raffle and Cortner Volunteer payment from ExxonMobil. There are still about twelve outstanding membership fees due, given the increase that was agreed in the August meeting to raise annual membership fees to \$35. Expenses of \$206.70 included Website fees, nametags, Laser Graphics and postage. Laser graphics, the Club's main fundraiser, has had a profit to date of \$234.47, which will be paid to the Rando Fund.

A raffle was held at the meeting for an AOG AF Christmas ornament. Ticket costs were \$1. Later, the tickets were drawn and the prize was awarded.

LASER GRAPHICS: Steve noted that Carol Murphy currently manages this fund-raising activity and is needing a successor. Interested volunteers are asked to speak with Carol about the role and duties. A volunteer will be solicited at the spring meeting, if not identified earlier. Steve noted that the items make wonderful cadet or sponsor or family gifts and can be ordered from the website at: www.setxafapa.org. It may be possible to increase the advertising of this item around Parent's weekend, graduation and the holidays.

MILITARY BALL: Steve Voorhees commented on the Ball and our club's continued support of the event. Army will be the host of the Ball in 2007, and planning begins in a month, or so. AF will host the ball again in Dec. 2008. This will require support from the classes of '09/'10 and beyond. Steve recognized some of the key planning committee members from the past host team, and noted their significant efforts and accomplishments for the 2005 Ball.

He then introduced Madonna Boyd, SETXAFAPA rep on the Navy Military Ball Planning Committee, to updated everyone on the Dec. 26 Military Ball and the role of the Ball Coordinator (eg, fundraiser, membership names for invitations, organizing volunteers, etc). Madonna again recognized the past AF planning committee and what a wonderful team and experience it was, and would be for future members. Madonna described the beautiful 8 inch bowl with laser engraving of the Academy crest that is being sold as a fund-raiser for the Military Ball. The cost is \$25, and makes a lovely and useful sponsor, family or cadet

memento. Madonna thanked the volunteers that worked check-in and photo organization at the December Ball. Some photos from the event were available for families to obtain orders/copies, if desired.

FamNet: Steve commented on a recent topic of Honor Roll on the FamNet. He stated his views and experience that, realistically, once a cadet graduates from the Academy and goes to their first posting, the class position, GPA and Honor Roll standing is generally not relevant (unless pursuing a Master's degree).

Chaplain's Fund: Emily Ritter discussed a funding opportunity to support the Chaplain's Fund, which does Bible Study, and Ski Retreat Weekends and Fellowship (non-denominational) and supports approximately 400 cadets. 200 cadets were denied the opportunity to participate on a retreat due to lack of funds. The funding source is usually contributions from visitors to the Chapel, but since 9/11, the access to the Chapel has been restricted, so private donations are being solicited. Donations can be sent to Emily Ritter, or directly to USAFA Chaplain's Fund, c/o Captain James Armstrong. You will want to denote your contribution is coming from a SETXAFAPA member. Emily has personally collected over \$3000 from her efforts with her congregation, etc..

PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING PLANS:

The spring meeting will be held May 6 at the Events Center. The plan will be to honor and bid farewell to 2007 graduate families, and to have the change of officers. Steve Vorhies also promised a special topic for the graduating families. Class of 2011 families will also be invited. A meal will be arranged, and Louanne Reeves will once again provide the graduation cake. Class Coordinators will need to make contact with their class members to remind them of the meeting to make plans to attend this very special event.

Steve requested the **Class of 2007 parents email him by March 1 (stevvor@aol.com), at least 5 photos of their cadet and themselves.** At least one should be of the parents with their cadet. The cadet photos can be at any age (eg, baby photos, high school, etc..)

Steve stated that **biographical information is needed on the graduating cadets for the Graduation brochure** (eg, cadet's major, minor, special recognition, squadron, etc..). **Karen Long will be requesting this via the web site.** A volunteer was identified to assist Steve with the computer presentation for the Spring meeting.

Steve recognized the officers for organizing the meeting. He also recognized Frank Buehner (not present), Webmaster, for his fine efforts to maintain the club website. Frank's email address is: webmaster06@setxafapa.org

UPT BRIEFING: Steve Vorhies did a presentation and overview of the Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training program (SUPT). For cadets interested in becoming a pilot, the UPT slots may take up to 1 yr to be assigned given limited resources. (The 10 year AF commitment starts once the wings are pinned on.) The presentation included information on training locations, and an overview of the 3 Phase program over the 52 week period.

Locations of training are: Laughlin AFB, Del Rio, Tx.; Columbus AFB, Columbus, Miss.; Vance AFB, Enid, OK; Sheppard AFB, Wichita Falls, Tx; and Pensacola, Fla..

Phase I training takes 6 weeks, and is Ground School and Academics. Phase II is T-6 Flight Training, and Phase III, where cadets are split into their flight tracks, such as T-1 (Airlift/tanker/transport track), T-38 (Fighter/Bomber track – typically for the top 5 or 6 of the class), T-44 (C-130 track) and UH-1(Helicopter) training. Steve covered some of the training techniques including the level of hazing for the cadets.

Academics are tough, and count for 10% of the class standing. The check ride scores count for 60+%, and the Flight Commander/IP rating counts for 20%.

Steve emphasized the competitiveness and stress of the program, the teamwork required, and the importance of maintaining a good attitude and physical fitness.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – 2007/8 OFFICER NOMINATION: Sandy Carp, head of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of 2007/8 Club Officers for member voting.

Wes and Emily Ritter (Zack, '10), as Administrative Vice President in charge of organizing the meetings;
Karen and Richard Long (Andrew, '09), as the Communications Vice Presidents in charge of the membership roster, emails, newsletters, and freshman recognition gifts;
Frank Buehner (Michelle, '08) as Webmaster;
Dody Cortner (Ryan, '08) as Secretary;
Louanne Reeves (Cale, '08) as Treasurer;
Steve and Brenda Voorhees (Drew, '09) as Presidents. Brenda is a Klein elementary school teacher, and Steve is a former Air Force pilot (C-130's), now with American Airlines.

A motion was made to vote for the above officer slate, and was seconded and approved. The elected officers will assume/continue duties at the 2007 Spring meeting.

Steve acknowledged and thanked Bruce and Elizabeth May for their outstanding efforts as the current Administrative Vice Presidents.

MEMBERSHIP: Steve will forward to the officers new 2011 cadet appointment information when received, in order to identify them for membership.

A volunteer for Mentor Mom for Class of 2011 will be solicited at the Spring meeting.

Karen Long will email the current roster and contact information to the paid members of the Club.

ADJOURNMENT: Steve Vorhies summarized the meeting and thanked everyone, again, for such great attendance in support of our Cadets. He reminded everyone of the plans for the May 6 meeting. He also reminded everyone to drive safely getting home. He thanked the Collins' for making their facility available for the meeting and presented the donation. The meeting was then adjourned.