



FOR THE PEOPLE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

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SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org

Ray LaHood 2020 Birthday Banquet Speaker

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood will be the ALA's 2020 Birthday Banquet speaker. Mr. LaHood has held a multitude of interesting positions in government service over his long career. Most recently in September 2019, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker nominated him to be chair of the trustees of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

The names of other nominated trustees include J. Steven Beckett, Kathryn Harris, and Dan Monroe, all directors of the ALA. Mr. LaHood as well as the rest of this newly appointed board await confirmation by the Illinois Senate. The Fall 2019 issue of *For the People* provided information about the nominated trustees.

Mr. LaHood served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 19 years. His son Darin LaHood represents part of that same district today, which includes areas

represented by Abraham Lincoln when he served in the House in 1847-49.

Mr. LaHood, a Republican, served as Secretary of Transportation during the Obama administration, offering a personal example of how cross-party rivalry may at times be overcome.

Mr. LaHood is a native of Peoria and holds a bachelor of science degree from Bradley University in that city. He is the author of *Seeking Bipartisanship: My Life in Politics*. He and his wife Kathy have endowed a center for the study of cerebral palsy at the OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Please join us for Springfield's biggest Lincoln event of the year, as we look to the past as well as the future in sharing Lincoln's life, his sites, and his words.



Ray LaHood

Information about making reservations appears on page six.

President-Elect Lincoln's Office in No. 4 Johnson's Building

By Richard E. Hart

ALA Board Member and Former ALA President

Shortly after Abraham Lincoln was elected President in November 1860, he sought an office for receiving visitors and for use by his secretary, John Nicolay. Governor John Wood offered his chambers in the Old State Capitol and it was here that Lincoln officed until late in December 1860. The Illinois Legislature was to convene on January 7 and Governor-Elect Richard Yates would take office on January 14. Wood and Yates would need the Governor's Chamber for their own uses, and Lincoln and his secretary, Nicolay, would have to move.

Lincoln did just that in late December 1860, when he moved his office to No. 4 Johnson's Building at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington streets. This remained his office until he departed



Johnson's Building—Revere House 1873

Springfield on February 11, 1861, a total of about 40 days.

William E. Baringer in his book *A House Dividing* described the move:

Next day was Christmas (December 25, 1860). Lincoln relinquished the Governor's room in the State House, his office since early in the canvass, for the Illinois legislature was soon to assemble and the room would be needed. The

copious letter and newspaper files managed by John Nicolay were moved to a room in Johnson's Building, across from the Chenery House, ...a block west of the State House. Nicolay spent all his time in the new office while Lincoln came in occasionally.

One hundred and fifty years later, on a mellow October afternoon, I walked west on Washington Street from my office on the North Side of the Old State Capitol Square. It was a walk that I had taken hundreds of times, but this one was different. I looked up as I waited for the light to change at Fourth and Washington streets, and there it was in plain sight—a mid-nineteenth century three-story commercial building, now home to A-1 Lock.

Is this a remnant of the Johnson's Building where President-elect Lincoln officed?

(continued on page 2)

The Middletown Flag

By Anne Moseley

"THE PRAIRIES ARE ON FIRE FOR LINCOLN!" and "A Political Earthquake" and "Clear the Track!" – these are some of the phrases local newspapers used for the Wide Awake Rally held in Springfield, Illinois, on August 8th, 1860. This coming year marks the 160th anniversary of that gathering of Lincoln supporters for the 1860 presidential election.

Thousands of Lincoln's supporters from all over Central Illinois attended this Wide Awake Rally. In anticipation of it, the ladies of Middletown, Illinois, 25 miles north of Springfield, hand-sewed an American flag to fly in the parade. During the strenuous campaign, American citizens manifested an intense interest in the issues presented, and this interest developed into the formation of "Wide Awakes." The Wide Awake company in Middletown, organized by Lincoln adherents, was known as the Union League. At a time when women were not allowed to vote, women organized an auxiliary to the Union League for which they hand-stitched the flag for the gathering of Lincoln supporters. The flag served as a way for the ladies of Middletown to express themselves publicly

regarding their candidate of choice, Mr. Abraham Lincoln.

The day began with a parade with bands and floats constructed in the small towns surrounding Springfield. The Middletown float featured the flag as constructed by the ladies of the community, along with two banners designed by Dr. Reuben Neal Lawrence of Atlanta, Illinois. In a newspaper article written by W.O. Paisley in 1896, "on account of the Atlanta Wide-Awakes banner bearing the likeness of both candidates [Lincoln and Hamlin], it was placed at the head of the parade at the monster rally at Springfield, which concluded that memorable campaign."

After the parade, the float was taken to a local livery stable. About this time a group came from the state fairgrounds where the rally was in progress. Amid incessant calls for Lincoln to speak, the group came to the livery stable to get a buggy to bring him to the fairgrounds. Upon seeing the flag, they asked to use it on the buggy. Their request was granted, and Lincoln rode into the immense throng seated on the flag as it was draped over the seat of the buggy (modern rules and decorum governing flag usage did not yet exist). It thrilled the ladies to find



that after the parade Mr. Lincoln, now draped in their flag, gave a speech at the fairgrounds.

The Middletown Flag is one of three pieces created for and used by the Wide Awake Supporters of Logan County; Dr. Lawrence's "Nation's Choice" banner and a smaller banner of Lincoln are the others. Once the flag is restored, the entire set will be complete. All are part of the collection of the Lincoln Heritage Museum at Lincoln College.

The Middletown Flag is a unique piece of local history that ties Abraham Lincoln to the Logan County community.

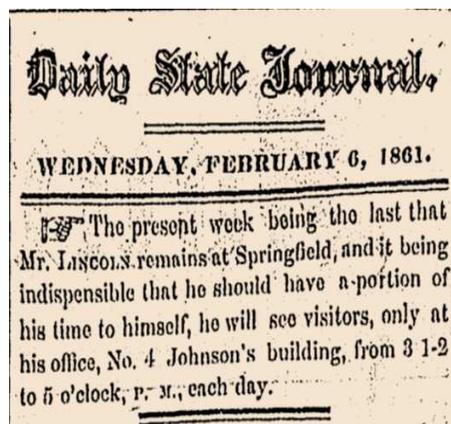
Anne Moseley, a director of the ALA, is director and curator of the Lincoln Heritage Museum, in Lincoln, Illinois.

(continued from page 1)

I searched for photographs, drawings, and newspaper articles about Johnson's Building. Curtis Mann, librarian at the Sangamon Valley Collection of Springfield's Lincoln Library, found and shared with me a photograph of the west side of the Johnson's Building circa 1870s. The photograph is to the right.

I walked around the A-1 Lock building and noticed that the windows and a door on the west side had been bricked-in. I compared those bricked in openings with the circa 1870s photograph. They matched. The same was true when I compared the still remaining chimneys on the A-1 Lock building with those in the Johnson's Building pictured on the previous page. A perfect match.

It was in the Johnson's Building that Lincoln received visitors from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. during the week of February 6, 1861, as evidenced by the *Daily State Journal* article of Wednesday, February 6, 1861.



This indeed was a remaining portion of a much larger building known as Johnson's Building and sometimes the Revere House or Hotel, that once housed the office of Abraham Lincoln. It is now a newly identified remaining part of Lincoln's Springfield.



Johnson's Building Circa 1870s



October 2019 photographs of the A-1 Lock building, now verified to be a remnant of the Johnson's Building where President-elect Lincoln officed for 40 days in 1861.

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President's Message

Two years have flashed by and my term as president is coming to a close on Mr. Lincoln's birthday. I am proud of our accomplishments and, of course, regret that we did not accomplish more. Most importantly, we dealt with the departure of three executive managers. I think we will be well-served by the new incumbent, Amy Kwedar Budinger, and I wish her much success in the years to come.

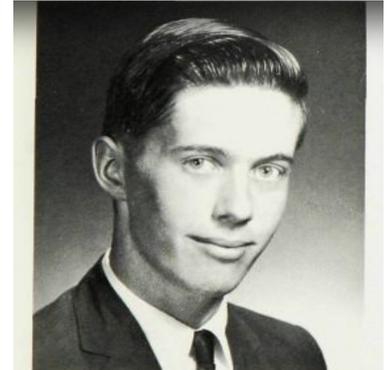
We presented an interesting 2019 Benjamin P. Thomas symposium, and hosted the Banquet celebrating Lincoln's 210th birthday, where we were greeted by Illinois's new governor, JB Pritzker. (We have a great Symposium and Banquet coming up in 2020; details are in this newsletter.) We continued to publish both the *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, (JALA) and the newsletter, *For the People*, and managed the transition of the JALA editor from Christian McWhirter to James Cornelius.

We worked closely with colleagues in the history community in support of Lincoln's New Salem, the LEAD Leadership Academy program managed by Looking for Lincoln, the Center for Lincoln Studies at the University of Illinois Springfield, and others. Sadly, we suffered the loss of three Board members, John Elliff, Russell Lewis, and Bill Read.

Six decades have also flashed by since my interest in Abraham Lincoln started. I know it began in 1957 but I cannot recall precisely what was the cause. I know that more than one teacher advised me that there were subjects other than Lincoln that I could write about; I ignored them. When I graduated from high school in 1962, my yearbook indicated that I headed my own Abe Lincoln fan club. Now, many years later, I take great satisfaction in knowing that I have also headed the preeminent Lincoln fan club, The Abraham Lincoln Association. I am grateful for the opportunity.

Your obt. servt.

Bob Willard



ROBERT WILLARD

... heads his own
Abe Lincoln fan club ...

Lincoln Roundup

Winter 2020 *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*

A newly discovered section of the Gideon Welles diary, for January-February 1861, fully transcribed; an analysis of where Euclid's Geometry fits into Lincoln's mental development; the first survey in 70 years of the many Bibles associated with Lincoln in his White House years (more than you would imagine) and how he got them ...

Plus: book reviews of *Lincoln in the Atlantic World*, of Martha Hodes's prize-winning *Mourning Lincoln*, of a book on Lincoln in the movies before Spielberg's film, and of a (not very good)

comparison of Lincoln and John Quincy Adams.

The *Journal* appears twice a year and, like this quarterly newsletter, is a benefit of membership in the ALA. Let us know what you think, and happy reading!

Lincoln Trivia Evening

Start thinking about ... The First ALA Trivia Night is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2020, in downtown Springfield. Live and via Facebook. Watch the ALA webpage and the next 'For the People' for details, and start thinkin' Lincoln.

www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org

The Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin

The Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin will host its annual dinner and talk on April 18, 2020, at the Lincoln-Tallman Home in Janesville, Wisconsin. The speech will be printed and sent to members, but all may attend.



REVERE HOUSE.

Aiding Mr. Clay: Lincoln's 1844 Visit to Indiana

By William E. Bartelt

In a letter dated April 18, 1846, Abraham Lincoln wrote to Andrew Johnston of Quincy, Illinois:

In the fall of 1844, thinking I might aid some to carry the State of Indiana for Mr. Clay, I went into the neighborhood in that State in which I was raised, where my mother and only sister were buried, and from which I had been absent about fifteen years. That part of the country is, within itself, as unpoetical as any spot of the earth; but still, seeing it and its objects and inhabitants aroused feelings in me which were certainly poetry; though whether my expression of those feelings is poetry is quite another question.

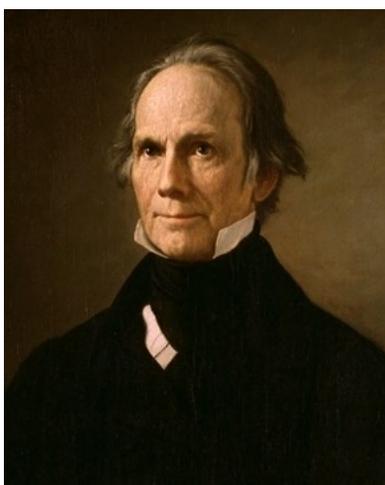
Lincoln enclosed his poem "My Childhood Home I See Again" with this letter. The poem appeared in the *Quincy Whig* on May 6, 1847.

Not Lincoln's poetry, but rather the 1844 campaign trip through southwestern Indiana is our concern here. Unfortunately, the above quotation is the most complete statement Lincoln ever made about the trip. Primary source material from 1844 does not contribute greatly to knowledge of the trip, for we have only one brief newspaper reference to his speech delivered in Rockport on October 30, 1844. As is so often the case in discussing Lincoln's Indiana years, we must piece together various stories and remembrances recorded years later after Abraham Lincoln became one of the most revered men in American history.

That Lincoln's trip attracted little coverage in Whig newspapers of 1844 surprises no one. Except in central Illinois, 'Abraham Lincoln' was not a household name. The 35-year-old Lincoln, a lawyer who had served four terms in the Illinois House of Representatives, had married two years earlier and had a one-year-old son. Some five months earlier, he and wife Mary purchased a house in Springfield, the only house they ever owned. Actively involved with the Illinois Whig party, Lincoln was selected as a Whig Presidential elector in 1844. Consequently, he "took to the stump" supporting Whig candidates as he traveled the law circuit, perhaps neglecting his legal duties in the process. This was the man who visited Indiana in late October and early

November 1844 to promote the cause of Henry Clay.

In 1844, John Tyler was President of the United States. William Henry Harrison, Old Tippecanoe, became the first Whig President with his election in 1840, but Tyler became President after Harrison died on April 4, 1841. Tyler, the first vice president to assume the Presidency, alienated Whig Party leadership when he failed to support and promote party doctrine.



Henry Clay

In the early 1840s the country still suffered hard times resulting from a depression called the Panic of 1837. Thus, politicians expected economic issues -- a national bank and a protective tariff -- to become the focus of the campaign. But that changed when President Tyler, in late April 1844, submitted to the Senate a treaty for annexing Texas. By April 27, both presumptive Presidential candidates, Henry Clay of the Whigs and former President Martin Van Buren of the Democrats, publicly denounced Tyler's treaty. Indeed, the Senate rejected the treaty on June 8 in a 35 to 16 vote. Southern Democrats, however, perceived the annexation of Texas as not only a manifest destiny issue, but also an opportunity to expand slavery.

As predicted, the Whigs turned to their leader, Henry Clay of Kentucky, as their Presidential candidate in 1844.

The Democrats selected the first dark horse, pro-expansionist James Knox Polk of Tennessee; and that party's platform

included "the re-occupation of Oregon and the re-annexation of Texas at the earliest practicable period." An anti-slavery third party, the Liberty Party, nominated James G. Birney for President. Although this party had no chance of winning, it could influence the election outcome.

The Illinois Whig platform, adopted at Peoria on June 19, 1844, clearly stated that the tariff was foremost in importance. Lincoln sat on the committee preparing the platform. Referring to 1844, historian Gabor Boritt concludes,

Thus for the first time since entering politics Lincoln fought through an election year without being himself a candidate for office. All the same he proved again that on the stump his voice stood out. He played a major role in leading the Illinois Whigs into making the tariff by the spring of 1844 the most important issue of the contest.

Boritt suggests that Lincoln's ". . . thorough mind preferred to concentrate on one subject and dig deeply into it." In 1844, that subject was the tariff. The "tariff question" has persisted in American politics since a tariff was part of Alexander Hamilton's economic program in George Washington's administration. A tariff, a tax on imports, can have two important consequences. One is to raise money for the national government, and the other is to protect domestic industries from foreign competition.



Brackenridge Monument
Brackenridge Cemetery
Edna, Texas

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Rodney O. Davis

(1932-2019)



Rodney O. Davis, Szold Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of History at Knox College and a noted Lincoln scholar, died on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019 at the age of 87. A native of Kansas, he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. He specialized in the ante-bellum history of Illinois and wrote his dissertation on its early legislature, where Abraham Lincoln first gained recognition. He joined the Knox College History department in 1963, where he would gain considerable distinction for excellence in teaching. Finding himself in a college with a tradition of highlighting the history of the Midwest, he undertook several efforts to preserve, enhance, and extend this tradition. He also took the lead in establishing a cross-disciplinary program in American Studies, and served for a time as chair of the History department.

Prof. Davis's published writings are characterized by careful scholarship and display a wide variety of historical interests. Perhaps more than any predecessor, his studies of the early Illinois legislature offered a detailed context for the political environment into which the young Lincoln first ventured. Prof. Davis's extensive bibliography shows an eye for people and events that are in need of more attention: Lincoln's experience in the Black Hawk war, his relations with his father, the importance of the "Lobby" for the early Illinois legislature, how we must approach the historical evidence on offer in county histories, the service of a woman disguised as a man in a Civil War regiment, the Mormon presence in early Illinois. Finally, he performed a valuable service by re-introducing three important books on Illinois history to modern audiences: Gov. Thomas Ford's *History of Illinois* (1854), Ernest Elmo Calkins's *They Broke the Prairie* (1937), and Ward

Hill Lamon's early biography *The Life of Abraham Lincoln* (1872).

Prof. Davis was a member of the Organization of American Historians, was active in the programs sponsored by the Illinois State Historical Society, and a longtime member of the Abraham Lincoln Association, serving several terms on its board of directors. A recent obituary has noted that his "passion for history stretched beyond Knox College and into his personal life," pointing to his long service to the cause of local history, exemplified by his many activities connected to the histories of Knox College and the city of Galesburg. In this regard, he directed the activities surrounding the year-long observance of the Sesquicentennial of Knox College, and served on the commission to observe Galesburg's Sesquicentennial.

With his teaching partner, Douglas L. Wilson, he became co-founder and co-director of the Knox College Lincoln Studies Center. Soon after its establishment, the Center received an invitation from the Library of Congress to produce annotated texts of the Abraham Lincoln Papers for its website. From this partnership would also come a series of publications on Abraham Lincoln, including *Herndon's Informants* (1998), new editions of *Herndon's Lincoln* (2006) and *The Lincoln-Douglas Debates* (2008), and the first volume of a two-volume collection of the writings on Lincoln by his law partner, *Herndon on Lincoln: Letters* (2016).

By Douglas L. Wilson

ALA Lincoln Birthday Events

1

Free and
Open to Public

Benjamin P. Thomas Symposium
Opening Address
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 6:00 p.m.
House of Representatives, Old State Capitol.

Carl Guarneri will speak on his new book *Lincoln's Informer: Charles A. Dana*.
A book signing will occur after the talk.

2

Free and
Open to Public

Benjamin P. Thomas Symposium
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
House of Representatives, Old State Capitol

Manisha Sinha will speak on "Allies for Emancipation: Lincoln and the Abolitionists."

Jason Emerson will speak on "*Mary Lincoln for the Ages: Why Lincoln's Wife is Not the Woman We Think We Know*."

3

Reservations
Required -
\$30 per person

Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz Luncheon and Lecture
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Atrium

William E. Bartelt and Joshua A. Claybourn
will discuss their book,
Abe's Youth: Shaping the Future President.

4

Free and
Open to Public

Round Table Discussion with All Five Speakers
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 2:30-4:00 p.m.
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 2nd Floor

Moderator: Prof. Michael Burlingame,
ALA Vice-President and
Chancellor Naomi B. Lynn Chair in Lincoln Studies at UI-Springfield

5

Reservations
Required -
\$85 per person

Lincoln Birthday Banquet
Wednesday, February 12, 2020
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 7th and Adams

Speaker: Ray LaHood

Reception: 6:00 p.m. Presidential Ballroom Lobby
Banquet: 7:00 p.m. Presidential Ballroom

All events are free and open to the public with the exception of the Luncheon (\$30 per person) and the Birthday Banquet (\$85 per person).

Advance registration is required for these two events and can be obtained at the "**Upcoming Events**" page on the ALA website.

www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org/upcomingevents.aspx

If you have questions, Email Amy Budinger at amykbud.ala@gmail.com or phone: 217-LINCOLN (546-2656)

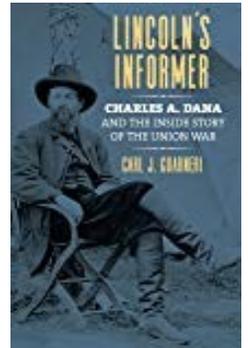
ALA members will soon receive a banquet invitation with menu choices.

Benjamin P. Thomas Symposium Speakers



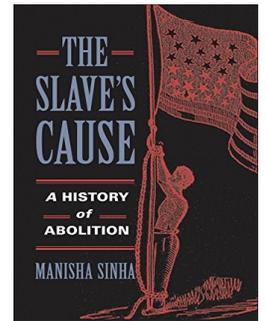
Carl Guarneri

Carl Guarneri is Professor of History at Saint Mary's College of California, where since 1979 he has taught courses in historical methods, world history, and American history from the colonial era to World War II. His current research interests include the American Civil War, the history of European settler societies in the Americas and Australia, and the global influence of American reformers Edward Bellamy and Henry George. He will speak on *Lincoln's Informer: Charles A. Dana*. Among his publications are a study of transatlantic utopian socialism, *The Utopian Alternative* (1991), a college-level textbook, *Global Americans* (2017), a collection of essays, *America Compared: American History in International Perspective* (1997, 2005), and *America in the World: United States History in Global Context* (2007).



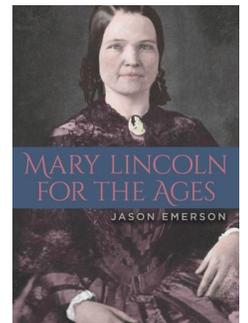
Manisha Sinha

Manisha Sinha, professor of history at the University of Connecticut, will offer "Allies for Emancipation: Lincoln and the Abolitionists." Born in India, she holds the Draper Chair in American History at the University of Connecticut. Her dissertation at Columbia University was nominated for the Bancroft Prize. She is a leading expert on transnational aspects of abolitionism. She is the author of *The Counterrevolution of Slavery: Politics and Ideology in Antebellum South Carolina* (University of North Carolina Press, 2000) and the multiple-award-winning *The Slave's Cause: A History of Abolition* (Yale University Press, 2016).



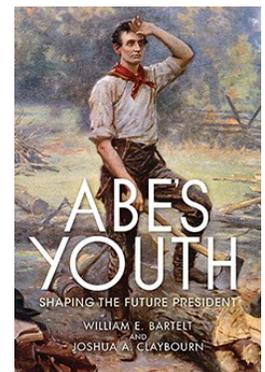
Jason Emerson

Jason Emerson will speak on "Mary Lincoln for the Ages: Why Lincoln's Wife is Not the Woman We Think We Know." Emerson is an independent scholar, a former Park Service ranger at the Lincoln Home, former editor of a small-town newspaper, and a widely recognized expert on the Lincoln family. The most recent of his half-dozen books is *Mary Lincoln for the Ages* (Southern Illinois University Press, June 2019), the culmination of years of work compiling articles, books, poems, and stories about Mary Lincoln.



William E. Bartelt

William E. Bartelt, of Newburgh, Indiana, is a teacher, guide, and author. In 2008, Bartelt published *There I Grew Up: Remembering Abraham Lincoln's Indiana Youth*. In 2019, he together with Joshua Claybourn co-edited *Abe's Youth: Shaping the Future President*. Bartelt is considered the leading authority on Abraham Lincoln's youth in Indiana. He has served as vice-president and board member of The Abraham Lincoln Association, on the Board of Trustees of the Indiana Historical Society, and received the Indiana Historical Society's "Hoosier Historian." Bartelt has also been president of the Vanderburgh County Historical Society and president of the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science. He has worked fifteen summers at the Living Historical Farm at Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in Lincoln City, Indiana.



Joshua A. Claybourn

Joshua A. Claybourn of Newburgh, Indiana, is an attorney in Evansville, Indiana, author and editor of several books. An Evansville native, Claybourn has published widely on legal, political and historical topics in a variety of popular press outlets, including *USA Today* and *The Hill*. He is co-editor with William Bartelt of *Abe's Youth: Shaping the Future President* (Indiana University Press, September 2019), an annotated edition of Lincoln Inquiry papers. Find him online at JoshuaClaybourn.com. Claybourn is a member of the Board of Directors of the ALA.

The ALA Travels to Gettysburg

By Amy Budinger
ALA Executive Manager

It is not often that one gets the opportunity to travel to a sacred Civil War battleground, spend days immersed with Lincoln scholars, notable intellectual celebrities, authors, and fellow Lincoln enthusiasts. I am fortunate to say that that is exactly what I did on November 16th-18th, 2019, at the 24th Annual Lincoln Forum Symposium, in Gettysburg. Its theme was ‘The Leader. The War. The Legacy: Lincoln at 210.’ There were many ALA members in attendance, including our distinguished president Bob Willard and three former ALA Presidents, Kathryn Harris, Roger Bridges, and co-founder of the Forum, Frank Williams.

The symposium covered many topics related to Lincoln and the Civil War. The speakers on the first evening were Gary W. Gallagher and Joan Waugh, who were humorous and challenged one another with banter about “What Caused the Civil War” -- quite a challenging topic! Their well-researched arguments left the audience to use the information to arrive at their own conclusions. The second evening’s speaker was celebrity reporter and award-winning author Sidney Blumenthal, presenting “A

House Divided: How Lincoln Emerged out of the Whirlwind to Become President.”

Blumenthal discussed how Lincoln won out among three other nominees: Democrat, Southern Democrat, and Constitutional Union. Lincoln the Republican did not win the popular vote yet had a solid majority in the Electoral College for the victory. The third evening’s celebrity speaker was Michael Beschloss, who spoke on “President Lincoln and Other Wartime Presidents.” His presentation began with the attack at Fort Sumter and warnings from General Scott that the Union Army was not yet prepared for a fight. Lincoln, however, sent 35,000 volunteers, as well as a number of militia and regulars, to Bull Run Creek in Virginia, at the time the largest battle ever fought in North America. The Union lost miserably. What tormented Lincoln at this point was the realization that he would be the executioner of immense numbers of Americans on both sides. Beschloss emphasized Lincoln’s inner turmoil and strength to withstand the immense challenges. In the end, Lincoln’s untimely death assured that the Radical Republicans were not able to push a punitive reconstruction in the South. Lively discussion and debate followed the talk. Harold Holzer, the vice chairman of the Lincoln Forum, often came through

during the presentations and moderating panels with laughter, intellect, and wit.

There is an omnipresence of sorrow one feels while in Gettysburg. The reality of the immense loss of lives sinks in. However, there is hope through the Forum’s November symposiums and the ALA’s annual symposium in February, among other meetings, that the memory of the soldiers and fortitude of Abraham Lincoln will not forever be lost to time.

I hope to see all members at our celebration of Lincoln’s birthday in February!



Roger Billings, Sarah Watson, George Buss, Scott Schroeder, Brian Steenbergen, Amy Budinger, and Anne Moseley at the Lincoln Forum in Gettysburg.

(continued from page 4)

To understand why he thought he “might aid some to carry the state of Indiana for Mr. Clay,” we must travel to the southeast Texas town of Edna in Jackson County. There in Brackenridge Cemetery stands a ten-foot-tall granite monument etched, in part, “As a lawyer he inspired Lincoln who heard him in court when a boy. When a Henry Clay elector, Lincoln came by his request to speak in his district.” That man is John A. Brackenridge (1800-1862), a prominent, Princeton-educated attorney during the time Lincoln lived in Indiana. No doubt Lincoln witnessed his court appearances in Rockport and Boonville in southwest Indiana. Brackenridge moved from Boonville to Texas in 1852.

As the monument indicates, in 1844 Boonville area resident Brackenridge was the Whig Presidential elector for the first district of Indiana. Abraham Lincoln held a similar position in Illinois. Brackenridge probably

invited Lincoln to speak in southwest Indiana after Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri spoke in Boonville, Indiana, to support Polk and Texas annexation. Boonville was one of the towns Lincoln visited in 1844.

The Lincoln campaign visit to Indiana occurred in the last week of October, the week before the election on Monday, November 4th. Not until 1845 did Congress establish the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as national election day. Before 1845 the states could choose Presidential electors any time within a 34-day period before the first Wednesday in December. In 1844, both Indiana and Illinois conducted the Presidential election on November 4.

Most scholars agree the Indiana campaign visit began in Vincennes. Lincoln spent the night at the home of prominent attorney Abner T. Ellis. The next day Ellis accompanied

Lincoln on the short trip to Burkeville, Indiana. Here Lincoln was guest of the town’s founder and namesake, William Bruce. Born in 1776, Bruce is described in a Knox County history published 33 years after his death, as a “radical Whig in politics.” ...

Footnotes available upon request.

This is an excerpt from a work in progress. Mr. Bartelt is a vice-president and director of the ALA and co-author with Joshua A. Claybourn of Abe’s Youth: Shaping the Future President.



George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures

Lincoln Home National Historic Site invites the public to attend the George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site Visitor Center, 426 South Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Visitor Center will open one half hour early, at 8:00 A.M.

This year’s program will feature the little-known story of Julius Rosenwald, one of the most important and socially impactful sons of Springfield, Illinois. Rosenwald spent his boyhood years in a home on Eighth Street across from Lincoln’s home. The house is now part of Lincoln Home National Historic Site. The man who grew up in the shadow of Abraham Lincoln became the president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, eventually amassing a fortune, most of which he dedicated to helping those who faced the injustices of a racially divided America.

The home in which Rosenwald lived will be renamed in his honor, and a new exhibit panel about Rosenwald in Springfield and his legacy will be unveiled.

8:30 Welcome

Timothy S. Good, Lincoln Home National Historic Site
Sarah Watson, Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area



Julius Rosenwald Residence

Presentations

Kathryn Harris, Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum and The Abraham Lincoln Association
Mike Jackson, Springfield Rosenwald Initiative

Adjourn to Rosenwald House (weather permitting)

Remarks in front of Rosenwald House

Dr. Wesley Robinson-McNeese, Springfield Rosenwald Initiative
Nancy Sage, Jewish Federation of Springfield
Dorothy Canter, Rosenwald Park Campaign

10:00 – 10:30 Rosenwald House open

Membership Matters



Dear Friends & Members,

By now everyone should have received their membership renewals. This year we are offering special gifts for specific levels of support. By upgrading your membership, you will help the ALA to achieve greater outreach.

We appreciate our members and want every one of you to know that your support is vital.

Sincerely,
Joseph Garrera
Membership Chair

Welcome New ALA Members

Larry Arnhart
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mia Kang
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Charlie Bauer
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Kwedar
Naples, Florida

Charles Erickson
Bloomington, Illinois

Jose Valez
Orange City, Florida

Jane A. Gardner
Sparks, Nevada

Join The Abraham Lincoln Association Today

Mail this form (or a photocopy) and a check to:

The Abraham Lincoln Association
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- ___ Student.....\$25
- ___ Railsplitter.....\$50
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- ___ Lawyer.....\$250
- ___ Congressman.....\$500
- ___ President.....\$1,000

or join online at:
www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org

Carpenter Ledger Donated to Springfield's Lincoln Library

By David Joens

Chairman of ALA Grants Committee

The Abraham Lincoln Association recently acquired part of the library of its first President Otis Humphrey and a ledger book of William Carpenter with an entry of the receipt of \$248.63 from Abraham Lincoln.

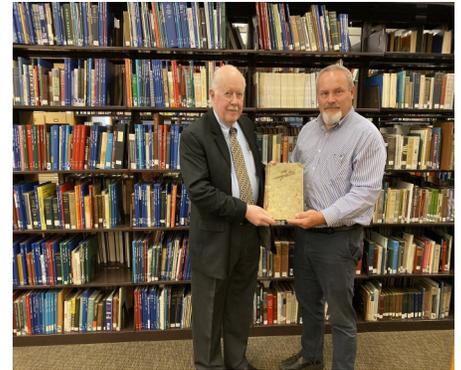
The Carpenter Ledger Book was given to Springfield's Lincoln Library. The Library already had three other Carpenter Ledgers in its Sangamon Valley Collection. In the opposite photo, President Bob Willard is shown presenting the ledger to Curtis Mann, Director of the Sangamon Valley Collection at Springfield's Lincoln Library.

Mann commented: "The Carpenter family ledger donated by the ALA is a great acquisition for the Sangamon Valley Collection at Lincoln Library because it was a missing

volume in the collection of six other Carpenter ledgers owned by SVC. The new ledger continues the account records of William Carpenter's tavern business until its closure in the mid-1830s. Another section of the ledger was used to keep records of Carpenter's agricultural, commercial and residential real estate holdings and their rental income until his death in 1859. A few pages in the back of the donated ledger show accounts from Carpenter's term as the postmaster of Springfield including an entry of the receipt of \$248.63 from Abraham Lincoln, the former postmaster of New Salem."

The library of President Otis Humphrey consisted of 39 books, many with personal inscriptions and notes. This library will be donated to the Center for Lincoln Studies recently created at the University of Illinois Springfield.

These acquisitions and donations continue an ALA tradition of acquiring authentic Lincoln documents, books, and relics and placing them so that they are conserved and



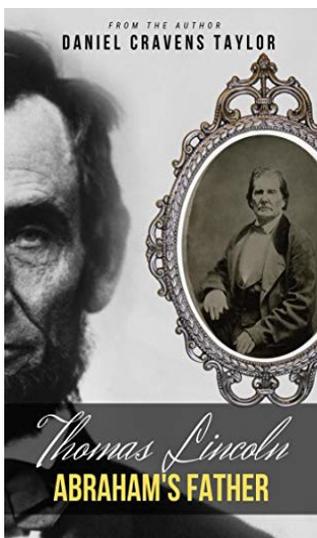
President Bob Willard presents the Carpenter Ledger Book to Curtis Mann, curator of the Sangamon Valley Collection at Springfield's Lincoln Library.

Membership Gifts For Those Contributing at Higher Levels

Those renewing membership at a \$100 level will be given a set of five cards featuring the photographs of David Wiegiers. This set of five (5) special notecards features photographs of four (4) Lincoln statues across the United States and one special photograph of the Lincoln Home taken the evening of May 2, 2015 during 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's funeral in Springfield. Wiegiers, of Gurnee, Illinois, has visited and photographed nearly 250 statues and monuments of Lincoln in the United States and overseas.

Those contributing in excess of \$500 will receive the Wiegiers cards as well as *The Collected Works of Thomas Lincoln, Carpenter and Cabinetmaker*, a recent book by Richard E. Hart and described below.

Thomas Lincoln Reconsidered



Abraham Lincoln received much attention in 2009; it is his father's turn in 2019, the only year on record with two new books about Thomas.

Daniel Cravens Taylor (author of an earlier book about Abraham's religious views) has written the first full biography of Thomas, at 453 pp., including timeline, chapters on all four states he lived in, images, appendices, and index.

"Dick Hart has put together the most comprehensive account of furniture made by Thomas Lincoln, the father of Abraham Lincoln," Louise Taper writes in her introduction to *The Collected Works of Thomas Lincoln, Carpenter and Cabinetmaker*. Hart devised a cataloguing system for his compilation of the furniture made by Thomas -- 32 known pieces, with pictures, provenance, 81 pp. in glossy color. It is available only from Prairie Archives and Books on the Square, in downtown Springfield.

The Collected Works of
THOMAS LINCOLN
CARPENTER AND CABINETMAKER



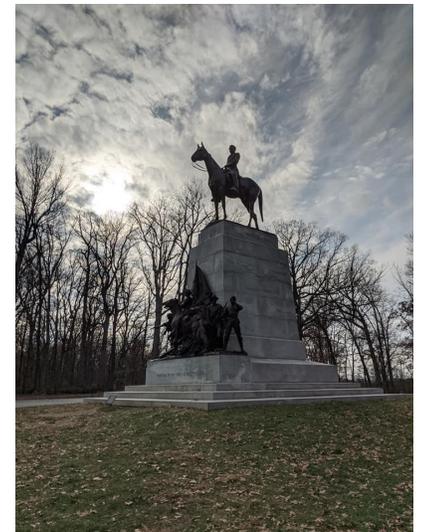
Richard E. Hart
Foreword by Louise Taper
Pigeon Creek Series

Gettysburg National Military Park

Photographs by Amy Budinger, November 2019



Photographs by Brian Steenbergen, November 2019





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New Salem, April 2018 Early Morning

The Onstot home and cooper shop are in the foreground to the right, with the Miller-Kelso cabin to the left.



Robert Shaw, Firelight Publishing