

Report of the Commander
May 30, 2015

This is a great and historic Commandery. It has certainly given me great pleasure to have had the honor of leading it since May 6, 2006.

During those 9 years have participated in many events:

- The Hannibal Hamlin Bicentennial in Paris, ME
- Nine Lincoln Day observances in Hingham, MA
- Nine National Lincoln Birthday events in Washington, DC
- Awards to about 43 ROTC cadets or midshipmen
- National Congresses in Pennsylvania, New York, Tennessee, Rhode Island, Maryland, Kentucky and Michigan

Also, we have provided assistance to un-numbered requests for copies from our photograph collection or permissions to publish items from our collection.

Investments and bequests have grown our accounts from a little over \$265,000 to over \$400,000.

We have achieved some significant milestones, through the efforts of many active members, and for which I am eternally grateful. Accomplishments such as:

- The establishment of a website
- The publication of “The Companion” newsletter
- The creation of a new “everyday” banner
- The restoration of our old (circa 1870) silk banner
- The publication of “Our Forebears and Massachusetts in the Civil War”.
- The hosting of the National Congress in 2014.

Our biggest problem has been, and continues to be, recruiting new members. That is something I expect to continue to work on. It’s something we **all** need to continue to work on.

During our time together, we have suffered the death of 18 companions, many of whom contributed to us uncounted hours of their time. I will read the list in alphabetical order and call upon our Chaplain, Reverend David Hockensmith to offer a prayer.

John C. Abbott
George Barner
Francis C. Cadigan, Jr.
Arthur Chatfield
Clarence A. DeGrave
David S. Hendrick III
Stephen Kelsch
Walter S. Kerr, Jr.
Bayard R. Lincoln
Alfred F. Lyons
Henry W. Lyons
John McCauley
Howard "Jim" Norris
Lenahan O'Connell
George L. Street III
John R. Taft
Frank Walker
William C. Wiswall

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege of being Commander of this wonderful Massachusetts Commandery.

Frederick A. Stevens, Jr.