

Commander-in-Chief's Message



Veterans' Day 2021 was the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the WWI Tomb of the Unknowns and Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. It is a special place for all Americans; a place where we recall the valor of the American Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Airman, Guardian and Coast Guardsmen. It is a living tribute and place to celebrate America.

You may not know that there are two other tombs of the unknowns at Arlington, one dedicated to the unknowns of the War of 1812, and one to the unknowns of the War of the Rebellion. And there is another Memorial Amphitheater there dedicated to the Union soldiers and sailors. In the past great national celebrations were held at the Civil War tomb and amphitheater, but no more. The longer the distance from the time of the War of the Rebellion, the fewer are the remembrances of the deeds of those brave men and women who preserved the Union.

Today it is our duty, as Companions and Dames of the Loyal Legion to keep green the memories of the Union veterans of the War of the Rebellion, and that of their President Abraham Lincoln. We do this through Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans' Day Ceremonies. We do this through hosting cemetery walks. We do this through public lectures and programs hosted by our State Commanderies. We do this through local programs with our Historical Societies and Preservation Societies. And we do this through our State Commandery and Commandery-in-Chief gatherings and Congresses.

However, we should honor these heroes whole life, not just the short years of the Rebellion. During the crucible of war our officer ancestors learned to lead men through the most terrible of times. Their leadership skills served them well after the war. They became leaders in their civilian communities. Leaders of commerce. Leaders of industry and the railroads. Leaders in Law. Leaders in Medicine. Members of town councils, mayors, state representatives. And many of our Companion forefathers rose to lead the Federal Government in Congress, Executive Departments and even as Presidents of the US.

We should be proud of the deeds of our ancestors and include their lifetime efforts into our remembrances.

With that goal in mind, in April 2022 we will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of General Ulysses S. Grant – a perfect example of a man whose leadership was forged in wartime, and honed during the following peace. At this time I know of two ceremonies at which the Loyal Legion will be participating. One at Grant's boyhood home at Point Pleasant, Ohio. The other at Grant's Tomb in New York City. I hope that you will be able to participate in these events, and in the two annual Lincoln ceremonies in Washington DC and Springfield IL.

In the few weeks since being installed as the 64th MOLLUS C-in-C, I have been working through the National Committees, Appointed Officers, and planning regular communications with the State Commanderies, the Board of Officers, and with like minded organizations. Starting in January I will begin holding quarterly Zoom meetings with the State Commanders and quarterly Zoom meetings with the Executive Committee. There will also be semi-annual Zoom meetings with the entire Board of Officers of the Commandery-in-Chief. It is my hope that these meetings will help us share information, ideas, and coordinate our efforts to keep green the memories of those great men and women who founded our Order.

In closing, I want to thank Dr. Joseph Coleman for his dedicated service to the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. He has left enormous shoes to fill, and I hope to be up to the task.



Loyal Legion Memorial Fund 2021 Appeal



Through the passage of time and the upheavals all around us, the work of the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund goes on — supporting worthy historical organizations, helping underwrite commemorative events, and publishing this Journal that keeps you in touch with our Order and provides insights into the Civil War. The Fund depends greatly on the generous support of Companions to continue its work.

We can increase the work of the Fund by increasing the relatively low number of our Companions — less than five percent of the membership in recent years — who make an annual gift. To that end, outgoing Commander-in-Chief Joseph Coleman has issued the “\$18.65 Challenge” - asking every Companion to make a gift in at least that amount.

The enclosed envelope helps enable your tax-deductible gift again this year. Or, you can give securely online through the PayPal link on our website home page. In whatever amount you chose to participate, please accept the “Challenge” — and our thanks for your support.

The Trustees of the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund *
* * *

Welcome New Members

HEREDITARY COMPANIONS

- Kelly Hopkins, 22828, OH
- CAPT Andrew Deniston, Co. C 175th OVI
- Randal Aubrey Burd Jr., 22829, IN
- 1LT James McMillian Co. E, 175 th OVI
- Alan Stewart Hall, 22830, IN
- John Jordan Quindlen, 22831, PA
- CAPT James P. Quindelen, Co. E, 81st PA Vol. Inf.
- Andrew Crawford Colket, 22832, PA
- 1LT Amos Kribbs, Co. G, 155th PA Vol. Inf.

- David Frederick Burkett, 22833
- 1LT Samuel Steele Sample, Co. G, 5th Iowa Vol. Inf.
- Daniel Chapman Goddard Zon, 22834, DC
- CAPT Henry P. Goddard, Co. B, 14th CT. Vol. Inf.

ASSOCIATE COMPANIONS

- Richard Francis Pagano, A355, PA
- Andrew Robbins Hart, A356, PA
- Kevin Robert Moran, A357, PA



The Pennsylvania Commandery is selling MOLLUS grave markers.
The marker also includes a mounting rod.

Cost is \$55.00 Plus Shipping

To Order Contact: David Forbes at:
forbze16@gmail.com



LOYAL LEGION
HISTORICAL JOURNAL

VOL. 78, NO. 4

Commander-in-Chief

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Junior Commander-in-Chief

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Council-in-Chief (Vacant)

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 on April 15, 1865. Pertinent materials will be welcomed by members and the public. Articles and news should be submitted to Paul Davis at pdmarcomm@aol.com. Content must be formatted in Microsoft Word and submitted electronically. High resolution photographs and art work (300 DPI JPEG or TIFF files) at the finished size to be published should be submitted and accompanied by a description and/or caption.

Submission Deadlines:

Submission deadlines are NO LATER THAN February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.

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INSIDE

- 1 Commander-in-Chief's Message
- 2 Loyal Legion Memorial Fund 2021 Appeal
- 2 Welcome New Members
- 4 Congress 2021
- 6 The Lost Gold of Dent's Run
- 8 Commandery Events and Activities
- 10 2022 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday Events
- 12 MOLLUS Order Form/Mailing Info

4



6



8



CONGRESS 2021



PC-I-C Joe Coleman Transferring Commander's Star to C-I-C Rob Pollock



Will Forbes recipient of the Meritorious Service Award



Paul Davis recipient of the Meritorious Service Award



Newly Elected Commander-in-Chief Rob Pollock



DOLLUS attendees (L To R) Jan Davis, JVC; Ann Schaeffer, President; Monie Upham, PP; Florence Stanley, PP; and Sheri O'Connell



Paul Lader receives the Lincoln Membership Medal Of Honor Award for Pennsylvania Commandery



Investiture of MOLLUS Officers



Passed Commander Coleman awarded the Rutherford B. Hayes Cup



Gary Grove recipient of the Meritorious Service Award



Anthony Waskie recipient of the Meritorious Service Award



C-in-C Pollock placing a wreath at the MOLLUS Pennsylvania Commandery Monument



Tour of the Laurel Hill Cemetery Hosted by Anthony Waskie

The Lost Gold of Dent's Run

PA Thomas King Kistler, PA Commandery Insignia #22772

The following is intended to be as accurate, and as devoid of speculation, as possible. None of the facts mentioned herein have been established as accurate in any Court of the United States. The majority of the information quoted here was drawn from a sworn Affidavit, in support of a Search Warrant application, by FBI Special Agent Jacob B. Archer, on March 9, 2018, and unsealed by Federal Court Order dated June 24, 2021.

For a century and a half, local lore and rumors in north-central Pennsylvania told of lost or buried gold from the Civil War in the mountains. Each community had its own theory of the location (i.e. buried in a tomb with a General in a remote spot, or in a graveyard) of the treasure, but the area is very rugged, has few roads, and an infinite number of spots where gold could be secreted. If it ever was there, the gold remained hidden.

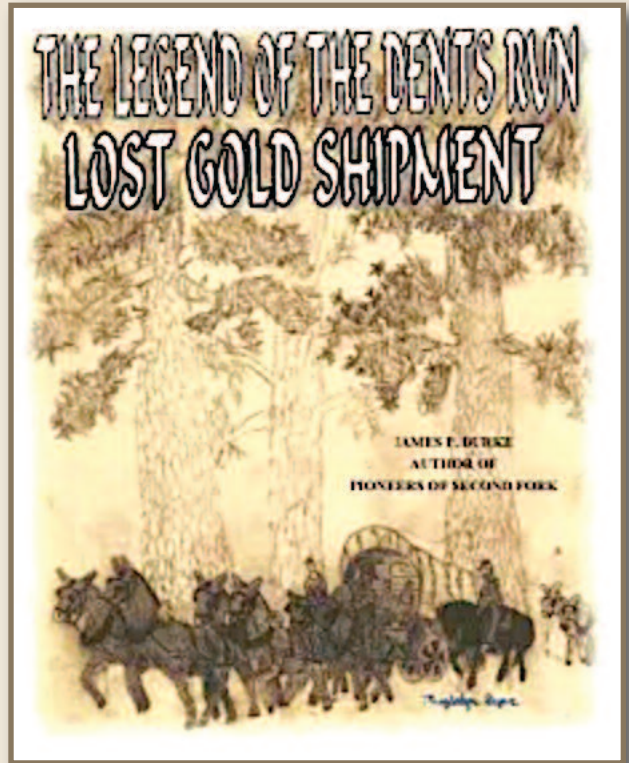
As dedicated treasure hunters began to gather information and home in on a possible location, small articles appeared in local papers, and kept the rumors and speculation alive. An account published in a 1961 article "Lost Gold Ingot Treasure", recovered from the Military History Institute, in Carlisle, PA, provided many clues and details of what may have happened to lead to the long-standing rumors.

As the Civil War dragged on into its third year, the United States government grew needy for the gold being mined and processed in San Francisco to pay the rising costs of the war. Shipment of gold is costly and difficult due to its great weight. Further, recent raids by Confederate guerrilla forces under John Morgan and others (The Copperheads), had interrupted the normal supply chain. As such, the US determined that the much-sought gold be shipped overland, by wagon, under very secret orders.

At the same time, a secret organization known as the Knights of the Golden Circle (KGC) who "sympathized with Confederate and secessionist causes" was formed with the avowed purpose of stealing assets from the USA, and interrupting the orderly flow of goods. The Copperheads made shipping along the Ohio River too risky, and the KGC was a constant

threat to discover any alternative plans, and to interrupt them to pilfer any shipment.

A shipment of San Francisco Mint gold made its way to Pittsburgh early in 1863, and "twenty six black painted ingots or bars of partly refined gold, each waying (sic) 600 oz. Troy" were loaded onto three wagons with secret, hidden floor compartments, for the overland trip through the wilds of remote northern PA, so as to avoid the risks of interference from the Confederates and the KGC. The wagons were commanded by a Union officer believed to be named Conners (maybe Arthur Conner of Clearfield, PA), and he was assisted by soldiers with the claimed names of Mike



O'Rourke ("a brawler" and "product of the river port towns") and Lt. Castleton. The wagon train headed north along the Allegheny River, then east along the Clarion River, and made its way to Ridgway (Elk County) PA. There the group rested a few days, then headed farther east along current Route 120, to St. Marys, PA. From there the group departed in search of the headwaters of the Sinnemahoning Creek...the party would never be seen again.

The group became lost "...made a complete circle..." and "went toward the rising sun" and blazed trees along a ridgeline with their knives.

These accounts would later be suspected to have been contrived descriptions of actual events, but the use of "circle" and "rising sun" are suspected to be part of a secret code to alert KGC members as to the location of the stashed gold. KGC frequently left hints or "waybills" to lead cohorts to their hidden treasure. This included carvings on trees and rocks, and the use of, or reference to, symbols such as a circle, a rising sun, and a turtle.

What is known is that Connors was separated from the gold, and Castleton and O'Rourke were never seen again. (Interestingly, suspicion that Castleton and O'Rourke were not their real names is further supported by the facts that no such members of the US military can be traced, and "Castle" and "Rook" were organizational units within the KGC) And the gold, maybe more than a ton of it, was nowhere to be found.

In 2010 a group of amateur treasure seekers sought permission from the Commonwealth of PA to explore for the gold ingots on Commonwealth lands, this indicates that the search seemed to be gaining credibility and attention. In October, 2015, when PA sought to preempt the treasure hunters, and find the gold on its own, false directions and incomplete information from the treasure hunters frustrated state officials. If gold was there, it was still hidden.

Enter the FBI.



After much investigation and research the FBI obtained a Federal Search Warrant, (signed by Magistrate Judge Richard A. Lloret of the Eastern District of PA). Agents entered in March of 2018, and worked in secret with men and equipment for many hours. The location of their search is believed to be a man-made "cave" located near Dent's Run, in rural north-central PA. A cave with a turtle inscribed on a rock nearby. The FBI has not disclosed what, if anything, was unearthed at the site. If the gold was there, it may no longer be lost.

As news of what, if anything, was unearthed in the hills of north-central PA becomes known, we will endeavor to keep all Companions informed. ✨

Commandery Events and Activities



*Placing wreath at tomb of 7th Marine Corps Commandant
Jacob Zeilin*



*Commander-in-Chief Robert Pollock places wreath at
Woolson Monument during 2021 Gettysburg Remembrance
Services*

Report of the PA Commandery, ROTC Committee 2021

Despite the pandemic induced remoteness, the PA Commandery's ROTC Committee awarded the MOLLUS Medal of Merit and certificate, an engraved challenge coin, and a copy of Union Blue to the following 9 Cadets/programs:

Drexel University	Task Force Dragon	Cadet Nathaniel Greene
Lehigh University	Lehigh Valley Steel Battalion	Cadet Seth Rawlins
Penn State Air Force ROTC	AFROTC - Detachment 720	Cadet Shaun Stafford
Penn State Army ROTC	Nittany Lion Battalion	Cadet Justin Hurlburt
Penn State Navy ROTC	Penn State Naval ROTC	Midshipmen Joseph Donofrio
St. Joseph's University	AFROTC - Detachment 750	Cadet Alexis C. Carter-Steward
Shippensburg University	Raider Battalion	Cadet Matthew Ulsh
Temple University	Red Diamond Battalion	Cadet Elayna M. Curtin
Valley Forge Military College	Continental Line Battalion	Nikola Schifanelli
Widener / West Chester University	Dauntless Battalion	Cadet Christopher Morales

Dr. Gary Grove, MOLLUS C-in-C Recorder, presented the awards for Penn State and Shippensburg; Mr. David Scott, PA MOLLUS photographer, attended the Virtual Ceremony for Drexel University; PA Recorder Tench Forbes attended a virtual ceremony for Widener, and also attended in-person for St. Joseph's AFROTC ceremony

MOLLUS and Memorial Day at Salisbury National Cemetery

By Robert Alvin Crum, Insignia 22778, VA

Every Memorial Day, we participate in a ceremony at the Salisbury National Cemetery as a hereditary member of both the Loyal Legion and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Our ceremony is a long-standing tradition in this North Carolina town, where more than 5,500 United States soldiers are buried in eighteen trench graves.

We begin our procession at the at the old, iron cemetery gates and quickly pass on our left the large Pennsylvania Monument installed in 1909 to honor the Pennsylvania Union dead. We proceed and arrive at the top of the hill. Here the United States government erected a large monument in 1873 to honor the Union dead. The state of Maine installed another large monument in 1908.

We assemble in front of the eighteen trench graves, now an open, well-maintained lawn. At the head of each row is a military marker simply engraved "Unknown US Soldier." Addresses are presented, and poems and prayers, recited. In 2021, my presentation described Gen. Stoneman's membership as a MOLLUS Companion, and his presence at this site in April 1865. *



Robert Crum and Companions at Salisbury National Cemetery



Placing wreath at Unknowns Salisbury National Cemetery



Marine Corps 246th Birthday Celebration Laurel Hill Cemetery



2022 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday Events Washington, DC February 11-12, 2022

Join us in Celebration of Abraham Lincoln's 213th Birthday
sponsored by the Lincoln Birthday National
Commemorative Committee

Meeting Events

Friday, February 11, 2022

Tour of Lincoln Memorial on its 100TH Centennial

Audrey T. Tepper, Historical Architect at National Park Service, will provide a tour of the Memorial highlighting important rehabilitation work and exciting new renovations to the exhibit space in the undercroft. Meet at 1:30 pm outside Sheraton Suites or at Memorial 2 pm. Attendees can carpool via Lyft or Uber.

Lincoln Birthday Dinner, Friday, February 11, 2022

Ballroom at Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria

Black Tie, Business Suit, or Uniform with decorations for Gentlemen; evening wear for Ladies

6:30 pm - Reception (Cash bar at hotel bar off Sheraton Suites lobby)

7:30 pm - Patriotic Opening in Ballroom - U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard

Musical presentation by Lincoln Memorial University

8:00 pm- Dinner follows with wine for toasts

Saturday, February 12 Ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial

Arrive at Lincoln Memorial by 10:30 am, program starts at 10:45 am with Musical Prelude.

Participants to arrive no later than 10:30 am for instructions by the National Park Service.

The Military District of Washington will provide the Joint Services Color Guard and Honor Guard.

The Gettysburg Address will be recited by the Honorable Scott Stucky, Senior Judge U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (Ret.) and former C-in-C MOLLUS. Presentation of the James A. Simmons History Scholarship Award to an outstanding undergraduate student at Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee.

Wreath laying by government officials, distinguished guests, and hereditary and patriotic societies

NOTE: Parking is extremely limited near the Memorial. Van transportation between the Lincoln Memorial and the Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria will be available for \$28 roundtrip. Sign up in advance for bus transportation.

Lincoln Birthday National

Commemorative Committee Luncheon

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

COST: \$39.00 per person inclusive of tax & tips.

12:30 pm – LUNCHEON: (Plated lunch with soup, cookie, and hot and cold beverages)

PLACE: Sheraton Suites Alexandria Old Town, 801 N. St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA

RESERVATIONS: See reservation form on page 3. Reservations to be received no later than January 31.

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATIONS. Guests are welcome.

Important: After cutoff date, if planning to attend, please contact John Moore at 571-455-8669.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS –SHERATON SUITES OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

801 N. Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Reservations: 1-888-627-7049 or 703-836-4700 (By January 17)

(Please identify yourself with MOLLUS – if calling after the 17th, ask for Betsy Jones.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria under MOLLUS, “Military Order of the Loyal Legion”. Rooms available: King Bed or 2 double beds (all are mini-suites) - \$155 plus tax per night. Complementary shuttle to National Airport and the Airport Metro. Parking is available for a fee. Room rates will be honored for three days before the meeting and three days afterwards (Feb. 7-15, 2022).

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JANUARY 31st 2021

LINCOLN BIRTHDAY EVENTS - 2022 REGISTRATION FORM FRIDAY Banquet FEBRUARY 11TH

() FISH - Pan seared Mahi Mahi with onion & bacon crust, topped with lemon thyme butter, on bed of sautéed spinach served with roasted potatoes

() BEEF - Braised Beef Short Ribs & Cheddar Mashed Potatoes

() VEGETARIAN (Chef's selection)

PRICE PER PERSON INCLUSIVE: \$98.00 No. () BANQUET TOTAL \$ _____

NAME: _____ Tel.# _____ Email _____

(Please Print) Must have names of members & guests – If different for each event, please indicate.

Guests _____

(PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY RESERVATION)

SATURDAY BUS TRANSPORTATION TO LINCOLN MEMORIAL: \$28.00 Per Person Round-trip

NAME: _____ Tel. # _____ Email: _____

Guests: _____ () Check if Allied Order.

For those taking the bus to/from the Lincoln Memorial, the charge is \$28.00 pp. No. _____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT CHECK ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make check payable to DC MOLLUS. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL RESERVATIONS.

RESERVATION FORM FOR LBNCC LUNCHEON

Saturday, February 12, 2019

Make SEPARATE Check Payable to “DC MOLLUS”. Note LBNCC Luncheon on memo line.

Luncheon is \$39.00 per person inclusive. (Please list guests). No. _____ x \$39.00 = \$ _____

NAME: _____ Tel. # _____ Email: _____

Guests: _____ () Check if Allied Order.

TOTAL AMOUNT LUNCHEON CHECK ENCLOSED: \$ _____

All events are conditional on National Park Service, Virginia, and District of Columbia.
COVID Regulations in force at the time of the events.

SEND TO: JOHN MOORE, Commander, DC MOLLUS

SEND Reservation Forms TO: JOHN MOORE, Commander, DC MOLLUS

Address: 306 Mashie Drive, SE, Vienna, VA 22180

Email: jumeau@verizon.net Phone: 571-455-8669 Chairman, LBNC, Peter Dixon: 703-549-7428 or 703-862-2811 (Joan)



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Send orders and payment to:
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 85 Beddington Lane
 Strasburg, PA 17579

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Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Insignia # (required) _____

Email _____

	Price	Qty	Amount
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Miniature Emblem Medal (Hereditary or Associate)**	\$85	_____	_____
Emblem Medals 14-16K Gold (3-4 month delivery)	On request	_____	_____
Hereditary Replacement Ribbon (Large Medal)	\$20	_____	_____
Hereditary Replacement Ribbon	\$20	_____	_____
Officer Neck Ribbon	\$20	_____	_____
Rosettes (Hereditary, Associate, or Honorary)	\$9	_____	_____
Officer Rosette (Indicate State or National)	\$24	_____	_____
Neck Tie (All Silk)	\$34	_____	_____
Blazer Patch	\$20	_____	_____
Certificate of Hereditary Membership (8.5" x 11")*	\$25	_____	_____
Certificate of Hereditary Membership (17" x 19")*	\$	_____	_____
Certificate of Associate Membership (8.5" x 11")*	\$25	_____	_____
Official MOLLUS Scarf (9.5" x 72")	\$45	_____	_____
ROTC Medal with Ribbon Bar and Certificate	\$35	_____	_____
Book: Union Blue, by PCinC Robert G. Carroon	\$25	_____	_____
MOLLUS Cuff Links (Vermeil)	\$100	_____	_____
Gold Plated Challenge Coin	\$25	_____	_____
MOLLUS Name Badge (shipping incl.)	\$22	_____	_____
Bow Tie	\$22	_____	_____
NEW! Cummerbund	\$25	_____	_____
Combo Offer When Purchased Together: Bow Tie & Cummerbund	\$45	_____	_____

Shipping based on total merchandise cost: Shipping \$ _____
 Up to \$10 = \$5
 \$11 to \$50 = \$8
 \$51 to \$100 = \$10
 \$101 or more = \$14
 TOTAL \$ _____

**Vermeil (gold on sterling silver)
 *When ordering the Hereditary 17"x19" Hereditary Certificate, the worksheet is MANDATORY. Please download and complete the Worksheet located at:
<http://suvcw.org/mollus/resources/certorder.pdf>