

Dear West Point Parents Club members:

9/1/14

The West Point Field Force of the Chicago (and greater area) extends an invitation to you to attend our annual Fall "By-invite" meeting this upcoming **Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014** at Wheaton College, Buyse Lecture Hall Rm 145, Meyer Science Center, 433 Howard St. Wheaton, IL.

This is a great opportunity for those who may be interested in learning of our volunteer efforts on behalf of the USMA Admissions Department (a short description of the Field Force can be read further down below).

The meeting will be conducted in two parts in the Buyse Lecture Hall located in the Meyer Science Center at Wheaton College, Wheaton IL. Both parts of our meeting will be open to WPPC-IL members.

Please RSVP Mr. Tom Ryan, F.F. meeting coordinator at: [tomryan@tkrconsulting.com](mailto:tomryan@tkrconsulting.com)

The direct address is **433 Howard Street**. This will take you to Jenks Hall (the ROTC Building) which has parking on both sides of the building to utilize. The Meyer Science Center is right across the street from the two parking lots. The Buyse Lecture Hall is **Room 145**, the first room on the right when you walk into the building through the double glass doors.

Due to budget constraints, we will not be providing lunch or any special refreshments.

Part one of our agenda is the Field Force meeting to be held at 12:30 - 1:30 PM.

Part two of the agenda takes place from 2 – 4 PM. This includes the welcoming of West Point Candidates, their parents and interested students.

There will be a brief on the ROTC program and immediately following, a USMA Admissions brief from Capt. Albert Gomez, our Admissions Department official stationed at West Point.

The current agenda for the meeting is as follows:

12:30-1:30pm: FF Meeting

1:30-2:00: Setup/Candidates arrive/FF intro

2:00-2:15: ROTC Brief

2:15-3:00: USMA Admissions Brief

3:00-4:00: Q&A Session (USMA/ROTC)

More about the West Point Field Force:

Under the direction and support of USMA Admissions, the local Field Force (F.F.) members are dedicated volunteers working as the eyes on the ground in the local U.S. Congressional Districts. We communicate and answer directly to Cpt. Albert Gomez, the District Commander for the 12 states known as the Great Lakes District. Capt. Gomez is stationed at West Point.

Some of us are alumni, some are Reserve or Retired Officers that went to other colleges (ROTC), and at least one is a parent of a current Cadet. Another is a parent whose Cadet is now a 1st Lt. We try to have a Field Force member assigned as the Congressional District Coordinator (CDC) for each Congressional District.

**This is one area where our goal is to increase our ranks of dedicated volunteers**

A few of us are or have been Reserve Officers doing their Reserve duty as Military Academy Liaison Officers (MALO) – we currently have one of those.

As the CDC, we are responsible to the Candidates as their mentors and guides, going through the early stages of the Admissions process and to also interview those that complete their packages and look like they have a chance to "Qualify" and gain admission.

In general, we do what we can in one or more of the following important roles:

- Congressional District Coordinator
- Interact with High School Guidance Counselors
- Participate at "College Fairs" promoting West Point at the USMA table
- Mentor candidates and help answer their questions
- Liaison with local Congressional offices, the Congressperson's staff person in charge for the service academies
- Participate in Congressional District Candidate for the service academies
- Coordinate and sign up F.F. attendance at high schools and colleges for their "College Fairs" (Col. John Corey, Ret. oversees this task)
- Assist in the periodic Chicagoland "by-invite" meetings
- Field Force representative with the board of the West Point Society of Chicago (Mr. Tom Ryan, Director, is in charge)
- Coordinate with the local West Point Parent Clubs, in as much as the Field Force concentrates on interested students and Candidates through the Admissions process, the Parent Clubs support both the Cadets and their families, as well as, conduct other non-profit activities in support of our military

V/R

Bob Ocasio

WPPC-IL Field Force Rep