



The Companion

Massachusetts Commandery of The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

No. 6 July 2014

Come Early to Congress 2014 – or Stay Later

Consider coming to Massachusetts earlier, or staying later, when you attend the 2014 MOLLUS Congress ([registration on page 3](#)) so you can visit some of the wonderful Civil War sites, and other world-class attractions, in the 'Bay State.' All are within easy reach of the Congress headquarters at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center—and the city of Boston. They include: the Mt. Auburn Cemetery, the first 'garden' cemetery in the country, designed by Frederick Law Olmstead and containing memorials to a host of Civil War officers, including 28 from MOLLUS (we have a site map for you); Harvard's Memorial Hall, honoring scores of fallen graduates by name and battle; the urban Boston Freedom Trail, devoted to the Revolution, along which you'll find Faneuil Hall, where Daniel Webster later gave his 'Liberty and Union' speech; the USS Constitution ('Old Ironsides'); the African American History Trail on Beacon Hill; the Museum of Fine Arts; the New England Aquarium; the Boston Symphony Orchestra; the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum; the popular Duck Tours on the Charles River; Tower Hill Botanical Garden; historic Concord, Massachusetts; all this in addition to Longfellow's Wayside Inn, the Framingham History Center, and the McAuliffe Space Center, which are on the formal Congress program.



New Companion

The Rev. David Hockensmith

The Commandery welcomes a new Companion, The Rev. David Albert Hockensmith, of Morgan, VT, a great-grand-nephew of Captain John Francis McClelland, 8th Indiana Cavalry, who served from September 1861 until December 1863.

The Rev. Mr. Hockensmith has served as a Vice-President General and as Chaplain General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and as President of the Vermont Society, SAR. Currently he is serving as Chaplain of Colonial Wars of Vermont and of the Sons of the Revolution in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Hockensmith is also a member of the Society of Sons of American Colonists, the Massachusetts Society of the War of 1812, the St. Andrew's Society of Vermont, and the Society of Indiana Pioneers. He has served as Prior of the Priory of Saint David of Wales in New England, Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (non-Masonic Templars). Hockensmith is a member of the Union Club of Boston. We will profile Captain McClelland in the next issue of *The Companion*.

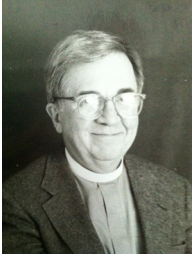
MOLLUS Commanders-in-Chief from The Massachusetts Commandery

(* Served in the Civil War)

- Major General Charles Devens –1869 *
- Colonel Arnold Augustus Rand –1912–1913 *
- Master Robert Means Thompson – 1927–1930 *
- Major General Malvern Hill Barnum – 1940–1941
- Donald H. Whittemore —1951–1953
- Lieutenant Colonel Lenahan O'Connell – 1967–1971
- Henry Nathan Sawyer – 1991–1993

MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief from Maine

- Brigadier General Thomas Hubbard 1913–1915 *
- (New York Commandery)



Companion John Woolverton

Companion John F. Woolverton was a great-grandson of Lieutenant William Henry Harrison Young, a great-grandnephew of Brigadier General James Adams Beaver, and a first cousin thrice removed of General Nelson Appleton Miles. The following is from an obituary sent by his daughter.

John Frederick Woolverton died peacefully June 25th 2014 surrounded by his family in Cumberland, Maine. He was 87 years old. He was the beloved husband of the late Margaret Richardson Woolverton and devoted Father to Charles, Mary (Sims), Susan (Rozelle) and Arthur. He is survived by nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 26 at Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, in Yarmouth, Maine.

John was born July 14, 1926 in New York City to William H. Woolverton and Francis Curtis Woolverton. He attended Groton School, Harvard University,

Union Seminary, and Virginia Seminary. He received his PhD from Columbia University and an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity Degree from Virginia Seminary. He was a World War II Veteran. He was Professor of Church History at Virginia Seminary for twenty-five years and also taught at William and Mary, University of Texas. He was also Rector at Trinity Church in Portland, Maine and the Editor of the Journal Anglican and Episcopal History. He was a scholar, author, friend and humanitarian. He will be remembered as gentleman and for his wonderful sense of humor.

MA MOLLUS Ancestor Profile

First Assistant Engineer James Buchanan Houston

Involved in the "Trent Affair"

Washington, DC native James Buchanan Houston was a godson of his father's friend, president-to-be James Buchanan, and grandson of Commodore Thomas Truxton, who was honored for gallantry aboard the *Constellation* during the Revolution. Houston was serving on the *USS San Jacinto* in November 1861 when he was in a party that boarded the British mail packet *RMS Trent*, whose passengers included Confederate agents, former U.S. senators Mason and Slidell, on their way to London to seek British (and French) recognition and support for the South. The *San Jacinto's* captain, Charles Wilkes, who had heard about the mission through naval intelligence, took the two diplomats back to Fort Warren, in Boston, as "contraband of war." This designation, in Wilkes' view, legalized seizure of a neutral ship on the high seas. But it caused a diplomatic furor. Tension subsided only when President Lincoln apologized, disavowed the action, and released Mason and Slidell, who eventually reached England but failed to gain the recognition for the Confederacy that they sought. MOLLUS held a memorial dinner meeting at Delmonico's, in New York City, following James Buchanan Houston's death, in 1903.

Companion Rufus S. Frost III is a great-grandson of First Assistant Engineer James Buchanan Houston.

Commandery Addresses Massachusetts Sesquicentennial Commission



Associate Companion Bob Schechter visited the Massachusetts State House to tell members of the state's Sesquicentennial Commission about MOLLUS and invited them, and the members of the organizations they represent, to attend the 2014 MOLLUS National Congress in Framingham, October 3-5.



129th Congress

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

October 3–5 2014

Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center
1657 Worcester Road (Route 9)
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701
(Exit 12 Massachusetts Turnpike)

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Registration fee: \$50 per person \$ _____

Friday Dinner at Longfellow's Wayside Inn: \$55 per person \$ _____
Cocktails 6:15–7:30 Dinner 7:30–10:00 pm

Saturday banquet at the Sheraton: \$75 per person \$ _____
Cocktails 6:15–7:30 Dinner 7:30–10:00 pm

Saturday Bus Tour of Boston Civil War sites:
\$50 per person with box lunch; Bus only, \$30 per person \$ _____
12:30–4:30 pm.

Friday, 2:00–3:30 pm
**Guided tour of Christa McAuliffe Space
Education Center:** \$25 per person \$ _____

or
Friday, 2:30–5:00 pm (continuous)
**Docent-led tours of Framingham History Center
Civil War Exhibit.** \$25 per person \$ _____

*Please make a copy of this form and send it with payment no later than Sept. 15.
Make checks payable to **Massachusetts Commandery, MOLLUS** and send to:
David O. Whittemore, Esq., 152 Wayside Inn Road, Marlborough, MA 01752
508-872-4331 508-481-0393*

Please register by 9/1/14 to help with our planning.

*** The Commandery will pay for MA MOLLUS Companions' hotel accommodations for Friday and Saturday.**

Hotel Accommodations

Rooms at the Congress headquarters, the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center, are available at a negotiated rate of \$125 plus 11.7% room tax, per night. This rate is available for any night(s) Oct. 4-7 if registered by 9/1/14. For reservations, call Danielle Stoico, 508-879-7200, and ask for a room on the 6th floor.

Questions?

Contact Bob Schecter: 508-820-7789; bartscriv@verizon.net