

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

Now, What?

TRANSITIONS

ARE YOU A "GO-TO" PERSON?

NEEDED:

VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS NAVAL MILITIA QUICK REACTION OPERATIONAL LIAISONS DURING CONTINGENCIES AND EMERGENCIES. PAY AND BENEFITS CONTINGENT UPON THE OPERATION. SEE CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS FOR MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 3.

CENTENNIAL BALL

Celebrating 100 YEARS of New York Guard Service

West Point Club
Saturday, December 2nd, 2017
6:00 PM ET



NEWSLETTER – FALL 2017

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2017

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

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



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Cover photo:

A New York Naval Militia Retirement.
Separations and retirements are TRANSITION points for your Naval Militia career.

Commander's Corner:



Our most recent Naval Militia newsletter focuses on transitions, and I encourage all of you to read it closely. Of particular importance is the article regarding how we mobilize for New York State Active Duty, and the differences

between State and Federal service. It is important for all of us to at least have a working knowledge of how the process works, and what the obligations, requirements and benefits of State Active Duty are, so that we can explain it to our employers, family and Federal Reserve leaders. I encourage all to spend a little time becoming familiar with it.

The reason I mention this is because of the continuing significant operational tempo of New York Military Forces during the last six months. While New York has the ongoing mission of "Empire Shield", we also have had the flooding relief mission on Lake Ontario, in addition to a water safety mission, and in late summer the relief missions for Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. As I write this, New York has over 700 New York National Guard, Air National Guard, New York Guard, and Naval Militia members involved in Maria relief operations. When we consider that these are responses to events that are occurring outside of New York State, it becomes clear that the state and the nation count on state forces to

conduct the majority of these humanitarian efforts. The New York Naval Militia is not the primary responder for these events, however we carry a significant responsibility to be able to replace, at a moment's notice, New York National Guard members who in many cases having been on State Active Duty continuously, without a break, for nearly six months, and to provide additional manpower for contingency missions that are unforeseen. One of the more significant capabilities that most of us have as drilling Reservists, is the possession of a CAC card. This allows access, when approved, to the Division of Military and Naval Affairs system, and after a brief period of training, allows the Naval Militia to step into vital watch-stander roles.

As we move forward into the fall, boat operations will slow down, and with luck, this very active hurricane season will end with no significant impact to New York State. Next year we look forward to another active training schedule, and the arrival of our new Landing Craft. As always, please encourage those you drill with to consider joining the Naval Militia, as the more members we have, the more support we can provide to the State.



RDML Powell signs a Memorandum of Understanding with U.S. Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Reserve Component Command - Norfolk

It is gratifying as the Commander to look back at the accomplishments of NYNM during the past 9 months and to tell everyone I meet about this group of volunteers that in addition to doing their job, serving their nation and tending to their families, also rallies to support and protect their friends and neighbors in New York State. What a great story to tell! Keep up the good work!

Chief of Staff Comments

ARE YOU A "GO-TO" PERSON? – From the cover:

Our New York Naval Militia needs to be prepared with Rapid Reaction forces of personnel in every geographic area of New York State.

Recent events have tasked the New York Naval Militia to respond at short notice with a variety of ranks and specialties. So far we have filled those needs, but we need you and your peers. We need, in every NOSC and Reserve Center in every geographic area of New York State, a cadre of personnel that can be recalled in support of emergencies. In 2014 the Snowstorm in Buffalo prompted the recall of 25 Naval Militia personnel. Once we arrived the operation grew and we provided an additional 8 Equipment Operators. In 2016 Camp Smith turned into a small city after the Chelsea Bombing, the Naval Militia was tasked with providing Medical personnel to staff a clinic. This year (2017) Lake Ontario reached high water levels and the Naval Militia sent over 125 personnel. As I write this article New York National Guard forces are deployed to Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands in support of Hurricane relief efforts. The Naval Militia has LNOs on station in NYC and watch standing personnel are needed in DMNA HQ.

Now is the time for Naval Militia members in every NOSC and Reserve Center to reach out to their fellow Reserve members and let them know they

are needed to help support the Naval Militia. When recalled for State Emergencies Naval Militia members will be paid at their Federal Rank. When the mission extends past 30 days BAH and BAS adds to your base pay.

You may ask: "How do I get recalled for these emergencies?" The answer is to be sure your email address and phone numbers are up-to-date with Naval Militia HQ.

Thank you for volunteering and I look forward to recalling you when the State needs the New York Naval Militia.

The Transition Process

Members of the New York Naval Militia who are also members of the Reserve forces of the U.S. Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Navy may continue to serve with the State of New York up to age 68, with certain provisions.

This issue of the NEWSLETTER focuses on transitioning from the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard.

In general, members of the Naval Militia are sourced from three general areas. By far, the largest group is the drilling Reserve component of the U.S. Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Navy. However, retirees from both active and reserve components, as well as veterans of the sea services are also eligible.

For members of the drilling Reserve, your service with the federal components are your only minimum participation requirement to be considered an active member. As long as we have a current way of contacting you with email, telephone, and address, you are good-to-go. All of your federal drills are considered drills for Naval Militia purposes also.

The Naval Militia recognizes that your

commitment to the federal forces along with your other obligations to family, job, school, etc. take up a lot of time and for you to be required to commit additional time to the Naval Militia is not realistic or necessary. You are maintaining your desired military skills through your federal drills and annual training. And, of course, all of those benefits mentioned in the Summer 2017 NEWSLETTER are still available to you. When the State of New York needs your skills for an emergency, we will call you and put you to work.

As a result of this "dual-status", where the Naval Militia accepts your federal drills in lieu of state drills, you may tend to not pay as much attention to your Naval Militia membership.

However, when it comes time to retire or otherwise separate from the federal Reserve component, it IS the time to pay attention. Just because you are retiring from the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, or Marine Corps does NOT mean that you must permanently hang up your uniform. For many, it is just the beginning of a rewarding and challenging future where opportunities for growth and advancement await.

Why this is IMPORTANT:

Many N.Y. Naval Militia members (probably including you) joined up with NYNM at some point in their career with the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, or Marine Corps Reserves.

You may have believed that being in the federal reserve component and being in the Naval Militia are the same thing. While they are closely aligned, you are a member of two separate organizations, one federal and one state.

If you separate or retire from the federal Reserve component, it does not mean that you have to stop being in the military.

While a drilling Reservist, the state accepts your federal drill time as credit for drilling with the Naval Militia. Once you separate or retire from the federal component, you must notify Naval Militia Headquarters of your change in status. The Naval Militia will reflect in your official record that you have a change of status. If you wish to continue in the Naval Militia, you will be changed to what is known as a “**900-series**” member. This group includes sea-service veterans and retirees who no longer drill with the federal component.

Since 900-series members no longer have a federal drill obligation, they often have more time to devote to the Naval Militia. Some of the most active and crucial Naval Militia positions are filled by 900-series members.

The References:

The policies that govern the New York Naval Militia are found in New York Military Law, regulations promulgated by the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA), and Commander’s policy found in various instructions, notices, and other documents.

DMNA Regulation 10-1 is the principal document for policies relating to our organization. The New York Naval Militia Regulations spell out the criteria for membership and participation eligibility.

Instructions relating to administration, promotion, uniform wear, billet assignments, and mission essential tasks are all found on the NYNM website.

FAQ’s:

1) As a 900-series member, am I still eligible

for military leave from my employer?

a. **Very often, yes.** Nearly all employers who grant military leave for federal Reservists, also grant military leave for State Active Duty. There are some exceptions to this, especially for certain federal civilian employees.

2) Are 900-series members required to do the PRT?

a. **No.** While the Naval Militia encourages a regimen of regular exercise, there is no Physical Readiness Test for general Naval Militia members.

3) Are 900-series members subject to urinalysis?

a. **No.**

4) Are 900-series members able to collect credit for federal retirement?

a. **No.** Service on State Active Duty has no bearing on your federal retirement.

5) Can 900-series members still wear the uniform?

a. **Yes.** New York State law authorizes the wearing of your component’s uniform in a State Active Duty status. See comments in the Uniforms section for more details.

6) Can 900-series members still get tuition benefits?

a. **Not under the Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program (RIRP).** That program is only open to New York State residents who are also active drilling federal Reservists.

7) I did not retire, but got out of the Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard after only a few years. Am I eligible to be in the Naval Militia?

a. **Yes.** If you reside in New York State and have an honorable federal discharge, meet physical standards, and no felony convictions, you are probably eligible.

8) I was a veteran of the Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard, but transitioned and retired from the National Guard. Can I join the Naval Militia?

a. **Yes.** However, you **MUST** be completely separated from the National Guard. State law prohibits membership in more than one organized militia (which includes the National Guard) at one time.

9) I am still a drilling Reservist. Can I be active and take on important rolls with the Naval Militia?

a. **Absolutely.**

10) As a drilling Reservist, I never had to do anything for the Naval Militia. If I change to a 900-series member will I have to do anything?

a. **We expect anyone who continues their service to the state to be active in some way.** There is no point in being a member if you do not expect to do anything.

11) Is a “5%’r” the same thing as a “900-series” member?

a. **Yes, and No.** The old term “5%’r” referred to someone who did not drill in the Reserves. By state law, 95% of the

organization must be members of the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard Reserve. So, a 5%’r was someone who was not in the Reserves. The only category of NYNM members who are truly 5%’rs are those veterans who never retired from the federal component. In order to better reflect the identity of those personnel who are not drilling Reservists, which includes those veterans and also members who have been placed in the Retired Reserve, they are now considered “900-series” members.

Residency:

In general, all members of the New York Naval Militia must have a nexus with New York State. A member must either be a resident of the State, or for drilling Reservists, have their primary drill location in New York State. All others are no longer eligible to be active members of the New York Naval Militia.

If you have retired or otherwise separated from the federal Reserve component and you do not reside in New York State, you are NOT eligible to be a member. Even if you work or own property in New York State, but do not reside here, you are not eligible.

An easy way to understand your eligibility is to ask yourself, “Can I legally register to vote in New York State?” If you can say “yes”, you probably meet the residency requirement for non-drilling persons.

Medical Requirements:

As a drilling member of the Coast Guard/Marine Corps/Navy Reserve, you are required to have a periodic health assessment completed. If you are a drilling Reservist, the

Naval Militia accepts that you are a member in good standing as including physically ready for the Naval Militia. If you are in a LIMDU or other medically-related status, you can be on the rolls of the Naval Militia but cannot perform state active duty.

For 900-series members, an annual physical exam (within 400 days of your last exam) must be completed and submitted along with a medical history. The required forms (NYNMF0RM 88 and 93) can be found on the NYNM website. Specific guidance on medical eligibility is found in NYNMINST 6110.1 (series), also found on the website.

Within 1-year of retirement from drilling Reserve status, your annual physical exam submission is due to headquarters, where it is screened by the Force Medical Officer.

The intent of the physical examination requirement is to ensure that we are not placing personnel on state active duty who are not physically able to perform the often arduous tasks that can be assigned. Physical problems that may place you in a LIMDU or other “flagged” status for the federal component do not necessarily limit your participation with the Naval Militia.

Remember, as a federal Reservist, you must be globally deployable. With the Naval Militia your potential deployment will usually be within New York State.

Uniforms:

The uniform that most 900-series members wear is the working uniform. Typically, this is the NWU Type I or III, MCCUU, or CG ODU. For certain ceremonial or business functions, service dress is needed.

When wearing the uniform it is distinguished from the federal component by the wearing of

Naval Militia identification. This includes the component tape: “N.Y. NAVAL MILITIA”, and NYNM badges or patches that cover the federal embroidered logo usually found on the blouse pocket.

This conversion of the federal uniform is authorized under both Title 10, USC and New York State Military Law.

Uniforms are worn for State Active Duty and certain ceremonial functions.

ID Cards:

900-series members are eligible for New York Naval Militia ID Cards similar to the one pictured here:



Since all drilling Reservists have a federally-issued Common Access Card (CAC), they are not issued the NYNM ID card.

Per DMNA Regulation 10-3, NYNM-retired and separated personnel are not authorized a NYNM ID card.

900-series members must meet all eligibility

requirements, including submission of medical exam documentation before an ID card is issued.

NYNM ID cards are principally used during the mobilization process when checking in and out with DOJPASS.

Advancement Opportunities

The Spring 2017 issue of the NYNM NEWSLETTER discussed many of the aspects of promotion and advancement within the New York Naval Militia.

As the federal force structure fluctuates, many eligible candidates for promotion within the Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard are left behind. The reasons for this are many, usually a reflection on manning levels within a specific career field.

For 900-series members, a new advancement path is open for those deserving.

900-series members are not encumbered by career field restrictions and manning levels, or even having to take a test. In general, promotion in the Naval Militia is based strictly on documented, proven performance and demonstrated potential for increased responsibility.

The Naval Militia conducts one promotion board, for ranks E2-O6 each summer. NYNMINST 1410.1 (series) spells out the requirements of the program.

900-series members who are interested in promotion need to read and understand the details found in the instruction. Unlike the federal component, where a member is automatically screened based on their year group or time in grade, a 900-series member must request consideration for promotion.

Promotion packages need to be submitted to headquarters by 31 May every year. However, due to the amount of preparation typically needed, you should review the promotion instruction now.

Job Opportunities:

As a 900-series member, you may ask what opportunities are there to get a paycheck.

While there are certainly a small number of people who are in full-time, long-term jobs, which frankly are not widely available; there are occasional opportunities for short-duration work. These opportunities exist in both the MEBS boat program and also other emergency situations, such as the recent mobilization for Lake Ontario Flooding.

900-series members are equally eligible for these positions. Many have more time for such work, as they no longer have a federal drill obligation.

In order to be tapped for paid work, your physical exam record must be up to date. Also, persons known to headquarters to demonstrate initiative and professionalism tend to be leading candidates when opportunities arise.

In the down-state region, MEBS is looking for exceptional candidates to serve in a temporary, fill-in capacity on Joint Task Force Empire Shield boats in NYC and Westchester County. Candidates MUST have a clean record, with no DUI/DWAI/BUI. Candidates may be either drilling Reservists or 900-series members.

RECENT AWARDS

NEW YORK STATE COMMENDATION MEDAL

ENCS Robert Wittenzellner (Gasport)



NEW YORK STATE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

CAPT Thomas Hurley
(East Amherst)



CAPT Larry Weill is presented with the Josephthal Trophy by RDML Powell on 29 SEP

MILITARY EMERGENCY BOAT SERVICE



The 2017 boating season has experienced a high OPTEMPO across the state. Some examples of what has kept MEBS busy this year include:

OPERATION LAKE ONTARIO FLOODING '17 MEBS RECAP

From 2-31 July 2017, MEBS stood up Contingency Det 5 under Task Force Ontario, for the purpose of providing on-water patrols to protect the shoreline from speeding boats. The det was divided into Team Rochester (Monroe County) and Team Olcott (Niagara County). From 0800-2000 each day, patrols roamed the coastline of the two counties ensuring that recreational boaters maintained a no-wake zone within 600 feet of the shore as mandated by Governor Cuomo.

One of the highlights occurred on Sunday 23 JUL, when Team Olcott represented by BMC John Reimer, CPL Sujay Bhaskar, and SSGT Johnathan Matthews (NYANG) responded to a request from the U.S. Border Patrol on the Niagara River. Each of them received Certificates of Achievement with the following citation:

“For performance of State Active Duty during Operation Lake Ontario Flooding on 23 July 2017. As part of Team Olcott you rendered assistance to the U.S. Border Patrol involving the rescue of stranded personnel on inflatable rafts on the Niagara River. At this time, Lake Ontario was under a small boat advisory with 4 to 5 foot seas. The rescued personnel, many who were intoxicated and not wearing life

jackets were coming closer and closer to the lake's conditions at the mouth of the river. Without concern for your own safety you stepped into the rescue role and took 15 people to safety. Without your gallant effort there could likely have been loss of life. Your selfless devotion to duty, aiding your fellow neighbors during a time of need reflects great credit upon yourself and the New York State Naval Militia. Well Done!"

The rapid initial response and overall exceptional performance for all MEBS personnel who mobilized to Det 5 were highly commendable. BZ to all!

OSWEGO HARBORFEST RECAP



Once again this year, MEBS supported USCG Station Oswego for the 2017 Harborfest. Rochester, Watertown, and Buffalo area members comprised Contingency Det 4, from 27-31 JUL 17 providing security operations for this annual mid-summer festival.

OPERATION BLUE TRIDENT RECAP

Operation Blue Trident was a multi-agency, law enforcement exercise that took place on the waters of the East End of Long Island, 17-18 AUG. MEBS Det 12, with PB 230 participated as a primary radiation detection

platform, along with an embarked strike team from the 24th Civil Support Team (NYARNG). This exercise proved useful for testing MEBS' new radiation detection backpack.



CRAFTMASTER PROGRAM



All three full-time members of MEBS Det 2 have now earned their MEBS CRAFTMASTER device.



BM1 Kurt Schneider (right) and MK2 Ken Stefandel received their CRAFTMASTER devices on 28JUN17 from RDML Powell.



BMC Mike Nilsen received his CRAFTMASTER device on 10AUG17.

Exercise Rapid Gunwale '17

NYNM Leadership Conducts Tabletop Exercise at Conference
by CAPT Larry Weill

Elements of the NYNM leadership conducted a Tabletop Exercise this past week at the Leadership Conference held at Headquarters in Latham. The exercise was attended by members from across all three regions, with the majority of the Staff Directorates and Senior Enlisted Leaders in attendance.

The exercise was focused on a scenario involving the Schoharie Reservoir in upstate New York, and simulated the effects of a hurricane-induced rainfall in conjunction with a 5.5-scale Earthquake. The scenario walked the participants through the response planning and initial deployment of 60 NYNM members who were “recalled” by order of the Governor through the TAG.

Realism was added to the exercise with plotting on USGS Topographic maps and the introduction of scenario “injects,” designed to test the responses of the exercise participants.

“I think the folks from the MEBS group got a lot out of this,” said CDR Don McKnight, MEBS

Commander. “They got to see the big picture behind the mobilization order, including what might go wrong and how our units could help mitigate the issues of flooding and other potential risks.”

The exercise group included several people who were able to bring their civilian work expertise to the event, including Col Robert Smullen, who directs part of the State’s water supply facilities. Other players brought local experience from Schoharie County that helped the group refine their recommendations for NYNM missions and deployment.

“Our group learned some valuable lessons



Discussion during Tabletop exercise at Leadership Conference, Latham, September 2017

from this exercise,” said Force Master Chief Charles Mach. “It taught not only emergency response planning and critical thinking, but also encouraged teamwork and communication. I’m going to use this same exercise with my senior enlisted teams to share the knowledge and challenge our enlisted leaders.”

The exercise lasted about 90 minutes and included a question and discussion period. The exercise was so successful that it may serve as the basis for a full-scale exercise during the middle of 2018.

Operation MARIA RESPONSE

As a result of the three major hurricanes that struck the United States in recent weeks, Governor Cuomo directed that New York Military Forces would respond to the disasters. Starting on 3 OCT 17, Naval Militia members commenced mobilization as part of Task Force Donation, the effort to collect, organize and distribute needed commodities to Puerto Rico. This ongoing effort demonstrates the Naval Militia key mission area of logistics support.



GySgt Anthony Cuccurese with donations at Hangar 87, JFK Airport.



Above) LCDR Jay Veronko and LSC Christopher Cintron with donations made ready for transfer to Puerto Rico.
(Below) Chief Cintron and LT Khosh review received items.



PROMOTIONS

On 29 September, the candidates for promotion in 2017 received their recognition in front of NY Naval Militia leadership.

CPL Christopher Vega (Peekskill) to Sergeant



AM1 James Miller (Mountain Dale) to Chief Petty Officer.



Education News:

The next eligible semester for RIRP education benefits is Spring, 2018.

The deadline for submission of benefit applications is 15 December 2017.

Note that RIRP applications MUST be signed using CAC signature from now on. All eligible applicants will have a CAC. Applicant must sign DMNA FORM 96-1, Block 3f electronically using a CAC.

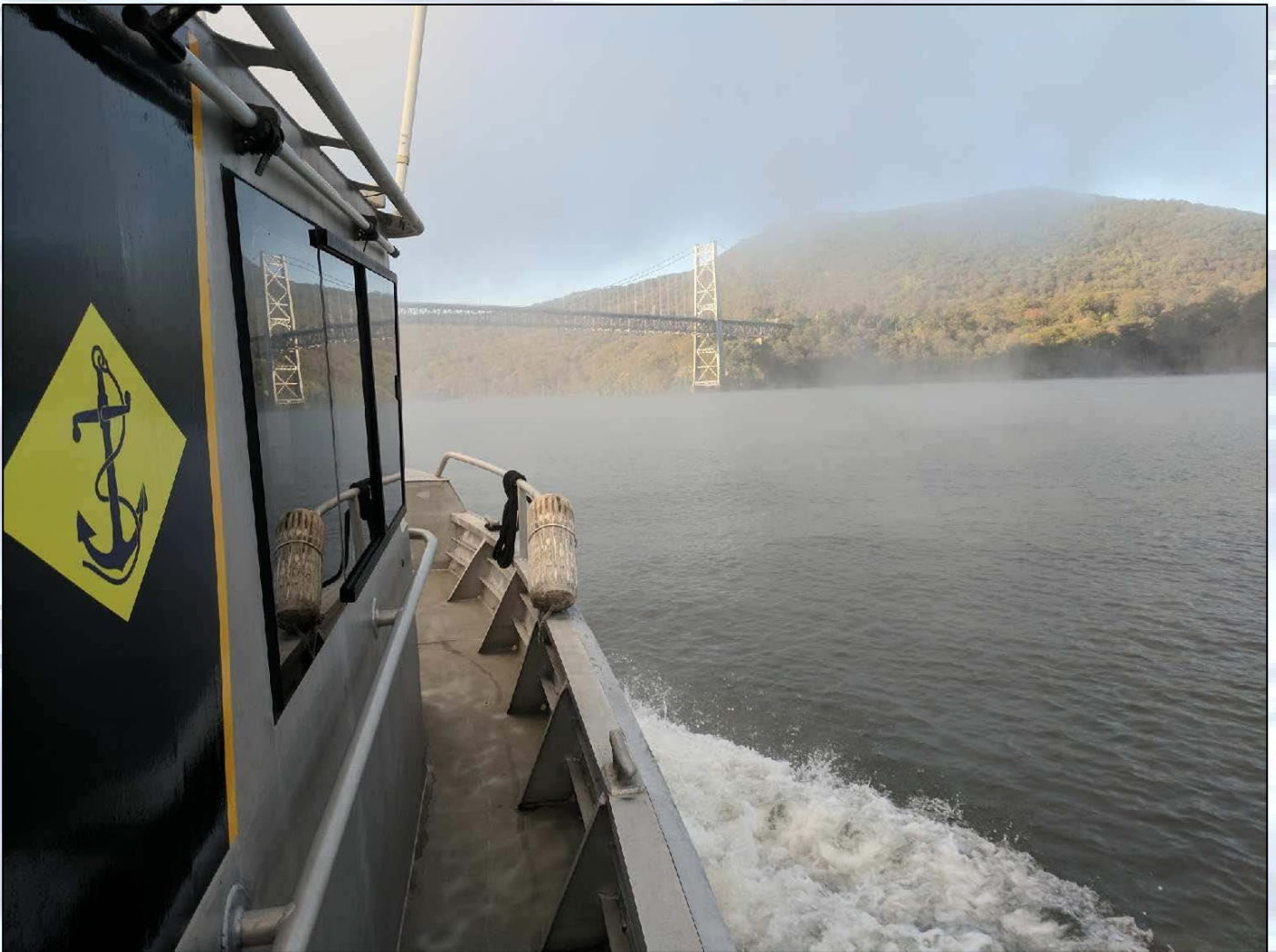
Application check list:

1. DMNA FORM 96-1 signed by applicant and Unit.
2. FAFSA (SAR report)
3. TAP HESC Report
4. Class schedule (or college acceptance letter)

If you are taking less than 12 credits you must fill out the college's Aid for Part Time Study (APTS) application and send the application to the Naval Militia.

New York Naval Militia by the Numbers

4OCT17	SOUTH	NORTH	WEST	TOTAL
OFFICER	150	31	36	217
WARRANT	11	4	5	20
ENLISTED	1856	271	388	2515
TOTAL	2017	306	429	2752
NAVY	1022	145	243	1410
MARINES	831	114	157	1102
COAST GUARD	111	3	4	118
STATE ACTIVE LIST (5%)	13	7	4	24
FEDERAL COMPONENT LIST (RETIRED)	34	35	21	90
PENDING ACTION	6	2	0	8



MEBS DET 1 approaches the Bear Mountain Bridge on 30OCT17. *Phot by SGT Christopher Vega.*



*The Commanding Officers of
The New York Guard
COL David J Warager*

&

*The New York Naval Militia
RDML Ten Eyck Powell III*



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at the
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(celebrating 100 years of New York Guard service)*

*Saturday, the Second Day of December,
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*The West Point Club
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Dancing and Camaraderie will follow

Reservations

*R.S.V.P. by 12-Nov-2017
www.nymilitiaball.org*

Attire

*Military Dress Uniform/ Mess Dress
Black Tie or Formal Attire*

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