

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER FALL 2019



**Military and
Naval Affairs**

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



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

COMMANDER'S CORNER:

RDML Warren T. Smith
Commander New York Naval Militia



As 2019 draws to a close, members of the New York Naval Militia can reflect yet again on a job well done. During the course of the year, the Naval Militia responded to winter storms in January and February, trained with the National Guard and New York Guard on HF emergency radio equipment, provided extensive and extended support to Operation Lake Ontario Flooding – including managing the JRSOI functions for all personnel assigned, conducted Exercise Empire Challenge in May, sourced, cooked and served food to hundreds of Militia, Guard, and National Guard members, supported the ongoing Joint Task Force – Empire Shield tasking to MEBS, both at Indian Point and New York harbor, augmented LE and ICE activities at Rouse's Point, orchestrated the Change of Command at Latham in October, and responded to a severe wind storm in November. In acknowledgment of our increased supportive role to the New York Army and Air National Guard, the NYNM Personnel Action Team is now being considered as the primary force provider for JRSOI functions for all future mobilizations, further recognition of the value we add to the military forces of New York State.

The "Holiday Season" brings its own challenges, as we reacquaint ourselves with the techniques of safe winter driving, and perhaps travel long distances to join family and friends for the seasonal celebrations. The perils of driving while abilities are impaired by alcohol receive much attention, and deservedly so. If you plan to drink, don't drive: make arrangements in advance to stay where you are until the following day. But even for those who abstain, the risks of falling asleep at the wheel loom large, particularly at night after a heavy meal. Again, plan in advance to travel only when you can be fully alert to the task. Any inconvenience is outweighed by the risk of doing otherwise.

With that, I close by offering all of you my thanks for your service to our country and our state, and best wishes for a safe and enjoyable season. I am proud to serve with you, and look forward to more opportunities to support the people and the state of New York in the year ahead.

CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS

Notes from the Chief of Staff:

2019 is not over yet! The Annual Coastal Storm Season is over. Normally, it lasts from June through Mid-November. This past year 12 to 14 named storms were forecast and 20 named storms passed through the Atlantic. Fortunately none threatened New York.

Lake Ontario Flooding saw 100 NY Naval Militia members respond. This year the Naval Militia provided the lion's share of Command and Control personnel. At one point we had 10 members

supporting DMNA in Latham and for the final Lake Ontario Recovery mission Captain Martinez (NYNM) and Master Chief Niemitalo (NYNM) were the Officer in Charge and the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Task Force. Clearly our Naval Militia provided a substantial C2 backbone for 2019 missions.

Our Food Service personnel once again provided morale along with needed food service. By the end of the Lake Ontario mission over 11,000 meals were served. At every turn the commanders in the field remarked on the Naval Militia personnel working long hours and providing positive support. This was in the field building sand bag walls, moving sand bags by landing craft, feeding the troops or keeping track of logistics.

Another semester of Tuition Assistance has been completed and over 100 Naval Militia members took advantage of New York State paying for over \$3,500 in their tuition bills. So far New York has not put a cap on this benefit... every New York Naval Militia member that is going to college should use this benefit. How can anyone leave over \$7,000 per year sitting on the table? The application process is easy and painless.

Going back to the above remarks concerning Command and Control, the Naval Militia is training members to be the Joint Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration (JRSOI) Team. Once trained these members will be first into the mission and the last to leave. This is a valued opportunity for members that have the time to spend on military leave. We have found that smart Naval Militia members are needed to be sure all State Active Duty members get paid properly, are accounted for correctly and receive all of the benefits they are entitled to during mission. If you feel this mission fits your skills contact Senior Chief Spain for this training opportunity. We will be continually training personnel for this much needed field of Command and Control.

Lastly, many operations happen with most New Yorkers never learning of the events. Operation November Winds came crashing through Northern New York (Herkimer County) on November 4th and lasted until November 15th. NYNM personnel stayed on duty until November 20th doing Command and Control work in DMNA Headquarters. Be ready! Be sure you have foul weather clothing! Make sure we have your correct email address!

Be safe this winter and have a Happy Holidays.

MILITARY EMERGENCY BOAT SERVICE

MEBS PERSONNEL NEWS.

Recent Naval Militia Promotions:

Robert Hill (MEBS DET 31 OIC) to Chief Machinist Mate

James Bruce (MEBS WESTCOM Coordinator) to Senior Chief Boatswains Mate

Jay Veronko (MEBS N7) to Commander

Recent MEBS Retirements

Senior Chief Nick Tarulli (MEBS DET 12 OIC)

Chief Mike Porter, Sr. (MEBS DET 41 OIC)

Senior Chief Frank Rogers, Jr. (MEBS N4)

MEBS N4 MAINTENANCE SHOP. In October 2019, Senior Chief Frank Rogers stepped down from full-time service as the MEBS Maintenance Supervisor. Rumor has it that he has relocated to St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. He has been replaced at the MEBS Maintenance Facility in

Leeds, by AMC Jim Miller. Along with full-time assistant BU3 Tramaine Pringle, they have a basketful of work ahead of them. With the recent addition of MK3 Keith White on a part-time basis, a lot of great work is getting done.

MEBS Maintenance Team working on PB 280 engines at Leeds on 26NOV19

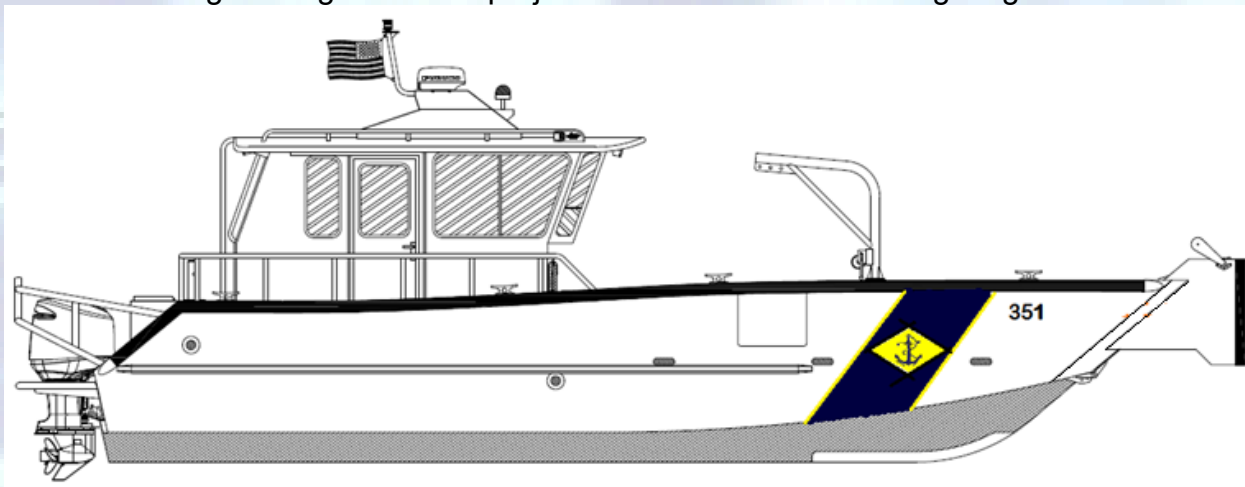


MEBS N7 TRAINING. Recently promoted CDR Jay Veronko has proven invaluable in our training programs. Not only has he taken the lead on our risk management efforts, he has also conceptualized a new training regimen. This includes holding a dedicated week-long, intensive boat training course called the MEBS Basic Crewmember Course. The focus of this training will be to further qualifications of our dedicated personnel who have demonstrated initiative and potential for further growth within our boat program. We are limiting the student seats for this course to just 12, in order to provide the best possible training. The training will take place from 13-17 April 2020, at Camp Smith in Westchester County.

MEBS DET 30 "MOD SQUAD." Within our Mobile Operations Det, SSGT Paul Hauschen has stepped up as detachment OIC. He has been working hard on finalizing improvements being made to our command post trailer. With the assistance of CAPT Mark Pedersen (NYNM N6), MTC Bob Morisseau (MEBS N6) and technical

support from the NYS Office of Interoperability and Emergency Communications, our ability to communicate and exercise control have vastly improved.

FEDERAL GRANTS. The New York Naval Militia was awarded an FY19 Port Security Grant from FEMA. The money will be used to buy a second landing craft. LC 351 will be very similar to our current 35' long landing craft. The project is in the initial contracting stages.



EXERCISE PLANNING. The Naval Militia “Big” exercise for 2020 is planned to be Empire Challenge in September. The location for MEBS is centered at Willard, on Seneca Lake. The exercise is in the initial planning stages.

EXERCISE EMPIRE CHALLENGE 2020

Exercise Empire Challenge '20 (ECX20) is in the planning stage. It will be a joint exercise again involving all New York Military Forces (NYMF) units

Exercise dates are not set in stone yet but September has been identified as the month.

The location is Western NY this year with Seneca Lake being considered as the sight.

The purpose and objectives will be the same as last year but the TAG has asked that we step up our game for this exercise. I will have more details after the JAN 15th planning meeting.

Admin and Education News:

Happy Holidays!

We have had a very busy year with activations and I would like to take a minute to thank all of you who have responded to our many requests. We have heard such wonderful things about all of you from the other branches that have worked alongside you this year, keep up the great work!

With the increased likelihood of activations this winter, please remember to update NYNM HQ with ANY changes to your address, phone number, email address, Rank/Rate, name, etc. as these changes are something we can only change once you notify us! This is your responsibility to keep us informed; it will significantly affect things like your pay when you are on orders.

As a reminder, the Naval Militia offers a tuition assistance program to help you pay for your school! This program is called the Recruitment Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) and it is available for Spring and Fall semesters only. The application period for the Spring 2020 semester is now open, please begin sending your applications to the RIRP email box ONLY

ng.ny.nyarnng.mbx.nynavalmilitia-rirp@mail.mil **NOTE: ALL documents MUST be sent in PDF format and attached DIRECTLY to the email (not through sites such as google chrome) as all other formats will be blocked prior to reaching my inbox!**

For those of you who are not aware, the RIRP is a tuition assistance program available to members of the New York Army & Air National guards, and the New York Naval Militia. The RIRP is a program funded by New York State with the intention of retaining and recruiting drilling reservists within New York State. If approved for the RIRP, New York State will pay your school a maximum of the current SUNY Tuition rate per semester. The rate for the Fall 2019 semester was \$3,535, and should be the same for the Spring 2020 semester.

Deadlines- The RIRP is a SEMESTER to SEMESTER program, meaning you MUST re-apply completely each semester if you would like to be approved, and it currently covers the Spring and Fall semesters only. The deadline dates listed are subject to change. **Late applications will not**

be accepted under any circumstances. Beginning the day after the first deadline, you will have a 60 day grace period to collect all final requirements and submit them to NYNM HQ for approval. This grace period is meant to allow for processing times at HESC and FASFA; all additional remaining requirements should be submitted ASAP to allow HQ time to review them and make sure everything is correct. **Please note: your college/university will not receive notification about RIRP from NYNM until we have received all requirements & approved your application, therefore it is crucial you submit all documents as early as possible.**

Spring Semesters (1st deadline): The completed DMNA Form 96-1 **AND** the NYNM RIRP Acknowledgment form **MUST BE RECEIVED** by Elizabeth Cummings **NO LATER THAN 1600** on December 13th in order to be accepted into the application period for that semester.

Fall Semesters (1st deadline): The completed DMNA Form 96-1 **AND** the NYNM RIRP Acknowledgment form **MUST BE RECEIVED** by Elizabeth Cummings **NO LATER THAN 1600** on August 13th in order to be accepted into the application period for that semester.

Want more information about RIRP? Please contact me!

Very respectfully,
Elizabeth Cummings



We are so pleased to announce that THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S AWARD was presented to **Ms. Elizabeth Cummings**. She consistently displays exceptional initiative, understanding and drive as the Office Manager and Education Coordinator for the New York Naval Militia. She has greatly assisted numerous Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Reservists, receive tuition assistance through the Recruitment, Incentive and Retention Program (RIRP) to name just one of the many invaluable services she provides the NYNM every day!

READINESS OFFICER (N31) CORNER:

BMCS(EXW) Elizebeth Spain

With the change of seasons we finally saw a wrap up of the Lake Ontario Missions. The Naval Militia has continued to shine as a force provider for the State. After the threat of flooding passed, NYNM was called on to provide the OIC, NCOIC and 4 additional strike team members for Lake Ontario JTF Recovery, as well as maintaining 2 members from the original mission for support in Latham at DMNA. The last NYNM service member came off orders October 25th here at the Latham Joint Forces Headquarters location (JFHQ). Captain Deivy Martinez and MNCM Glenn Niemitalo lead the recovery and removal of the water bladders that had been in place to hold back the flood waters. We have proven our skills and expertise, now we have to maintain our readiness!



**CAPT Martinez OIC Lake Ontario Recovery
MNCM Niemitalo NCOIC**



Removal of water bladder at Sackets Harbor

We have an exciting opportunity to spear head training for Joint Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration (JRSOI), including Reverse JRSOI for DMNA. This is the process every service member experiences when checking into a mission on State Active Duty to initiate pay, BAH, verify medical readiness and so much more. When this process is done correctly, pay and entitlements are received in a timely fashion. When this process is not smooth the problems are numerous. We will work with all Force Providers to develop an administrative team who will be the first to be mobilized and the last to come off orders. This will ensure continuity from mission to mission and provide **additional SAD opportunities** for Naval Militia members. If you feel you would be a good fit for the team, please reach out to me. You will be trained at the Latham JFHQ location. A commitment to be available for orders (will not conflict with Federal obligations) and continue quarterly refresher training plus maintaining a working CAC are required.



**Joint Reception, Staging,
Onward movement and
Integration (JRSOI)
during the Lake Ontario
Recovery Mission.**

Being a **Unit Point of Contact** (POC) is an invaluable role in the Naval Militia. We have NOSCs that are underrepresented and it is hurting recruitment. If you don't know who your Unit POC is, chances are we need you to step up and volunteer. I would encourage all Senior Enlisted Leaders to be proactive and encourage your unit members to enlist in the NYNM. The RIRP tuition assistance is just one of the fabulous entitlements that I wish more service members would take advantage of (see Elizabeth Cumming's column). As an incentive to attract and keep hard charging POCs, we are hosting a POC appreciation event here at the Latham Headquarters summer 2020. To be eligible you must actively communicate with our office, plus our top performers will be recognized. Come meet the staff, see the DMNA facility and tour the Joint

Operations Center for the State of New York. A lucky few will even get to enjoy a ride on one of our Military Emergency Boat Service (MEBS) boats on the beautiful Hudson River.

I will continue to beat the drum that correct and current member information is critical. Thank you to those who have responded to mass emails looking to close the loop on inaccurate information. As a force provider, NYNM cannot be ready to support if we have a data base full of members we cannot contact or who are no longer able and willing to serve. **Keeping our data base as accurate as possible is imperative and cannot be accomplished without your help. If you have a change of address, name, phone number, email, pay grade or Unit please provide us with this information in a timely fashion.** Additionally, if you have advanced and we have not updated your paygrade prior to accepting orders, this can cause a lag in being paid correctly. We understand you cannot always raise your hand to volunteer, but we need to ensure we can contact you to ask the question. Thank you in advance for ensuring we are a ready force the next time our community needs our help.

V/R
Senior Spain

UNIFORM NEWS

New York Naval Militia Uniforms – CAPT David Hawley, Chief-of-Staff

The uniforms of the New York Naval Militia closely match the uniforms of the member's parent service. For example: a member of the United States Marine Corps are authorized to (according to MCO 1001R.1L ch1) wear the Marine Corps uniform while on duty with the Naval Militia as long as a conspicuous Naval Militia device is on the uniform. The New York Naval Militia breast coin is illustrated.



On US Navy NWU's a distinctive New York Naval Militia flag patch is worn on the left shoulder replacing the "Don't Tread On Me" flag. The Naval Militia uniform instruction 1020.1D is located on the Naval Militia web page for further clarification.

When should the New York Naval Militia uniform be worn?

The New York Naval Militia uniform must be worn whenever the Naval Militia member is on orders for the State of New York. A member of the New York Naval Militia must have official orders whenever they are representing the Naval Militia. Orders may be obtained by contacting the NY Naval Militia headquarters. There are times when orders are not required: weddings, funerals and non-public ceremonial events.

For public ceremonies a member may wear the Naval Militia uniform with prior approval from the Division of Military and Naval Affairs Public Affairs Office.

Of course the standard prohibitions for wearing a uniform apply:

- (1) Soliciting funds for any purpose from the public outside of a military base or establishment.
- (2) Participating in any type of show or event which is commercially sponsored for advertising purposes, where it could be implied or construed that the Naval Militia endorses the product advertised.
- (3) Endorsing commercial products in ways as to involve the uniform, title, grade or rate or in any way establish or imply their military affiliation with such products.
- (4) Appearing or participating in any event in public that would compromise the dignity of the uniform

AROUND THE REGIONS

WESTCOM Leadership Dinner Growing in Size

The most recent WESTCOM Leadership Dinner, held in October, was the largest one ever, with Officers and Chiefs coming from all three major metropolitan areas (Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo). These meetings have provided a great place for WESTCOM leaders to congregate and exchange ideas, as well as a forum for social interaction. "We offer not only an enjoyable time, but some of the best Italian food anywhere" said CAPT Weill, a long-term patron of the Northside Inn (East Rochester).

The gathering attracted more attendees than ever before, despite the fact that neither of WESTCOM's Marine units were available to attend due to deployments. The next dinner is currently planned for April, 2020, and should be larger than ever. For details or to request an invite, contact CAPT Weill at captweill@aol.com.

CAPT Mark Pedersen Steps in Magistrate Position in United States District Court

CAPT Mark W. Pedersen, JAGC, USNR (Ret.), the N6 for the New York Naval Militia, has been selected by the judges of the United States District Court for the Western District of New York to be the next magistrate judge in that court. The selection process included an interview by a civilian committee, a recommendation of the top five candidates by that committee to the judges of the court, and an interview by the judges before the selection was announced by Chief Judge Geraci.

A federal magistrate judge serves for an eight-year term and has preliminary jurisdiction over felony criminal cases, for the initial appearance, a bail hearing, preliminary hearing, and suppression motions. On the civil side, a federal district judge can refer a case to a magistrate for scheduling of discovery and motions, resolution of discovery disputes, addressing motions filed by the litigants, and holding trial in certain civil cases. The Rochester Division of the Western District has two magistrate judges. The Western District encompasses the 17 westernmost counties in New York from the international border with Canada to the border with Pennsylvania.

CAPT Pedersen served as the principal law clerk to the Honorable Charles J. Siragusa, a United States District Judge appointed by President Clinton in 1997, for 21 and a half years. Prior to that, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in Monroe County, New York, after serving three and a half years on full time active duty as a Navy Judge Advocate. He was formerly the Force Judge Advocate for the Naval Militia.

At the investiture ceremony held in the Federal Ceremonial Courtroom on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, CAPT Pedersens son, 1LT Ross W. Pedersen, N.Y.A.N.G., sang the national anthem, and CAPT Pedersens wife Jane, mother Dolore s, sons Todd, Ross, and Adam, and daughter, Jena, held the family Bible as he took the oath of office.



CAPT Mark Pedersen in his new role as Magistrate for the U.S. District Court



SOUTHCOM Exercise Jonas Bronck

Exercise Captain Jonas Bronck was conducted by members of New York Naval Militia (NYNM) SOUTHCOM as well as a key medical instructor from WESTCOM. The training exercise was held on Saturday, 26 October 2019, at the Welcome Center, SUNY Maritime College Campus, 6 Pennyfield Avenue Throggs Neck, New York 10465.

Eighteen Navy and Marine Corps NYNM personnel primarily from SOUTHCOM attended. “Just-In-Time” Training consisted of Microsoft PowerPoint presentations along with distributed documents for presentations regarding SALT - (Sort, Access, Life Saving Interventions and Transport) - Triage of Mass Casualty Victims, NYPD Blast Training, Active Shooter Training, and MEBS Boat Safety initiation. “Hands on” training consisted of application of tourniquet(s) / wound packing techniques using limb trainer(s), as well as BLS-AED familiarization using a CPR mannequin/AED Trainer. Distributed documents covering the “Hands on” training portion of the exercise were also provided to the participants.



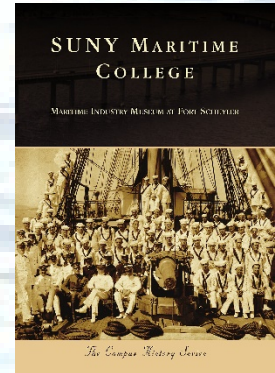
Overall, the exercise was a success.

Exercise CAPT Jonas Bronck is a resumption of training of SOUTHCOM personnel after a long hiatus of prior training held at the SUNY Maritime



College. Given the largest concentration of Hospital Corpsman located in SOUTHCOM region, additional plans are being formulated to meet the training needs of SOUTHCOM members, the large majority of whom are SELRES Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel. A prime goal is to offer medical training to NYNM members from all regions, as SOUTHCOM contains the greater number of medical personnel, including NYNM's FMO.

Certificates of completed training were issues to all participants by Commander, SOUTHCOM.



NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA BY THE NUMBERS

25-NOV-19	SOUTH	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
OFFICER	132	31	35	198
WARRANT	6	3	3	12
ENLISTED	1749	254	385	2,388
TOTAL	1993	323	460	2,776
NAVY	946	132	249	1,327
MARINE	802	111	138	1,051
COAST GUARD	70	5	4	79
STATE ACTIVE LIST (5%)	24	8	8	40
FEDERAL COMPONENT LIST (Retired)	46	32	24	102



2017, 2018 & 2019 Naval Militia Chief Petty Officers, AMC James Miller, EOC Scott Pease, and MMC Robert Hill (L-R) received their Chief Petty Officer Creed Plaques during the Chiefs Pinning Ceremony on October 20, 2019 at NYNM DMNA HQ in Latham, NY



Commander, New York Naval Militia, Rear Admiral Warren Smith congratulates Machinist Mate Chief Robert Hill during his "Chiefs Pinning" ceremony on October 20, 2019 at NYNM DMNA HQ in Latham, NY

We would like to congratulate all FY2019 newly pinned Chief Petty Officers!
Please send us your LES so we can update your rank in our data base!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

15 JAN 20

Coastal Storm Initial Planning Conference, Latham
Exercise Empire Challenge Initial Planning Conference, Latham

13-17 APR 20

MEBS Basic Crewmember Course, Camp Smith

Cover photo:

PB 300 at sunset in Germantown,
NY October 19, 2019.



**NEW YORK
NAVAL MILITIA**

**CHANGE OF
COMMAND
CEREMONY**

18 October 2019

