



## **Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States**

### **Minutes of the 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, 14 October 2000, at the St. Louis Hilton Frontenac Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri, by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Gordon R. Bury.

Missouri Recorder Eugene Beals read the invocation originally read at the 1890 annual meeting, the last annual meeting held in St. Louis.

Past Commander-in-Chief Lowell Hammer led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chancellor Jerry Zillion read the Preamble of the Order.

Recorder-in-Chief Steven Wright read the roll call of officers and commanderies:

#### **Roll Call of Officers**

Commander-in-Chief Major Robert James Bateman -- Absent  
Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Gordon R. Bury – Present  
Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Douglas Reed Niermeyer – Present  
Recorder-in-Chief Steven James Wright – Present  
Treasurer-in-Chief Lee Allen Tryon – Present  
Registrar-in-Chief Barry Laird Cornell – Present  
Chancellor-in-Chief Jerry Zillion -- Present  
Judge Advocate-in-Chief Benjamin Charles Frick – Absent  
Chaplain-in-Chief Rev. Dr. William Randolph Robbins – Absent  
Surgeon-in-Chief Dr. Courtney Fleenor – Absent  
Editor-in-Chief LTC Thomas Pelham Curtis – Absent  
Counselors: McClernand Butler Crawford – Absent  
Rev. Dr. Christopher Mack Agnew – Absent  
David Ladd – Absent

## Roll Call of Commanderies

California -- Absent	Ohio -- Present
Connecticut – Present	Pennsylvania -- Present
District of Columbia – Present	South Carolina -- Absent
Florida – Absent	Texas -- Present
Illinois – Present	Virginia -- Present
Indiana – Present	Wisconsin -- Present
Iowa -- Absent	
Kansas – Absent	
Maryland – Absent	
Massachusetts – Present	
Michigan – Present	
Missouri – Present	
Nebraska – Present	
New York – Present	

Recorder Wright read the Minutes of the Mid-Winter Meeting. The Minutes were accepted as presented.

Recorder Wright read the Report of the Commander-in-Chief, which was accepted as presented.

Senior Vice C-in-C Bury read the report of the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, which was accepted as presented. Past C-in-C Hammer suggested that the statement concerning the Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States might reflect that in past years they have met at the same time and location as the Commandery-in-Chief. Senior Vice C-in-C Bury agreed with this statement and noted that he would amend his report accordingly.

Junior Vice C-in-C Niermeyer read the report of the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. He noted that attempts to involve the Dames in the planning of the 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting were made, but were unsuccessful. The report was accepted as presented.

Chancellor-in-Chief Jerry Zillion presented the report of the Chancellor-in-Chief. Chancellor Zillion led a lengthy discussion concerning the actions of the Finance Committee, suggesting that a more actively managed investment policy be adopted in order to earn a better return for the order's investments. Treasurer Tryon noted that increased returns on investments resulting in profits of over \$25,000.00 would necessitate the annual submission of IRS Form 990, and would possibly serve as an alert for future auditing. This stimulated further discussion on whether the purpose of the Investment/Finance Committee was to safeguard the Order's investments or to accrue the largest profit possible from those investments.

MOTION: To empower the Investment/Finance committee to move forward to implement a more aggressive investment policy using basic financial indicators.

MOTION: Col. Howard Trenkle; SECOND: Commander Herbert Zearfoss; MOTION CARRIED.

Chancellor Zillion also suggested that communication be improved between members of the Investment/Finance Committee.

Chancellor Zillion presented a short report for the Commandery of the District of Columbia, which was accepted as presented. He noted the passing of Companions Joseph Stanley and Frederick Hunt.

Past Commander Karl Schaeffer and Chancellor Zillion presented a report on negotiations between Lincoln Memorial University and the Ohio Commandery regarding artifacts at LMU that belong to the Ohio Commandery. Chancellor Zillion has been appointed a Trustee of the University, Commander Schaeffer has been appointed to the Museum Board, and Senior Vice C-in-C Bury is to be appointed a member of the Museum Board.

Past Commander Schaeffer noted that Lincoln Memorial University has invited the order to hold an annual meeting at the University.

Chancellor Zillion reported that every four years the University hosts a symposium, and that this year Past Commanders-in-Chief Michael Sullivan and Robert Carroon were to be speakers. He also noted that he (Chancellor Zillion) and Past C-in-C Sullivan have each committed to personally donate \$1,000.00 toward the expenses of the symposium.

MOTION: That Dr. Jerry Bishop and Dr. Charles Hubbard, of Lincoln Memorial University, be made honorary companions of the Order. MOTION: Past C-in-C Carroon; SECOND: Chancellor Zillion; MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: That the Commandery-in-Chief match the \$2,000.00 personal donation made to Lincoln Memorial University by Past C-in-C Sullivan and Chancellor Zillion. MOTION: Col. Trenkle; SECOND: Past C-in-C Carroon; MOTION CARRIED.

Recorder-in-Chief Steven Wright presented the report of the Recorder-in-Chief, which was accepted as presented.

Registrar-in-Chief Barry Cornell presented the report of the Registrar-in-Chief, which was accepted as presented.

Treasurer-in-Chief Lee Tryon presented the report of the Treasurer-in-Chief. Chancellor Zillion stated that the expenses for the Loyal Legion Journal seemed to be getting excessive and asked if expenses might be cut. Past Commander Schaeffer noted that the Journal was a first-class operation and could and should be used as a recruiting tool for more members. General Malcolm Smith offered that the New York Commandery donates \$1,000.00 each year toward the operation of the Journal. Treasurer Tryon reported that the expenses for the Journal included the postage fees, and that glossy

paper and the inclusion of photographs does drive up the cost per issue. However, the Journal is really printed at as low a cost as possible. Treasurer Tryon further reported that there were twenty-five Junior Life Members, seventeen Senior Life Members, and that about six commanderies will receive refunds for life members.

Recorder-in-Chief Wright read the report of the Editor-in-Chief, which was accepted as presented.

The following commandery reports were made by the following companions:

Connecticut: Past C-in-C Robert G. Carroon  
District of Columbia: Chancellor Zillion  
Indiana: Col. Howard Trenkle  
Massachusetts: Commander Warren Wells, Jr.  
Michigan: Keith Harrison  
Missouri: Junior Vice C-in-C Douglas Niermeyer  
New York: General Malcolm Smith  
Ohio: Past Commander Karl Schaeffer  
Texas: Commander Larry Converse  
Virginia: Commander Jeffrey Burden  
Wisconsin: Past C-in-C Michael Sullivan

### **Old Business**

Keith Harrison presented the report of the Membership Committee, noting applications for sixty-four hereditary members and four non-hereditary members in sixteen commanderies. His report was accepted as presented.

Junior Vice C-in-C Niermeyer presented a short report of the Internet Committee, which was accepted as presented.

Past C-in-C Lowell Hammer presented the report of the Memorials, Museums, and Battlefields Committee. MOTION: That the previous year's allocation to The Civil War Library and Museum be withheld until the outcome of the state of that institution is resolved. MOTION: Chancellor Zillion; SECOND: Junior Vice C-in-C Niermeyer; MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: That the \$400.00 allocated for the Bud Mather Plaque for the Florida Commandery also be withheld until the resolution of difficulties with the Commander are resolved. MOTION: Chancellor Zillion; SECOND: Junior Vice C-in-C Niermeyer; MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer Tryon presented a short report of the Finance and Budget Committee, which was accepted as presented.

Treasurer Tryon presented a short report on the Commanderies that are in default with their annual assessments. Nothing has changed since the Mid-Winter meeting.

Past C-in-C Robert Carroon presented a short report on the status of "Union Blue: A History of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States." He is expecting to have the second proofs awaiting his return to home, and anticipates the book being ready for distribution by the end of the year.

Following discussion led by Past Commander Karl Schaeffer it was decided to table the resolution to have all officers repeat the Officer's Investiture at each meeting, possibly to be replaced with the reading of the Preamble, as is done in meetings of the Wisconsin and Connecticut Commanderies.

Discussion ensued regarding what might be done to entice the Dames of the Loyal Legion to hold their annual meeting in conjunction with that of the National Commandery. It was decided that everything will be done to make them feel welcome and a part of all National Commandery meetings, with the hope that DOLLUS will hold its national meetings with the National Commandery.

Past Commander Schaeffer led discussion about the creation of standardized job descriptions for national officers. This will be followed up on.

Junior Vice C-in-C Niermeyer made a short report for the 2001 Sites Committee, noting that Fredericksburg, Virginia and Lincoln Memorial University, Harrowgate, Tennessee are being considered as possible locations.

Past Commander Schaeffer led discussions concerning "remembering MOLLUS in your will," announcements of which have been placed in the Loyal Legion Journal. In addition he suggested that the Order should be advertising in national Civil War publications. He also suggested that three letters be sent each year to members by the Commander-in-Chief: one announcing the Annual Meeting and inviting members to attend, one announcing the Mid-Winter meeting and inviting members to attend, and a third "update" letter which might be dated in between the Annual and Mid-Winter meetings.

The benediction was led by past C-in-C Robert G. Carroon.

There being no further business to bring before the order, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

It was announced at a luncheon following the meeting that the 2000 Daugherty-Thompson Cup winner was the Texas Commandery, with the highest increase of new hereditary members.

It was also announced that the 2000 Grant Cup winner was the Missouri Commandery, with the largest percentage increase of hereditary members.

Recorder-in-Chief Wright read the Necrology at the Annual Banquet:  
Percy Hamilton Goodsall – Connecticut  
Francis Cadigan – Massachusetts

Respectfully Submitted,  
Steven J. Wright  
Recorder-in-Chief