

MILITARY ORDER OF THE
LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.
COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.



On behalf of the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) you are cordially invited to our annual dinner to take place;

Monday, May 6th 2013, 6:30 pm

We will meet at The 3 West Club, 3 West 51st Street, New York City. Cocktails will begin at 6:30pm in the Pub on floor 2M, followed by dinner at 7:00pm in the Lincoln Room on the third floor.

Our speaker will be noted Civil War historian William B. Styple who will speak on his recent book entitled **McClellan's Other Story: The Political Intrigue of Colonel Thomas Key, Confidential Aide to General George B. McClellan**, an eye-opening work involving Union General George B. McClellan, who later became governor of New Jersey. Styple details the story of Colonel Thomas M. Key, McClellan's confidential aide, who secretly corresponded with the Confederacy to prolong the war, even convincing McClellan to ignore presidential orders. Please visit <http://www.bellegrovepublishing.com/> for more info on the book and author.

This is the most important meeting of the year and your presence promises to make the evening especially enjoyable. Ladies and guests are welcome. Kindly return the coupon below at your earliest convenience so that we can plan an excellent meal accompanied by fine wines.

Gerald F. Fisher
Commander

-----detach and return-----

Gerald F. Fisher, Commander
77 Seventh Ave. Apt. 16E
New York, NY 10011-6631

Enclosed is my check payable to MOLLUS, NY COMMANDERY, in the amount of \$95 per person for _____ reservation(s) for the ANNUAL MEETING on Monday, 6 May 2013.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS & TELEPHONE: _____

Commandery of the State of New York, The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

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History of the Loyal Legion;

On 15 April 1865, as word of President Abraham Lincoln's death spread throughout the country, three Union Army officer friends met in Philadelphia to discuss the tragic news. Rumors from Washington of a conspiracy to destroy the Federal government by assassination of its leaders prompted the three officers to form an organization that could help thwart future threats to the national government.

A mass meeting of Philadelphia veterans was held on 20 April 1865 to pledge renewed allegiance to the Union and to plan for participation in the funeral arrangements for the President. The Philadelphia officers, who served as an honor guard for President Lincoln's funeral cortege, met again after the funeral was over to establish a permanent organization of officers and former officers patterned after the Society of Cincinnati established after the Revolutionary War. The name they chose, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), first appeared in a notice calling a meeting on 31 May 1865 at Independence Hall.

Since its inception, the MOLLUS membership has included nearly 12,000 Civil War officers. At its zenith, MOLLUS counted practically every prominent officer among its ranks. Among them were Generals Ulysses S. Grant, William T. Sherman; Lt. Generals Philip H. Sheridan, George Armstrong Custer, Nelson A. Miles and John M. Schofield; Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, George B. McClellan, Rutherford B. Hayes, David McMurtie Gregg and Grenville M. Dodge; Admiral David G. Farragut; Rear Admirals Bancroft Gherardi and George W. Melville. In addition to Ulysses S. Grant and Rutherford B. Hayes, Original Companions Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley served as Presidents of the United States.

With the eventual aging of the Original Companions, membership within the MOLLUS was changed to provide for Hereditary Companions; descendants of eligible officers. There are currently four categories of membership: Hereditary, Junior, Associate and Honorary. Many Original Companions of MOLLUS were also members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). Similarly, many Hereditary Companions of MOLLUS are currently also members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the legal heir to the GAR. Membership information may be obtained by going to our interactive Membership Information Request form.

Website: <http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm>