



Now Hear This...



VOLUME 85, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Commander's Desk...

Greetings, Legion of Honor Nobles and Ladies,

Well, 2015 is over and we have a fresh New Year ahead of us. Lady Deb and I want to wish everyone a safe, happy and blessed New Year.

What a wonderful year 2015 has been for me and Deb. After achieving the honor of serving as your commander, it has been a whirlwind year of activity and travel. It's hard to believe that I have been commander for nine months.

Two of my main goals this year were to have fun and work as a team to help create new Legion units and build membership. I believe both of these things help us as Legion of Honor Nobles. Thanks to the hard work of many, we are going to have three new units this year and several units that have been reinstated. I am asking each and every temple that has a Legion of Honor unit to help create membership.

This quarter has been filled with travel and the opportunity to meet with Legion members. Lady Deb and I began with a trip to Zenobia Shrine near Toledo, Ohio. We spent time with many friends that we have made over the years of our visits there and installed the officers.

Congratulations to Commander Steve Bond and his officers for 2016. And many thanks to the Zenobia nobles and ladies for their warm hospitality.

Then it was on to Arlington. What an amazing time. 392 attended and there were 128 first timers. We can't thank you enough for the show of support. What an honor it was to lay the wreath with Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt. We were thrilled that Lady Lisa was able to join him for the event. It also meant a great deal to have Deb's sisters and their husbands in attendance. Her older sister Martha's husband Tim, who is a Vietnam Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, honored us by accompanying me to lay the wreath, as did my Chief of Staff Jim Lare. One of Martha



Jim Pulley

and Tim's sons also was able to be there with his family. Everyone enjoyed the event.

From Arlington we traveled to Florida, where we were graciously hosted by the 7th Lt Commander Tracy Coughlin and Lady Janet. We traveled down to Sarasota for a special event at Sahib Shriners—hosted by the Legion of Honor. Thanks to Commander Van Dyke and Illustrious Sir Jacobi for the warm hospitality we received.

Then we traveled to Puerto Rico. Accompanied by Lt Cmdr Coughlin, Lady Janet, his CoS and FSA Commander,

Karl Stimson and his Lady Charlie we flew into San Juan and were picked up by Osvaldo Rodriguez and some of the Al Rai e' Saleh LOH members. From that point on we were treated with the most marvelous hospitality. We spent time at the temple where I installed the officers. We also visited the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico, where we received a tour of the building and the ladies had the opportunity to get better acquainted and experience some Puerto Rican snack foods. Congratulations to Commander Armando Wiscovich and his officers. And thank you for the wonderful hospitality.

While there we were given a tour of the old city hosted by Osvaldo, and took a tour of the Bacardi factory. We also had some time to enjoy the wonderful Caribbean climate (first time for us) and some excellent food and wine. A special thank you to Ill. Sir Rafael B. Acosta who made many of the arrangements for our stay and to Osvaldo who made sure we had transportation everywhere we needed to go.

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The Crystal Ball

Looking at the Future...

TALOH
March 1st—4th 2016

Annual Convention
April 6th—10th 2016

MASA
April 21st—24th 2016

WSA
May 5th - 8th 2016

SASA
May 5th - 7th 2016

Canadian Wreath Laying
Saturday June 4th 2016

Check the IALOH web site for details and registration forms in addition to information and other upcoming events

If you would like your Association meeting listed here, please pass the information to the Adjutant.

We returned to Florida and spent a few days in Melbourne, Florida visiting with Oriental Guide and LOH member Ray Lynch and his Lady Adele. We had the opportunity to meet some of the LOH members at other events while we were there.

Unfortunately we had to cut our visit to Florida short due to a death in the family. My apologies to Bahia Shrine LOH and the Ocala Shrine Club LOH for missing the planned events there. We had been looking forward to those visits.

Since we returned home, we have jumped into the holiday season with some day trips. First we headed to Peoria, Illinois for the installation of officers at Mohammed Legion of Honor. This is a wonderful group that we have been visiting for many years. Congratulations to Commander Paul Dillow and his officers. Thank you LOH nobles and ladies for your warm hospitality.

Our next visit was to my home temple, Ainad LOH in East St. Louis, Illinois to install officers. It was a lot of fun visiting with the many friends, members and ladies, who were there. 6th Int'l Commander Dr. Mike Murray was also in attendance. It was a special privilege to install the officers of my own unit. Thanks to our Potentate III Sir Bill Reidelberger and the divan members who attended. Congratulations to Commander Jeff Dove and his officers.

Then we traveled to Anderson, Indiana for the installation of officers of the Murat LOH. It was kind of fun for Lady Deb

since Anderson University is her alma mater and this is the first time we've had the chance to visit the campus since she left years ago. This was an august crowd with all the GLSALOH officers, many Past GLSALOH commanders, and the International VA Rep, Larry Hearn, in attendance. 6th Int'l Lt Commander and GLSALOH Commander, Mike Murray acted as Marshall. Congratulations to Commander Wilson and his officers.

Our last trip of the year was back to St. Louis for the installation of the Moollah LOH officers. 6th Int'l Lt Commander and GLSALOH Commander, Mike Murray acted as Marshall. We have a special bond with this unit, located just across the river from our own Ainad LOH. It was a great evening with good friends. Congratulations to Commander Hensley and his officers.

Nobles and ladies, it is almost time for our IALOH convention in O'Fallon, Illinois. Lady Deb and I are hoping you can come and join us. Our theme is Route 66. Featured events include a visit from the award winning Ainad Drum and Bugle Corps on Friday evening, a tour of the Anheuser Busch Brewery and the brand new Shriner's Hospital St. Louis, Thursday Afternoon. Thursday evening we will have our Route 66 themed dinner and Elvis will perform along with Buddy Holly and Patsy Cline. We will have a lot of fun with a small portion of business.

For more information, check the IALOH website: http://ialoh.org/events/Convention/Convention_Welcome.htm

Remember – building membership is key for this organization to continue with vigor.

“Precious moments and precious friends—they are the treasures to hoard and cherish. We find ourselves wealthy in both and are thankful that you are part of that treasure.”

It's truly an honor to be a member of the Legion of Honor.

Yours in the faith,
Jim Pulley
Commander

**Deadline for the
April
Newsletter
is
01 April 2016**

From the Adjutant/Editor

In this month's issue you will find the form to submit ads for the annual yearbook. The yearbook is a means for you to show your support and the support of your units and regional associations. I would like to encourage everyone to make good use of these forms and show your support for the International Association. The Annual Convention is a great place to see your Association at work, meet new friends and see old friends from the past years.

I have received several Annual Reports, which I would like to thank the noble adjutants who have sent them in. However, some of the checks are being made out to me. Please make all checks out to International Association Legions of Honor and please be sure to put on the checks what they are for. It makes it easier to keep the yearbook money separate from the dues money. Thank you for your assistance with this. Please look for another Newsletter to come out soon with the proposed bylaw changes that will be voted on in the business meeting at the next Annual

Convention in April in O'Fallon, Il.

On a personal note: as many of you may know, I got very sick shortly after Halloween and was unable to attend the Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony. At this point I have had two surgeries and am still recuperating and under going treatment. My goal is to be able to walk by the Annual Convention. I would like to thank all the nobles and ladies for their cards and well wishes. I would like to also thank everyone for their patients while I get better.. It has been a long road, but I keep getting better everyday.

Yours In The Faith,
Kevin
IALOH Adjutant



Kevin Fox

1st Lieutenant Commander's Message

Greetings Legion Nobles & Ladies

Hope everyone had an excellent Christmas Holidays. As we all know, Christmas brings family and friends together. It helps us appreciate the love in our lives we often take for granted. I hope that the true meaning of the holiday season filled the hearts and homes with many blessings. Hope everyone had wonderful memories during this joyous season.

On November 5, 2015, Commander Jim Pulley, his staff & IALOH Officers and Legion Nobles & their ladies came together at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn in Arlington, Virginia. During that time, we had a great hospitality with over 300 Shriner Legion Nobles & their ladies attending.

On November 6, 2016, Commander Pulley welcomed the Imperial Potentate Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt & his lady Lisa to the IALOH Arlington meeting.

On November 7, 2015, Commander Jim Pulley & the IALOH Officers and Legion Nobles & their ladies had the honored and pleasure of laying the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Imperial Potentate Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt was our honored guest during the ceremony.

Past Potentate Illustrious Sir/4th Lt Commander Eddie Daffern & Lady Sheri were the Hospitality Arlington Chairman. My special thanks to you and your

staff for the wonderful job you did on the hospitality. The extra time and effort you put in were certainly worthwhile. It's a joy for us to be with such dedicated and talented Nobles & Ladies. Thanks again.

On April 6-10, 2016, the International Association Legions of Honor will have the 85th Annual Convention at the Regency Conference Center and Hilton Garden Inn, O'Fallon, Illinois. Commander Jim Pulley will host the best convention ever. Everyone is excited about this convention.

We had the pleasure of having the AL AMIN Shriners Legion of Honor members attend the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Some of the members were Int'l Chief of Staff Jim Fox & lady Maureen, Lady Virginia (Ginny) Fox, PC Bob Hindshaw & his son Gary, Noble George Green & lady Rita, 2nd Lt. TALOH Cmdr. Arvid Bergman & lady Barbara. Thanks for attending....

Thanks again for your warm hospitality, I want thank everyone for what you do for the Shriner Kids & Our Veterans.

Please remember that you are always welcome when your travels bring you to



Gilbert Medina

Division One

South Texas.

If I can be of any assistance, email me: medina502@aol.com

Or call me at 956-607-3640

Fraternally,

Gilbert Medina
1st Lt. Commander
IALOH

2nd Lieutenant Commander's Message

Division Two

Now Hear This..... January 1st 2016

Happy New Year! I can't think a better way to start the Newsletter for the last quarter of 2015 than to wish you the best for the coming year.

One way to make 2016 the best we can for IALOH is to get annual reporting done by the new officers of the Legion of Honor Units and Clubs. Did you say you don't know what IALOH requirements are? Here is a short list. **#1.** Fill out the **Annual Report**. **#2.** Attach a **check** for payment of your organization's annual dues (yeah, it is still only \$2 a member!). **#3.** Fill out and attach the **Necrology Report**. **#4.** While you are at it, fill out the voting **Delegate Report**, so I'll know who is going to be voting for me as 1st Lt. Commander. **#5.** Send all this to International Adjutant Kevin Fox with a copy to me in January 2016, please.



Morris Sykes

Will you be attending the **85th Annual IALOH Convention** on the 6th through 9th of April 2016 in O'Fallon, Illinois? If so, it's time to get your registration and hotel reservation made. The theme is all about taking a trip down **Old Route 66** from Chicago to Los Angeles. You do like to travel don't you? Remember when you were in military service and could see the World on Uncle Sam's dollar?

Okay, now for my travel report for the last quarter of 2015, October through December.

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I was not feeling well at the start of October, however wild horses could not stop me from going on the annual elk hunting camp in western Colorado. The group moved our tent location from 8,200 feet up to the 11,300 feet elevation. It's a military thing. The higher up the mountain the further you can see. After returning home I still didn't feel well and by the last of October, the doctor's x-rays revealed that I had pneumonia. The doctor gave me two bottles of horse pills and said I needed lots of rest and hospital care.

I didn't have time for that, and all those nurses 24/7, because I needed to travel to Arlington, VA for the Annual Wreath Laying on the Tomb. This is the first time in the 15 years I have attended that it rained on Saturday. Everyone told me that with pneumonia I should not go out in the rain to attend the event. So for once I followed good advice and stayed in the hotel. The program this year was under the direction of Chairman 4th Lt. Commander Eddie Daffern, PP and Deputy Chairman Al Gonzalez with their COS's and ladies. I was well enough by the end of November to eat turkey on Thanksgiving Day. December is traditionally party season for Shriners and Lady Suzette and I were ready. It is also time to start the selection process for new officers for 2016.

Commander Bill & Lady Ruth Davis of Arab Legion of Honor in Topeka, Kansas held their Christmas party in the Top of the Tower Club which is in the tallest building in Topeka, after the Kansas State Capitol Building. A local high school group was decked out in their holiday attire of red gowns and red bow ties and sang Christmas and Holiday songs. You had a great year Commander Bill, congratulations.

3rd Lieutenant Commander's Message

We started off the last Quarter of the year with a Holiday at Home Parade which is a BIG parade for the Dayton Area. Usually takes around 3 hours from start to finish. Antioch Shrine Temple, as usual, had a massive turn out for the Annual Parade.

The International Legions of Honor had a fall meeting in O'Fallon, Ill, this month to discuss and review and update of the By-Laws, membership, drill competition, year book ads, etc. A lot of the time was given to the By-Laws review as this had not been done in quite some time. It was great meeting and very productive as well. Congratulations to Commander Jim Pulley for maintaining meeting dynamics. Great meeting!

Antioch's Legion of Honor had a fish fry as their fundraiser and the turn out and food was great. Always look forward in supporting my own unit when I am not traveling.

Last part of September had us traveling to Nashville Tenn. for our annual Past Potentates 2008 get together. This has been going on since 2009 and we pick a place to go during the week and sit around and chat and maybe do some.

Site seeing. Always a great trip when we all get together and sit around and talk, play cards, enjoy each other's company, and maybe drink a few cold cokes!!

October took us to London Ontario, Canada for the Mocha LOH Change of Command. My Chief of Staff, John, "Popeye" Smith, was installed as the Commander and I am sure he will do an excellent job as Commander.

Then it was off to India Legion of Honor for their Christmas dinner, in Oklahoma City, OK. They have been one of my strongest supporters since I was Commander of the CSSA LOH and had my convention there. India LOH officers attended as did my Personal Aide Michael Driskill, PC and old friends like PC David and Lady Donna Greenburg.

DIVISION TWO, I need your vote at International Convention O'Fallon, Illinois! See me next in your area, on the first Saturday in February, at Ismailia Shriners Legion of Honor Officers installation at Buffalo, New York.

Yours in the Faith,

Morris W. Sykes

2nd Lt. Commander

mwsykes33@gmail.com

Division Three

something we look forward to each year. We also had a great IALOH meeting with Imp Sir Jerry Gantt in attendance this year.

We also had a great IALOH meeting with Imp Sir Jerry Gantt in attendance this year. Lt Commander Ed Daffern and staff did a superb job in the hospitality room this year and I commend him for excelling in this arena. Great Job Ed.

November is the month that Lady Pat had her complete knee surgery and I must say that everything thus far has gone smooth. She is up and walking and has been released to start on her own with therapy and released to drive again. All this in 5 weeks!! I am so proud of her. Needless to say not much traveling done in November

Syrian Shrine LOH COC was mid-November and Lady Pat and I attended the Installation of Officers. Congratulations to Syrian LOH. It was nice to see IALOH Past Commander Bill Glenn and Lady Shirley in attendance.



Ray Combs

Antioch's LOH lost their Commander this month and it was sad for me as well as our members.

Harry served in the USA, 173rd Airborne during Vietnam and received the Purple Heart award.

November we had the the great honor to again attend the Wreath Laying at Arlington Cemetery,

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December we made it to Aladdin Shrine temple where I installed Ill Sir Michael Tyne and his line officers for the year 2016. Congratulations to Ills Sir Tyne and I wish him a successful year.

Lady Pat and I did Santa and Mrs. Claus this year but she was very protective and sore from these visits. We kept it down to a few due to her surgery. She was a good sport in doing this again this year and I will admit she was not in very much pain at all. Our last visit was to the Dayton VA Center to visit our guys and gals in the hospital. We visited 15 rooms and passed out some Santa presents to them. Bless them for all that they have done for America. God bless all of you this season and may next year be full of excitement and pleasure for all.

Keep em Flying

Ray Combs

3rd Lt. Commander



It was brought to my attention from the IALOH Finance Officer with deep sadness that I report to you that Lady Betty Finley, former wife of Past Commander A.Q. Finley 2000-2001 suddenly passed away on Friday afternoon Jan. 15, while vacationing with her family in Florida. There are no other particulars available at this time. If you would like to send a card of condolences, address it to her daughter. Glenda's address, who she was living with is Mrs. Glenda Hollinsworth, 200 Logan Avenue, Morgantown, WV, 26505

It was also brought to my attention that PIC Bill Glenn's COS Jack Smith's lady Barbara Smith had passed away. She will be cremated and buried with Jack Smith in the National Cemetery of North Georgia with Jack Smith PC.

Please keep them and every legion noble and lady who have passed as well in your heart and prayers.

With Condolences,
Kevin Fox
IALOH

4th Lieutenant Commander's Message

Division Four

Happy New Year!! I love this time of year because it gives us a chance to start fresh and be better than we were last year.

Exciting things are happening in Texas! In October, Commander and Past TALOH Commander John Metzler, from Arabia invited me, my Chief of Staff, Jim Hollis and our Ladies, Shari and Barbara to attend a LOH meeting to initiate new members. Because of deaths, age and some members moving, the unit was about to close. At this meeting we had four new members and then again, later in the month, we went back to initiate two more including Imperial Sir Jerry Gantt and Arabia Recorder John Olivarri. Then in December, we went back to their Christmas Party on the 16th and initiated five more. Thanks to John's outstanding work, the unit is now a successful unit and has some young members to take the helm.

TALOH's Fall Gathering was October 9th and 10th. Friday night was at Commander Bill Chicky's house. He and his Lady Jeannett were very gracious hosts.



Eddie Daffern

There were members from Hella in Dallas, Ben Hur in Austin, Moslah in Fort Worth, Kareem in Waco and Al Amin in Corpus

Christi. . Everyone had a great time and again on Saturday when we all met at Old Settler's Park in Round Rock. First Lt.Cmdr Gilbert Medina and Lady Nelda attended as well as Past International Commander Jack Tuomey and Lady Sarahbeth. TALOH 1st LtCmdr Michael Dozier and Lady Linda and 2nd LtCmdr Arvid Bergman and Lady Barbara.

October 22nd, Chief of Staff Jim Hollis and I went to Alzafar Shrine in San Antonio. There has not been a LOH unit at that temple for many years. That night they were having an initiation and election of officers. Noble J. R. Alaniz, along with help and direction from Illustrious Sir J. D. Thomas was instrumental in getting the group together.

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That night they had approximately 50 members join. Their new officers are J.R. Alaniz, Commander; Jason West, 1st LtCmdr; Eddie Fisher, 2nd LtCmdr; Carlos Vela, Adjutant; and Dennis Heath, Finance Officer. Their first fund-raiser was November 14th where they raised about \$1,000.00. Alazar is going to have a great LOH unit!

On a very sad note, my Ass't Chief of Staff and Commander of Ben Hur LOH, Allan Scholin, passed away and his memorial was on October 4th at Ben Hur Shrine. It was a Celebration of Life and was attended by many, many people. Many of his friends and former co-workers told some very interesting and funny stories concerning Allan. The next day, Allan's ashes were laid to rest at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, Texas with an Army contingent folding the flag and playing taps. Allan loved the LOH and many of our members participated in the ceremony both days.

He is missed, and will continue to be missed, as we continue to keep his lovely Lady Brenda in our hearts and prayers.

Lady Shari and I attended the Ben Hur Christmas party on December 3rd. Our Acting Commander John Blair and his Lady Diane did an outstanding job preparing the room and acquiring the caterer. Also in attendance was CoS Jim Hollis and Lady Barbara. The new officers are John Blair, Commander; Michael Dozier, 1st LtCmdr; and Jim Hollis, Adjutant/Recorder.

The biggest thing happening in November was the Wreath Laying Ceremony in Arlington. It was the first weekend of November as always. We had 387 people registered. I would like to thank my team for working the hospitality room and keeping the drinks and food flowing.

They are CoS Jim Hollis and Lady Barbara; ACoS Bill Chicky and Lady Jeannett; Personal Aide Michael Dozier and Lady Linda, Lady Brenda Scholin, and Lady Sandi Thulander. Also, a big thank you to all of you who brought food. Of course, during the planning and execution of Arlington,

I couldn't have done it without my Lady Shari. She can always keep me on an even keel and makes great decisions. I think everyone, or most everyone, had a good time except for the weather on Saturday and a couple of hiccups with the transportation. Hopefully, none of that will happen again since we were able to visit with the supervisor at the gate into Arlington. He seemed willing to help us in the future. All I know for sure is, that we will continue to have more attendees and that the whole weekend will continue to get better.

Now, go out and get new members, and have a great year!!

Semper Fi,
Eddie Daffern, PP

5th Lieutenant Commander's Message

In September we attended the IALOH Officers Meeting at the Hilton in O'Fallon MO where the Annual Convention will be held in April, 2016. We spent all day in meetings attempting to update the IALOH By-Laws.

Off to SASA Myrtle Beach SC where Cdr. Larry Sneide of Acca Temple was installed. We had a great time in his Hospitality Room...and then Myself, Larry, and the Ladies tried to travel to Breakers where El Hasa was and couldn't find it...short only 1 block...we gave up and turned around. We will be at SASA again this fall...if anyone would like to respond to me by Email algonza100@yahoo.com as to where your your Hospitality Room will be...I'd love to visit.

The Arlington Wreath Laying was

next. The Hospitality Room responsibility fell to 4th Lt Cdr Eddie Daffern and Lady Shari. We had the pleasure of shadowing them as our responsibility will be due in 2016. We even went with them to an underground grocery store "Safeway". I am not sure I could find it again!

They sure did a fine job this year. It's always a busy event and they rallied.

We traveled back to Kansas at this point. It sure was nice to spend Thanksgiving & Christmas at home for a change. Had a great time



Al Gonzalez

Division Five

with the neighbors and events at Arab Temple, attending 3 different Christmas parties. It is now January 2016. We are getting ready to head toward my Chief of Staff's home to attend Abou Ben Adhem's LOH Change of Command Ball in Springfield MO. Bill & Barbara Allen have become good friends as well as essential staff.

At the end of January, we will head to Kingsport TN to attend Jericho's LOH Change of Command Ball. One of my Assistant Chiefs of Staff, Norm Scott will be installed as Commander.

Hope to see you all in November at the Wreath Laying Ceremony. We promise Lady Laurie and I will do all we can to make your experience a pleasant one.

Al Gonzalez
5th Lt Cdr IALOH

6th Lieutenant Commander's Message

Division Six

This quarter I have decided to devote my news article to membership. In the last few years, our numbers of membership in the IALOH have been declining as well as our numbers at the IALOH annual convention. The question is why?

As all of us know, our very existence depends on our Association having members. We are also financially dependent on numbers as our annual dues deposits \$2.00 per each member in the general fund.

I decided to start researching the topic and further decided to start here at home in Evansville, Indiana. Evansville established a veteran's council some years ago with representatives from each of the veteran's organizations that operates in the Evansville area. These organizations consist of: Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion, American Veterans (AMVETS), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Reserve Officer Association (ROA), Point Man program, Military Officer Association, Wounded Warrior Project, Honor Flights and lastly, the Legion of Honor of Shriners International.

I polled all these organizations and found that practically all of them are in decline on membership with exception of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). It seems the VFW in past years have either maintained their membership levels or increased them. So what is the VFW's secret?

Across the next few months, I will talk to these various veteran organizations and determine what they are doing to recruit new members and also what they are doing to maintain the members that they currently have enrolled. It should prove to be an interesting study. In the meantime, what are you as IALOH members doing to create new units or restoring units that we have lost?

Army Strong!

Mike "Doc" Murray

Lt. Commander, IALOH



Mike Murray

7th Lieutenant Commander's Message

Division Seven

Greetings all,

I hope you're off to a great New Year and have plenty of unit activities planned. As I write this dispatch, it's the last day of 2015 and we've had record high temperatures in Central Florida. Something about near 90 degree days around Christmas just doesn't seem right, but I'll take it anyway.

Since the last time you had to read about my journeys, I've went on more campaigns and brought back war stories to share. We had a great turnout of attendees and first-timers at the annual Arlington Pilgrimage and Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Washington DC. This was followed by a ceremony at the Canadian Cross of Sacrifice memorial, where we each placed a poppy in remembrance of our Canadian brothers and sisters. Hospitality for the weekend was great and a special thanks to 4th Lt Commander Eddie "Ol Tex" Daffern and his posse for a wonderful job keeping us fed and hydrated.

After returning from Arlington, Commander Jim "Hill Billy" Pulley and his lady Deb joined me for a visit to Sarasota to attend the Sahib LOH annual Veterans presentation to Sahib Temple. Commander Malcolm "Albatross" Van Dyke and the Sahib LOH

sponsored an evening of entertainment featuring bagpipes and a Veterans Day salute. Oh how I love the sound of pipes!

I then had the pleasure of making an assault on the gates of San Juan, Puerto Rico with "Hill Billy", along with my Chief of Staff Karl "Short Round" Stimson, and our ladies, to visit Al Rai'e Aleh LOH. We were greeted by Commander Armando "Dick" Wiscovitch; (now) Potentate Osvaldo "Snopes" Rodriguez, PC; I.S. Rafael "Fleet Feet" Acosta, PGM; their ladies, and many more warm and friendly folks. We were given a tour of the Puerto Rican Grand Lodge by "Fleet Feet" and then met with LOH members. The members had never taken a LOH induction oath from an installed officer, so "Hill Billy" and I did the honors. After a One Stone Degree, we adjourned to a feast of local treats and snacks followed by a retreat to the Bacardi Rum Distillery. After some R&R in the pool, we packed our duffle's and headed back to the Great PX. You could not ask for a better reception and hospitality and again, I must thank our hosts.

My next stop was to the Ocala LOH Change of Command where Dave "Motorboat" Ginapp relinquished command to Steve "Top Rope" Higgins. Junior Past IALOH Commander Ted "Legal Eagle" Henderson and I performed the installation ceremony. It's always great to see old friends and meet new ones at Ocala.

My final visit for the year before Mama settling down in kerchief and me in my cap, was to visit Amara LOH in Palm Beach Garden for their officer election. We had an excellent turkey dinner followed by some open and frank discussion



Tracy Coughlin

on the state of the Florida Shrine Association (FSA) and unit membership as well. Like many, Amara is suffering from poor recruitment, but not for lack of effort. I believe Commander Morrie "Fly Boy" Weinman has been elected for his 4th consecutive year as commander just to give you an idea of what some units are up

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against. . For those in the FSA LOH, there is an opportunity to excel available as a line officer in FSA. Give "Fly Boy" a call if you're interested, I can guarantee a leadership role for you.

Upon my return to Orlando, I unexpectedly found myself back on the Bahia LOH line as 1st Lt Commander. I hope the unit realizes what they did before it's too late. But it brings me back to membership and what is being done, as well as what can be done, to recruit new members. Make sure you're letting potential members in your Temple know what the LOH does for Shrinedom and see if you can get them to join your LOH unit as well. And make an extra effort to let other units know what you're doing to be successful.

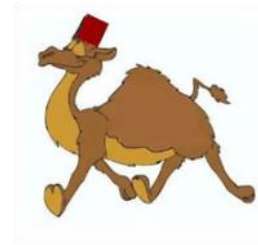
And don't forget to register your unit for the In-Line Inspection and/or the Drill Competition before the IALOH Convention deadline. It's an easy way to pick up 2 extra credits for your team.

Tracy Coughlin
7th Lt. Commander

Charlie here.....

There is no greater joy nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone's life.

Mary Rose McGeady



8th Lieutenant Commander's Message

Division eight

As the year is coming to a close and everyone has had their traditional Thanksgiving and Holiday celebrations, I find myself in an area that I hadn't envisioned a year ago. At this time last year I was getting myself mentally ready to be Commander of my local LOH unit, which was held on January 10th and so happened to be the same day that Leighanne and I decided to have our wedding ceremony. It was a great day full of new visions and dreams of our journeys and of places to visit. Little did we know that an opportunity for travel and meeting new great friends was on the horizon?

That January weekend IALOH Lt's Morris Sykes and Al Gonzalez were there for both events with their ladies. What a weekend it was, as I was informed that the 8th Lt Cmdr had stepped down from the International line and I could if Leighanne and I choose run for the said position. All is history in the making now and as of my last writing

we have traveled to Arlington, VA to be part of the Laying of a LOH Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown. What a glorious weekend there as a first time participant and being able to spend time with our LOH friends and cohorts. If there are members of your respective LOH units that haven't visited the tomb or Arlington/Washington DC, I highly recommend it as we will be looking forward to November every year for this grand visit. Please do visit.

As I have reached out to the units in my Division, there has been no request for my appearances. That doesn't mean that I shouldn't visit those units because I have plans to do the same down the road. If there is a Commander that is reading this that hasn't been privy to my other notices, call me at 760-917-9282 or email me at steve1956@twc.com. I am here to serve you and your Unit when I can.



Steven C. Walker

On a final note, I will be installed Commander of the Western Shrine Legions of Honor this coming May and would enjoy a hearty presence of LOH Nobles and their Ladies there. Have a safe New Years Eve until I visit my computer again.

Steve Walker

8th Lt. Commander

Notice! Convention Registration Fees!

Well, three months have passed since the last newsletter and the Annual Convention is right around the corner. I know we will all have fun at the Annual Convention in O'Fallon.

The early registration for the Convention ends on 28 Feb. Be an early bird and get your registrations in early.

The registration form for the 85th Annual Convention in O'Fallon, IL, are in this issue of the newsletter. Please make copies of these pages and distribute to the members of your Units. The Commander's welcome letter and a Drill Competition registration form can be found on our web site under [Events](#).

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2016-2017

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International Association Legions of Honor

85th Annual Convention

Hilton Garden Inn & Regency Conference Center

6 – 10 April, 2016

Convention Registration Form



Name: - _____ Lady: _____

Name & Title on Badge: _____

Shrine Center: _____

Offices held Past/Present: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Shrine Offices held Past/Present: _____

Special Needs: _____

Int'l Officer _____ Emeritus: _____ Delegate: _____ Alt. Delegate: _____ Other: _____ Specify) _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ Car: _____ Other _____

Air: Airline: _____ Flight Number: _____ Arrival Time: _____

Convention Registration Fees

Early Registration (On or before 28 Feb 2016) \$150.00 (US) per person X _____ = \$ _____

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