

# NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2023

We're **HIRING!** And we are looking for **YOU!**

State Active Duty missions in support of the  
Asylum Seekers. Personnel needed NOW!



# NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

## NEWSLETTER

### SPRING 2023

#### NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

330 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham,  
New York 12110  
(518) 786-4583  
Fax: (518) 786-4427  
<http://dmna.ny.gov/nynm/>

An entity of the  
New York State Division of Military & Naval Affairs



Visit the NYNM on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/NYNM.admin/>

#### Cover photo:

A MEBS crewmember as lookout onboard PB 230, during a transit of the Hudson River on 30APR23.



#### Commander's Corner:

**Rear Admiral (LH)  
Lawrence Weill, NYNM**

#### From the Commander:

It's always gratifying to hear about our NYNM members who are assigned on orders to various missions around the State as they excel in their assigned duties. For those of you currently assigned to the Asylum Seeker mission (approx. 200), and the Enduring Covid Mission (approx. 25), we have received nothing but superb feedback on the performance of your duties. The adjective most commonly used is "professional," which reflects directly on you and the way in which you approach your job.

We have also been privileged to witness some of our members performing heroically in the line of duty. Last November, LCpl William Kong and PFC Robil Rahyab (NY Guard) saved the life of an infant at The Hotel on Times Square with their quick thinking and medical training. More recently, two NYNM members, , HM2 Alex Sahastume Rivera and GM2 Terrail Hubbard; along with NY Air National Guard Tech Sgt Papa Dero Konate saved the life of a despondent Asylum Seeker individual who was attempting to commit suicide by jumping out a hotel window. They quickly blocked the man from jumping and were able to restrain him until the police arrived.

While it is not every day that we hear of a Militia member saving someone's life, we do hear every

day about the outstanding work that is being performed by each and every one of you. It is being observed, and we greatly appreciate your efforts.

I would also like to remind all our “5%-ers” (who are no longer drilling Reservists) that you may now be eligible for selection on our upcoming Promotion Board in June. Remember, this is for all paygrades, both officer and enlisted. You must meet the TIR (Time in Rate) requirements, and must also have sufficient time left before retiring, so make sure to review the newly revised NYNMINST 1410.1E for your specific case. I also encourage you to work with your Regional Commander for assistance in preparing for the Board, and also to obtain an Evaluation and a Letter of Recommendation prior to the deadline date of 31 MAY 2023.

Finally, I’d like to announce an exciting development that is new for 2023. The Adjutant General has expressed plans to provide paid orders to some of our upcoming training events. We have never been able to pay our members for training exercises, so this represents a true opportunity to financially reward participants for their involvement in our programs. We will keep you updated on this initiative.

Thanks again for all you do, and keep up the great work!

### Deputy Commander News:

The next promotion cycle is upon us. If you plan to provide a Promotion Application. And I will remind everyone that the only way to be promoted is to request Promotion in a Promotion Application.

We have made a few small changes to our Promotion Instruction New York Naval Militia instruction 1410.1E.

[https://dmna.ny.gov/forms/naval/NYNMINST\\_1410.1E\\_PROMOTION\\_POLICY\\_AND\\_PROCEDURES1.pdf](https://dmna.ny.gov/forms/naval/NYNMINST_1410.1E_PROMOTION_POLICY_AND_PROCEDURES1.pdf)

Key changes include:

1. Time-In-Grade: a member must have been a member of the NYNM for a minimum of 1 (one) year before applying for promotion.
2. Service members must have a minimum of 15 months remaining before retirement to be eligible for promotion.
3. Enlisted personnel applying for grades E7-E9 must include a letter of recommendation from a NYNM member in the grades of E7 – E9. That letter of recommendation should include an agreement to assist the candidate in post selection mentoring.

Applications for Promotion are due to the New York Naval Militia Headquarters:

NY Naval Militia Promotion Board  
330 Old Niskayuna Rd,  
Latham, NY 12110

Applications are due no later than May 31, 2023. Please redact social security numbers from all materials submitted.

### Chief of Staff News:

By now, we have all heard about the 21-year-old, Massachusetts Air National Guard, Airman First Class, who notoriously distinguished himself by sharing hundreds of pages of classified materials on a social media site, thinking he was simply impressing his completely anonymous buddies on a perfectly private web site. Therefore, thinking he would never get caught or further disclose classified material. Of course, he was wrong. Nothing is ever truly anonymous or temporary on the Internet. Rather, one of his anonymous best friends rightfully helped expose his unforgivable betrayal of national security and self-destruction of an otherwise promising future. Unfortunately,

long after less patriotic members of the site had further shared the Airman's classified postings with the media and our adversaries.

While NYNM members encounter little or no classified material while on State Active Duty (SAD), we are entrusted with a great deal of sensitive personal and situational data while helping others overcome extraordinary challenges. Thus, "Caution!" is the word when using any form of social media or electronic communication. That includes posting to public or presumed private web sites and emailing or recording anything that might be intentionally or unintentionally further forwarded. Even simply "liking" or further highlighting or distributing insensitive, derogatory, or inflammatory posts, memes, jokes, or statements made by others could reflect poorly upon yourself and the entire NYNM. Similarly, revealing operational details or personally identifiable information could risk the welfare of yourself and others as well as mission accomplishment. Fortunately, we have yet to notice any recent social media problems. Regardless, please use the Airman's transgression as an opportunity to remind yourself, as well as your colleagues and crew, to continue exercising extraordinary caution while using social media.

Other potential concerns include alcohol use, as well as several other limited or prohibited activities, while on SAD. Simply put, anyone on SAD cannot possess, manufacture, sell, or consume any alcoholic beverage while on SAD, or consume alcohol within eight hours of reporting for SAD, other than during officially approved and carefully controlled social gatherings. Same with a total prohibition against illicit or otherwise intoxicating drugs as well as inappropriate social behavior. At a minimum, confirmed violations will result in the member's discharge from SAD and referral for further disciplinary action or prosecution if warranted. Similarly, while we have yet to notice any recent serious violations of the personal

conduct policies of the NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA), Office of the Adjutant General (OTAG), please continue to exercise extraordinary caution and help remind your colleagues and crew to do so as well.

In summary, every NYNM member should become familiar with the official written policies of DMNA regarding social media and alcohol use, as well as the OTAG's twenty other written policies regarding personal behavior, and actively help promote their distribution and implementation. Needless to say, if you see something inappropriate, or hear about something inappropriate, say something appropriate, and intervene via your chain of command if needed, as soon as possible before the inappropriate behavior becomes an even larger issue. The official written policies are quick and informative reads and readily available at <https://dmna.ny.gov/otag/policies/>

## RECENT AWARDS

### Military Commendation Medal



CPL Vongsavanh Phensomphane (r) and LCPL Aaron Cooper recognized for their performance of duty at Plattsburgh and Jones Beach (respectively) during Operation COVID 19



## TAPS

Major Gregory Scott Farry, United States Marine Corps (Retired), passed away Saturday, March 25th from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident that occurred on March 10, 2023.

He was born in Buffalo, NY on April 22, 1969. After graduating high school in Glens Falls, Greg went on to graduate from the ROTC program at the University of Rochester before a career in the Marine Corps. Initially an Artillery Officer, Greg switched to the field of Intelligence and served in several deployments- including combat deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan- during his more than 25 years in the Marines.



Major Farry joined the New York Naval Militia on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. He identified his logistics background and his current civilian work as a distribution manager at Target. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, he was placed on SAD to begin the process of turning the Javits Center into an Alternate Medical Facility and stayed on that task until 21 March 2021.

## NORTHCOM NEWS

NORTHCOM Commander:  
CAPT MaryEtta Nolan



We continued to visit the Schemectady Reserve Center and developed a great working relationship with the Reserve Center Commander, LCDR Laine Cameron. Currently, we are planning a Militia Day at the Reserve Center in July. We will have two Militia boats take members interested in the NYNM for informative rides that will include our mission and responsibilities to the state of New York. Afterward, we will have a BBQ and encourage joining our prestigious Militia. GySgt Hauschen visited area recruiting stations to inform the recruiters on the NYNM and provided brochures.

Contact information 518-321-1882 or email at [maryettanolan@gmail.com](mailto:maryettanolan@gmail.com)

NORTHCOM Deputy Commander:  
LCDR Alan Gutman



Medical Readiness training is available for all Medical Units across NY and can be downloaded from LCDR Gutman's mass library.

Contact information: 607-760-8789 or email at [ajgutman@stny.rr.com](mailto:ajgutman@stny.rr.com)

NORTHCOM Senior Enlisted Leader:  
GySgt Paul Hauschen



We've been visiting recruiting offices to reconnect and talk up the New York State tuition assistance program. It's a win-win for both New York State and our serving reservists. New York State gets volunteers for civil support operations and the reservists get a \$7,070 annually stipend from the

state for their education. Some of the recruiters

didn't know the program applies to ANY accredited school in the state, not just SUNY schools. One lance corporal I met who was home on recruiting duty wanted to volunteer immediately. Just like the Naval Militia as a whole, we need to talk it up with our friends, family, and coworkers. One of the people you share our story with might just have a sister, brother, niece, or nephew that could benefit from the tuition assistance program. And I'm sure those same people don't know that hundreds of Naval Militia members served their state during Operation COVID and are now serving on the Asylum Seeker mission. We have a lot to be proud of and we need to tell everyone that we know! Contact information 518-389-5881 or email Phauschen@hotmail.com

### **READINESS OFFICER**

We asked our membership to step up and volunteer for the Asylum Seeker Resource Support Mission and you have delivered once again! Even if you live outside of the 5 boroughs there may be an opportunity for you to serve on this mission. If you are interested, please call the office at (518)786-4583, to be added to our volunteer roster.

This ongoing mission has grown the number of new members. Keep passing the word regarding what the Naval Militia has to offer. Maintaining our membership number at a healthy level will ensure we can continue to answer the next call to State Active Duty.

To ensure we are prepared for the next emergency mission, help me keep our force ready to respond by sending me any changes to your pay grade, address, cell or email. Remember, your Federal branch of service does not share information with us or the State pay office. Our database is where your pay information comes from. If we show you as an E2 but you are now an E5 and

didn't send me an E5 LES, you will not receive the correct pay.

Updates can be uploaded to our document portal on the website  
<https://dmna.ny.gov/nynm/?id=contact>

Or sent to [ng.ny.nyarnng.mbx.nynavalmilitia@army.mil](mailto:ng.ny.nyarnng.mbx.nynavalmilitia@army.mil)

Or emailed to me directly at [elizabeth.a.spain.nfg@army.mil](mailto:elizabeth.a.spain.nfg@army.mil)  
Thank you all!  
BMCS(EXW) Elizabeth Spain

### **Education News:**

The next eligible semester for RIRP Education benefits is Fall, 2023. The deadline for submission of benefit applications is 13 August 2023.

### **Announcements:**

- Promotion packages due; 31 MAY 23
- Josephthal Trophy award nominations due; 15 JUN 23
- NY Air Show; Montgomery 23-25 JUN 23
- NRC Schenectady NAVAL MILITIA DAY; 8 JUL 23
- Operation Commanding Force; Alexandria Bay 20-21 JUL 23
- Exercise Western Horizon; Lake Ontario 4-6 AUG 23
- NYNM Leadership Meeting; Latham 11 AUG 23
- Exercise Empire Challenge; NYC 3-5 OCT 23
- MEBS Fall Round-UP; Leeds 29-29 OCT 23

## New York Naval Militia by the Numbers

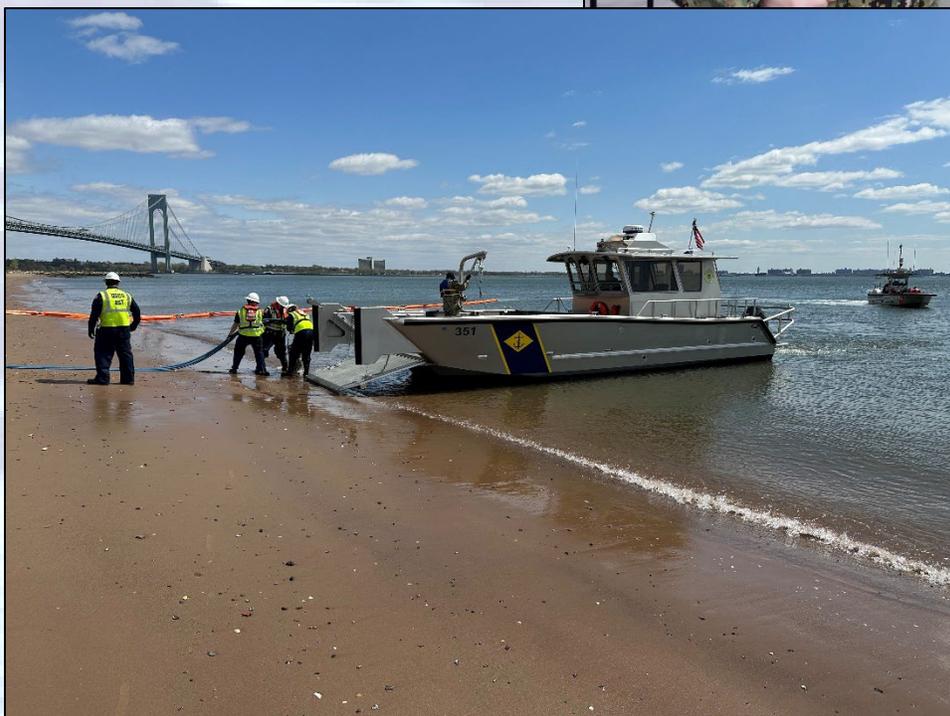
1MAY23	SOUTH	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
OFFICER	133	23	32	188
WARRANT	9	0	1	10
ENLISTED	2045	235	381	2661
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2187</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>2859</b>
NAVY	977	112	240	1329
MARINE	1050	127	144	1321
COAST GUARD	91	3	6	100
STATE ACTIVE LIST (5%)	32	3	3	38
FEDERAL COMPONENT LIST (Retired)	35	14	22	71

## PHOTO GALLERY. The Naval Militia in action.



SSGT Jon Oliveras (r) leads joint component training for the Asylum Seeker mission, in the Bronx.

BU1 Toni Barnett stands atop the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse, above the Hudson River during the MEBS Kick-off Weekend on 29 APR 23.



LC 351 served as the "target" vessel during a Atlantic Strike Team (USCG) oil spill exercise on Fort Wadsworth Beach, 19APR23

