



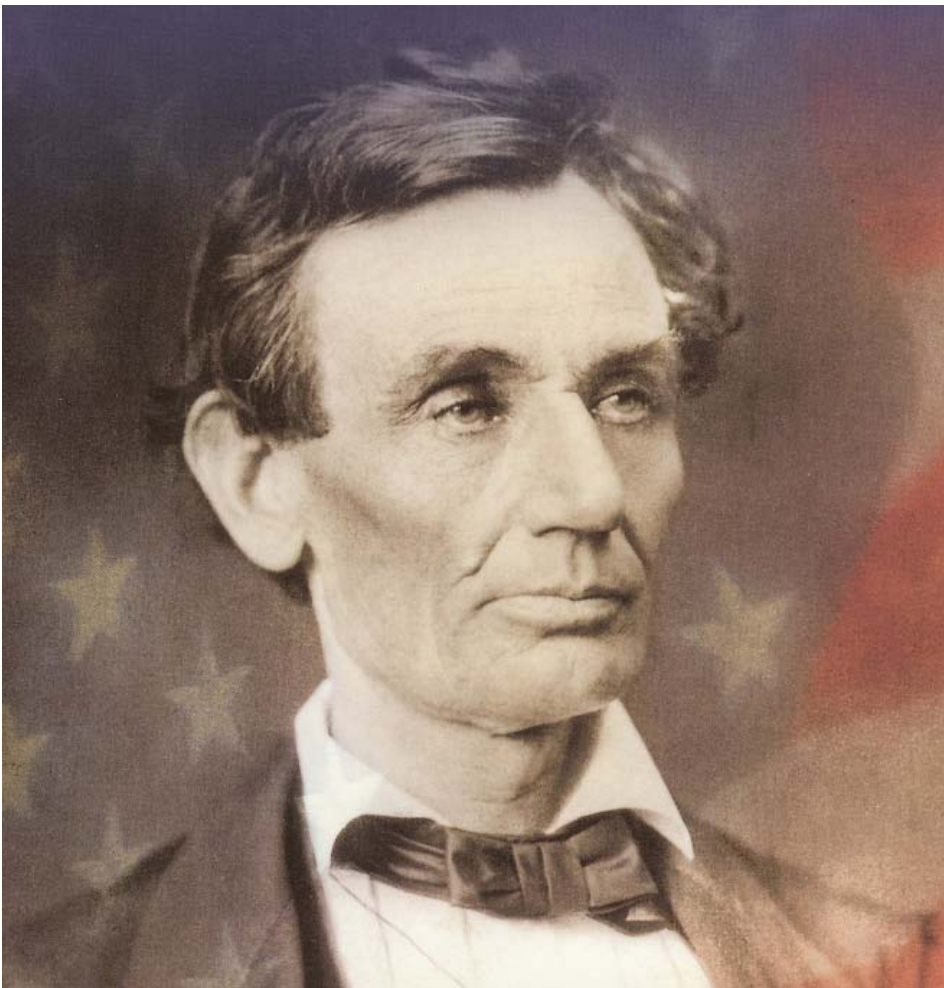
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Lauding Lincoln and a Legacy

As Crowds Gathered to Honor The 16th President, They Spoke Of a Man
'Who in So Many Ways Made America's Story Possible'

By Michael E. Ruane and David Betancourt

Washington Post Staff Writers (Friday, February 13, 2009)

After the ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial was over, and the bugler played taps, and the artillery smoke drifted through bare trees, the youngsters from Strong John Thomson Elementary School recited the Gettysburg Address a second time.

They stood in their maroon sweaters and gray pants and skirts, their faces lighted by the morning sun, and began, "Four score and seven years ago. . . ." Behind them, deep

in the shadows of the columned memorial, the huge sculpture of Abraham Lincoln sat, like a father watching his children.

And it seemed on the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, a bright and blustery day that was filled with tributes, that the voices and faces of the children were as fitting a present as any.

Across the District yesterday, honors flowed for the nation's most revered president -- the lanky prairie lawyer and politician who came to Washington from Illinois to preserve the Union, wage the Civil War and help end slavery.

From the morning ceremonies at the Lincoln Memorial, where last month the country's first black chief executive sat as president-elect, to Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln was assassinated for his war against slavery, the 16th president was hailed as the creator of modern America.

In the Capitol Rotunda, where Lincoln's body lay in state after his death in 1865, President **Obama** stood with leaders of Congress and praised "this singular figure who in so many ways made my own story possible -- and who in so many ways made America's story possible."

"For, what Lincoln never forgot, not even in the midst of civil war, was that despite all that divided us -- North and South, black and white -- we were, at heart, one nation and one people," the president said. "Even as we meet here today . . . when we are once again debating the critical issues of our time . . . let us remember that we are doing so as servants to the same flag."

There were celebrations across the country marking the Lincoln bicentennial, and at an auction house in New York, one of his handwritten speeches brought a record price

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Commander-in-Chief's Message

The MOLLUS / DOLLUS luncheon at the mid-winter meeting in Washington D. C. and the evening banquet at the Army/ Navy Club on February 11, as well as the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee (LBNCC) luncheon at the Channel Inn on Thursday, February 12 were well attended. Officers and committee



Kathy Watson

chairmen gave their reports at the Wednesday meeting, which covered the activities of the Order since the Annual Congress last October.

Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday was celebrated early Thursday morning at the Lincoln Memorial. It was hosted by LBNCC and its foundation, the National Park Service, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States and the Military District of Washington. The weather was more like an early spring day instead of the usual February cold.

The Honorable **Scott Stucky**, Judge, U. S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and Past Commander-in-Chief of MOLLUS was Master of Ceremonies for this event. The Honorable **Frank Williams**, Commissioner of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC) and retired Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, led the students from the Strong John Thomson Elementary School in the recitation of the Gettysburg Address.

Past Commander-in-Chief **Gordon R. Bury** and I were honored to present the Frederick Talley Drum Hunt Award, which is given annually by the Commander-in-Chief at the Lincoln Memorial to a student at the Severn School in Severna Park, Maryland for excellence in history. This year's recipient was **Logan Riley McNamara**. We wish her well in her future studies.

Everyone attending this 200th birthday celebration at the Lincoln Memorial was given a copy of the ALBC commemorative program, *A New Birth of Freedom*. This publication is being distributed nationally at the Abraham Lincoln bicentennial events throughout the country.

Some MOLLUS members attended the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Committee and Foundation birthday breakfast, immediately following the wreath laying ceremony, where we dined on artichoke/potato casserole, apple wood smoked bacon, fresh fruit/berry salad, assorted breads and pastries. Noted singer, **Michael Feinstein**, gave a musical tribute from the *Great American Songbook*. This was followed by a happy birthday toast to President Lincoln, using Charles Heidsieck Champagne which was the champagne served during President Lincoln's second inaugural dinner in 1865.

A number of invited MOLLUS guests were transported by bus to the Capitol building for the Congressional tribute, *The Celebration of the Lincoln Bicentennial*, which was held in the rotunda. The United States Army Strings ensemble gave a musical prelude. The Honorable **Nancy Pelosi**, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, welcomed everyone after which the Armed Forces Color Guard

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yesterday, selling for \$3.44 million. In the District, festivities took place beneath an almost cloudless blue sky. Even the wind helped, whipping gold-fringed flags and military battle streamers and carrying the echo of the 21-gun salute at the memorial across the water of the Reflecting Pool.

Historians and politicians were on hand, along with celebrants dressed in the ornate uniforms of Civil War soldiers. Several bearded men dressed as Lincoln, in black coat and stovepipe hat. They were unfailingly addressed as “Mr. President.”

At the memorial, where several hundred people gathered to lay wreaths, historian **Harold Holzer** said that, without Lincoln, “we wouldn’t be the America we know.”

Historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin**, awaiting the start of the memorial ceremonies, said: “It’s really a spectacular thing to realize that this country at this stage of our lives is able to look back with such respect and affection for this man who lived 200 years ago. I think it just shows that there really is a thread of history that comes from the past to the present.”

The ceremonies at the memorial featured, among other things, the initial reading of the Gettysburg Address by the Thomson schoolchildren, along with retired Rhode Island Supreme Court chief justice **Frank J. Williams**, who stood at a podium.



Students from Strong John Thomson Elementary School, Washington D.C. recite the Gettysburg Address.

But near the end of the speech, the wind blew Williams’s papers, and he was unable to recite some closing portions of the speech. The 9- and 10-year-olds, who memorized it, were undaunted, and finished in style.

They recited it again later when someone asked, and because they knew they could.

Meanwhile, at the newly renovated Ford’s Theatre, where Obama

appeared for a gala Wednesday night, the doors were officially opened to the public for the first time in 18 months.

Lines began forming as early as 7:30 a.m. outside the old brick theater on Tenth Street NW, with its tall eight-paned windows and gas-lighted carriage lamps.

John Lugo, 52, a financial adviser from Loxahatchee, Fla., brought his 12-year-old son, Giovanni.

“I wanted to be able to show him the booth,” Lugo said, referring to the theater box where Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth while the president and his wife were watching a play.

Inside, visitors were greeted by the sounds of the Federal City Brass Band, clad in 19th-century attire and equipped with instruments from the 1860s and 1870s. A National Park Service ranger then recounted the assassination, and children from the District’s Thurgood Marshall Academy recited more from Lincoln’s writings.

“It was fantastic,” said **Bob Gabriele**, 62, of Fresno, Calif. “I was sitting there thinking of all the problems that President Obama is experiencing right now, and then you see these bright-eyed kids onstage, and you realize, they’re the future.”

Lincoln 200th Birthday Celebration Photos: 1) Women’s Relief Corps member with Lincoln reenactor; 2) Armed Forces Color Guard; 3) MOLLUS/DOLLUS members in attendance at Lincoln Summer Cottage tour; 4) Mr. Michael Feinstein, soloist; 5) Laying of Presidential Wreath; 6) Frederick Talley Drum Hunt Award winner Logan Riley McNamara; 7) Commander-in-Chief Karl F. Schaeffer and Past Commander-in-Chief Gordon R. Bury, presenters of MOLLUS wreath; 8) Sounding of Taps. Photos by Kathy Watson





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MOLLUS: Lincoln's Original Honor Guard

By Douglas Niermeyer, Past Commander-in-Chief

I was compelled to look at the founding of our Order after participating in the Lincoln ceremonies in Washington, D. C. and watching *Stealing Lincoln's Body* on the History Channel recently. The following quote is from our own membership literature:

“A mass meeting of Philadelphia veterans was held on April 20, 1865 to pledge renewed allegiance to the Union and to plan for participation in the funeral arrangements for the President. The Philadelphia officers, who served as an honor guard for President Lincoln's funeral cortege, met again after the funeral was over to establish a permanent organization of officers and former officers patterned after the Society of Cincinnati established after the Revolutionary War. The name they chose, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, first appeared in a notice calling a meeting on May 31, 1865 at Independence Hall.”

I became more educated to the actions and events surrounding Lincoln's funeral while watching his story on television, and encourage all our members to see it at some point. Sadly, there was no mention of any involvement by MOLLUS. The funeral train from Washington, D. C. to

Springfield, Illinois was estimated to be seen by 20% of the nation, stopping in several cities for public viewings, but with strict orders that no photographs of the open casket would be allowed.

That order was followed until Monday, April 24, 1865 in the rotunda of New York's City Hall, while the president's body was prepared for public viewing. It was there that New York photographer, **Jeremiah Gurney, Jr.**, took several photographs of Lincoln. A furious Secretary of War, **Edwin Stanton**, heard about the photographs the following day and ordered that all the plates, prints and engravings be destroyed. However, one print was sent to Stanton himself which he kept hidden in his papers for fear of rebuke by **Mary Lincoln**. Stanton's son Lewis, discovered the photograph in 1887 and sent it to **John Nicolay**. Lewis believed that Nicolay and **John Hay**, Lincoln's former secretaries, would use it in their ten-volume life of Lincoln, but they did not. It then remained out of the public eye until July 20, 1952, when **Ronald Rietveld**, a fourteen-year old boy, found it among John Nicolay-John Hay's papers at the Illinois State Historical Library.

This one remaining photograph clearly shows that two officers stood guard at Lincoln's body. It is not known for certain who these officers were, but it is clear that the MOLLUS pledge was true and that we will continue to guard his memory for generations to come.



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Illinois State Historical Library photograph discovered by Ronald Rietveld

The Emancipation Memorial and MOLLUS

By Douglas Niermeyer, Past Commander-in-Chief

One of many famous monuments honoring President Lincoln is the Emancipation Memorial at Lincoln Park in Washington, D.C. Its powerful image has been used on postage stamps and replicas of the statue are also found in other states. Many members may not know that MOLLUS has ties to the statue.

Soon after President's Lincoln's assassination, **Charlotte Scott**, an emancipated slave, brought five dollars to her former master, Mr. **William P. Rucker**, then a Union refugee in Marietta, Ohio. It was her first earnings as a free woman and she begged that it might be used "to make a monument to ... Lincoln, the best friend the colored people ever had." Mr. Rucker placed the funds in the hands of General **Thomas Church Haskell Smith**, who forwarded it to Mr. **James Erwin Yeatman**, President of the Western Sanitary



Emancipation memorial at Lincoln Park, Washington D.C.

Commission of St. Louis, along with the suggestion that the monument be erected by the colored people of the United States.

A circular letter was published by all freed men to send contributions for this purpose to the Commission in St. Louis. Donations were received from many colored soldiers in response, including liberal sums from those under the command of General **John W. Davidson**. Through Scott's inspiration, \$18,000 was eventually donated towards the building of the monument raised entirely

from emancipated African Americans.

Thomas Ball of Charlestown, Massachusetts, sculpted the statue as a life-size depiction of Lincoln. The slave, who is meant to be breaking his own chains, is based on a picture of **Archer Alexander**, the last slave to be captured under the Fugitive Slave Law. Archer was a slave in Missouri during the Civil War, which was under martial law. During the reign of terror in that state in 1863, he learned that the pro-slavery party had cut the timbers of a certain bridge so that it should break down under a train carrying a detachment of national troops about to pass over it. He conveyed the information to a well-known union man, at the risk of his life, and the detachment was saved.

Archer Alexander was suspected as the informant and arrested by a pro-slavery committee. He made his escape to St. Louis and secured employment under a provost marshal's certificate. He was in constant danger from kidnappers until the emancipation proclamation assured his permanent freedom.

Although almost wholly illiterate, Alexander had a shrewd intelligence and was a skilled and efficient workman and during the time he worked as a servant for **William Greenleaf Eliot**. William was a member of the Western Sanitary Commission of St. Louis and grandfather of poet **Thomas Stearns Eliot**.

Two days before the expiration of his certificate, Archer was discovered and arrested by slave catchers. While being held waiting to be returned to his former owner, William arranged Archer's purchase and gave him his freedom. The Emancipation Proclamation would be issued later that year.

William Eliot authored *The Story of Archer Alexander from Slavery to Freedom*, March 30,

1863 (ca 1885), which can be accessed for free by going to Google Books at <http://books.google.com/> and searching on Archer Alexander. A stone commemorating his capture as a fugitive slave has been raised on the spot where he was taken when making his escape from slavery. Right, Archer Alexander.



The Oak Hill Cemetery Story

By Bruce Butgereit, Commander of the Michigan Commandery

This is a story of how efforts at various times through the years have never quite been able to retrieve the lost history of all the wartime burials in this Soldiers' Burying Ground, and still do not achieve that goal. The first lists of the men buried here were published in 1868 by the federal government. This incomplete list was called the Roll of Honor. Of the sixty-one men listed three years after the Civil War as buried in this section, there were only 35 with names and 26 no longer known.

Eventually, the actual locations of many of the men from the original 1868 list were also lost to history, because the wooden markers were rotted, broken or misplaced. In addition, a fire destroyed a large portion of the early cemetery records and much of them will never be recovered.

Interestingly, there were sixty-six soldiers buried here at the time (not 61). The five missing men from the list include the first soldier buried here, **Joseph C. Proper** of the 3rd Michigan Infantry, Co. K and four men from the 8th Michigan. Their names are recorded in the partial cemetery records that had been saved after the fire.

Despite these hurdles, the Civil War veterans who belonged to the A. B. Watson Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), Post No. 395 (est. 1888) were the first to take on this task of identifying and caring for the graves. By this time (late 1880's and early 1890's), the effort to give permanent identification and recognition to the wartime dead buried in this section was further hindered by the ravages of time, fading memory and lack of technological tools such as are available today.

These Civil War veterans were committed to assuring that future generations would not forget who these soldiers were or what they did. They secured as many government military headstones for those original names as they could and the rest received a headstone simply marked "U.S. SOLDIER". Unfortunately the loss of identity increased from 26 to 44.

Why would these names disappear?

The major reason for the loss of identity was simple neglect and a lack of local concern for these strangers who came to

Grand Rapids and died alone far from home. This caused the identities of forty-four soldiers to be interred in Oak Hill cemetery, to be neglected into namelessness.

Some research had been done for decades to identify those buried here. A member of the Sons of Veterans (early name of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War), **Francis E. Hall**, did extensive research in the 1920's and 1930's to identify the location of the veterans graves buried in every cemetery in Kent County. He died in 1939, but his research, his records and files are now housed in the History Collections at the Grand Rapids Public Library.

The most recent efforts were revived in the early 1990's with **Steve Soper**, a former Grand Rapids resident, and **Manuel "Mannie" Gentile**. Steve spent many years researching the history of the 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry (the first regiment from the west side of the State (Grand Rapids)). He wrote a 900-plus page book on that regiment. Mannie, formerly the educational coordinator for the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, resides currently in Maryland where he is a Park Ranger at the Antietam National Battlefield. Previously, he and Steve researched the unknown soldiers at Oak Hill and have compiled an unpublished manuscript with their scholarly conclusions. Their research has identified several of the men as "most likely".

A local veteran of the United States Air Force, **Eloise Haven**, was looking for something on another project in 2006 when



Major **Amasa B. Watson** (b. 1826; d. 1888).

The Missive, MOLLUS Michigan Commandery Newsletter



Bruce Butgereit

New urn, Amasa B. Watson memorial, Oak Hill Cemetery funded by Michigan Commandery, Wenda Fore and Bruce & Marcia Butgereit.

she noticed that many of the 100-year-old headstones placed by the G.A.R. were deteriorating. She collaborated with **Trudie Anderson**, the City's Cemetery Director, and enlisted the research efforts of **Marcia Butgereit** (DOLLUS and National President of Woman's Relief Corps) to replace nine illegible headstones and added fourteen new headstones. While this does not complete all the *unknown* Civil War soldiers buried here, it does get us one step closer to a more accurate preservation of a portion of our history.

The A. B. Watson GAR Post was named after Major **Amasa B. Watson** (b. 1826; d. 1888). He was a major on August 19, 1861 with the 8th Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Infantry. Major Watson was wounded in action at Port Royal, South Carolina on January 1, 1862.

The 8th Michigan Infantry recruited men in August and September of 1861. The regiment was on ships by October, bound for South Carolina where they joined the campaign to seize Confederate installations on the Atlantic coast.

When Port Royal, South Carolina fell in November, the men of the 8th Michigan Infantry were no longer raw recruits. During a skirmish on New Year's Day (1862) with the rebels at the Coosaw River on the mainland of South Carolina, Major Watson was shot through the thigh. He returned to service and continued on with the regiment as it made an attempt to capture Secessionville, South Carolina. Major Watson's horse was shot out from under him during this battle. His regiment was sent north in July to join the Army of the Potomac in Virginia. Major Watson was discharged for disability on September 24, 1862 and returned home.

A grand mausoleum was built at the Oak Hill Cemetery for Major Watson at the time

of his death in 1888. The cost to build this Egyptian style structure was estimated at around \$500,000 and may be the most costly of its kind in this cemetery. Major Watson was a member of the Michigan Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS). The Commandery offered condolences to the family at the time of his death, which included the following Resolutions:

The Membership of our Commandery has again been broken, another honored name transferred from the army of the living, to the ever lengthening role of those already gone to join the invisible post beyond. In obedience to a Commander greater than any who have led us from victory to victory, one of our esteemed Companions, Major A. B. Watson, has been mustered into that "greater army" which, for multitude, no man can number.

Peacefully he sleeps beneath "the low-green tents whose curtains never swing out", the sentinels of heaven standing body guard around him until the sound of reveille.

Expressive of our own sorrow and alike appreciative of the sterling qualities of our friend, we offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in this sudden bereavement we as Companions record our testimony as to his unqualified excellence of character, whose sympathy of heart and strength of purpose, made him the friend of all. For these he was revered by a community, and mourned by us, his associates.

Resolved, That not alone by us is this

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COMMANDERY NEWS

Michigan Commandery

Bruce B. Butgereit, Commander

The Michigan Commandery conducted a ceremony on February 12 to honor the bicentennial of President Abraham Lincoln's birth. This program mirrored the one held in Grand Rapids a hundred years earlier, except that this one was held outdoors at the bronze bust of Lincoln (sculpted by A. Weinman in 1913) at Lincoln Place. Nearly a hundred guests attended this ceremony, in spite of wind chill temperatures hovering at about 20°.

The Grand Rapids Schubert Male Chorus (founded in 1883), which was present at the 7th annual Lincoln Club banquet in 1909, performed once again at this event. They delivered a rousing rendition of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Grand Rapids Mayor **George K. Heartwell** delivered a proclamation as did his predecessor a hundred years ago. The Grand Rapids-area schools were represented by the Central High School Junior ROTC color guard unit. The image on the cover of the printed program was that



Grand Rapids Mayor George K. Heartwell delivering a proclamation honoring the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth

of President Lincoln reading to his son Tad, which had appeared in the 1909 program.

The Michigan Commandery sponsored a poster and essay contest for all 5th, 8th, and 9th grade students in the Grand Rapids Public Schools, to better educate them on our 16th president. Commander Butgereit and his wife Marcia (DOLLUS) created lesson plans to fit

the curriculum for both the state and federal requirements. The suggested reading and classroom activities centered on Abraham Lincoln's life. Over eighty-five teachers signed on to have their students participate.

The fifth-grade students were able to draw or create a poster describing what they have learned about President Lincoln. Eighth-grade students could create a poster or submit an essay on the subject of: *Lincoln's Leadership Then and Now - What President Lincoln's Life and Leadership Means to Me*. The subject of the ninth-grade essay was *Lincoln's Leadership Then and Now - How President Lincoln's Life and Leadership Inspire Me Today*.

The Commandery, saw the need to expand the educational opportunity to more students. It teamed up with the State of Michigan Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Committee to offer the essay contest to all schools in Michigan. Students in grades 5-12 were able to submit an essay on the same subject as that for the 9th grade. The three winners from each level will receive a signed certificate by Governor **Jennifer Granholm**, a new

Commandery will assist in every way possible.

On April 21, 2009, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison attended the annual Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) 2009 Spring Award Ceremony at Michigan State University where he presented Army Cadet Neil Ferguson the MOLLUS ROTC award. Cadet Ferguson is a senior majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Keith has been presenting this award at Michigan State University for the



Rose Baxter

Army Cadet Neil Ferguson accepts MOLLUS ROTC award from Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison.

last 10 years on behalf of the MOLLUS.

Request for assistance

I need a quality color image of the MOLLUS crest for my work in updating the MOLLUS informational brochure. It is possible to digitally scan the image if it is on any printed material. I am also seeking any information that any Companion or Commandery may have in connection with the Lincoln Highway. The Commandery meeting minutes of 1913-1928 may offer the greatest opportunity for such information. Please contact: Bruce B. Butgereit, Commander Michigan Commandery 1691 Summerfield St. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508-6499 616-827-3369 or civil-war@comcast.net

Ohio Commandery

By Gordon R. Bury, Past Commander-in-Chief

The Ohio Commandery met at Fort Knox for its Spring Meeting, in

\$5 bill and a framed image of Lincoln or a collectible figurine at special ceremonies in May. Winning essays will be posted on the Michigan Commandery webpage in late May.

As a result of the Lincoln Bicentennial event in Grand Rapids, a local Boy Scout has volunteered to earn his Eagle badge by restoring the bust of Lincoln. The

preparation for the 2009 Congress. Plans continue to unfold for the fall Congress in the Land of Lincoln (see companion article). The Ohio Commandery welcomed Commander-in-Chief **Karl Schaeffer** and his wife **Rosemary**, National President of DOLLUS. They had the opportunity to review the hotel accommodations, meeting and dining rooms, along with the Patton Museum and the overall Military Reservation of Fort Knox. We hope to see a very large turn out of both MOLLUS and DOLLUS for this year's Congress in honor of the 200th Birthday of our 16th President Abraham Lincoln.

The Ohio slate of officers for the next two years was presented to the Commandery by the nominating committee with Ohio Senior-Vice Commander **Keith Ashley** moving up to Commander. The elections take place at the Ohio Fall Meeting in Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, September 12.

Ohio Recorder **Rick Bury** reported that there are currently four applications for membership being processed. Among them is the application of **Eduardo Jose Sevilla-Somoza**, the son of former Companion, His Excellency, Dr. **Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa**, former Ambassador from Nicaragua to the United States for 36 years. He served under eight American Presidents and eleven Secretaries of State, Dean of the Washington Diplomatic Corps for 21 years, and Companion-of-Honor of the Commandery-in-Chief of MOLLUS for 20 years. His son Eduardo follows in his father's footsteps as a Career Diplomat and now as a Companion of the Loyal Legion.

Pennsylvania Commandery

By Tee Adams, Treasurer/Newsletter Editor

The Pennsylvania Commandery has had a busy 2009 so far. We started the year with placing a wreath at a gravesite on an especially frosty New Year's day in Laurel Hill cemetery. We hosted a Lincoln's birthday party at Merion Golf Club, with a delicious dinner and cake with candles to celebrate the occasion. Our speaker was the Curator of the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia. We placed another wreath at Independence Hall as part of Philadelphia's Lincoln's Birthday Event.

Our treasurer, **Tee Adams**, organized the ROTC awards for Pennsylvania once again. We are in the process of having members present these awards at four colleges.

As our current **Commander Van Gulick's** term comes to an end, we will hold an election of officers at the annual meeting. We expect to welcome several new members and bring one previous member back into the fold on this occasion.

Another wreath will be placed at a gravesite on Memorial Day during an area event. If all goes well, we will host our third summer BBQ at one of Merion Golf's Sunday affairs. Details of our events are posted on the National website in our Pennsylvania Commandery newsletter.

Virginia Commandery

By Jeffrey Burden, Junior Commander-in-Chief

The Virginia Commandery recognized four outstanding Army ROTC cadets this Spring at schools throughout Virginia, with awards of the ROTC Medal of Merit. Recorder-in-Chief **Jack Kane** presented awards on April 15 to **Alexander Muth** of the College of William and Mary, and **James Holliday** of Christopher Newport University. Both students are members of the Revolutionary Guards Battalion. Cadets **Colton Raposa** of the University of Richmond (UR) and **Morgan Perry** of Virginia Commonwealth University, members of the *Spider Battalion* based at UR, received their awards on April 21 from Jeffrey Burden, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. This is the ninth year the Commandery has honored *Spider Battalion* cadets by participating in the event there.



l. to r. Cadets Colton Raposa and Morgan Perry of the Spider Battalion.



Commander-in-Chief's Message from page 2

presented our national colors and the U.S. Army Chorus sang the National Anthem. The Reverend **Barry Black**, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, gave the invocation, Remarks and readings were given by:

The Hon. **Barack Obama**, The President of the United States
 The Hon. **Richard Durbin**, U.S. Senate, Illinois and Co-chair, ALBC
 The Hon. **Jim Bunning**, U.S. Senate, Kentucky
Harold Holzer, ALBC co-chairman
 The Hon. **Jesse Jackson, Jr.**
 The Hon. **Donald Manzullo**, U.S. Representatives, Illinois
Richard Norton Smith, former executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Doris Kearns Goodwin, presidential historian and author

The U.S. Army Chorus then sang the Battle Hymn of the Republic. Several other congressional dignitaries made their remarks, including The Hon. **John Boehner**, Republican Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, The Hon. **Mitch McConnell**, Republican Leader of the U.S. Senate, The Hon. **Harry Reid**, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate and The Hon. **Nancy Pelosi**, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives/
 The Reverend **Daniel P. Coughlin**, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, gave the benediction. This was truly a great event, not to be missed.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Springfield, Illinois in April for the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony and also at Fort Knox, Kentucky in October for the 124th Annual Congress that will be hosted by the Ohio Commandery.

Karl F. Schaeffer
 Commander-in-Chief

Those who deny
 freedom to
 others, deserve it not
 for themselves.

Abraham Lincoln

2009 Congress, a Celebration of Lincoln's 200th Birthday

By Gordon R. Bury, Past Comannder-in-Chief

The Ohio Commandery continues to develop a tremendous 200th Birthday theme for the 2009 Congress based on the 1809 birthday of **Abraham Lincoln**. The Congress will be held October 9, 10, and 11, 2009 on post at the Fort Knox U.S. Military Reservation and hotel accommodations will be in the town of Radcliff, Kentucky (www.radcliff-tourism.org). Radcliff is located South of Louisville.

Registration begins at noon at the Ohio Host Committee open house. The activities will start at 2:30 PM on Friday, October 9th with a bus tour to the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Site (www.lincolnbirthplace.com). The neo-classic memorial houses a 19th century log cabin



Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site. Photo courtesy www.lincolnbirthplace.com.

that represents Lincoln's birthplace at Hoganville, Kentucky. Following the tour a short reception with refreshments including a birthday cake will be had at the birthplace.

Upon return to Radcliff there will be a full cash bar reception that evening at the Leader's Club (formerly know as the Officer's Club) at Fort Knox followed by a full dinner where Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commissioner <http://www.lincolnbicentennial.gov/about-the-commission/default.aspx> and Kentucky ALBC Chairman Judge **Tom Turner** (<http://www.kylincoln.org/>) will be present to inform the Congress on Lincoln and Kentucky. An after dinner gathering at the Ohio Commandery Host Suite will give all further time to socialize and enjoy renewed fellowship.

Continental Breakfast will be served at the hotel followed by the start of the MOLLUS and DOLLUS meetings at the Fort Knox Leader's Club with coffee and

tea for our enjoyment. A noon luncheon at the Leader's Club will be followed by a tour starting with several historic films about Fort Knox and the Patton Museum. A full tour of the Patton Museum will follow. You have the opportunity to preview the Patton

Dames, and their family members attending this year's Congress in Kentucky as a tribute to the 200th Birthday of our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln.



General George Patton Museum located in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Photo courtesy of www.generalpatton.org

Museum web site at www.generalpatton.org.

Saturday evening continues with a Reception and Cash Bar at the Leader's Club followed by the Formal Black Tie or Military Uniform with Military Decorations Banquet. It is requested that those who have Civil War era attire/uniforms, please wear them as a tribute to President Lincoln and his 200th Birthday. Anyone having a birthday during the days of the Congress, are ask to please make the information known to the Ohio Commandery. After dinner the Congress will close with a social gathering and Open House at the Ohio Commandery Host Committee Suite. Sunday is an open day for those that wish to do their own touring.

A few notables about this years' Congress is that there will be a low cost menu pricing for children attending. Also anyone having any special dietary requirements are asked to make such a request known on their registration form. Full registration forms will is included in this issue of the Journal. The cost of the hotel rooms are the same for 1 to 4 occupants and will be \$75.05 per night, while the total registration costs for Companion and Dames attending all functions, will be \$185.00.

The Ohio Commandery hopes to see a very large number of Companions,

Oak Hill Cemetery from page 7

affliction realized, but a deeper grief has fallen upon those bound by fonder ties than ours of Companionship, and to that sorrowing family we extend our heartfelt sympathies.

Resolved, That this Commandery offer to the family their sincere condolences, and that a copy of this report be forwarded to them.

By command of

*Bvt. Brig. General Henry B. Clitz, U. S. A.,
Commander*

*George W. Chandler, Bvt. Major U. S.
Volunteers, Recorder*

Part of the Michigan Commandery ceremony included the rededication of a cast iron memorial urn at the Oak Hill Cemetery. First mentioned by the Watson GAR Post records, this memorial urn was dedicated in 1898 and over time, became weathered and abused by time and elements which had caused portions to deteriorate and break off. Through the financial contributions of the Michigan Commandery (\$300), Gen. John A. Logan Camp 1, SUVCW (\$500), **Wenda Fore**, descendant of Watson Post member **Peter Simmons** (\$100), and **Bruce and Marcia Butgereit** (\$250) we were able to obtain a new urn.

124st National Congress RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE INDICATE THE FUNCTIONS YOU PLAN TO ATTEND LISTED BELOW AND SEND THE RESERVATION FORM AND CHECKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

**Gordon R. Bury, Recorder/Treasurer, Ohio Commandery, MOLLUS
10095 Wadsworth Road, Marshallville, Ohio 44645**

Registration Fee.....\$50.00 per person \$ _____
(Registration Fee is required for all Companions, Dames, and Guests, children excluded)

FRIDAY 09 October 2009

- 12:00 Registration opens in Ohio Commandery Host Committee Room
- 3:00 Tour of the Abraham Lincoln Birth Place
- 5:30 Reception with MOLLUS/DOLLUS at Lincoln Birth Place and
- 8:00 Banquet at Fort Knox Leaders Club with keynote speaker.....\$50.00 per person \$ _____
- 10:30 Ohio Host Commandery OPEN HOUSE at Hotel Hospitality Board Room

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2009

- Continental Breakfast at HOTEL...NO Charge
- 8:00 AmMeeting for MOLLUS & DOLLUS....Leader’s Club at Fort Knox Coffee/Tea and fruit provided
- Luncheon Leader’s Club at Fort Knox Military Participants.....\$25.00 per person \$ _____
- Special Tour will be given of the PATTON MUSEUM
- Reception with cash bar, (7:00 PM) and Banquet (8:00 PM)
at the Leader’s Club at Fort Knox, Black Tie or Uniforms with Decorations.....\$60.00 per person \$ _____
- 10:30 Ohio Host Commandery OPEN HOUSE at Hotel Hospitality Board Room

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 2009

Continental Breakfast at HOTEL...No Charge **TOTAL ENCLOSED.....\$ _____**

Name: _____ Phone _____ Commandery _____

Additional Names in your party: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Special Needs: _____

Children’s reduced cost menus available, Contact Host Committee for selections

HEADQUARTERS WILL BE THE

Holiday Inn Express

200 Endeavor Way, Radcliff, KY 40160, (270) 352-4329 Phone, fax (270) 352-4400

**SIMPLY MENTION “MOLLUS” WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATIONS,
A BLOCK OF ROOMS HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THIS SPECIAL CONGRESS,**

**all rooms are the same group pricing of
\$75.05 + tax which will come out to \$82.73 a night.**

Military Order of the Loyal Legion
 Keith Harrison
 4209 Santa Clara Drive
 Holt, MI 48842

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 U.S. Postage
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

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

NOTICE
 The Summer Issue of
The Loyal Legion
Journal
 will be published in
 August 2009

EDITORIAL DEADLINE IS
July 15, 2009

Please email all material to:
Marston Watson
mwatson@royalancestry.org
 48 Southwind Circle
 Richmond CA 94804-7404

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
Large Emblem Medal (<i>Hereditary Membership</i>)*	\$160.00	_____	_____
Miniature Emblem Medal (<i>Hereditary Membership</i>)*	\$85.00	_____	_____
Large Emblem Medal (<i>Associate Membership</i>)*	\$160.00	_____	_____
Miniature Emblem Medal (<i>Associate Membership</i>)*	\$85.00	_____	_____
Emblem Medals 14-16K Gold (<i>3-4 month delivery time</i>)	On Request	_____	_____
Officer Neck Ribbon	\$20.00	_____	_____
Automobile or Plaque Emblem	\$10.00	_____	_____
Member Rosette (Provided to New Members)	\$7.50	_____	_____
Associate Rosette (Provided to New Members)	\$7.50	_____	_____
Honorary Rosette (Provided to New Members)	\$7.50	_____	_____
Necktie (All Silk)	\$34.00	_____	_____
Bow Tie (All Silk)	\$34.00	_____	_____
Blazer Patch	\$15.00	_____	_____
MOLLUS WindowDecal (Post. Pd; no mailing charge)	\$5.00	_____	_____
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Official MOLLUS Scarf (9 1/2" x 72")	\$45.00	Out of Stock	_____
Set of 9 MOLLUS Blazer Buttons	\$65.00	_____	_____
ROTC Medal with Ribbon Bar and Certificate	\$35.00	_____	_____
Book: <i>Union Blue</i> by PCinC Robert G. Carroon	\$25.00	_____	_____
MOLLUS Note Cards (Pack of 25)	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
MOLLUS Post Cards (Pack of 10)	\$ 1.00	_____	_____
MOLLUS Information Cards (No Set Quantity)	No Charge	_____	Pay Shipping
Booklet: <i>Prominent MOLLUS Companions</i>	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
	SHIPPING		\$4.50
	TOTAL		_____

Send orders and payment to: Adam P. Flint,
 23 Grosstown Road
 Pottstown, PA 19464

Please make checks payable to MOLLUS
 Commandery-in-Chief

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Zip _____

*Vermeil (Gold on Sterling Silver)

Questions on supplies and orders should be sent to Adam P. Flint at Adampflint@aol.com