



LOYAL LEGION HISTORICAL JOURNAL



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FALL 2007

Annual Congress Banquet

By Marston Watson, Editor-in-Chief

The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) held its Annual Congress Banquet at the DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis, Maryland on Saturday, 22 September 2007. An impressive group of MOLLUS and DOLLUS members, along with spouses and guests provided a festive occasion at this 122nd Congress event. The Chairman of this event, Chancellor-in-Chief **Jeffry Burden**, gave a brief welcome and introduction of distinguished guests. Commander-in-Chief **Benjamin Frick** led the group in a number of toasts to the President of the United States, President Abraham Lincoln, Armed Forces of the United States and departed comrades, as



Capt. John Kent Kane, II, Recorder in Chief, accepts the Daugherty-Thompson Cup from Commander-in-Chief Frick.

well as to MOLLUS and DOLLUS.

Commander-in-Chief Frick presented two of three awards to

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100TH Anniversary of the General George Spears Greene Monument Rededication Ceremony, Culp's Hill, 1907 ~ 2007

By Gregg A. Mierka, Commander RI MOLLUS



George Sears Greene

No other man in American History represented more the true meaning of family, the spirit of ingenuity, a commitment to freedom and equality, or exemplified the great gift of deep seeded patriotism than **George Sears Greene**. He came from Warwick (Apponaug), Rhode Island. He lived portions of his adult life as a soldier and civil engineer in New York, Maine and New Jersey. Like his famous Rhode Island cousin Major General **Nathanael Greene** of the Revolution, George stepped forward to answer the call in one of his country's darkest hours.

He helped save the nation and its democracy at a critical moment on a small rocky knoll called Culp's Hill near the small town called Gettysburg, in Pennsylvania, to allow the United States of America to become perhaps the last best hope for future generations of all humanity. By his example many of his sons, family and descendants have hence done the same.

The soldiers Greene led in battle called him Ole Pop. They all loved and trusted him. They would have followed him anywhere, and never let him down. As combat veterans in their twilight years, to show the world the great admiration and respect they all felt for him, when their lives and the life of the nation hung in the balance, on September 27, 1907, they erected a monument symbolizing what they all felt about the Rhode Islander they served. They placed it where Greene stood firm on the battlefield that changed the course of the war, as well as the moral direction of their country for all time.

Rhode Island MOLLUS, Pennsylvania MOLLUS and National MOLLUS, as well as members of the Greene Family, members of the SUVCW and Auxiliary, friends and distinguished guests, again gathered to re-dedicate the

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Commander-in-Chief's Message

Humbly, I address all my fellow Companions on how honored I am to be the 57th Commander-in-Chief of our historic Military Order.

The fact that I was sworn in at Annapolis, Maryland, the home of the United States Naval Academy on 22 September 2007 was symbolic for me.

I had a great desire to go to West Point or the Naval Academy when I was a teenager. Unfortunately, my dear mother and father wanted me to attend college locally since I was their only child. I entered Drexel Institute of Technology in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1948 which was a wonderful experience.

At this point in my message, I want to express my thoughts to our 56th Commander-in-Chief Benjamin C. Frick for his leadership and friendship. You did well and you will be remembered!

Special thanks go to Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Jeffrey C. Burden for their efforts in setting up our annual Congress in Annapolis. Our banquet dinner at the Doubletree Inn was excellent and enjoyed by all.

Now, back to the rest of the story... Our very honorable Military Order was founded on 15 April 1865 in Philadelphia to honor the death of our late 16th United States President Abraham Lincoln who was assassinated.

We MOLLUS Companions throughout our great country and the rest of the world are needed to enlist qualified Hereditary members on a consistent basis. It is our duty to enroll family and other candidates who are eligible to guarantee that MOLLUS will continue to grow...to grow...to grow! Our future rests in our hands.

This message may be different from what you expected, but we have countless loyal Companions who understand the importance of enlisting new Hereditary members. Please remember that MOLLUS is rated highly as one of the most honorable Military Orders in the history of our great country. We honor and reward our fellow Companions who enlist new Hereditary Companions. Membership forms are available on the Internet from your Commandery and other sources within our organization.

I look forward to working with all of you during the next two years.

Loyally yours,

Karl Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief



Karl F. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief

Kathy Watson

National Officers 2007 - 2009

Commander-in-Chief: Karl Frederick Schaeffer

Hunters Chase, 7154 Willowlane Avenue N.W.
Massillon, OH 44646

Telephone: 330-854-6326 Email: RSchae535@aol.com

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: Keith G. Harrison

4209 Santa Clara Drive, Holt, Michigan 48842-1868

Telephone: 517-694-9394 Email: pcinc@prodigy.net

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief: Jeffrey Christian Burden, Esq

1815 Harvard Road, Richmond, VA 23226

Email: richburd6165@yahoo.com

Registrar-in-Chief: Adam P. Flint

46 Oak Lane, Douglassville, PA 19518-1628

Telephone: 610-970-2787 Email: Adampflint@aol.com

Chancellor-in-Chief: Waldron Kintzing Post II

675 Zena Highwoods Road, Kingston, NY 12401

Telephone: 845-679-6403 Email: waldronpo@yahoo.com

Judge Advocate-in-Chief: Joseph Baldwin Siedlarz III

351 Oak Terrace, Saint Davids, PA 19807-5205

Telephone: 610-891-6710 Email: JBSiedlarz@aol.com

Recorder-in-Chief: Capt. John Kent Kane, II, USCGA

101 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Yorktown, VA 23692

Telephone: 757-898-6953 Email: jkk28ga@cox.net

Treasurer-in-Chief: Lee Allan Tryon

4 Raven Circle, Avon, CT 06001-3317

Telephone: 860-676-9060 Email: leetryon@comcast.net

Surgeon-in-Chief: Dr. W. Courtney Fleenor

10611 Keithwood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23236-3010

Email: scotsbard@comcast.net

Chaplain-in-Chief: Rev. Dr. Christopher Mack Agnew

12433 Richards Ride, King George, VA 22485-5435

Email: drcma@crosslink.net

Editor-in-Chief: Marston Watson

Loyal Legion Historical Journal

48 Southwind Circle, Richmond, CA 94804-7404

Telephone: 510-234-1776 Email: mwatson@royalancestry.org

National Webmaster: Keith G. Harrison

4209 Santa Clara Drive, Holt, Michigan 48842-1868

Telephone: 517-694-9394 Email: pcinc@prodigy.net

Quartermaster: Adam P. Flint

319 Old Airport Road, Douglassville, PA 19518

Telephone: 610-385-1543 Email: Adampflint@aol.com

Assistant Editor: Kathleen Todd Watson

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Remembering "MOLLUS" In Your Will

After you provide for your family and other matters, would you consider including a memorial gift in your 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.

Welcome New Companions

The following Companions have joined the Military Order of the Loyal Legion since the Summer 2007 issue of the Journal. Commander-in-Chief Karl Schaeffer extends congratulations and a warm welcome to each one.

Waldron Kintzing Post II, Chancellor-in-Chief

Companions	Insignia No.	Commandery
Hereditary Companions		
Sherburne Wentworth Dunn	22464	Kansas
William Edward Buvinger	22465	California
Sigmund Joseph Reckline III	22466	Virginia
William Joseph Reckline	22467	Virginia
Quinten Christopher Reckline	22468	Virginia

Associate Companions

Christopher Louis Winklema	A221	Missouri
Rudolph Von Quast-Juchter	A222	Ohio

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.

A SALUTE TO NEW DAMES

We welcome the following new members of the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States:

Dame	National No.	Society
Beverly Jean Bishop (Mrs. Richard D.)	1801	Member-at-Large
Janet Reece (Mrs. James William)	1802	Member-at-Large
Cary Randall Stone-Greenstein (Mrs. Max Robert)	1803	Member-at-Large
Kelly Joann Schaeffer (Mrs. James Timothy)	1804	Ohio
Allison Marie Schaeffer	1805	Ohio
Madison Elizabeth Schaeffer	1806	Ohio
Meghan Katherine Schaeffer	1807	
Jane Denny (Mrs. Sidney Grant)	1808	Member-at-Large
Ms. Urith Virginia Chase	1809	Member-at-Large
Mrs. Louis Root Melby	1810	Pennsylvania
Lorena Faye Matchett Long (Mrs. Carl James)	1811	Ohio

David R. Curfman, M.D.
District of Columbia
Commandery, Insignia No.
A050

By Karl F. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief



David Ralph Curfman

Our historic Military Order lost an outstanding friend and comrade, **David Ralph Curfman**, a brilliant neurosurgeon, musician and civic leader, who died at his home in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, July 24, 2007, of acute myeloidblastic leukemia. David was highly respected by his peers in Washington and elsewhere. He was born January 2, 1942, in Bucyrus, Ohio, the son of **Ralph Oliver Curfman** and **Agnes Mozelle Schreck**.

David graduated in 1965 from Columbia Union College in Maryland with a bachelor of arts degree, majoring in biology and chemistry. Afterwards, he attended George Washington University where he earned his master of science degree in neuroanatomy, and completed work toward his Ph.D. in neuroanatomy between 1967 and 1970. Dr. Curfman received his medical degree from The George Washington University School of Medicine on May 27, 1973, where he served his general and neurological surgery residencies there. Dr. Curfman was chief of neurosurgery at Providence Hospital

at the time of his death, as well as assistant clinical professor of neurological surgery at the George Washington Medical Center. He was senior attending in neurosurgery at Washington Hospital Center and president of the Washington Academy of Neurosurgery, all in the Washington, D.C. area.

Dr. Curfman was a neurological surgeon in private practice in Washington, D.C. and lectured extensively throughout the United States on the medical history of American presidents while maintaining his clinical appointments and surgical schedule in the nation's capital. He presented his address on *The Medical History of the Father of our Country - General George Washington* to many groups during the celebration of the bicentennial commemorations of the death of General Washington in 1799.

In addition, Dr. Curfman was an accomplished musician, having studied both piano and organ. His lifelong interest in choral music and liturgies involved him in instruction at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. He was a frequent lecturer in Judeo-Christian ceremonies and liturgies. David was dean of the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, where he served as Washington program chairman of the International Congress of Organists, held for the first time in the United States in 1977. He had been a member of the development committee for the national office of the American Guild of Organists and a member of the Royal School of Church Music (England).

Dr. Curfman was elected to the board of the Cathedral Choral Society in 1979. He completed two terms as its president, overseeing the

transition in 1984-1985 between the society's founding conductor **Paul Callaway** and his successor Dr. **J. Reilly Lewis**. Dr. Curfman was for many years chairman of the music and programming committee for the 200-member resident symphonic chorus of Washington National Cathedral. Dr. Curfman designed the advent wreath in 1983 with holly garlands attached to the torches, which is borne in procession at the Cathedral Choral Society's ever-popular Joy of Christmas concerts. He organized major events surrounding the Society's "Russian Riches" Concert (1988) to commemorate the millennium of Russian Orthodox Church, which was recorded on compact disc. In 1997, Dr. Curfman was awarded the anniversary medallion for long-standing meritorious service to the society as a trustee.

Dr. Curfman served as national chairman of the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution for this special commemoration assisting in the funeral reenactment at Mount Vernon on December 18, 1999. He was involved in planning the reenactment of the memorial service held on December 29 at the Old Presbyterian Meeting-House Church in historic Alexandria, Virginia. Also, he was an enthusiastic member of 32 hereditary societies including the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Children of the American Revolution and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

At the time of his death, Dr. Curfman served on the board of the Leo Sowerby Foundation, as well as historian and board member of the Christmas Pageant of Peace (national Christmas tree lighting by

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Annual Congress Business Meeting 2007

By Jeffrey R. Burden, Junior Commander-in-Chief

Companions of the Loyal Legion gathered at the DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis on Saturday afternoon, 22 September for the Business Meeting of the 2007 Annual Congress. Commander-in-Chief, Benjamin C. Frick, opened the meeting and reported on his activities for the past year. He attended the 2006 Remembrance Day at Gettysburg and the meeting of the Board of the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum (formerly the Civil War Library and Museum). The museum plans to move to a historic property near Independence Hall by 2010.

The reports of the various national officers and national committee chairmen indicate that the Order is financially sound and involved in a number of interesting projects. For instance, more than a dozen worthy organizations are receiving historic or preservation grants from the Legion's Memorial Fund. Also, the Legion is working with the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to determine how best to assist with the Commission's events, including how to help organize the Lincoln Birthday ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial in February 2009. The MOLLUS Meeting Committee confirmed that upcoming national meetings will be in Gettysburg in 2008, Fort Knox, Kentucky, in 2009, and Michigan in 2010.

The assembled companions had the responsibility of electing new officers for 2007 through 2009. Past C-in-C Lowell V. Hammer presented the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers. It was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous vote that the slate be accepted as

presented. The officers took their oaths of office thereafter. The new and returning national officers are:

Commander-in-Chief:
Karl F. Schaeffer (OH)
Sr. Vice C-in-C:
Keith G. Harrison (MI)
Jr. Vice C-in-C:
Jeffry C. Burden (VA)
Recorder-in-Chief:
John Kent Kane II (VA)
Treasurer-in-Chief:
Lee A. Tryon (CT)
Registrar-in-Chief:
Adam P. Flint (PA)
Chancellor-in-Chief:
Waldron K. Post (NY/CT)
Judge Advocate-in-Chief:
J. Baldwin Siedlarz (PA)
Chaplain-in-Chief:
Rev. Christopher M. Agnew, D.D. (VA)
Surgeon-in-Chief:
W. Courtney Fleenor, M.D. (VA)
Editor-in-Chief:
Marston Watson (MA)
Council-in-Chief:
Peter A. Dixon (DC)
Rev. Barry Christopher Howard (CT)
Paul Joseph Kinyon (IL)
Eric Armando Rojo (DC)
James Alan Simmons (TX)
The Hon. Herbert K. Zearfoss (PA)

The Companions adjourned an efficient and productive meeting in plenty of time for the evening's banquet.

With malice toward none,
with charity for all,
with firmness in the right as
God gives us to see the right,
let us strive on to finish the
work we are in; to bind up the
nation's wounds; to care for
him who shall have borne the
battle, and for his widow, and
his orphan--to do all which
may achieve and cherish
a just, and a lasting peace,
among ourselves and with all
nations.

Abraham Lincoln

Annual Congress Banquet from page 1

MOLLUS commanderies. The Ulysses S. Grant Cup was awarded to the Kansas Commandery for the highest percent increase of new hereditary members. The Daugherty-Thompson Cup was awarded to the Virginia commandery for the greatest number of new hereditary members. There were no candidates for the Rutherford B. Hayes Cup which is awarded to a MOLLUS member who submits the most family applicants for membership. The Lincoln Medal, for companions who have recruited three or more new hereditary companions was presented to **Jeffrey Burden** and past Commander-in-Chief **Douglas Niermeyer**, who



Kathy Watson

Harold Colvocoresses 2007 Annual Meeting Banquet Speaker.

was unable to attend the Congress.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation by outgoing Commander-in-Chief Frick of the Commander-in-Chief Star to the incoming Commander-in-Chief, **Karl F. Schaeffer**. His brief remarks were followed by the introduction of banquet speaker, **Harold Colvocoresses** of the Connecticut Commandery, whose topic was Two Loyal Legion Members and U.S. Naval Academy. The evening festivities were concluded with a benediction by Past Commander-in-Chief, Rev. **Robert G. Carroon**, D.D.

COMMANDERY NEWS

Massachusetts Commandery

By Frederick A. Stevens, Jr., Commander

The Massachusetts Commandery number stands at fifty-eight members (42 Hereditary, 12 Associates, 3 Mass. Life and one Honorary). Two new members were added during the October to October year, Mark Slayton and Marston Watson (a transferee from the Wisconsin commandery). We mourn the deaths of companions John C. Abbott, Henry W. Lyons and Dr. William C. Wiswall.

The Lincoln Day observance took place in February, which continues to be a traditional event for our participation. Also, we were represented at the Lincoln Birthday festivities in Washington, D. C.

Commander Stevens assisted Companion Bayard Lincoln in the presentation of MOLLUS medals to five outstanding ROTC cadets: one

from the University of Massachusetts, one from Northeastern University and three cadets from MIT.

We are in communication with The Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, in hopes of mutually beneficial cooperative actions. Companion Marston Watson is a new member of that organization and will be attending their annual meeting in late October.

Our Judge Advocate is keeping in touch with the executor of the estate of David S. Hendrick II. MAMOLLUS stands to benefit from the patriotic generosity of our deceased companion. Our finances are in good order.

Bayard Lincoln agreed to fill the position of vice commander. He replaced Howard "Jim" Norris who desired to step down. Other officers remain the same.

Gettysburg in 2008

By Joe Coleman, Senior Vice Commander

The Pennsylvania Commandery is already at work in planning the 2008 Annual Congress at Gettysburg, scheduled for October 17-19. This exciting event includes a reception on Friday afternoon, October 17, at the Civil War and Underground Railroad Library and Museum in Philadelphia. It will be the last time MOLLUS members can visit the 1805 Pine Street site, as it will be relocating to a new facility at Independence Mall (Old First Bank). Hopefully, this will occur prior to the MOLLUS Congress in Philadelphia in 2011.

The 2008 Congress business meeting takes place on Saturday morning, October 18, at the Gettysburg Wyndham - a new hotel just on the outskirts of town. Lunch is planned at the Dobbins House, followed by an afternoon tour at the soon-to-be opened visitor center. Saturday evening's banquet will be attended by the Gettysburg National Military Park superintendent, Dr. John Latchar, honorary national member of MOLLUS and the keynote speaker. Their web site is <http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/home.htm>.

The hotel room rate at the Gettysburg Wyndham is \$134 a night (single or double), plus applicable taxes and incidental room charges. The Congress registration fee and related meal and conference costs have yet to be determined. The contact information for the hotel is: 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg (717-339-0020) and their web site is <http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/MDTGE/main.wnt>.

MOLLUS WEBSITE

Loyal Legion Historical Journal is now online!

<http://www.suvew.org/mollus/mollus.htm>



Kathy Watson

MOLLUS National Officers 2007-2009, seated l. to r. Keith G. Harrison, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Karl F. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief. Standing l. to r. Lee Allan Tryon, Treasurer-in-Chief, Marston Watson, Editor-in-Chief, John Kent Kane II, Recorder-in-Chief, Benjamin C. Frick, Past Commander-in-Chief, Waldron Kintzing Post II, Chancellor-in-Chief, and Jeffrey C. Burden, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.



Change of Command

By Karl F. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief

Karl Frederick Schaeffer was elected on 22 September 2007 as the 57th Commander-in-Chief of our Order at the 122nd Annual Congress in Annapolis, Maryland, which was held in conjunction with the United States Naval Academy Symposium. Companion Schaeffer was born 26 October 1930 in Philadelphia, the son of **Karl W. Schaeffer** and **Cecilia G. Bleistein**. He attended St. Barbara's Parochial School and St. Thomas More High School, from which he graduated in 1948. Karl graduated in 1953 from Drexel University, Philadelphia with a B.S. in Business Administration. He played Junior Varsity basketball for one year and Varsity for three years. He is a member of Theta Chi Fraternity and an active alumni member.

Karl served with the United States Army after graduation, taking his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was assigned to Ordnance School at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland and was trained for two ordnance programs, where he received his top secret clearance. He received orders to report to Fort Lewis, Washington



Karl and Rosemary Schaeffer with family members in attendance at the Annual Banquet.

and then embarked for Korea on the *Marine Phoenix* from the Port of Seattle. He served in the 226th Ordnance Base Depot in Pusan and

then was transferred north to the 24th Infantry Division for nine months.

Karl married **Teresa A. Schmids** in Philadelphia on 16 February 1957, the daughter of **Alfonso J. Schmids** and **Helen Vanyo**. Teresa was born 2 November 1930 in Philadelphia and died 30 December 1983 in Massillon, Ohio. She is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. She and Karl were blessed with six children.

Karl was remarried in Tallmadge, Ohio on 11 May 1985 to **Rosemary (Dulaney) Morris**, daughter of **Archie Lee Dulancey** and **Rose Brehm**. His children, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and grandchildren are **Rosemarie T. (James), Teresa and James McIntyre** of Middle Island, Long Island; **Barbara A. (Richard), Andrew DeLaat** and **Corey Cavanaugh** of Medina, Ohio; **William C. (Janet), Tyler, Sean and Alex Schaeffer** of Mechanicsville, Virginia; **Kathleen C. (Daniel), Austin and Daniel C. Knight** of Nicholasville, Kentucky; **James T. (Kelly), Allison, Madison and Meghan Schaeffer** of Oswego, Illinois; and, **Mary K. (Dimitrios), Michael and Nikolas Passaris** of Clearwater, Florida.

Karl retired from Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc. in Akron, Ohio on 1 September 1991 with 33 years service in sales, merchandising and management. He held comparable positions with the Seiberling and Dayton Divisions of Firestone.

Karl joined the Ohio Commandery of MOLLUS in 1994 through contact with Companion **Jason Hurd Moore, Jr.** of Southington, Ohio, and Past Commander-in-Chief **Gordon R. Bury II**. Karl served as Ohio Commander in 1997-1999 and rose through the national ranks

to Commander-in-Chief. He has a number of Civil War ancestors in his family, serving both sides during the war. He joined MOLLUS under the service of his great-grandfather, **Isaac Bowman**, who fought in the 130th Pennsylvania Regiment, Company H and as 2nd Lt. in the 210th Pennsylvania Regiment, Company A. Karl identified additional Civil War ancestors since that time and coauthored, with his cousin **Russ Ottens** from Tifton, Georgia, a book entitled *Captain Enders Legion*, which includes 162 Civil War veterans in the Enders Family. One of these ancestors is Bvt. Brig.-General **Thomas Hamlin Hubbard**, who was the 19th Commander-in-Chief of MOLLUS.

Karl has been very active in many organizations over the years, including V.P. Drexel Alumni Varsity Club (1958-1960), Past Director of Pottstown, Pennsylvania Jaycees (1960-1962) and Eucharistic Minister in the Cleveland and Youngstown, Ohio Catholic Diocese (1976-2004). He has been quite active in the Enders Family Association and Reunions in Enders, Pennsylvania since 1984. Karl was an active bowler in the McNeil League (1967-1979), Merry Mixers (Mixed League 1968-1979) and was President nine years. He was a member of the Firestone Country Club (1969-1979) and played softball in the Akron City League for Seiberling (1968-1972). He was a player and player/manager in the Akron Silver Softball League (1992-1997) and was on league championship teams in 1994 and 1996. He wore Lou Gehrig's Number 4 with much pride.

Karl is a life member of American Legion Post 221, Massillon, Ohio.

General G.S. Greene from page 1

monument of Major General George Sears Greene. On September 22, 2007, one hundred years after the placing of his monument and 144 years after the horrendous battle that made Greene famous, all who



Gregg Mierka

Descendants Joan Greene Pierpont, RI MOLLUS Companion LTC John G. Greene, and George Sears Greene, III at the lectern.

attended the special ceremony on Culp's Hill relived his greatness.

The 100th Anniversary ceremony was organized by Companion LTC **John G. Greene**, AUS (Ret.) of Belgium; **Gregg A. Mierka** (Commander of RI MOLLUS) and his wife Mary; **George Sears Greene, III** and his wife Donna; and **Joan (Greene) Pierpont**. Honored speakers were Companion Dr. **John A. Latschar**, Superintendent, Gettysburg National Military Park ~ Eisenhower National Historic Site; Colonel **Robert J. Dalessandro**, Director of the Army Heritage and Education Center of the Carlisle Barracks; Colonel **James Bennett**, VSM, ROTC Director-The Norwich University Regimental Men's Choir; Major **Jason N. "Dutch" Palmer**, Military Intelligence/Assistant Professor, Department of History, U.S. Army Military Academy at West Point; as well as **Pegee Malcom** and **Geoffrey Gofton** representing Warwick Rhode Island Mayor **Scott Avedisian**. Greetings were conveyed by Companion **Adam P. Flint**, National MOLLUS Registrar-

in-Chief on behalf of MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief **Benjamin C. Frick**; and the Honorable **James R. Hanby, Sr.**, National SUVCW Council of Administration, representing **Charles E. Kuhn, Jr.**, Commander-in-Chief, National SUVCW. Six wreaths and several bouquets of flowers and flags were placed at the General's monument. Over 50 members of the Greene Family attended among about 300 attendees.

In a special part of the ceremony, Commander Mierka gathered all the children of the Greene Family after



Gregg Mierka

Greene children after they and their mothers placed flags and flowers at the monument.

they and their mothers placed flags and flowers at the monument. As they looked up at him with large innocent eyes, in a soft and gentle voice Gregg told them, "Someday when you are all old, gray, and wrinkly like me, and you bring your grandchildren to this place, you can proudly tell them you were here today". Everyone chuckled, but Gregg's wife Mary Mierka noticed a great many wet eyes among the Greenes as they thanked Gregg for gathering their children to teach them the importance of the occasion. With every word spoken at the event, all who attended the 100th Anniversary Ceremony visualized and felt the unflinching patriotism of the soldiers of Greene's New York Brigade and the man who led them during the Civil War so well at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Kay Jorgensen of *Civil War News*

and SUVCW PCnC **Steve Michaels** of the *Banner* will also be covering this story in up coming issues. The event is a milestone for RI MOLLUS, supported by *The Cranston Historical Society*, RI SUVCW Elisha Dyer Camp No. 7 and RIASUVCW Elisha Dyer Auxiliary No.2 and efforts to open the first museum and library in Rhode Island dedicated to the Civil War, at the Governor William Sprague Mansion in Cranston RI this coming spring 2008. It will become a permanent headquarters for RI MOLLUS and all materials from the ceremony and other items will be displayed for public view. The RI MOLLUS Commandery is dedicated to the memory of George Sears Greene, **Ambrose E. Burnside** and **Elisha Hunt Rhodes**. The forty page commemorative ceremony booklet, the 2007 commemorative ribbon and the black marble commemorative paperweight engraved with the monument are still available to collectors, however quantities are limited. If interested please contact Commander Mierka at RIBatteryA@verizon.net. All proceeds help cover expenses for the

Change of Command from page 7

He received the *Legionnaire of the Year Award* in 1994.

Karl is an avid historian and genealogist. His memorabilia collection includes Civil War, Korean War, Enders Family, Firestone, baseball and John Wayne artifacts, all of which are displayed in his 1800-square foot home museum. His wife Rosemary has been the National President of the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States since October 2004.



A 17-YEAR OLD IN THE BATTLE OF NEW MARKET

By his great-great grandson Robert Bruce Donald

John Elbert Mattoon was the rudimentarily-educated son of generations of American soldier-farmers, with his grandfather in the War of 1812, and his great-great-great grandfather Philip having fought in King Philip's War and later under Capt. **William Turner** in the Defense of Western Massachusetts in 1676 and the Falls Fight later that year. John enlisted as a private quite late in the Civil War, on 4 January 1864 in Troy, New York, joining the 21st New York Cavalry (Griswold Lights).

General **Franz Sigel** moved up the Shenandoah Valley on 15 May 1864 with 6,500 men toward New Market, Virginia. Their rear and flanks were continuously harassed by Colonel **John S. Mosby's** Confederate guerillas. Sigel's force faced similar numbers under Generals **John C. Breckenridge** and **John D. Imboden**. 247 Virginia Military Institute cadets commanded by their professor, **Lt. Col. Shipp**, had been added to the "rebel" lines. These youngsters would play a heroic part in the ensuing battle. The 21st Cavalry was forced by positioning and terrain to charge across a stone bridge at fortified positions in a heavy afternoon rain. Confederate riflemen met them with heavy fire forcing them back in confusion. John described his small part in the battle to his sister **Charlotte "Lot" Mattoon Bristol** in a surprisingly matter-of-fact letter:

Headquarters June 12th 1864
Camp Stoneman [Washington, D.C.]

Dear Sister Lot,

...We started off in the morning before daylight and marched to New Market.

Thare we met the rebels and fought a battle. Got licked like thunder and had to put back again. Well, I had my old horse shot out from under me in the fight so I had to foot it back to a little village called Mount Jackson [The next town north, about 8 miles]. Thare is where we carried all of our wounded men. Well I footed it back to thare and then I helped carry the wounded into the Church. We stayed thare till the Regt. came up and then I went to the Captain and told him that I had my horse shot and asked him how I should get along. He told me to do the best that I could...

Two members of his Company L were captured; overall the Regiment suffered thirteen casualties. The Federal positions were overrun and their forces retreated in poor order, falling back to Strasburg. The Federals under Sigel lost 831 men and the Confederates 577.

...Well the Army started on the retreat on about 10 o'clock at night. I stayed there in Mount Jackson till about half of the army had gone by, then I jumped on to a piece of artillery and rode on that all night and in the morning we stoped a little while to get our breakfast. I filed off of the old piece of artillery and went down to a house and asked for something to eat and they gave me a bully breakfast. Well if that did not make me feel good...I eat my breakfast and then went back and bye that time the Army was on the march and my old artillery wagon had gone on. Well I sit rite down and waited for another until the wagon train come up then I jumped up and got in one of them and rode all day. At night we encamped at Strausburg [about 35 miles north of the battlefield] again. Thare is where I left the Regt. you see I had no horse and so I was no good there. Well at Washington the government has a Dismounted Camp where they send all of the men that get their horses killed or die [of disease]. They send them rite here and keep them here until they can mount them. Well I left the Regt. the next morning for Martinsburg with about 100 more dismounted men from our and other dismounted regts. We went with a wagon train and nothing worth telling occurred. We arrived at Martinsburg all rite then we took the [railroad] cars and went to Harpers Ferry. From Harpers Ferry we came here and have been here ever since. So you see there is nothing the

matter with me, so you need not worry...

The battle was considered a hard-fought loss due to bad generalship and mismanagement. Subsequently Sigel was relieved of his command and replaced by Maj. Gen. David Hunter. John's first major battle did not seem to disconcert him. He could have been captured on the field, but he chose to follow his regiment on foot. His individual resourcefulness and tenacity in rejoining his company and subsequent disgust at having to leave it again provide a fresh look at what duty truly meant to an already hardened youth in the Civil War.

[Robert "Bruce" Donald, a graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont, earned a Masters Degree in History from Trinity College in Hartford. He is the author of the upcoming *Manhood and Patriotic Awakening: The John E. Mattoon Letters, 1859-1866* (University Press). He is a proud Son of the American Revolution and two other Civil War soldiers.]

Dames of the Loyal Legion Meet in Annapolis

By Kathy Watson

Dames of the Loyal Legion gathered at the DoubleTree Hotel, Annapolis on Saturday afternoon, 22 September for the



DOLLUS National President, Rosemary Schaeffer (left) with National Recorder Nancy Kane.

2007 Annual Business Meeting. DOLLUS National President Rosmary Schaeffer opened the meeting and reported on activities for the preceding year. Other officers reported on their activities. The meeting concluded with a memorial service for DOLLUS members who passed in the previous year.

MOLLUS Celebrates Lincoln's Birthday in Washington, DC

February 11-12, 2008

By Marston Watson, Editor-in-Chief

Join your fellow MOLLUS and DOLLUS members in Washington, DC on February 11-12 for the annual celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. The warm hospitality of good friends will more than offset a cold winter's day in our nation's capitol.

The price is right at the Channel Inn with a special room rate of **\$125** a night (*free underground parking*)! Make sure to make your hotel reservations at **(800) 368-5668** (*before January 8*) to get this exceptional rate. Inform the Inn that your MOLLUS confirmation number is **112954**. Reserve early, as a block of only *20 rooms* has been set aside for our members.

A Board meeting of the Commander-in-Chief takes place on Monday morning (10:30 a.m.) at the Channel Inn, followed by lunch for companions, dames and spouses only. A general meeting for companions and dames will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Channel Inn.

The highlight of this 86th annual event is the Lincoln Memorial Ceremony on Tuesday, February 12. The celebration begins at 11:45 a.m. with a musical prelude by the Military Service band. The invocation will be given by Rev. Daniel P. Coughlin, Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives. A number of dignitaries, along with hereditary and patriotic societies, will participate in the laying of memorial wreaths.

Other highlights of this special occasion include lunch at the Channel

Inn (\$25) and formal dinner (\$80) at the Army and Navy Club on Monday, February 11 and lunch (\$25) on Tuesday, February 12 at the Channel Inn for all members and guests, following the Lincoln Memorial ceremonies. The sponsoring organization for the Tuesday ceremonies and lunch is the *Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee (LBNCC)*, which is chaired by Past Commander of the DC Commandery, **Peter Arrott Dixon**, former Commander of the Washington, DC Commandery.

MOLLUS & DOLLUS at Annual Congress



MOLLUS Companions and family members attending the Annual Congress Banquet.



DOLLUS members attending the Annual Congress Banquet.

David R. Curfman, M.D. from page 4

the president). He was president of the board of directors of the National Columbus Celebration Association (Washington, D.C.) and a founding supporting member of the United States Capitol Historical Society.

Dr. Curfman is survived by his wife of 37 years, **Blanche L. (Anderson) Curfman**, a widely-recognized research microbiologist at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NIH) and a member of the Dames of the Loyal Legion, District of Columbia Society, #1793H. Dr. Curfman's funeral was held in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, July 28, 2007, at the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, where he once served as assistant organist and choirmaster. Among those participating was Father **Daniel P. Coughlin**, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives.

David's final resting place is in

his hometown of Galion, Ohio. Rosemary and I arrived in Galion on Tuesday, July 31, 2007, to attend the viewing at the Richardson-Davis Funeral Home. It was an honor for us as friends, and also representing DOLLUS and MOLLUS, to be there. A large turnout of family and friends were there to say farewell to this remarkable man. David Ralph Curfman was laid to rest on Wednesday morning, August 1 at 10:30 a.m. beside other family members at the Fairview Cemetery in Galion. The gravesite service was conducted by Rev. **Jack L. Kocsis**.

It is true David is no longer on mother earth, but the memory of him and what he stood for will last for many years to come. After the services, we were invited back to the Curfman homestead. Spending time with Dr. Curfman's dear wife Blanche, who is in our thoughts and prayers, and other family and friends was very special.

**Announcement Lincoln Birthday Activities
Washington, DC - 9-13 February 2008**

**Lincoln Birthday Activities/Lunch
Monday, 11 February 2008 – Channel Inn
650 Water Street SW, Washington, DC**

10:30 a.m. MOLLUS Board of Officers Meeting
11:30 Social (cash bar)
Noon Lunch
MOLLUS/DOLLUS Members & Guests
1:00 p.m. MOLLUS/DOLLUS Business Meeting
(Channel Inn-2nd floor conference room)
Cost: \$25/person

**Lincoln Birthday Dinner
Monday, 11 February 2008 – Army & Navy Club
Farragut Square, 901 17th Street, NW Washington, DC**

7:00 p.m. Reception (cash bar)
8:00 p.m. Patriotic Opening
(U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard)
8:15 p.m. Formal Dinner (with wine for toasts)
Place: Army and Navy Club
2nd Floor Ballroom
(valet parking \$6)
Program: To be announced

Attire: Black/White tie or uniform with
decorations and orders for gentlemen
Evening wear for ladies
Cost: \$80/person

**The 85th Annual Lincoln Memorial Ceremony
Tuesday, 12 February 2008**

11:15 a.m. Arrive at Lincoln Memorial
11:45 a.m. Lincoln Ceremonies begin
(wear warm clothing)

Program: Honoring President Abraham Lincoln
Music prelude by a military service band
Joint services color and honor guard
(3rd Regiment, Old Guard)

Gettysburg Address
Placing of wreaths

Fred Drum Hunt Award
Presented by Karl P. Schaeffer
MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief

**RESERVATION: Lincoln Birthday Activities
Monday, 11 February 2008** (members & spouses only)
Make check (by no later than 6 February 2008) payable to
MOLLUS DC (payment must accompany reservation)
Send to **George E. Walton, 7618 Winterberry Place, Bethesda,
MD 2081**

Lunch (Channel Inn) No. ____ x \$25 = \$ ____
Dinner (Army & Navy Club) No. ____ x \$80 = \$ ____
Total \$ ____

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Guest _____
Email _____



**RESERVATION: Lincoln Birthday Activities
Tuesday 12 February 2008**
Make check (by no later than 6 February 2008) payable to
LBNCC
Send to **Peter Arrott Dixon, 111 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA
22314-3803** (Guests welcome)

Lunch (Channel Inn) No. ____ x \$25 = \$ ____

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Guest _____
Email _____



**Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee
Luncheon
Tuesday, 12 February 2008 – Channel Inn
650 Water Street SW, Washington, DC**

1:00 p.m. Social (cash bar)
1:30 p.m. Lunch
Program: Gail Stephens, Retired Ranger, U.S. Park Service
“The Battle of Shiloh and General Lew Wallace”

Cost: \$25/person
Guest Parking: Three hours free in Channel Inn
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NOTICE

The Winter Issue of
The Loyal Legion
Journal
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 January 2008

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