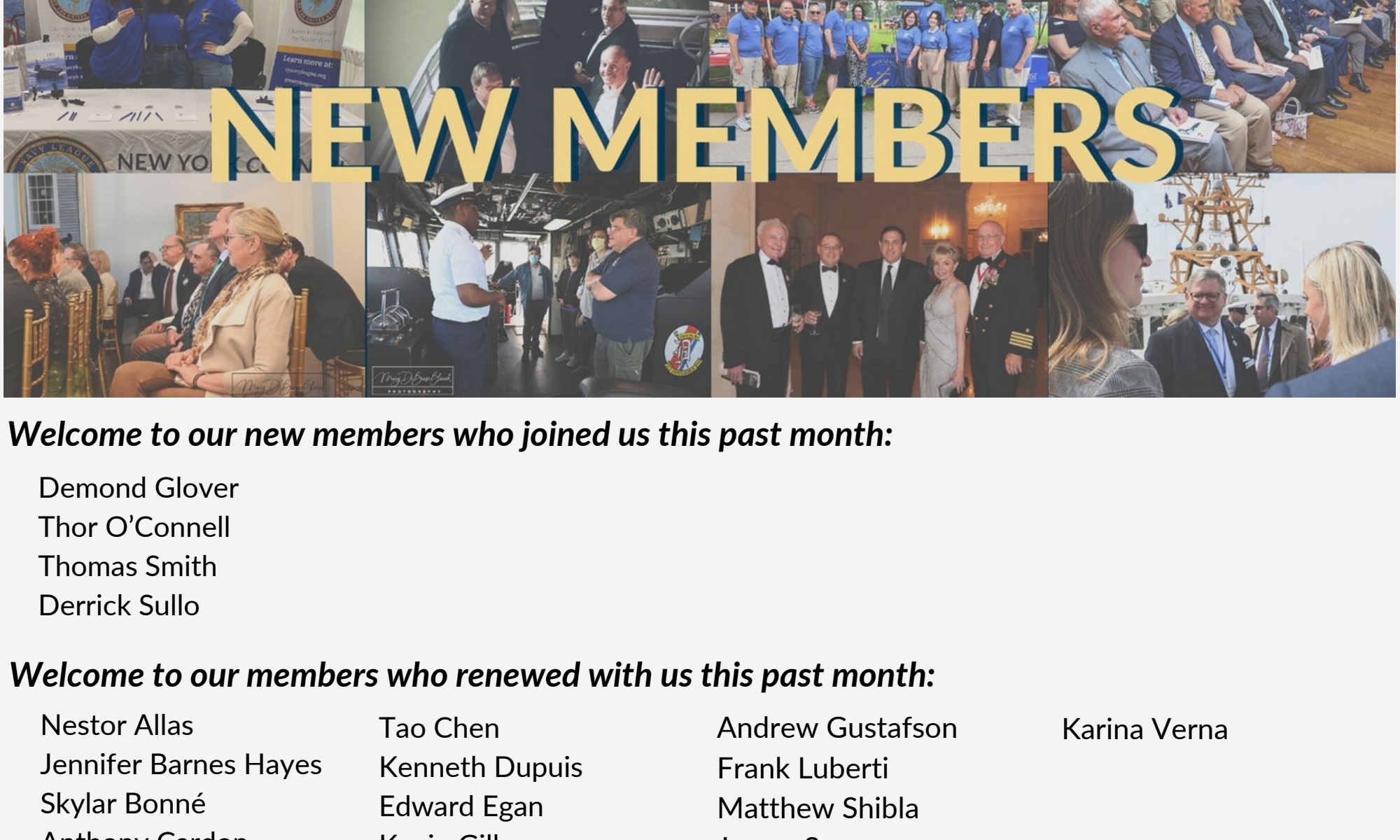




Learn how the New York Council has kicked off 2024 as we begin another impactful year of supporting our sea services.

In this month's edition:

- Meet our 2024 Officers & Directors
- Plan for our upcoming Members' Meeting
- Read a recap of our activities for the month of January
- Learn about all the ways members can get involved this year



Welcome to our new members who joined us this past month:

- Demond Glover
- Thor O'Connell
- Thomas Smith
- Derrick Sullo

Welcome to our members who renewed with us this past month:

- Nestor Allas
- Jennifer Barnes Hayes
- Skylar Bonné
- Anthony Cardon
- Tao Chen
- Kenneth Dupuis
- Edward Egan
- Kevin Gill
- Andrew Gustafson
- Frank Luberti
- Matthew Shibli
- James Spear
- Karina Verna

Thank you to our members who recruited this past month:

- Evan Dash
- Gregory Hitchen
- Frank Russo

Meet Your 2024 Officers & Directors



Passing of the Torch

On Thursday, December 14, New York Council members gathered together at the National Arts Club for our Annual Meeting. There, the slate of our 2024 Board of Directors was presented, voted upon and approved. After welcomed aboard, our 2024 Directors met to approve our new slate of officers and CAPT Frank R. Russo Jr. passed the torch of Council President to James Spear.

Meet our New Council President, James Spear

Fellow New York Council Navy Leaguers:

I am truly honored to be serving as the Council President for 2024. I want to sincerely thank Frank for his principled leadership, his vision and his commitment to excellence. His contributions, along with those from our members and from the Board, have built the Council's capacity and impact over the previous four years. I look forward to collaboratively continuing that momentum in 2024.

Our society is experiencing a sea change, and our economic prosperity and national defense are no exception. Through its array of programs and services, the New York Council continues to help the U.S. sea services respond to a changing world. To that end, my hope for the NYNL in 2024 will be to strengthen and diversify our funding, increase and broaden our membership, and elevate our programming while proudly honoring our traditions.

A ship only sails well when its crew is a team. We're fortunate to have a great crew at the NYNL, but we can always use your help. Please consider offering your ideas, suggestions, time or talent to the Council in 2024.

For 121 years, the Navy League has proven that it has the reach and resources to navigate the complexity of the world while still remaining true to its core mission of serving those who serve our nation. I look forward to you joining me and the Board in making 2024 the New York Council's strongest year so far. We are citizens in support of the sea services!

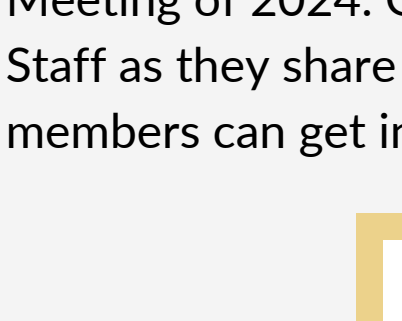
Respectfully,
James Spear

2024 Officers & Directors

- President**
James Spear
- Vice President, Education & Advocacy**
Nadia Farooq
- Vice President, Fleet Support**
Col. Charles R. Blaich, USMC (Ret.)
- Vice President, Membership**
Norma Milio
- Vice President, Youth Programs**
LCDR Evan Dash, USN (Ret.)
- Treasurer**
Richard Lowe
- Secretary**
Veronica Hitchen
- Judge Advocate**
Richard Vocate, Esq.
- Chaplain**
Fr. Gerald Murray
- At-Large Directors**
Skylar Bonné, Joel Dunn, Joseph Fila, Gary Kilberg, CAPT Ted T. Mason USN (Ret.), CAPT Frank R. Russo, Jr., USN (Ret.), Kristen Sauvigne, Daniel Solomon

January Board Offsite

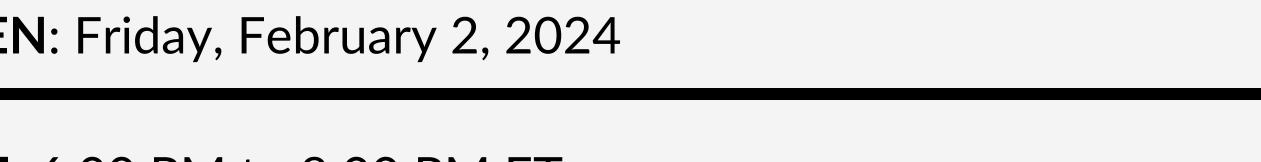
Our new Board of Directors is already hard at work, having met on Saturday, January 27, for the annual offsite, where they approved the 2024 budget, participated in fundraising, membership and governance training, and strategized for the upcoming year.



A special thank you to Council Member Richard Pusateri for donating the Student Veterans Lounge at John Jay College of Criminal Justice for the meeting, and to Karen Maddox, Membership Director at Navy League National Headquarters and to Judy Siegel of ProBono Partnership for taking their Saturday to provide their valuable insight and guidance.

Upcoming Events

Join the New York Council for refreshments, board games and fun at our first Members' Meeting of 2024. Get the opportunity to meet this year's Committee Chairs and Council Staff as they share information about their committees, upcoming events and how members can get involved in another busy year of supporting our sea services.

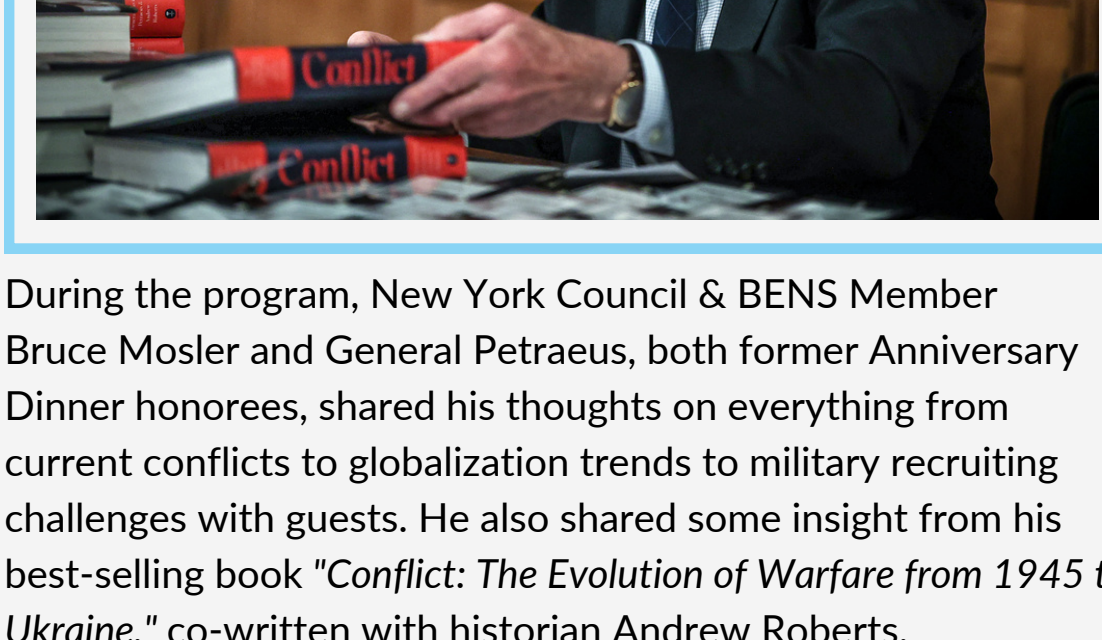


WHEN: Friday, February 2, 2024
TIME: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM ET
LOCATION: Clint Hall 36 16 West 36th Street, NYC
COST: Tickets are \$15 Members and \$20 Nonmembers. Includes appetizers and a drink ticket for a beer, wine or well drink.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

Fireside Chat with General Petraeus

On Wednesday, January 24, the New York Council partnered with Business Executives for National Security (BENS) to host our first event of 2024 – a Fireside Chat and book signing with retired Army General David Petraeus on the evolution of warfare.

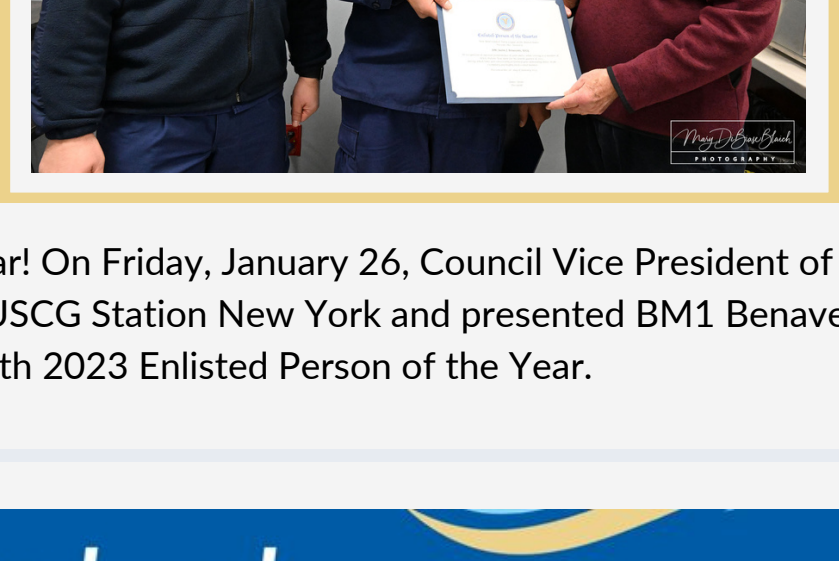
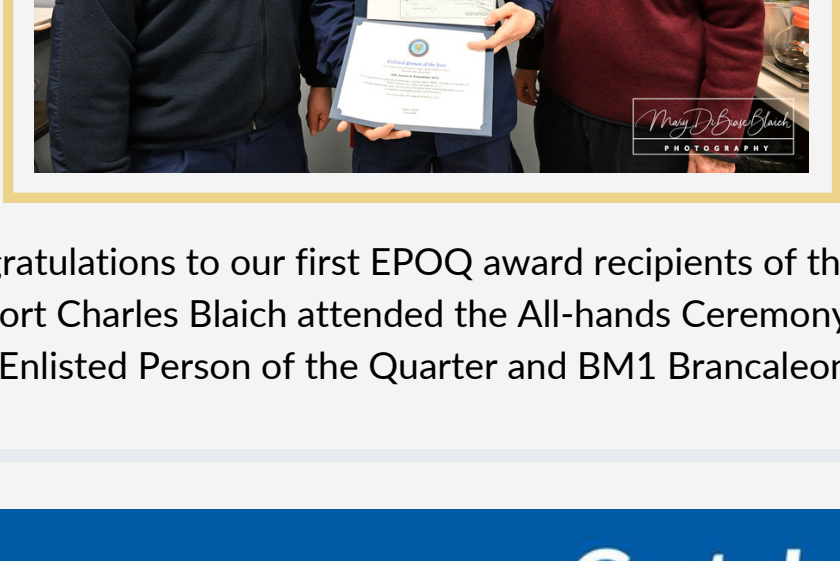


During the program, New York Council & BENS Member Bruce Mosler and General Petraeus, both former Anniversary Dinner honorees, shared his thoughts on everything from current conflicts to globalization trends to military recruiting challenges with guests. He also shared some insight from his best-selling book "Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1945 to Ukraine," co-written with historian Andrew Roberts.



Photo Credits: Dan Henry

Fleet Support



Congratulations to our first EPOQ award recipients of the year! On Friday, January 26, Council Vice President of Fleet Support Charles Blaich attended the All-hands Ceremony at USCG Station New York and presented BM1 Benavente with Enlisted Person of the Quarter and BM1 Brancalone with 2023 Enlisted Person of the Year.

Get Involved



As we kick off this new year, the New York Council is looking for members who are interested in volunteering their time and skillset to help us in our efforts. Whether you are interested in joining a specific committee, have a favorite event you would like to be a part of or are just looking for new ways to be a citizen in support of the sea services, there is something for everyone!

Committee's to Join:

- Development
- Education and Advocacy: Legislative Affairs
- Education and Advocacy: Public Education
- Fleet Support: Fleet Week
- Fleet Support: Unit Support
- Membership
- Risk, Budget and Finance
- Young Professionals Committee*
- Youth Programs

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Social Media: Facebook content manager
- Social Media: LinkedIn content manager
- Membership Recruiting: tabling at events
- Membership Recruiting: digital outreach
- Event Planning/Support
- Local community based fundraising
- Voice-to-Congress advocacy campaign manager
- National Security Briefing Reporter
- IT Support
- Youth Mentor

If you are interested in joining a committee or have other skills to offer, please fill out the 2024 Membership Involvement Survey. If you have any questions, email us at info@nynavyleague.org.

[CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT THE 2024 MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT SURVEY](#)