By Robert J. Lenz
President
The Abraham Lincoln Association

President Juan Rafael Mora is regarded as the most important political figure of Costa Rica and Central America in the 19th century. It is believed there are many similarities between the life of Lincoln and the life of Mora. In preparation for the February 8, 2014 bicentennial of President Mora, the Club Union and La Tertulia Del 56 held their first banquet in 2011. Their purpose is scholarship and public education about Mora, similar to the purposes of The Abraham Lincoln Association as to President Lincoln. The organizations are supported by many of the leading citizens, public figures, and scholars of Costa Rica.

In early February 2013, Robert J. Lenz, President of The Abraham Lincoln Association, traveled to Costa Rica where he addressed "The Gathering of 1856," the English translation of the group’s name. President Lenz’s address is printed below.

I am here tonight on behalf of The Abraham Lincoln Association to celebrate the greatness of two national leaders, Juan Rafael Mora and Abraham Lincoln. Tonight we are all Moristas, we are all Lincolnistas.

The Abraham Lincoln Association was founded in 1908 in anticipation of the 1909 Centennial of Lincoln’s birth, and has continued since then devoted to scholarship and public education about the life and accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln.

You are to be commended on your efforts to acquaint the wider world with the importance of your Liberator and National Hero.

First, a few words about slavery in the United States and American expansionism.

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES
At the time of the American Revolution, slavery existed in all 13 colonies. Between 1777 and 1804, all Northern states took steps to abolish slavery, usually by gradual emancipation. These were the first legal steps toward emancipation in the new world. By the early nineteenth century, slavery was the institution that set apart the American South from the rest of the nation.

AMERICAN EXPANSIONISM
When the 13 American Colonies won the War of Independence from England, the new government acquired the great land mass lying west of the Allegheny Mountains, north of the Ohio River to the Mississippi, known as the Northwest Territory. The State of Illinois is located in this region and we call ourselves the Land of Lincoln. This expansion more than doubled the geographic size of the country.

In 1803 when President Thomas Jefferson negotiated to purchase the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon, the country again doubled in size.

By the 1840s the expansion of the country was driven partly by the popular notion of Manifest Destiny, as though Providence intended the United States to occupy the entire North American region — regardless of the rights of neighboring states. Lincoln sought a different destiny for his country. Lincoln always opposed military intervention in the affairs of other nations. After the annexation of Texas in 1845, the United States went to War with Mexico from 1846 to 1848. This war enjoyed broad public support in the United States but was opposed by Abraham Lincoln.

These events, in particular the Mexican-American War, encouraged the growth of filibustering in Central America from 1848 right up to the eve of the American Civil War which began in 1861. By the mid 1850s Abraham Lincoln emerged as the leader of a

(Continued on page 2)
new political party among Western states known as the Republican Party that was organized to halt the expansion of slavery. The Southern states promoted expansionism and filibustering in their desire to annex new slave territories. Majority opinion in the northern half of the country sought to contain and eventually extinguish slavery. It was this conflict that led to the efforts of Southern states to secede. The American Civil War soon followed.

MORA’S LEADERSHIP AGAINST WILLIAM WALKER

William Walker sailed for Central America with a group of armed men in May 1855. He intervened in the on-going civil war. Within a few months, he defeated the opposing forces and became a virtual dictator of the country, calling himself “president” as a result of rigged elections. During his brief government he legalized slavery that had been abolished in Nicaragua and re-opened the slave trade. The government of William Walker was given diplomatic recognition by President Franklin Pierce of the United States. The goal of this intervention was annexation in order to extend slavery into Central America. Similar filibustering expeditions by other adventurers invaded Mexico, Ecuador, Honduras, and Cuba.

All of you here tonight know the heroic story of Juan Rafael Mora, National Hero and Defender of Costa Rica’s Liberty. In November 1855, the President of the Republic recognized the dangers represented by Walker’s mercenary forces. He called the Continental Congress into session to alert them to the threat posed by the filibusters. Under his leadership, the government formed an army and President Mora led a march to the border just in time to confront Walker’s forces which had invaded the territory of Costa Rica. On March 20, 1856, the Costa Rican Army won the Battle of Santa Rosa. Mora led a diplomatic and military effort that resulted in the Battle of Rivas on April 11, 1856, leading to Walker’s surrender on May 1, 1857. This victory of President Mora over William Walker assured the defeat of the expansion of slavery into Central America. It is for good reason that Mrs. Laura Chinchilla, President of the Republic, has said that Mora is “The greatest statesman in our history.”

When Walker returned to the United States, he was treated as a hero in many Southern cities. When he was prosecuted for violating Neutrality Laws, which prohibited U.S. citizens from engaging in private conflict with foreign nations, a southern jury found him not guilty. These events show that public support in the South was strongly in favor of slavery expansion. When Walker unwisely attempted a third invasion of Central America, he was captured by the United States Navy for violating Neutrality Laws and was deposited into the hands of the government of Honduras where he met his end September 12, 1860 by a firing squad.

LINCOLN’S OPPOSITION TO FILIBUSTERS

Abraham Lincoln opposed filibusters and expansion into Central America. He opposed the War with Mexico. He supported the Wilmot Proviso, a bill to require that slavery be prohibited in any territory acquired from Mexico. One of the first things Lincoln did when he became President in March 1861 was to appoint a minister to Mexico, the United States Senator from Ohio who had voted against the war. By appointing Senator Corwin, Lincoln indicated not only to Mexico but to other nations as well, his opposition to military adventurism abroad.

In 1852, before William Walker first invaded Nicaragua, Lincoln made a speech in Springfield, Illinois, to oppose the election of Franklin Pierce as President, in which he spoke against the Filibusters who invaded Cuba.

In 1857 Lincoln warned his fellow Republicans that if they allowed themselves to support Senator Stephen A. Douglas, the party would become “halted and harassed to filibuster indefinitely for slave territory” and to assist in reviving the African slave trade.

Following Lincoln’s election in 1860 and the period before his inauguration, several southern states passed ordinances of secession because they knew of his opposition to the expansion of slavery. There were many faint-hearted Republicans in Congress who wanted to induce those slave states to stay in the Union by a compromise on the issue of slavery. Lincoln wrote a series of letters which will show you that he, like Juanito Mora, was a man of steel.

On December 13, 1860, he warned a Congressman that there could be no possible compromise on the matter of slavery expansion because immediately such a compromise would lead to filibustering and the extension of slavery: “On that point hold firm, as with a chain of steel.”

A few days later, December 17, 1860, he replied to a letter from the political leader of the State of New York who proposed to gather all northern governors in a conference to pursue a compromise that would prevent the southern states from seceding. Again Lincoln replied that any compromise with slavery would result in “filibustering for all South of us, and making slave states of it.”

The very next day in response to a letter from another political leader who claimed the threat of secession was greater than Lincoln realized, he replied: “I am sorry any Republican inclines to dally [with the notion of slavery]. It acknowledges that slavery has equal rights with liberty, and surrenders all we have contended for. Once fastened on us as a settled policy, filibustering for all South of us, and making slave states of it, follows in spite of us.”

So as Mora fought to prevent slavery from overtaking his country, Lincoln fought to prevent slavery from expanding, and thus to save his country and to make it “worth the saving.” Lincoln would accept war to end slavery and save the Union;
PRESIDENT ROBERT J. LENZ’S GREETING

Dear Members of the Abraham Lincoln Association,

It is with much anticipation that the ALA looks forward to its second event celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. The event, titled Lincoln, Colored Warriors, and the Spirit of Freedom, will be held in Springfield on Saturday, August 3, 2013, and will feature George Buss portraying President Lincoln and a lecture by Hari Jones, assistant director and curator of the African American Civil War Freedom Foundation and Museum in Washington, D.C. Jones is one of the foremost authorities on the role of African Americans in the Civil War. His refreshingly new perspective on this subject reveals how extensive and well-organized Americans of African descent were in their efforts to end slavery and gain their rights as citizens in league with the Constitution. Hari served in the United States Marine Corps for over twenty years, retiring as a captain in 1997. Since then he has conducted extensive research on African American military service throughout American history.

The event will also host a Civil War encampment, a wreath laying ceremony at Oak Ridge Cemetery, and a special event for young people. Young “soldiers” will be mustered into the army in the morning and spend the day learning about the life of a soldier. This program will include a parade for the new recruits and participation in the wreath laying ceremony. All of these events are free and open to the public. For more details, see page 8 of this newsletter.

We want to thank our partners, the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, the Old State Capitol State Historic Site, and the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition. We hope to see many of you on August 3rd. For those of you unable to join us, please visit our website for photos and information after the event.

Sincerely,
Robert J. Lenz, President

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WELCOME TO 39 NEW MEMBERS OF THE ALA

Elliott Abrams
Coral Gables, Florida

Paul M. Bessel
Silver Spring, Maryland

David Christie
Freehold, New Jersey

John J. Coniglio
Clifton Park, New York

SJS Craig
Newcastle Upon Tyne, U.K.

Jeffrey M. Cross
Chicago, Illinois

Leo Dohogne
Evanston, Illinois

Dennis R. Dow
Leawood, Kansas

Gov. Jim Edgar
Springfield, Illinois

James Evans
Edmond, Oklahoma

Robert Faith
Allison Park, California

Robert Falls
Chicago, Illinois

Harold Friedman
Moraga, California

Charles Garretson
Pottstown, Pennsylvania

George Geanon
Pewaukee, Wisconsin

Bruce R. Greer
Grayson, Kentucky

Robert Harrell
Montague, Michigan

Erik Hazel
Webster Grove, Missouri

Brynn Henderson
Springfield, Illinois

Sandra Rae Keith
Galesburg, Illinois

Michelle Krowl
Arlington, Virginia

Glenn LaFantasie
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Richard LaRiviere
Chicago, Illinois

Richard Margolies
Washington, D.C.

Stacy McDermott
St. Louis, Missouri

Faye E. Miller
Atholton, Kansas

Harrison Moore
Houston, Texas

Marilyn Mueller
Springfield, Illinois

Edward Murphy
Redmond, Washington

Luke Pickelman
Okemos, Michigan

Savant Multimedia, LLC
Springfield, Illinois

Judy and Lowell Schechter
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dr. John David Smith
Charlotte, North Carolina

Katie Spindell
Springfield, Illinois

Ben Thomas
Charleston, West Virginia

Lew Welge
Jacksonville, Florida

MSgt (ret) Rob Wilkins
Leesburg, Virginia

Matt Wolff
Greenville, Texas

Edward Yazinski
Macon, Georgia
Mora would go to war to prevent slavery and preserve the Republic of Costa Rica.

IMAGES OF LINCOLN IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Since the time of Mora, Abraham Lincoln has been more widely admired in Central America than any other part of the world except, of course, the United States. There is a Lincoln School in many cities and there are two in San José which I have visited. There are towns in Cuba and Argentina that are named after him. Lincoln is claimed as “one of us” by a variety of political leaders. Sarmiento saw himself as the Argentine Lincoln, and Benito Juárez was referred to as the Mexican Lincoln. Throughout Central America, Abraham Lincoln has been seen as a “nation-builder” because he saved the Union. He is respected because of his rise from poverty, his self-education, and his compassion for the common man. Lincoln is recognized as an advocate of democratic values for all of the Western Hemisphere, a true “Americanista.” Lincoln’s majestic words in the Gettysburg’s Address resonate for all of us today, “…that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” He saw the Civil War as a test whether the United States – “or any nation so conceived” – could long survive.

Lincoln was seen as representing not just U.S. values but more universal human ideals that also applied to Central America.

When the United States intervened to establish the Republic of Panama in 1903, the intellectual Carlos Alberto Torres of Colombia wrote with sorrow that the “United States has lost its honor. Oh, Lincoln! Today is the day you were truly assassinated!”

Lincoln came to office after some expansionist Presidents: President Polk who initiated the Mexican War, President Pierce who encouraged the filibustering and military campaign of William Walker in the 1850s, and President Buchanan who looked the other way when slave powers sought to expand their influence into Central America.

By contrast, Lincoln appointed diplomats who were respectful of Central America.

Abraham Lincoln articulated American nationalism as a moral force for the improvement of mankind, as a beacon of liberty to the world, and not solely to advance the United States.

WHAT MORA PREVENTED

By preventing slavery from coming into Costa Rica, Juan Rafael Mora saved your country from the agony, the hypocrisy, and the stain of slavery which so adversely infected the United States and the bitter fruits of which have not yet been fully eradicated in my country.

We cannot underestimate what Mora and his heroic supporters did by defeating William Walker and by preventing slavery from being re-established in Latin America.

We can today celebrate that the victory of Costa Rica over slavery, led by Juan Rafael Mora and his heroic army, saved Costa Rica from the sad history of all of the former slave states in the Western Hemisphere, whether that be Cuba or Brazil or the West Indies or the United States.

TWO REMARKABLE MEN -- MORA AND LINCOLN

Although Lincoln and Mora came from different backgrounds, they both became self-made men. Lincoln was a lawyer; Mora, a merchant and coffee grower.

They were true to their values: Lincoln to prevent the expansion of slavery and support for the Rule of Law; Mora for his pledge to protect the sovereignty of Costa Rica.

They both knew how to build coalitions to achieve their goals: Lincoln built a new political party in Illinois which led to his nomination; Mora worked as a diplomat to obtain cooperation among Central America countries to oppose Filibusters who invaded their shores.

They each had a strategic vision that led to military success. Lincoln imposed a naval blockade of Southern ports and reorganized the Union Army; Mora took control of the San Juan River to stop supplies and reinforcements from reaching Walker’s forces in Nicaragua.

They were both men of grand vision:

Mora correctly assessed Walker’s threat of a regional takeover; Lincoln resisted Southern demands to compromise on the expansion of slavery.

Finally, both men inspired people to follow their leadership in the face of great danger to both countries.

Long Live Juan Rafael Mora.
Long Live Abraham Lincoln.

The author recognizes the research assistance of ALA Members John Groves and Roger Bridges.

(Continued from page 2)
Why Does This House Mourn Lincoln So?

By Tom & Melissa Keyes
Sandwich, Massachusetts

In December, 2010, my wife and I purchased what we thought was an 1817 Colonial in desperate need of repair. While tearing out a modern ceiling everything changed. Years fell away, and suddenly 1817 seemed like yesterday as we gazed at hand-hewn beams. The house has subsequently been dated to the second quarter of the 17th century! Needless to say, budgets were blown and plans changed, but what an amazing find. One archaeologist quipped, “Know what history this house has seen? All of it!”

As if that wasn’t enough, speaking with a few of the older families in town I received “So you bought the old Lincoln house.” They were referring to the mourning drape carving over the front door which was added to mourn the assassination of President Lincoln in 1865. Why would someone mourn so deeply as to alter their home?

I sent pictures of the carving to the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum who responded asking for any documentation indicating this was added to mourn the President. I have no such recording, so they asked who owned the house in 1865 and this is when an amazing American story began to unfold.

In 1865 the home was owned by James Whitley. Mr. Whitley is listed in the Town of Sandwich Tax Assessments as “Mulatto,” thus of part African-American heritage. Mr. Whitley received the home from his mother Leah Whitley who originally bought the home in 1827 as a “Widow.” Although she doesn’t have it in writing, our Town Archivist contends it’s well known that Leah Whitley was an African American. The Archivist then gave me the name of Thomas W. Whitley as Leah’s late husband from South Carolina. It was then that my research took an even more interesting turn.

I found a paper from Syracuse University College of Law called Slaves in the Family: Testamentary Freedom and Interracial Deviance written by Kevin Noble Maillard. This paper states that Thomas Whitley was white but that there was controversy over Leah’s heritage and some claimed she was a “colored slave.” Others claimed she was the daughter of a fallen revolutionary soldier but beyond that was a woman of “unknown origins.” The paper also states that Leah Whitley sent her son James from South Carolina to Massachusetts “to keep him out of the way of bad example.”

What was this “bad example” that Leah was protecting her son from? Being a woman of African-American descent in the early 1800s makes the answer quite obvious, but owning and running a store with her husband at the time made it not possible for her to go with her son. Once widowed, Leah left to be with her son and bought this home in Sandwich, Massachusetts.

With the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment, President Lincoln gave dignity, freedom, and hope to an incredibly oppressed people. It is understandable why African-Americans so mourned Lincoln’s shocking assassination. This added fascia to James Whitley’s home is a true reflection of the high respect and love that he and other people of color had for the one president who had made their welfare a personal cause at great risk to himself both personally and politically.

My wife and I are so proud to be the stewards of a great home, a uniquely American home that started out in the Plantation Period as a foundationless one room cottage on the banks of the Shawme River. This house has evolved right along with the country and is now telling us the stories of its past.
A LINCOLN LEGACY FOR THE WEST

By David H. Leroy
Boise, Idaho

David H. Leroy is a lawyer in Boise, Idaho. He was elected Attorney General of Idaho in 1978 and Lieutenant Governor in 1982. His greatest accomplishment, however, is the leadership he has provided in bringing about a museum of Lincolniana in his home state. Much of the material in that museum has been donated by Leroy and his wife, Nancy, from their extensive Lincoln collection.

They say “Lincoln never slept here.” But soon, you can visit an exact replica of the room where President Lincoln walked and worked, his White House Cabinet Room, and see a lock of his hair in the Northwestern United States. A new, permanent Lincoln Legacy Gallery to be dedicated on November 19, 2013, in Boise, Idaho will showcase some 1,500 artifacts, documents, books, images, and even personal items to prove the existence of a close connection between the Sixteenth President and the Rocky Mountain region of the country. Despite the fact that Lincoln himself never ventured farther West than Iowa, his policies and work during the Civil War conceived, built, and ultimately populated and privatized the modern day Great Basin.

In March 1863, Lincoln signed the bill creating the Idaho Territory and then sent fifteen of his close personal friends and political allies to organize the remote, inland West. A year later, he carved the Montana Territory out of Idaho, again authorizing a team of presidential appointees to establish another new, Union-friendly government. He also created the Arizona Territory in 1863 and signed the Nevada Statehood Bill on May 21, 1864. Since the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration, Idaho has been a hotbed of Lincoln activity, presenting two heroic-sized statues at new locations in its Capital City, a traveling museum exhibit that made twenty stops and was seen by 300,000 people, and a published book about Lincoln’s connections to Civil War-era Idaho. Now the Idaho Historical Society is building a new, five-room suite in its Archives Building on Old Penitentiary Road to house a stash of Lincoln-related books, autographs, letters, photos, posters, and other historic memorabilia. Visitors will see:

1. Lincoln’s last land survey done in 1839.
2. Various Lincoln legal pleadings, including one for a family with later Idaho connections.
3. Lincoln-signed appointments of the First Chief Justice and the First and Second Governors of Idaho Territory.
4. A floorboard from Lincoln’s Springfield home.
5. Campaign buttons, broadsides, ballots, and torches from the 1860 and 1864 presidential races.
6. Lincoln’s file note made in the 1864 process of splitting off the Montana Territory.
7. Four plaster casts made of Lincoln’s face and hands, during life.
8. A Mary Lincoln-owned handkerchief.

I have accumulated the nucleus of the collection over the last quarter of a century. My wife Nancy and I are donating the artifacts so that future generations might understand and appreciate the Idaho-Lincoln connection. With this exhibit, we will try to prove that Idaho, more than any other state, is related to Abraham Lincoln. Because he signed our Territory Bill and his neighbor boy from across the street some twenty-five years later lobbied us to Statehood, our claim is compelling.

I located and purchased the items from dealers and other collectors, at auction and over the internet, sleuthing throughout this country and in Europe. A significant painting was found outside on a lawn, leaning against a chair, in rural Pennsylvania. An archive of items from

the sculptor who made Lincoln’s 1860 life mask lodged in an antique store in Anchorage, Alaska. The lock of hair, taken at Lincoln’s 1865 autopsy, was acquired at an auction in Los Angeles. A political cartoon comes from Paris, France.

When completed, the glass-enclosed, free-standing museum displays will be the most significant archive of items relating to Lincoln and the Rocky Mountain region ever assembled.

The separate, adjacent library room will permit scholars and students to access archival materials and the book collection.

Idaho Correctional Industries, through its Director Marty Thomas, has assumed the task of precisely reproducing the 9-foot-long, eight-legged oaken table around which Lincoln met with his cabinet from 1861 to 1865 on the second floor of the White House. Even though it was the piece of furniture upon which the Emancipation Proclamation was signed, the original is lost.

Now Idaho will have the only precise copy in existence and will showcase it with replicas of Lincoln’s chair, the fireplace, and a portrait of Andrew Jackson, the gas light fixture and even the period

(Continued on page 7)
F \textit{O}R \textit{T}H\textit{E} \textit{P}EO\textit{P}L\textit{E} \textit{N}\textit{E}W SL\textit{E}E\textit{R} \textit{OF} \textit{T}H\textit{E} \textit{A}BA\textit{R}H\textit{A}M \textit{LI}\textit{N} \textit{CO}LN\textit{A}S\textit{S} \textit{I}T\textit{O}I

...wallpaper that an 1860s visitor to Washington, calling upon the President, would have encountered.

“This will be like no other museum exhibit in the West,” says Janet Gallimore, Director of the Idaho State Historical Society. “Our History Center will show and tell the Lincoln story, over the full course of his life, using tangible, original items, but also link in Idaho connections, people and stories at each juncture with the historical pieces. We hope this exhibition will inspire students, tourists, and the community to learn more about Idaho and its rich, fascinating history.”

The Idaho Legislature gave an initial appropriation to fund the construction. Private donors including the Union Pacific Railroad, the United Heritage Insurance, and the Morrison Foundation have also provided major financial support.

“We are in the final design, early construction stages. With ribbon cutting next Fall, the Lincoln Legacy project will mark one hundred and fifty years of progress for Lincoln’s ‘favorite state’,” Director Gallimore says.

Anyone with questions or original, Lincoln-related memorabilia for possible inclusion in the exhibit should contact David Matte, Acting Idaho State Archivist at (208) 514-2328. Lincoln may not have slept here, but his presence will be seen, studied, and felt first-hand in Boise, Idaho come November, 2013.

“Get Territorial Idaho at 150” is a grassroots effort among individuals, organizations, government agencies, and communities across the state to educate Idahoans about their heritage and to commemorate the Territorial Sesquicentennial milestone.

The Lincoln Legacy exhibition is an Idaho at 150 Legacy project of the Idaho State Historical Society. The Idaho State Historical Society is an extraordinary system of cultural and historic resources comprised of the Idaho State Historical Museum, State Archives, State Historic Preservation Office, and Historic Sites Program. It seeks to inspire, enrich, and engage all Idahoans by leading the state in preserving, sharing, and using history and cultural resources relevant to today to inform and influence the future.

Learn more about ISHS at www.history.idaho.gov.

For further information contact: David Leroy (208) 342-0000 or dave@dleroy.com

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Twenty-Eighth Annual Lincoln Colloquium


Theme

“Rethinking Herndon: Has His Role in Lincoln Studies Changed?”

Speakers

“Herndon on Lincoln’s Fatal Attraction,”
\textbf{Douglas L. Wilson}, Co-Director, the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College

“Not Even Wrong: Herndon and His Informants,”
\textbf{Thomas Schwartz}, Director, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum

“Simply a Theist: Herndon on Lincoln’s Religion,”
\textbf{Richard Carwardine}, President, Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford

“Why a New Biography of Herndon?”
\textbf{Michael Burlingame}, Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies, University of Illinois, Springfield

For further information contact the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College, 2 East South St., Galesburg, IL 61401, 309-341-7158, lincolnstudies@knox.edu

For a reservation, please send your check made out to Knox College in the amount of $25 for each person attending the Colloquium.

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Richard E. Hart, Editor.
Lincoln, Colored Warriors, and the Spirit of Freedom
Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation
Springfield, Illinois

Saturday, August 3, 2013

Please save the date of August 3, 2013 for the second ALA-sponsored program on the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. The ALA-sponsored special event in Lincoln’s home town of Springfield, Illinois will honor the role of the U.S. Colored Troops in the Civil War. There will be day-long activities for adults and youth at the Old State Capitol to include:

9:30 a.m. – Will the Slave and Freeman Fight for Union and Freedom?
Civil War re-enactors present Letters from the Front.

11:00 a.m. – Featured Speaker, Hari Jones, assistant director and curator of the African American Civil War Freedom Foundation and Museum in Washington, D.C.

1:00 p.m. – Lincoln speaks on Lincoln and My Critics.

4:00 p.m. – Program and wreath laying at Oak Ridge Cemetery honoring the United States Colored Troops and the Grand Army of the Republic.

All programs are free and open to the public.

Sponsored by:
The Abraham Lincoln Association
The Lincoln Home National Historic Site
The National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission
The Old State Capitol State Historic Site
Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition