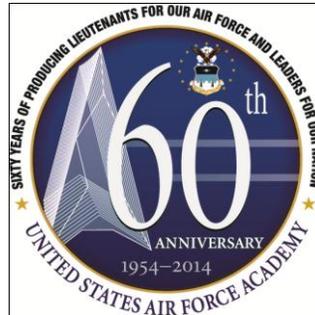


FALCON FAMILY NEWS

January 2014



Get the latest happenings on USAFA Facebook



Watch the newest videos on your Academy Youtube channel



Follow us on Twitter for random USAFA news and facts



iTunes



Android

Do you have an iTunes or Android enabled device? Scan the QR codes above with your barcode scanner to download the new Air Force Academy App. Get the latest Academy news, photos, videos, and more.

You can also access free photos on USAFA WEBSITE:

<http://www.usafa.edu/cadetFocus/cadetPhotos/index.cfm> Just select your cadet's class year!

CLASS STATISTICS (as of 31 December 2013)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2013	2	0	2
2014	785	240	1025
2015	695	188	883

2016	693	188	881
2017	869	262	1131
WING	3044	878	3922

- ❖ These numbers include international students.
- ❖ Note: 5 Dec grads from CL13 and one turn-back.

Happy New Year to all! I hope you all enjoyed the brief time you had with your cadets over the break. The "Dark Ages" (I think they still use that term) have set in, but your Academy and your cadets are back at work and looking forward to another great semester leading up to the graduation of the Class of 2014! I know for all the parents of those "almost 2nd Lts" you are wondering where the last four years have gone. Probably seems like just yesterday that you were here for Parent's Weekend. The speaker for this year's graduation is being finalized in Washington, and we are dusting off our plans for the many activities surrounding graduation. It's always a special time of year as we proudly watch "cadets" move across the stage to become the newest members of our great Air Force. Thank you, as always, for your support to the Academy and to your Parent's Club.

Brian Binn, '72
Chief, Development and Alumni Programs

THIS MONTH IN AIR FORCE ACADEMY HISTORY—HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY—1 APRIL

In preparation for this year's 60th anniversary of the Academy's founding, we are compiling a listing of significant events and dates for a "This Month in Air Force Academy History" feature. Throughout this year we will put interesting facts about the Air Force Academy to share with parents.

1 January 1956 -- Buck Shaw is hired as the Academy's first football head coach. He coached at Air Force for two seasons. He also coached in the National Football League. He was the San Francisco 49ers first head coach, and also coached the Philadelphia Eagles. The Director of Athletics, Colonel Robert V. Whitlow, coached the Air Force team during the inaugural 1955 season.

1 January 1979 -- The Cadet Drum and Bugle Corps marches in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California.

5 January 1959 -- The Academy Library is officially dedicated.

8 January 1968 -- Flight Training takes place at the Air Force Academy for the first time with the maiden flight of the Cessna T-41C.

12 January 1978 -- Entertainer and humanitarian Bob Hope is presented the 1977 Thomas D. White Award. The award, established in 1962, is presented annually to a U.S. citizen who has contributed significantly to the national defense of the United States.

13 January 1993 -- Susan Helms, Class of '80, becomes the first female Air Force Academy graduate to fly in space, as a member of the Endeavor crew on mission STS-54.

21 January 1957 -- The Cadet Wing and Air Force Academy Band march in President Dwight Eisenhower's second inauguration in Washington D.C. The 20th Amendment to the Constitution set 20 January as the official inaugural date but, because 20 January 1957 fell on a Sunday, President Eisenhower moved the public events to the following day.

31 January 1993 -- Chad Hennings, Class of '88, wins the first of his three Super Bowl Championship rings with the Dallas Cowboys.

UPCOMING DATES 2014:

24 Feb 14	Majors Night (2017, 2016 Mandatory, 2014/2015 optional (1800 – 2000))
13 – 15 Mar 14	Recognition
21 – 30 Mar 14	Spring Break LMD. Cadet Wing returns 1900 hours on 30 Mar 14
4 Apr 14	Founders Day Parade (1000)
12 – 16 May 14	Finals
28 May 14	2014 Graduation
31 May 14	Summer Session 1 begins
21 Jun 14	Summer Session 1 ends (must check in by 1000 am)
21 Jun 14	Summer Session 2 begins
12 Jul 14	Summers Session 2 ends (must check in by 1000 am)
12 Jul 14	Summer Session 3
2 Aug 13	Session 3 ends. Cadet Wing returns at 1900 hours (7pm)
26 Jun 14	2018 In-Processing

THUNDERBIRDS RETURN FOR 2014 GRADUATION

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. - The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds have finalized their 2014 show schedule and will return to the Air Force Academy to fly at the Class of 2014's graduation ceremony. In its 61st season, the Thunderbirds team is slated to perform 66 demonstrations at 34 locations.

The Thunderbirds, officially known as the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, will perform its first public flyover of 2014 at the opening of the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif., on Jan. 1. The Thunderbirds make one appearance in Colorado, to fly May 28, 2014 over Falcon Stadium and the Class of 2014's graduation ceremony. The announcement of the Thunderbirds schedule confirms the Defense Department's commitment to supporting community engagement. Last October, in an internal memo to military service chiefs, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel stressed a continuing need to maintain military demonstration teams.

"Community and public outreach is a crucial Departmental activity that reinforces trust and confidence in the United States Military and in its most important asset - people," Hagel asserted. "It is our obligation to sustain that trust well into the future." The remainder of the schedule is available online at:

<http://afthunderbirds.com/site/2013/12/06/usaf-thunderbirds-release-2014-show-schedule/>

PROOF OF CADET HEALTH INSURANCE: To get proof of insurance cadets can either e-mail Glenda Phillips at glenda.phillips@us.af.mil, phone (719) 333-5281 (USAFA TRICARE for cadets) and she can e-mail them their proof of insurance or they can stop by the cadet clinic and the folks there can print out the proof. Parents sometime wish to get the cadet off their insurance and their companies may require proof of coverage. Some parents will wait to ensure their cadet will be staying at the Academy to ensure no loss of coverage.

MILITARY FAMILY LIFE COUSELORS (FOR CADETS)

Military Family and Life Counselors are available to all cadets and Cadet Candidates at the Academy. Support and counseling are offered through formal and informal meetings with Cadets, as they may experience issues such as: balance and self-regulation, family separation, adjustment to cadet life, relationship stress, grief and loss, authority issues, intimacy and trust, and access to self-help resources.

MFLC COUNSELORS

(719) 651-4810

(719) 246-1360

Our Mission: To provide confidential non-medical, short term, problem-solving, non-record keeping counseling support, coaching, and education to Cadets to ensure readiness, and to address the stressors that can typically be associated with cadet life.

- **Confidential non-medical counseling to cadets.**
- **Licensed masters and doctorate level counselors.**
- **Services can be provided on or off of military installations.**
- **No records are kept.**
- **MFLC program is voluntary and available at no cost to cadets.**

CADET WING MEDIA:

Cadet Wing Portraits and retakes for all classes will start 0800 hrs, 27 Jan 14 and end 1600 hrs, 31 Jan 14, Vandenberg Hall, 2c17 Media Conference Room. This is the final opportunity for cadet portraits or retakes during AY 2014. Packages follow 4-6 weeks to cadet's home of record. Check with you cadet to insure he/she participates and that the address is correct.

Basic Training Yearbooks for Class of 2017 were distributed during Nov/Dec 2013, many remain to be picked up. If you didn't see your cadets BCT book during holidays, please insure he/she comes to Cadet Wing Media for distribution, Vandenberg Hall, 2C19.

Additional 2017 BCT yearbooks are available for purchase by emailing or contacting cwmedia@usafa.edu or 719-333-4644.

Graduation 2014 media product information will be available this spring at www.afaphotos.com or on USAFA's graduation website.

PHOTO ACCESS FOR PARENTS: The U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs office provides command information to the installation and the public. One of the ways we do this is through social media venues such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. All information provided is official, but there is also fun stuff on there too. Did you know you can download photos from our Facebook page, for free?

FB: www.facebook.com/USAFA.Official

Twitter: @AF_Academy

Instagram: AF_Academy

We also want your Academy photos. Upload them to Instagram using #YourAcademy, you might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at 719-333-7731.

There are also more **FREE** pictures on the USAFA webpage. You can gain access from our website, <http://www.usafa.af.edu/> and go to the Commandants tab, cadet photos and select class year.

The Association of Graduates (AOG) also provides pictures for a cost by class year. For example the class of 2017 costs \$20.17 per month. You can sign up with their Webguy using this link: <http://www.usafawebguy.com/>.

ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES (AOG) INFORMATION

HOT CHOCOLOATE BAR: The Association of Graduates (AOG) hosted a Hot Chocolate Bar for the cadets during finals last month. The bar was a great success and the cadets really appreciated it. The AOG would like to thank Jerri and Robert Dexter from the Colorado Parents Club, who not only supplied several hours of help, but also brought in homemade treats to serve alongside the hot chocolate.

CLASS RINGS FOR 2015

This month, the Class of 2015 will order their Class Rings to be received on 23 May 2014 at the Ring Dining Out (in Mitchell Hall) followed by the Ring Dance in Arnold Hall. In order to receive the Ring at the Dance, all rings must be paid-in-full.

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR 2014

CB Announcements will be at the Cadet Library on 14/15/16/ January 2014 for anyone who has not ordered or has questions regarding Graduation announcements. Below is the information if you need to contact them outside of those dates

website: <http://www.cbgrad.com/page1.asp>

Phone: **1-800-433-0296.**

DOES YOUR CADET HAVE A MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES?

Parents, if you are still looking for that perfect gift for your upcoming graduates, be on the lookout for special rates. The rates will never be this low again for your graduate. Call Don McCarthy, (719) 472-0300, ext 139 or email at Don.McCarthy@aogusafa.org, if you have any questions.

PARENTS OF 2014 GRADUATES

Many of you have been with your cadet and the Association of Graduates since Inprocessing Day as members of the Association of Graduates. We ask that you continue to support your Association of Graduates by renewing your membership. Each member, whether a graduate, parent, or friend of the Academy, helps us maintain and expand current programs as well as develop new ones. Help us to continue to serve the Academy and your graduates for years to come! Call Don McCarthy, (719) 472-0300, ext 139 or email at Don.McCarthy@aogusafa.org, if you have any questions.

ADDRESS FOR THE UPCOMING GRADUATES

Please make sure to update your mailing address when you graduate. Otherwise, you will be listed as a lost soul and unable to receive and use the benefits from the Association of Graduates. It is not automatic to have parent's address listed. They must have verification from the graduate. Go to www.USAFA.org and register as a new registrant using your AOG ID to update your info.

PETALS AND BLOOMS

Start your cadet off this semester with a gift basket full of goodies wishing success for the new year! Our gift baskets and floral arrangements are a perfect way to say "I am wishing for you the best." We are located on The Air Force Academy and deliver 6 days a week. Thank you for your support of our flower shop. Kindly, DeNyse/Owner Petals & Blooms 719-244-7455, 719-472-8589 web site: www.petalsnblooms.com

BRIGHTEN THEIR DAY – CADET TREATS



Returning to USAFA after Holiday Break can be a bit overwhelming...brighten your cadet's day with a Cadet Treats gift basket or balloon bouquet. Cadet Treats delivers all care packages, gift baskets, balloons, flowers, and birthday cakes directly to your cadet's squadron Monday-Friday.

Check out our website at www.USAFAsupport.com/Cadet-Activities/Cadet-Treats. Call our staff at (719)333-3908 or toll free at (877) 9-CADETS (922-3387) and we'll create a personalized gift for your cadet with just one call.

2014 SPRING BREAK CADET BUS TRANSPORTATION

Tickets on sale starting January 06, 2014 thru March 14, 2014

No refunds after March 14, 2014

All seats sold after March 14 sold on space available basis

MUST HAVE AT LEAST 15 PAID SIGN-UPS FOR A BUS TO RUN...

Please call (719) 333-4602...All dates, times subject to cancellation per demand

DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

DEPART BASE OF RAMP (northeast corner below Terrazzo, Cadet Area)

21 March: 1230, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800

22 March: 0400, 0600

RETURN 30 March: 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800



Type of Ticket

Purchase Tickets

6 Jan 14 – 14 Mar 14

Round Trip

\$45.00

One Way

\$30.00



COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT

DEPART BASE OF RAMP (northeast corner of Terrazzo, Cadet Area)

21 March: 1315, 1415, 1515, 1615

22 March: 0415, 0615

RETURN 30 March: 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800

Type of Ticket

Purchase Tickets

6 Jan 14 – 14 Mar 14

Round Trip

\$30.00

One Way

\$20.00

- 1) Since this is a high volume time at the airports, allow additional time to check luggage or take only one carry-on bag.
- 2) Only bus times that meet sign up requirements are guaranteed a ride. Standby space may be available at the departure site.

BUSES DO SELL OUT PLEASE PURCHASE EARLY!!

DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

- 1) Cadet Buses leave from the **BASE OF THE RAMP ON TIME!** Luggage is limited to one large bag or two medium bags and one carry-on bag. Cadets are responsible for loading their own luggage onto the bus. Luggage should be clearly marked. **REMEMBER** all Cadets luggage looks the same.
- 2) Please allow at least 2 hours for driving time to Denver International Airport.
- 3) Please allow at least 1 hour for driving time to Colorado Springs Airport.
- 4) Additional departure times will be set up if the date or time for release or cadets LMD changes.

RETURNING INFORMATION:

- 1) There will be standby tickets sold at DIA for \$35.00, COS \$25.00 but there is **NO GUARANTEE** a seat will be available!!
- 2) Meet at DIA level 5 East baggage claim Door 505
- 3) Colo Spgs-ORC rep will be present outside baggage claim area

Vandenberg ORC-ROOM ICI5 (719) 333-4602

***Note- Cadets must purchase tickets in person**
Parents may purchase a bus ticket by phone for their Cadets with a MC or VISA. Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, 08:00 to 17:00 Closed Wed and Holidays
***Note All dates and times are subject to change or cancellation**
Revised 11/19/2013

2014 SPRING BREAK PREP SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Tickets on sale starting January 06, 2014 thru March 14, 2014

No refunds after March 14, 2014

All seats sold after March 14 sold on space available basis

MUST HAVE AT LEAST 15 PAID SIGN-UPS FOR A BUS TO RUN...

Please call (719) 333-4602....All dates, times subject to cancellation per demand

DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
DEPART Prep School parking lot 21 Mar 14: 1230
RETURN 30 March: 1430



Type of Ticket

Purchase Tickets

Round Trip
One Way

6 Jan 14 – 14 Mar 14
\$45.00
\$30.00



COLORADO SPRINGS AIRPORT

DEPART Prep School parking lot 21 Mar 14: 1245
RETURN 30 March: 1430

Type of Ticket

Purchase Tickets

6 Jan 14 – 14 Mar 14

Round Trip	\$30.00
One Way	\$20.00

- 3) Since this is a high volume time at the airports, allow additional time to check luggage or take only one carry-on bag.
- 4) Only bus times that meet sign up requirements are guaranteed a ride. Standby space may be available at the departure site.

BUSES DO SELL OUT PLEASE PURCHASE EARLY!!

DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

- 5) Cadet Buses leave from the **BASE OF THE RAMP ON TIME!** Luggage is limited to one large bag or two medium bags and one carry-on bag. Cadets are responsible for loading their own luggage onto the bus. Luggage should be clearly marked. REMEMBER all Cadets luggage looks the same.
- 6) Please allow at least 2 hours for driving time to Denver International Airport.
- 7) Please allow at least 1 hour for driving time to Colorado Springs Airport.
- 8) Additional departure times will be set up if the date or time for release or cadets LMD changes.

RETURNING INFORMATION:

- 1) There will be standby tickets sold at DIA for \$35.00, COS \$25.00 but there is NO GUARANTEE a seat will be available!!
- 2) Meet at DIA level 5 East baggage claim Door 505
- 3) Colo Spgs-ORC rep will be present outside baggage claim area

Vandenberg ORC-ROOM ICI5 (719) 333-4602

***Note- Cadets must purchase tickets in person**
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***Note All dates and times are subject to change or cancellation**
Revised 11/19/2013

PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Below is the Point of Contact for questions for our Prep School Candidate parents.

Contact Mark Winter at (719) 333-2583, mark.winter@usafa.edu and the USAFA website below

<http://www.usafa.edu> Look under Prep School link at top right (7th tab)

Hope you had a wonderful Holiday break with your cadet(s) and have a happy New Year! Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Marie

ROSE MARIE NIKOVITS
 Parents' Liaison
 U.S. Air Force Academy, CO
 (719) 333-3828 Toll Free 877-268-3383
 e-mail: rose.nikovits@usafa.edu