

FOR THE PEOPLE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

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SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

ABRAHAM LINCOLN II "JACK" (1873-1890)

Thomas F. Schwartz, Secretary
The Abraham Lincoln Association

Two recently acquired letters by Robert Todd Lincoln shed important light into the death of his only son, Abraham Lincoln II or "Jack" as his family called him. Because Jack died before reaching adulthood at age sixteen, most of the recorded descriptions of him emphasize his great potential and often claim that he was very much like his illustrious namesake, President Abraham Lincoln. That Jack was proud to be named after his grandfather is demonstrated in his conscious attempt to imitate in exact fashion the famous signature, "A. Lincoln."

Robert Todd Lincoln was appointed United States Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James by President Benjamin Harrison in 1889. Still clinging to a tradition set by the American Revolution, America was not represented by ambassadors but ministers. This tradition was overturned in 1893 since ambassadors were the highest diplomatic rank and had preference over ministers. Robert relished the opportunity to live in London and take vacations on the continent. He sent Jack to Versailles to study the French language in preparation for the entrance exams at Harvard. While in France, Jack noticed a carbuncle under his arm. The carbuncle was lanced by a French surgeon but infection set in and Jack developed blood poisoning, from which he would eventually die.

The first letter is written by Robert to the first secretary of the London legation, Henry White. In it, Robert provides the most detailed description of

Jack's illness. The tone moves from resigning himself to Jack's probable death to ending on a hopeful note that perhaps the doctors in London might provide a needed miracle.

Robert Todd Lincoln Letter, January 13, 1890.

Travellers Club [Paris, France]
32. Avenue de l'Opera

13 Jan'y 90

My dear White

Many thanks for your note yesterday. I have your letter & 3 telegrams & if we can move Jack I will telegraph for your man & the litter. There is no change



Abraham Lincoln II, nicknamed "Jack."
1881 photograph

Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

here except that I learned this afternoon that Dr. Villon said to Dr. Jones yesterday morning "il est perdu." ["He is lost."] That means the French Drs. have no further recourse as V. proposes no change of the treatment external & internal & with no changes I have no hope of improvement. Dr. Jones thinks some changes should be tried & says if it was his son he would remove him. The only question is therefore the opportunity. I was glad of your third telegram for we all including Jack want no more France & it would have been bad for his morale to start South. As Bournemouth is a long way across country from Dover & as London is only two hours, & almost on the road, Dr. J. inquires whether it would not be better for me to leave Jack first to our house in London & have him seen by Dr. Maclagan & anybody else he thought advisable & others with such advice & opinion, go than direct to Bournemouth. I almost feel we would so get to B. as quickly as by the broken up cross lines & some other advantage are plain. He is not yet deathly feeble. He gets up daily for the "closet" & last night he used his typewriter & slept well & he feeds himself & helps himself to water from a side table. I mention this for Dr. M. Please ask him on this & teleg. me. I

(Continued on page 4)

Philip Shaw Paludan

1938-2007



Phillip Shaw Paludan, our friend, fellow Board Member, and distinguished Lincoln scholar, died in Springfield on August 1, 2007, after a long illness. Phil and his wife Marty came to Springfield in 2001 when Phil was the first to be named to the Naomi Lynn Distinguished Chair of Lincoln Studies, University of Illinois at Springfield. A leading authority on the life and presidency of Abraham Lincoln, he was a congenial ALA Board member, a participant in the ALA's Lincoln Symposium, and a contributor to the ALA's *Journal*.

Phil was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota, the son of Paul and Marguerite Shaw Paludan. Receiving his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Occidental College, he took his doctorate from the University of Illinois, where he studied under Harold M. Hyman. He taught at the University of Kansas for more than thirty years, and held visiting appointments at Rutgers University and University College, Dublin, Ireland. He wrote four books on Lincoln: *A Covenant With Death: The Constitution, Law, and Equality in the Civil War Era*, *Victims: A True Story of the Civil War*, *"A People's Contest": The Union and Civil War* and *The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln*. The latter was a History Book Club and Book of the Month Club selection, and for this work Phil was the recipient of the Baroness/Lincoln Award from the New York City Civil War Round Table and the Lincoln Prize, awarded by the Lincoln and Soldiers Institute at Gettysburg College.

His awards include postdoctoral fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Harvard Law School. He received a Diploma of Honor from Lincoln Memorial University and an honorary doctorate from Lincoln College.

Illinois State Historian Thomas Schwartz, who often invited Phil to speak at teacher workshops and Lincoln symposiums, said much of Phil's scholarly work is seminal in Lincoln scholarship. "Everyone was very much impressed by his broad intellect and his ability to take complex issues and break them down into very understandable and discrete parts. But more importantly, to provide these wonderful flashes of insight into issues that others had studied and studied. He was able to say something new and important. It's a huge loss, not only for UIS, but for Springfield itself and for Lincoln scholarship," Schwartz said.

Phil's friend and colleague, Cullom Davis, delivered a moving tribute to Phil at a memorial service held at Springfield's Westminster Presbyterian Church and here are excerpts from his tribute.

Phil taught popular classes on Lincoln, the Civil War, and constitutional history. Sensing that his debilitating illness might someday force him to miss an occasional class meeting, he meticulously prepared on-line versions of his courses. He participated fully in the life of the university, accepted all kinds of local invitations to speak, and made himself readily available to students and colleagues. Perhaps his greatest and most enduring contribution here was to host and produce a popular annual fall lecture series, the Lincoln Legacy Lectures.

Phil read broadly in the classics, current affairs, science fiction and children's literature. A prize-winning scholar and teacher, he never flirted with pedantry, or failed to acknowledge historical debts to his peers. A master of intellectual dialogue and debate, his weapons of choice were not invective or sarcasm, but gentle wit. He always gave highest priority to the students in his classes. A keen competitor in the academic rat race, Phil also was loyal and generous to his colleagues and protégés. He was, in short, that rarity in the Lincoln field, both a star and a gentleman.

Phil is survived by his wife, Marty, and daughters Karin Sorey and Kirsten Paludan, and stepchildren Jim Hammond, Brett Hammond, Jill Donatelli and Cody Hammond.

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PRESIDENT LINCOLN MEETS THE SPRINGFIELD PRESS

On October 4, President Abraham Lincoln appeared in The Chamber of the House of Representative at the Old State Capitol to field questions from Springfield's modern day press corps followed by questions from the audience. Over 240 people heard the President respond to questions about the war, emancipation and his plans for reconstruction. President Lincoln was portrayed by George Buss, who was assisted by two "handlers," Bob Lenz and David Blanchette.

President Lincoln also appeared at the Iles Magnet School, Southeast High School and an Ansar Shriner's meeting. The ALA sponsored events were planned and organized by ALA Board Member David Joens and were co-sponsored by the Old State Capitol and the Illinois Sate Historical Society.

Future ALA sponsored President Lincoln Press Conferences will be announced in the Winter issue of *For The People*.



DRED SCOTT DESCENDANT, LYNNE JACKSON, SPEAKS TO OVER 200 AT ALA SPONSORED LUNCHEON



An enthusiastic crowd of over 200 attended an October 12th luncheon at the Sangamo Club in Springfield, honoring the 150th anniversary of the Dred Scott decision. The Abraham Lincoln Association joined with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Central Illinois Women's Bar Association in sponsoring Lynne Jackson, the great, great granddaughter of Dred Scott, as the luncheon speaker.

Don Tracy, past ALA President and present Board member, planned the event and began the program with an excellent summary of the Dred Scott case. Ms. Jackson then gave an outstanding talk about her family and the more personal side of the case. She noted that her office at a St. Louis law firm overlooks the court house where her ancestor made his case.

Ms. Jackson exhibited a collection of memorabilia from her family, the trial, and her ongoing efforts to memorialize Dred. In order to achieve Ms. Jackson's goal of erecting a statue in Dred Scott's honor, she has created The Dred Scott Heritage Foundation. Read more about the Foundation at <http://www.thedredscottfoundation.org>.

JUDGE TREAT MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER HUGE SUCCESS

Under the splendid leadership of ALA Board member Judge Richard Mills, the ALA has joined with the Illinois Bar Foundation to raise money to erect a head stone at the unmarked grave of Judge Samuel H. Treat who is buried in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery. Treat was a good friend of Abraham Lincoln and presided in many of his legal cases.

The ALA challenged the Illinois Bar Foundation to raise money at their September golf outing, which the ALA promised to match three to one, up to \$2,500. Judge Mills reports that more than \$10,000 was raised and the memorial has been ordered. There will be a ceremony at the gravesite next June on Treat's birthday to dedicate the Treat monument and to remember Judge Treat's many contributions to the judicial system.

(continued from page 1)

now feel that he is sure to die remaining here & that a slender chance is given him by taking him away & if Mrs. L. agrees with me tonight, we will take the chance & not feel remorse for any direct bad result. Jack will of course travel with us.

Hastily yours
Robert T. Lincoln

The physicians mentioned were all surgeons. Dr. Villon was a young French surgeon who took the case from Dr. Pean, who removed the carbuncle. Most likely, this surgery spread the infection from the carbuncle into the lymph and vascular systems. Dr. H. Webster Jones, a Chicago surgeon who specialized in obstetrics, relocated to London shortly before Robert's appointment. Dr. Maclagan was a London physician of some note. Three days after Robert penned his letter to Henry White, the family arrived in London. Jack's condition was a rollercoaster ride of hopeful improvement one day and spiked fever and listlessness the next. A second surgery was performed on February 27, 1890 that produced no relief for the young Lincoln. On

March 5, shortly after 11 a.m., Abraham Lincoln II died at Robert's London residence at 2 Cromwell Houses.

Weeks after Jack's death, Robert penned a letter acknowledging the heartfelt condolences of his cousin, Charles Edwards. There is no evidence that Robert and Charles were ever close. But in a very few words, Robert conveys the depth of his pain and sorrow as well as his great love for his lost son.

2, Cromwell Houses.S.W.
London March 30. 1890

My dear Charles

I want to let you know that your kind note was received. We had a long & most anxious struggle and at times had hopes of saving our boy. It would have been done if it had depended only on his own marvelous pluck & patience now that the end has come, there is a great blank in our future lives & an affliction not to be measured.

Give my love to your wife, who is well, I hope, & believe me

Affectionately your cousin
Robert T. Lincoln

The following brief biography of Charles Edwards was taken from John Carroll Power's History of the Early Settlers of Sangamon County, Illinois, published in 1876.

Charles Edwards

Charles Edwards was born on July 6, 1846, in Springfield, the son of Ninian and Elizabeth P. Todd Edwards. He was attending Yale College in the early part of the Civil War, and left there in the latter part of 1863 to fill a position in the commissary department of the U. S. Army. After the war, he was an instructor in Bryant & Stratton's commercial college in Springfield for a short time. On February 18, 1868, Charles married in Springfield to Mary Hickox, daughter of Virgil and Catharine Cabanis Hickox. Charles was connected for many years with the Illinois State Journal.



Charles Edwards

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library,
Springfield, Illinois.

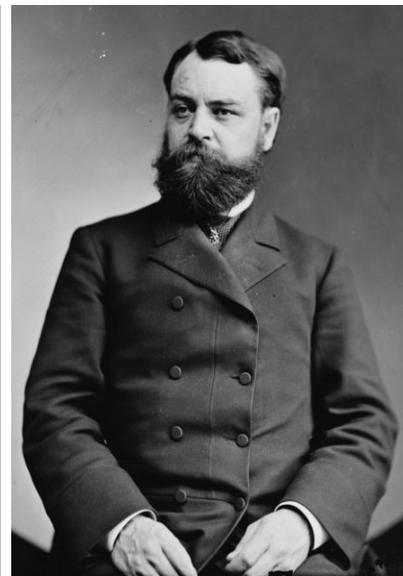


Abraham Lincoln II,
nicknamed "Jack."

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library,
Springfield, Illinois.



Jack was originally buried in the Lincoln family plot in Springfield. Years later he was reinterred in his father's plot in Arlington National Cemetery shown here. For years thereafter Jack's name did not appear on his father's Arlington monument, but in 1976 his name was added.



Robert Todd Lincoln

ALA 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENTS

October 29, 2007

Dear ALA Members,

We will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Abraham Lincoln Association on February 11, 12 and 13, 2008. I invite you to join in the celebration and mark your calendars now for the various events.

The 2008 Symposium at the Old State Capitol will be a two day event. The first day, February 11, will feature scholars Jean Baker, Mark Neely, and Douglas Wilson.

On the evening of February 11, *An American Dream* will be performed at Sangamon Auditorium at the University of Illinois at Springfield. The ALA has partnered with the Springfield and Bloomington Chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in sponsoring the Illinois Symphony Orchestra's performance of a program of American music entitled *An American Dream*.

February 12 will be filled with a number of events. The ALA Executive Committee and Board will meet in the morning, and in the afternoon, the second day of the Symposium at the Old State Capitol will feature Brian Dirck, Brooks Simpson, and Mark Vorenberg.

On the evening of the 12th, we will hold our banquet at a new venue, the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Springfield's far east side. The banquet facility there will accommodate up to 800 guests, much larger than the facility we have previously used. The dinner speaker will be Michael Beschloss, and the 10th Illinois Cavalry Band will serenade us with authentic Civil War music.

On February 13th, *An American Dream* will be performed in the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, a magnificent facility.

An American Dream is the manifestation of a dream I had in February 2006 as I thought about possible events to celebrate the ALA's upcoming 100th anniversary. I could not ignore the coincidence of two 1908 events—the founding of ALA and the Springfield Race Riot that led to the founding of the NAACP.

I thought that a perfect way to celebrate and commemorate the events would be an ALA partnership with the NAACP to sponsor a program of American music interspersed with readings from the works of Lincoln and Civil Rights leaders, held in a community

venue that would attract a large public audience. I met with Karen Deal, the music director of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, and Ken Page, president of the Springfield chapter of the NAACP, to share the dream. They embraced the dream and then as others joined in the dream, the hard work of implementation began.

A joint committee of the ALA and the NAACP was formed under the able leadership of Kathryn Harris, Molly Becker, and Ken Page. The committee prepared grant applications and to date has been awarded grants that assure the financial underwriting of the event. State Farm Insurance has made the major grant. Other grants have been awarded by Horace Mann Insurance Company, Merrill Lynch, SIU Physicians and Surgeons Group, Illinois Humanities Council, Illinois Arts Council, University of Illinois at Springfield, Illinois Symphony Orchestra and the McLean County Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Many of our members have been involved in obtaining these grants and in planning for the event. Mary Shepherd, the ALA Executive Assistant, has been the glue holding all of this together, keeping us on schedule and spending countless hours behind the scenes doing the work necessary to bring the dream to fruition. Thank you, Mary.

The concert is designed to attract a diverse population. Younger members of the community will be included, as there will be youth concerts in both the Springfield and Bloomington schools. Students will be provided with materials about the concert for study in the classroom before the concert, and will attend free of charge as a class. Local choirs will be invited to participate in the concerts. Low cost tickets will be offered to the community to remove cost as a barrier to attendance. The program is designed to unite the community in a celebration of two important events and to exhibit what can be achieved when diverse groups work as one.

You will be receiving more information about these events in the Winter issue of *For The People* and in the brochure describing events and reservation information.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2008 ALA events.

Yours truly,

Richard E. Hart
President, Abraham Lincoln Association

2008 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

Now is the time to renew your membership in the ALA. You should have received my membership renewal letter in the last few weeks. Thanks to the many who have already responded by renewing their membership. For those of you who have not yet renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience. You may do so by using the form below or going online at the ALA website at www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org and renew by using PayPal. The coming two years will be filled with events and publications to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of ALA and the 200th Birthday of Abraham Lincoln. Your continued memberships make these possible.

Thank you,
William Shepherd
Membership Chairman

ALA ENDOWMENT FUND DRIVE

For almost a century, the Abraham Lincoln Association has been in the forefront of preserving and promoting Abraham Lincoln’s life and legacy. As we enter our second century, the ALA has established an endowment fund to insure that the legacy continues.

We invite you to join in preserving that legacy. You may contribute to the endowment by contributing any amount in any form. Cash contributions, transfers of stock, life insurance designations, IRA or pension transfers, or bequests under your will can be made to the fund. All qualify as charitable contributions. It can be as simple as adding a clause to your will—“I hereby give the following amount to the endowment of the Abraham Lincoln Association.” Be a part of a living legacy. Make your gift now. Send a check designated “Endowment” to the Abraham Lincoln Association, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Questions? Call me at 866-865-8500.

Thank you,
Robert Stuart
Treasurer and Endowment Committee Member

New Members

We welcome our new members.

- Craig M. Chambers**
Danville, Illinois
- Louis and Kimberly Dixon**
Springfield, Illinois
- Jim and Cassie Donelan**
Springfield, Illinois
- Barbara Ferrara**
Springfield, Illinois
- Robert F. Kincaid**
Traverse City, Michigan
- Yvonne Garcia**
Centreville, Virginia
- Petur Hansson**
Flemington, New Jersey
- Grant Mitchell**
Fishers, Indiana
- Phillip Shelton**
Metropolis, Illinois
- Kate Shepherd**
Chicago, Illinois
- Matthew Smith**
Alexandria, Virginia
- Dr. and Mrs. Wallace F. Strow, Sr.**
Springfield, Illinois
- D. Clay Taylor**
Hopkins, Minnesota
- John Wickre**
Grand Forks, North Dakota

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A MEMBER

Please join the over 800 members of The Abraham Lincoln Association whose memberships make possible the Association’s activities. As a member, you will receive the Association’s semi-annual *Journal* and quarterly newsletter, *For The People*. Become one of this generation’s patrons of the greatest American story—the story of Abraham Lincoln.

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* Available only to students enrolled full-time in an academic institution.

You may join through our website at: www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org.
Call toll free for more information: (866) 865-8500 or email Mary Shepherd at maryshepherdala@gmail.com

ALA MID-YEAR BOARD MEETING DAY



The ALA Executive Committee and Board held mid-year meetings in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library on October 12, 2007. After the Board meeting, James Cornelius, Curator of the Lincoln Collection, brought a number of items from the Collection into the Board Room for viewing by Board members and a few spouses. From left to right are photographs of the Executive Committee; the Board; and Board members, Robert Davis, Nancy Chapin, Guy Fraker, and David Joens, viewing Lincoln's top hat, held by Mr. Cornelius. Charles Chapin, Nancy's husband, has his back to the camera at left. It was a moving experience.



After the Board meeting, Board members and their spouses gathered for cocktails and dinner at the historic Benjamin Edwards Mansion on North Fourth Street, a home visited and known well by Abraham Lincoln. Pictured at the cocktail party in the exhibit hall of the Mansion are left to right, Wally Henderson and Tom Schwartz; Tim Townsend and Bob Lenz; Kathy Hoffmann and Margi and Bob Stuart; and Cullom Davis, Bob Eckley, and Lee Mc Turnan,



Pictured at the cocktail party in the exhibit hall of the Mansion are left to right, Molly Becker, Marty Paludan, and Barbara Hughett; a general view of the reception; and Bill and Mary Shepherd and Nell Eckley.



A beautiful autumn dinner, catered by Carol Jean Fraase, was held in the historic east rooms of the Mansion. Shown enjoying the dinner are left to right Nicky Stratton, Susan and Jay Mogerman, and Wally Henderson; Marty Paludan, Nancy Chapin, and Kathy Hoffmann; and Brooks Davis and Molly Becker. It was a productive day and delightful evening.

ALA funds were not used for the reception and dinner. Each Board Member paid to attend the event and for our honored guest, Marty Paludan.

FOR THE PEOPLE

The Abraham Lincoln Association
 1 Old State Capitol Plaza
 Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512

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DAY BY DAY

CALENDAR OF COMING ALA EVENTS

January 28, 2008	7:00	<i>President Lincoln Press Conference</i> George Buss portraying President Abraham Lincoln Decatur, Illinois, venue to be announced
February 11, 2008	1:00–4:00	<i>Symposium</i> Hall of Representatives, Old State Capitol, Springfield
	7:00	<i>An American Dream</i> Illinois Symphony Orchestra performance Springfield, Sangamon Auditorium, University of Illinois at Springfield
February 12, 2008	10:00	<i>ALA Board of Directors Annual Meeting</i> , Springfield
	1:00-4:00	<i>Symposium</i> Hall of Representatives, Old State Capitol, Springfield
	5:00	<i>Endowment Reception</i> Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield
	6:00	<i>Lincoln Day Banquet</i> , 100th Anniversary of ALA Michael Beschloss speaking Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield
February 13, 2008	7:00	<i>An American Dream</i> Illinois Symphony Orchestra performance Bloomington, Bloomington Center for Performing Arts