

Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States

New York Commandery

EXCELSIOR

2022 Year in Review

COL Thomas F. Pike, Jr.
Commander

CPT Gary Dycus
Treasurer

CPT David Disi
Vice Commander

CPT Gary Dycus
Registrar

Vacant
Secretary

LTjg Harvey Bagg
Judge Advocate



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



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



As we end 2022, I would like to wish Happy Holidays and a fruitful 2023 to all of our Companions and their families. I am pleased with the state of our Order and plan to build on these successes for 2023. As you may remember, MOWF-NY has five strategic goals supporting our mission and vision: find good candidates to join our Order, enhance our fellowship, advocate our military history, support our youth and refine our systems and processes.

Over the past year we made good headway, thanks to your hard work.

- I am pleased to welcome eight new Companions to our Order.
- We had several cocktail receptions, all of which reached maximum capacity. We also had several new events, one of which was an end-of-summer luncheon at the City Island Yacht Club, organized by Greg Mesniaeff.
- We updated our By Laws as well as several systems and processes. Great thanks go to Mike Luraschi for his continued hard work in archiving our historical documents. Also, I would like to recognize John Cupschalk for creating this newsletter and managing our website.
- We made progress in supporting young leaders through our interface with ROTC and Cadet groups in the area. This goal is called our “2040 Companions.”

For 2023, we are planning a black tie dinner this winter for Companions and their guests in New York City. Please make an effort to attend, as it is always good to see you. We will have another cocktail reception this spring and our Annual Meeting in April. On 10 June, we plan to participate in the Flag Day Celebration hosted by the Sons of the Revolution.

Lastly, I would like to thank our senior leaders for their service to our Order. Thank you to: David Disi, our Vice-Commander; Harvey Bagg, our Judge Advocate; Mike Luraschi our Quartermaster and the members of our Council who meet regularly to ensure we maintain good governance. A special thanks go to Gary Dycus who serves both as our Treasurer and Registrar. Gary also actively participates in our receptions, the onboarding of new Companions and ensuring we all pay our dues on time.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Pike". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Commander
MOWF-NY

I would like to welcome the following new Companions to our Order:

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) Mario Constagliola



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



Spring 2022 Cocktail Reception

3 March 2022

The Commandery kicked off the 2022 year with a reception at the midtown headquarters. A popular event, new members were recruited, and great fellowship was had by all.

Annual Meeting

1 June 2022

Members of the commandery met at the commandery's office to review discuss business matters, as well as review the by-laws and make recommendations for changes. Minutes of the meeting were later sent to members of the governing board, approved and accepted.



Deployment Ceremony, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry

14 June 2022

Members of the New York Commandery attended the Deployment Ceremony for companies of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry as they prepare to go overseas. The Commander in charge had recently attended one of the New York Commandery's receptions.

Summer Casual Mixer

24 August 2022

Members of the Commandery and their guests met at the office to cool off from the summer heat and share fellowship and exchange summer stories. Attendance was good for a hot summer afternoon in the City.

City Island Yacht Club

27 August 2022

The Commandery was invited to end the summer at the well-known City Island Yacht Club in the Bronx. This was a most enjoyable event for all those who attended. Many thanks to Companion Greg Mesniaeff who sponsored the Commandery at the club.



New York Militia Ball

24 September 2022

Commandery members attended the annual New York Militia Ball at the Officer's Club in West Point. New York State has an active state militia program consisting of the New York Guard, New York Air Guard and New York Naval Militia.





Fall Cocktail Party

26 October 2022

At the Commander's invitation, the Fall Cocktail Party was fully subscribed, and attended by members, guests and new member hopefuls. This event was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Annual Flag Service

13 November 2022

Annual Flag Service of the Historical and Genealogical Societies of New York at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue on Sunday, 13 November 2022. Representing were Michael Witter (MOFW-NY and Commander of MOFW-CT), Greg Mesniaeff (NY) and Gary L. Dycus (NY).



HOLIDAY SPIRIT



Gary Dycus, David Disi, Dr. Steve Billick kicked off the holiday season in New York City.



Companion COL Todd Liebig retires after 30 years of service.
Congratulations, and thank you for your service, Todd.
Companion Lawrence Alfano was also at this event to celebrate the occasion.



Will Norgard, Gary Dycus, Marco Bongioanni
and Tom Pike with Michael Golden, a
Companion from upstate New York.



NY Companion John F. V. Cupschalk at
the MOFW Pennsylvania Commandery
Christmas Party & Pearl Harbor Dinner,
Corinthian Yacht Club.



Companions at Squadron A on a Saturday night for a nice evening with carols. Held at the Three East Club (Women's National Republican Club) near Rockefeller Center. Michael Witter, Gary Dycus, Greg Mesniaeff, David Menegon, Dan Hooker.

Well done, Michael Witter.



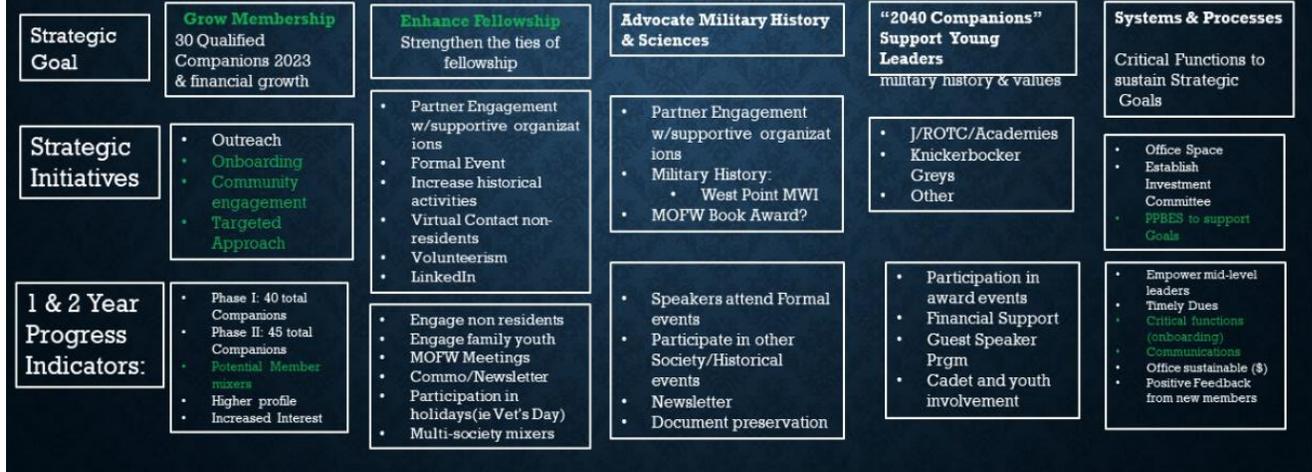
NY Companions Dave Disi, Gary Dycus, David Menegon, Marco Bongioanni and Tom Pike, Jr.; and Ryan Weddle (MOFW-CT) enjoyed the annual Colonial Wars ball at the University Club Friday, 16 December 2022.



Military Order of Foreign Wars- New York Commandery

Mission: To perpetuate the honorable service of our veterans through fellowship, cultivating the military and naval sciences and advocating American military history; to leverage this legacy to support and enrich our nation's veterans, young people and policy-makers for future generations.

Vision: Increase MOFW relevance and grow membership through active support of military & patriotic activities and partner engagement with organizations with similar strategic interests.



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