California Commandery of the Military Order of Loyal Legion of United States



Officers of the California Commandery:

Wayne J. Rogers, Commander Robert M. Fletcher II, Treasurer Kenneth R. Walker, Recorder Linn M. Malaznik, Vice-Commander Steven S. Magoffin, Chaplain Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr., Commander *Emeritus*

New members

Transfer of John William Myers III from VA to CA Commandery 2/22/2012 Timothy P. Reese, of Monterey, CA

Prospective Members

Baylor Eldric Maggenti, Costa Mesa, CA Gordon Shaeffer, previously Arizona Todd Armstrong, San Francisco, CA Richard Stevenson, Tucson, AZ Daniel B. McLaughlin, San Diego, CA

An electronic membership application and instructions can be downloaded for your friends and relatives at:

http://www.walika.com/mollus.htm

SUVCW National Encampment 9-11 August 2012 Los Angeles Airport Marriott

Please send us pictures and briefs on events that you have participated in this year. Also, your bio and/or ancestor's bio, so that we may all become better acquainted.



Ken Walker, left & Wayne Rogers, center Commander Wayne J. Rogers and Recorder Kenneth R Walker at the SAR Massing of the Colors for Geo. Washington, Forest Lawn, Burbank, CA

We made two Army ROTC presentations this year for the Medal of Merit Award for Academic Achievement and leadership at Idaho State University & Claremont-McKenna College, CA



Cadet Michael D. Zebe receiving MOLLUS Award presented by *CPT Jeff Grundhauser* at Idaho State University



Award of Merit, from Kenneth R. Walker, Recorder holding dual meetings in both locations, College

implementation, please contact;

Ken Walker, CA ROTC Coordinator, PO Box 44, Lancaster, CA 93584 E-mail;

DUES are Due; \$25. See page 5

Winter 2012 Report to C-in-C MOLLUS

On January 28, 2012 the California Commandery met at Annandale Golf Club in Pasadena, meeting California. The was chaired by Commander Richard Breithaupt, Jr.

Topics discussed included ways to recruit new members, expand the ROTC Award program & other activities in the coming year.

Linn Malaznik represented the Commandery at the 126TH National Congress at which the California Commandery was awarded the Daugherty-Thompson Cup, along with the Virginia Commandery, for the largest total increase in Hereditary Membership during 2010-2011.

Commander Breithaupt stated this award was a fitting capstone to his tenure as Commander, and an opportune time to pass the reins of leadership to a new team. By unanimous vote, the Commandery elected the following officers for the next term:

Commander: Wayne J. Rogers

Vice Commander: Linn M. Malaznik

Treasurer: Robert Malott Fletcher, II

Recorder: Kenneth R. Walker

Commander, *Emeritus* Mr. Breithaupt briefed the membership on the recent history of the Commandery. He was asked by the than Commandery-in-Chief to re-organize and led this historic but, at the time, inactive Commandery many years ago.

Cadet Hannah E. Morgan receiving the MOLLUS Traveling up and down the state, and at times

of the Commandery at Claremont-McKenna the spark of interest was re-lit. Alliances with other hereditary societies, promotion and working directly with prospects, and prompt response and FUTURE ROTC AWARDS; This program is not follow up to membership inquiries brought in currently in the budget and a procedure is being many new members. From that spark the drafted for next year. If you have any ideas for Commandery has grown by more than three-fold from the time it was re-activated, we won the Grant Trophy, Daugherty-Thompson Cup and other recognitions.

> Partnering with the Sons of the Revolution, and its American Heritage Library and Museum (AHL&M), members purchased and donated books and literature to that library so that these materials would be available to assist prospective members and historians (even Hollywood script writers utilized them) as well as honor and memorialize the Civil War and the Loyal Legion's Original Companions.

> More than 200 titles are now available, including the 70-volume set of monographs and short personal sketches published bv Broadfoot: numerous Journals, Proceedings, Annual Reports, and publications of various State Commanderies; many state rosters and Adjutant's General Reports; as well as the 30-volume Official Records (GPO);

> 70-volume, War of the Rebellion compilation (GPO); and a run of Sons of Confederate Veterans Magazine (Vols 1-40, 1893-1930, and 1995-date).

> The Commandery partnered with the California State Archives to undertake the microfilming of the extensive Commandery records and Loyal Legion material housed at the California State Library. The California Commandery was founded in 1871 with eight charter members. These materials were deposited by the Commandery in the State Library decades ago, before it became defunct.

> Dating from the Commandery's founding, through the 1920s, these records include minutes of

information about new members meetings, elected, photos and biographies of deceased members, information about the election of Commandery officers, financial reports, debates, meeting circulars, etc. These historic records will undoubtedly add to the understanding of our Commandery's history and preserve the memory of its Original Companions and those who served to preserve the Union during the Civil War.

Included is the original founding document, Circular No. 2, memorializing the formation of the Commandery. This project was completed in 2008.

More than 5,200 pages of minutes, records and publications of the California Commandery were The Superb reception by the people of Puebla, preservation.

accessible in both northern and California.

at large.

the Treasurer-in-Chief notified.

Necrology; Since the Annual Report filed in September, 2011, the following Companions has passed away:

Jerry A. Baker 21962 10 January 2012 Jay M. Balfour 21588 31 October 2011

the Civil War at Puebla, Mexico on Cinco de Mayo

(next column)



Vice Commander Linn Malaznik of the CA Commandery of MOLLUS with our National Colors

both microfilmed and digitized, ensuring their Mexico was extraordinary. As Linn Malaznik Vice-Commander of the CA Commandery of MOLLUS paraded our National Colors through Puebla on This project met two important objectives: Cinco De Mayo who would have thought there preserving deteriorating original documents and would be horrendous cheers. With President records for future generations, and making the Lincoln (Michael Krebs) in the lead, all were material more readily available by having a inspired by the many banners carried by the complete digitized set deposited at the AHL&M, young ladies in front of our small band of US located in Southern California, for ease in access Soldiers to honor the historical relationship and as an additional preservation step. Having the between Benito Juarez and President Lincoln. Commandery's collection at two locations, this There were literally hundreds of thousands of significant historical material will be readily people and to see our flag parading down the southern streets of Puebla was an amazing sight. In front of us was a large steel printing press pushed by about (10) parade entrants that cycled the US The members resolved to confer upon Companion Constitution and the Gettysburg Address with two Richard Breithaupt, Jr. the title of Commander mortars on each side blasting out confetti. Behind *Emeritus* in recognition of his leadership and us was a large full size locomotive and train that legacy to the Commandery, and the Loyal Legion simulated the historical time of 1862 with whistle blowing and choo choo blasting. Before the parade we were treated to a fantastic concert the evening The Commandery's tax return was timely filed and before with Presidente Felipe Calderon in the old main church in town. The orchestra was conducted by the world renowned Alondra De La Parra who was absolutely beautiful. When they played the 1812 overture the church bells rang at the end to fanatical cheers of jubilance. The entire concert was broadcast outside to all and when the final encore was played an exuberant crowd applauded for many minutes. We were totally wined and dined to the hilt with an added treat of each of us being honored by the mayor of Puebla Eduardo Rivera Perez with the Distinguished MOLLUS and Sons of Union Veterans of Visitors citation. In all, I have never been so humbled, revered, and accepted by entity I have encountered in my life. The reception was unbelievable. With Past Commander in Chief Keith Harrison commanding the Unit to Commander in Chief Jeff Burden handling interaction all were treated with great honor and respect. This has

been truly a once in a lifetime experience. Respectfully Submitted by Companion Will Tisch, of the SUVCW & CA Commandery, MOLLUS

Ed. Note: It is likely this was the first official visit by an American hereditary society to Puebla, Mexico since 1997, when the Aztec Club of 1847 was there on its Sesquicentennial Tour. Detail about that tour, at the invitation of the President of Mexico, can be seen here: http://www.aztecclub.com/rendezvous.htm and photos of the portion of the visit to Puebla here: http://www.aztecclub.com/rendez6.htm

The California Commandery won the Daugherty-Thompson Cup, along with the Virginia Commandery, for recording the largest numerical increase in membership. The Award was received by Linn Malaznik, Vice Commander, on behalf of the Commandery.

History of the California Commandery

The Commandery of the State of California was founded in 1871 with eight charter members. By 1915, it had on its rolls 21 Major Generals, 144 Brigadier Generals, 11 of whom were Brevet Major Generals; and 34 other officers who were Brevet Brigadier Generals; or, 204 who had earned the right to be addressed as General; 54 Admirals and one Commodore. Of these 204 Generals, 357 received Brevets, 20 won Medals of Honor and two received the "Thanks of Congress". The Commandery has had 95 members, not in the grade of General, who received one or more Brevets, and 21 of them also won the Medal of Honor. These 41 Medals of Honor generally meant something beyond ordinary bravery in the line of duty. It was noted once that the combined membership of the twenty-one Commanderies of the Order was less than four times that who had been members of the California Commandery.

Interestingly, the Commandery had the only member who rose from the enlisted ranks to Rear Admiral. It was one of our members who said at Independence Day June 30, 2012 the moment of victory at Santiago: "Don't cheer, men, while those poor fellows are dying". It was another of our companions who stood the Oregon on its 15,000 mile voyage from the Pacific to the Atlantic, arriving in time to render heroic service when the Spanish fleet under Admiral Cerveras was destroyed; and it was two other companions of our order who commanded on that historic day. Compliments of Richard Breithaupt, CA Jr, Commandery Commander, Emeritus



Richard H. Breithaupt, Jr. (left); Wayne J. Rogers (third from left) Kenneth R. Walker (2nd from right); Stephen S. Magoffin (right) Linn M. Malaznik (third from right); Robert M. Albert (2nd from left)

Peter Malaznik (quest, in the center) at Annual 2012 Meeting (28 January 2012) at the Annandale Golf Club, Pasadena, California.

We have had our annual meetings in conjunction with the Sons of the Revolution, CA Society because it enhances inter-society relationships with another established society. The California Commandery's annual dues are \$24, and of that we remit to the C-in-C \$12 per member annually, except National Life Members. The fiscal year for membership purposes is April 30, and we complete our Annual Assessment Form in the fall based on membership as of that date and remit the \$12 per person. We collect dues in the summer. We have approximately 45 members; and approximately \$5,660.78 in our account, per Robert Fletcher, our Commandery Treasurer.

The annual IRS Group Exemption Report and the 2012 MOLLUS Assessment Letter and Report Form to the Commanderies are in the process of being prepared by Lee Allan Tryon, Treasurer-in-Chief, MOLLUS.

Commander Wayne Rogers marched in Menifee Independence Parade with an Abraham Lincoln reenactor.

Lineage Presentation July 9, 2012

Commander Wayne Rogers was on a lineage society panel at the Civic Center in Temecula, California

SUVCW: Dept of CA & Pacific; Several CA Commandery members attended the encampment at Camp San Luis Obispo in March 2012

Request for 2012-13 Annual Membership **DUES: \$25**

Please make out check to MOLLUS/CA & mail your \$25 check by August 30th to;

Wayne J. Rogers, Commander 28482 Scenic Bay Cove Menifee, California 92585-3307

Please include your name, current address, e-mail & phone number with your check.

US Marine Corps Honors SSG Allan K. Walker Late Son of a Commandery Member

SSG Allan K. Walker (USMC) was honored in May, 2012 at the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot, San Diego, CA at a dedication ceremony of the new sports medicine facility. SSG Walker, a member of http://suvcw.org/mollus/oldsave/Congress2012.pdf the Sons of the Revolution & Sons of the American Revolution, was a drill instructor for Bravo Co, First Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment from 2001-04. SSG Walker was KIA by enemy fire on 06 April 2004, Ramadhi, Iraq.

Attending were his mother, Nancy, Sister Lara, Patricia, step-mother & father Kenneth, а companion of the Commandery. A bronze plague, "Walker Hall" was installed at the front of this two story building. This is a fitting honor for all drill instructor brothers and US Marines.

STAFF SERGEANT ALLAN K. WALKER

WALKER HALL BACKGROUND



Reminder: The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, AKA MOLLUS or simply as the *Loyal Legion* was founded April 15, 1865 by Union officers, as a result of the assassination of President Lincoln, and is carried

on by descendants of eligible officers very similar to the Society of Cincinnati.

For acquaintances or friends who are interested in MOLLUS refer them to:

http://suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm and/or http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

For MOLLUS membership information, see

http://suvcw.org/mollus/mbrfrm.htm and/or our CA website: http://www.walika.com/mollus.htm

Announcement(s):

2012 National Congress will be October 18-20, 2012 in Warwick, Rhode Island

For the agenda and hotel information, see:

For the special 150th Sesquicentennial National MOLLUS meeting, you may bring your historical or current contribution for the display to the Banquet Room prior to the start of the program at 7:15 p.m.) for inclusion in the presentation for guests review. This display will be given to National MOLLUS for their archive collection

REMEMBER:

The Boys in Blue & ALL Veterans

