

# HISTORICON® 2024 War College Schedule

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**T12:981 Thursday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

## **“Battle of Shanghai 1932”**

**Speaker:** Ching Chin

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Inter-War

**Description:** The Battle of Shanghai in 1932 was a pivotal battle in China which could have saved Asia from World War II. A contest between the newly re-united Nationalist China and the aggressive Japanese Empire, the battle is a forgotten turning point in the origins of World War II, pitting Japan's well-equipped Army and Navy against China's stubborn provincial forces and crack Central Government troops. This talk is a companion to the game session replaying the battle on an operational level. The talk will not only cover operational history but will include insights on World War II.

## **Ching Chin**

Ching Chin is a long time member of the New York Military Affairs Symposium ("NYMAS"). (For more on NYMAS, please go to [www.nymas.org](http://www.nymas.org).) Ching is a veteran speaker at the HMGS War College and an avid wargamer and gamemaster with emphasis on World War 2 in China.

**T13:964 Thursday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

## **“Wargaming Alternative Military Technologies at Gettysburg” Theme**

**Speaker:** Sean Barnett

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Gaming, **Period:** American Civil War

**Description:** A discussion of how the RAND Corporation designed two wargames of the Battle of Gettysburg for the U.S. Army in which the armies could employ military technologies that were available in 1863 but which were not used in the actual battle. The games allowed Army officers and staff to experiment with alternative technologies in a historical setting and think about how technologies are developed into military capabilities and how they can influence the best way for an army to fight.

## **Sean Barnett**

Dr. Sean Barnett is an adjunct engineer at the RAND Corporation. Most of his work at RAND has involved military operational assessments and wargaming and he has been involved with wargaming on the hobby/commercial side for many years. He has written short books of wargaming scenarios centered on the World War II battles of Villers-Bocage and Operation Epsom and he has co-authored a book on the potential impact of alternative technologies on the battle of Gettysburg.

**T14:961 Thursday 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

## **“Festung 44 - The Fuehrers Fortress Folly”**

**Speaker:** Jeff Schultz

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** Join us for a brief discussion of select Wehrmacht fortresses of 1944 (80th anniversary edition), ranging from aspects of the Atlantic Wall to the Ostfront with particular focus on the Channel Islands and the Wellenbrecher (wave-breaker) concept implications for the Soviet 1944 offensives. As the war progressed, Berlins fortunes grew increasingly grimmer amid the inexorable Soviet advance, and the opening of the Second Front in France made short work of years of construction and defensive efforts, all of which contributed to the 1945 collapse.

## **Jeff Schultz**

Jeff Schultz teaches history and political science courses to community college undergraduates in Pennsylvania. He has an M.A. in history and another in political science.

**T15:974 Thursday 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

## **“Operation COBRA from the ground up: George Wilson's experience in Operation COBRA, 25 July-2 August 1944”**

**Speaker:** John Stapleton

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** George Wilson was an infantry platoon leader in E Company, 2nd battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. In this presentation, I explore how the 22nd Infantry Regiment together with the 66th Armored Regiment which comprised Combat Command A prepared for Operation COBRA, executed the attack, and experienced the St. Lo breakthrough during the last week of July 1944. Learn how the US Army learned to overcome both the Normandy hedgerows and the vaunted Wehrmacht. I would like to present either before or after Steve Waddell's presentation on Thursday. Our presentation should be back-to-back.

## **John Stapleton**

John M. Stapleton, Jr. is an Associate Professor of History at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Dr. Stapleton is a military historian who specializes in early modern European history. He has been on the faculty of USMA since 2004.

**T16:9734:Thursday 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

## **“LT. George Wilson's War, 1944-1945”**

**Speaker:** Steve Waddell

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** One of the best, if not the best, World War II memoir is: If You Survive: From Normandy to the Battle of the Bulge to the End of World War II, One American Officers Riveting True Story. Join me for an

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examination of LT Wilsons wartime experience and the many leadership lessons he shares with his readers. Learn the rest of the story as I share what I learned speaking with CPT George Wilson back in 1998. PROF John Stapleton and I would like our two War College talks on Thursday afternoon, 4:00 and 5:00, or 5:00 and 6:00. We have games scheduled for Friday and Saturday. Hopefully our request can be accomodated.

## Steve Waddell

Dr. Steve R. Waddell is Professor of History at the United States Military Academy where he specializes in World War II and U.S. Army logistics. Author of U.S. Army Logistics: From the American Revolution to 9/11 and U.S. Army Logistics: The Normandy Campaign, 1944. Co-Editor and chapter author for The West Point History of World War II Volumes 1 and 2. Awarded the 2016 Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award for Reference for The West Point History of World War II, Volume 2. Dr. Waddell was introduced to Avalon Hill and SPI games in the 1970s and has been wargaming ever since.

**T17: 979 Thursday 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

### ""D-DAY DISASTER""

**Speaker:** Peter Panzeri

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** Join "KILLING BIN LADEN" author Pete Panzeri for a thought-provoking presentation on "Real & Potential Cataclysmic Disasters" of OPERATION OVERLORD: undeniably one of the most pivotal and decisive battles in all of military history, but also one "rife with disaster" both actual & potential. As a decorated veteran of "The Largest Tank Battle in History," Panzeri will apply key details for a no-nonsense approach on how D-Day succeeded despite so many disasters. And "How it is arguably, the most significant/irrevocable battle in of all of military history." ONE-TIME ONLY at Hcon'24

## Peter Panzeri

Pete is a decorated combat veteran, an award-winning author & a game designer. His books include KILLING BIN LADEN: OPERATION NEPTUNE SPEAR and he is widely-known for LITTLE BIG HORN 1876: CUSTER'S LAST STAND recipient of the Military Book club Award and "Order of the Indian Wars." Pete also received the HMGS "DUKE SEIFRIED GAME-MASTER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD, and was inducted into the HMGS LEGION OF HONOR in 1999. Panzeri's 30-year military career included service as an 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper, Drill Sergeant, Infantry company command assignments and multiple overseas & combat deployments. His decorations include The Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge and Infantryman's "Order of Saint Maurice" He earned his Bachelor's Degree

from Old Dominion University, and completed graduate school for Military History at The Ohio State University. He was Chief of Military History at the US Army Infantry School, Tactics Chief at the Military Intelligence School, and taught 3 years for the U.S. Military Academy, West Point - Prep. After several years as a military contractor, Pete's current projects include ROMMEL RULES! And CRAZY HORSE RULES!

**F09:955 Friday 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

### "China's Northern Expedition 1926-1928 OVERVIEW I" Theme

**Speaker:** Ching Chin

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Inter-War

**Description:** The Nationalist Kuomintang re-unification of China after China's Imperial Collapse. The raw history behind blockbusters like Steve McQueen's 1966 The Sand Pebbles and Marlene Dietrich's 1932 Shanghai Express. This Part One will provide a strategic overview of the campaign that set the stage for Asia's Second World War and post war cataclysm, the rise of the Kuomintang and the seeds of its own collapse.

## Ching Chin

Ching Chin is a long time member of the New York Military Affairs Symposium (NYMAS). (For more on NYMAS, please go to [www.nymas.org](http://www.nymas.org).) Ching is a veteran speaker at the HMGS War College and an avid wargamer, gamemaster, and living historian with emphasis on World War 2 in China.

**F10:982 Friday 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

### "China's Northern Expedition II 1926-28 OPERATIONS" --Theme

**Speaker:** Ching Chin

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Inter-War

**Description:** This is a companion Part Two talk on the Nationalist Kuomintang re-unification of China after China's Imperial Collapse, focusing more on operational details. The Northern Expedition period is the history behind movies like Steve McQueen's 1966 The Sand Pebbles and Marlene Dietrich's 1932 Shanghai Express. This Part Two will provide more historical operational details for wargaming a campaign that set the stage for Asia's second half of the 20th Century and beyond.

## Ching Chin

Ching Chin is a long time member of the New York Military Affairs Symposium ("NYMAS"). (For more on NYMAS, please go to [www.nymas.org](http://www.nymas.org).) Ching is a veteran speaker at the HMGS War College and an avid wargamer and gamemaster with emphasis on World War 2 in China.

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**F11:976 Friday 11:00 AM – 12:00 AM**

**“From Hollywood To Historicon: Life At The Sharpe End--The Sharpe Story According To Rifleman Harris” Theme**

**Speaker:** Jason Salkey

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Napoleonic

**Description:** Actor Jason Salkey set about documenting everything to do with Napoleonic era Rifleman Harris of the 95th Rifles. The result is a subjective and sometimes humorous presentation of his life on the British TV show Sharpes Rifles which was a smash hit and cult favorite of many wargamers in the United States and around the world.

## Jason Salkey

For five seasons, Jason Salkey played the role of Rifleman Harris in the classic British TV show Sharpes Rifles. During that time, Jason attempted to emulate the original Harris, the 95th Rifleman who recalled his tales of soldiering in the Peninsular War. Though illiterate, his vivid, detailed account was transcribed and turned into a book which is still in print today.

**F12:960 Friday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

**“Buford's Cavalry, July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg”**

**Speaker:** John Priest

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** American Civil War

**Description:** The author will examine in detail the role John Buford's cavalymen, in particular, Gambles Brigade and Battery A, 2nd U.S. Artillery in the battle on July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg. He will correctly identify where the cavalry actually defended Seminary Ridge.

## John Priest

John Michael Priest, a retired high school history teacher, will be presenting a topic based upon his newest book: Strong Men of the Regiment Sobbed Like Children, John Reynolds I Corps at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.

**F13:951 Friday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**“Military Iconography in 13th Century Byzantium: Saints and Sinners”**

**Speaker:** Sam Cowell

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Medieval

**Description:** Constantinople has been sacked and the balance of power in Mediterranean has shifted towards Ottoman and Western forces. As claimants vie for de jure authority under the titlature of Byzantium, de facto legitimacy is expressed through military victory. As the Byzantines struggle to win independence, join this lecture to learn about the role of the Byzantine Emperor as a Christian warrior, the function and layout of

his soldiers, the types of equipment, foreign auxiliaries of these tumultuous times and more!

## Sam Cowell

Sam Cowell is an Ancient and Medieval Numismatist specializing in the coinage of the post-fourth-crusade Byzantine statelets and kingdoms. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and is currently pursuing his post graduate studies at the Wirtschafsuniversit Wien, Austria. Sam has been published in a number of numismatic journals including Studia Nummorum and KOINON. Sam has also worked with numismatic firms and auction houses including the Lancaster Based Classical Numismatic Group CNG, Switzerland based Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG, EID MAR Numismatics and more. Future projects of his include a new Byzantine coinage reference book series that is in current discussions for publication.

**F14:952 Friday 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**“Attu: The Japanese Side of Death before Surrender” Theme**

**Speaker:** Theodore Cook

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** Examines the Battle for Attu Island in the Aleutians from the perspective of Japanese strategy but focuses on the experience of the garrison and development of the "Death before Surrender" ideology. Projector allowing playing of a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate

## Theodore Cook

Theodore Cook is a Professor of History Emeritus, Former Director of Asian Studies William Paterson University of NJ; PhD Princeton. Selected Honors: SECNAV Fellow and Visiting Professor of Strategy & Policy, Naval War College Newport; Senior Fulbright Fellow, Australian Defence Force Academy & Australian War Memorial; Guggenheim Fellow. Co-author w/ Haruko Taya Cook JAPAN AT WAR: AN ORAL HISTORY and forthcoming SACRED WAR: INSIDE THE JAPANESE EXPERIENCE, 1937-1945 (The New Press).

**F15:971 Friday 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**“Hunting U-Boats: Allied ASW in WW II” Theme**

**Speaker:** Martin Fenelon

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** The movie Greyhound provided a fictional view of ASW in WW II. We'll dive into the real technology, tactics, and strategies that allowed the allies to turn the tide in the Battle of the Atlantic, and decisively defeat the U-boats. While this will only uncover the tip of the

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iceberg, we hope this will encourage you to explore the topic further.  
projector and screen

## Martin Fenelon

Marty has spent over 40 years involved with Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), first with the US Navy as an ASW Officer, Combat Systems instructor, and War College Graduate. In civilian life, he worked as a surface ASW systems engineer and program manager supporting the Naval Underwater Warfare Center (New London). These careers compliment life-long interest in the technology and tactics of submarine, and anti-submarine warfare.

**F16:953 Friday 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

### “The Dacians: More than Barbarians”

**Speaker:** Payton Kelly-McNally

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Ancients

**Description:** The Dacians were an ancient people inhabiting what is now modern day Romania. While famous for their two wars with the Romans, the Dacians were much more than barbarians on the border of the Empire. Through the lens of the Dacian wars we will explore their culture, warfare, geography, and important figures and begin to truly understand why the Dacians were more than just a tribal people.

## Payton Kelly-McNally

Payton Kelly-McNally is a lifelong student and lover of history with an undergraduate degree in History, Theology and Peace & Justice and a Masters in Theology from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Originally from New Jersey, Payton plans to one day teach history at the collegiate level. Payton will pursue his PhD in history in 2025. He currently does freelance work for The Alexander Lowen Foundation which provides bioenergetic therapy and education worldwide.

**F17:980 Friday 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

### “ROSEBUD to LITTLE-BIGHORN: INSEPARABLE DISASTERS”

**Speaker:** Peter Panzeri

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** 19th Century

**Description:** Join "LITTLE BIGHORN 1876" author Pete Panzeri for an in-depth exposition on the two most inseparable and cataclysmic defeats of ALL of the Western American-Indian Wars. As a decorated leader and combat veteran, Panzeri will apply as many "not-so-well-known" details as time permits, and a no-nonsense approach to convey a "soldiers-eye-view" of the obvious-yet-ignored keys to this campaign. And "Why is one a "disaster" and the other a "setback?" Just how did all of this happen? Who did well? Who did badly? Who paid the price? Who was blamed? Who was not blamed? And Why.

## Peter Panzeri

Pete is a decorated combat veteran, an award-winning author & a game designer. His books include KILLING BIN LADEN: OPERATION NEPTUNE SPEAR and he is widely-known for LITTLE BIG HORN 1876: CUSTER'S LAST STAND recipient of the Military Book club Award and "Order of the Indian Wars." Pete also received the HMGS "DUKE SEIFRIED GAME-MASTER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD, and was inducted into the HMGS LEGION OF HONOR in 1999. Panzeri's 30-year military career included service as an 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper, Drill Sergeant, Infantry company command assignments and multiple overseas & combat deployments. His decorations include The Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman's Badge and Infantryman's "Order of Saint Maurice." He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Old Dominion University, and completed graduate school for Military History at The Ohio State University. He was Chief of Military History at the US Army Infantry School, Tactics Chief at the Military Intelligence School, and taught 3 years for the U.S. Military Academy, West Point - Prep. After several years as a military contractor, Pete's current projects include ROMMEL RULES! And CRAZY HORSE RULES!

**S10:975 Saturday 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

### “Red Sea Crisis: The Houthi Problem”

**Speaker:** Lawrence Bond

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Modern

**Description:** Larry Bond discusses the Houthi attack on merchants and warships in the Red Sea, their place in the spectrum of naval warfare and their implications for future conflicts. Projector

## Lawrence Bond

A former US Navy surface warfare officer & defense consultant with a degree in Quantitative Methods.

After co-authoring Red Storm Rising with Tom Clancy, Larry Bond has teamed with several different authors to write eighteen novels including Dangerous Ground, Day of Wrath, The Enemy Within, Cauldron, Vortex and Red Phoenix. : Five have been New York Times bestsellers.

Co-Designer of the Admiralty Trilogy series of simulations that covers tactical naval warfare in the late 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. This includes: Dawn of the



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Battleship, Fear God & Dread Nought, Command at Sea and Harpoon (HG Wells Award winner).

**S11:978 Saturday 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

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**Speaker:** Jason Salkey

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Napoleonic

**Description:** Actor Jason Salkey set about documenting everything to do with Napoleonic era Rifleman Harris of the 95th Rifles. The result is a subjective and sometimes humorous presentation of his life on the British TV show Sharpes Rifles which was a smash hit and cult favorite of many wargamers in the United States and around the world.

## Jason Salkey

For five seasons, Jason Salkey played the role of Rifleman Harris in the classic British TV show Sharpes Rifles. During that time, Jason attempted to emulate the original Harris, the 95th Rifleman who recalled his tales of soldering in the Peninsular War. Though illiterate, his vivid, detailed account was transcribed and turned into a book which is still in print today.

**S12:959 Saturday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

**“Iverson's Assault on July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg”**

**Speaker:** John Priest

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** American Civil War

**Description:** Using maps, the author will illustrate in detail where and when Bufords Cavalry, in particular, Gambles Brigade and Battery A, 2nd U.S. Artillery participated in the battle of July 1, 1863. He will also properly identify where Gambles Brigade defended Seminary Ridge.

## John Priest

John Michael Priest, a retired high school history teacher, whom Ed Bearss referred to as the Ernie Pyle of the Civil War soldier, will be speaking about his newest book: Strong Men of the Regiment Sobbed Like Children, John Reynolds I Corps at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.

**S13:962 Saturday 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**“Three Raiders, Three Wars: Commerce Raiders as Effective Maritime Guerrillas, 1862-1943”**

**Speaker:** Jeff Schultz

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Other

**Description:** Join us to learn more about select commerce raiders across three major conflicts: the American Civil War, World War I and World

War II. We will focus on three belligerents: the Confederacy, Imperial Germany and Nazi Germany efforts to wage maritime guerilla warfare against the large merchant fleets of their foes; featuring the most successful raiders, the tactics used and other related information. Collectively, this lecture hopes to offer insights as to how commerce raiding represented a relatively cost-effective means to disrupt the enemy until effective countermeasures arose.

## Jeff Schultz

Jeff Schultz teaches history and political science courses to community college undergraduates in Pennsylvania. He has an M.A. in history and another in political science.

**S14:950 Saturday 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**“The Machinery of Victory”**

**Speaker:** Connor Marsland

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** This lecture will examine the methods and production philosophies of the major powers during WWII, as well as discuss why the Allies performed so well on the home front, in contrast to Axis under-performance in armored fighting vehicles, aircraft, and ammunition.

## Connor Marsland

Connor Marsland is a history teacher, an assistant historian at the Livonia Historical Society, as well as an avid wargamer and miniature painter.

**S15:972 Saturday 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**“Daylight Bombing: Formations and Tactics” Theme**

**Speaker:** Martin Fenelon

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** World War II

**Description:** Masters of the Air on Apple+ provided a dramatic view of the USAAF daylight bombing campaign in WW II. We'll briefly cover some the tactical and technical innovations that developed during the campaign before looking at a single mission in more detail. projector and screen

## Martin Fenelon

Marty has continued his life-long passion for all things aviation. In addition to designing and publishing the Fight for the Skies game series (Luftwaffe 1946, etc.), he manufactures and sells the largest range of 1/300th scale aircraft in the world. His extensive research library is complemented by his experience in the US Navy instructing officers in Anti-Air Warfare (AAW).

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S16:963 Saturday 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

## **“Sea Soldiers, Sailors, and Schutztruppen: German Troop Types and Tactics in the Herero War”**

**Speaker:** Roy Jones

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Historical, **Period:** Colonial

**Description:** The aggressiveness of the Hereros pressing after the Germans broke on the resistance of the German Marines. German official history, 1904. Imperial Marines (Seesoldaten, or Sea Soldiers) survived against overwhelming odds through their exceptional tenacity and maneuverability. Sailors had extraordinary morale, triumphantly charging uphill against Hereros in superior positions. Schutztruppen were masters of the bayonet, forcing Hereros to abandon their trenches. This talk focuses on these forces.

### **Roy Jones**

Dr. Roy Jones has been researching and writing books and essays on German colonialism in Africa for more than fifteen years, focusing on early twentieth-century conflicts: the Herero War of 1904 and the Nama Wars of 1904-08. In 2014, Dr. Jones and his co-author Eric Alvarado released "The Herero War ", a historical scenario and rules book derived from original German sources: official histories, first-person accounts, and original maps. In 2015, Dr. Jones released the first essay to present and analyze German casualty rates - i.e., the percentage of the total force that was killed or wounded - for the individual Herero War battles. He is currently working on a follow-on rules and scenario book on the Nama Wars. Dr. Jones has won multiple Pour Encourager Les Autres (PELA) Awards for his German colonial games. Roy Jones received his bachelor's degree in physics from Columbia University and his PhD in physics from Rutgers University. Dr. Jones has thirty years of experience in the development and validation of high-fidelity physics-based models and advanced sensors and signal analysis for defense. He lives in Arlington, Virginia.

S17:965 Saturday 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

## **“HMGS Wants You!--Volunteering at HMGS”**

**Speaker:** Frank Luberti, Jr.

**Location:** Montgomery House

**Type of Talk:** Industry, **Period:** Other

**Description:** To borrow a phrase: Ask not what HMGS can do for you, ask what you can do for HMGS. A Question and Answer session with veteran members of HMGS on opportunities to volunteer with HMGS. Sign up sheets will be available.

### **Frank Luberti, Jr.**

Frank Luberti is an award winning gamemaster and long time member of HMGS, the New York Wargaming Association (NYWA), the Connecticut Game Club (CGC) and the U.S. Navy League. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of HMGS and the New York Military Affairs Symposium (NYMAS). Frank has been a volunteer at many HMGS conventions, mainly working to expand and improve the HMGS War College. He is a graduate of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and the Fordham University School of Law. Finally, Frank currently serves as the HMGS Board member responsible for Convention Operations.