



LA OLA

The official magazine of the Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO)

IN THIS EDITION:

- GENERAL DAVID C GARZA(RET) “LET’S GO” SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
- SEA CADETS AND NAVY CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS (CEC)



2024 General David C Garza Scholarship Recipient, Juliet Lopez, a Senior at Fontana High School.

MEMBER
HIGHLIGHTS

PROMOTION AND RECOGNITION



0 6 5 1 2 9 4 3 7 8 0 2 4 3

Table of Contents

About ANSO	1
ANSO Founder	2
La Esquina del Presidente LtCol Jose L. Montalvan	3
En Familia Chaplain Diego Londoño	5
ANSO's Member Recognition	7
Celebrating Major General (Ret) David C. Garza Legacy	12
Maj Garza Scholarship Recipients	13
Inspiring Leadership: Alexandra Hernández	19
U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps	20
Marine Corps JROTC	21
U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps (CEC)	22
ANSO Podcast Schedule	23
Upcoming Events	24
Scholarships & Award Opportunities	25
Hispanic Rising Star Opportunity	27
ANSO Board of Directors 2024	28
Sponsors and Partner Organizations	30

Our History

Early in 1980 the United States Navy (USN) was concerned about the lack of Hispanic representation within their officer corps and Hispanic applicants for officer programs. Concerned with this situation, then Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Edward Hidalgo, convened the Hispanic Officer Recruitment Conference (HORC) in December 1980. The HORC was tasked to closely evaluate the problem, develop different initiatives and solve the USN's problem of attracting qualified Hispanics to apply to the USN's officer programs.



One of the reasons Mr. Hidalgo was especially concerned with the lack of Hispanics in the Navy's officer corps was because he was intimately familiar with the situation. Mr. Hidalgo was not only of Hispanic descent, but had served in the USN as an air combat intelligence officer aboard the USS Enterprise from 1943 to 1945. Among the HORC's recommendations was the establishment of an association composed of Hispanic officers that could reach out to Hispanic communities to attract qualified Hispanics to apply to the Sea Services' officer programs. The Sea Services are comprised of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps (USMC), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the U.S. Merchant Marine. Shortly after the HORC submitted their report on February 12, 1981, Secretary Hidalgo officially established the Association of Naval Services Officers.

Our Core Values: Leadership, Excellence, and Dedication.

Our Five Pillars

Resources: To enhance ANSO visibility, foster relationships with other affinity groups and generate sponsorship to remain functional and relevant to the Sea Services.

Membership (internal communication): To sustain and increase a diverse and active ANSO membership through local chapter guidance, support, and outreach within the Sea Services.

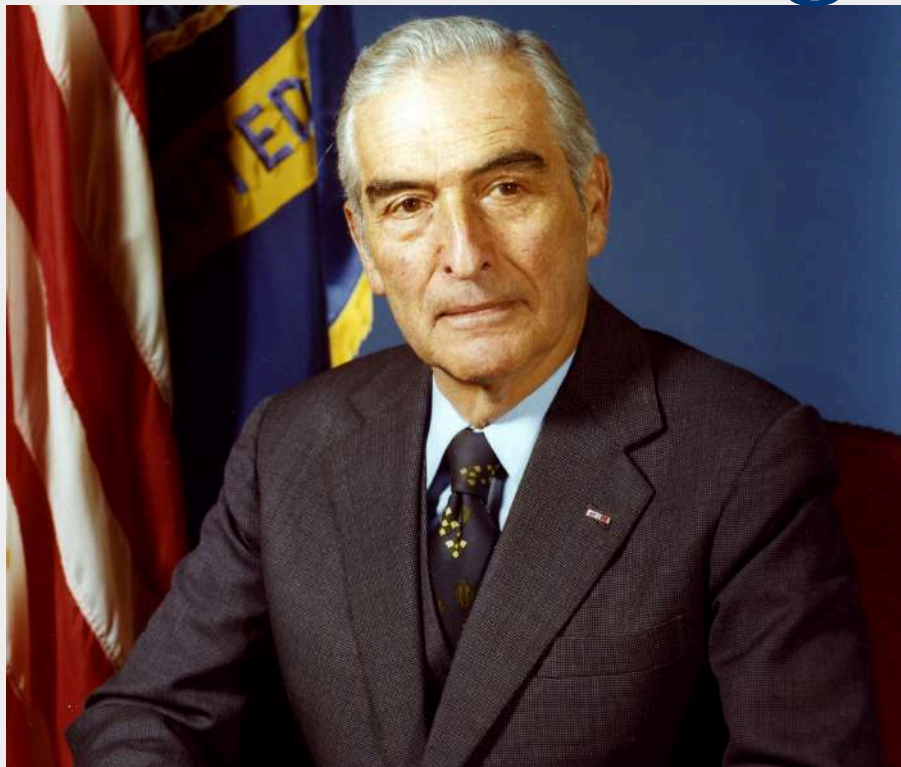
Recruitment (external communication): To achieve an officer corps makeup that reflects the enlisted work force it leads.

Professional Development: To provide networking, mentoring, training and other professional opportunities which enhance competitiveness for advancement and assignment, and support members in reaching their personal and professional goals.

Community Outreach: To develop and grow longterm relationships with key centers of influence, mentorship and outreach activities within Hispanic communities.



64th Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable
Edward Hidalgo



IN OFFICE: 12 OCTOBER 1912 - 21 JANUARY 1995

Early in 1980 the United States Navy (USN) was concerned about the lack of Hispanic representation within their officer corps and Hispanic applicants for officer programs. Concerned with this situation, then Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Edward Hidalgo, convened the Hispanic Officer Recruitment Conference (HORC) in December 1980. The HORC was tasked to closely evaluate the problem, develop different initiatives and solve the USN's problem of attracting qualified Hispanics to apply to the USN's officer programs.

One of the reasons Mr. Hidalgo was especially concerned with the lack of Hispanics in the Navy's officer corps was because he was intimately familiar with the situation. Mr. Hidalgo was not only of Hispanic descent, but had served in the USN as an air combat intelligence officer aboard the USS Enterprise from 1943 to 1945. Among the HORC's recommendations was the establishment of an association composed of Hispanic officers that could reach out to Hispanic communities to attract qualified Hispanics to apply to the Sea Services' officer programs. The Sea Services are comprised of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps (USMC), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the U.S. Merchant Marine. Shortly after the HORC submitted their report on February 12, 1981, Secretary Hidalgo officially established the Association of Naval Services Officers.

LA ESQUINA DEL PRESIDENTE

LTCOL JOSE MONTALVAN



Familia,

Recently, we celebrated our Nation's Independence Day, and we must never forget that Freedom is not free! It comes with challenges and sacrifices that all of you have experienced or are going through. As such, I want to thank you for your service and for all the sacrifices that your family and you go through in the defense of our great Nation. I am honored and proud to serve with each one of you.

Since April, the ANSO's Board of Directors and Chapters' Leadership, with the support of Lifetime and Annual members, have the following highlights to report:



Awarded **Ten \$1,000**
MajGen Garza's
"Let's Go" Scholarships



Published a monthly
ANSO Podcast in which we
share our members' stories



Increased membership and awareness across the Naval Services. The Local Chapters have increased monthly events



Partnership with San Diego State University to identify ways that ANSO can better support ANSO members and increase awareness

As the ANSO's Board members and Chapters' Leadership continue to work hard for you, I ask you to:

- Attend our upcoming ANSO Western Region Symposium
- Join our local chapters and attend the monthly Chapters event
- Encourage Coast Guardsmen, Sailors, and Marines to learn about ANSO
- Volunteer to assist in community events. Especially, during Hispanic Heritage Month

LA ESQUINA DEL PRESIDENTE

LTCOL JOSE MONTALVAN

Treat each other with dignity and respect, and remember:
People + Together + Success + Family = ANSO (There is no ANSO without you!)



San Diego, United States. 12.06.2023. ANSO Western Region Leadership Symposium 2023.

At the beginning of the month, we had the first **ANSO/NNOA Joint Symposium** since 2010. To say that I am excited and pumped up after the symposium is an understatement. The lineup of speakers and panelists was beyond incredible! The entire ANSO/NNOA Board of Directors and Volunteers worked extremely hard to make this Symposium a memorable professional experience for all. You will not want to miss our upcoming ANSO Western Region Symposium 2024 in December.

If you attended the Joint Symposium and introduced yourself to me and the ANSO Board Members, continue to share your stories, remember the laughs, and be active in your local chapters.

Please do not forget that ANSO cannot exist without your participation, support, or assistance! ANSO, our youth, and our Hispanic community need you. Your engagement and mentorship will make a difference in the lives of everyone they encounter. The more I work with our ANSO Volunteers, the more I am assured that ANSO comprises our finest Marines, Sailors, and Coast Guardsmen. We are proud of you and all of your accomplishments!

Siempre para Adelante! God bless you and our GREAT Nation. I am proud to serve as your ANSO Presidente.

Muchas gracias por todo lo que hacen!

Semper Fidelis, Semper Paratus, and Full speed ahead,

Lieutenant Colonel Jose L. Montalvan

EN FAMILIA

CHAPLAIN DIEGO LONDOÑO



Dear ANSO Family,

As the heat of the summer intensifies, the season of moves, retirements, changes of command, and transition is in full display. All these changes align with exercises, deployments, and operational requirements worldwide. For ANSO this summer has been busy as well. The Joint Symposium this summer brought two affinity associations together after a few years on one common goal: leadership development in the Sea Services to respond to our nation's call.

Discipline is one of the keys to success in all these evolutions and events. In his article, "Discipline: The Top Performer's True Talent," LtCol Aaron C. Lloyd describes discipline in the Marine Corps "as the ability to act as one body toward a common purpose, regardless of obstacles, and forms the bedrock of our collective "Marine-ness." It involves individual action while impacting the entire team to produce team results. Two essential elements in discipline are grit and self-control. While grit provides the capacity to prevail in the face of challenge, self-control is the individual decision to stay within the ethical framework set for the group. Discipline informs individual decision-making and binds teams in a common framework.

In summer sporting events like the Olympics, soccer cups, and baseball, discipline exemplifies individual character and team excellence. Players dig deep to obtain their personal best while also thinking about the nation they represent and the team wearing the same colors. The only way to achieve their goals is through constant discipline, the essential elements of grit, self-control, and self-discipline, that empower them to reach their potential.

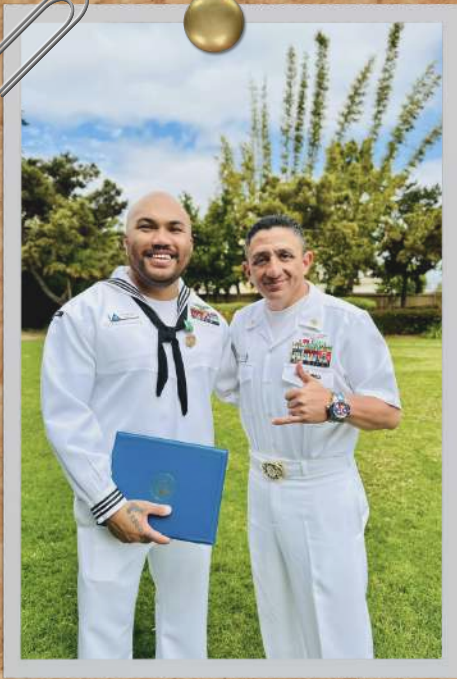
Practicing discipline requires commitment and intentionality. It's not about personal gain. It's about alignment with common goals. As we meet each other during our upcoming Joint Symposium or take on change and transition in any new projects, consider the impact of discipline on you and those you lead. Hold yourself and your people accountable and remember the role of discipline to reach personal and team objectives.

Be blessed and be a blessing!

Chaplain Diego Londoño
ANSO Chaplain

La Esquina del Presidente

1. Do you have a mentor? If not, why not?
2. How did you cope with your last failure? Would you cope the same way again?
3. What are the top three things that you want to accomplish by December 2025?
4. Did you appreciate your last success or accomplishment? Or did you move on to the next goal?
5. Are you the person who would tell me what I need to hear or what I want to hear?



The Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) is proud to congratulate our Board of Directors Membership Coordinator, and U.S. Marine, SSgt Melannie May, on her recent graduation from Columbia Southern University. SSgt May earned a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership with Cum Laude honors.

2024 HER INSPIRATION, DEDICATION, AND SUCCESS



SSgt Melannie May and son Alejandro May.



04.01.2024.SSgt Melannie May on graduation day at CSU.

Born in Los Angeles, California, on August 21, 1996, SSgt May began her Marine Corps career in 2014 at MCRD Parris Island. She completed her training as an Administrative Specialist in 2015 and served at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, where she advanced quickly to administrative chief for IPAC Outbound. She then graduated with honors from the Intermediate Administrative Specialist Course.

In 2017, SSgt May was assigned to United States Forces Korea in Seoul, contributing significantly to theater-level exercises and supporting the Inter-Korean summit amid heightened tensions. She later served on Recruiting duty in Los Angeles and then as Administrative Chief at the Pentagon, where she currently serves.

SSgt May's dedication to excellence is evident in her academic and professional achievements. She has already enrolled in a Master's Degree program, and we look forward to celebrating her continued success.

Congratulations, SSgt Melannie May, on this significant accomplishment and best wishes for your future endeavors.



Camp Pendleton, CA. July 2024. CDR Londoño & Col. Jeremie Hester, MAG-39 Commanding Officer



PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) is proud to announce the promotions of two long-serving members of our Board of Directors to the rank of U.S. Navy Commander!

Congratulations to our esteemed **National Chaplain, Diego Londoño!** This significant achievement reflects your dedication, leadership, and exemplary performance. We are honored and privileged to have your service and leadership within the ANSO Familia!

Congratulations to our **National Vice President, Rolando Machado Jr.!** CDR Machado was one of only 19 “Below Zone” from 556 Unrestricted Line Officers selected. Notably, of the 32 Hispanics selected for promotion, he was the only “BZ” selected.

CDR Machado’s early promotion enables him to attend Marine Corps War College in Quantico, Virginia this summer, underscoring the ANSO Familia’s Sea Service contributions!

CDR Machado Frocking Ceremony, Pentagon, July 2024

Marine Sunset Parade, DC, July 2024



CDR Machado with his OPNAV N952 (Mine Warfare Branch) Teammates!



(Left to Right) CAPT Milciades “Tony” Then, SECNAV Carlos Del Toro, Mrs. Betty Del Toro, Mrs. Paola Calderon, & CDR Rolando Machado Jr.



Mom (Tere), Dad (Rolando Sr.), & Mr. Dave Chase (Deputy Dir., OPNAV N95, Expeditionary Warfare)

As our ANSO President proudly states, “Surround yourself with winners, and you will win!” We are extremely proud of them and look forward to their continued success and leadership.

SECRETARY EDUARDO HIDALGO CHAPTER WASHINGTON, D.C.

By: LT Maribel "Benny" Benitez, USN. ANSO DC Chapter Vice President

As the former ANSO DC Chapter Secretary, his hand-selection as the new President for ANSO DC Chapter was no surprise! Captain Santiago has already led two monthly meetings, one volunteer event, and one in-person social. His actions contribute to esprit-de-corps within our organization and continue to build camaraderie throughout all ranks and across the National Level. His dedication and leadership inspire those around him and continue to embody the ethos of service and selflessness, reminding us that every individual has the power to effect positive change throughout vision and dedication.



ABOUT

CHRISTIAN SANTIAGO

Captain Christian M. Santiago, USMC, was born in National City, California. He graduated from the University of San Diego with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and holds a Master of Arts in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), as well as an Associate of Arts in Social and Behavioral Sciences from Southwestern College.

Captain Santiago enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2007. Initially serving as an Avionics Tech, Scout, and Radio Operator, he was commissioned as a communications officer in 2016. His service includes roles such as Network Platoon Commander and G-3 Spectrum Warfare Officer at 3d Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan. He later participated in the Foreign Area Officer program, studying National Security Affairs with a focus on Latin America and completing the Western Hemisphere Curriculum with Distinction.

After graduating from the Defense Language Institute in Washington, DC, with proficiency in Brazilian Portuguese, Captain Santiago was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru, for In-Region Training. He is currently serving at Marine Corps Installations Command (MCICOM) as the Current Operations Officer. Captain Santiago resides in Virginia with his wife, Angela, and their son. He enjoys CrossFit, traveling, soccer, hiking, and bike riding, and is proficient in Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese.

As we celebrate Captain Santiago's achievements, we also extend our gratitude to LCDR Jon Hilzinger, USN, for his dedication and contributions during his tenure as Chapter President.

Bravo Zulu and job well done!

SECRETARY EDUARDO HIDALGO CHAPTER WASHINGTON, D.C.

By: LT Jacobo Gonzalez & ANSO President, LtCol Jose Montalvan

Celebrating Excellence: LTJG Christian C. Acevedo-Perez's Impact on the Community through EPIC-CMAP



The ANSO DC Chapter is proud to recognize LTJG Christian C. Acevedo-Perez for his nomination and selection as a 2024 League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Public Service Award recipient. Christian is a devoted member of the Enlisted Professionals in Connection Affinity Group Cadet Mentorship Program (EPIC-CMAP), which allows military members to volunteer and connect with their communities' youth and Junior Reserve Training Officer Program (JROTC) cadets through various community events.

EPIC-CMAP leverages the experience and training of military members to enrich JROTC lessons, making a positive impact on local programs and youths. As an EPIC-CMAP USCG Branch Advisor and Norview High School's Navy JROTC Command Liaison, Christian has been instrumental in planning, coordinating, and volunteering at numerous community events. Over the past two years, he has overseen mentoring sessions for over 400 cadets and students, leading discussions on leadership, self-esteem, peer pressure, career paths, and current events.

Christian's dedication to EPIC-CMAP and his role in the Tide Water area have provided invaluable support to local youth. His efforts have inspired students to make sound decisions and positively invest in their futures.

We at ANSO know that giving back to the community is critical to our youth's success. Christian, for the last two years, has lived up to our vision and has made a difference in so many lives. You make us proud, Christian!

NETWORKING IN ACTION: A CAPTIVATING TALE FROM THE ANSO NORFOLK CHAPTER

By: Captain Javier Medina, USN. ANSO Norfolk Chapter President
Photo courtesy of BM2 Yadira Ortiz-Burgos.



CAPT Javier Medina re-enlists a local Sailor.

On the third Wednesday of each month, the **Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) Norfolk Chapter** gathers with local maritime service members for personal and professional development, recruitment, and retention purposes. These monthly meetings serve as a vibrant hub for networking, bringing together service members from the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard stationed in the Hampton Roads area.

In April 2024, the Norfolk Chapter convened a particularly memorable meeting, drawing service members from various ranks. Attendees eagerly introduced themselves and shared insights about their roles and experiences. Among the participants were several Navy Reserves recruiters, including PO2 Yaira Ortiz-Burgos.

The story takes an intriguing turn the very next evening. PO2 Ortiz-Burgos found herself working late to secure a re-enlistment contract for a prospect facing a pressing deadline. Desperate to locate a re-enlisting officer on a late Thursday night, she remembered the connections she had made at the ANSO meeting just the night before. Ortiz-Burgos reached out to the local chapter leadership, leveraging the new network she had built.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. Thanks to the swift and cooperative efforts of her new contacts, Ortiz-Burgos was able to successfully complete the re-enlistment process in time.

This tale underscores the immense value of networking within the ANSO community. The Norfolk Chapter's commitment to fostering connections among maritime service members not only enhances professional growth but also provides vital support in critical moments.

"Opportunities, sometimes they come in when we least expect them, we just need to be ready to take them...most times or sometimes is not an opportunity for your benefit (is not always about you) but rather an opportunity to be present for someone else."

- CAPT Javier Medina

Celebrating Major General (Ret) David C. Garza, USMC: A Legacy of Service and Generosity

From the humble beginnings of Los Fresnos, Texas, Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired, has led a remarkable journey of service and leadership. His dedication to the United States and commitment to fostering future leaders exemplify a life devoted to selfless service.



David C. Garza, Major General, USMC (Ret).

Garza began his military career in 1969 with the United States Air Force as a Heavy Equipment Engineer, deploying to Vietnam in 1970. After an honorable discharge in 1973, he attended Texas A&M University, graduating in 1977. In 1978, he rejoined the military with the United States Marine Corps as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry.

"Education and leadership are the cornerstones of a strong future. By investing in our young leaders today, we ensure a brighter tomorrow for our nation."

- Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired

Garza's 34-year Marine Corps career included combat tours in Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Latin America. He earned a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in 1999. Among his awards are the Combat Action Ribbons and The Order of Saint Maurice in the rank of Primicerius.

After retiring, Garza became President and CEO of Lead Your Ship LLC, providing leadership training to students, supporting wounded warrior events, and assisting transitioning veterans. **His recent donation of ten \$1,000 scholarships to the Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) for JROTC Cadets highlights his ongoing dedication to education and leadership.**

Major General Garza's life and career inspire dedication, education, and service, continuing to impact future leaders. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Major General Garza for his unwavering commitment and generosity.

-SEE 2024 RECIPIENTS ON NEXT PAGES-

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

JULIET LOPEZ



“I am Juliet Lopez, a senior at Fontana High School, I grew up in Fontana, California and my family originates from Mexico. I am a strong Catholic and also involved in different extracurriculars including Young Marines, JROTC, Water Polo, and Swim. In all activities, I have always done my best to reach the top and become a leader!

Being selected for this scholarship is a great honor and accomplishment for myself and my family since I will be the first in the family to earn a bachelor's degree. Therefore, the help affording this degree with the ANSO scholarship means a lot to me, as it will help me reach my educational and professional goals. I intend to use this scholarship to pay for textbooks and materials that will be necessary for my classes. I will be earning my bachelor's degree at Claremont Mckenna College.”

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

ENNIO MONTES



“My name is Ennio Montes and I’m from Granbury Texas, but originally I came from the country of Venezuela. I have been part of the Granbury High School MCJROTC for the past 3 years, and during those times I’ve been blessed to have met so many friends that I now consider to be part of my family. Through this program, I have been guided by 2 of the best marine instructors I could ever ask for; 1StSgt Rositas and LtCol Casey, they taught me how to become a great leader and to be self-determined to always become better. Throughout these years I’ve also been able to help our MCJROTC teams, by competing at state for CyberPatriots 2 years in a row, competing at nationals for the Robotics team, and placing 4th in the Marine Corps branch at the JLAB all-service national competition.

Having been part of this scholarship selection means the world to me. With it, I can contribute towards paying for my future education at Tarleton State University to become a cybersecurity specialist. After I graduate from Tarleton, I plan to work for CrowdStrike so that I’ll be able to defend companies from cyber attacks and to help my mom with her retirement, because if it wasn’t for her bringing me to America, I would’ve never seen the opportunities and promising future that this beautiful country has to offer.”

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

ALYSSA GARCIA



“My name is Alyssa Garcia, I am an American with Hispanic ethnicity student from SugarLand Texas. This year, I am graduating from William B Travis high school in Richmond, Texas. In the following year, I am looking forward to attending the University of North Texas, in Denton, TX, to pursue a major in Psychology. My current goal is to obtain a job in Forensic Psychology in the future.

I was super happy to hear that I have received this award because it means I’m one step closer to achieving my dreams. Ever since I was younger, college has been my main plan, I didn’t know I wanted to settle into psychology until my 7th and 8th grade year when I started to notice some problems with the peers around me. But, despite the dreams I didn’t understand how much money it would cost. So, this award and the guidance that it gives me is truly a dream come true.”

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

ZONIA RAMIREZ



“My name is Zonia Ramirez, an 18-year-old Hispanic from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I'm thrilled to have been awarded a \$1000 scholarship from the ANSO foundation! This generous support will greatly help my financial burden, allowing me to invest in textbooks, materials, and perhaps even additional courses that will enhance my education.

I'm deeply grateful for this opportunity and privileged to be recognized for my efforts. It's truly inspiring to see how this support will make a meaningful difference in my life. I plan to continue my education at university of central Oklahoma after training for the army. I am now planning to study economics and law. Thank you again for such a wonderful opportunity and may god bless you.”

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

RICKY ROUTIER



"My Name is Ricky Routier and I am from Reading Pennsylvania. I'm on the physical fitness team as a Captain for Reading MCJROTC. Our team placed second nationally for YPFT COMPETITION for JROTC across the nation. I was born in America but my family comes from Haiti and Dominican Republic.

This selection is important to me as it allows me to prioritize more on my education. I will be using this money to help pay for my room and board in college. I will be going to Howard University in the fall of 2024 on an NROTC SCHOLARSHIP. Overall my goal is to become a Marine Corps Officer and work hard so I don't pay for schooling."

Congratulations

ANSO ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF

The Major General David C. Garza, USMC Retired "Let's Go" JROTC Scholarship for Excellence in Patriotism, Academics, and Leadership to

JOSELYN ARMAS



“During my time at Lynn English High School, I thrived as a three-time varsity athlete in track and field and cross country. I served as the lead of the National Honor Society peer tutoring services, I was involved in the friends of Rachel club, and actively engaged in the Junior R.O.T.C often engaging in community service events, I was a member of the physical training team, I found fulfillment in contributing as a lead pianist for my church, and I worked at Target. Residing in Lynn, MA, a city grappling with poverty, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative role of non-profit organizations. Having personally benefited from services like La Vida, I understand the vital importance of these organizations in uplifting a community. Recognizing the profound impact of such support services on my life, I am motivated to give back through my education, by establishing a non-profit organization to uplift underserved communities Pursuing a degree in Business Administration at Babson College, I am determined to leverage my education and skills to effect meaningful change and challenge systemic inequalities.

Education has always been a catalyst for change, and with the ANSO scholarship, I aspire to break the cycle of limited opportunities in my family and further develop my networking and leadership skills. I envision a future where my Guatemalan parents, who have sacrificed everything for their children's well-being, can witness the transformative impact of their sacrifices. I intend to use the ANSO scholarship to assist in paying the cost of my tuition. By earning the ANSO scholarship, I am not only investing in my education but also in an endeavor that has the potential to create lasting positive change for generations to come.”



NJROTC students at East Aurora High school during Awards Night.



Alexandra Hernández Inspires at East Aurora High School NJROTC Awards Ceremony

By: Alexandra Hernandez & Veronica Scott, ANSO PAO

This summer, one of our esteemed ANSO members, Alexandra Hernández, made a significant impact as a guest speaker at the East Aurora High School NJROTC Awards Ceremony in Chicago. Despite the costs, Alexandra attended the event out of pocket, driven by her dedication to inspiring the next generation of cadets.

"Being invited to speak at the East Aurora High School NJROTC Awards Ceremony was truly a full circle moment for me. I was born and raised in Chicago, not too far from Aurora, and being a MCROTC student myself, I knew it was going to be a special moment for us all.

Looking out into a sea of over 300 cadets, most of whom come from minority backgrounds, was absolutely amazing. They reminded me of myself, and the message I was coming to deliver was one I wish someone would have told me at that age."

"In a school of nearly 4,000 students, they make up less than 10% of its population and they needed to understand how important that is. Just by being in JROTC, they are setting themselves apart - wearing that uniform, coming in early for physical training, and attending drill competitions; they unknowingly do more than the majority of their peers."

"When I told them this, I saw all of their eyes widen and heads shake up and down. They had an 'ah-ha' moment and I truly believe they felt my message. 'You are worthy and capable of all of the things you see for yourself - as long as you keep a strong mindset.'"

Alexandra's words were not just motivational but also deeply personal. Her story resonated with the cadets, many of whom share similar backgrounds and challenges. She emphasized the importance of self-worth and perseverance, highlighting how their commitment to JROTC sets them apart and prepares them for future success.

Her message was clear and powerful: these cadets are not just participants in a program; they are leaders in the making, capable of achieving their dreams through hard work and a positive mindset.

Alexandra's dedication and heartfelt message exemplify the spirit of ANSO. We are proud to have members like her who go above and beyond to support and inspire the youth in our communities. Thank you, Alexandra, for your unwavering commitment and for making a difference in the lives of these young cadets.



Alexandra Hernandez and NJROTC Instructor.



Voices of Transformation: Sea Cadets Share Life-Changing Experiences

Article and Photos by Sea Cadets Public Affairs

Cadet Yuvanny Fuentes says his eight years as a Sea Cadet “has given me the opportunity to experience thrilling adventures. These experiences <allow> me to better navigate a plethora of situations in my life.”

Like many of the 5,700 middle and high-school aged students in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Cadet Fuentes pushed himself to achieve goals he never knew possible.

“When people ask me how Sea Cadets has changed my life” former Sea Cadet Madeline Perez responds, “How has it not changed my life?” As a young girl, Florida native Perez was unsure of herself. Seven years of training in a disciplined environment surrounded by supportive people enabled Perez to become a leader: “leading with the goal of assisting people to the best of my ability.”



Photo: Sea Cadet Daniel Ramirez builds a circuit board during STEM training in Milwaukee

Rear Adm. Andrew Lennon, U.S. Navy (retired), Executive Director of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, says volunteers are the key to success. “I am amazed that people give so much of their personal time to bring up the next generation. These generous souls really make a difference.”

By engaging in challenging opportunities and stepping outside of their comfort zones, Sea Cadets develop well-earned confidence. By interacting face to face with volunteers and fellow cadets, these young men and women also improve their social skills and are better prepared to become contributing members of society.

When Fuentes joined Sea Cadets, he “was timid and soft spoken” and “didn’t like having to talk to my shipmates, much less give them orders.” Through opportunities to serve as a leader during summer training sessions, Fuentes was “eased into this role of a leader, starting small” and eventually “leading around 100 to 200 cadets when I go to training.”

According to Cadet Nicolas Perez, “Being a Sea Cadet is super cool because we get to do a lot of amazing stuff and wear uniforms.” Perez enjoys physical training including running, push-ups, and planks. Exercise also helps cadets develop confidence. Sea Cadets holds high standards for fitness and aims to increase the number of young people eligible for military service.

Volunteers model core values of honor, respect, commitment, and service. According to Cadet Nicholas Perez, Sea Cadets “made me more disciplined, more confident, stronger mentally and physically.”

Now a Midshipman at the United States Naval Academy, Cadet Fuentes reflects fondly on his Sea Cadets experience.

“I carry with me the lessons learned and the values instilled by <Sea Cadets>. As I pursue a career in the military, I am confident that the skills, experiences, and friendships cultivated through this program will guide me on my journey.”

To volunteer with your local Sea Cadets unit and support young people like Cadets Fuentes and Perez, visit seacadets.org

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: THE IMPACT OF MARINE CORPS JROTC

By: Maj(Ret.) Ryan J. Orozco, Maj, USMC (ANSO Lifetime Member)
Senior Marine Instructor, Wilby High School MCJROTC



Maj(Ret) Orozco & Awardee.



ANSO President, LtCol Jose Montalvan speaks to MCJROC.



Maj(Ret) Orozco & Awardee.

You've led, mentored, and served Marines, Sailors, or Coastguardsmen. Now, who will you lead, serve, or impact next? The next generation of our adolescent youth!

The Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) is a leadership, citizenship, and character development program embedded in high schools nationwide. Often located in urban and ethnically diverse areas, these schools offer a unique platform for giving back to the community through teaching, mentoring, inspiring, and elevating adolescents just years away from adulthood. Additionally, all military branches have JROTC programs across the country, each contributing to the development of our future leaders.

How Can You Make an Impact?

There are many ways you can support Hispanic and other minority communities through JROTC programs in your area's high schools:

Time: Reach out to a Marine Corps or Navy JROTC unit in your area and offer your time as a guest speaker. Share your career experiences as a successful Hispanic or African-American professional, or speak during Hispanic Heritage or Black History months.

Talent: Use your expertise in leadership education to teach! To become a Marine Corps JROTC instructor, you need eight years of honorable active-duty service, retirement is no longer a requirement. There are multiple openings available right now nationwide. To learn more about the program, requirements, benefits, and impact of the MCJROTC program, visit <https://sites.google.com/marinecorpsjrotc.org/mcjrotcorg/home>. For information on Navy JROTC, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/nstc/njrotc/>. For information on Coast Guard JROTC, visit <https://www.uscg.mil/Community/JROTC/>.

Treasure: Consider donating to a school's JROTC booster club or Student Activity Fund. These funds help the program attend marksmanship, drill, or PT competitions, assist with the costs of their Cadet Marine Corps Ball, or support educational field trips.

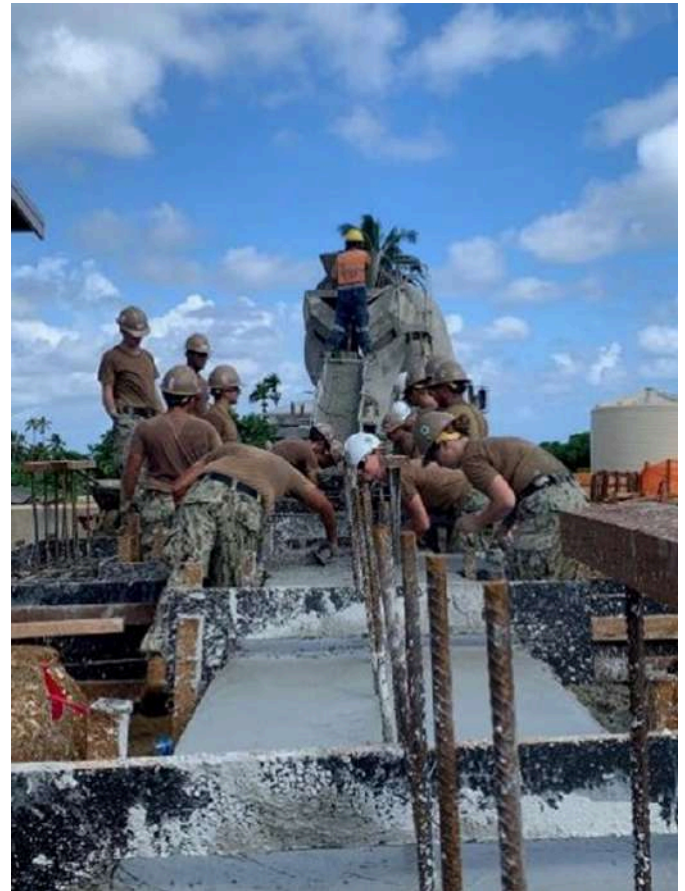
It takes a village to raise a child, and by supporting or becoming a JROTC instructor, you can help shape the next generation of leaders and contributors to our American society.

JOIN THE NAVY'S ELITE CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS!

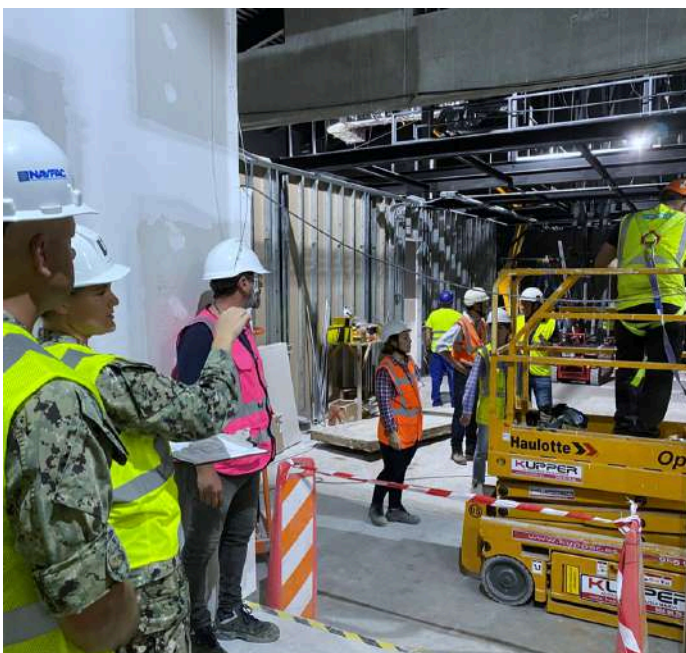
By: LT Timothy M. Zoellick, P.E.

Navy Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) Officers are the Navy's experts in shore infrastructure who provide the leadership needed to ensure proper engineering, management, planning, construction, and maintenance of Naval facilities. To accomplish this, the Architects and Engineers in the CEC serve in two major job settings throughout their career: Facilities Management and Expeditionary.

In Facilities Management roles, CEC Officers lead Naval Facilities Engineering System Command (NAVFAC) civilian personnel in facilities support missions at Navy, Marine Corps, and even some Air Force installations. Routine duties include project management, stakeholder engagement, construction supervision, technical reviews of project plans and schedules, requirements identification, and more. NAVFAC personnel typically include experts in skilled construction trades, architecture, engineering, financial management, contracting and acquisition, real estate, and environmental compliance. Examples of relevant facilities include ports, airfields, hangars, water and electrical utilities, office buildings, hospitals, fuel storage facilities, fire suppression systems, recreational facilities, roads, HVAC systems, and roofs.



A CEC Officer joins her Seabee construction crew in placing concrete for the foundation of a dental facility that will support a host nation's local community in the Pacific Islands. As Officers In Charge of Seabee construction teams, CEC Officers lead Seabees towards mission accomplishment while also prioritizing their welfare and development.



A junior CEC Officer briefs a senior Naval Officer on a construction project as contractors and NAVFAC personnel work on-site, highlighting early-career engagement with high-level stakeholders.

In Expeditionary roles, CEC Officers lead enlisted Seabees in the Naval Construction Force through a variety of missions that support mobile and amphibious construction operations for the Navy, Marine Corps, and other relevant partners.

The Seabees have a proud legacy of building roads, airstrips, bridges, port facilities, utility systems, and buildings – often in unique and remote locations. Architects and Engineers in the CEC may also perform disaster response, humanitarian construction, and contingency construction anywhere in the world.

If you are interested in learning how you can become a CEC Officer, feel free to contact your local Officer Recruiter by using the Navy's Find A Recruiter tool at <https://www.navy.com/contact-us/find-a-recruiter> or by contacting the CEC Accessions Team at +1-901-874-4383. For additional info on the CEC, visit our webpage at <https://www.navfac.navy.mil/Careers/Students-Grads/CEC-Accessions-Program/>.

ANSO PODCAST



NEW - Listen and subscribe to ANSO's official podcast! We're a nonprofit committed to empowering Hispanic and Latino leaders in the U.S. Maritime Services. Visit our website ansomil.org to learn more and subscribe for updates on our programs and success stories!



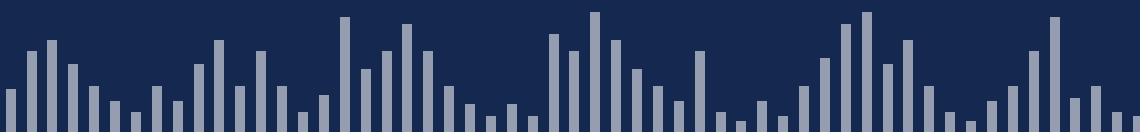
UPCOMING EVENTS EPISODE RELEASE

- AUG** LT Alexis Sandoval, USN
- SEPT** ENS Cyd Gonzalez, USCG
- OCT** LTJG Melanie Arroyave, USCG
- NOV** LT Jessica Guerra, USCG



LIVE  STREAM

<https://www.youtube.com/@ansomil/videos>



EVENTS 2024

UPCOMING

SAVE THE DATE

19 SEPT

NATIONAL LATINA STYLE SYMPOSIUM

WASHINGTON, DC

National LATINA Style Symposium stands as the largest gathering of Latina military leaders across the nation. All are welcomed to attend. Key topics covered include career development, business opportunities, family dynamics, health and wellness, cultural awareness, as well as the intricacies of pursuing a military career. Latina awardees will be featured next quarter's newsletter.

2-6 DEC

WESTERN REGION SYMPOSIUM

SAN DIEGO, CA

Be prepared for a dynamic and collaborative environment that fosters learning, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas. Join us for a memorable experience that promises to enhance your knowledge and broaden your professional network.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.ANSOMIL.ORG

ANSO LEADERSHIP AWARD

NOMINATIONS
CURRENTLY OPEN



“EL BUEN TIMONEL” / “GOOD HELMSMAN” AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

This award will have the Junior Enlisted and U.S. Service Academies categories. The award will be presented yearly to junior enlisted (E3 to E6) of the Sea Services and current students in the U.S. Service Academies. Recipients exemplify high professional standards, personal toughness, readiness, and generous mentorship across all ranks and to our Youth.



“LA CRESTA DE LA OLA” / “THE CREST OF THE WAVE” AWARD FOR PERSISTENT COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

This award will have the Junior Officer and Civilian categories. The award will be presented yearly to Active or Reserve duty junior officers (O1 to O4) and civilians (GS5 to GS 12) of the Sea Services. Recipients demonstrate continuous commitment to personal and professional excellence, embody command readiness, and actively support ANSO's mission. They are change agents dedicated to process improvements that enhance our forces' effectiveness.



“CONTRA VIENTO Y MAREA” / “AGAINST ALL ODDS” AWARD FOR CONSISTENT DEDICATION

This award will have the Senior Enlisted, Senior Officer, and Senior Civilian categories. This award will be presented yearly to Active and Reserve Senior Enlisted leaders (E7 and above), Senior Officers (O5 or above), and Senior Civilians (GS13 or above) of the Sea Services. The award celebrates senior leaders who have made significant contributions to our nation, the Armed Forces, and the Hispanic community. They serve as inspiring mentors, navigating challenges with unwavering dedication and perseverance.



“PENSAR MAS ALLA” / “THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX” AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN THE ART OF WAR

This award will be presented yearly to Active Duty and Reserve Service Members who display a spirit of innovation reflected in better thinking inside (leveraging given resources) and outside (recognizing better ways to implement resources and modify) the box, “pensando y creando más allá de los límites.” This award celebrates the innovating drive common in the Hispanic American mindset and closely connected to the American spirit.



“PRIMERA CLASE” / “FIRST RATE” AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OPERATIONAL COMPETENCE

This award will be presented yearly to Active Duty and Reserve Service Members who display problem solving abilities and represent our Core Values; exemplifying strong Operational Planning and Problem Solving skills in the execution of respective duties. The term “First Rate” denotes excellence and was attributed to the ships with the most capabilities and outstanding performance during maritime battles.

AWARD WILL BE PRESENTED AT WESTERN REGION SYMPOSIUM

NOMINATE BY DEADLINE: 28 OCTOBER 2024

SUBMIT ALL NOMINATIONS & QUESTIONS TO: AWARDS@ANSOMIL.ORG



ISR NROTC SCHOLARSHIP



The Immediate Scholarship Reservation (ISR) is a unique opportunity within the Navy ROTC Scholarship program. ISR enables *highly-qualified and extremely competitive individuals* to receive the NROTC scholarship ***bypassing the National NROTC Selection Board***. Used as a tool to achieve diversity goals, this is particularly relevant for minority applicants, who historically select below the board average. If you know of a student who meets these competitive requirements, ensure you reach out to us immediately so that we may coach their NROTC Recruiter on how to execute this extremely limited process!

**Navy Talent Acquisition Group (NTAG) Commanding Officers offer ISR per year. (Ask your NROTC Coordinator!)*

**ANSO President can recommend up to 5 individuals per year for ISR to the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command!*

Benefits of NROTC:

- **Financial Support:** Provides financial assistance for tuition, books, and other educational expenses, OR room/board costs (if student already has academic scholarship from school), with more than 150 universities to choose from.
- **Career Advancement:** Secure your future in the armed forces while pursuing their educational goals, setting themselves up for success both academically and professionally. Commission to become a Naval Officer upon graduation.
- **Leadership Development:** Prepares our future Navy leaders for commissioned service and professional roles beyond!

Who Can Apply? ISR is open to individuals who meet the following criteria:

- United States citizens (Must be 17, or not yet 23 by September 1st of the year starting college)
- High school graduates or equivalent (Must have a 2.75 GPA or Higher)
- Meet the academic and physical standards for military service
- Uses "Superscore." Minimum 550 EBRW/600 MATH, combined 1230+ (SAT); 26 MATH / 22 ENG, combined 54 (ACT)
- *An IDEAL candidate for NROTC ISR has a university with NROTC as their #1 choice (vice a service academy).*

HOW TO APPLY

Email, ANSOSCHOLARSHIPS@ANSOMIL.ORG to learn more about the application process and eligibility requirements for ISR.

MSISR NROTC SCHOLARSHIP



ARE YOU APPLYING FOR THE NROTC SCHOLARSHIP?

At ANSO, we're dedicated to helping students overcome the high cost of college. **The NROTC Minority Serving Institution Scholarship Reservation (MSISR) is another incredible opportunity for individuals interested in attending a Minority Serving Institutions (MSI), including Historically Black Colleges & University (HBCU) or High Hispanic Enrollment (HHE) school.** There is no difference between an NROTC Scholarship, an ISR (previous page), or an MSISR in the benefits to the applicant. However, the selection process for each IS different, with separate goals assigned for each one. The MSI NROTC Commanding Officer (CO) selects their school's scholarship recipients.

***Historically, MSISR has had less applicants than the number of available scholarships.**

NROTC Benefits include:

- Full cost of tuition and books (up to \$210K for Ivy League) OR room/board
- Monthly stipend of \$250-\$400
- 100% employment as commissioned officer upon graduation

MSISR Schools:

- HHEs: Central New Mexico Community College, Pima Community College, Univ. of New Mexico
- HBCUs: Allen University, Clark Atlanta, Dillard, Florida A&M University, Hampton, Howard, Huston-Tillotson, Morehouse, Norfolk State, Prairie View A&M, Savannah State, Southern Univ. & A&M, Spelman College, Tennessee State, Texas Southern, Tuskegee University, Xavier
- Other MSI: Kennedy King College

To apply, you must meet the minimum NROTC Scholarship requirements, **must check the box in your online application, and complete AN ADDITIONAL INTERVIEW WITH THE MSI NROTC CO.**

Don't miss out on this incredibly, under-utilized scholarship and commissioning opportunity!

HOW TO APPLY

Complete NROTC National Scholarship online application

<https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/NROTC/Apply/>



Within the online application, check the box when it asks if you are interested in the NROTC Minority-Serving Institution Scholarship Reservation (MSISR)!



For the fifth year, we will publish an assembly of energizing stories from a diverse set of role-model Hispanic Stars nationwide.

Hispanic Stars Rising: Volume V shares their personal journeys and emphasizes the power of their Latinidad.

BECOME PART OF SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR STORY?

1. Review the editorial guidelines here:
<http://bit.ly/HSR5EG>
2. Craft your story following the editorial guidelines
3. Share your story at
hispanicstar.org/book





National President
USMC Officer Representative
LtCol Jose Montalvan
U.S Marine Corps



Executive Vice President
CDR Rolando J Machado Jr
U.S Navy



Treasurer
CW02 Yandy Hernandez
U.S Navy



Secretary
GySgt Dilia Introini
U.S Marine Corps Veteran



Judge Advocate
CDR Sergio Villaverde
U.S Coast Guard (Ret.)



Director at Large
CAPT Santico "Tico" Valenzuela
U.S Navy



Chaplain
CDR Diego Londoño, CHC
U.S Navy



Membership Coordinator
LT Jaime "James" Aranibar
U.S Coast Guard (Ret.)



Assistant Membership Coordinator
SSgt Melannie May
U.S Marine Corps



Historian
CDR Xochitl Castañeda
U.S Coast Guard (Ret.)



USCG Officer Representative
CDR Eric Driggs
U.S. Coast Guard



USCG Enlisted Representative
YNC Christina Berrios
U.S Coast Guard



USN Officer Representative
LTJG Alexis Sandoval
U.S. Navy



USN Enlisted Representative
CMDM (AW/SW/IW/EXW) Jose L. Peña
U.S Navy



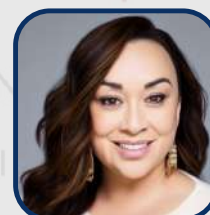
USMC Enlisted Representative
MSgt Carmen Christman
U.S Marine Corps



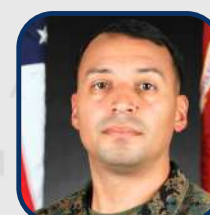
Public Affairs Officer
NC1(EXW) Veronica Scott
U.S Navy



Public Affairs Officer Assistant
ANSO Podcast Host/Director
CAPT Manuel Calo Vazquez
U.S Army



Civilian Representative
Danitza G James
U.S Army (Ret)



Academy Representative
Maj Jose A Castillo
U.S Marine Corps



Master-At-Arms
CAPT James Kirby
U.S Navy

ANSO is seeking to fill positions on its Board of Directors. This is a great way to volunteer and stay engaged in the Sea Service community. Visit, www.ansomil.org for BOD positions and email, ANSO.President@gmail.com to inquire and apply.

We look forward to hearing from you!



WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN ANSO

It is your gateway to professional growth and community impact! Are you a military service member looking for mentorship, community outreach, opportunities for personal and professional development? Look no further, ANSO is here for you, all ranks are welcomed, valued, and respected! No matter your background, whether you are military or civilian, officer or enlisted, you can help spread the word about ANSO to our Hispanic youth, educators and leaders. Share the good news about the tremendous career, educational and leadership opportunities available in our sea services. Join your local chapter or become a member-at-large to start making a difference in the life and career of others, as well as your own, now!

What ANSO represents according to our National President LtCol Jose Montalvan, USMC

#1 Treat everyone with dignity and respect.

#2 Together, we are stronger. If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

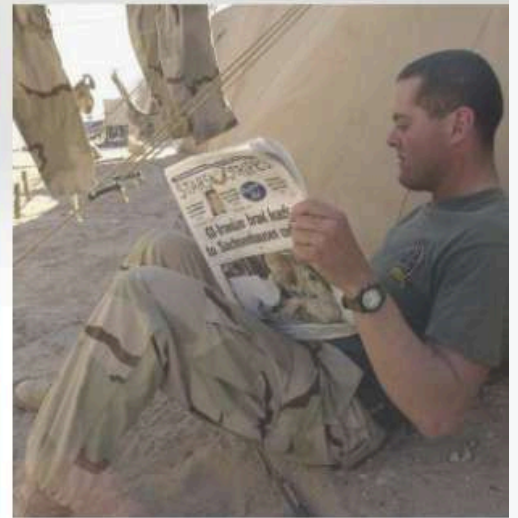
#3 We succeed through the success of others, and our legacy is what our Marines, Coast Guardsman, and Sailors accomplish.

#4 We are a family and must treat each other as brothers and sisters.

THERE IS NO ANSO WITHOUT YOU

Adelante con ANSO!

STARS AND STRIPES®



American Latino Veterans Association



Hispanic Veterans Leadership Alliance



Hispanics Inspiring Students' Performance and Achievement

Deloitte.



We are fully committed to championing diversity, equity and inclusion and fostering a culture where merit can shine through. Everyone should feel celebrated, heard and valued. We are proud that we have hired over 3,000 veterans and will continue to meet you in the mission!

Deloitte is pushing the boundaries of supporting our great nation with our cutting-edge "Green Dot" capabilities in Cybersecurity, AI and Augmented Reality, Tech Modernization, Human Capital Transformation, and the future of Supply Chain. Learn what Deloitte can do for you at www.deloitte.com/us/dsj.



Ready to meet you in the mission by forging critical capabilities, championing diversity, equity and inclusion in the ranks, and elevating careers of our military and veteran communities.

The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

Copyright © 2024 Deloitte Development LLC. All rights reserved.