41ST ANNUAL COLORADO ALL SERVICE ACADEMY BALL





DECEMBER 29, 2023

ANTLERS HOTEL 4 S CASCADE AVE COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

In Honor of USNA Graduate President Jimmy Carter, Class of 1947

From the age of five, Jimmy Carter knew he would graduate from the United States Naval Academy.

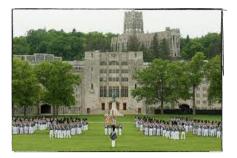
None of his Carter ancestors had the opportunity to finish high school. Jimmy Carter was a dreamer and is the only United States Naval Academy graduate to become President of the United States. He was from the wartime classes at USNA and completed his four years in three. He finished number 60 out of 821 midshipmen. While in the Navy, Carter served as a submariner until 1953.

The mission of Annapolis is to send the newly graduated leaders out into the world and let them assume the responsibilities of the highest command. Jimmy Carter achieved the highest rank when he became Commander and Chief of the United States Military in 1977. In the Spring of 2023, the Naval Academy renamed Maury Hall as Carter Hall in honor of a Naval Officer, Statesman, President, and Humanitarian.

After his presidency, President Carter never stopped tying to make the world better. In 2002, he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights. From the 1980s until President Carter entered Hospice care in early 2023, he worked with Habitat for Humanity and worked with other charities to stop preventable diseases and the eradication of parasite in several African countries.

President Jimmy Carter, USNA graduate of class of 1947, believed that man will be judged by how they help those in need. At 99 years of age President Jimmy Carter is the longest living post president. He lost his beloved wife Rosalynn last month after almost 80 years of being best friends. Tonight, we give a small tribute to President Jimmy Carter USNA Class of 1947. May the Force be with you.

United States Service Academies



United States Military Academy (USMA) West Point, NY Established in 1802 Duty, Honor, Country



United States Naval Academy (USNA) Annapolis, MD Established in 1845 Ex Scientia Tridens | From Knowledge, Sea Power



United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA) New London, CT Established in 1876 Scientiae Credit Mare | The Sea Yields To Knowledge



United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) Kings Point, NY Established in 1943 Acta Non Verba | Deeds Not Words



United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Colorado Springs, CO Established in 1954 Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in All We Do



WHEREAS, the military of the United States is the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-educated military in the world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Military Service Academies – the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado; the Military Academy at West Point, New York; the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland; the Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut; and the Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point, New York - provide training and education to the future leaders of our country's armed forces; and

WHEREAS, Coloradans appreciate the dedication and tremendous sacrifices of those who serve in our nation's military; and

WHEREAS, on this day, the cadets and midshipmen in Colorado and around the country will be honored by our community at the 41st Annual Colorado All Service Academy Ball; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a day be set aside to honor our nation's future officers, and to reflect upon the sacrifices made on our behalf by past, present, and future classes of the United States' Service Academies;

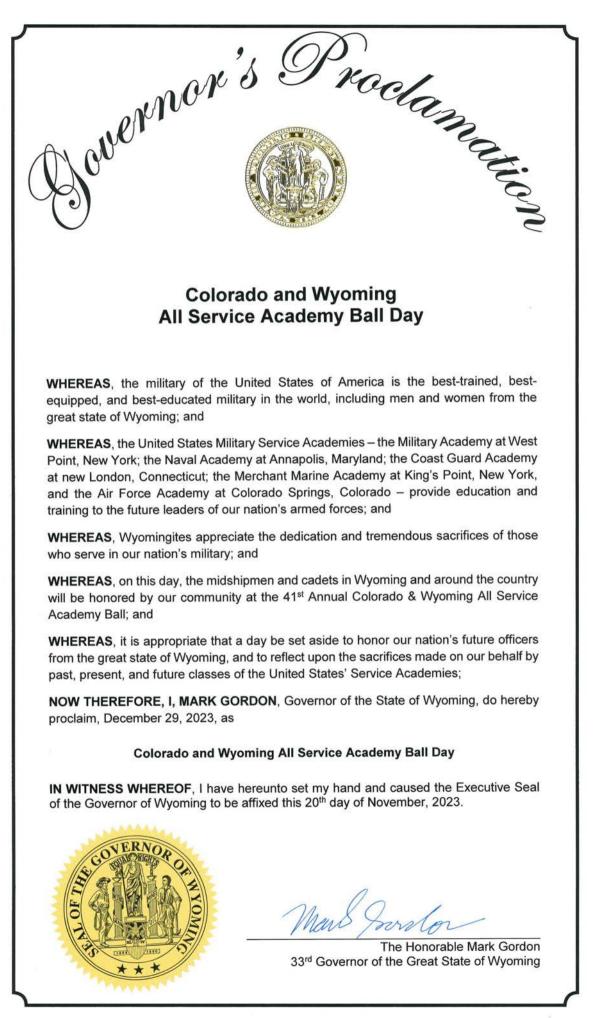
THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim December 29, 2023, as in the state of Colorado.

COLORADO ALL SERVICE ACADEMY BALL DAY



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the state of Colorado, this twenty-ninth day of December, 2023

Jared Polis Governor



Program

| 4:40 to 6:00 PM | Registration, Cocktails and Family Portraits | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 6:15 PM | Opening Ceremonies Welcome, Thank You Masters of Ceremonies | Captain Guy Higgins, (USN, Ret.) USNA Class of 1969 MIDM Ryan Cordova (USNA, 2024) |
| | Presentation of Colors | Volunteer Color Guard |
| | National Anthem | Tressa Torres |
| | Invocation | Mark D. Hunsinger, Ch, Lt. Col, USAF |
| | Presentation of State Proclamations | |
| | Toasts | |
| | POW*MIA Presentation | |
| | Introduction of Cadets and Midshipmen US Military Academy US Naval Academy US Coast Guard Academy US Merchant Marine Academy US Air Force Academy | COL Christopher Wendland (USA, Ret.) Sarah Schull CAPT Alicia Souvignier, USPHS, USCG Kathy Kinch Danny and Kathy Cometto |
| 7:15 PM | Dinner is Served | |
| 7:45 PM | Introduction of Guest Speaker Honored Guest Speaker | MIDM Ryan Cordova, USNA Rear Admiral Scott F. Robertson, USN |
| 8:15 PM | Cake Cutting Ceremony | |
| | Retiring of Colors | |
| 9:00 PM - 12:00 AM | Dancing Drawing for Prizes Starts | House of Groove |
| 9:30 PM | Casino Opens (Until 1:00 AM) | Deuces Wild Casino |

Cadets & Midshipmen Program Participation

Color Guard

United States Military Academy United States Naval Academy United States Coast Guard Academy United States Merchant Marine Academy United States Air Force Academy Receiving the Colors

National Anthem

Presentation of CO Proclamations

Toasts

Narrator Commander in Chief United States Army United States Navy United States Marine Corps United States Marine Corps United States Merchant Marine United States Merchant Marine United States Air Force United States Space Force Colorado and Wyoming Military Veterans Servicemen and Those Deployed Honored Guests Fallen Comrades

POW*MIA Presentation

Narrator US Military Academy US Naval Academy US Coast Guard Academy US Merchant Marine Academy US Air Force Academy

Cake Cutting Ceremony

Narrator US Military Academy US Naval Academy US Coast Guard Academy US Merchant Marine Academy US Air Force Academy CDT Ryan Miscio, USMA MIDM Samuel Ficsor, USNA Unsuspecting Volunteer Unsuspecting Volunteer CDT Luc Fecteau, USAFA Captain Guy Higgins, (USN, Ret.)

Tressa Torres

MIDM Aidan Plaehn, USNA (CO) MIDM Ryan Cordova, USNA (WY)

CDT Austin Brown, USAFA Rear Admiral Scott F. Robertson, USN CDT Hunter Wendland, USMA MIDM Savannagh Gasca, USNA Maj. Mario Gasca, USMC (Ret.) MIDM Isabelle Lopez, USNA MIDM Kenobi Kinch, USMMA CDT Grant Ferry, USAFA 2d Lt Ben Pederson MIDM Jackson Engels, USNA MIDM Kenobi Kinch, USMMA COL Christopher Wendland (USA, Ret.) Captain Guy Higgins, (USN, Ret.)

> MIDM Eva Torres, USNA CDT Ryan Miscio, USMA MIDM Joslyn Schoen, USNA MIDM Ricky Limas, USNA Unsuspecting Volunteer Jessica Leonard

CDT Hunter Wendland, USMA CDT Cooper Smith, USMA MIDM Ryan Cordova, USNA MIDM Ricky Limas, USNA Unsuspecting Volunteer CDT Grant Ferry, USAFA

POW★MIA Ceremony

Our ballroom contains a very special empty table reserved to honor our missing comrades. Set for six, the empty places represent men and women missing from each of the six services - Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine and Air Force. This Honors Ceremony symbolizes that they are with us, here in spirit. During this solemn ceremony, the narrator will describe the meaning of this special table and its contents.

Cake Cutting Ceremony

The cutting of the cake, to be served as dessert for all attendees, is a tradition of a formal military hall. In most cases, the youngest or oldest serviceman or servicewoman participates in the event. Due to the uniqueness of the All Service Academy Ball, a cadet or midshipman from each academy is chosen to participate. Each makes a ceremonial cut into the cake as a few words in recognition of each institution are spoken.

Toasts

Traditionally, toasting is a gesture of raising a glass to the lips to honor a person or a group as part of the ceremony of a formal military dinner. It is not necessary to drain the glass used in the toast; a mere touch of the glass to the lips satisfies the ceremony, or for that matter, an empty glass raised to the lips may be used for the toast.

> Toasts this evening will be offered by cadets and midshipmen. Please join as a group in the responses.

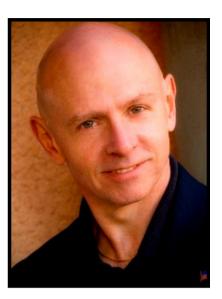
> > RESPONSE

TOAST

| I propose a toast to the Commander in Chief, the | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| President of the United States of America | "To the President" |
| l propose a toast to the United States Army | "To the Army" |
| l propose a toast to the United States Navy | "To the Navy" |
| I propose a toast to the United States Marine Corps | "To the Marine Corps" |
| I propose a toast to the United States Coast Guard | "To the Coast Guard" |
| l propose a toast to the United States Merchant Marine | "To the Merchant Marines" |
| I propose a toast to the United States Air Force | "To the Air Force" |
| I propose a toast to the United States Space Force | "To the Space Force" |
| l propose a toast to the great states of | |
| Colorado and Wyoming | "To Colorado and Wyoming" |
| I propose a toast to all of our military veterans | "To our veterans" |
| l propose a toast to our servicemen and servicewomen, | "To our servicemen and servicewomen |
| and their families | and their families" |
| I propose a toast to our honored guests | "Hear, Hear" |
| l propose a toast to our fallen comrades | NO RESPONSE, REMAIN SILENT |

Master of Ceremonies Captain Guy Higgins (USN Ret.)

Captain Higgins, a graduate of the US Naval Academy with the mighty fine class of 1969, served thirty years in the Navy as both a warfighter (accumulating 4300 flight hours in five deployments) and as an acquisition professional. He graduated from the USN Test Pilot School, served as an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer, and spent over six years as a Major Program Manager. He led four programs through first-time success in operational tests and was recognized by the Joint Logistics Commanders for program management excellence as the Best Managed Program in the Navy in 1998. He retired in February 1999.



Following retirement from the Navy, CAPT Higgins joined Boeing where he led multiple capture efforts, new-market explorations and established and led the global, Boeing defense-wide Analysis, Modeling, Simulation and Experimentation organization, providing critical support to several multi-billion-dollar program wins for Boeing. He also led an eighteen-month-long exploration of the maritime domain as a potential new market for Boeing. He retired from Boeing as a Vice President in 2011.

After leaving Boeing, CAPT Higgins was a founding principal of both Performance Squared LLC, a consultancy specializing in enabling breakthrough performance, and Resilience LLC, a consultancy focused on emergency and crisis management.

CAPT Higgins has been active in the USNA community since moving to Colorado in 2011. He has been the Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the Colorado Chapter of the USNA Alumni Association. He was the Class of '69 Link-in-the-Chain representative for Colorado, attending numerous Class of '19 events in Annapolis, and he has been the Chapter's liaison to the Colorado/Wyoming Parents' Club for over a decade, working at the Navy-Air Force Parents' Club tailgate, and is this year's Master of Ceremonies for the All Service Academy Ball.

Guest Speaker Rear Admiral Scott F. Robertson

United States Navy



Rear Admiral Scott Robertson is the Director of Strategy, Policy & Plans (J5), North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado.

He is responsible for North American Aerospace Defense Command strategy, policy, plans and requirements development for the safeguarding of the United States and Canada via assigned missions of aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning. For the U.S. Northern Command, he leads development of strategy, policy, deliberate plans, and security cooperation with Canada, Mexico and The Bahamas, to accomplish primary missions of homeland defense and support to civil authorities.

Rear Adm. Robertson is a third-generation naval officer. He attended enlisted basic training in 1986 at Recruit Training Command, San Diego, as a non-designated Seaman. He attended the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) program, earning a four-year Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) scholarship.

Rear Adm. Robertson attended Norwich University and earned a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering in 1991. He also holds a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from George Mason University. Rear Adm. Robertson has served in a highly diverse range of assignments, participated in many campaigns, and conducted various operations as a Surface Warfare Officer stationed onboard Cruisers, Aircraft Carriers, and Frigates. He commanded USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG 60) during a seven-month counter-narcotics deployment. He then commanded USS Normandy (CG 60), the first Aegis Baseline 9 warship with Naval Integrated Fire Control – Counter Air capability and took her on a nine-month global-circumnavigation deployment. During that deployment, he served as the Air and Missile defense commander for the USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group.

Rear Adm. Robertson's shore assignments include Aegis Training and Readiness Center (ATRC) as an Air Defense instructor; Joint Staff, J-8 Directorate as the resources and acquisition manager; and Commanding Officer of Surface Warfare Officers School (SWOS) Command in Newport, Rhode Island.

Following his assignment at ATRC in 1999, he spent two years away from active naval service and worked as a weapon systems engineer before voluntarily returning to active duty following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Rear Adm. Robertson's initial Flag officer assignment was as Commander, Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center where he was responsible for increasing the tactical proficiency and lethality of the Surface Fleet. He then assumed the duties as Commander, Carrier Strike Group TWO as lead of the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group, deploying for seven months to the EUCOM and CENTCOM AoRs. In July 2022, he reported to NORAD & USNORTHCOM as the J5 Director.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit (four awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (five awards) and Navy Achievement Medals (two awards).



United States Military Academy

West Point Parents Club of Colorado & Wyoming

Presidents: Chris and Tristen Wendland wppcco.com



United States Military Academy

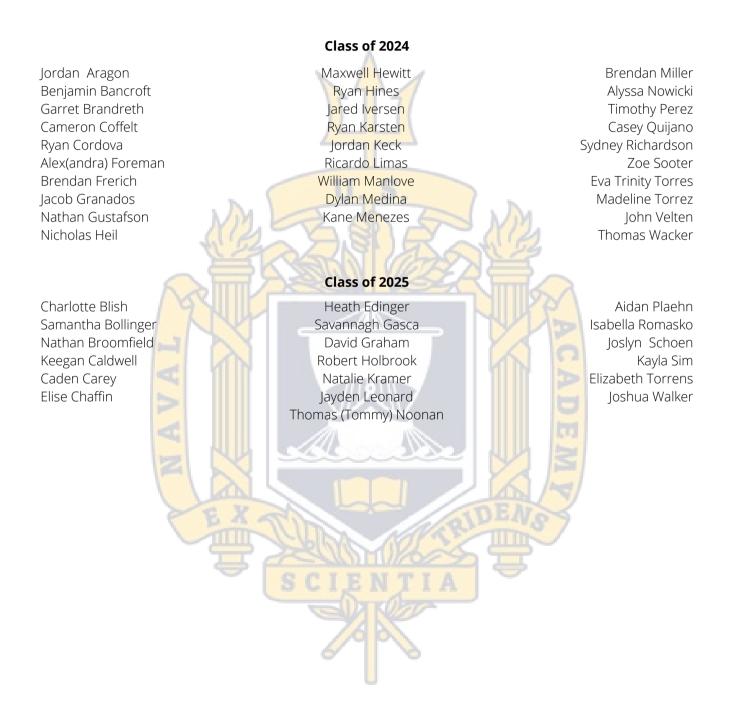
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United States Naval Academy

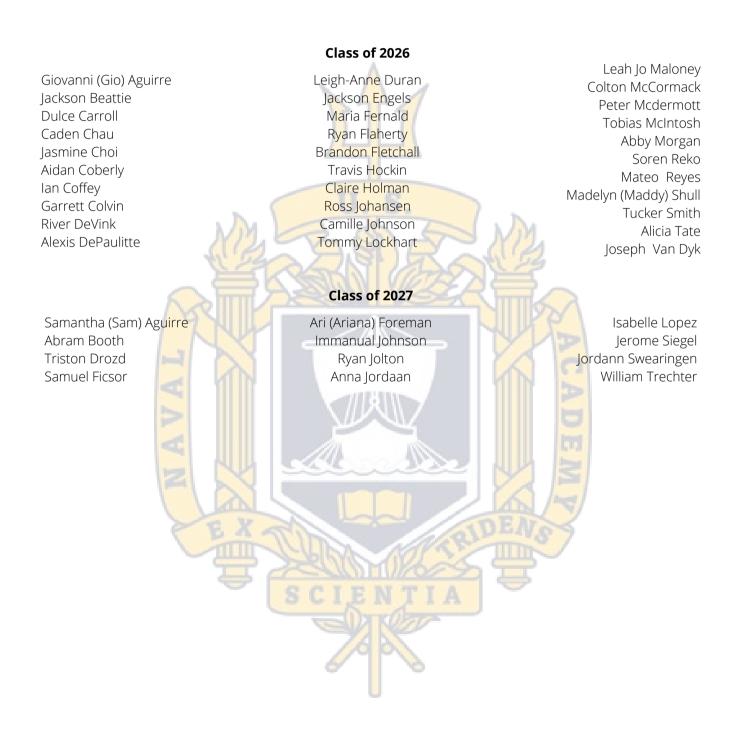
USNA Parents Club of Colorado

Presidents: Heather and Paul Cordova, John and Therese Karsten usnaparentsclubofcolorado@gmail.com



United States Naval Academy

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United States Coast Guard Academy

US Coast Guard Academy Rocky Mountain Parents Association President: CAPT Alicia Souvignier, USPHS, USCG

www.cgaparents.org



United States Merchant Marine Academy

US Merchant Marine Academy Colorado Parents Association

President: John Smith www.usmmaparents.com

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Class of 2027 Tejh Hardin Lindsay Inouye Jacob Laubhan

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ACTA

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Halle Van Vleet Benjamin Williams Marcus Wyman

Brayden Parsons Joseph Simo Ramsey Stark Connor Tanner

United States Air Force Academy Colorado Parents Club President: Claudia Brown, CAPT, USPHS, Retired | president@usafacpc.org www.usafacpc.org

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Class of 2026

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Class of 2027

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Commemorative Coin

Commemorative coins are frequently used throughout matriculation at a service academy and within the military, to recognize significant milestones or events. Midshipmen and cadets were presented with a 41st Annual Colorado All Service Academy Ball commemorative coin upon their arrival this evening.



"The Sea to the Stars" is in a vertical format to get a reaching up effect in the design. The design is grounded by the stylistic waves at the bottom and moves to the top to the five stars which are representative of the five military academies.

The two large "Ss" in the text are attention getters, they add flair to the design. Finally, the design is tied together with our flag.

Back Side



The five academy seals are on the back side of the coin. In the design, the Artist evoked a feeling of vastness in which the diverse missions our academies are involved and responsible for.

Gilbert Saiz, Jr. created the 41st Colorado All Service Academy Ball Coin for 2023.

About the Artist: Gilbert Saiz, Jr. was born in 1940 in Pueblo, Colorado. With encouragement from his mother, Mr. Saiz developed an interest in drawing at an early age. One of his earliest memories is spreading out the Sunday funnies on the linoleum dining room floor and copying cartoon characters.

Mr. Saiz enlisted in the U.S. Air Force at age 17 and worked on B-52 jets and KC-135 refueling tanker aircrafts. Mr. Saiz married Nancy Towner and together they had six children. Mr. Saiz graduated in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in graphic design. He worked briefly in the advertising department of Crews-Beggs Mercantile Co., a department store in Pueblo, Colorado and freelanced for a local advertising agency. In 1969, he was hired by the U.S. Air Force Academy where he worked in the Graphics Department as an Illustrator. He also worked as Graphic Chief at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In the mid 1970's for two years, he was Chief of Graphics at Howard Air Force Base, Canal Zone, Panama. Additionally, in the late 1980s, he served as Visual Information Officer at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. Mr. Saiz' Air Force career spanned 30 years.

At USAFA, Mr. Saiz drew Eisenhower Golf Course (depicted in first pamphlet "How to Golf"), created recruitment posters, and designed vinyl record covers for USAFA Falconaires Orchestra. Mr. Saiz painted Chief Dana McCormick, a memorial for McCormick's family at the request of the Air Force. The oil painting is still on display at Peterson Space Force Base. Mr. Saiz might be most known for creating one of the first falcon mascot costumes at USAFA, a version of which is still in use today. Mr. Saiz' personal work includes various forms of realistic and southwestern art, he designed the artwork outside and inside Our Lady of Guadalupe church on Pikes Peak Avenue in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He also often painted sceneries with everyday people from his romantic trips with his beloved wife Nancy.

What matters most to Mr. Saiz is his family. Mr. Saiz is currently retied and enjoys a good football game with his relatives. Below, pictures of Mr. Saiz when he served in the Air Force, a picture of him working at USAFA, a recent picture of him at USAFA v. Navy 2022 football game where he wore a Navy hat to support his great niece, Midshipman Torres on exchange at USAFA, a picture of his family taken in ~1970 when he worked at USAFA, and pictures of some of Mr. Saiz' most cherished work from Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.



Colorado All Service Academy Ball

Appreciates the generosity of our Corporate Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



United States Air Force Academy Parents Club US Naval Academy Alumni Association US Naval Academy Parents Club Ted and Susanne Johnson West Point Parents' Club of Colorado Gasca Family

Silver Sponsors

El Pomar Foundation Navy Federal Credit Union Pelican



Rocky Mountain Chapter, USCGA Parents Association US Coast Guard Academy Parents Association US Merchant Marines Academy Parents Club of Colorado Diane Gasca (Grandmother of a USNA Midshipman) Limas Family



Bronze Sponsors

Top Golf Loraine and Roberto Torres

In – Kind Donations

Thank you for providing products and gifts.

Red Leg Brewery Limas Family Ann Pederson Aidan & Marla Plaehn Sarah Shull Loraine Torres

Additional Acknowledgements

Monarch Merchandising for the Coins and Glassware

Nicole Fey Photography

House of Groove DJ and Music

The Antlers Hotel Team

Deuces Wild for our Casino Night

Programs printed by Rhodesco Print and Design

Thank you to all the Midshipmen and Cadets for attending and being part of the ceremony.

A special thank you to Loraine Torres for going above and beyond over the past year.

Tracy Lacey, thank you for your help and support not only for this year, but for the past two years with the production of the program, flyers and general support.

To my daughter, Savannagh USNA Class of 2025, thank you for perfecting this year's CASAB logo, and for volunteering and helping me with CASAB over the past three years.

To all of the volunteers for the 2023 CASAB, thank you for your support.

THE WEST POINT PARENTS CLUB OF COLORADO PROUDLY SUPPORTS OUR COLORADO & WYOMING CADETS





TED AND SUSANNE JOHNSON

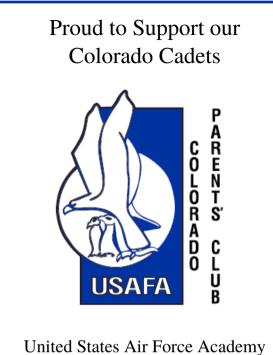




USNA PARENTS CLUB OF COLORADO & WYOMING







United States Air Force Academy Colorado Parents' Club www.usafacpc.org

GASCA FAMILY





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Centennial State

THE COLORADO CHAPTER of the USNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



proudly supports our



Cadet 1st Class Austin C. Brown USAFA Class of 2024





My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. ~Proverbs 3: 1,2,4

believe in you! We are so proud of you! We pray many blessings over you now and in your next chapter. Your time at USAFA has prepared you: lead humbly and confidently. Forever and Always! Mom (Claudia [USPHS Ret.]), Dad (Chris '79), Arye '21, Alex '20, & AJ

ADDRESS | BUILD

Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in All We Do





Ryan Cordova USNA 24'

Congratulations Ryan! We are so proud of you. Excited to watch you in all your upcoming adventures as a Marine Aviator.

Midshipman Ricardo Limas USNA 2024 - Company 13

As you near the completion of your education at the United States Naval Academy, know that "proud" merely begins to describe our feelings for what you have accomplished and the man you have become.

As you ready to embark on your service commitment, we will carry you in our thoughts and in our hearts as you will us.

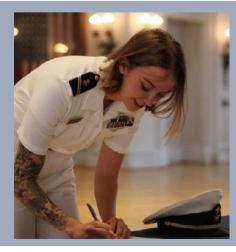
Love always your family, Mom, Dad, Catie, & Danny



CDT Grant Ferry | USAFA Class of 2024



Grant, we are so very proud of you and the young man you are and continue to become. May God bless you abundantly in every way as you commission and graduate. To Infinity and Beyond! With love, Dad, Mom, Hunter and Skylar



MIDM Joslyn Schoen, USNA Class of 2025

Joslyn, we are so very proud of you and your accomplishments, and are excited to see what is ahead for you. We are always with you and will support you wherever you are. Love, Mom and Dad



Eva Torres |USNA Class of 2024

Eva,

Wishing you endless success as you embark on this new chapter in your life. You are amazing, strong and possess everything needed to propel you into a world of success, no matter what you tackle. Adventure awaits. Now, it is time to open a new chapter, and you still get to be the author. Live the life you have imagined and keep making us proud. Semper Fi. Fly high with Jesus!

XOXO Mom, Dad, Olivia, & Elena











Savannagh Gasca USNA Class of 2025 Keep having fun! Love, us!

TUT ERT ARMY

The Committee

The **US Naval Academy Parents Club of Colorado & Wyoming** wants to express its heartfelt appreciation for the commitment and outstanding performance of the 41st Colorado All Service Academy Ball Planning Committee. We know the Cadets, Midshipmen and all those attending greatly appreciate all of your commitment and hard work to make this evening celebratory and fun.

Chairperson Secretary Treasurer Susan Gasca, USNA Loraine Torres, USNA Tracy Lacey, USNA

Academy Points of Contact

United States Military Academy United States Naval Academy United States Coast Guard Academy United States Merchant Marine Academy United States Air Force Academy Tristen Wendland Sarah Shull Alicia Souvignier Kathy Kinch Jeff Flachman, Claudia Brown

Committee Chairs

Venue Commemorative Coin/Glassware Commemorative Program Webmaster Susan Gasca, USNA Loraine Torres, USNA Tracy Lacey, USNA Jessica Anderson, USAFA

Save the Date

The annual USNA Parents Club of Colorado and Wyoming Navy Vs. Airforce Football Tailgate party will be held **October 5, 2024.**



This year's theme "From the Sea to the Stars" is to honor all the Navy women & men that have served and will serve in submarines in the deepest oceans.

Our Navy Seals and MarSoc Marines that dive, swim, and jump into the darkest places. The hundreds of ships and the sailors that man them. Ground support from infantry to communications, medical to cyber. Navy and Marine fixed wings and rotary pilots they are the best in the world. Finally, our astronauts that journey into infinity and beyond.

Thank you all. May you all live long and prosper.



The 2024 Colorado All Service Academy Ball will be hosted jointly by the Merchant Marine and Coast Guard Academies.

Scan Here



For the online version of this program.



The US Naval Academy Parents Club of Colorado and Wyoming is proud to support our Cadets as they train to become future leaders and officers in the United States Navy. We are honored to host the

41stAnnual Colorado All Service Academy Ball

