



**Missouri Commandery
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
Annual Meeting Report
Best Wester Plus
1680 Fenton Business Park Ct, Fenton, MO 63026
6 June 2025**

Present: Daniel Sauerwein (ZOOM); Registrar Sumner Hunnewell; Recording Secretary Walt Busch; SVC Randal Burd, Jr; JVC Gary Scheel; Treasurer Dale Crandell. Arriving 2029 hrs (ZOOM), Commander Daniel Jackson

2002 hrs - SVC Randal Burd starts meeting with Prayer and Pledge

Minutes of 31 May 2024 Annual Meeting presented. Motion to approve by Dale Crandell and seconded by Daniel Sauerwein. Passes by voice vote.

Discussion on the need of By-Laws for the Missouri Commandery. We have the 1888 Articles of Incorporation for Missouri MOLLUS that provide us some guidance under state law, but we need more formal structure. 1888 Articles of Incorporation are posted on the web.

Sumner Hunnewell presented his report on the Robertson/McKinstry Cemetery. Discussion about adding our department orders to the Missouri SUVCW *Unionist* newsletter. Randal Burd, as editor of that, says can be done. Gary Scheel said he would work on an article.

Treasurer Dale Crandell reports that our treasury is now over \$2K.

Discussion about Asynchronous Website (Live Chat, E-Commerce, Social Media, basically adding something like a chat room), which would not require the main page a person is browsing to reload with each click, only the chat area, etc. [Website Manager Walt Busch comment after meeting - Above my paygrade.]

Sumner Hunnewell - Holding a National MOLLUS Encampment here in St. Louis [or elsewhere in Missouri] in 2028. While Sumner is looking into it, is there sufficient critical mass to achieve this?

Nominations were then held for a slate of officers for the 2025-2026 year.

**Commander -- Randal Burd, Jr.
Senior Vice Commander -- Gary Scheel
Junior Vice Commander -- Walter Busch
Recorder -- Daniel Jackson
Council -- Robert Amsler, Jr.
Rest of Officers to Remain the Same**

Dale Crandell makes motion and second by Daniel Jackson that since there is only one member nominated for each position that the recorder enter one vote to elect the slate.

**Motion to Close the Meeting at 2049 hr. Passes by voice vote.
Closes with Prayer.**

Loyally,

**Walter E. Busch
Associate Member/Recording Secretary**

Reports Attached:

- a. Registrar Sumner Hunnewell's Report on the Missouri Robertson/McKinstry Cemetery.**
- b. Registrar Sumner Hunnewell's Registrar Report.**
- c. Genealogist Sumner Hunnewell's Report**



Missouri Commandery
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
Missouri Robertson/McKinstry Cemetery Report
6 June 2025

In 2021, Tim Ogle, Doug Roussin, and I traveled to the Robertson/McKinstry Cemetery in De Soto. A survey of the cemetery was completed in the 1980s, but, since then, many of the tombstones have been removed or vandalized. There are four Civil War soldiers buried there.

- **1LT James N. Whitehead**, Co. I, 22nd Ohio Voluntary Infantry (service 17 Sep 1861 – 28 Aug 1865; b. 6 Feb 1830 Jefferson Co., Mo.; d. 15 Aug 1870, De Soto, Mo.),
- **CH William Hendrickson**, 31st Missouri Volunteer Infantry (service 9 Oct 1862 – 22 Jan 1864; b. ca. 1824, Mo.; 16 Feb. 1893, De Soto, Mo.),
- **PVT J. Thomas Kyle**, Co. E, 26th Missouri Volunteer Infantry (service 21 Sep 1861 – 28 Apr 1862; b. ca. 1843, Jefferson Co., Mo.; d. aft. 1875), and
- **PVT John W. Richardson**, Co. B, 57th Illinois Volunteer Infantry (service 10 Dec 1864 – 7 Jul 1865; b. 4 Aug 1844, Pa.; d. 17 Jan 1923, De Soto, Mo.).

The Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47, SUVCW, was not enthusiastic on replacing the tombstones, so I thought this would be a good project for our Commandery. Having said that, I am all for including the Allied Orders of the G.A.R., the Jefferson County Historical Society, the Masons (Whitehead was a Mason and buried with their ritual) in any sort of event to dedicate the Veterans Administration stones.

The paperwork for the V.A. stones has been completed with the exception of where they will be delivered and who has custody of the cemetery. Bernard Laiben of the Fletcher Camp said that he would follow up on these items.

Once the stones are ordered, there are additional tasks to be completed, including:

- Setting the date for the dedication,
- Contacting and engaging interested parties (including the press),
- Meeting with the property owners adjacent to the cemetery,
- Clearing a path to the cemetery and the cemetery itself, and
- Installing the stones, and
- Determining how parking might be managed.

Sumner G. Hunnewell, Registrar, Missouri Commandery, MOLLUS



Missouri Commandery
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
Registrar's Report
6 June 2025

Since our last meeting, James Knapperburger was approved to hereditary membership (#22954). Robert J. Amsler, Jr., is our latest Associate member. I have two outstanding 2024 Arkansas prospects. If you know them, feel free to rattle their cages.

- Joe Rainey (jraine1947@gmail.com) of Rogers, Arkansas, has shown an interest. Ancestor is Capt. Newton Morris, 12th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Pinged. Joe said he was too busy right now (9/5/24). Pinged (1/16). Pinged (4/29).
- Ronald Fuller (RonaldFuller8@icloud.com) of Little Rock, Arkansas, was sent an application. His ancestor is 1st Lt. Alfred Moore Jones, Sr., of the 1st Tennessee Mounted Infantry (7/19/24). He wanted to know if he could send it via email and I said yes (7/23/24). Pinged (9/5/24). Pinged (1/16). He said he will send me his SUVCW proofs (2/23). Pinged (4/29).

I need to follow up on associate member Tom Jacks' desire to become a hereditary member.

I represented the Missouri Commandery at the national meeting in Petersburg last year. I would recommend that anyone having an opportunity to attend a national meeting make the effort to do so. Also, carrying on the tradition of Past C-in-C Niermeyer, I gave a short presentation (about the MOLLUS-purchased Revolutionary War cannons) at Lafayette Park after the D.A.R.'s Presidents' Day wreath laying ceremony.

I donated my complete set of Missouri Commandery *Circulars* to the Missouri Historical Society. They went cold on the idea of scanning them, so have returned them. It is now on my To Do List. The St. Louis County Library has a scanner, which can be used to create useful text. Hopefully, it will have an OCR option.

Again, I would like to remind each *hereditary* member that his wife can become a member of DOLLUS without any other qualifying hereditary requirement.

Sumner G. Hunnewell, Registrar, Missouri Commandery, MOLLUS



Genealogist Sumner Hunnewell's Report
Missouri Commandery
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
(Missouri Society / Kansas Society)

In process

· Joe Rainey (jraine1947@gmail.com) of Rogers, Arkansas, has shown an interest. Ancestor is Capt. Newton Morris, 12th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Pinged. Joe said he was too busy right now (9/5/24). Pinged (1/16). Pinged (4/29). · Ronald Fuller (RonaldFuller8@icloud.com) of Little Rock, Arkansas, was sent an application. His ancestor is 1st Lt. Alfred Moore Jones, Sr., of the 1st Tennessee Mounted Infantry (7/19/24). He wanted to know if he could send it via email and I said yes (7/23/24). Pinged (9/5/24). Pinged (1/16). He said he will send me his SUVCW proofs (2/23). Pinged (4/29).

Approved

· James Knappenberger (jjk@knappenbergerlaw.com) of St. Louis sent an application (11/26/24). Everything looked good (11/28). I was made the chair of the review committee along with Dale Crandell and Daniel Sauerwein (11/29/24). I asked James when we could meet so I could review his & his wife's birth certificate (he doesn't want to pass us copies). I hear from Registrar-in-Chief Jeff Lilly that he will accept my notes on a Commandery letterhead in place of the birth certificates (12/12/24). He is going to mail me copies of the BCs, which I will shred after (12/13/24). Both BCs received. Application completed with need for approval (12/23/24). Meeting set to approve on 1/2. Approved. Paperwork routed for signatures (1/5). National approved and number #22954 assigned (1/15).

Sumner G. Hunnewell, Registrar, Missouri Commandery, MOLLUS