

2010/11 Important Dates for USAFA and GA Parent's Club

USAFA Academic Calendar Link: <http://www.usafa.af.mil/index.cfm?catname=AFA%20Homepage>

Hail & Farewell:	16 May 10
Governor's Send-off for Military Academy Appointees:	TBA June 10
Basics Travel to Colorado Springs:	23 June 10
Class of 2014 In-processes:	24 June 10
Swearing-In Ceremony:	25 June 10 @ 0830
Field Day (basics):	9 July 10
Doolie Day Out (basics call home):	10 July 10
Doolie Day Out Picnic:	11 July 10
March to Jacks Valley:	12 July 10
Warrior March out of Jacks Valley:	24 July 09
BCT Complete:	31 July 10 @ Taps
Acceptance Day Parade:	4 Aug 10 tentative
Parents Weekend:	3 Sept – 6 Sept 10
Tailgate & Football (USAFA vs. ?):	4 Sept 10 (game @ 1200)
AF/Navy Game	2 Oct 10 tentative
AF/Army Game	6 Nov 10 tentative
Thanksgiving break:	23 Nov (after LMD) – 29 Nov 10
Exam Cookie Packing Party:	4 Dec 10
Winter Finals Week:	11 - 16 Dec 10
Christmas Break:	17 Dec 09 – 3 Jan 10
Military Ball:	TBA - Dec 10
Cadets return to USAFA:	3 Jan 11 (check-in before 1900)
100's Night	11 Feb 11
Recognition:	10 - 12 March 11
Spring Break:	19 – 28 March 11
Spring Finals Week:	10 – 14 May 11
Graduation - Class of 2011:	25 May 11
Class of 2015 I-day:	23 June 11

Club Activities and Meetings

Due to large size of Georgia and Cadets from all over that state, Parent's Club events are limited to several special events each year. Most events are in the Atlanta metro area so that the largest number of parents will have reasonable drive times to events. Much of the information about cadet life and academy events is distributed to parents via e-mails so that parents in all parts of the state receive this valuable information. The events are fun and informal. Expect to have many discussions about the "Doolie" year, BEAST, academics, Recognition, cadet summer activities, communications, travel, graduation, career expectations, etc. Our major activities include:

June **Hail and Farewell** - This event offers the Parents Club the opportunity to "Hail" the new Appointees and their parents. Appointees and parents have the opportunity to meet and ask questions of upper-class parents. It is also the time that we bid "Farewell" to the parents of graduating Cadets, ("Firsties"). The event includes a catered meal and a speaker from the Air Force Academy. Information on location and time is sent via email and posted on the club website.

July **Doolie Day Out Picnic** – A casual, covered dish luncheon held on the Saturday before Doolie Day Out (DDO) to bring together "Doolie" (freshman/four degree) and upper-class parents. Advice about letters from the basic cadets (or lack thereof!), expectations for the next round of training in Jack's Valley, and the anxiously awaited phone call on the day that marks the halfway point of Basic Cadet Training (BCT, or "Beast") is offered. This call is the only conversation with family that the basic is permitted during BCT. DDO is a Big Day for the Basics and their parents; at the picnic the parents of upper-class cadets share their past experiences of BCT with the new basic parents.

The location is generally a park in metro Atlanta and is posted on the website. The club provides hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages. Bring salads, deserts, and snack food for the potluck. Often Georgia cadets who are on leave may attend and tell stories about cadet life, summer activities and their visits to Air Force Bases. This is a great opportunity to meet some of the parents that you'll get to know over the next 4 years, and to ask questions of the parents who have already have experience as Academy parents. A great way to get prepared for that exciting first call home on Doolie Day Out!

August **Parents Weekend at the USAFA** – Labor Day weekend at USAFA is a "highly recommended to attend" event, even it means taking a second mortgage on the house! Parents Weekend (PW) marks a family's first official opportunity to see their new Cadet Fourth Class (C4C) following the completion of BCT and beginning of the school year. This is a huge weekend in Colorado Springs, so we suggest you make hotel reservations as soon as possible as hotels fill up quickly. Planned activities include attending class with your cadet (Friday), watching a parade and checking out USAFA sites. If the parents of any 4 degree cadet cannot attend, they should arrange for someone to be foster parents for their cadet. Ask club members for help. Many parents attend the weekend all four years.

<http://www.usafa.af.mil/superintendent/parentsweekend/?catname=Parents%20Weekend>

Football Game Tailgate – Some years, the opening football game for the USAFA "Fighting Falcons" is a scheduled home game for this weekend. USAFAGAPC provides a Tailgate with Chick-fil-A biscuits before the game that Georgia cadets and their parents can attend. Because your cadet will generally want to "get the heck away from the Academy" after the game, this is a pre-game tailgate. This is a great chance for our cadets and their parents to get together and spend some time getting to know each other.

- Oct/Nov** **Service Academy Football Games** – As the rivalry between the service academies is intense on the playing field, we get together with the other academy Parent Club to share an afternoon of companionship and fun as we root for our favorite team – GO FALCONS! The Navy game is generally held the first weekend in Oct and the Army game is generally the first weekend in Nov. The game rotates between the academies each year for home field advantage. Our clubs meet at a local sport bar in the Atlanta area to watch the game.
- December** **Christmas Finals Cookie Box Packing Party** – Parents Club members get together at a Club member's home on the Saturday morning before final exams to stuff goodie bags with homemade treats baked and donated by parents. Goodie bags are delivered to all Georgia cadets at the Academy the following day. The host family supplies chili and all parents bring a covered dish or dessert and drinks to share with the group. After we stuff goodie bags and ourselves, the Club conducts a short general meeting. This is a fun time to catch up on our cadets and count the days until they are home for the holidays!
- December** **All Academies Military Ball** – A formal military ball is held between Christmas and New Years at an Atlanta area hotel. Cadets and midshipmen from all five academies are invited to attend. This fun formal event with dinner and dancing is open to family and friends. Cadets and midshipmen wear their mess dress (formal) uniforms to escort their dates for a formal processional prior to dinner. The Ball is hosted by the parent's club from one of the three big academies: Army, Naval or Air Force with hosting duties rotated every three years. The Air Force Academy Club is next scheduled to host the ball in 2009. This formal event should be attended at least once in the four years that your cadet attends the academy. It is great fun for the cadets, midshipmen, their dates and their family.
- February** **Annual Club Business Meeting** - Annual business meeting with potluck lunch is held at various locations around metro Atlanta each year. The meeting gives parents another chance to get together to socialize and talk about one of their favorite topics "their cadet" as well as get club business and events for the upcoming year organized. All members are encouraged to attend to help our club continue to grow and provide support to our cadets and the new families that will become part of the USAFA family.
- May** **Spring Finals Exam Week Pizza Coupons** – Coupons for Free Pizza are mailed to all Georgia Cadets whose parents are members of the club. All details are handled by the club officers so no work for club members and your cadet gets to enjoy pizza during the busy finals week.

Membership:

Membership is open to cadet parents, liaison officers, parents of graduates, academy graduates and other persons interested in promoting the Air Force Academy in Georgia.

To join: Please complete the included Membership Form and mail along with the fee to the club secretary. The Georgia Parents Club Website is: <http://www.usafagapc.org>

Benefits of Georgia Parents' Club Membership

For Parents:

- Valuable source of information about USAFA and Cadet Life
- Hail & Farewell to recognize your child's appointment to USAFA
- Opportunity to develop friendships with other USAFA parents
- Doolie Day Out Picnic to learn about the "Beast"
- Comradeship with Parents who have similar goals for their children
- Parents Weekend Football Tailgate Party
- Military Ball for formal family fun
- Lifetime relationships with other military families
- Hail & Farewell to celebrate your cadet's graduation
- Sharing Pride in our children's commitment to serve our nation

For Cadets:

- Hail & Farewell to honor the hard work it took to earn an appointment
- Opportunity to meet other Georgia cadets in your class
- Doolie Day Out Picnic gave your parents so much information that they do not ask so many dumb questions when you call them on DDO to talk about BCT so far
- Parents Weekend Football Tailgate Party with Chick-Fil-A biscuits
- Homemade Cookies and Goodies for fall semester exam week
- Military Ball to attend with date and family
- Pizza Coupon for spring semester exams (for club member cadets only)
- Flag flown over the Capital to celebrate Graduation (for club member cadets only)
- Silver dollar coins for Graduation & Commissioning (for club member cadets only)

Current Club Officers for 2010/11

Barbara & Phil Greenway (2011)

Co-President

lagniappelabs1@yahoo.com

Naoko & Rick Voight (2012)

Co-Presidents

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Norma Dutton (2011)

Secretary

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Larry Adams (2012)

Treasurer

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