



EXCELSIOR

2023 Year in Review

COL Thomas F. Pike, Jr.
Commander

CPT Gary Dycus
Treasurer & Registrar

CPT David Disi
Vice Commander

MAJ Dave Forrester
Registrar

CDR John F.V. Cupschalk
Secretary

LTjg Harvey Bagg
Judge Advocate



The year 2022 saw both a return to normality in New York City following the long pandemic, and the New York Commandery returned as well. We have had a year of great social events, all of which were fully subscribed. We also saw excellent growth in our membership. Looking forward to 2023, we will continue our quarterly meetings and cocktail parties. Look for an announcement regarding a formal dinner in the early months of the year.

I would like to welcome our newest members.

*COL (R) David Menegon
COL Dave Melendez
MAJ Keith Tidbail
LTC (R) Larry Alfano
COL Marco Bongioanni
COL Pat Mahaney
COL (R) Todd Liebig
COL (R) Marco Constagliola*



Best wishes to our Companions for a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

Thomas Pike, Jr.
Colonel, United States Army
Commander MOFW-NY





COMMANDERY EVENTS

New York Commandery 129th Anniversary 9 February 2024

The Commandery kicked off the 2024 year with a reception and dinner celebrating the Commandery's 129th Anniversary at the New York Athletic Club. Cadets of the historic Knickerbocker Greys provided a Color Guard and led the attendees in singing the National Anthem. It was a sold out event, and a great evening for all companions and their guests.





2024 Annual Meeting

18 April 2024

The 2024 Annual Meeting was held at the Commandery's Headquarters. A quorum was announced, old and new business discussed, and new members voted in. Following the meeting, there was a cocktail reception, with some companions and their guests able to attend.

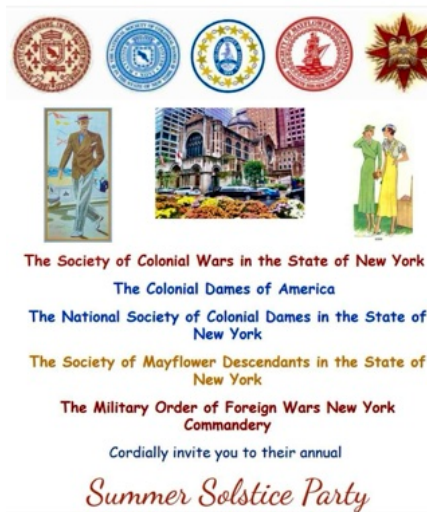




Summer Solstice Party

13 June 2024

The Military Order of Foreign Wars in New York co-hosted a cocktail reception led by the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York at Saint Bartholomew's Church, Park Avenue. It was a wonderful way to catch up before the start of summer. Good to see the many Companions who attended. Other Societies in attendance were The Colonial Dames of America, The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York, and The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York.





COMPANIONS OUT AND ABOUT

MAY 2024

United States Military Academy - West Point



Thursday, 23 May, Companion Tom Pike, Commander, on behalf of the New York Commandery, presented an Army sword to a 2024 graduating cadet at the United States Military Academy, West Point. The New York Commandery wishes every success in the cadet's career.

JUNE 2024

United States Merchant Marine Academy – King's Point



On Friday, 21 June 2024, Companion Dave Forrester, Registrar, on behalf of the New York Commandery, presented the Commandery's MOFW Leadership award - a Navy sword to the 2024 midshipman recipient at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, King's Point. The New York Commandery wishes her every success in her new career.



JULY 2024

MOFW Pennsylvania Commandery

On Thursday, 18 July, Companion John Cupschalk joined the MOFW Pennsylvania Commandery at their annual summer join dinner with the Radnor Veterans held at the Radnor Hunt Club, the oldest continuous hunt club in the United States, located in Malvern, PA. The heat wave had broken, and the evening could not have been more beautiful.



July 2024

The Paris Olympics



Ew York Companion and family attending the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris.





AUGUST 2024



Purple Heart Day

Wednesday, 7 August, National Purple Heart Day, Companion Michael Golden attended the National Purple Heart Day Service at the George Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, PA, hosted by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He met with fellow companions with the MOFW Pennsylvania Commandery.





NEW MEMBERS



Major (R) Slawomir Gorniak, CDF

MAJ Gorniak served in Bosnia and Afghanistan with the Canadian Army. He attended the Royal Military College and served 25 years with the Canadian Armed Forces. He lives in Quebec.



Diane Eliopoulos Montgomery

We welcome Diane Montgomery as a Companion of the New York Commandery. She is joining on an historical line of membership which has included presidents, members of Congress, distinguished military leaders as well as their lineal descendants. Diane is currently Executive Director for the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York.



Jonathan C. Jones
Past Commander, New York Commandery
1946-2024

JONATHAN C. JONES

It was with great sadness that the New York Commandery learned of the passing of Jonathan Jones following a long battle with cancer. Jonathan was a past Commander of the New York Commandery.

Jonathan, 78 years, executive recruiter and former banker, died at his home on February 22, 2024, in Philadelphia, PA. Cause of death was complications from treatment for throat cancer. A graduate of Lawrenceville School, College of Wooster, Fordham Graduate School of Business, he served in the Navy as Communications Officer on destroyers during the Vietnam conflict. Pursuing a banking career, he specialized in corporate lending before turning to executive recruiting in New York and then Philadelphia. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, a stepdaughter Suzannah Evans and two step-granddaughters.





*The New York Commandery
Wishes You and Yours
A Safe and Happy Holiday*



The Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States (MOFW) is a 501(c)4 Organization, and one of the oldest Veterans' and Hereditary Associations in the Nation with a diverse membership that includes those who have served, or descendant from those who have served, during one of the foreign wars in which this country has been engaged or is currently engaged.

The Seven Purposes of the MOFW are:

- Honor and perpetuate the names of brave and loyal men and women.
- Keep in mind the memory of their martial deeds and the victories which they helped gain.
- Strengthen the ties of fellowship among the Companions of the Order.
- Foster the cultivation of military and naval science.
- Bear true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and laws.
- Aid in maintaining national honor, union and independence.
- Foster and encourage the study of American History and particularly of American Military History, to the end that the memory of brave men and women may freely be enshrined and that we and our children may learn from the past to formulate sound policies for the present and future.