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| usafmn-logo |  **November 7th, 2015**  **10 A.M.** **Apple Valley American Legion**  **Meeting Minutes**  |
| **Meeting called to order at 10 a.m.** **by Terry Field** |  |

**Attendance**

Class of 2016: Terry Field (Shannon), Sue Jantcher (Will), Sandy Zigler (Rachel)

Class of 2017: John and Liisa Holm (Eric), Jeff and Jill Foss (Nathan)

Class of 2018: John and Kathy Orner (Jake), Shellie Tryon (Tara), Missy Lecy (Erik)

Class of 2019: Linda Boyd (Hannah), Sue Jantcher (Ted), Linda Mohagen (Tristyn),

 Brett and Suzanne Wharton (Kylie),

**Call to Order**

Terry thanked those present for attending, and all present stood for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Reports & Business Items:**

**Treasurer’s Report** Terry Field reporting forJeanne Mikulski, Treasurer.

were distributed at the meeting.

Copies of the Year to Date Financial Report, 9/1/2015 through 11/05/2015, were distributed at the meeting. The beginning treasury balance was $14,891.14. The inflow was $789.00, the outflow was $653.35. The ending balance was $15,026.79

**Secretary Report** Liisa Holm The October Minutes were available this month for member review on our Facebook page and website. Additionally, copies of the October minutes were made available to review at the meeting. A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes.

**Vote on Rando Fund donation** Terry Field

The Rando Cadet Humanitarian Fund was established in 1997 as a national fundraising effort to provide need-based financial support to cadets to travel home in times of family emergency. In 2012 the Rando Fund became an affiliate of the USAF Academy Endowment.

Terry distributed a Rando Fund description from which the following is excerpted: “Cadets with a financial need are granted all or part of their travel expenses. Additionally, the fund is used to cover travel expenses for a cadet honor guard in the event of a fellow cadet’s passing. Those funds are a “gift” made possible by the Fund’s donors. Those donors are cadet families, cadet friends, AFA graduates, and the many cadet parent organizations from across the country. Determinations as to the necessity for a cadet to travel home as well as the assessment of a cadet’s financial need is made by the Cadet Chaplain’s Office in conjunction with the cadet’s AOC and the Commandant’s Office.”

Historically, our club has donated $500 annually to the Rando fund, but for the past two years a record of this donation cannot be found. To prevent this oversight from occurring again, a motion was made and passed to approve a standing annual donation of $500 to the Rando Fund.

**ALO Report** **(upcoming class of 2020)**

Major Bill Fields

Major Fields is the ALO for 43 schools. Woodbury has the most applicants of his schools.

The applications of 134 Minnesota candidates to USAFA are now being processed, of which, 25% are female.

Congressional interviews are 11/21/15.

There are 83 ROTC applicants.

Non-military volunteers may help with the interview process of applicants through the “Prop and Wings Program”.

**Guest Speaker**

**ALO Major Bill Fields presentation on “The USAFA Experience and Beyond”**

Major Bill Fields gave an overview of his experience as a cadet at USAFA and as an officer pilot after graduating. A lengthy Q & A followed his talk.

He described the way cadets “grow up” through discipline, schedule challenges, training and cadet “shared knowledge and responsibilities”. Cadets must manage groups and projects as part of their “survival” at the Academy, progressively building confidence and leadership skills.

Interested in pursuing a medical field when entering the Academy, he became interested in flying through the soaring program. Major Fields graduated from the USAF Academy in 1999. After getting a pilot slot, he went through pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas.

As an Air Force pilot, Major Fields flew the C-21 Lear Jet and the C-17 cargo aircraft. Post 911, he had deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. During ten years of active duty, Major Fields was based in Alabama, Washington and Mississippi before leaving active duty and joining the Minnesota Air National Guard. Major Fields works for RBC and is married and the father of four children, ages 3 to 13.

 Our sincere thanks to Major Fields for addressing the Parents Club and answering so many parent questions!

**Upcoming Cookie Packing Logistics** Terry Field

Cadet Cookie Packing Event December 5th, 2015 @ 7:30 am Apple Valley American Legion Post

Specifics for the event were detailed in the handout provided by Terry. This event starts early. Please arrive by 7:30 am. Come prepared with 144 individually wrapped tasty or fun items to include in each 10”x6”x6” cadet box. Ideas are homemade cookies or candies, nuts, beef jerky, snack mix, hot chocolate, granola bars, Chap Stick, gum, etc. etc.

The items we bring are placed on long tables which surround the room. In assembly line fashion, you will pack your own cadet’s box first (you can personalize it with a card, photo, gift certificate, etc.), packing it with items as you circle the tables. Then take your cadet’s labeled box to be sealed and sorted into cartons by squad number. Return to the assembly line to continue packing other cadet and dignitary boxes until all have been filled.

It’s a fast paced and fun event! **Please arrive on time.**

All Minnesota cadets receive a cookie box, so if you are not able to join us, but would like to help offset the shipping costs, donations will be gladly accepted. **Please make checks payable to USAFA Parents Club MN:** Jeanne Mikulski Treasurer – USAFA MN PC 12827 Edinborough Way Apple Valley, MN 55124

The boxes will be flown out the same day via Delta Cargo to DIA, where they are received and distributed at USAFA by volunteer Minnesota Firstie Cadets by Sunday, December 6th.

A signup sheet to help with a variety of jobs on the morning of December 5th was available at the meeting. If you would like to help, please email Terry Field at terryfield@me.com to find out how.

An important piece of keeping our costs down is to connect with an Academy parent who is employed by Delta, and can assist us in receiving the employee discount on the cargo shipment. Those who have helped in the past have graduated their cadets, so a new source is needed this year. Linda Boyd (Hannah 2019) stated her husband, Dean Spoon, a Delta pilot may be able to assist us. Terry will follow up with them.

**Parents Night Out (PNO)** Missy Lecy This is an opportunity for parents to get together casually over dinner at various restaurants usually every month. An RSVP to mlecy77@gmail.com is helpful but not necessary. Please put “PNO” in the subject line.

The November PNO was held on Thursday 11/12 at Glockenspiel in St. Paul.

**All Academy Ball Update** Terry Field reporting for Jan McAllister

Wayzata Country Club 12/26/15 @ 5 pm Dinner-Dance-Casino $60 parents/guests Formal dress (cocktail and suit/tie) $30 cadets Uniform or Mess Dress Invitations will be mailed soon.

Our club makes an annual donation of $500 to the All Academy Ball. AF Logo item donations are needed for the raffle and auction. Please contact Jan McAllister – jan.mcallister14@gmail.com

**Spring Banquet Update** Shelly Tryon/ Terry Field

Jeanne Mikulski and Shelly Tryon are our Spring Banquet Committee point people, and Tom Wilson is the President of the Association of Graduates, or AOG.

This years’ banquet, by mutual agreement, will be a collaborative effort between our MN USAFA Parents Club, and the AOG. The AOG Founder’s Day Dinner coincides with the timing of our Spring Banquet. It will be held on 4/30/16. The location is tentatively scheduled for the Olympic Hills Country Club, but another venue is being considered if the attendance for the combined event warrants it. The Marriott or Radisson Blue at the MOA are possible sites. A decision must be made by the end of January.

We are hoping to have General Michelle Johnson as this years’ speaker at the combined event. We intend to enclose an invitation asking for this honor in the Cookie Box General Johnson will receive from our Parents Club on December 6th.

Missy Lecy distributed letters for our members to use in soliciting donations for the Silent Auction and Raffle. Please email Missy when you’ve acquired a donation and she will arrange a pickup time. mlecy77@gmail.com

Sherry and Jill will also post the letter on our website and Facebook page.

**Cadet Sharing** by the 11 families present

**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

**December 5th** Cookie Packing Event – arrive at 7:30 AM Apple Valley American Legion, 14521 Granada Drive, Apple Valley, MN 55124

**December 26th** All Academy Ball – Wayzata Country Club – 5 PM

**February 6th, 2016 – 10 AM** – Club Meeting

 Apple Valley American Legion, 14521 Granada Drive, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Minutes taken by Liisa Holm