

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2025



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



**Military and
Naval Affairs**

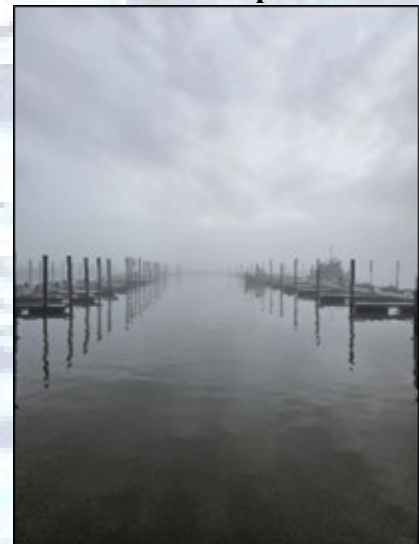


Front Cover photo:



The 24th Civil Support Team, based at Fort Hamilton, conducts a rehearsal embarking their Polaris onboard LC 350 at Davids Island in western Long Island Sound, on 2MAY2025.

Back Cover photo:



*Home of MEBS DET 1, Viking Boat Yard on St. Patrick's Day
(photo by SSgt Vega)*

Commander's Corner:



**Rear Admiral (LH)
Michael Perry, NYNM**

From the Commander:

Ahoy shipmates! First, thank you to the nearly three hundred NYNM members who have supported or are currently supporting the ongoing NYS Department of Corrections and Community Services (DOCCS) mission. The Adjutant General and his senior staff have repeatedly praised the importance of our contributions to the overall mission accomplishment and readiness of the New York National Guard (NYNG). Simply put, every NYNM member who steps forward for the DOCCS mission allows one or exponentially more similarly hard-charging Army or Air NYNG members to step back and focus upon the NYNG's overall federal, as well as state, training and readiness. Thereby helping maintain the NYNG's premier status among its peers despite supporting numerous extraordinarily demanding state missions. Thus, if you have yet

to do so, please consider volunteering to support the DOCCS mission with available assignments ranging from as short as ninety days to far longer if desired.

Thank you as well to the hard-working members of our Military Emergency Boat Service (MEBS) and rapidly developing Aerial Drone and Communication units who are continuing to push the proverbial envelope regarding our civil support capabilities and integration with other state and federal agencies, as well as the naval capabilities of other nations such as Canada, Brazil, and Sweden. We particularly appreciate several recent initiatives and inquiries that will further improve our integration with these agencies and nations and afloat support provided to Joint Task Force Empire Shield of the NYNG for many years to come.

Second, hopefully, those interested and eligible to do so have submitted a package for consideration by the 2025 NYNM promotion board. Regardless, please note that we have streamlined the NYNM performance evaluation process to allow MEBS members to be evaluated by the MEBS Commander and Senior Enlisted Leaders (SELs) rather than solely by their Regional Commander and SELs. Thereby eliminating the need for MEBS members to ask Regional Commanders to rate them against their top regional performers primarily based upon MEBS performance that they have neither observed nor can verify. Rather MEBS performance can and should be far more efficiently and effectively evaluated within MEBS by MEBS. MEBS members who additionally support their region or have volunteered to support a long-term non MEBS-related mission such as the DOCCS mission, as well as have volunteered the personal time and effort

needed to maintain at least their minimum MEBS readiness, can either include those accomplishments in their MEBS evaluation or, even better, request a concurrent evaluation from their Regional Commander. Same with the members of our Aerial and Drone units as they develop into a separate command. The net result will make evaluations far easier to obtain from the best possible source or sources to fully and fairly rate noted accomplishments.

Finally, please remember that while mission accomplishment is most important in the short term, invariably following proper procedure is far more important in the long term. Ideally precisely as required or as soon as possible thereafter in the case of a true emergency. Never leaving a proverbial “i” undotted or “t” uncrossed long before an audit reveals that we failed to do so. Otherwise, if we become too busy or neglectful to follow proper procedure, the missions, as well as the assets needed to complete our missions, will stop coming, since the net result of our efforts will eventually cause more harm than good. Thus, please pay particular attention to the references that you will see throughout this newsletter regarding the importance of carefully following the procedures required to properly activate and deactivate to and from State Active Duty. As well as properly use the credit cards, materials, and assets that the NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs has granted us, and could easily retract, if we fail to properly employ and maintain them.

In summary, we are providing excellent, innovative, and appreciated support to the NYNG in many different ways, and no state has been more generous to its State Defense Forces, including the NYNM, than the State of NY. However, we can easily lose that generosity for lack of attention to procedural details. Thus, members who consistently pay attention to such details will be among the first and most frequently called for future missions. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during Exercise Empire Challenge in June, Operation Commanding Force in July, and our anticipated promotion ceremonies this Fall.

UNIFORMS

The N.Y. Naval Militia Uniform Instruction (NYNMINST 1020.1E) paragraph 1. e. (3) (c) directs that all members of the NYNM that are no longer in active or reserve federal status (including retirees, veterans, and non-drilling Reservists) must wear the N.Y. NAVAL MILITIA component tape in place of the U.S. component nametape above the left breast pocket. **In other words, a NYNM member must be a drilling Reservist to wear the federal component nametape on the uniform while on duty with the NYNM. All others are to wear the N.Y. NAVAL MILITIA component tape.**

The same instruction directs that for required Naval Militia badges or pins, the only authorized versions include the rectangular NYNM full-color or subdued patches, the 2-inch metal badge, or specific unit patches such as MEBS or the UAS Unit. No other versions are authorized for the NYNM uniform.

Chief of Staff News:

By CAPT MaryEtta Nolan

Fraud – It’s an ugly word and describes the quickest way to be taken off mission, removed from the ranks of the NYNM, dishonorably discharged from the Reserves and be charged with a federal crime. Yet,

we have service members who think they can get away with it. It may not be discovered right away, but it will be, and you will suffer the consequences! Recently, BAH fraud has surfaced resulting in the Service Member owing \$5000.00, immediately removed from the mission, the Naval Militia and charged. Don't risk your career, your freedom and your reputation for a few dollars.

The **promotion process** is underway. Reminder, PDF packages must be submitted via JOTFORM by 31 May 2025. Every record will be thoughtfully reviewed by each Board Member and a decision rendered. Please make sure your record is complete, if something is missing, an explanation must be given. Your Senior Leaders are willing to assist you in this process, seek their counsel and expertise to achieve the best possible outcome – promotion. Good luck to all.

Director's Comments

By CAPT (ret) David Hawley

Every quarter when the Newsletter inputs are due, it is a time for reflections: What happened last quarter, What missions are current and or recently ended. What is coming in the next quarter? There are of course calendar events: Fall and Winter Tuition Assistance deadlines (August and December), Summer Hurricane Season, Vacation Driving safety, Motorcycle Safety, Boating Safety, School Beginning or Vacation Safety, Holiday Wishes, All of these events are valid items to include in Newsletter notes.

For me reflections for this newsletter are a little different: I have decided to Retire this year. For the past 12 years I have been the Director of the New York Naval Militia. This has been perhaps one of the most rewarding career moves I have ever made. Barely short of deciding in 1982 not to continue my teaching career and try my hand at being a Naval Aviator. For the New York Naval Militia, I clearly remember a First-Class Petty Officer in Navy Reserve Center Syracuse telling me as I checked in. "Sir, you need to join the Naval Militia, you can get free toll passes for going to drills." As I was living in Oswego and driving on route 481 and not the thruway, I didn't need passes but I was also looking for a better job so I thought the NY Naval Militia may look good on a resume. I got a better job soon after that, with the NY Naval Militia on my resume, so you never know.

In 2011 I retired from the US Navy Reserves and called NYNM HQ and asked for a "Retirement Certificate". As many retirees do, I was looking for "I love me wall" items. I was told I could stay in the Naval Militia until I was 68 years old and asked for something to do. I was placed in the N1 Personnel Officer billet. Within the next 12 months the Naval Militia activated over 200 personnel for Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy. A great time to be the Personnel Officer.

In 2013 the Director job was advertised, and I was hired. Now 12 years and many missions and operations later it is time for me to pass the hat to someone else. This has been a great experience, and I wouldn't have traded it for anything. Our Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard Personnel are the finest Professionals I have had the pleasure to work with. Winston Churchill once remarked that the Reserves are "Twice a Citizen". That they balance the life of a Reservist and a Citizen. I want to expand on that to honor our New York Naval Militia members: You are three times a citizen... A Reservist or prior Service member, A Citizen balancing your home life, and a Militia Volunteer volunteering to come to the aid of your neighbors in New York State.

Thank you all and Fair Winds and Following Seas.



Empire Challenge, our annual emergency communications exercise is slated to take place 4-6 June 2025 in Niagara County. The focus of this year's exercise will be a simulated border interdiction event that will include numerous federal, state, county, and local law enforcement and first responder agencies.

In addition to testing our short-range and long-haul communications capabilities, we will also have scenarios involving boats on the Niagara River and Lake Ontario, as well as aerial drone operations from Fort Niagara State Park.

We also expect to have a delegation from the Swedish Navy observing the exercise, as one of their first bi-lateral events here in New York State. This is part of the first-in-nation Maritime State Partnership Program between the Swedish Navy and the New York Naval Militia.

READINESS OFFICER

Operation Enduring Support to DOCCS is still going strong. Our Naval Militia Service members are filling key roles across the State. We are still actively recruiting for this mission. Please be aware the duty locations for this mission are not necessarily close to your home of record. You must be willing and able to go anywhere in the State.

The Naval Militia is now required to verify your dependency status and legal home of record for BAH. We require a driver's license or State ID that matches your legal home of record. This will be the address that your W-2 and pay stubs are sent to as well as what determines your BAH. To prove dependency status, we need a copy of your US marriage license certified by your city clerk or a vital records birth certificate signed by your city registrar of a child under 21 years of age. If your dependent child is 21 or over and a full-time student, we also need proof of enrollment.



Maintaining our membership at a healthy level will ensure we can continue to support current and future State Active Duty opportunities. Help me keep our force ready to respond by sending me any **changes to your status, pay grade, address, cell or email**. Remember, your federal branch of service does not share information with NYNM or the State pay office. If you retire or separate you must provide a medical on our forms 88 & 93 prior to separation to remain a member.

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

Thank you all!
BMCS(EXW) Elizebeth Spain

Örlanda

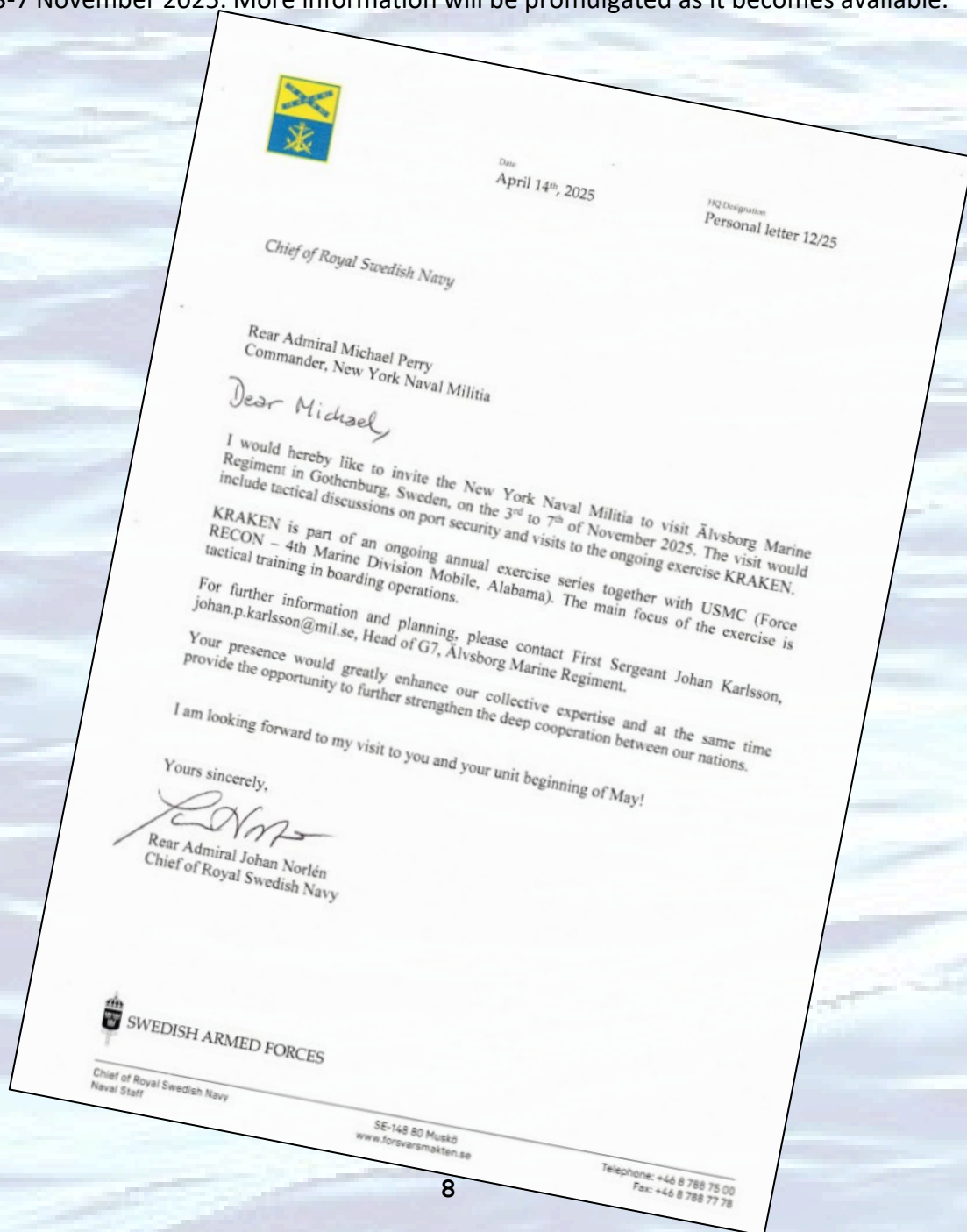
STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



On 1 and 2 May 2025, the New York National Guard State Partnership Program, along with leaders of the New York Naval Militia hosted a contingent of Royal Swedish Navy representatives in New York City, including their Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Johan Norlén. In addition to a surface tour of the waters around Manhattan onboard PB 440, they also received an aerial tour on a NY Army National Guard helicopter.

The next slated event involving the Swedish Navy partnership is Exercise Empire Challenge. The Swedish delegation is expected to arrive in New York City on Sunday, 1 June where they will receive briefings and demonstrations before moving to the Niagara Frontier on Wednesday, 4 June. While in Western New York, they will observe our inter-agency exercise with law enforcement and first responders in Niagara County.

The New York Naval Militia has also received an invitation to participate in **Exercise KRAKEN** in Gothenburg, 3-7 November 2025. More information will be promulgated as it becomes available.



Military Emergency Boat Service

News:



MEBS CRAFTMASTER: MMC Robert Hill has recently earned the qualification as a subject matter expert in “all things small boat.” Chief Hill is from Petersburg, N.Y., and serves as the MEBS NorthCom Coordinator.



MMC Robert Hill (center) is recognized as the 16th MEBS CRAFTMASTER during a presentation at Kingston, N.Y. Along with Chief Hill are CAPT McKnight, CDR MEBS, and BMC Kaul, MEBS Training Officer.

PAID TRAINING: With the recent start of the 2025 boat training season, all MEBS members need to ensure that they are eligible to get paid. This information is the same as promulgated in the MEBS OPSUM over the past few months. It is extremely important that each member comply, otherwise there is no pay for that individual. Except for your personal voided-check or banking information, these required documents are available for you on MEBS LOG.

- To get paid to train with MEBS, it is imperative that you submit the required completed documents through the PDF Document Upload Portal. Some of you have submitted documents, some of you have only submitted some of the required documents. As specified several times over recent months, this requirement includes:

- -current Direct Deposit form (NYS form AC 2772), found on MEBS LOG
 - -voided copy of check. Screen shots of your bank account can work as LONG AS it includes all the information found on a check (Name, Institution Name, Routing number, and FULL Account number)
 - -MNHS SAD Form, found on MEBS LOG
- We need two weeks' lead time for scheduling MEBS Proficiency Training Events, especially since we need to open a two-week payroll cycle in advance of any training. So, sooner is better.
 - Any changes to personnel participating need to be relayed to headquarters ASAP.
 - We are already doing paid training events, so get your plan together. The sooner you do this the better, as by the middle of July we may start re-allocating funds for those who have not decided to train in a paid status.
 - MEBS members who are serving on the JTF SENTINEL mission in the NYS prisons are exempt from participating for the minimum of two MEBS events per year. Service members who are on the SENTINEL enduring mission are not eligible for additional MEBS training pay.

CREDIT CARD PURCHASES: For VISA credit cards only (not WEX fuel cards), the following areas need to take a round turn on.

- When sending in copies of receipts (including fuel), make sure that everything is visible in the picture. If the vendor staples two pieces together, un-staple the receipts and take pictures of both together. We need to be able to see the gallons of fuel, the price per gallon, and ANY OTHER thing purchased. We must take a serious round-turn on these receipts.
- When completing the R1 form, ensure that the Vendor is listed accurately. For instance, if a vendor is Ravenna Auto parts, it is not NAPA.
- For credit card purchases, leave the Purchase Order cell on the R1 form blank. Do not fill it with an invoice number or anything else. That cell is only for when we are using a purchase order.
- When submitting the image of the credit card receipt, ensure that the document is FLAT and on a plain background. Ensure that what you send in is in focus and legible. The receipt MUST state the quantity and the product or service
- It is very important that R1 forms for ANY Visa card purchase are submitted on the same day as the purchase. The date at the bottom of the R1 form MUST be the same date as on the invoice/date of purchase.

PREPARATION FOR UNDERWAY: All MEBS personnel need to ensure policy compliance when getting underway to submit the required documents, all found in MEBS LOG:

- Individual Pre and Post Deployment Medical Screening
- GAR (green/amber/red) Risk Assessment form

- Float Plan
- Boat Manifest

2025 OPERATIONS: At the time of this writing, we have a significant level of activity taking place over the next few months.

In addition to the on-going JTF Empire Shield naval missions, we have the following events in the hopper:

- The NYC “City Piece” for the Swedish Navy delegation from 1-4 June 2025. We will be conducting patrols and demonstrations.
- Exercise Empire Challenge, the annual emergency communications event will take place on the lower Niagara River from 4-6 June. Three boats will be involved.
- Operation Mohawk Challenge will take place in the Port of Albany and on Lake George during the week of 9-12 June. Four boats and crew will be involved.
- Operation Commanding Force (Phase 1) will take place 17-19 July 2025 at Alexandria Bay.
- Operation Commanding Force (Phase 2) will take place 31 July – 2 August 2025, at Alexandria Bay.
- Canal Corporation grant-reimbursed patrols of the Erie and Champlain Canals, throughout the season.

COMMS and UAS Unit News:

By Maj Michael Golden, NYNM

This past quarter, the UAS Unit and Communication Units have been combined into one. Additionally, there is a pilot program to add a Public Affair Unit into the mix. Testing of live feed from the Vesper ISR to the Communication’s trailer and onto the higher headquarters have driven this merger. Communications were shown to be more efficiently and expeditiously processed by working directly together. The focus of the next quarter will be working with the New York State Police Troop A UAS Unit at Empire Challenge 2025 to learn from their TTPs and meeting with partners in Southern Command.

Two important milestones for the New York Naval Militia (NYNM) were also accomplished. From 12 May to 16 May the Communications and UAS Unit participated in DHSES’s Multi-Agency Communications Interoperability Exercise, COMMEX 2025, at the State Preparedness Training Center located at Oriskany, NY. This is the first time the Communication Unit participated independently in an exercise outside of the annual Empire Challenge Exercise. Also, this is the first live exercise in which the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Unit provided support. This newly formed unit demonstrated the ability to mobilize assets and personnel from Camp Smith Training Site and from the Military Emergency Boat Service (MEBS) Maintenance Facility Leeds. The COMMEX is a functional exercise (FE) sponsored by New York State (NYS). It is a multi-agency, annual exercise which simulates a response to an actual event or disaster by New York State Incident Management Team (NYS IMT) and their resources. The exercise fosters a learning environment for players to establish emergency response plans, policies, and procedures to solve “real world” problems by building systems and networks in a safe atmosphere. In this case, the scenario was the Rome Tornado of July 2024 and was conducted at the State Preparedness Training Site at Oriskany NY. The exercise focused on Communications Unit specific core competencies that will develop capabilities to integrate a collaborative and seamless mutual aid response to an incident or planned event by both local and state agencies.

Subject matter experts (SMEs) from various agencies participated in the planning process, exercise execution, and evaluation. The Exercise Plan (ExPlan) was produced by the New York State Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communications (OIEC) with the input, advice, and assistance of the COMDEX exercise planning team (EPT). The NYNM was assigned as a Search and Rescue (SAR) asset. The Communications Trailer was deployed notionally in the vicinity of Rome NY Water Canals where the Military Emergency Boat Service and the UAS team would potentially operate to conduct SAR operations.



EDUCATION BENEFITS

Fall 2025 RIRP application period will be opening in July. If you are working towards your first bachelor's degree, you are encouraged to apply for this great benefit. Please keep in mind these important dates. Failure to do so will result in a denied package. **AUGUST 8 2025** DMNA 96-1 and NYNM Acknowledgment form is due. **OCTOBER 8 2025** the remainder of your documents are due (FASFA Summary of Submission, TAP, APTS, schedule). Please look for an email in early July signifying the application period is open. .

NUGGETS

"I'm not a lawyer, but..."

by c/s "Nugget"

This season's "**NUGGETS**" is about how we address each other in the military.

As you may have guessed, I have spent a lot of time in uniform. Mostly on active duty in the Navy and getting to be close to the same amount on active duty in the Naval Militia.

While I was on Navy active duty, I was steeped in the idea that how we address each other was a sign of respect. Except for fellow Sailors in our own paygrade, we never used first names. A Sailor was addressed either by their rank, or their billet. Usually, I was called “OPS,” or “CHENG,” “XO,” “Skipper,” etc. To this day, I still follow that premise.

The difference from what I was used to is that I now work in a “joint” building. Interactions with the Army and Air National Guard, as well as the New York Guard are commonplace. What is not commonplace is the understanding (on their part) of what the various ranks are in the Naval Militia. While it has gotten better over time, there is still a significant misunderstanding on the part of the National Guard.

For a long time, I was a Navy Commander in this building. A lot of the National Guard did not know what to make of me, so there was a lot of calling me a Lieutenant Colonel (an Army O-5), or because O-5’s “*always*” starts with “Lieutenant”, I was often called Lieutenant Commander. When that didn’t work for them, I got called “Chief” a lot. I did my best to respond that I had not earned being called a Chief, so that has generally diminished. Now, they don’t know what to make of me as a Captain. They want to say Colonel, but know it’s wrong, but they also know a Captain is an Army/Air O-3, so generally they just don’t address me by my rank.

The point of this is that we, in the Naval Militia, should do better at addressing our counterparts in the other services. Better than what we have received. It is my perception that the different services tend to treat these titles with differing amounts of seriousness. While the Marine Corps demands that an exact rank is specified (i.e. “Staff Sergeant,” instead of a generic “Sergeant”), the Army National Guard is much less demanding. I find that “Sergeant” can work on any rank from E5 to E8 in the Army. I also hear a lot of first names, even from officers to enlisted. To me, that’s a bit too familiar. Personally, I feel that regardless of rank, the service member has earned the title and should be addressed as such.

Another point is that these ranks are not only spoken, but also written, usually as an abbreviation. Depending on which service we are talking about, the abbreviation is different even though a rank may be the same. For instance, an O-3 in the Army is abbreviated as **CPT**. In the Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force, an O-3 is **Capt**. Of course, in the Navy and Coast Guard, an O-6 is abbreviated as **CAPT**.

Sometimes, words are used to mean several different things. In the Navy, we know a “Chief” is an E-7 Chief Petty Officer. In the Army, a “Chief” is a Warrant Officer. In the Air Force, a “Chief” is a Chief Master Sergeant.

In general, Army, Navy, and Coast Guard ranks are abbreviated with capital letters. In the Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force only the first letter in each word is capitalized.

As confusing as all this is, imagine what it would be like if all the services went to a common uniform. Nobody would know how to address anybody!

For what it is worth, the below chart shows the military officer and enlisted ranks (except Space Force), including abbreviations.

Army Ranks	Title	Abbreviation
E-1	Private	PVT

E-2	Private 2	PV2
E-3	Private First Class	PFC
E-4	Specialist	SPC
E-4	Corporal	CPL
E-5	Sergeant	SGT
E-6	Staff Sergeant	SSG
E-7	Sergeant First Class	SFC
E-8	Master Sergeant	MSG
E-8	First Sergeant	1SG
E-9	Sergeant Major	SGM
E-9	Command Sergeant Major	CSM
W-1	Warrant Officer	WO1
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CW2
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CW3
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CW4
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CW5
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2LT
O-2	First Lieutenant	1LT
O-3	Captain	CPT
O-4	Major	MAJ
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	LTC
O-6	Colonel	COL
O-7	Brigadier General	BG
O-8	Major General	MG
O-9	Lieutenant General	LTG
O-10	General	GEN
Air Force Ranks		
E-1	Airman Basic	AB
E-2	Airman	Amn
E-3	Airman First Class	A1C
E-4	Senior Airman or Sergeant	SrA
E-5	Staff Sergeant	SSgt
E-6	Technical Sergeant	TSgt
E-7	Master Sergeant	MSgt
E-8	Senior Master Sergeant	SMSgt
E-9	Chief Master Sergeant	CMSgt
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2d Lt
O-2	First Lieutenant	1st Lt
O-3	Captain	Capt
O-4	Major	Maj
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	Lt Col
O-6	Colonel	Col
O-7	Brigadier General	Brig Gen

O-8	Major General	Maj Gen
O-9	Lieutenant General	Lt Gen
O-10	General	Gen
Coast Guard - Navy		
E-1	Seaman Recruit	SR
E-2	Seaman Apprentice	SA
E-3	Seaman	SN
E-4	Petty Officer 3rd Class	PO3
E-5	Petty Officer 2nd Class	PO2
E-6	Petty Officer 1st Class	PO1
E-7	Chief Petty Officer	CPO
E-8	Senior Chief Petty Officer	SCPO
E-9	Master Chief Petty Officer	MCPO
W-1	Warrant Officer	WO1
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CWO2
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CWO3
W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CWO4
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CWO5
O-1	Ensign	ENS
O-2	Lieutenant, Junior Grade	LTJG
O-3	Lieutenant	LT
O-4	Lieutenant Commander	LCDR
O-5	Commander	CDR
O-6	Captain	CAPT
O-7	Rear Admiral (lower half)	RDML
O-8	Rear Admiral (upper half)	RADM
O-9	Vice Admiral	VADM
O-10	Admiral	ADM
Marine Corps Ranks		
E-1	Private	Pvt
E-2	Private First Class	PFC
E-3	Lance Corporal	LCpl
E-4	Corporal	Cpl
E-5	Sergeant	Sgt
E-6	Staff Sergeant	SSgt
E-7	Gunnery Sergeant	GySgt
E-8	Master Sergeant	MSgt
E-8	First Sergeant	1stSgt
E-9	Master Gunnery Sergeant	MGySgt
E-9	Sergeant Major	SgtMaj
W-1	Warrant Officer 1	WO1
W-2	Chief Warrant Officer 2	CW2
W-3	Chief Warrant Officer 3	CW3

W-4	Chief Warrant Officer 4	CW4
W-5	Chief Warrant Officer 5	CW5
O-1	Second Lieutenant	2ndLt
O-2	First Lieutenant	1stLt
O-3	Captain	Capt
O-4	Major	Maj
O-5	Lieutenant Colonel	LtCol
O-6	Colonel	Col
O-7	Brigadier General	BGen
O-8	Major General	MajGen
O-9	Lieutenant General	LtGen
O-10	General	Gen

HISTORY BUFF

ROCHESTER

Guest submitted by Nick McKnight

The city of Rochester serves as the county seat for Monroe County and forms the core of the larger Rochester Metropolitan Area. Built on land previously owned by the Seneca tribe, it was founded in 1817, initially as a village known as Rochesterville, before it shortened its name in 1822. The settlement would only grow from there and became one of the first boomtowns of the United States. This was largely as a result of the fertile Genesee River valley where the city rests. The city would feature numerous flour mills and go on to become a major manufacturing center. Rochester would be simultaneously bestowed the homophonic nicknames as the Flour City and the Flower City, due to its dual role in both flour production and floriculture. It is also known as the Imaging Capital of the World resulting from its association with film and photography. The city is also the home and/or founding area of a number of businesses, such as Kodak and Xerox, with the former being the city's largest employer. Like many cities during World War II, Rochester served in the production of war material and became known for the building of fuel tanker ships. Later on, during the civil rights movement, Rochester was a site of race riots in 1964, which came about as a result of police brutality, segregation and poverty. Despite its decline in industry and population, the city continues to flourish, and with the advent of the 21st century, it now serves as a popular haven for refugees.

Rochester has long served as a major cultural center and a hotspot for progressive activism. It is home to one of the world's most prestigious conservatories, the Eastman School of Music, as well as the Rochester International Music Festival. It also features various museums, like the Strong National Museum of Play and the George Eastman Museum, named after Kodak's founder. Furthermore, the city is also home to internationally renowned schools, such as the University of Rochester and

NAVAL MILITIA CREWS COMPETE ON RIVER AGAIN

Test Their Skill in Water Events for
First Time Since 1917.

LAKESIDE ARMORY OPEN

Summerville Headquarters of Naval
Reservists Is Thrown Open for
First Time Since War—Keen Com-
petition in Program of Sports.

The Naval Militia armory at Summer-
ville was opened yesterday for the first
time since the war, and yesterday also
was the first time since 1917 that any
crews have appeared on the river. The
Naval Militia of the Third Battalion
left the State Armory at the conclusion
of the Memorial Day parade in char-
tered cars for its Summerville quarters.
More than 150 marched in the parade
and as each man was allowed to bring
his wife or woman friend the number at
the armory was well over two hundred.

Upon their arrival at the lake dinner
was served under the direction of Com-
missary William Brodeur, after which
some thrilling races were held on the
river between the various divisions. The
first event was a cutter race, each cutter
carrying twelve men and a coxswain.
This was won by the crew of the Seventh
division. The Second division came in
second and the Sixth division was third.
The whaleboat race was another feature.
In this first place was won by the Sev-
enth division, second place by the Sec-
ond division and third place by the Sixth
division.

At the close of the races the Gobs
adjourned to the athletic field where a
program of field events was run off under
the direction of Dr. Julius Waterman.
The events were worked out on a point

the Rochester Institute of Technology, which both played a role in the local economy. Rochester was a hotbed for the abolitionist cause and was most notably the residence of Frederick Douglass. It was also here, where Douglass founded his abolitionist newspaper, *The North Star*, and where Douglass himself would reside until his house was destroyed by fire in 1872. Along with the rights of black Americans, Rochester was a site of major activity for women's rights as well, particularly regarding suffrage. In 1848, the city hosted the Rochester Women's Rights Convention, and was also the home of Susan B. Anthony, whose Rochester house is listed as a National Historic Landmark.

The city would also be the site of several armories, such as the one located at 900 East Main Street, a National Guard armory used as a training center by the Naval Militia and Navy Reserve. Constructed from 1904 to 1907 by architect George L. Heins, the armory would serve the 3rd Infantry Regiment from 1907 to 1920. It would join the Summerville boathouse, first built in 1896, on the Genesee River, to form a complete station. The Summerville boathouse would service the Naval Militia's 2nd Separate Division, and later, the Militia's 3rd Battalion, as well as the former Spanish gunboat, *USS Sandoval*, when the vessel arrived in Lake Ontario in 1907. Afterwards, the Marine Company of the Naval Militia's 3rd Battalion would be stationed at the armory from 1949 onwards. In 1950, Divisions 3-90 and 3-92 would be established at this armory, while the 3rd Battalion, consisting of two divisions, would eventually be renamed Battalion 3-9. In 1957, the Marine Corps Branch was transferred to the Summerville boathouse. In 1979, the Summerville boathouse was ultimately demolished. Eventually, the armory was vacated in 1990 and bought by a private developer in 2005, and it now stands as an office, a restaurant and a concert space.

New York Naval Militia by the Numbers

Recent Emergency Mission Stats

Mission Name	# of NYNM Assigned
JTF Asylum Seeker Resource Support (ASRS) Enduring (ended March 2025)	642
NYS DOCCS Emergency (Ended March 2025, transitioned to JTF SENTINEL)	118

Ongoing Mission Stats

Mission Name	Type	# of NYNM Currently Assigned
CPC	Standing	1
DMNA Support	Standing	1
JTF Empire Shield - Naval	Standing	14
JTF SENTINEL (Commenced 1 APR 2025)	Enduring	288 (as of 22MAY25)
MEBS	Standing	4

1-May-25	SOUTH	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
OFFICER	145	15	29	189
WARRANT	9	0	1	10
ENLISTED	2458	179	392	3029
TOTAL	2612	194	422	3228
NAVY	1100	98	243	1441
MARINE	1275	76	160	1511
COAST GUARD	103	2	6	111
STATE ACTIVE LIST (5%)	79	4	1	84
FEDERAL COMPONENT LIST (Retired)	53	15	13	81

Gallery

CAPT Don McKnight and MKC Ken Stefandel brief RADM Johan Norlén (Chief of Royal Swedish Navy) on operations in the Port of New York, on 1 MAY 25.



BMC Ben Fland and EM1 Glenn Malik secure the bow ramp on LC 350 during an embarkation rehearsal with the 24th CST, at Glen Island on 2 MAY 25.



GySgt Joe Soto and BMC William Garcia conducting UAV operations at the State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany on 14 May 25.



The UAV live-feed is projected onto the screen inside the command post trailer.



SSgt Gerald Schaefer and Maj Michael Golden conducting HF radio testing as part of the communications exercise at Oriskany.

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