



# NY-PENN NEWS

NY—Penn Military Vehicle Collector’s Club

**APRIL 2024**



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## *NY-Penn Board of Directors*

State President:  
Karl Remmers karlg506@yahoo.com

Treasurer:  
Rita Messer bmesser2@twcny.rr.com

Secretary:  
Bill Harris wrhgah@gmail.com

A Company:  
1<sup>st</sup> VP: Bob Messersmith bobmess@quixnet.net  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Frank Fairfield fairfielddebra@gmail.com

Easy Company:  
1<sup>st</sup> VP: Brant Messer bmesser2@twcny.rr.com  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Lorne Coon lornecoona@gmail.com

Hudson-Mohawk Company:  
1<sup>st</sup> VP: Marc Pollard pollardexcavating@gmail.com  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Bob Muller ironvets@gmail.com

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Web Administrator: Jeff Ullman  
jullman@nycap.rr.com

Editor: Stephanie Remmers  
nypenn.newsletter@yahoo.com

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<http://ny-pennhvcc.com>  
[NY-PENNMVCC.ORG](http://NY-PENNMVCC.ORG)

*In Honor of Our Past NY-Penn State President  
Ralph Richter*



Ralph Conrad Richter

January 21, 2024

On Sunday, January 21, 2024, Ralph Conrad Richter passed away at the age of 78 at Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, NY after a brief illness. He was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, and friend to many. As a young man he was always mechanically minded. His love of working with his hands brought him to Brooklyn Technical High School where he gained an even greater interest in technology and engineering. This passion would lead him to a long and happy career as a technology teacher for Laurence High School in Cedarhurst, NY.

When Ralph retired he filled his time doing what he loved best. Ralph was a longtime active member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church where he served as an usher, reader, and sang in the choir. In retirement he became even more active in church activities. Ralph had a great love of WWII history, particularly vehicles and in 2018 he became President of the NY State-PENN Military Vehicle Collectors Club until November of 2023. His stepping down signified a momentous change in his life as he was spending more time traveling and exploring the world with his wife Marta, always by each other's side.

Ralph is survived by his wife, Marta Bilek; son, Matthew Richter; sister, Marie Richter Mason; brother, Eric Richter and his wife, Rosene; several nieces and nephews; and countless close friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Erich and Alma Richter.

Family and friends attended a memorial service on Sunday, March 3rd at 3:00 pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7248 Highbridge Rd, Fayetteville, NY 13066.

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NY-Penn MVCC members mourn the lost of Past President Ralph Richter as they gather to attend the Memorial Service. The Board of Directors voted and approved a donation to be made to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fayetteville, NY in memory of Ralph Richter.



## *New Banners*

The Board of Directors approved the purchase of twelve new vinyl banners to be used by club members when attending events to promote our organization. "A Company" received 2 banners; "Easy Company" received 4 banners; "Hudson-Mohawk" received 6 banners. If you plan to attend an event and would like to use a banner to promote our organization please contact your Chapter 1st VP to make arrangements. A huge thank you to Bob Muller for creating and ordering the banners for all chapters.



## *Happy Birthday/Happy Anniversary*



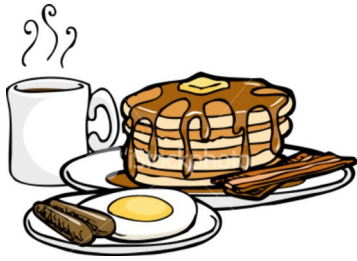
Wishing all our members that are celebrating Birthdays and Anniversary's in April, May & June. May you enjoy your special day.



## *Veterans Breakfast*

The Hudson-Mohawk Chapter continued to show support to many local Veterans. Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 30 local Veterans met at the Cobleskill Diner to enjoy breakfast together. Representing the Hudson-Mohawk Chapter, Jeff Ullman, presented a donation towards the cost of 30 Veterans breakfast. A thank you to all members who made this donation possible.





## *A Company and Easy Company*

We are sorry to report we have no updates to include in this newsletter. We look forward to hearing from them for future newsletters. We wish them a spring filled with fun events.

## *Hudson—Mohawk Chapter*

January 2024—No membership meeting was held.

February 2024

A membership meeting was held on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Schoharie Fire House. Members attending were able to enjoy the chicken parm and ziti left over from the Christmas Party along with munchies and desserts which members brought. Thank you to Bob and Linda Muller for freezing and heating up the chicken parm and ziti for all to enjoy.

A reminder was given out to members to be sure to keep their membership current to be entitled to be covered by the group insurance. If you are not a paid member by February 29, 2024 you will be dropped from the group insurance until paid membership is received by our State Treasurer. If you are unsure if your membership is paid for 2024 you may check with Stephanie or Rita.

Jeff Ullman reminded members to view and post on our Facebook page. Please feel free to invite family and friends to join our Facebook page to keep current with events.

The Schoharie County Veterans Office may be looking for support from members of our club with events they are hosting. Events are still being planned so they may contact our club in the future for support.

Members of our chapter will be supporting quilts for Veterans through a local Quilt Quild organization.

Plans are being made for the 2024 Christmas Party, members voted to check on and reserve The Altamont Fire House for Sunday; 12/1/24 as first choice, 12/8/24 as second choice, and Saturday 12/7/24 as third choice.

Marc Pollard provided a tech tip on Speedy Ring and Speedy Seal.

March 2024— The membership meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

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Sunday, February 18, 2024





# Orlando Auto Museum

## Orlando, Florida

[orlandoautomuseum.com](http://orlandoautomuseum.com)

Bill Harris provided these pictures to share with our members. During his stay in Florida this winter Bill was able to visit this 1000 car museum. Bill wanted to share some pictures that he thought would be of interest to other members. You will find included in the pictures is a 100 foot car with a helicopter pad at the rear, the rest are of a military display. I am sure when you see Bill he would be willing to share any other information of interest with you. Thank you Bill for sharing.



## 818TH AMPHIBIOUS TRUCK COMPANY AT UTAH BEACH JUNE 6, 1944



*Afloat in Le Havre*

The 818th Amphibious Truck Company was an African American unit that saw action in Europe in 1944-1945 during World War II. The 818th was commanded by Captain John Mellen of Massachusetts.

The driver of the DUKW boat on display was Corporal Martin McCray of Maryland. Cpl. McCray named his DUKW boat "Jeanette" after his girlfriend back home whom he married after the war.

The 818th landed at Utah Beach on the morning of June 6, 1944 during Operation Overlord as part of Assault Force U. The company provided ammunition, gasoline, medical supplies, and rations in support of the 4th Infantry Division's assault on Uncle Red Beach and the 1st Engineer Special Brigadoon Sugar Red Beach. Five Bronze Stars were awarded to the men in the 818th for their actions at Utah Beach on D-Day.



This display was built by the Museum of Military History in partnership with Dezerland. To see more displays and artifacts of the American military experience, please visit the Museum of Military History at 5210 Irla Bronson Memorial Highway in Kissimmee.

Information on the men of the 818th Amphibious Truck Company was provided by the camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum in Carrabelle, Florida.



Scan to watch more!











## *NY-Penn MVCC Website*

Be sure to check out our web page, [www.nypennmvcc.com](http://www.nypennmvcc.com). You will find much information and many links that will offer additional information.

If you notice any changes that need to be made or would like to add information please contact our website liaison, Jeff Ullman.

## *NY-Penn MVCC Facebook*

Many are enjoying our Facebook page. If you have not yet joined we encourage you to do so. Please go on and request to join or if you are already a member invite a friend to join our group. Spread the word. As a member you are able to add a picture or post an event that will be happening for all to enjoy.

## *For Sale*

M416 Trailers in various conditions. Price ranges from \$500. each to \$1500. each.

Contact George at 518-399-5555 or by email: [georgedecresce@gmail.com](mailto:georgedecresce@gmail.com)

