



FOR THE PEOPLE

A NEWSLETTER OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

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WINTER 2011

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Senator Richard J. Durbin 2012 BANQUET SPEAKER

By Bob Willard

Illinois Senior U.S. Senator, Richard J. Durbin, will be the principal speaker at the Lincoln Birthday Banquet on February 12, 2012 in Springfield. Few national legislators have accomplished as much as Dick Durbin to preserve and enhance the legacy of our sixteenth President.

Dick Durbin was born to an Irish-American father and a Lithuanian immigrant mother in 1944 in East Saint Louis and attended school there. After one year at a local university, he transferred to the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D. C. He set foot in the nation's capital for the very first time during a tumultuous period of our history — days after Martin Luther King Jr. had delivered his “I have a dream” speech and mere weeks before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. While an undergraduate, Dick was a reporter and editor for a student magazine. After receiving his bachelor's degree, he continued at Georgetown's Law Center and graduated in 1969; he was admitted to the Illinois bar later that year.

Dick credits the National Defense student loan program for making his education possible. He also worked summers at home and part-time during the school year. His job as an aide to Illinois Senator Paul Douglas opened his eyes to the world of public service and set him on his current career path.

After graduation from Law School, he returned to Illinois where he served in Springfield as legal counsel to Lieutenant Governor Paul Simon and later to the Illinois State Senate Judiciary Committee.



In 1982, Dick was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, a position previously occupied by Abraham Lincoln in the 30th Congress (1847-48). In 1996, he was elected to the U.S. Senate by a fifteen point margin, succeeding his friend and mentor, Paul Simon. In 2006, he became the Majority Whip, the second-highest ranking position in the Senate. He also serves on the Judiciary, Appropriations, Foreign Relations, and Rules committees.

While a member of the House of Representatives, Dick first introduced legislation regarding Abraham Lincoln. His early advocacy of federal support for an “Abraham Lincoln Interpretive Center” was ultimately successful after he reached the Senate. His bill became the law that authorized federal support for Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Dick also played a significant role in the celebrations marking the Bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. Legislation introduced by him in the Senate (and by

his Illinois colleague Ray LaHood in the House) led to the creation of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, the federal planning organization for the two-year commemoration. Dick and LaHood, along with Harold Holzer (our 2010 Banquet speaker), co-chaired the Commission. Dick also introduced the legislation that authorized a special Lincoln Bicentennial coin as well as the unique 2009 one cent coins that featured four distinctive backs honoring Lincoln's life in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Washington, D. C.

Most recently, Dick has taken the lead regarding Lincoln tourism. His bill to establish an Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area became law in 2008. This law designates 42 counties in central Illinois closely identified with Lincoln and appoints the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition to manage the area. The Coalition is currently developing a management plan; upon approval of the plan by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, the counties will be eligible for matching grants from the federal government to preserve and improve resources connected to the Lincoln story.

Dick resides in Springfield and is married to Loretta Schaefer Durbin. They have two daughters (one deceased) and a son.



“Page to Screen: Robert Redford’s *The Conspirator*”

By Ryan A. Ross

Illinois History and Lincoln Collections
University of Illinois Library
at Urbana-Champaign



In Kate Clifford Larson’s book *The Assassin’s Accomplice: Mary Surratt and the Plot to Kill Abraham Lincoln* (New York: Basic Books, 2008), the author concludes that Mrs. Surratt was guilty of aiding John Wilkes Booth in both the initial plot to kidnap Lincoln and in the later assassination. Yet if one were to watch Robert Redford’s film *The Conspirator* without having read *The Assassin’s Accomplice* (the basis for the film), one would probably conclude that Larson was unsure of Surratt’s guilt. For like many films adapted from books, *The Conspirator* enjoys a certain amount of artistic license that enables it not only to compromise the argument of its source material, but also to create a story that has more dramatic potential than the one found in the book.

By choosing to deviate from Larson’s argument, screenwriter James Solomon is able to portray Mrs. Surratt in several different lights, placing the character in a moral and legalistic gray area. At times she is a staid Victorian woman, made powerless by the improprieties of the men who surround her. At other times she is a shrewd logistician, engineering Booth’s daring escape. And in other moments still, she is a selfless mother, more afraid that the police will catch her son John than she is of her own death at the gallows.

As a way to support that characterization, the screenwriter decided to make Surratt’s attorney, Frederick Aiken, the film’s protagonist. This is a very crafty dramatic trick by Solomon, for two reasons: 1.) Telling the story from Aiken’s perspective should, in theory, distance the audience from Mrs. Surratt enough to reduce their sympathy over her arrest and trial; and 2.) Aiken’s subjective point-of-view has the potential to create shifts in audience senti-

ment. At times, the audience may be convinced of Surratt’s innocence, influenced by her roles of widow, mother, and Victorian woman. And at other times, the audience may be convinced of her guilt, influenced by Aiken’s belief that she took part in Booth’s crimes.

Unfortunately, the emotional tone of the film is not as balanced as one might hope, and it comes off as little more than an overly sympathetic, failed representation of the assassination trial. For though its did-she-or-didn’t-she characterization of Mrs. Surratt is more dramatically interesting than the book’s early and explicit conclusion of guilt, the film squanders that dramatic potential by twisting the historical record, with the result that the audience’s sympathy rarely leaves Mrs. Surratt.

The main reason sympathy stays with Surratt is due to the film’s negative characterization of other key historical figures, including Edwin M. Stanton and Surratt’s boarder, Louis Weichmann. Stanton is portrayed as a bloodthirsty tyrant who has no concern about the legality of the assassination trial, but only wants to see the accused hang, and as soon as possible. The film fails to capture the complex emotions Stanton must have felt following the murder of his boss and friend Lincoln, and instead establishes him as a one-note character, driven only by revenge.

The characterization of Weichmann is just as poorly executed. His testimony that Mrs. Surratt had delivered packages to the Surrattsville tavern on April 11 and April 14 (Booth stopped there two hours after the assassination to pick up weapons and supplies) proved to be some of the most damning information mentioned at her trial. For his troubles, the filmmakers decided to portray him as little more than a backstabbing weasel, a valued boarder who paid back Mrs. Surratt’s hospitality by putting a noose around her neck.

Such characterizations may cause the audience to feel as though everyone is against Mrs. Surratt. And though the film does not make any obvious factual blunders (like John Ford’s 1936 picture about Dr. Samuel Mudd, *The Prisoner of Shark Island*), the way it twists the facts is just as harmful to

the audience’s perception of the Lincoln assassination and its aftermath. In the end, Mrs. Surratt seems to be an innocent victim, a casualty of an overzealous government that responded to its leader’s death by losing respect for the moral and human rights of its citizens.

That seems to be the message, at least, and it is made abundantly clear throughout the film: more generally in the portrayal of Stanton, Weichmann, and others involved in the trial, and more specifically in an early scene that focuses on the dismal living conditions at the Old Capitol Prison, where the accomplices were forced to wear canvas bags over their heads. The camera lingers on that image, perhaps encouraging the audience to form a link between the prisoners at Old Capitol Prison and the detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, adding a contemporary political dimension to the film that is both unnecessary and disruptive to the lay audience’s understanding of an important time in American history.

Those significant complaints aside, *The Conspirator* has many admirable qualities that should appeal to general audiences. Fans of period dramas will rejoice in its first rate art direction, authentic costumes, and elegant cinematography, which work together successfully to evoke 1860s Washington, D.C. Fans of legal dramas will also find much to enjoy, for at its simple heart *The Conspirator* is just a film about a young Northern lawyer defending a Confederate woman against his will. But it is a basic story that gets muddled by the contemporary political statements and manufactured sympathies which dominate this all-too-rare film about American history.

Ryan A. Ross is an archivist in the University of Illinois Library’s Illinois History and Lincoln Collections. He holds a degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois UC, and he is the author of Early Illinois Newspapers and Job Printers: The Terence A. Tanner Collection (2010).

Ross has also written about the Baptist missionary John Mason Peck, La Salle’s Fort Crevecoeur, and Mark Twain. His exhibits include “The Morrill Act: The Land-Grant Roots of a Great University,” which featured as its centerpiece the original document signed by Lincoln on July 2, 1862. Ross lives with his wife Kate and son Nicholas in Champaign, Illinois.

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PRESIDENT'S GREETING

Dear ALA Members,

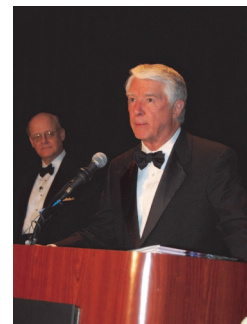
We are honored to announce that the 2012 Abraham Lincoln Association Banquet Speaker will be the Senior United States Senator from Illinois, Richard J. Durbin. For many years, Senator Durbin has worked to preserve and promote the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln throughout our country. We are grateful to him for all his good work.

We are also very pleased with the excellent speakers taking part in the Abraham Lincoln Association Symposium. Again, the ALA is partnering with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and the University of Illinois Springfield to make the Symposium a two day event. A full description of the Symposium program and the participants may be found on pages 10 and 11. We hope to see many of our members at these events. These events are free and open to the public.

For reservations to the Endowment Reception and Banquet on the evening of February 12, 2012, See the information on page 9.

As the Holidays approach, remember that you may purchase gift memberships to the Association for friends and colleagues. To do so, simply use the membership application in this newsletter or you may contact Mary Shepherd at maryshepherd.ala@gmail.com. We will be glad to send a letter and a sample of our publications to the recipient informing them of your generosity.

Thanks again to each of you for your continued support of the Abraham Lincoln Association.



President

Robert J. Lenz

NEW MEMBERS

We have 15 new members. They are from 7 different states. We welcome them.

William Shepherd
Membership Chairman

R. Lee Allen
Springfield, Illinois

Pam Brown
Springfield, Illinois

Bob and Melinda Church
Springfield, Illinois

Mark K. Cullen
Springfield, Illinois

James Evans
Edmond, Oklahoma

Farrell Gay
Springfield, Illinois

Sam Grimaldi
Albany, New York

William Kimes
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Douglas E. King
Springfield, Illinois

John Locallo
Chicago, Illinois

Richard Locke
Evanston, Illinois

Lauren Madden
Iowa City, Iowa

Sue Massie
Springfield, Illinois

Keith Maves
Phoenix, Arizona

Bryce Templeton
Villanova, Pennsylvania

We welcome these new members.

**Holiday Gift!**

Why not make a holiday gift of a membership in the ALA to a relative or friend?

Give a membership through the ALA website at:
abrahamlincolnassociation.org

or

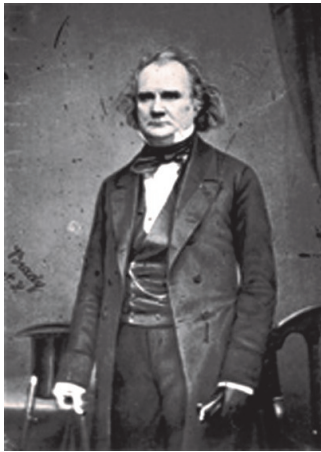
Call Mary Shepherd toll free at (866) 865-8500.

The *Trent* Affair: Lincoln's First Foreign Policy Crisis

By William Shepherd
ALA Board Member and
Membership Chairman

On November 8, 1861, the British packet ship, the *Trent*, was sailing through international waters in the Bahama Channel in the Caribbean Sea. In addition to its usual cargo of mail and dispatches, the *Trent* passengers included two Confederate envoys en route to Europe. They were James Mason and John Slidell, both former U.S. Senators, both "fire-eaters" for the slaveholder cause. Their mission was to obtain recognition of the Confederacy from England and France.

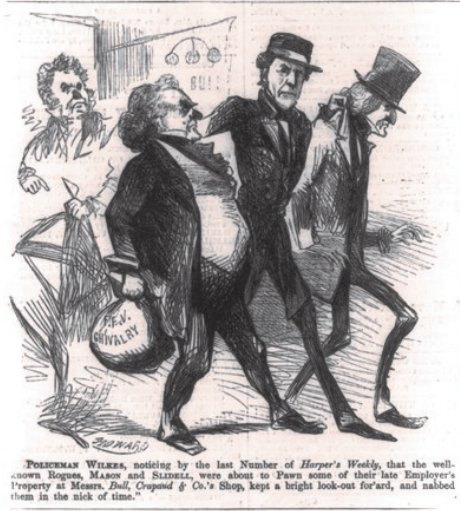
Appearing over the horizon was the Union warship, the *San Jacinto*, captained by the unpredictable John Wilkes. Wilkes ordered that the *Trent* be boarded by force; Mason and Slidell were taken off the *Trent* and transported as prisoners to Fort Warren, near Boston Harbor.



James Murray Mason, Confederate envoy to Europe, former U.S. Senator, and advocate for the slaveholder cause.
Photograph courtesy of the Senate Historical Office.

The capture and imprisonment of Mason and Slidell were greeted with great enthusiasm in the North, which had only heard the bad news from Bull Run, Wilson's Creek and Ball's Bluff. At last, the North had tasted victory over the South, albeit mostly symbolic with the capture of two aged noncombatants.

It took nineteen days for the actions of Captain Wilkes to reach London by mail. (the Trans-Atlantic cable installed in 1858 between England and the United



States was inoperable). The British Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston, was incensed at the provocation made upon a neutral ship flying the British Union Jack in international waters. The British government's saber rattling was immediate. British troops were to be dispatched to Canada. War plans for the bombardment of the Northern cities were drafted. British exports to the Union munitions factories ceased. Lord Palmerston instructed his Foreign Minister, Lord John Russell, to send a message of indignation and belligerence to the Union government. Prince Albert, who was nearly dead from illness, interceded and toned down the message to Secretary of State William Seward.

Back in Washington, D.C., the Union exuberance at this small "victory" was not shared by President Lincoln. He quickly realized that capturing the Confederate traitors Mason and Slidell would be of no lasting consequence, unless it was negative. To Lincoln, Mason and Slidell were "white elephants" that could precipitate a conflict with England. Lincoln knew that the Union could only "fight one war at a time." Lincoln enlisted the assistance of a Philadelphia newspaper editor to help explain the predicament of the Union, namely that Mason and Slidell were not worth a war with England which likely would make it impossible to also defeat the Confederates. The article did make the case that it was wise to step back from the brink of war with England.

On December 19, the British response to the *Trent* Affair was given to Secretary Seward by Lord Lyons, the British Minister to the Union government. The message demanded the immediate release of Mason and Slidell and the payment of indemnities and an apology from the Union. If a favorable response was not forthcoming from the Union, then Lord Lyons would be called home to London immediately, a prelude to war.

President Lincoln called an emergency cabinet meeting for Christmas Day to formulate a response to this largely unanticipated vigorous British set of demands. Seward had incorrectly expected a mild response followed by lengthy diplomatic negotiations. Suddenly, the Lincoln administration found itself in a dangerous and difficult foreign entanglement. Refusing to release the two Confederates would lead to war with England. Releasing them would make Lincoln look too compliant with British demands.



John Slidell, Confederate envoy to Europe, former U.S. Senator, and advocate for the slaveholder cause.
Photograph courtesy of the Library of Congress.

As the Union cabinet considered all the evidence and the applicable law of the *Trent* Affair on that Christmas day, consensus grew that Captain Wilkes had acted illegally under international maritime law; he also acted without the knowledge or prior approval of his command. Therefore, Mason and Slidell must be released and allowed to complete their diplomatic mission. The Palmerston government conceded on the indemnities

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Lincoln Home National Historic Site

George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures

Lincoln's Illinois Goes to War

February 12, 2012 8:30 a.m.



By Tim Townsend

Historian at Lincoln Home National Historic Site and former member of the ALA Board of Directors

Lincoln Home National Historic Site invites the public to attend the *George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures* on Sunday, February 12, 2012, 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.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site is pleased to present this annual lecture series in partnership with the Abraham Lincoln

National Heritage Area also known as the "Looking for Lincoln Heritage coalition." Together, Lincoln Home and Looking for Lincoln will present stories that focus on the central Illinois communities that Lincoln impacted or that impacted Lincoln. The theme for the 2012 lectures is *Lincoln's Illinois Goes to War* in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. This year's lectures will focus on how Clinton, Jacksonville, and Decatur Illinois contributed to the Civil War effort. The speakers for each community presentation will be announced soon.

In addition, the lectures will feature a presentation by acclaimed central Illinois pho-

tographer Robert Shaw, who will talk about his new book *Abraham Lincoln Traveled This Way*. This richly illustrated book explores the places and the land that were a part of Abraham Lincoln's life through Shaw's beautiful photography and commentary by award winning Lincoln historian Michael Burlingame. Mr. Shaw will be available for a book signing following the program.

Anyone wishing to obtain further information regarding the *George L. Painter Looking for Lincoln Lectures* is welcome to contact Lincoln Home National Historic Site at 217-391-3221.

(Continued from page 4)

payment and apology issue.

A major foreign policy crisis (and perhaps war with England) was resolved peacefully by President Lincoln. His decision making in the Trent Affair demonstrated his continual focus on achieving his war aims and not getting sidetracked into a dispute over the rights of a neutral power in international waters. Lincoln was restrained while others around him (especially Seward) were celebrating their Anglophobia. Lincoln ignored the Trent Affair in his December 1861 Message to Congress (now known as the State of the Union), thereby cooling rather than inflaming the passions of the North. And perhaps most significantly, Lincoln denied the Jeff Davis government in Richmond what they wanted most, the British navy breaking the blockade of southern ports. Lincoln was shrewd and deliberate in his handling of the *Trent Affair*, 150 years ago.

Sources: *Abraham Lincoln: A Life* by Michael Burlingame (2008).

A World On Fire: Britain's Crucial Role In The American Civil War by Amanda Foreman (2011).

President Lincoln: The Duty of a Statesman by William Lee Miller (2008).



Christmas Boxes in Camp—Christmas, 1861.
Harper's Weekly SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1862.

The Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection Two Fine New Indiana Homes

By Myron Marty
ALA Board Member

In the first issue of *Lincoln Lore*, dated April 15, 1929, Louis A. Warren offered friendly remarks about the Abraham Lincoln Association, citing its excellent publications and noting that the “President and the Chairman of the Executive Committee of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, as well as the Director of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, were all members and loyal supporters of this association.” He implied that the new institution he directed, the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, and the Abraham Lincoln Association would enjoy a cordial relationship—and such a relationship has long existed.

The Research Foundation, a department of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, soon opened the Lincoln Museum. Its purpose was to “provide the means and the channel through which there may continue to flow an ever increasing volume of information concerning Lincoln.” Warren served as director of the Foundation and Museum until re-



Materials from the collection may be examined in the Lincoln Library, a secure area that also contains the Lincoln librarians’ work space. Laptop computers are welcome, and free wifi is available throughout the building.

tiring in 1956. Under the Museum’s auspices, he published 1,419 more issues of *Lincoln Lore*, a single-sheet weekly. He also collected many items of Lincolniana that formed the basis for the Collection described below. R. Gerald McMurtry and Joan Flinspach succeeded him.

Collecting documents and artifacts continued through the years, with two schol-

ars playing key roles in the Museum’s development: Mark E. Neely, Jr. served as director of the Lincoln Library and Museum from 1972 to 1992, and Gerald J. Prokopowicz was Lincoln Scholar and Director of Public Programs from 1993 to 2002. Both men served as editors of *Lincoln Lore*, which evolved into a monthly publication in 1957 and a quarterly in 1995. Neely and Prokopowicz both became members of the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln Association.

To the dismay of many, the Lincoln Financial Group, which supported the Museum through the Lincoln Financial Foundation, withdrew its support for the Museum in 2008, leading to the placement of the research collection in Fort Wayne’s Allen County Public Library and the artifacts in the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis.

In a visit last October to what is now known as the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection, I was deeply impressed by the Allen County Public Library, the Lincoln Collection, and the librarians responsible for its operation, Jane Gastineau and Cindy VanHorn. I asked them, as the experts, to provide information that will be of interest to readers of *For the People*. The response, written by Ms. Gastineau, follows:

After The Lincoln Museum: The New Life of an Incomparable Collection

By Jane Gastineau
with concurrence of Cindy VanHorn

When Lincoln Financial Group announced in March 2008 that The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, would close on June 30, there was widespread surprise, concern, and outright dismay among Lincoln scholars and enthusiasts. What would happen to the museum’s collection of Lincoln art and artifacts—the paintings, prints, and sculpture, Lincoln’s legal wallet and pen knife, Mary Lincoln’s cordial set, the Lincoln boys’

toys and books, objects related to Lincoln’s presidency and assassination, and signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment? And what would become of the extensive research collection—tens of thousands of 19th- and 20th-century books and pamphlets and thousands of 19th-century photographs, the Lincoln autograph documents and other manuscripts from the Lincoln era, and the vertical files of clippings and correspondence amassed over 80 years?

By the summer of 2009 those questions had been answered, and the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection had been settled in its two new homes.



Photographs, 19th-century documents, and Lincolniana books and pamphlets are stored in the Allen County Public Library’s Fine Books Room, a secure, environmentally controlled area.

Artifacts Collection at Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis

The 3-D objects, the art and sculpture, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Thirteenth Amendment are at the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis. The museum’s outstanding modern facilities assure the collection’s preservation, and its talented and dedicated staff create exhibits of the Lincoln collection for a large and diverse audience.

The State Museum’s first such exhibit, “And Charity for All,” attracted visitors from February through July 2010. The next exhibit, “The Lincolns: Five Generations of an American Family,” will open in February 2013.

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(Continued from page 6)



Research Collection at
Allen County Public Library
in Fort Wayne

The research collection of books, pamphlets, photographs, maps, newspapers, manuscript collections, documents, and vertical files are housed at the Allen County Public Library, which provides state-of-the-art storage, accessible research facilities, and knowledgeable staff. At the library, two Lincoln librarians welcome Lincoln scholars and enthusiasts doing research in the collection and provide reference services via telephone, email, and surface mail. They also provide tours of the collection for groups and those who just want to see the “stuff.” The Allen County Public Library’s Lincoln Library is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by appointment. For more information, contact Jane Gastineau (jgastineau@acpl.info) or Cindy VanHorn (cvanhorn@acpl.info).

Digitization Project

In addition, the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection is going digital. That process began in the fall of 2009 at the Allen County Public Library, which pledged to “digitize everything.” Since “everything” includes more than 18,000 books and pamphlets, several thousand photographs, more than 10,000 pages of 19th-century newspapers, and extensive manuscript collections and vertical files, that digitization project is substantial. And it is well underway: over 100 photographs can be viewed on the library’s website, with many more to be added soon, and more than 6,500 books and pamphlets from the collection are available online for reading or downloading. For access to these resources, go to <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/LincolnCollection/index.htm> and click on “View available Lincoln Collection digital content.”

Collection Website Launched

Access to the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection will reach a new level with the launch in late December 2011 of a website dedicated to the collection. The website will draw on digital content from the entire collection and on the expertise of staff at both the Indiana State Museum and the Allen County Public Library to provide scholars, researchers, students, and the general public with information, resources, and interactive content about all things Lincoln.

Housed in two outstanding facilities, increasingly available online, and soon to be accessible through its own website, the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection is undergoing a transformation to ensure that this incomparable collection remains protected, vital, and available for generations to come.

Lincoln Lore Redux

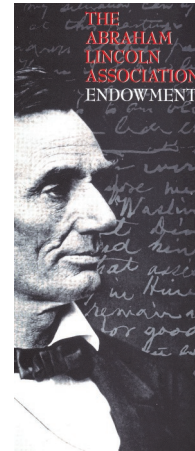
Two other topics merit attention: First, after a two-year hiatus (2008-2010), “Lincoln Lore” has reappeared, with numbers 1895 to 1898. The editor is Sara Gabbard, a native of Lincoln, Illinois, and a graduate of the University of Illinois.

Sara Gabbard is also in charge of fund raising, a cause in which she is joined by many Lincoln-minded persons. At this time, the Friends of the Lincoln Collection of Indiana has an endowment of approximately \$9 million dollars. The goal is to make that \$12.5 million by December 31, 2012, \$3 million of which will be used for initial expenses (2009-2011). The balance will be held as an endowment intended to preserve the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection in perpetuity.

The ALA encourages its members to consider supporting the Friends of the Lincoln Collection of Indiana, by subscribing to Lincoln Lore at Box 11083, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46855.

Myron Marty

ALA Endowment Fund 2011 Solicitation



The Abraham Lincoln Endowment Fund was established to support the ongoing projects of the Association and to enable the Association to participate in the continuing evolution of Lincoln studies. Thanks to the ongoing generosity of our members and friends the fund has a current balance of about \$240,000.

This year the income from the fund was used to support a three year grant to the Papers of Abraham Lincoln project, a long-term project dedicated to identifying, imaging, and publishing all documents written by or to Abraham Lincoln during his lifetime. This project began as the Lincoln Legal Papers and has since become the larger Papers of Abraham Lincoln. The ALA was a co-founder of the original Legal Papers and has been a supporter ever since.

The fund will also financially support the restoration of the grave marker of Jamison Jenkins, a neighbor of President Lincoln who was a freed slave. Jenkins was a drayman, and played an important role in the Underground Railroad in Springfield. He is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery where his grave marker had fallen down and deteriorated. This stone will be repaired, re-set and re-dedicated in a ceremony that will take place in the spring of 2012.

The ALA is a 501 (c)(3) organization, so all donations to the endowment fund are fully tax deductible. Please consider a pledge for a multi-year donation.

Thank you for your continued support of the Association. We owe everything to our loyal members and friends.

Make your checks payable and mail to:

The Abraham Lincoln Association

1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Mary Shepherd

ALA Executive Manager

This issue of "For The People" features a short biography of ALA Executive Manager, Mary Shepherd. Over the past five years, Mary has become key in managing the many projects and administrative duties of the ALA—and always with a smile and a good word.



Mary Shepherd has been the Executive Manager of the Abraham Lincoln Association since February of 2006. Her background is in business; she has an MBA and is an alumna of the University of Illinois at Champaign and Loyola University of Chicago. She worked for many years for the Chicago Board of Trade.

When her family moved to Bloomington, Illinois she became a volunteer tour guide at the David Davis Mansion and eventually served on the David Davis Foundation Board. She has also served on the Boards of the McLean County Habitat for Humanity and the Western Avenue Community Center.

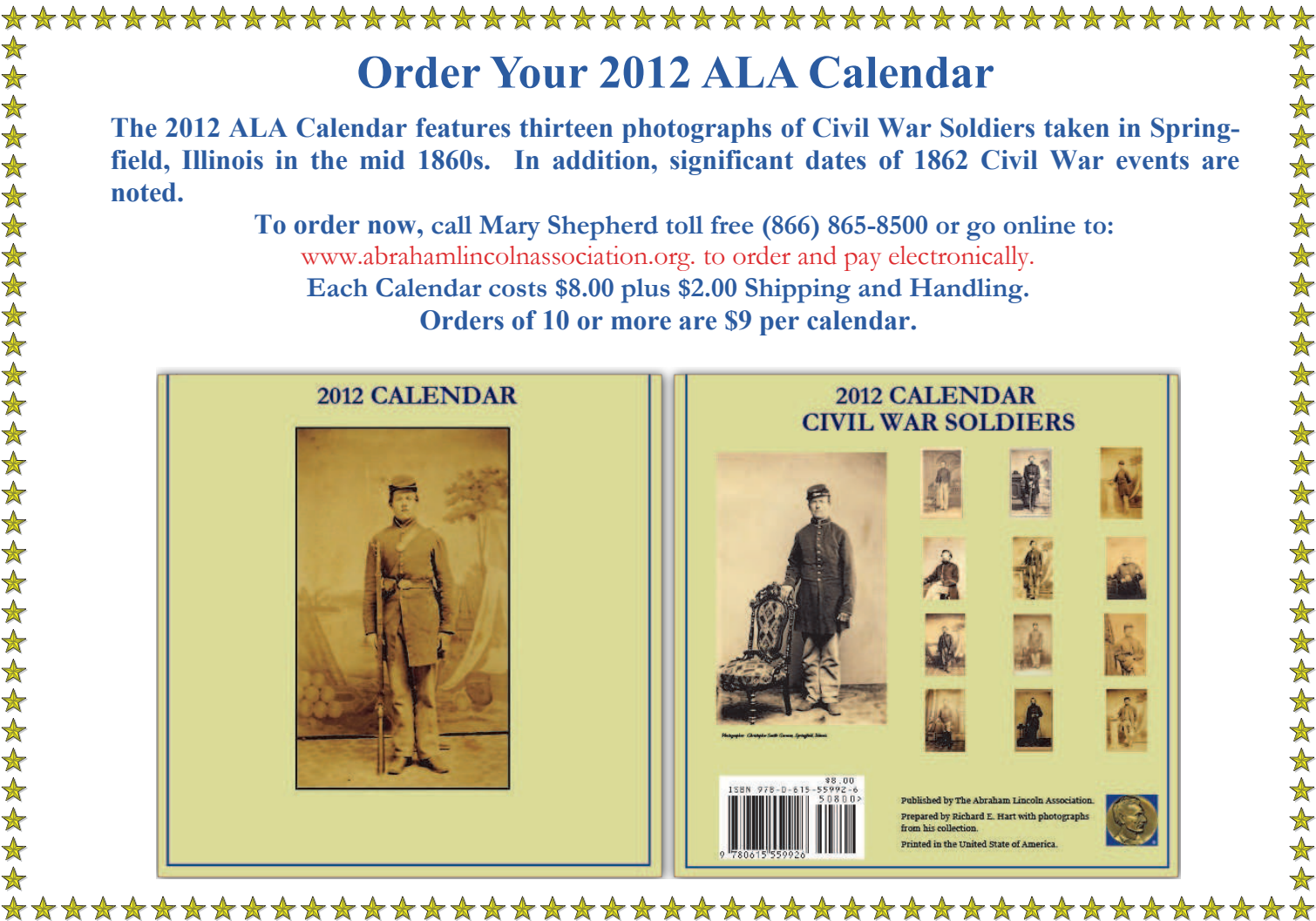
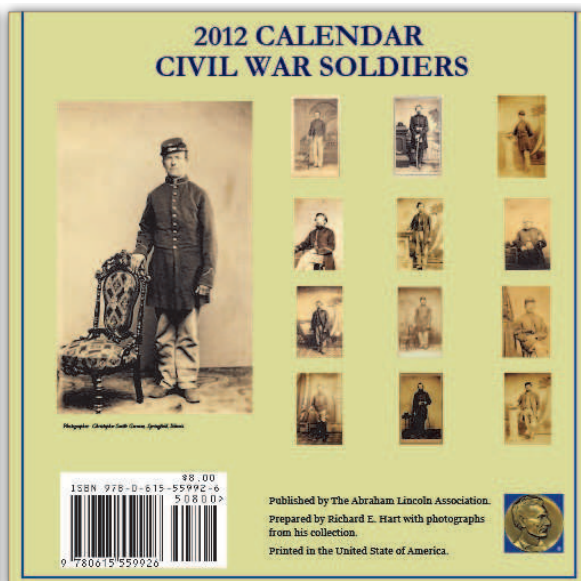
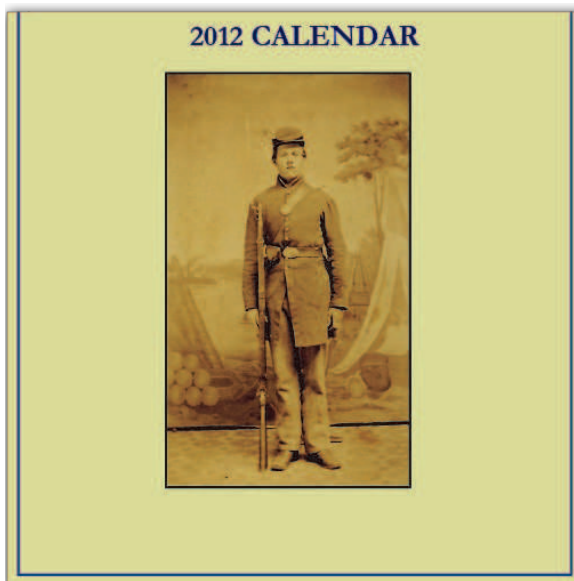
She lives with her husband Bill, who is on the ALA Board of Directors. They have two children, a daughter currently living in Washington D.C. and a son at Purdue University.

Mary handles the membership records and correspondence, updates the website and facebook page and takes the banquet reservations and arranges the seating. She also takes care of all the email and telephone communications for the Association. She works closely with all of the committees to keep the work of the ALA moving ahead.

Order Your 2012 ALA Calendar

The 2012 ALA Calendar features thirteen photographs of Civil War Soldiers taken in Springfield, Illinois in the mid 1860s. In addition, significant dates of 1862 Civil War events are noted.

To order now, call Mary Shepherd toll free (866) 865-8500 or go online to: www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org. to order and pay electronically. Each Calendar costs \$8.00 plus \$2.00 Shipping and Handling. Orders of 10 or more are \$9 per calendar.



RESERVATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 12, 2012 EVENTS

There are three events on February 12, 2012, that you will need reservations to attend:

Luncheon: 1:00-2:00 p.m. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library **\$25 per person.**

Endowment Reception: 5:00-6:30 p.m. The Lincoln Room, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel **\$75 per person.**

Banquet Reception: 6:00 p.m. Presidential Ballroom Lobby, and

Banquet: 7:00 Presidential Ballroom, President Abraham Lincoln Hotel **\$85 per person.**

Make your reservations now. Use the easy online reservation method or send your check.

Make your checks payable and mail to:

The Abraham Lincoln Association
P.O. Box 729
Bloomington, Illinois 61702

On Line Reservations:

www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org
Attention: 2012 Banquet Reservations

Questions? Contact Mary Shepherd,
Executive Manager at:

maryshepherd.ala@gmail.com
Or call toll free: 866-865-8500

MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP

If you are a past member, please renew your membership now. If you have never been a member, we invite you to join the ALA. If you are a member but know of someone who is not and enjoys the Lincoln story, please consider a gift membership. Members are essential to the ALA's success as they allow the ALA to provide the *For The People* newsletter and the *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* and to sponsor many worthwhile programs related to the life of Abraham Lincoln. Use the form below to enroll as a member or join through our website at www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org.

Free 2012 Calendar premium for Postmaster and above membership levels.

William G. Shepherd
Membership Chairman

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Student.....	\$25
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Postmaster.....	\$100
Lawyer.....	\$250
Congressman.....	\$500
President.....	\$1,000

Call Mary Shepherd toll free for more information: (866) 865-8500

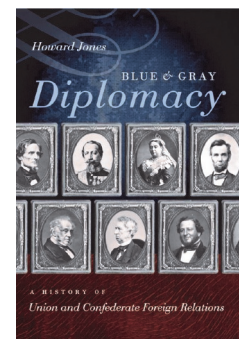
The February 2012 Participants

Howard Jones



Howard Jones, Indiana University Ph.D., is Professor and former Department of History chair at the University of Alabama where he teaches courses in American foreign relations and the U.S.-Vietnam War.

He is author of more than a dozen books, including *Abraham Lincoln and a New Birth of Freedom: The Union and Slavery in the Diplomacy of the Civil War*; *Union in Peril: The Crisis over British Intervention in the Civil War*; *To the Webster-Ashburton Treaty: A Study in Anglo-American Relations, 1783-1843*; *Mutiny on the Amistad: The Saga of a Slave Revolt and Its Impact on American Abolition, Law, and Diplomacy*—used in writing the screenplay for Steven Spielberg's movie "Amistad;" and *Blue and Gray Diplomacy: A History of Union and Confederate Foreign Relations*.



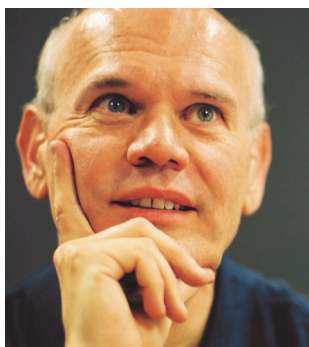
Chandra Manning



Chandra Manning teaches 19th century U.S. History and co-directs the Georgetown Workshop in 19th Century U.S. History. Her first book, *What This Cruel War Was Over: Soldiers, Slavery, and the Civil War* won the Avery Craven Prize awarded by the Organization of American Historians, earned Honorable Mention for the Lincoln Prize, the Jefferson Davis Prize, and the Virginia Literary Awards for Non-fiction, and was a finalist for the Frederick Douglass Prize. Currently, she is working on a book about Civil War contraband camps, freed people's post-Civil War migration, and the struggle over the meaning of citizenship in the 19th century United States. She is also busily brainwashing her two young sons into becoming Red Sox fans.

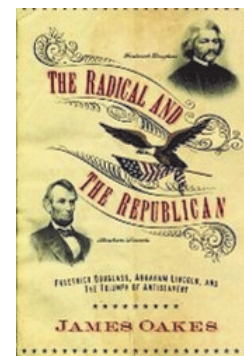


James Oakes



Currently a Distinguished Professor at the City University of New York Graduate Center, James Oakes has been teaching and writing about slavery, antislavery, and the origins of the Civil War for nearly thirty years. His first two books were histories of slavery and the slaveholders in the Old South.

His most recent book, *The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics* (2007), winner of the 2007 Lincoln Prize, examines the rise and triumph of anti-slavery politics through the careers of Douglass and Lincoln. He is currently writing a book called "Freedom National: The Destruction of Slavery in the United States."

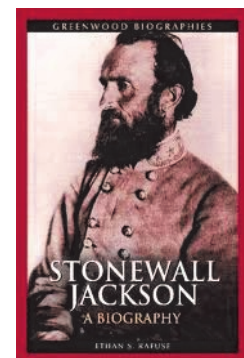


Ethan Rafuse



Ethan S. Rafuse is a professor at the U.S. Army Command General Staff College. He grew up in northern Virginia, received his BA and MA degrees in history at George Mason University, and did his doctoral work at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

He is the author of over 200 articles, essays and reviews and is the author of eight books, including *McClellan's War: The Failure of Moderation in the War for the Union*; *Antietam, South Mountain and Harpers Ferry: A Battlefield Guide*; *Robert E. Lee and the Fall of the Confederacy, 1863-1865*; *The Ongoing Civil War: New Versions and Old Stories* (with Herman Hat-taway), and *A Single Grand Victory: The First Campaign and Battle of Manassas*, as well as articles, essays, and reviews in various academic and popular history publications. He lives with his wife and daughter in Platte City, Missouri.



The February 2012 Events

February 11, 2012

Keynote Address

James Oakes, Distinguished Professor at the City University of New York Graduate Center
The Emancipation Proclamation: Myths and Realities

6:30 p.m. Brookens Auditorium University of Illinois Springfield

February 12, 2012

ALA Symposium

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. House of Representatives, Old State Capitol

Lincoln Wages War, 1861- 1862.

Ethan Rafuse, United States Army Command & General Staff College
'On the progress of our arms': Lincoln and the Conduct of the War in 1861-62

Chandra Manning, Georgetown University
*Uncle Abe and His Ideological Nephews:
Why Even Soldiers Who Never Saw Lincoln Loved Him*

Additional Sponsors of the ALA Symposium:

*Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, University of Illinois Springfield,
The Old State Capitol and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency*

All lectures free and open to the public, no reservations required.

Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz Luncheon and Lecture

Howard Jones, University of Alabama
Lincoln's Forgotten Craft: The Art of Diplomacy

1:00-2:00 p.m. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Luncheon reservations required: \$25

Following the luncheon, there will be a roundtable featuring Professors Oakes, Rafuse, Manning and Jones. The discussion will be facilitated by **Professor Brooks D. Simpson**, Chair of the ALA Symposium Committee.

ALA Banquet

President Abraham Lincoln Hotel

Senator Richard J. Durbin

Endowment Reception: 5:00-6:30 p.m. The Lincoln Room **\$75 per person.**

Banquet Reception: 6:00 p.m. Presidential Ballroom Lobby, and

Banquet: 7:00 p.m. Presidential Ballroom, **\$85 per person.**

For reservation information, see page 9.

FOR THE PEOPLE

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

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150 YEARS AGO: CAMP BUTLER



Photograph courtesy of the Sangamon Valley Collection, Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois.

The following is abstracted from the website of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/campbutler.asp#hi>

Soon after the firing on Fort Sumter in 1861, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for troops to defend the Union. Each state struggled to fulfill the president's request but found the available men woefully unprepared for the rigors of war. In 1861, the War Department dispatched Brigadier General William Tecumseh Sherman to Springfield, Illinois, to select a site for a military training camp. Illinois Governor Richard Yates tasked the state treasurer, William Butler, with assisting the general. The men found an ideal location six miles out-

side of Springfield with a high ground for camping purposes and a lower, more-level area for drills and training. General Sherman was pleased with the site and named it Camp Butler to honor his companion.

The first troops arrived at Camp Butler in August 1861 and by the end of the month, 5,000 men occupied the camp. In February 1862, approximately 2,000 Confederate soldiers captured when Fort Donelson was surrendered arrived at Camp Butler, the camp thus becoming a prisoner of war camp. As POWs arrived they were put to work con-

structing a stockade (shown in the picture above) and hospital. The barracks were inadequate and poorly constructed, sanitation facilities were primitive and the daily ration of food often consisted of little more than hard biscuits and a cup of thin coffee. Almost immediately, the POWs began to die at a rapid rate. The heat of the summer combined with the severe winter cold, as well as diseases such as smallpox, typhus and pneumonia, decimated the prisoner population. Roughly 700 POWs died in the smallpox epidemic of summer 1862.