From the Commander's Desk...



# Now Hear This...



## VOLUME 84, ISSUE 3 JANUARY 2015

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

# Well, here it is, time for another article for the newsletter. Where does the time go?

Of course this last quarter began with our pilgrimage to Arlington National Cemetery for the annual wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns. We had an excellent turn out for this year's trip, and once again the Washington weather cooperated to make it a very enjoyable event. We were honored to have with us our Imperial Potentate, Dale

Stauss, and his lovely lady Cheryl, which greatly added to our enjoyment and fun. This was actually the second time this year that Imperial Sir Dale and I got to lay a wreath for our military brothers as we both participated in a similar ceremony at the Canadian National Military Cemetery in Ottawa in June. In addition to laying our wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns, we also continued our new tradition of laying poppy blossoms at the Canadian Cross of Sacrifice at Arlington. This monument recognizes the large number of U.S. citizens who enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and lost their lives during World War I.

We also took some time out during the weekend for some fun. As it turned out, the Friday before we laid the wreath was Halloween. Being all just big kids at heart, this meant that we had to have a Halloween party complete with costumes and treats. I can tell you that the costumes were all very, shall we say creative, and everyone really seemed to enjoy themselves. If you haven't heard, yes that was me riding the big pink flamingo at the party. Even my travelling partner Freddie was there and got into the spirit. I think everyone had a great time.



**Ted Henderson** 

Later in November, I was honored to be asked to install the officers of the Ocala (Florida) Legion of Honor. Ocala is a Shrine club within Morocco Temple out of Jacksonville, Florida. In case you haven't heard, we do have a few recognized Legion of Honor units that are part of a Shrine club, rather than representing their entire temple. The key to this is that they have the permission of the temple potentate to apply for their own IALOH unit charter. Something to keep in mind if you belong to

an LOH group that is not located very close to your temple. This was my third or fourth consecutive visit to this unit for their officer installation and I enjoy myself every time. My congratulations and best wishes to their new commander, David Ginapp, for another excellent year in Ocala.

December brings in the holiday season, and I was fortunate to be able to attend the Egypt LOH unit's holiday party in Tampa. This was an excellent time with great food and even better company. I have been fortunate to get to know this unit fairly well in the past few years, and always look forward to any occasion or time that allows me to be with them again. A few weeks later it was down to Orlando for the Bahia LOH officer Introduction and Indoctrination ceremony. This is another unit that I have come to know quite well; and likewise, I always enjoy my time with them. I consider myself blessed to have these two "home away from home" units so close by who have welcomed me into their families.

Finally, I notice from the calendar that we are only about three months away for our

(Continued on page 2)

Intl. Commander	1
1st Intl. LCDR	2
2nd Intl. LCDR	3
3rd Intl. LCDR	4
4th Intl. LCDR	5
5h Intl. LCDR	8
6th Intl. LCDR	9
7th Intl. LCDR	10
8th Intl. LCDR	10
Intl. Adjutant	3
Contact Them	11
Taps	4

### The Crystal Ball

Looking at the Future...

#### TALOH Mid-Winter Arlington, TX 05-08 March 2015

MASA Spring Meeting Reading, PA 26-29 March 2015

#### IALOH 84<sup>th</sup> Convention Tampa, FL 22-26 April 2015

WSA LOH Spring Meeting Las Vegas, NV 23 April 2015

#### FSA LOH Convention Sarasota, FL 08-09 May 2015

#### SASA Spring Meeting Lexington, KY 14-17 May 2015

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

If you would like your Association meeting listed here, please pass the information to the Adjutant. Page 2 Volume 84 Issue 3

### 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

i Brother Legion of Honor Nobles, and Ladies;

I hope everyone had a happy holiday season, a good Christmas and a happy New Year. Deb and I sure did, sharing it with family and friends. As the New Year starts let's all of us focus on membership in our Legion of Honor units and our tem-

ples. Membership is key to helping our hospitals and doing fundraisers for our Legion units. So, as we start the New Year, let's get out there and bring in a new member.

As always, Lady Deb and I really enjoyed attending the wreath laying. What a great event this is every year. I know it was a great moment for our Commander, Ted Henderson. It is always an honor to be there, not just for the wreath laying, but for the chance to see all of our friends that come to the event. I



Jim Pulley

want to thank 4<sup>th</sup> Lt Commander, Ray Combs, and all of his workers for putting on a great event and hospitality room. Everyone had a great time.

In December I was privileged to install the officers of my own temple, Ainad Legion of Honor. Deb and I truly enjoyed seeing everyone. I want to thank incom-

ing Commander, Joe Cano for inviting me to install his officers. Congratulations to Commander Cano, and all of his officers.

Then it was off to Moolah Shrine to install their Legion of Honor officers.

Thanks to everyone from me and my lady for the wonderful hospitality. Congratulations to Commander Mike Hensley and his officers.

Then I visited Hadi for their installation of officers. 4<sup>th</sup> Lt Commander Ray

#### **Division One**

Combs and Lady Pat, joined me and 6<sup>th</sup> Lt Commander Mike Murray for a great time. Thanks to Lt Commander Combs for acting as my Marshal. And thanks to my Chief of Staff, Jim Lare for traveling with me. Congratulations to Commander Michael Stefvark and his officers.

Until next time. Remember to think membership. God bless and protect America, our military and our Legions of Honor. It is truly an honor to belong to the Legion of Honor.

"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." We look forward to seeing everyone in Tampa.

Yours in the faith,

Jim Pulley

(Continued from page 1)

annual convention in Tampa, Florida on 22-26 April 2015. I sincerely hope that you are planning to be with us for the festivities. I think that you will be rewarded with a genuinely good time if you can make it down to Florida. I am receiving more and more registrations every day. Be sure to get your registrations in early as the registration fee increases after March 15<sup>th</sup>. Registrations for the convention should be sent directly to me; and, don't forget to make your own hotel reservations directly with the DoubleTree Hotel in Tampa. Registration forms and contact information are available on the IALOH.org website. As we get closer to the convention, be sure to watch the website and our IALOH Facebook page for new information and updates regarding the convention. I hope you will be joining us.

Speaking of the IALOH Facebook page, I mentioned in the last newsletter that I was looking for materials and items from



the LOH family to post on the page. I'm sorry to say that I haven't really been receiving much from you all for posting. If you have anything from your unit or association that you would like to submit to me, especially if you have pictures, please do so. You can either email or Facebook message it to me and I'll see what I can do.

Well, that's about it for now. I always enjoy seeing and hearing from all of you. You can reach me at my home address: 2916 Cross Creek Court, Tallahassee, FL 32301; my email address: tedhenderson@juno.com; or, my cell phone: 850-321-3472. I hope to hear from you soon, and hope to see you all somewhere down the road. Until then, I am,

Yours in the faith,

Ted Henderson International Commander 2014-215

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

reetings Legion Noble & Ladies,
The New Year wishes 2015 are all about warmth, camaraderie and goodwill. Hope that the New Year turns out to be a very special one for everyone filling each day with peak of health, abundance of happiness and prosperity. Let us pray that it will be a year with New Peace, New Happiness and abundance of new friends, God bless everyone through out the New Year.

On November 21, 2014, COS Jim Fox & Lady Maureen and myself and Lady Nelda attending the AL AMIN Shrine Legion of Honor Military Ball. The Military Ball was held at the Nomad Shrine Club in Pharr, Texas. In attendance were LOH AL AMIN Commander Arvid Bergman & Lady Barbara, Officers and Legion Nobles and their Ladies. Also, in attendance was IALOH 1st Lt Commander Jim Pulley & Lady Deb as our distinguished guest. The entertainment was great, food was superb, and camaraderie was excellent. Congratulations to Commander Bergman for great Military Ball.

I would like to thank Ron A. Lee, Intl. Adjutant/Yearbook Editor for a great job producing the 2014-2015 yearbook for the 84rd year of the IALOH. Congratulations for a job well done! We are grateful and appreciate your willingness to do the extra work. Thank you again for your hard work.

Legion Nobles are cordially invited to attend the Mid-

Atlantic Shrine Association Legions of Honor (MASA) Legion of Honor Convention in Wyomissing and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Please join us March 26 - 28, 2015 Legion of Honor Spring Convention at the Crowne Plaza in Wyomissing, PA. It's hosted by MASA Commander Kevin Fox & Lady Kelly. All reservations are to be made directly with the Crowne Plaza. Please call 877-354-1011 and advise the hotel you are with the Mid-Atlantic Shriners.



**Gilbert Medina** 

#### **Division Two**

Legion Nobles please mark your calendars to attend the International Association Legions of Honor, the 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention held at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Tampa, Airport – Westshore on April 22 – 26, 2015.

One of the most important in the IALOH is to recruit & retain members by maintaining a positive environ-

ment and providing fellowship and enjoyment for every member and enabling the continuous growth of membership.

IALOH appreciates your time and dedication that you have provided to the Shriners Hospital for Children and the Legions of Honor.

Fraternally

Gilbert Medina

### From the Adjutant/Editor

t is amazing that during the year I think of things that would be good to mention in my corner of the newsletter. Then, when I have to sit down and begin, the mind goes blank and I fall back on items of business.

However, before I get to the business, I must mention a suggestion sent to me by Noble Stan Grenda, PC of Vancouver Island Legion of

Honour. In an effort to increase their membership, his Unit has placed a want ad in the Temple newsletter/magazine inviting military veteran members to look into their Legion of Honour. The ad lists contact info and advises that proof of military service is required. It sounds so good we're going to try it locally. I'll let you know how it works.



**Ron Lee** 

On to business! It is that time of year when dues and reports start rolling in—at least I hope they do. At your next business meeting please make sure that your unit has responded. Early responses make it easier to prepare for the upcoming Convention in Tampa.

After the convention we have the deadline for submission of ads for the 2015-

2016 yearbook. The deadline this year, as was last year's, is 15 May 2015. And, as always, the Association needs your support for the yearbook. Ad submission forms are in the center of the newsletter and also available on our web site.

You will notice elsewhere in the newsletter the unfortunate news that 8th LCDR Wayne Heimsoth will not be standing for reelection this year. This means that there will be two LCDR positions to be filled in addition to the position of International Adjutant. We have four candidates at this time, two for the LCDR positions and two vying for Adjutant. Speaking of the Convention, please plan on attending. It is where the business of your organization gets done and YOU should have a part in it—and remember, YOUR vote counts.

Finally, I need to reiterate that my email address in the yearbook has an unwanted "!" in front of the "@". It should be just plain adjutant@ialoh.org.

'Til later, I remain Yours in the Faith,

Ron

Page 4 Volume 84 Issue 3

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

ow, I set me down to type, I pray the Lord the words will flow on to this page for the New Year 2015 Newsletter. It is not easy to recall what happened back in October when we just got done celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza. You'll still be celebrating New Year's when you get this newsletter.

The first Sunday in October I attended the Laying of the Corner Stone Ceremony at the new St. Louis Shrine Hospital for Children. The original Shrine Hospital in St. Louis was established 90 years ago but its location and age warranted a new facility closer to other important medical facilities which are in downtown St. Louis. During the Cornerstone Ceremony - overseen by the Grand Master of the Local Grand Lodge, MWB David W. Haywood Grand Master of Missouri - the stone was checked using ancient tools to be certain it was straight and level. Next, it was consecrated with corn, wine and oil - all of which are Masonic symbols of prosperity, health and peace. There are 21 Temples affiliated with this hospital. The temples range from Abdallah to Zorah, with several temples in each of Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana. The hospital is in the assigned area of three International Lt. Commanders, I looked for our 21 LOH Commanders but there was such a crowd I could not find everyone. It was a lot nicer day than when the ground breaking was held in March two years ago. There will be a Grand Opening of the Hospital on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2015. I hope to see many of you there.

How about that Kansas City Royals baseball team bringing the World Championship to Kansas City and who's to say we didn't win!!! How many cities across North America have great baseball, football, and soccer teams, NASCAR, the only World War I Memorial and Museum, a world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, and an IALOH 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Commander?



**Morris Sykes** 

My annual trip to the elk country was in October with the usual guys although I didn't buy a license. I went again in November with my grandson because way back in March I was a winner of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation sponsored trip for a child between the age of 13 and 18. I presented this prize to my grandson Jacob who just turned 13. We went on the Elk Founda-

tion Guide hunt on Thanksgiving week. Jacob got his elk in the first hour on the first day, and we made it home just in time for the family's Thanksgiving dinner. So I am putting another notch in my WWI Infield rifle model thirty ought six?

November was the annual trip to Arlington for the Wreath Laying at the Tomb. This was my 14th year of attending, with the first time being in 2000 when the IALOH placed the wreath on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. After 2000 the ceremony was changed from the second weekend of November to the first weekend due to the conflict with the President placing

his Wreath. I made this trip in remembrance of my father who died on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November in 1998.

The IALOH 4<sup>th</sup> Lt. Commander is in charge of the weekend of the Laying of the Wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington. This year Ray Combs, PP, was Chairman and Eddie Daffern, PP was Co-Chairman. They did an excellent job and had a nice spread at the table.

December, as always, was all about Christmas for the kids and who to say that most of us are not kids, at least in our hearts.

#### **Division Three**

Lady Suzette and I attended Topeka's Arab Legion of Honor Christmas meeting and dinner at the <u>Top of the Tower</u> on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor. This was a return to the location where it was always held when I joined Arab LOH.

Hope all of DIVISION THREE has had a great year in 2014 and will have an even better one in 2015. In the next two months I will visit both Jericho (Kingsport, TN) and Ismailia (Buffalo, NY) Legion of Honor units. Hope to see many Division Three members there.

How about all of us get our reservations made for the IALOH Convention of Commander Ted Henderson in Tampa, Florida? April is just around the corner so it's time to make our reservations.

Let me know your thoughts about this issue of the newsletter. Send your comments to MWSYKES@KC.RR.COM?

And those Caissons go rolling along,

Yours in the Faith,

Morris W. Sykes

### **TAPS**

**Akins, William** 17 January 2014 Karem PC

**Faber, Robert C. "Bob"** 23 October 2014 Aladdin PC

McNames, William J. 14 December 2014 Mocha

Novak, Wayne F. December 2014 Khedive PC, PC SASA LoH

**Stone, Robert** 29 January 2015 Karem PC

Whisner, Marshall L. 04 January 2015 Khedive PC, PC SAS LoH

In Memory of Our Departed Brothers

### 4<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

e started off October with our annual GLSA 2008 Past Potentate's trip and this year we went to Stratford Ont. Canada. There were 10 couples that attended this year and fun was had by all. Ills Sir Gale McKay and Lady Marline made all the arrangements for a great get away weekend. High light of the trip was the play "A Midsummer Night's Dream". That is all I got to say about that, we did have fun though.

4<sup>th</sup> October we attended the Mocha Legion of Honour Change of Command with Commander John "Popeye" Smith getting installed. I so enjoy visiting Mocha and I have been doing so for over 14 years now.

October was a bad month, as I lost three good friends that I have known for a long time. High school classmate, and



A photo op for Lady Pat Combs, 7th LCDR Mike Murray, and 4th LCDR Ray Combs after the Hadi Legion of Honor Installation.

two Shrine members that were a part of my IALOH team. Noble Art Kelly's wife passed away on 17 Oct. Margaret married Art in June 1975 and passed away 17 Oct 2014. They were both dedicated to the LOH for many years.

We traveled north on October 25, to Zenobia LOH to assist in their COC Ceremony. Congratulations to Commander Harold Rodgers and his officers for the year 2015.

Once we got home, it was out the door again to head to Washington D.C. to prepare for the festivities at Arlington. There was a lot of behind the scenes work to get that function going and I

want to say a special thank you to my Chief of Staff, Popeye, and Assistant Chief of Staff Bill McNames and his wife Marilyn. Without their help it would have been awfully hard.

The Laying of the Wreath at Arlington was a wonderful event. Imperial Sir Dale Stauss and his lovely Lady Cherl was in attendance, and everybody had a very enjoyable time.

On a personal note while we were in Arlington, we received a call from Pat's daughter. Our grandson Sam had a large lump on his chest that had to be tested. When we got home from Arlington Monday, we did a quick turn and headed down to Atlanta Georgia. Sam was admitted into the Scottish Rite Pediatric Cancer & Blood Disorder Hospital with Stage 3 Hodgkin's lymphoma. He started Chemotherapy right away and at Christmas time we received the wonderful news that after 3 sessions of Chemo, our grandson was cancer free. He will complete the regiments of chemo that has been

#### **Division Four**



**Ray Combs** 

planned for him, they have taken their toll and he is very weak, but thankfully he will heal. Thank you to everyone who sent a prayer to our Lord, for Sam.

We spent a week with our Church preparing operation Christmas Child Boxes. What a great cause that is.

We had a great Thanksgiving dinner with our daughter

and her family, then I headed out with my son to deer camp. We spent a week in the cold, and never saw the first deer. Bambi is safe yet another year.

The month of December we spent close to home. We went to the normal Shrine Christmas party's plus Lady Pat & I played Santa and Mrs Claus to two Senior Centers, our military unit we both retired from, and a Children's Daycare.

We attended Alladin's Change of Command, and had a wonderful evening with Noble David Quinn, Commander for 2015 and all the Nobles in their Legion of Honor Unit.

Sadly I must report we lost our Assist Chief of Staff, William "Bill" McNames. He passed on December 14. He will be greatly missed.

Our last official function of 2014 was attending the Change of Command and acting as Installing Marshal for Hadi Shrine LOH. I was surprised by being made an honorary member of Hadi's LOH.

We hope you all bring in the New Year with both barrels loaded and a lot of fun scheduled for 2015. Happy New Year and may our paths in life cross again. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as I can.

"Keep em Flying"

Ray Combs

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEGIONS OF HONOR

84<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tampa Airport – Westshore
22 -26 April 2015

#### **CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

Name:	Lady:			
Name & Title on Badge:				
Shrine Center: LOH Off	ices held Past/Present:			
Home Address:				
City: Sta	te: Postal Code:			
Phone: Cell:	E-mail:			
Shrine Offices held Past/Present:	Special Needs:			
Voting Status: Int'l Officer: Emeritus: Delegat	te: Alt. Delegate: Other: (Specify)			
Arrival Date: Departure Date	te: Air: Car: Other:			
CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES				
Early Registration (Prior to 15 Mar 2015) \$145.00 (US) per person x = \$				
Late Registration (After 15 March 2015) \$160.00 (US) per person x = \$				

Please make checks payable to "IALOH 15" and mail with this form to:

Ted Henderson, 2916 Cross Creek Ct, Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone 850-321-3472 E-mail: tedhenderson@juno.com

### International Association Legions Of Honor 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Tampa, Florida April 22 – 26, 2015

### **Tentative Convention Schedule**

Wednesday April 22, 2015	Golf Tournament Committee Meetings Registration & Credentials Hospitality Board of Directors Meeting	0800 1300-1500 1400-1700 1400-2300 1500-1800
Thursday April 23, 2015	Registration & Credentials Formal Opening Business Meeting Market Place Lunch on your own Shrine Hospital Tour Hospitality Registration & Credentials Welcome Party	0745-0845 0900-1015 1030-1230 1030-1700 1330-1700 1300-1700 1400-1700 1800-2300
Friday April 24, 2015	Registration & Credentials Necrology Service Ladies' Luncheon Men's Luncheon Market Place Drill Competition Hospitality Dinner on your own Candidates' Hospitality	0745-0900 0900-1030 1130-1330 1130-1330 1330-1700 1400-1600 1300-1700
Saturday April 25, 2015	Registration & Credentials Business Meeting/Election Market Place Lunch on your own Commander Elect Session Hospitality Commander's Reception Banquet/Installation	0730-0845 0900-1100 0900-1400 1300-1400 1400-1700 1800-1900 1900-2230
Sunday April 26, 2015	Departure – Thank You For Attending Have a Safe Trip Home	

VOLUME 84 ISSUE 3 Page 8

### 5<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

appy New Year everyone!! Hope Santa Claus was good to you and that you all had a great holiday! The New Year is a new beginning, a time to reflect over the past year and an opportunity to set new goals and decide how we want to live our lives in 2015. It is also a great time to set goals for our units and to increase membership and participation. During my travels, I've

been told by unit leaders and members, "we can't get new members," or, "we're too old and can't get younger members," or, "all our members have already been commander at least once, some many times and no one wants to take an office now," and a myriad of other excuses. I know it's hard to set goals and get new members, but nothing will happen if you don't take that first step of setting goals. Martin Luther King said, "Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." We've all heard the stories about how many times men have failed before they became successful. We also know that it was their last attempt, no matter how many previous failures, that manifested their ideas into success. So, no matter how many guest nights, military appreciation dinners, or lodge visits, etc. that you plan and



**Eddie Daffern** 

attend, the next one may just be the one to change the future of your unit. Try everything you can think of, talk to other people for ideas and help and let's make 2015 be a positive change in the Legion of Honor and the Shrine.

Shari and I attended the TALOH Fall Gathering at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock, TX on October 17 & 18. First

Lt. Commander Bill Chicky and Lady Jeanniett had everyone to their lovely house on Friday night for a great meal. The next day we also had a great meal as the ladies brought food. We had a short meeting and a lot of fellowship.

We then travelled to Arlington, VA for the Wreath Laying Ceremony on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Again, it was a great time. There were a lot of "first-timers" whom we enjoyed and of course, a lot of friends. Fourth Lt. Commander Ray Combs, Lady Pat and their group did an outstanding job keeping us all in food and beverage in the hospitality room. The costume party was a real highlight on Halloween night. This ceremony is something every Legion of Honor Noble and his Lady should attend at least once. You won't be sorry!

#### **Division Five**

Christmas parties began in December and the first one we attended was Ben Hur at our Commander's house on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Commander Mike Dosier and Lady Linda have a beautiful home and they provided all the food and drinks. We had elections and the Commander- Elect is Alan Scholin and Lady Brenda and the Adjutant/Finance Officer-Elect is Fred Maynard and Lady Traci.

Ararat LOH Commander Steve Hoback invited us to their Commander's Christmas Dinner in St. Louis on December 5<sup>th</sup>. They have a beautiful temple and you should visit if you are ever in the area. The meal was wonderful and we met a lot of new Legion Nobles and their Ladies. The Commander had been concerned that they might not have enough nobles to volunteer for officers in 2015, but they have some great leaders who stepped up and they will be just fine. It was a real pleasure to be there with my Lady Shari and hope to go back as soon as possible.

Again Nobles, we have a new beginning and I hope to see as many of you as possible in 2015!

Semper Fi,

Eddie Daffern, PP

(Continued from page 10)

officer in Persia and discussed the history erans of different military eras. One Leof the Persian Gulf.

I again worked the Hadi Shrine Circus. It was the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Hadi Shrine Circus for done to outgoing commander Tad our temple and it is consecutive years. This reminds me of our commitment to our blue lodge and our temple. We can

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, I travelled to Ainad Shriners and attended the Ainad Legion of Honor Installation of Officers. This was a delightful evening since the ceremony was held in a banquet hall in Bellville,

Illinois. It was nice to talk to so many vet- Best wishes to all and their families for a gionnaire had the Antarctica service med-New Year. Thank you for everything you al and had completed a year tour at the South Pole. Congratulations on a job well Pierson and best wishes to installed commander Joe Cano.

never forget our basic roots to the frater- During this Veterans period, it was stimu- tucky as well as other locations. Hope to lating to observe how many Masonic Brothers and Veteran Brothers, of course some were both, were working toward Veterans issues. During my travels around the world, all I can say is "Only in America!"

very Merry Christmas and a prosperous do for Masons and Shrinedom.

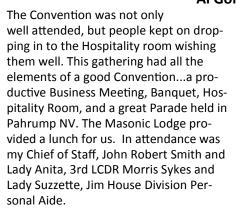
Next quarter takes my team to Illinois and the Land of Lincoln with stops in East St, Louis, Springfield and Bartonville. We will also go south to Madisonville, Kenall of you in the future. .

Army Strong!

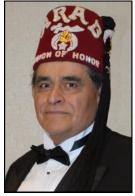
Mike "Doc" Murray

### 6<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

In September after SASA we flew to Las Vegas NV for the WSA LOH Convention conducted by my old friend Phil Thulander the "California Connection." In 2012 when Eddie Daffern, 5th LCDR, and Howie Wynia, IALOH Chaplain, met in Reno NV with me to attempt to reactivate the WSA LOH, I never dreamed it would work out as well as it has.



We had a flat tire on the Zelzah van on the way to Pahrump and sometime during the parade...I lost the LOH Medallion off it's ribbon. Phil Thulander called the Potentate of Zelzah and he started the ball rolling for the search. A kind Samaritan found it in Pahrump and turned it in. I received it in the mail about a week



Al Gonzalez

later. Thank you to all who were responsible for its return.

The Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in November brought a time of Commaradarie and fellowship. There were over 300 in attendance of which about 135 were first time attendees.

We flew back to Myrtle Beach and discovered that Al Rock, PC Acca, Richmond VA was there celebrating Lady Bette's birthday. We arranged to meet them at the Flamingo Grille in Myrtle. Had a wonderful dinner and visit with them.

Next, we drove to Ocala FI to attend an LOH Change of Command Ceremony. There we met up with John Robert Smith and Lady Anita, Jim House, also of Yaarab, and PIC Bill Glenn with Lady Shirley. Cdr. Ted Henderson was the Installer with his Chief of Staff Tracy Coughlin and Lady Janet. We met a lot of new friends for the first time. This included the new LOH Commander David Ginapp and First Lady Jan.

Lady Laurie and I spent the Thanksgiving holiday in Fuqua Varina NC at the home of my Chief Personal Aide Randy Law-

#### **Division Six**

rence and Lady Jeanne. What a spread...we had a great dinner and lovely visit. Then breakfast...equally as large a meal as Thanksgiving was!

Off to Yaarab Shrine Center for the LOH Christmas Party. PIC PC Bill Glenn officiated. The following day Lady Laurie attended a Luncheon for the Tucker Shrine Ladies and I went out to lunch with all the husbands if those ladies.

2015 is starting off with us flying to San Diego CA for the Al Bahr LOH Change of Command. I will be installing my friend Steve Walker to Commander. Immediately following that ceremony, Steve and Lady LeighAnn will be getting married!

The Change of Command Ball at Jericho, Kingsport TN is next. Cdr. Chuck Blair and Lady Char officiating.

Once we return to KS, we will be visiting the Isis Shrine Center in Salina KS for an LOH meeting and finally to my Shrine Center activities at Arab.

Don't forget to make plans to attend the IALOH Convention in Tampa this April, and the Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony in November. All information can be found on ialoh.org

YTIF Al Gonzalez

### **Meet Your Candidates!**

The Nobles presented below have submitted all necessary documents and meet the requirements set forth in Article IV, Section 1., Para. (A), Requirements for Election. They all request your consideration and support in the elections to be held at the 84th Annual Convention in April 2015. Information on each candidate may be found on our web site, <a href="www.ialoh.org">www.ialoh.org</a>.

#### For International Lieutenant Commander



**Tracy Coughlin** 



John Robert Smith

#### For International Adjutant



**Kevin Fox** 



**Larry Sneide** 

Page 10 Volume 84 Issue 3

is a Landing Ship, Tank that

was built in Evansville, Indi-

ana where it is now docked.

LSTs were designed to land

battle ready tanks, vehicles,

Soldiers and supplies direct-

LST 325 participated in sev-

eral operations; most note-

worthy was D Day at Omaha

Beach in Normandy. The

ship has seen 70 years of

history and survived as the

last fully operational WWII

ly onto beaches. The USS

### 7<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

A greeting from Evansville, Indiana, and it's great to be a Shriner!

Fall was in full swing when I attended the Hadi Legion of Honor Picnic. This is a four star event and well attended. Outdoor grilled food leads the event and it is capped off with the World's Greatest Home Made Ice Cream. A number of outdoor games are played and

the Masonic fellowship is overwhelming.

Next was the Arlington Pilgrimage. Imperial Potentate Dale W. Strauss was in attendance and also won third place in the Halloween competition. It is a humbling honor to visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The tomb guards of the Army's 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, traditionally known as "The Old Guard" are a magnificent sight. It is the oldest active duty infantry unit in the U.S. Army, serving our nation since 1784.

During the Veterans Day festivities, I attended the LST 325 breakfast. LST 325



Mike Murray

n- LST.

The LST 325 breakfast was well attended by her former military crewmen. I was surprised at the number of crewmen who were either Master Masons and/or Shriners; of course, some were even fellow Legion of Honor members. Meeting and talking with these distinguished gentlemen reinforced to me why we continue with our mission in

Next I attended the Tartan Ball, an event that I have been meaning to experience. I was impressed by the color-

our fraternity.

#### **Division Seven**

ful uniforms, bag pipes and drums. Being of Scottish descent myself, I appreciated the kilts and other Scottish regalia. There were several Legion of Honor members who dual as Highlands at the event.

I was also present for the Golden Corral Veterans Day celebration. At this event was Chapter 7, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Evansville, which I am also a member. The DAV were selling their poppy flowers to support the needs of our Disabled Veterans around the country. Again, I saw a number of Brother Master Masons at the event.

It is overpowering to see all the military service members wearing military hats and other items in the dining areas. I was thrilled to walk around and talk to them, especially the World War II veterans

I also attended the Reserve Officer Association in Evansville, Indiana. Again, it was interesting to see the number of Brother Master Masons who were also veterans. They had a remarkable speaker named Raffi who was a military

(Continued on page 8)

### 8<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Commander's Message

As it was my first attendance at the Arlington Wreath Laying, I was sure totally impressed by what the Shrine International Legions of Honor does, as is allowed to do. What a feeling to be part of the ceremony of laying the wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldiers. It was also wonderful to have the Imperial Potentate attend our weekend and assist in the laying of the

wreath. My grandfather, James Bryant, a veteran of World War I and a mason sure would have been proud of my being there. A suggestion for all veterans – attend this weekend. It's such a great group of Shriners who make it such an enjoyable weekend.



Wayne Heimsoth

I would like to mention one adjutant from the 8<sup>th</sup> Division who is doing a great job of communicating Legion of Honor information to his unit. Jack Kempster, PC from Egypt Shrine. He consistently sends out very complete information about the events that the members should take note of. Thanks for copying me Jack.

Of course I continue to attend my own Asiya Legion of Honor unit events. I was pleased to represent the International Legions of Honor in the Veterans Day Parade in San Jose. We also have a Veterans Dinner each year to honor our veterans, and our speaker was quite a

#### **Division Eight**

surprise. One of our Asiya members, Richard Brown, turns out to be a retired Lt Col who as part of his time in the military, assisted Germans escaping our of east Berlin. Quite a talk, and quite a surprise.

I continue to work on the Shrine International Flag Protocols, as well as seeing what we can do to attract more military, active and retired, into the Shrine, and assist them in any recovery that might be needed.

Wayne Heimsoth

Editor's Note: Word has been received that due to family matters, I.S. Wayne Heimsoth will not be standing for reelection. This means that there will be two Lt. Commander positions open at the upcoming Convention.

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#### **Veterans Remembered...**

International Association Legions of Honor are: To foster a Spirit of Patriotism and Love of Country and Flag; To perpetuate the memory of our Comrades in Arms who made the Supreme Sacrifice by giving their lives for their country while members of the Armed Forces; To devote our efforts as individuals and Legion of Honor Units to strive for an increase in Friendship and Cooperation between our Legion of Honor Units and other Units

of Shriners International

The objectives of the

n November 8, 2014, Commander-George Wolfe, of Nur Shrine Legion of Honor, held a Commanders Celebration in place of a Commanders Ball. He wanted to express his gratitude to the many veterans who served our country. Without their sacrifice, valor, and patriotism, our country would not be the greatest nation on earth. The audience included individuals who served honorably in all branches of the military. Each veteran there that night was a specialist in a particular vocation within his or her branch.

The Honored Guest that night was Noble Russell Decker, a Past Commander of Nur Legion

of Honor. PC Decker, a veteran of the Normandy Invasion in World War II, was recognized as a recipient of France's highest honor for his participation in the liberation of France in 1944-45. His two medals were



PC Russell Decker and his Letter of Appreciation from Imp. Sir John Cinotto.

also on display. PC Decker's achievements during the liberation of France was shared with everyone. In special recognition of his achievements, PC Decker was presented with a letter of gratitude from Past Imperial Sir John A. Cinotto.

This was a special night to be remembered by Veterans, especially with Veteran's Day on November 11.

The Celebration Honoring Veterans was closed with the reading of "A Veteran" recognizing that - whether Active Duty, Retired, National Guard or Reserve - a veteran is someone who, at one point of their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "the United"

States of America" for an amount of "up to and including their life."

Submitted by Robert D. Cook P.I.C. Patriotism Committee