Lincoln Memorial University and MOLLUS: A Companionship of Heritage

Clayton Hess, President, Lincoln Memorial University

The founding and heritage of Lincoln Memorial University (LMU) came from love and respect for Abraham Lincoln and today honors his name, values, and spirit. According to General O.O. Howard, a Union Army officer, Lincoln remarked to him that, when the Civil War ended, he hoped General Howard would do something for the people of East Tennessee who had been loyal to the Union. In the late 1800s, General Howard visited the Cumberland Gap area to give a series of lectures. He remembered his commitment to fulfill Lincoln’s request and joined several prominent community members in establishing Lincoln Memorial University on February 12, 1897.

Immediatly after it was chartered, LMU began receiving gifts and purchasing memorabilia chronicling the story of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. Significant portions of the collections were donated by Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. In 1928, space was allocated in Duke Hall of Citizenship for the substantial collections that had been accumulated. The area was known as the “Lincoln Room,” and was open to the public. This free museum housed the University’s Lincoln and Civil War collections until 1974 when a new building was constructed at the entrance of the campus and was named the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum.

2017 Congress Reflects on Past, Prepares for the Future

Joe Coleman, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

The 132nd MOLLUS annual Congress was hosted by the Pennsylvania Commandery in Gettysburg on October 28. The event began with a memorial service led by DOLLUS national president Ellen Higgins, which recognized the recently deceased members of both MOLLUS and DOLLUS. After the memorial service, a business meeting convened with the highlight of the session being the election of new officers.

The afternoon activities included the option of taking a battlefield tour led by Pennsylvania Companion Dr. Andy Waskie or an afternoon at the Gettysburg Visitors Center including the new movie, cyclorama and museum.

Many artifacts from the former Civil War Museum of Philadelphia (commonly referred to as 1805 Pine St.) have augmented the Visitor Center museum display. The Civil War Museum of Philadelphia had been the original home of MOLLUS and remained so up until its closing in 2007.

A gala banquet was held in the evening that featured a talk on the Gettysburg address by Dr. Alan Guelzo of Princeton University. The evening also so included the presentation of the Hayes Cup to Recorder-in-Chief Jack Kane. Recipients of the Lincoln Medal for recruiting were Will Forbes, Robert Holmes, and Peter Kane all of the Pennsylvania Commandery.

The Grant Cup, given for the largest percentage increase in hereditary membership, was awarded to the California Commandery, while the Daugherty-Thompson Cup was present to the Pennsylvania Commandery for the largest numerical increase in hereditary members.

Continued on pg. 12
Greetings Companions and Dames. It is with humbleness and great pride in having accepted your giving me the honor and challenge to lead our beloved Legion for the next two years, that I write this first message as the 62nd Commander-in-Chief, fully cognizant of the giants in the long Blue line that precedes me.

Our founders set the course for our responsibilities as an Order, in our Constitution “…to cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defense of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic; strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship…”.

While we are in general good standing, there are many challenges ahead. Our membership is stagnant, we need to grow, we need to grow in Commanderies, we need to be known throughout our nation, we need to break out of the capsule where we exist today. Additionally, we have a new challenge in securing the legacy of the Legion in finding our historical records and papers that are scattered in many places to ensure their preservation and availability for research.

Furthermore, the centennial events of the birth of U.S. Grant and the Lincoln Memorial present us with the opportunity to be a principal participant and not an afterthought. We as an order need to work to recover our previous prestige and position and be again recognized by our Congress.

To meet these challenges and opportunities, the past and future leaders of our Legion are united in purpose and jointly working on long-term plans. To support these plans, I am making new committee appointments, reorganizing and creating committees whose positions are filled by committed companions. If I have not called upon you to be on a particular committee and you are interested in being a part, feel free to volunteer as we need action and there is no limit to who can participate.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a very happy 2018, I look forward to seeing you at the Mid-Winter meeting in Washington.

— Colonel Eric A. Rojo
The Loyal Legion Historical Journal is a quarterly publication published by the Memorial Fund of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, which was founded April 15, 1865. Pertinent materials will be welcomed by members and the public. Articles and news should be submitted to Shawn Beyer, Editor (shawnbeyer1@verizon.net). Content must be formatted in MS Word and submitted electronically. High resolution photographs and artwork should be submitted in JPG format and be accompanied by a description or caption.

Submission deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November,

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TRUSTEES’ CORNER

The Legacy Lives On...With Your Help

The Loyal Legion Memorial Fund supports the larger outreach of this Order. It supplies the means to publish the Loyal Legion Historical Journal, underwrites commemorative events, and makes distributions to organizations that support our aims and goals. The Memorial Fund is how we connect to the world...how we tell our story.

Your tax-deductible gift makes sure that the Fund can continue in its mission. Investment income alone cannot meet the Fund’s obligations. Your gift keeps the Fund growing.

Even more than that, is a tangible expression of your pride in the Loyal Legion, and of your desire to see MOLLUS maintain its place as, in the words of General Douglas MacArthur, “the noblest of the American hereditary orders.”

A return envelope has been included in this issue. Please consider a thoughtful year-end gift, with checks payable to “Loyal Legion Memorial Fund”. You can also give securely online via a PayPal link on our website, www.suvcw.org/mollus.htm.

Other opportunities are available as well. Gifts of appreciated securities are always welcome. And, some of your annual required minimum distributions (RMD) from IRAs may be distributed directly to the Fund. This “qualified charitable distribution” (QCD) applies to traditional, rollover and Roth IRAs, and SEP and Simple IRAs also qualify (as long as you are no longer actively receiving employer contributions). Please contact Treasurer-in-Chief Lee Tryon at leetryon@comcast.net to make those arrangements.

The future of the Fund is in your hands! Support it generously, and make sure it remains a vibrant asset to our Order.

—The Trustees of the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund

Trustees Responsible for Investment Oversight

Among the duties of the seven trustees for the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund is oversight of the Fund’s investment account. Though day-to-day management is delegated to licensed investment professionals, the trustees are charged with making sure the overall investment strategy is sound and that it is consistent with the trustees’ expectations.

Those expectations are set out in an “Investment Policy Statement.” The Fund’s statement establishes what kind of investments are permitted. It also sets out expected ranges for the account’s stock, bond and cash components. Changes are made as necessary, dictated by changing market conditions and the needs of the Fund. By working closely with the account professionals, the trustees meet their duty of oversight and guidance, and ensure the health of the account.

Thank You

The Commandery-in-Chief, the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund Trustees, and all Companions and Dames express our great appreciation and thanks to Past Loyal Legion Journal Editor-in-Chief Robert Rock for his devotion and years of service to the Journal and the great changes he introduced.

Col. Eric A. Rojo
Commander-In-Chief

WELCOME

New Companions

Hereditary
Michael Scott Brooks #22710 PA
David Sterling Forbes #22711 PA
Charles Barstow Wight Forbes #22712 PA
Frank Charles Avila #22713 CA
John Badman III #22714 NY
Marc Abraham Hermann #22716 NY
Nathaniel Lane Taylor #22717 RI
Richard Kenneth Dunham #22718 VA
James Dickinson Moore #22719 DC
Robert Springer Moore #22720 DC

Associate
Andrew Roy Mills #A307 MI
Timothy Brian Hennessey #A308 PA
Glenn Alex Webber #A309 TX
Major Jonathan Wilson Graves DeFabio, USA #A310 VA
Nathan Lee Smith #A311 MI

Remembering MOLLUS in Your Will

After you provide for your family and other matters, consider including a memorial gift in your will to our halllowed 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.
Where are the Loyal Legion Archives?
Edward Spannaus, DC Commandery

MOLLUS archives are not centrally located in one place, nor are they all available for research, which can sometimes present a frustrating problem both for those looking for information on their Loyal Legion ancestors, and for Civil War researchers in general.

As the District of Columbia Commandery has been involved in an effort to get our archives organized and made available to researchers, we have realized that this is a broader challenge that involves the records of many Commanderies.

The three largest repositories are: the Abraham Lincoln Foundation’s library at the Union League in Philadelphia; Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee; and the U.S. Army War College’s Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, now part of the Army Heritage and Education Center. Additionally, State Commandery records are located at various local historical societies, universities, and other libraries.

The DC Commandery placed the bulk of our archives in the custody of the Army’s Military History Institute at Carlisle in 1979. Most of these records – including membership rosters, individual applications and service records, correspondence, and articles – are still unprocessed (that is, organized and catalogued) and are not available to researchers. A much larger volume of unprocessed Commandery-in-Chief records are also being stored at Carlisle.

After Carlisle, the second-largest repository for MOLLUS records is the Abraham Lincoln Foundation’s library at the Union League in Philadelphia; their well-maintained and accessible collection centers on the Pennsylvania Commandery, which also served as the acting Commandery-in-Chief from 1865 to 1885, but it also contains significant materials from the New York Commandery, the Commandery-in-Chief, and other State Commanderies.

The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum at Lincoln Memorial University, has been closely connected to the Ohio Commandery, and houses a large collection of records, commemorative artwork, and archives from the Ohio Commandery, and also materials from many Commanderies and individuals. It possesses the Dr. David Curfman collection, which includes the only complete original set of the MOLLUS War Papers as originally circulated. LMU is undertaking an expansion of its library and archive facilities, and discussions are underway of LMU’s generous offer to assist in processing and digitizing additional Loyal Legion records.

The Commandery-in-Chief has a partial listing of the location of the records and archives of State Commanderies as of 2011, but much more information is needed. For some of the State Commanderies, we have no information. If you have archives in need of a home, or records needing processing and eventual digitization, please let us know. It is important for our mission and history that we can put together a directory of the location of all our records, making sure they have a safe and accessible home.

The MOLLUS archives tell the story of our ancestors, the Civil War, and the Nation itself, but that story cannot be told, unless these materials are located, organized, and made available to the public. Please join our efforts to make this possible.

If you have pertinent information concerning MOLLUS records and archives please contact me at edspannaus@verizon.net.

If your Commandery archives need a home, or your records need processing and eventual digitization, let us know.

Reminder from the Quartermaster

ROTC medals, ribbons, certificates and copies of Union Blue can be ordered in advance of needs. Last minute orders will be filled at the earliest convenience but that preparation of certificates requires more time to process.
Because he was born just after Valentine’s Day in 1839, he bore the classical cognomen of Octavius Valentine, but most simply called him “O.V.” In 1854, Rev. William Catto enrolled his son Octavius in the Institute for Colored Youth— I.C.Y. (later to become Cheney University). He was destined to be an honor graduate, proud teacher at the school, and a man of literary talents.

Catto graduated from the Institute as valedictorian in 1858. He was admitted to the prestigious Banneker Literary Institute, which rivalled similar white institutions in its academic rigor. In January 1859, Catto was offered a teaching position at his beloved alma mater, the I.C.Y., where he remained the rest of his short but accomplished life.

From his base of operations at the Institute, he quickly ensconced himself in the elite of the black community in Philadelphia. Catto led an active life and career of service to education, the arts and sciences, literary pursuits, and even finding time to delve into the budding world of semi-professional baseball. He always reserved his greatest energy and efforts in the quest for equal rights for all blacks. Catto was a very early champion for the integration of the city’s streetcars and an active leader in the founding of the national Equal Rights League in 1864. During the Civil War’s Gettysburg Campaign, all Pennsylvanians were called on to enlist in the Pennsylvania Emergency Militia to repel the invader. The black community was recently authorized to serve in the U.S. Army and took up arms in their own cause. Catto enthusiastically gathered a company of 100 black men to answer the call. On June 17, 1863, the company that Catto had helped form was one of the very first to cross the army’s color line. They were mustered into service on the Square of Independence Hall, received arms and equipment from the city armory, and boarded trains for Harrisburg and an uncertain future.

The commander in Harrisburg stated that he had no official authority to accept the colored troops, except as three-year enlistees. The Company, though disappointed, returned home, but many made the decision to join the new 3rd U.S. Colored Volunteer Regiment then forming, becoming Company A. Catto remained at his teaching position from which he became a powerful force in recruiting large numbers of volunteers for the army in the last two years of the war.

Catto immersed himself in the work of the Equal Rights League. A first target of its efforts was the integration of the streetcars of Philadelphia. After many years of struggle, setbacks, and small steps forward, Catto and his peers were able to bring about a change in the state law, integrating those cars. Meanwhile, Catto’s restless mind and desire to be engaged in all facets of life led to his election to the Franklin Institute. His career in education brought him offers of employment as a professor at various institutions, a superintendency of the Colored Schools of Washington, and other prestigious positions. Catto turned them all down to remain at I.C.Y.

After the conclusion of the Civil War came an even more compelling struggle—the adoption of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which officially and forever abolished slavery, granted full citizenship to former slaves, and extended the vote to black men. Catto once again threw himself into the campaign to enact the 15th Amendment, even accepting requests for speaking engagements throughout the East to influence citizens of the right of the measure. After much debate, grief, torment, action and courage, the 15th Amendment was passed and ratified in 1869. After state ratification, African Americans could take a full role in their own country. The first opportunity to exercise the vote in Philadelphia came in October 1870. Despite threats and violence directed at black voters by the political opposition, the vote took place largely without violence due to the decision by U.S. Marshal Edgar Gregory, a former General and hero in the Union Army, who called the U.S. Marines from the Philadelphia Navy Yard to protect the voters and keep the peace.

O.V. Catto also reached another milestone in his career. He was invited to join the Pennsylvania National Guard’s 5th Brigade with the rank of major and assigned as Brigade Inspector General. His commander was General Louis Wagner, an old friend from Civil War days who had commanded the U.S. Colored Troops training ground of Camp William Penn in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia braced for the next election that would take place in October 1871. This time they could not count on the help of the Marines, as Marshal Gregory had been censured for his actions in calling out federal troops without proper authority during the last election and was seriously ill. The mayor’s office was at stake in the election. Crimes, beatings, murders, intimidations, and overt interference by the largely anti-black police force against black voters crashed over the community. Despite entreaties from Mayor Daniel Fox for calm, open and fair elections, the local police force against black voters clashed over the community. Despite entreaties from Mayor Daniel Fox for calm, open and fair elections, the local police force against black voters clashed over the community. Despite entreaties from Mayor Daniel Fox for calm, open and fair elections, the local police force against black voters clashed over the community.

Catto was called to duty to gather the 5th Brigade of the Pennsylvania National Guard, composed of black soldiers and many living in the contested area, to quell the disorder. While walking through the disputed district to his home to obtain his uniform and equipment, he was accosted from behind by a hired assassin and known associate of the
Henry Emerson Smith was an outstanding example of a dedicated warrior in the service of the Republic.

On 12 July 1861, while working as a shoemaker, Henry mustered into service with Company F, 15th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, credited to the quota of North Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts. He was just over 20 years old.

Henry was in the thick of the regiment’s engagements, including at Bull’s Bluff, Seven Pines, and Malvern Hill. He was wounded on 17 September 1862 at the Battle of Antietam, where the 15th suffered more losses than any other federal regiment. Henry apparently was not out of action long, and was present for later engagements at Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. On 30 March 1864 he re-enlisted, receiving a bounty of $325.

He was wounded on 24 May 1864 at North Anna River, Virginia where, according to his pension file, he received “a gunshot wound in the breast, the ball entering the sternum and emerging at the cap of the right shoulder splintering a portion of the sternum and the second rib, and impairing the motion of the right shoulder joint and causing such motion to be always painful, and causing the frequent occurrence of (?) rheumatic pains.”

Henry did not stay out of active service long. In July 1864, he transferred from the 15th to Company “K”, 20th Massachusetts Infantry. However, his wounds, must have been debilitating since he transferred again to Company I, 2nd Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps in February 1865.

An opportunity for a commission came to him, and he did not hesitate. He became 2nd Lieutenant of Company K, 193rd New York Infantry, on 7 April 1865. Henry ended his eventful service as a member of the 193rd on 18 January 1866.

He lived and worked in Worcester after the War. He was shot in the back and as Catto turned to face his assailant, he was shot again falling dead just a few steps from his own door on South Street.

His assassin, a well-known local gang member and hired thug was able to escape with the help of the police and his political supporters. Frank Kelly, the assassin, was not captured until years later. Finally brought to trial, he was acquitted after dozens of witnesses identified him as the murderer and even after Kelly himself admitted his participation in the deed.

Catto’s murder and subsequent funeral were played out on a grand scale. Reulion at this cruel act brought together all sections of the community in grief for the loss of a great man. The city itself held a state funeral for Catto, the largest in the city since Lincoln’s passing. Catto was laid out in his dress uniform at the City Armory. Thousands filed past his body in silent respect.

The funeral procession included his own soldiers of the 5th Brigade, other troops, and thousands of mourning marchers. He was laid to rest in Lebanon Cemetery (later removed to Eden Cemetery) in a military ceremony, during which wreaths were laid, honor volleys fired over the grave, and taps played over the final remains of the hero cut down in his prime.

As a result of the many years of work by the O.V. Catto Society to honor the man, a monument to Catto at Philadelphia City Hall became a reality. The September 26, 2017 ceremony dedicating the first monument to an African-American on city property featured a memorial wreath presented by three Pennsylvania MOLLUS Companions—Joe Coleman, Gary Grove and Oliver St. Clair Franklin. (The dedicatory address delivered by V. Chapman-Smith can be found at: http://www.suvacv.org/mollus/history/Catto_Dedication.pdf.)

Jeffry Burden, Past Commander-in-Chief

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He was very active in the 15th’s regimental association after the War, regularly attending reunion events. He died age 79, again a widower, on 7 June 1920, one of the last and most honored of Worcester’s aging Civil War veterans.
Loyal Legion Midwinter Meeting & Abraham Lincoln’s 209th Birthday Celebration

February 10-12, 2018
Washington, DC

Saturday

Come early and head out on your own to visit the new George Washington Museum and Mansion Tour at Mount Vernon or many other historic sites in the District of Columbia!

4:30—6:30 p.m.
Welcome and Registration
Lobby of Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria

6:30—8:30 p.m.
Dutch Treat Dinner
Old Town Alexandria

Sunday

Annual Business Meetings
Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria
Registration fee $30/person

8:00—11:30 a.m.
MOLLUS Midwinter Meeting
Ballroom 3

8:00—11:30 a.m.
DOLLUS Membership Meeting
Board Room

11:45 a.m.
Board bus for tour of Smithsonian’s African American Museum of History and Culture

Monday

Lincoln Memorial Ceremony
Washington, DC
(see details on pg. 13)

10:30 a.m.
Board Bus to Ceremony
Bus will board at the Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria. Wear warm clothing, including socks, hat, and warm shoes or boots.

11:30 a.m.
Ceremony Instruction
National Park Service will provide instructions to Loyal Legion participants.

11:45 a.m.
Musical Prelude by Military Band

Noon
Memorial Ceremony
Ceremony honoring President Abraham Lincoln’s 209th birthday.

12:45 p.m.
Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee Luncheon
Registration fee $42/person
Event begins with a cash bar in the lobby of the Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria. Lunch and program will start promptly at 1:30 pm. Enjoy a presentation by Kevin Patti, Ranger from the National Park Service, on “Between Bullet and the Hospital.” Mr. Patti will explore the dangers Clara Barton faced and accomplishments she rendered as nurse and protector during the Civil War.
Join us on President’s Day weekend to participate in Abraham Lincoln’s birthday festivities and the Loyal Legion Midwinter Meeting. Events will be held at the Sheraton Suites Hotel located in historical Old Town Alexandria, Virginia and only a few minutes away from the Washington sights. Attend business meetings, lectures, and tours during the day and socialize with your Loyal Legion Companions in the evening. This event will be packed with interesting people to meet and exciting places to see.

Don’t miss this annual event. Send your registration today!

Registration Form

MEETING, TRANSPORTATION AND LINCOLN BIRTHDAY DINNER

DEADLINE JANUARY 31, 2018

Midwinter Meeting registration Includes bus to/from the African American Museum on Feb. 11, and to/from Lincoln Memorial on Feb. 12 (Bus only on Feb. 12 —$15)

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Member: ______________________________________________________
Tel.: ___________________________ Email: _________________________
Guest(s): ______________________________________________________

Registration Form

LINCOLN BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

DEADLINE FEBRUARY 5, 2018

Lincoln Birthday Luncheon—Monday, Feb 12 No. ___ x $42 = $________
Make check payable to LBNCC

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Make Your Hotel Reservations Before Jan. 15

A block of 20 rooms has been reserved at the Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria under MOLLUS, Military Order of the Loyal Legion. Rooms available: 1 King Bed or 2 double beds (all are mini-suites) - $129 plus 14.50 tax per night. Hotel parking is free. Complementary shuttle to National Airport and the Airport Metro. MOLLUS room rates will be honored February 7-15 and rooms must be booked before January 15.

SHERATON SUITES
OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA
801 N. Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Reservations: 1-888-627-7049 or 703-836-4700, ext. 6106
(Please identify yourself with MOLLUS)
The Few, The Proud, The MOLLUS Marines

Paul Davis, Commander, Michigan Commandery

During the Civil War the Officer Corp of the United States Marine Corp was, like the Corp, itself relatively small. From 1861 through 1865, the number of Marine Officers ranged from approximately 61 in 1861 to about 90 officers in 1865. By April 1865, ten Officers were on the retired list. The number of officers was also reduced by deaths. The Commandant, Colonel John Harris, died while in office and was replaced by Jacob Zeilen.

A search of Civil War era Marines who became MOLLUS members yields 49 names. These officers account for more than 50 percent of the Marine Officer Corp. Some of these original Companions with their insignia numbers appear here.
Past Wisconsin Commandery Commander Brigadier General Vince Barker, USAR, laid a wreath at the grave of President Benjamin Harrison.

**Wisconsin Commandery Lays Wreath at President Benjamin Harrison Grave**

On August 19, 2017, Past Wisconsin Commandery Commander Brigadier General Vince Barker, USAR, laid a wreath at the grave of President Benjamin Harrison at historic Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis, IN, in honor of President Harrison’s birthday.

A Presidential directive dictates that a wreath be presented at the grave of all deceased presidents on the occasion of their birthday and that it be done by a general/flag officer. BG Barker brought greetings from President Donald Trump and commented on President Harrison’s service in the Civil War as Colonel of the 70th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, his brevet promotion to Brigadier General, and his membership in the GAR, MOLLUS, and the SAR, all of which BG Barker also is a member.

Members of the local Boy Scouts, Caroline Harrison Chapter DAR, and reenactors from the 19th U.S. Infantry also participated. BG Barker commands the 310th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) located at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis.

**MOLLUS WANTS YOU!**

*National Committees 2017 - 2019*

The following is a list of current national Loyal Legion committees. All standing committees and special committees are open to members. If you are interested in participating, please contact Commander-in-Chief Eric Rojo for details (eric@er-x.com).

**Board of Officers**
Board of Officers Executive Committee

**Standing Committees**
Audit
Nominations
Finance and Budget
Membership and Genealogy*
Constitution and Bylaws
History Historic Preservation and Grants*
Lincoln Death Day Observance
National Meetings
Internet
Fraternal Relations

**Special Committees**
Civil War History and Preservation *
Next Generation**
Awards and Decorations**
Public Relations and Information**

**Loyal Legion Memorial Fund Trustees**
Finance Sub-Committee**

*Modified  **New
The mission of the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum is to collect, preserve, and exhibit artifacts and archival materials concerning Abraham Lincoln, his contemporaries, the American Civil War, and the study of Lincolniana. The Museum, a 21,000 square foot facility, is located on the campus of Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee.

In November, the LMU Board of Trustees approved plans for a $1 million challenge campaign for the museum that will begin in January 2018. The Board approved the use of these funds for the addition of a third floor on the museum building. This addition will facilitate Museum efforts in expanding digitization of appropriate collections and will provide additional research space for students and scholars.

The Ohio Commandery of MOLLUS, has been closely connected with LMU for nearly a century through donations of the Civil War commemorative artwork, library materials, and archive items. Its contribution has served as the foundation for Civil War research collections in the LMU Carnegie-Vincent Library and in the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum. The rarest of the items received from the Ohio Commandery are cared for by the Museum, and are housed in two Museum vaults and the Daughters of the Union Reading Room. The MOLLUS Gallery at the Museum was dedicated in gratitude to the support received from the Ohio Commandery and serves to interpret portraits of notable, Civil War-era military leaders and public officials. Various other collections from MOLLUS constituencies include an extensive book collection, photographs, military papers, and scrapbooks.

LMU continues its close association with MOLLUS and is supporting the organization’s efforts to make the DC Commandery collection available for research. The University is committed to assisting MOLLUS in getting the DC Commandery collection codified, digitized, and made available to the public for research.

The collection management system utilized by the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum is PastPerfect, one of the most popular and user-friendly programs in the museum profession. PastPerfect enables the Museum to continuously build a research base through provenance data, online exhibits, photographs, and documents, creating access points for Civil War and Lincoln enthusiasts whose passion leads them to study a remarkable man, and an amazing period in American history.

The Museum’s conservation program is designed to address the priority needs of its collection. The Museum contracts the services of conservators for on-site review of the collection and off-site treatment of artifacts and archives as required. Preventive conservation measures include installation of improved environmental monitoring devices in all galleries and storage areas; and conservator visits through the Conservation Assessment Program, the Museum Assessment Program, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Historic Publications Records Commission. This level of professional oversight of the collection demonstrates the care provided to collections housed at the Museum.

In 1838 Abraham Lincoln reminded the citizens of Springfield, Illinois, of the "proud fabric of freedom." From that fabric grows a vast tapestry of heritage which, over the years, has created a partnership between the of the Loyal Legion and Lincoln Memorial University. The University is honored to expand this partnership by having the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum serve as a repository for the various Lincoln and Civil War collections held by MOLLUS and its Companions, Dames, friends, and supporters. Partnering with the Museum’s collection would result in a collection of world-class proportions that would greatly exceed the sum of the parts. The combined collections would preserve and carry forward the historic legacy and values of Abraham Lincoln. The mission of the Museum is absolutely consistent with that of MOLLUS.

The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum is an ideal repository for the various collections of printed materials and artifacts pertaining to Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. It has the resources, capabilities, innovation, dedication, and qualified staff to preserve and carry forward the historic legacy and values of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. The University and Museum are steadfastly committed to continue to raise public awareness of Lincoln and his value to the overall American experience, and to serve as a research center for students, scholars, and the public interested in the Civil War.

Among the items donated by the Ohio Commandery is a compendium of 64 large photographs of Commandery officers. Each photo notes the name, rank, insignia number and date of election of each individual to MOLLUS. Many of the photographs are signed. The image used here shows James Louis Foley, Major, 10th Kentucky Cavalry (US), MOLLUS insignia no. 2339.

**War Papers from the Maine Commandery of the Loyal Legion donated to the LMU Museum and Library**
In October, our Fall National Assembly Society meeting was held in Gettysburg, PA. The Commandery of Pennsylvania was our gracious host for the weekend. Saturday began with a joint Memorial Service with MOLLUS and DOLLUS, where we memorialized members of both orders who recently died. Then the National Society of DOLLUS held a very successful and productive meeting in the morning. After a quick lunch, Andy “General Meade” Waskie lead us on a very informative tour of the battlefields. The day concluded with an enjoyable evening banquet.

Congratulations to the newly elected MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief Colonel Eric Rojo and the other officers of his administration. I look forward to working with you in the coming year as we come together for the common good of both of our orders.

During our morning meeting a discussion about the future of our organization was held. One item was a motion for approval to raise the National Member-At-Large dues from $10 to $15. This motion was carried. It was also agreed that half of this amount will be placed in the Helen Soden Brady Scholarship account. Dues notices will be sent via USPS mail in mid-January 2018, with a February 28 due date. The Society of Ohio and Washington, DC members will send their dues directly to their respective societies.

Attention members with children in college! On behalf of your children, you may apply for a Scholarship through the Helen Soden Brady Fund. A separate letter of application can be made each year that your child is in college. The deadline for application each year is July 1. For more information please contact the Committee Chair – Monie Upham. Please visit our website for her contact information.

Announcing the launch of our new website. Please visit www.dollus.org for updates and information about current and future events. Also, we now have a Facebook page titled Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

At our meeting, approval was given for President Lincoln’s Cottage at the Soldier’s Home to be the recipient of an annual financial donation from DOLLUS. Please make plans to attend the Lincoln Birthday weekend in Alexandria, VA. Peter and Joan Dixon always do a fantastic job of putting together a nice tour and this year is no exception. We will be touring the National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC in the afternoon after our morning National Society meeting. All DOLLUS members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Ellen M. Higgins, National President

The Things He Carried

After President Abraham Lincoln died, on April 15, 1865, his leather wallet was found to contain a $5 Confederate bill, imprinted with the image of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Lincoln may have gotten the bill when he visited Petersburg and Richmond earlier in the month.

Reprinted from “8 Obscure Facts You Didn’t Know about the Civil War,” Smithsonian.com
Expanding Participation via Online Meetings

Eric A. Rojo, Commander-in-Chief

With the interest in greater participation at our National Congresses, Commandery, and committee meetings, we have now established a good initial track record with the use of an online system that allows the Legion to expand real-time participation for all Companions who for many reasons are not able to travel to the various meetings. The account we have (for all Companions to use) with GO TO MEETING (GTM), permits live streaming of any meeting—video and sound—and online participation for comments, discussion, and soon voting. The vote issue, while not addressed in our Constitution and Bylaws, other than the traditional proxy, will be fully addressed as we update our procedures to ensure that we affirm that live participation, in person or via this media, is acceptable for our records.

We are happy to report that several Commandery, committee, and national meetings have been a success with more Companions being able to join, view, and listen to the proceedings, and we continue to work in improving its use. For one, the meeting can be recorded and become part of the Recorder’s files.

The MOLLUS account is available to all National Officers, committees and Commanderies in order to facilitate meetings whenever and as often as needed.

We expect that this added meeting capability will enhance participation, especially for those Commanderies that cover great distances and traveling to meetings is not always practical. This new capability will also enhance committee meetings by giving the ability to discuss issues in real time, after setting up agendas via email or regular mail.

When our new website is launched, we have asked our Webmaster to include a package of Loyal Legion email addresses. This, in time, will help keep a single email database that will not be subject to the many changes that affect our current Commanderies and the national membership database.

We encourage Commanders, Recorders and Committee Chairs to contact me or our webmaster for the login information. Additionally, the new Loyal Legion webpage will have a members-only section where you will find a link to GTM to be used for meetings and the training they offer to facilitate our use.

Captions:

1. Brian Maloney (PA) Commander with Commander-in-Chief Eric Rojo.
2. Mark Day (VA) Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil WAR (SUVCW).
3. Eric Rojo (DC) receiving Commander-in-Chief rosette from outgoing Commander-in-Chief Jim Simmons (TX).
4. Adam Gaines (NY) with Past Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison.
5. Speaker Dr. Allan Guelzo, Princeton University.
6. Ellen M. Higgins, President DOLLUS.
7. Swearing in of incoming Commander-in-Chief Officers (l to r): Linn Malaznik, Council-in-Chief; Kevin Martin, Chaplain-in-Chief; Mike Bates, Chancellor-in-Chief; Eric Rojo, Commander-in-Chief; Adam Flint, Registrar-in-Chief; Joe Coleman, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Robert Pollock, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Jack Kane, Recorder-in-Chief; Dr. Daniel Heller, Surgeon-in-Chief.
8. Col. Rob Pollock, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief (OH) and wife Cathy Pollock.
10 Award recipients Linn Malaznik (CA), Dr. Peter Kane (PA), Will Forbes (PA), Brian Maloney (PA), Capt. Jack Kane (VA).
2017 Congress at Gettysburg
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Shipping based on total merchandise cost:

- Up to $10 = $5
- $11 to $50 = $8
- $51 to $100 = $10
- $101 or more = $14

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Name_________________________________________________
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City/State/Zip_________________________________________
Insignia # (required)___________________________________
Email_________________________________________________

MOLLUS Membership
Order Today!

For a complete list of merchandise, visit:
http://suvcw.org/mollus/resources/pricelist.htm

Large membership certificates require additional information. Forms available on website.

Questions?
Contact Joe Coleman at drjtc30@comcast.net

Please include the shipping cost associated with your purchase.

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