



==STEADY ON COURSE==

SPRING-SUMMER 2026

ATTENTION TO AWARDS

JUNE 2026



Companions Mike Bonvento, Jim DeSalvo, Stephen Dombroski and Stan Warrick were recognized by the Commandery for providing audio/visual support at our events. BG David Warager presented each of them with a Commander's Letter of Appreciation and a Commandery's Certificate of Recognition. *"In the past two seasons, you have provided necessary volunteer audio/visual support at all meetings at which you were in attendance. Your generous efforts continue to ensure the consistent quality of our events and provide the requisite platform for our speakers to share their scholarship and experiences with the New York Commandery."*



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COMMANDERY EVENTS

MONDAY, 2 MARCH 2026

Event: Luncheon

Speaker: Robert J. Ulrich

THE TURTLE

America's Revolutionary Submarine

New York Harbor 1776

Historian Bob Ulrich spoke about David Bushnell's submarine which was to be used to attack British naval ships in New York Harbor in 1776. The submarine was designed to approach the enemy ship and drill a hole in the wood to plant an explosive. The operation, however, failed, as the British naval vessels were plated with brass to increase speed in transit which destroyed the *Turtle's* drill during the attack.



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MONDAY, 13 APRIL 2026

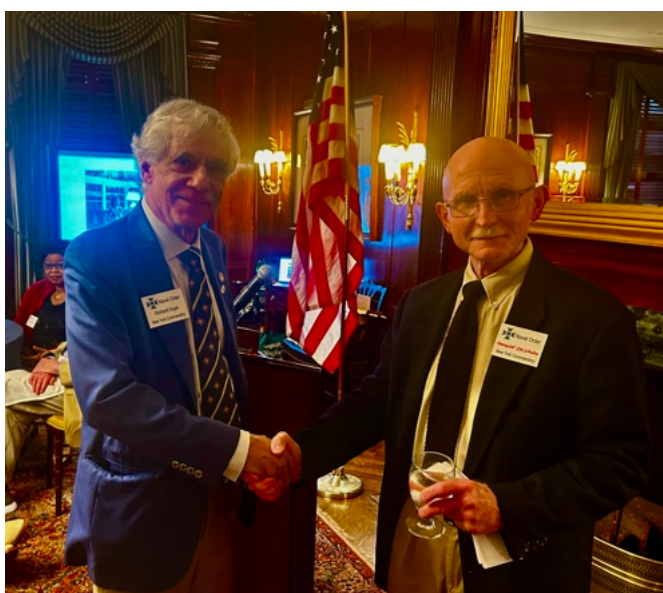
Event: Luncheon

Speaker: Donald Chisholm

An American Original

Commander Charles "Chick" Parsons, USNR

Don Chisholm spoke about Chick Parsons, his childhood in the Far East and the many roles he played in World War II. General MacArthur described him as "the bravest man I ever met". Don was the awardee of the 2001 RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature.



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Monday, 4 May 2026

Event: Luncheon

Speaker: Ed Vick

A Day in the Life of the River Rats

New York Companion Ed Vick provided the Commandery with a very interactive talk on his experiences as a River Rat aboard a PBR (River Patrol Boat) in the Mekong Delta (1968-1969) during Operation Giant Slingshot.



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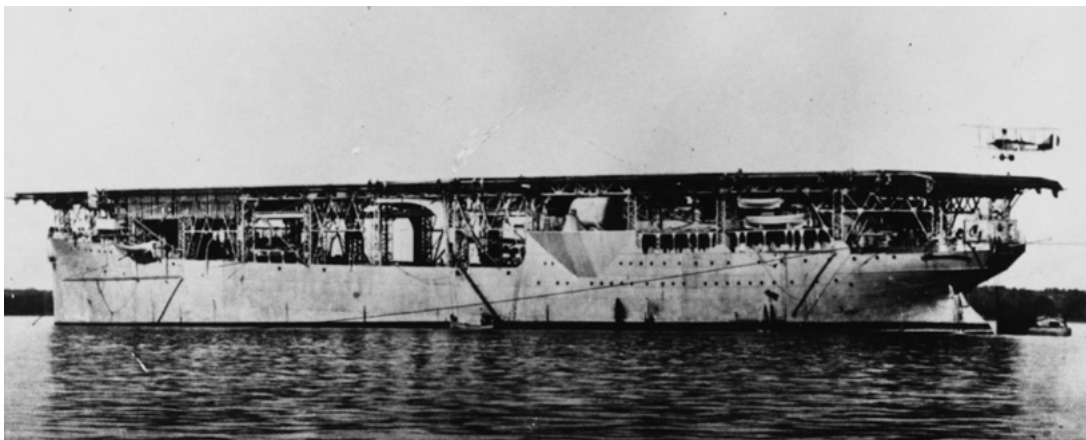
Monday, 2 June 2026

Event: Luncheon

Speaker: David A. Winkler, PhD

USS Langley

Distinguished maritime and naval historian and Historian General Elect for the Naval Order, David Winkler spoke to the Commandery on his book, *America's First Aircraft Carrier: USS Langley and the Dawn of U.S. Naval Aviation* (Naval Institute Press). The talk focused on those naval officers and their philosophies responsible for the founding of naval aviation.



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Saturday, 18 July 2026

Event: Summer Reception

Location: 76 House

Tappan, New York

America's Oldest Tavern



The New York Commandery held its summer reception in the 76 House, America's oldest restaurant and bar, Tappan, New York. The 76 House is a restored three hundred year old structure and is listed as a National Landmark. General George Washington dined here frequently, and Major John André was held here before his trial and eventual execution for treason.



Members of the Executive Committee

L-R: John Cupschalk, Don Schuld, Jim DeSalvo, Richard Kaye



Major Andre Being Led to His Trial

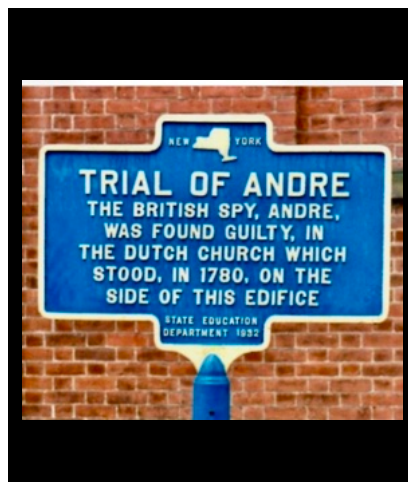


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*Revolutionary War Sites
Tappan, New York*



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COMPANIONS IN OTHER PORTS

MARCH 2026

The 36th Annual Burke Chapter Mess Night
27 March 2026
Larchmont, New York

New York Companions Jim DeSalvo, Lou Liotti, Ted Mason, John Nash and Frank Russo attended the 36th Annual AUSN Burke Chapter Mess Night which hosts as guests ten cadets/midshipmen from United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, and State University of New York Maritime College, Fort Schuyler. Unlike the previous 35 Mess Nights, this year was a *Dining Out* Mess Night attended by spouses and guests as well as members.



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APRIL 2026

Battle of Manila Bay Commemoration

25 April 2026

USS Olympia, Penn's Landing, Philadelphia

Members of the New York Commandery attended the annual Battle of Manila Bay commemoration aboard USS Olympia, hosted by the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Commandery, joined by the National Capital Commandery. New York Companions attending included Paul Battaglini, Mike Bonvento, John Cupschalk, Jim DeSalvo, Don Schuld and Ed Vick. The luncheon was held at the Hilton Penn's Landing.



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May 2026 Hellenic Navy

New York Companion Richard Kaye visited several museum ships of the Hellenic Navy in Piraeus, Greece, including Armoured Cruiser HN *Georgios Averof*, HN submarine *Proteus* (S113), and *Olympias*, a faithful reproduction of an ancient Greek Navy Trireme. As with USS *Constitution* ('Old Ironsides'), *Averof* and *Olympias* remain commissioned ships of the modern Greek Navy, with *Averof* having an assigned Greek Navy contingent. Completed in 1911, *Averof* had a long and distinguished career, engaging and inflicting heavy damage on the Turkish fleet in the Battles of Cape Helles (1912) and Battle of Limnos (1913), and serving in both World War I and World War II, having narrowly escaped capture when German invaded Greece.



The June 2026 issue of the U.S. Naval Institute's *Naval History Online* includes, as a featured article, *A Destroyer Escort in North Korea*, authored by New York Companion Richard Kaye and accessible at the link below.

<https://www.usni.org/USSFossInNorthKorea>



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June 2026

USMMA Awards Convocation

18 June 2026

United States Merchant Marine Academy, King's Point

LCDR Matthew Bonvento, Asst. Professor at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, King's Point, presented the two Regimental Commanders the New York Commandery's Award for their achievement and recognized leadership skills. This year's recipients were Lucas Christopher Campbell and Colin James Mushorn.



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July 2026

SAIL4th 250/INTERNATIONAL NAVAL REVIEW

Tall Ship Oosterschelde

4 July 2026

New York Companion Jim DeSalvo participated in Sail4th 250 celebrations at the International Naval Review/Fleet Week on the 4th of July. He and his wife sailed aboard the parade's flagship, the historic Dutch three-masted cargo schooner *Oosterschelde*.



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Parade of Tall Ships

4 July 2026

Companion Karen Lowe was a volunteer for Sail4th 250 and assigned a location on Governors Island. She was able to secure a spot near the water to capture great photographs of the United States Coast Guard barque *Eagle*.



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Sail4th 250 Reception

5 July 2026

Companions Jim DeSalvo, Burchenal Green, Ted Mason and Frank Russo attended the official Sail4th 250 Gift Exchange reception. Jim presented the New York Commandery challenge coin to RADM Marc Lederer, Director, OPNAV Task Force 250; CAPT Kristopher Ensley, USCG, Commanding Officer of the barque Eagle; and Mr. Chris O'Brien, President of Sail4th 250.



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Saint Thomas Church America 250th Celebration Service

5 July 2026

Companions John Cupschalk, Stephen Dombroski, Anne Kelly and Jim Trager attended a special service for Fleet Week at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue. The Right Reverend Ann Ritonia, Bishop Suffragan Armed Forces and Federal Ministries (Vice Admiral), was both celebrant and preacher. There were a number of Naval Chaplains in attendance. The Bishop was presented the Commandery challenge coin.



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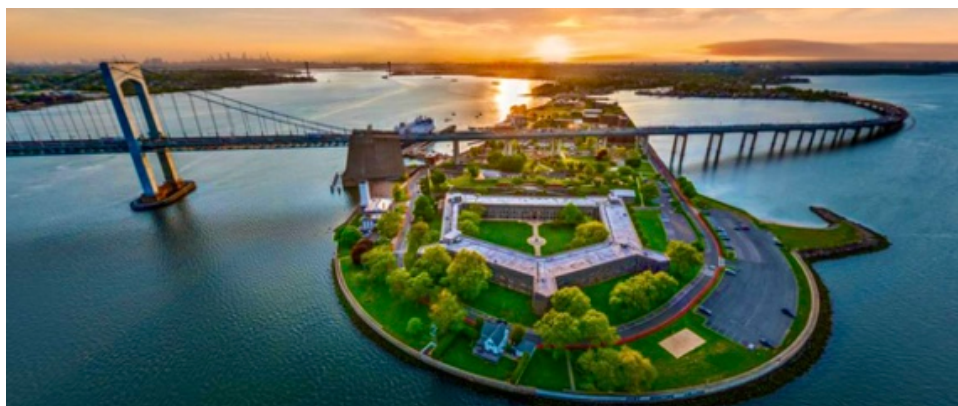




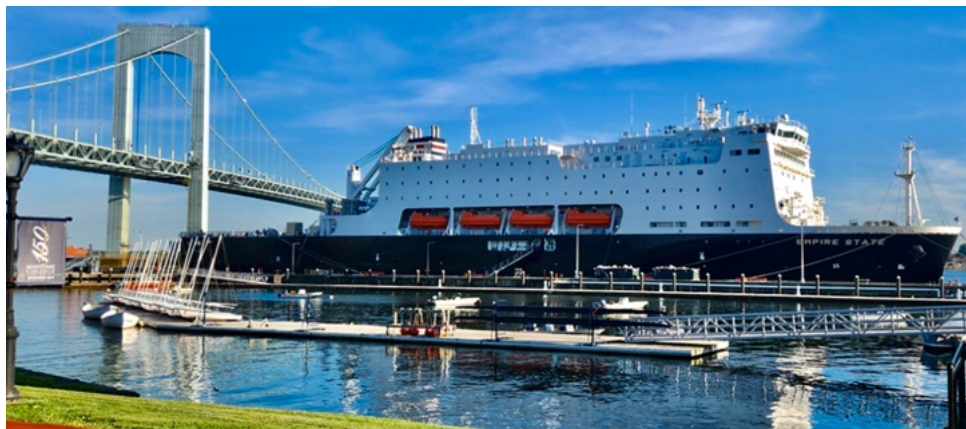
15 July 2026

Privateer Recruitment Officer Program
SUNY Maritime College

Companion Lou Liotti visited the Ship Bridge Simulator at SUNY Maritime College ("Go Privateers!") at Ft Schuyler in the Bronx while participating in Privateer Recruitment Officer Program (PROP) training. More than just an institution of higher learning, SUNY Maritime has been the Peninsula of Opportunity and an Engine of Upward Mobility shaping the U.S. Maritime Industry since 1874.



Fort Schuyler



Empire State



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16 July 2026

**Journeys Onward: Military Veterans' Experiences
*Salmagundi Club***

Companion Karen Lowe organizes *Journeys Onward*, an annual exhibition that showcases the art and accompanying words of military veterans or their family members. The New York Commandrey is a sponsor of the event.



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WELCOME ABOARD TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

LT Joseph Christopher Hanisko, USN (RC)

Mr. John Francis Paddock III
USN Veteran

CORRECTION: A new Companion's name was misspelled in Fall-Winter 2025-2026 edition.

CDR Ander S. Heiles, USN (Ret.)

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"And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'"

*John Fitzgerald Kennedy, U.S. Navy Lieutenant and 35<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.*

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The second USS New York was a 36-gun, three-masted, wooden-hulled frigate built in 1798, alongside the USS Constitution. She was launched and commissioned in 1800. She immediately sailed to the Caribbean where she fought in the Quasi-war (1800-1801) to protect US merchant ships from the French. After returning to New York and Washington, she was ordered to the Mediterranean during the War with the Barbary Pirates (1802-1803). On her return voyage, she was given a 17-gun salute by Vice Admiral Lord Nelson while passing through Malta on her way home. In 1814, during the War of 1812, she was captured and burned by the British.



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NAVAL ORDER CONGRESS 2026

SAVE THE DATES!

Naval Order Congress, 4–7 November, Holiday Inn Resort Pensacola Beach

We are having a three day Congress: Tuesday to Friday. Saturday, 7 November, is the Blue Angels airshow, and many Companions and friends will be staying for the event.



For more information about Congress 2026, click here: <https://www.navalorder.org/2026-congress>

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SAVE THESE DATES

Monday, 14 September 2026

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 19 October 2026

RADM Samuel Eliot Morison Award
Reception, 1730hrs - 2030hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 7 December 2026

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

(Date TBA) **December 2026**

Holiday Dinner
1800hrs-2100hrs
Location TBA

Monday, 1 February 2027

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 1 March 2027

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 5 April 2027

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 3 May 2027

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Monday, 7 June 2027

Luncheon
Reception, 1130hrs; Lunch, 1200hrs
Racquet & Tennis Club, NYC

Saturday, July 2027

Luncheon Reception
1200hrs - 1500hrs
Location TBA

All events at the Racquet & Tennis Club require gentlemen to be attired in coat and tie, ladies to be attired appropriately. The Morison Award Dinner is black-tie, mess dress, dark suit or service dress, ladies' equivalent, decorations recommended. No jeans, shorts or sports shoes. Other events will announce attire in the invitation.



Battle of New York 1776



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