Annual Lincoln Birthday Festivities Snowed Out!

Companions made their way to the Lincoln Memorial with the help of the park service shoveling snow.

FENWICK Y. HEDLEY, BREVET-CAPTAIN, U.S.V.
The MO Commandery of MOLLUS has been contacted by Fenwick Y. Hedley’s relative (a first cousin) in Scotland. Fenwick was an original Companion of the MO MOLLUS. From the MOLLUS records, Fenwick Yellowley Hedley, Brevet Captain, 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant, 32nd IL Infantry USV, was born March 2, 1844 in Berwick-on-the Tweed in Scotland. After the Civil War he was the editor and publisher of the Bunker Hill Gazette from 1866 until 1898 in Bunker Hill, IL. Fenwick was living in St. Louis, MO in 1901, but died on January 7, 1924 in New York City. This is the first of a four part series featuring Fenwick’s work in 2010.

An excerpt from “The School of the Soldier” in Part one of Soldier Life

The Photographic History of the Civil War in Ten Volumes, Volume 8, NY C 1911

The American volunteer of 1861-65 never before had his like, or ever will again. He was of only the third generation from the Revolutionary War, and the first after the Mexican War, and he had personal acquaintance with men who had fought in each. Besides, a consideration of much meaning, he was brought up in a day when school declamation was practiced, and once a week he had spoken or heard Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death," Webster's "Reply to Hayne," "The Battle of Buena Vista," "The Charge of the Light Brigade," "The boy stood on the burning deck," and the like. So it was, when Lincoln called him, he responded with a heart intensely patriotic and aflame with military ardor, and he proved marvelously (Continued on page 11)
**Commander-in-Chief’s Message**

I am pleased to report that we survived Washington, DC during the worst storm apparently in the history of our capital. Enough elected officers, Companions, and reports were present to go ahead and hold our annual midyear meeting and, while all the other events (annual banquet, annual luncheon, etc.) were cancelled along with everything else in Washington, the MOLLUS and DOLLUS wreaths still were laid at the Lincoln Memorial on February 12th.

During January, I instituted my new program of visiting our Commanderies with my trip to our Texas Commandery. In addition to talking with Texas Commandery officers about operational issues to improve and enlarge the Commandery, I was fortunate to be afforded the opportunity to provide the keynote address at the January 9, 2010 Memorial Service for Lt Commander Edward Lea, USN and the Union and Confederate soldiers and sailors who died in the January 1, 1863 Battle of Galveston, Texas. As previously indicated in my Fall message, please provide Recorder-in-Chief Jack Kane with a schedule of your Commandery meetings for 2010 in order that I and/or another Commandery-in-Chief officer may schedule our attendance.

The next national event scheduled will be the upcoming April 17, 2010 joint Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War/MOLLUS Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois, where I will be presenting a wreath on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief. I encourage all Commanderies to attend and present a wreath at this program. Information regarding this program may be found on the national website.

Finally, in this issue of the *Loyal Legion Historical Journal*, and on our national website, we also are providing information on the upcoming October 8 - 9, 2010 Congress in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Michigan Commandery Commander Bruce Butgereit braved the winter storm to drive to Washington, DC to present this information. Based on his presentation, it should be a great Congress to attend.

**Keith G. Harrison**
Commander-in-Chief

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**National Officers 2009-2010**

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LOYAL LEGION HISTORICAL JOURNAL

The Publication of the military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

Vol. 67, No. 1                    Spring 2010

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MOLLUS WEBSITE
Loyal Legion Historical Journal is now online!
http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/molllus.htm

WELCOME NEW COMPANIONS

The following Companions have joined the Military Order of the Loyal Legion since the Fall/Winter 2009 issue of the Journal. Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison extends congratulations and a warm welcome to each one.

Captain James A. Simmons, Chancellor-in-Chief
4304 Woodlake Dr.  Fort Worth, TX  76135
817-296-3152  simmons4261@sbcglobal.net

Hereditary Companions
Richard Lee Martin  22521  Washington DC
Kevin Lee Martin  22522  Washington DC
James Rolland Hanby, Sr.  22523  Washington DC
Robert Dean Hammack  22524  Missouri
David Andrew Hoover  22525  Virginia

Associate Companions
David B. Croas  A234  Virginia
Christopher Edward Chapman  A235  Virginia
Edward Wise Spannaus  A236  Washington DC
Henry Charles Duquette  A237  Rhode Island
Larry Vincent Solvey  A238  Virginia
Lt. Col. Larry Joe Redmon  A239  Virginia

Hereditary Membership Program
Our Hereditary Membership Program is in effect each fiscal year, October 1 through September 30. Here are the rules that apply to this program. Recruit a minimum of three (3) new Hereditary Companions and you will be rewarded with a Lincoln MOLLUS Certificate of Appreciation for meritorious service and a Lincoln Membership Medal of Honor presented by our current Commander-in-Chief. These two prestigious awards will be presented to you at our annual National Congress, the Lincoln Memorial Ceremony in Washington D.C. or at the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois. If you are unable to attend one of these three major functions, arrangements may be made to mail the certificate and medal to your home. This program is the lifeblood of our historic Military Order and will ensure our noble existence for countless generations to come.

Remembering “MOLLUS” In Your Will
After you provide for your family and other matters, would you consider including a memorial gift in you will to our hallowed Order? Your gift to the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund, which is tax deductible, would be used to support the preservation of battlefields, monuments and programs that serve to memorialize the Civil War. In this way you would be perpetuating the memory of your Civil War ancestors and fellow companions.
Companions & Dames,

I seem to have thrown the membership for a loop by adhering to my prescribed deadlines. By the time the deadline rolls around there is very little space left for any sizeable material, so please anticipate the next issue deadline of May 15th 2010 and submit items of interest prior to that date. I do wish to thank all of those individuals who are submitting so many wonderful and informational articles.

Please remember to use the official MOLLUS Journal email MOLLUSJOURNAL@aol.com and please take the time to reset your email address books.

When submitting items electronically for use in the MOLLUS Historical Journal please remember to send WORD or RTF documents as I cannot open other file types. If you mail your pictures and articles please be sure to type your text so we can eliminate errors that come from interpreting handwriting.

The deadlines for 2010 are as follows:

Summer Issue May 15
Fall Issue August 15
Winter Issue November 15

Loyal Legion Historical Journal

OH Commandery News

Ohio Companion Robert Rock attended the annual McKinley wreath laying ceremony on behalf of the OH Commandery and PCC Karl Schaeffer, who has faithfully attended this ceremony each year. This was held on the brisk January 30th day at the McKinley Presidential Library & Museum in Canton, Ohio.

Photo: Connecticut Sr. Vice Commander Harold Lee Colvocoresses introduces the speakers at the session of “Civil War Stories.”

Connecticut Commandery

The Connecticut Commandery participated in the first historical symposium ever held on the theme “Connecticut at War,” presented by the Association for the Study of Connecticut History. The program was two days in length and covered military history from the Pequot War to Afghanistan in concurrent sessions at the State Armory and Manchester Community College. Connecticut Sr. Vice Commander, Harold Lee Colvocoresses moderated the session “Civil War Stories” which included papers by Lesley J. Gordon of the University of Akron on “The Rebs took us all,” the “16th Connecticut in War and Captivity” and Jon E. Purmont of Southern Connecticut State University, “We must do our duty as soldiers should,” and “Four New Haven area soldiers views of the Civil War.” Past Commander-in-Chief, Robert Girard Carroon, moderated the session, “Civil War Perspectives” which included presentations by Dean Nelson of the Museum of Connecticut History “Connecticut Yankees: Likenesses from the War of the Rebellion” and Kathleen Graughwell-Varda and Faline Schniederman-Fox of Historical Perspectives Inc. “Copperheads in Connecticut; Civil War Dissent in Fairfield County.”

Mathew Warshauer has been appointed chair of the Connecticut Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee.

Companion MMC(SS) Bruce Turner Cunard II USN is now on active duty at sea and companions are requested to keep him in their prayers.

VA Commandery News

“Lincoln Day” was sponsored by the Hingham Institution for Savings, the Hingham 375th Committee and the VA Commandery of MOLLUS on February 6th at the Old Ship Church in Hingham. The keynote speaker was Professor David B. Mattern, from the University of VA and author of “Benjamin Lincoln and the American Revolution.” A patriotic ceremony celebrating Hingham’s history and community through the lives of General

(Continued on page 5)
Benjamin Lincoln and President Abraham Lincoln was presented with music, military colors, and brief remarks. A parade down Main St. to the Lincoln Statue and a Reception followed. Tradition continued with the Hingham Militia muster at Old Ship and a march to the Hingham Cemetery where they rendered a military salute at the grave of General Benjamin Lincoln.

II Commandery News

Officers and Companions of the Illinois Commandery participated in, or were represented at the following:

May 15 thru 17, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Naperville, Illinois
May 24, 2009 – Memorial Day Service in Aurora, Illinois
May 25, 2009 – Memorial Day Services in Chicago, Illinois
June 27, 2009 – Cemetery Memorial Services in Wheaton, Illinois
July 2, 2009 – Independence Day Ceremony in Naperville, Illinois
July 10 thru 12, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Wauconda, Illinois
July 17 thru 19, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Hastings, Michigan
July 24 thru 26, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Glenview, Illinois
July 31 thru Aug. 2, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Boscobel, Wisconsin
Sept. 11 thru 13, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Lockport, Illinois
Sept. 18 thru 20, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Lake Villa, Illinois
Sept. 27, 2009 – Cemetery re-dedication ceremonies in Palatine, Illinois
Oct. 2 thru 4, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Wheaton, Illinois
Oct. 16 thru 18, 2009 – Annual Civil War Reenactment in Minoa, Illinois
November 8, 2009 – Veterans’ Day Services in Chicago, Illinois

MO Commandery News

November 15, 2010: Lafayette Park Conservancy Ceremony at Lafayette Park in St. Louis, MO. They have completed phase one of the Monument's restoration for the Revolutionary War Cannons that the Missouri Commandery donated to Lafayette Park in 1897. We have held several ceremonies in conjunction with annual President's Day programs also held in the park. Here is some material we published in 2005 on the history that will be updated later this year: http://stlouis.org/mollus/art036.htm

REVOLUTIONARY WAR CANNONS OF THE HMS ACTAEON DISPLAYED AT THE LAFAYETTE PARK IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

December 4, 2009: Members invited to the St. Louis Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in Missouri Modern Patriot Dinner at the Ladue Racquet Club in St. Louis, MO.

December 11, 2009: Members invited to the Society of Colonial Wars in Missouri Winter Court at the St. Louis Country Club, in St. Louis, MO.

FEB-MAY: We placed a display on MOLLUS in the Old Ordnance Room Museum at the Jefferson Barracks Historic Park in St. Louis, MO (see http://www.stlouisocom/parks/j-b.html) who is showcasing veteran and military hereditary organizations with exhibits running from Feb 3 to May 30, 2010. We included a brief history, membership, list of MO MOLLUS activities, and contact data (see attached), membership medals, various visual items, issues of the “Loyal Legion Historical Journal”, the “Prominent Companions of MOLLUS” booklet, and a copy of “Union Blue”. This was a great way to help the public learn more about our Order. The Museum Director of Jefferson Barracks was excited to be able to include displays on MOLLUS, the Aztec Club of 1847, and the Society of the Cincinnati as well as the MOS&B as Jefferson Barracks had many original members from these organizations stationed at Jefferson Barracks in it’s history. We plan to hold a meeting there before the exhibit ends.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 15, 2010: President’s Day Ceremonies at Lafayette Park in S. Louis, MO
February 20, 2010: Members invited to the St. Louis Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in Missouri George Washington’s Birthday Dinner in St. Louis, MO.

(Continued on page 6)
General Sherman Birthday Ceremonies at Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis MO: The next MO MOLLUS meeting will be in conjunction with this event.

April 17, 2010: Lincoln Tomb

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Brigadier General
Henry M. Lazelle,
16th NY Cavalry
By James O. Carson III
VA Commandery

Henry Martyn Lazelle (Massachusetts Commandery), is believed to be the only cadet in the history of the U.S. Military Academy to be suspended for disciplinary reasons and eventually return as Commandant of the Corps of Cadets. After serving a frustrating year in command of the 16th NY Volunteer Cavalry—largely in pursuit of John Mosby’s Rangers during the Civil War, he went on to a highly successful career as an infantry commander and staff officer.

Born in Enfield, Mass., September 8, 1832, Henry Lazelle was orphaned at the age of four and raised by a succession of relatives and family friends. Despite a catch-as-catch-can education, including three different high schools, Henry received an appointment to West Point from Congressman Charles Allen of the 5th Congressional District of Massachusetts and entered the academy in the summer of 1850.

Cadet Lazelle had a checkered five years at West Point, due in part to poor academic performance, but primarily because of antics urged upon him by his second-year roommate, James McNeill Whistler, who would eventually leave the academy and pursue his fame as an artist. By the end of 1852, Henry was next to the bottom of his class, had accumulated 171 demerits, had been convicted by Court Martial of insubordination, and was suspended by Superintendent Colonel Robert E. Lee. Reinstated by Lee in July 1853, Lazelle graduated with the Class of 1855, ranked 30 out of 34.

Assigned to the 8th Infantry, 2nd Lieut. Lazelle deployed to Fort Bliss in the Texas Department, where James Longstreet was his Company 1st Lieutenant, and was involved in numerous actions against Apache Indians. During one operation in early 1859 against Mescalero Apaches at Dog Canyon, New Mexico, he was shot in the lungs, an injury that took him off-line for several months. In February 1861, Gen. David E. Twiggs surrendered federal posts in Texas to officials of the state Secession Convention. The scattered garrisons of West Texas posts, including much of the 8th Infantry regiment, were marching toward San Antonio for promised free passage to the North when news of the firing upon Fort Sumter, SC, led Texas officials to reverse the free passage agreement. Nearly 400 Unionist 8th Infantrymen were forced to surrender to a much larger Texas force near San Lucas Springs and moved under guard to San Antonio. Promoted to Captain in 1862, Lazelle was eventually paroled, exchanged, and assigned to Washington DC as Assistant Commissary General of Prisoners of War. In this capacity, he inspected a number of Federal prisons, supervised construction of a parole camp in Annapolis, MD, and served as Agent for the delivery and exchange of Confederate POW’s from Cairo, IL to Vicksburg, MS.

Looking for greater opportunity in 1862, he applied for the position of Assistant Adjutant General and interviewed for a volunteer assignment as Colonel of the “Sprague Cavalry” Regiment being formed by a fellow former 8th Infantry officer, J.T. Sprague, then serving as Adjutant General for the state of New York. In accepting the cavalry assignment in September 1863, he warned Lt. Col. Sprague: “Cavalry is not my forte, even if I have one” but promised to do his best with the “hope you will have no occasion to feel that your confidence in me has been misplaced even though you ask me to manage men and horses.”

A year later, Lazelle’s caution became reality.

In October 1863, the original NY Sprague Cavalry, Washington Light Cavalry, and 20th NY Infantry were combined into the 16th NY Volunteer Cavalry under command of Volunteer Colonel Henry M. Lazelle. The regiment soon moved to Washington, DC, with duty stations in northern VA (Vienna and Falls Church—Fort Buffalo), one of three regiments assigned to the Separate Cavalry Brigade supporting the defense of Washington. The 16th saw action throughout northern VA (Bristoe (Continued on page 10))
Greetings Companion, Dames and guests:

The Commandery of the State of Michigan proudly welcomes you to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the 125th National Congress to be held 8-10 October 2010.

The primary purpose of this Congress will assuredly focus on the business of the Order as we address many new and important issues that are geared to helping the Loyal Legion grow. At the same time, we will pay proper respect to those that have gone before us in an effort to blend the past, present and future. We have planned for you an exciting program in a city and state proud of its Civil War history.

The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn (Airport); 3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd., Kentwood, MI, 49512

Toll free: 800-465-4329

Direct phone: 616-285-7600

A block of one King bedroom or two Double bed rooms have been reserved for this Congress.

The price for either room is $94/night plus tax (approximately 14%).

When reserving a room, please state you are with the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS.

Free shuttle service is available from the Gerald R. Ford International Airport.

Some of the amenities the hotel offers include indoor pool, fitness center, convenience shop, and free high-speed Internet service in all guestrooms and meeting space. The hotel is full-service located just blocks from two shopping malls, various restaurants, and a cinema two blocks away. The property has an on-site restaurant called Grille 29 as well as a lounge area.

For more information about the hotel and travel directions, please visit:

For more information on area attractions, please visit:
http://www.visitgrandrapids.org/visit.php
The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
125th National Congress—8 & 9 October 2010
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Event Announcement and Registration Form

MOLLUS/DOLLUS Congress Registration Fee ($50/person)  No. ___  $ ________
Required for all Companions, Dames, & Guests

Please indicate which MOLLUS functions you plan to attend:

Friday, 8 October 2010

7:00 PM  Welcome Reception ($45/person)  No. ___  $ ________
Executive Deli Buffet will be served in the Traverse/Petoskey Room

Saturday, 9 October 2010

7:00 AM  Breakfast (included in registration fee)  No. ___  $ ________
Continental style available (room to be announced)

11:00 PM  Lunch  No. ___  $ ________
Choices: Grilled Ham & Swiss Panini ($25)
Chicken Salad Croissant ($25)

2-5:00 PM  Bus tour of Civil War related historical sites  No. ___
Meet in hotel lobby to board tour bus at 1:45 PM (Cost included in registration fee)

7:30 PM  Dinner with the “Lincoln’s” formal banquet
In Select Center I with black tie, uniform with decorations, and/or period clothing
Choices: Stuffed chicken ($60)  No. ___  $ ________
New York Strip ($60)  No. ___  $ ________

Sunday, 10 October 2010  Breakfast on your own

Total enclosed  $ ________

Please make checks payable to “MOLLUS MI” and send to:
Bruce B. Butgereit/2010 Congress 1691 Summerfield St. Grand Rapids, MI 49508-6499

Name: ___________________________________________ Commandery/Society: ____________________________

Additional Name(s): ________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: ________________________________________________________________

Special Needs/Menu Allergies: ________________________________________________________________
Throughout the summer and early fall of 1864, the 16th NY and its companion regiments were vexed by Mosby’s Rangers, who harassed Union forces in the Fairfax-Vienna-Falls Church area seemingly at will. Lazelle’s dispatches throughout this period reflect frustration and dismay at the inability of his officers and men to respond effectively to Mosby’s actions, and in late March, Lazelle renewed his application for appointment as Assistant Adjutant General in the regular Army.

In one particularly brazen attack, early on the morning of October 18th, a group of some 75 of Mosby’s men moved on Falls Church village, stealing horses, capturing five men on picket duty from the 16th NY Cavalry, and taking Mr. John B. Reed, a minister and member of the local Home Guard, captive. Reed was later murdered in the woods near Hunter’s Mill (now Oakton). This incident apparently was the last straw for Colonel Lazelle. That same day he submitted his resignation, citing his inability to effectively command a regiment that had been cobbled together and that “…contained very many officers without pride, or courage, or honor. Fifteen have been dishonorably dismissed, and their places have in the most important instances been filled by executive appointments, in some cases as bad as those dismissed. Bad officers, by long continued worthlessness, have destroyed the spirit and good which should have been evoked from the men... I cannot make the Regiment progressive, and my position as Colonel has become little more than one of pay...I would rather resign and return to the duties of my legitimate grade than fail.” 2

Reunited with his regular Army regiment, Lazelle initially served on detached duty as Assistant Inspector General of the Military Division of Western Mississippi and subsequently as Assistant Provost Marshal, with duty assignment in Charlotte, NC. In 1872, Lazelle and his regiment returned to duty in the West, at Omaha Barracks, Nebraska, guarding survey parties for the Northern Pacific Railroad, providing security for the 1873 Yellowstone Expedition, and then moving on to Wyoming Territory in operations against the Sioux through 1874.

In 1875, he was promoted to Major and reassigned to the 1st infantry Regiment at Fort Sully, Dakota Territory. Through most of 1877, his battalion was in the field against the Sioux. Late in 1877, he left Fort Sully by wagon train and river boat for Fort Meade, Dakota Territory, then called Camp Ruhlen, where he remained as Post Commander until he was appointed Commandant of Cadets at West Point in July 1879, and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel (1882).

According to an USMA archivist and historian, Lt Col Lazelle was one of the most effective Commandants in the history of the corps of cadets, particularly on disciplinary matters. It seems that anything the cadets contemplated during his tour of duty there, he and his roommate Whistler had already done in their cadet years.

Following his tour at the academy, Lazelle returned West, first in command of Fort Craig, New Mexico, and subsequently as Acting Inspector General of the Division of the Pacific, at the Presidio of San Francisco, and Inspector General of the Department of the Columbia, at Vancouver Barracks. During this period, he was selected to represent the US and witness maneuvers of the British Army in India for four months in 1885-86. Following a short tour in Washington, in charge of the publication of the Records of the War of Rebellion, he was promoted to Colonel of the 18th Infantry in 1889, and he remained with his regiment at Fort Clark and fort Bliss, Texas, until he returned in Nov. 1894. He was promoted to Brigadier General on the retired list in 1904.

General Lazelle was a prolific writer, producing several articles for the Journal of the Military Service Institution: two articles on his India trip; a monograph addressed to the citizens of Mecklenburg County, NC, at the end of his Provost Marshal tour; and two books with a “metaphysical” theme: One Law in Nature (1872) and Matter, Force and Spirit or Scientific Evidence of a Supreme Intelligence (1895). Of the 1872 volume, General William T. Sherman noted in a letter to Lazelle, “The subject is one of intense interest, a little ahead of the time, yet toward which we are shifting. I hardly feel equal to the subject, but will commend it to some friends whose tastes lay in that direction.” 3

Lazelle’s diary, providing a...
personal account of Col. Bonneville’s Gila Expedition of 1857 (April-June) against the Apaches in Texas/New Mexico Territory, was transcribed and published in the October 1948 editions of the New Mexico Historical Review and is in the historical collection of the University of New Mexico Library.

General Lazelle married Ann Rebecca Hollingsworth of Hagerstown, MD January 19, 1863. They had two sons, Jacob (USMA 1892), who served under his father at Fort Clark, Texas, and died in 1898 on route to duty in the Philippines; and Horace, a physician and WWI Veteran. General Lazelle died in 1917 and is buried at his summer cabin in Georgeville, Quebec, Canada.

The author, General Lazelle’s great grandson, resides in Vienna, VA, approximately one mile from the Ayr Hill—Vienna headquarters encampment of the 16th NY Cavalry in 1864. The information in this article is based on the author’s research at the U.S. National Archives and extensive family records.

2 Letter, dated October 18th, 1864, from Lazelle to Lieut. Col. J.H. Taylor, Chief of Staff, 22nd Army Corps, HQs, Department of Washington, National Archives.
3 Letter from General W.T. Sherman to Captain H.M. Lazelle, Omaha Barracks, dated 6 Feb 1873, author’s files.

It was days, often weeks, before uniforms were provided, and entire battalions performed their evolutions in their civilian clothes, of all cuts and hues. Longer were they without arms. The sentries, or camp guards, walked their beats day or night with clubs. At the regimental headquarters were a score or two of “condemned” muskets which were utilized all day long by alternating squads of non-commissioned officers, practicing the manual of arms in preparation for instructing the men. Now armed and equipped, the men were industriously drilled, by squads, by companies, and by battalions, six to eight hours a day. There were awkwardness and blundering; sergeants would march their platoons, and captains, their companies, by the right instead of by the left flank, or vice versa, to the destruction of a column or square, necessitating re-formation and repetition of the movement, sometimes again and again. But, on the whole, the men progressed well, and soon performed ordinary evolutions with creditable approach to soldier like exactness.

A SALUTE TO NEW DAMES
We welcome the following new members of the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dame</th>
<th>National No.</th>
<th>Society</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. William R. Gaines</td>
<td>1817</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Ellan W. Thorson</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>DC</td>
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John McKnight Bloss 1839-1905

The author of this letter, John McKnight Bloss (1839-1905), about 25 years after the Civil War married the sister of my maternal grandfather. They had no children. After the death of John Bloss and "Aunt Mary" the letters ended up with my maternal grandmother and now are in the possession of one of my cousins. Bloss was in Company F, 27th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers. He fought through the War, joining shortly after graduating from college in 1860, suffered wounds, survived, resigned his commission in 1864, and was a lifelong educator in several important posts in Indiana and Kansas, capping his career as President of the Oregon State Agricultural College, 1892-96, a position he left because of failing health. He returned to his native Indiana where he died in Muncie at the age of 66. Bloss was famous for finding "Lee's Lost Dispatch" (Special Order 191) as he describes in this remarkable letter. *Marvin Mochel*

The Barn Hospital, Banks Division, September 25, 1862

Dear Friends, Yesterday I received your very welcome letters. One from Uncle William, the other from you. I was truly glad to hear that Uncle William’s life had been spared, but sorry that he had been taken prisoner. I wrote to you immediately after our battle of our mishaps, slightly wounded in both legs, though mostly in the right thigh, but I may say that it is well now, for it is about healed over, although it is black and blue for about three inches around the wound. The most that I am suffering from is dysentery which I took three or four days before the battle, but I am taking medicine for it now and hope soon to be well. But you wonder why I am not at Keetersville. Well, I thought I could walk pretty well, so I started for my Regiment, but I only got out to the battlefield -- my leg began to be painful -- so fortunately I came across our Doctors, he told me not to go any further, so I am here in his hospital yet, he will take me to the Regiment in a few days, perhaps tomorrow. There are a great many of our men here, 300 I believe, and these are among the worst wounded. But these 300 are not all at one Barn, but five or six big barns and deserted houses. A.L Mullen is in the next barn. I see him every day, I did not know that he was wounded when I wrote before. He is wounded just below the knees. I suppose he was standing [sic] with his side to the enemy from the way the wound is. I suppose the ball just touched the bone on the upper side. It is not dangerous. The Doctor says it is getting along fine. W. W. Edwards is in this barn. The ball struck him in the abdomen and lodged near spinal column. The Surg says he thinks he will get well, but you know the ball would pass through the entrails and if they are not cut, he will be apt to recover. I saw Elijah here when I got out there. He was not wounded in the leg as reported, but across the arm above and below the elbow. It was a mere scratch and brusse [sic], it was done in the beginning of the fight but did not disable him and so he fought on until [sic] it was over, but the next morning he could not straiten [sic] it so he was left in the hospital until it got better. He has since gone to the Regiment which is encamped on Maryland Heights just opposite to Harpers Ferry, 12 miles from here. We are close to the Potomac and to the right of Sharpsburg. I was out on the battlefield before the Sessesh were buried [sic], but the 130 P. V. [Pennsylvania Volunteers] were burying [sic] them. It was on Sunday, I was there the 21st and 4 days after the battle. The Carnage was awful. They were dropped into piles, 20, 30 & 50 lay side by side. None but those hardened to such scenes as we could stand it. More than 3000 dead men were piled up thus, just as you would pile stalks to burn, for it was in a cornfield and this is what I thought when I seen it. I looked at great many of them and they were all shot in the head & breast, also most of their wounded and wounded in the head and shoulders, while most of ours are wounded in the legs. They say (the Sessesh wounded) that they don't shoot to kill and that was the orders they got from their General for it took two to carry off a wounded man. But they did not profit [sic] by this much for we had orders not to carry off wounded men.

I think our being wounded in the legs so much was not so much owing to their good intentions as *(Continued on page 13)*
to the ground we occupied which was a little higher than that they had. Their dead, those burying [sic] them said, were about 5 times that of ours, and what I seen proved to me that it was so. In looking over the graves of our men, I found where one F. Bloss had been buried [sic], Company D 128 P.V. [Franklin Bloss, killed September 17, 1862, Company D, 128th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry]. He had nice headboard as most of our men have. He belonged to the 1st Brigade of our Division. We were commanded by General Mansfield, but he was killed.

I don’t know yet what the loss of our Regiment is. I think it is about 240, at least this is said to be correct. 11 only were killed dead on the field, but this will be greatly augmented before the month is out. I only know of one of our Company that has died. John R. Peters from Bloomington, he was a recruit, been with us since April, a meare [sic] boy too. He had his leg broken. They amputated it on the 23rd and that night he died. He stood it all manfully. I saw them taking his leg off, of course he was under the influence of Chloriform [sic]. He was the third one of our Company to have legs amputated, but the other two are getting along fine. Captain Kop is thought to be getting better, though everything may change in an hour.

Mrs. R. R. Tattogle writes a letter to Joshua in the last letter you sent she says I did not state what was the matter with Joshua. I thought I did. He had a sore foot when I seen him last, which I suppose might have been erysipelas [St. Anthony’s fire]. I know only that he got on a transport at Alexandria which was supposed to be bound for N. Y. The way that [I]come to know this much about him one of our Regiment seen him get on. While we were marching around on the Rapanhanoch [sic] he was sent off to A. [Alexandria] and before we got to Alexandria, he was sent off again. He will be apt to write home before he does to me so it will be unnecessary to send more letters here to him as I am not much nearer to him than you are. I did all I could to get him sent back to A. and succeeded. I know he could not walk well. When I find out his address, I will let you know.

We have not been [in] any of the fights until the 17th although we have expected it more than once. Ours and Sumners Corps advanced on Frederick from the N.E. direction. Somebody else was on our left. Our Regiment was in the advance and I had the first Platoon [sic] off [sic] our Company as skirmishers. Afterwards, Capt. Kop with the Second Platoon [sic] was deployed on the right of the road. I have been second in command since we left Culpeper, but I am not promoted yet. I will be first in command when I go back. Corporal Mitchell was very fortunate at Frederick. He found General Lee’s plan of attack on Md [Maryland] and what each division of his army was to do. I was with him when he found it and read it first. I seen its importance and took it to the Col. He immediately took it to General Gordon, he said it was worth a Mint of Money & sent it to General McClellan. He pushed on the same day and I think his expedition his movements kept enemy from uniting at the point they had intended.

We found the dispatch out in a wheat field under a Locas [sic, probably locust] tree with two cigars with it.

I seen Ed Ried as we were going to Frederick also seen Gelpin & Lowery Shanon the Lieutenant and a great many other of the Hanover boys. But we were just stopped to let the Cavalry pass back and only got to speak -- but we were glad to meet. Ed looks hearty. But must close and go and see the other boys how they are getting along. This is the sheet of paper you sent me.

Yours Sincerely,
J.M. Bloss

We have all heard from boyhood the story of Lee’s battle orders found wrapped with a couple of cigars just before the Battle of Antietam. Marv is a shirttail descendant of John Bloss, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and reproduced here is my transcript of a facsimile copy Marv sent me of the letter in which Bloss described the discovery of Lee’s orders. This letter is now in the possession of one of Marv’s cousins somewhere in the Midwest...or possibly he has by this time donated the letter to an appropriate museum. It is arguably one of the most famous letters written to friends and family by any soldier of either side during the Civil War.

(Continued on page 14)
A second Bloss letter was found, written to his mother on July 3 and 4 after the dustup on Little Round Top.

Camp near Gettysburg, PA
July 5, 1863

Dear Father and Friends,
I am sorry that I have bad news to write you. We have been in another great battle, and have lost many brave men. Elijah was killed dead on the field. Our Regiment (27th Indiana Volunteers) made a charge, and were repulsed, and in this charge, Elijah was killed. The ball struck him above the right eye; an instant death followed. I was close to him when he fell. I never saw such fire for five minutes as we were under. We had 18 men killed and 100 wounded in five minutes. Elijah was the only one killed in our company and we had 11 wounded.

I had charge of burying the dead of the brigade and I buried (sic) Elijah and have put up a head board so he will be easily found. I wish you to read this to his friends. This is the first chance we have had to write a letter.

We have repulsed the rebels at all points. Their loss has been terrible. They are said to be fortifying. The rebel dead lie thick all around us. We have gained a great victory so far. Company F had a skirmish with the rebels on the second. I was in command of the skirmishers. We fought for five hours. We had 1 killed and 2 wounded.

Elaine Walker of Lovettsville, and then remarks on Slater’s life by Spannaus, and remarks on the Loudoun Rangers by Commander Michael Virts of the Lincoln-Cushing Camp, who is also a direct descendant of a Loudoun Ranger cavalryman. Still remaining to be done, was the emplacement of military marker on Lt. Slater’s grave. A GAR marker and flag holder were installed in September 2009 with the help of the DC Commandery.

Loudoun Rangers Honored
Lt. Slater and the Loudoun Rangers were further honored in a dedication ceremony held Dec. 12, 2009, for the new Civil War Trails Marker on the Lovettsville Town Square, installed as part of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. A colorful ceremony was held, with a Color Guard and Fire Team organized by the Maryland Dept of SUCVCW and the DC Commandery, consisting of both Union and Confederate re-enactors. After the Mayor had welcomed the participants, the Colors were posted, and the National Anthem was sung by all. Rev. Guttormson gave the invocation, particularly appropriate because 28 members of Company “A” of the Loudoun Rangers were also members of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church.

Remarks were delivered by Jim Morgan of the Loudoun County Sesquicentennial Committee, by Tom Bullock of the Lovettsville Historical Society, and the Mayor Walker read a message from Col. Eric Rojo, Commander of the D.C. Commandery.

After the unveiling of the marker by the Mayor and Mr. Morgan, remarks on the historical background of the Loudoun Rangers were presented by Mr. Spannaus, who included the description given by the Ranger’s historian, Briscoe Goodhart, describing the sentiments of the remaining Rangers when they were mustered out of service in May, 1865:

“They were glad the war was over; glad that the principles for which they fought had triumphed; glad that the question was settled forever—that this is a Nation and not a confederation of States; glad that the arbitrament of arms, the court of last resort, had decreed that slavery should no longer degrade American labor; glad they were part and parcel of a Nation that shall stand without a parallel on the face of the earth.”

A service of dedication was then conducted, which was adapted from the 1917 GAR Service of Dedication. At the conclusion of the service, the Fire Team fired a salute, which was following by the playing of “Taps” by an SUCVCW bugler, and participants then gathered at the Town Hall to warm up with refreshments.

Even though the Lovettsville area voted 88% against secession in 1861, there had been no memorial to the Loudoun Rangers in the town, not even a Union grave marker. Now, with the assistance of the D.C. Commandery, Lt. Slater and the Loudoun Rangers are beginning to receive their well-deserved recognition. A historical marker is also being planned separately for Waterford, at the site of the Baptist Church battle.
All are invited to participate in the 54th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, commemorating the 145th Anniversary of President Lincoln’s death. It will be held at the Lincoln tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 17, 2010.

**Headquarters Hotel:** State House Inn, 101 East Adams St. Room rate is $97.99 for double or single, suite is $107.99. A full breakfast buffet is included. Call 1-217-528-5100 for reservations and mention “Sons of Union Veterans”. Reserve your room by March 16, 2010. After this, the remaining blocked rooms will be released. Ground level parking near the lobby and across 1st Street is free. **Shuttle service** will provide transportation between the tomb and the hotel.

**Wreaths** may be ordered from local Springfield florists. Instruct the florist to have the wreath delivered c/o the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 AM on Saturday, April 17th.

**Luncheon** will be held at the State House Inn (Headquarters Hotel) at 12 noon. The luncheon program will feature Mr. & Mrs. Max Daniels, Abraham & Mary Todd Lincoln portrayers. Luncheon cost is $25 per person. Send registration form below to:

Robert M. Petrovic, PDC
6519 Cherokee Lane Cedar Hill, MO 63016-2527

Make check payable to “National Organization, SUVCW”. Cancellation of lunch reservations must be made by no later than April 1st.

The Dr. Benjamin Stephenson Memorial Service, hosted by the Dept. of Illinois, will take place at his grave in Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, IL, at 3 PM. The cemetery is located on IL Hwy 123 on the east side of town. Traveling to Petersburg from Springfield, use Hwys 29 and 123 or 97. Additional information will be available at the hotel and luncheon.

For event info, go to the SUVCW web site (suvcw.org) or contact Robert Petrovic at: rpetro7776@aol.com or 636-274-4567.

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**OBSERVANCE WREATH PRESENTATION**

(please print clearly)

Organization Name in full:____________________________________________________________________________

Name & Title of Wreath bearer:________________________________________________________________________

E-mail Address:____________________________________________________________________________________

( if no e-mail, provide Home Address:________________________________________________________________

City, State, & Zip code:______________________________________________________________________________

To insure listing in program, this notice MUST be received no later than April 1st at the address shown above.

I would like to reserve ____ seats on the shuttle bus from headquarters hotel to Tomb Ceremony and return to hotel.

Please circle YES or NO if you will ride the bus to the Dr. Benjamin Stephenson ceremony near Petersburg after the lunch.

**OBSERVANCE LUNCHEON**

Please accept ____ luncheon reservation(s). Please list name, e-mail address, home address & phone number of person responsible for picking up tickets at the door.

Name:_______________________________________________________ E-mail:______________________________

Address:______________________________________________________ Phone:_____________________________

City, State & Zip code:______________________________________________________________________________

Include remittance of $25.00 per person for each lunch reservation payable to National Organization SUVCW. **Reservations must be made by April 1st and cancellations by the same date in order to receive refund.** There will be no extra tickets sold at the door. Make a copy of this form for your records and send original with remittance.
NOTICE
The Summer Issue of
The Loyal Legion Journal
Will be published in
JUNE
EDITORIAL DEADLINE IS
MAY 15, 2010
Please email all material to:
Robert E. Rock
MOLLUSJournal@aol.com

Send orders and payment to:
Adam P. Flint
23 Grosstown Road, Rear Apt.
Pottstown, PA 19464-6105
Please make checks payable to
MOLLUS Commandery-in-Chief

Name_____________
Address___________
City________________
State/Zip______________

*Gold Plated over Bronze
Questions on supplies and orders should be sent to Adam P. Flint at AdamPFlint@aol.com

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

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<td>Bow Tie (All Silk)</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blazer Patch</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOLLUS window Decal (Post Pd; no mailing charge)</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recruiting Medal</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Hereditary Membership (8 1/2” x 11”)</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Hereditary Membership (17” x 19”)</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Associate Membership (8 1/2” x 11”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Official MOLLUS Scarf (9 1/2” x 72”)</td>
<td>$45.00 Out Of Stock</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set of 9 MOLLUS Blazer Buttons</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROTC Medal with Ribbon Bar and Certificate</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book: Union Blue by PCinC Robert G. Carroon</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOLLUS Note Cards (Pack of 25)</td>
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<td>MOLLUS Post Cards (Pack of 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booklet: Prominent MOLLUS Companions</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<td>Shipping</td>
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</table>

Important! Please make certain that you include the shipping cost of $4.50 listed in the order form below.