

From: Gutierrez, Barbara L CIV USAF USAFA USAFA/CMA
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2010 10:52 AM
Subject: 2012 Spirit Mission

Dear USAFA folks,

Just a friendly note to let you know that the 2012 Parents "Spirit Mission" Committee continues to work to support the 2012 milestones ... If you're already aware of our current Commitment memento, please skip ahead to the Financial Status.

BACKGROUND

There comes a time in a cadet's Academy career when an important milestone approaches that is a watershed moment, one that will profoundly impact her/his life ... forever. This event for the Class of 2012 is Commitment. At this juncture, some will turn aside from the journey and leave the Academy to continue their education at civilian institutions, sometimes with ROTC where the commission is earned through a completely different experience. Still others may leave to pursue humanitarian missions, and perhaps rejoin USAFA with a later cadet class. And some simply attend dinner at Mitch's -- the same night that the doolies celebrate Acceptance Day. This seemingly innocuous evening meal will mark the 2012 cadet's weighty decision to stay the course. This is the night that they stand with their brethren to continue "The Long Blue Line".

TRADITION

Following a tradition carved out by the parents of previous classes to mark Commitment, the Class of 2012 parents will present an heirloom quality memento for our cadets: a coin key ring. Not only a symbol of their commitment to continue their military education, it is a reminder that they have earned the privilege to own a car. In keeping with our milestone traditions, the coin key ring will have on its face (with the AOG's permission) the 2012 class crest. The obverse will bear the Commitment date, 4 August 2010 (not the changeable grad date) along with the 2012 exemplar's signature, 5 star General Henry "Hap" Arnold and a famous quote, "Offense is the essence of air power". See sample <http://www.ottusch.com/images/2012commitment.JPG>

FINANCIAL STATUS

The 2012 Parents' Committee wants to let you know that your past generosity has enabled every 2012 cadet to receive a milestone memento. You have been so bighearted that we have raised \$21.1K (as of 30 April 2010). To date, we have spent \$10.6K (Recognition, Cadet Wing-wide gift, Exemplar, and the Rando Fund). Our current balance is \$10.5K. See the financial report at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/usafa2012parents/>.

COMMITMENT

The date is Wednesday, 4 August 2010. The Commitment milestone memento will use roughly half of our remaining funds, \$5.1K out of \$10.5K. While many of us have already donated towards the past milestones of Recognition and Exemplar, the Commitment milestone represents a solemn pledge by our sons and daughters to continue along the path they started nearly two years ago. Many parents are giving again, and any amount that you feel comfortable donating will help towards including all of our 2012 cadets. Your donations will be used exclusively for our cadets, less very small banking fees, as our efforts are 100% volunteer.

RING DANCE

The date is traditionally a few weeks before Grad Day. After Commitment, the Ring Dance and Graduation Day are the next momentous milestones for the Class of 2012. The Ring Dance is a huge gala that the Class of 2012 will organize. Some of you may have received a message about the Ring Dance from the Southeast Pennsylvania Parents' Club. We appreciate their efforts on behalf of our 2012 cadets on the 2012 Ring Dance Committee. Your 2012 Parents' Committee has alerted the Ring Dance CIC, C3C Katie Dials, that -- as originally planned -- we will donate the balance of the 2012 parents' funds to the 2012 Ring Dance Committee. While the Ring Dance is a long ways off, the 2012 Ring Dance Committee must make some financial outlays sooner rather than later for advance reservations. This

means our 2012 effort to fundraise for the 2012 Ring Dance will run concurrently with our Commitment drive. Every bit helps, so please send in your donation.

HOW TO DONATE

- ONLINE: visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/usafa2012parents/>, click DONATE.
- MAIL: make checks payable to
USAFA Class of 2012 Parents
c/o Sheri Bear
463 N. Maple St.
Mesa, AZ 85205

One new 2012 dad a few weeks back said that he knew nothing about our 2012 parents' effort. His son had left the Academy for a religious mission and returned after a year. He would normally be with the Class of 2011, but we're lucky to have him instead. He donated and later emailed us, "I'm glad to help out. I want to be a part of this for my son. He's worked hard to be where he is." We on the 2012 Parents "Spirit Mission" Committee agree. Our cadets have worked very hard towards getting into the Academy and staying. We hear how difficult and challenging the Academy is from our sons or daughters. Along with you, we are exceedingly proud of every one of them. Please help us commemorate their Academy efforts and Commitment by donating today to the 2012 Commitment/2012 Ring Dance. We look forward to hearing from you!

Regards,

2012 Parents Committee
Tammi Bateman, Sheri Bear, Rise Foster-Bruder, Connie Fischer,
Nancy Lambuth, Sally Misare, Chalice Radakovich, Delores Street,
Sonia Ottusch, LtCol (ret) Paul vanden Dries (in memoriam), Wendi Wallerstein

//SIGNED//

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