**THE INCREDIBLE COLLECTABLE: LINCOLN’S INSCRIBED DEBATES**

David H. Leroy

David H. Leroy is a lawyer, having served as a prosecutor, Idaho Attorney General and Lieutenant Governor and United States Nuclear Waste Negotiator. He holds an honorary law degree from Lincoln College and served as chairman of the Governors Council of the United States Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

David has written and spoken about Abraham Lincoln for thirty years. His first book about Lincoln, Mr. Lincoln’s Book, was published in 2009. David lives with his wife Nancy in Boise, Idaho.

A signed copy of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates [Political Debates Between Hon. Abraham Lincoln and Hon. Stephen A. Douglas in the Celebrated Campaign of 1858 in Illinois] has long been regarded as a key holding in any significant collection of Abraham Lincoln memorabilia. A recent auction result confirms that presumption.

“...prairies are on fire,” reported the New York Evening Post in September, 1858 after Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas concluded the third in their series of seven debates. Tens of thousands of Illinois voters were joined by eager journalists who recorded in verbatim form the wit, repartee and reasoning of the debaters for millions of national newspaper readers. Lincoln’s well-presented ideas about the nation’s founding principles, the inherent evils of involuntary servitude and his steadfast objection to the extension of slavery into the western territories propelled him into national prominence.

Though defeated by Douglas in seeking the Senate seat, Lincoln’s smoldering political ambition caused him to prepare a scrapbook of the newspaper clippings. Then, beginning in March of 1859, he sought a printer willing to publish the texts in book form. While believing that he would “now sink out of view,” Lincoln nevertheless forecast that his arguments “made some marks which will tell for the cause of civil liberty long after I am gone.”

Eventually one publishing house, Follett, Foster and Company of Columbus, Ohio, came to believe in the worth of the words as well. That faith was rewarded in the spring of 1860, just as Lincoln was winning the Republican presidential nomination, when the book called the Political Debates Between Hon. Abraham Lincoln and Hon. Stephen A. Douglas in the Celebrated Campaign of 1858 in Illinois began selling as many as 500 copies per day. The Debates became a political best seller going through eight editions produced by seven publishers and selling as many as fifty thousand copies. It was a book - the book - that helped elect Abraham Lincoln President of the United States!

Abraham Lincoln received 100 copies of the book-form Debates from his publisher probably in March or April of 1860. It was his only pecuniary reward for the effort of his authorship in collecting the newspaper clipping transcripts used as its text. Soon after, candidate Lincoln began signing and inscribing copies to his friends and allies.

In 1952, the Illinois State Historian, Harry Pratt, identified and located eighteen such books. Half a century later, in an appendix to my 2009 publication, Mr. Lincoln’s Book, which utilized modern day information-age re-

(Continued on page 4)
Robert W. Johannsen, a long-time friend and member of the Abraham Lincoln Association board, died on August 16, 2011 at Clark-Lindsay Village, Urbana at the age of 85. Johannsen spent most of his academic career in the History Department at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and was the first to hold the J. G. Randall Distinguished Professor of History chair in recognition of his outstanding contributions to our understanding of the antebellum and Civil War period.

Bob, as he preferred to be called by friends and colleagues, was a native of Portland, Oregon, the son of Walter Johannsen and Hedwig B. Flemming. He attended Reed College in Portland and, like many individuals, interrupted his studies to enlist in the war effort. As a member of the 291st Field Artillery Observation Battalion in the Sixteenth Corps, Ninth Army, Johannsen was responsible for determining the location of enemy artillery. Following the war, he was assigned to guard German POWs. Upon his return, Johannsen finished his studies at Reed College, receiving a BA in history in 1948. While at Reed College, he met Lois A. Calderwood and the two were married on March 19, 1949, a marriage that would last for 59 years.

Johannsen was accepted into the history program at the University of Washington where he received the Ph.D. in 1959. He remained at the University of Washington for a year of teaching and left after securing a position at the University of Kansas. At Kansas, he met a young graduate student who would later make a mark in the field of Illinois History and Lincoln Studies, our own board member Rodney O. Davis of Knox College and the Lincoln Studies Center.

The University of Illinois hired Johannsen in 1959 to teach the Jacksonian period. Even though his dissertation had been published as a monograph, Frontier Politics on the Eve of the Civil War (University of Washington Press, 1955), the department already had a Civil War specialist, focusing Johannsen’s attention to specialize in the age of Jackson. He selected as his next writing project a biography of Stephen A. Douglas. The first step was to locate all of Douglas’s correspondence that was scattered in many public and private collections. This resulted in a published volume on the letters of Douglas. In 1973, his monumental and definitive biography of the Little Giant was published by Oxford University Press, entitled Stephen A. Douglas. Although the biography had a long gestation period, it was widely praised both within and outside of the profession, receiving the Francis Parkman Prize for Literary Distinction in the Writing of History as well as becoming standard reading for all of Mayor Richard J. Daley’s staff and security detail. Daley was an avid reader of history and encouraged all of his associates to read. Daley was also fond of another Chicago Democrat, Stephen A. Douglas and was a founding member of the Stephen A. Douglas Association. The biography also cemented Johannsen’s life-long friendship with the legendary editor at Oxford University Press, Sheldon Meyer.

Bob’s professional accomplishments are numerous. He took his professional responsibilities seriously, being active in departmental committees, serving as departmental chair, serving on editorial boards of professional journals, and making his speaking services available to endless local, regional, and national historical groups. He never refused an opportunity to address a Rotary, Civil War Round Table or any small club even though this was never recognized by the academic profession as being worthy of notice. Like George Bancroft and Francis Parkman, Johannsen believed that history needs to be accessible to a broad audience and should be written with verve using strong verbs and adjectives. He would bleed a seminar paper red with stylistic suggestions which ran counter to the dry factual and jargon-ridden prose that marked most of the history being produced in the academy.

Teaching was viewed as a necessary complement to Johannsen’s writings and research. He enjoyed teaching and, whereas many senior professors avoided freshman introductory courses, Johannsen embraced them. His lecture style was engaging, essentially painting portraits of events and historic figures on a giant canvas using primary source materials as a way to immerse students into the past. He insisted on personally grading a portion of each lecture section so that he would be exposed to the writing of every student who ever took a class from him.

By Thomas F. Schwartz
The Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County will host the “Lincoln in Illinois” photography exhibit for a three-month run in the historical society’s Visitors Center at 417 S. 12th St., just north of the John Wood Mansion at 12th and State in Quincy. The exhibit will be open to the public and free of charge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, September through November.

The exhibit, produced by The Abraham Lincoln Association and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, consists of over 80 photographs of statues of Abraham Lincoln in Illinois by Ron Schramm, Chicago professional photographer. From his photos a book, Lincoln in Illinois, was compiled and edited by Richard E. Hart, past president of the Lincoln Association. The book will be available in the Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County History Shop retail store.

Hart will be in Quincy for a talk about the exhibit and book signing at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 25, at the Visitors Center. That event also will be open to the public at no charge and books will be on sale that day.
search techniques, the existence of forty-two copies of the inscribed Debates was confirmed.

Because at least half have ended up in institutional collections, Lincoln’s signed books rarely come up for private sale in twenty-first century America. A notable exception was put on the block at Christie’s, New York, on December 3, 2010.

The “Grimshaw” copy, number 18 in the 2009 book census, was given by Lincoln to an Illinois lawyer and Republican activist from Pittsfield, Jackson Grimshaw. Grimshaw attended the May, 1856 Bloomington Convention which created the Illinois Republican Party. He remained a loyal Lincoln political supporter ever after. Likely, he obtained the book, inscribed in pencil “To Hon Jackson Grimshaw with respects of A. Lincoln,” during a visit to Springfield in May or June of 1860.

This copy had been previously on the market. In 1990, it exchanged hands at Christie’s for $45,000.

On this most recent occasion, Chris Coo ver, Senior Vice President of Books and Manuscripts at Christie’s, set an auction estimate of $70,000 to $100,000 for the book.

Last December, great interest was evident in lot 95 from the outset. Bidding opened at $50,000. Historic sales records indicate that no known Debates copy inscribed in pencil, as opposed to ink, had earlier sold for more than $70,000. Nevertheless, potential buyers slowly pushed the bidding upward to $85,000.

At that point, the competition narrowed to a contest between two well-known manuscript dealers, both likely acting as agents for their respective clients. The price crept over $100,000, hesitated a moment, then climbed to $150,000! Finally, one of the competitors shook his head in the negative. The auctioneer paused for a moment, unsuccessfully encouraging last minute entrants, then vigorously brought his hammer down on the block.

The resounding “crack” set a new record for this rare, pencil-inscribed Lincoln collectible. With buyer’s premium, the final price was $182,500! From beginning to end, the sale of lot 95 took just under three minutes. The prevailing dealer/agent was Seth Kaller of New York City.

Significantly, historic records and contemporary references predict the existence of at least six other, now missing, signed volumes. According to period letters, diaries and oral tradition, Lincoln also inscribed copies of the Debates to John H. Brown, Harry Levenson, Honorable Miles Murphy, William A. Ross, JR Tanner and W.D. Ward. However, none of those copies has ever surfaced in collector circles, bookstore inventories or auction records since well before the year 1900. This may be a good time to dust your own bookshelf or check grandma’s attic looking for the arguments of Lincoln and Douglas bound between non-descript cloth covers! A first edition, first printing of the Debates can bring $3,000 today. A common later edition in good condition is worth $300. Judged by the Christies auction, each of the half dozen missing inscribed copies which remain at large in 2011, could have a potential worth of a fifth of a million dollars!

(Continued from page 1)
Dear ALA Members,

You will soon receive your ALA annual membership renewal form in the mail. This renewal is for the calendar year 2012.

I want to thank all of you for your membership and hope that you enjoy receiving the Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association and the ALA newsletter, For the People. We are truly grateful to our members for their continued support of the ALA.

Some of your ALA membership dues are used to make annual scholarship awards to high school students who have written the best Lincoln essays. Your dues also make possible the ALA website as a free public access to the ALA’s most important publication, The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, as well as past issues of the Journal and For The People and many of the ALA’s classic Lincoln scholarly publications. Visit the ALA site at: www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org

This year ALA funds are also being used to assist with the purchase a new sound system for the Old State Capitol in Springfield, the site of our annual February 12th Symposium. The ALA continues its support of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln with a three year grant to assist in assembling Lincoln documents and updating the Collected Works. Other 2011 ALA financial support has been given to the Retrial of Mary Surratt, a program sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Friends of the Illinois Supreme Court, and a Lincoln Symposium that will be held at the Chicago History Museum on Saturday, October 29. Our mid-year Board meeting was held at New Salem, and as a “thank you” we have made a donation to the New Salem Lincoln League, the foundation that assists New Salem.

None of this would be possible without you, our members. I encourage you to renew your membership so that we can continue our mission to observe each anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln; to preserve and make more readily accessible the landmarks associated with his life; and to actively encourage, promote and aid the collection and dissemination of authoritative information regarding all phases of his life and career.

I hope to meet you in February at the 2012 ALA Lincoln Symposium, Luncheon and Banquet or at one of the many upcoming Lincoln events.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Lenz

NEW MEMBERS

We have 16 new members. They are from 7 different states and one foreign country, Northern Ireland. We welcome them.

William Shepherd
Membership Chairman
Drew Beres
Chicago, Illinois
Carolynn Bettis
Girard, Illinois
Phil Bradley
Springfield, Illinois
Samuel Calhoun
Lexington Virginia
Glen and Dixie Colson
Elsie, Nebraska

Tim Cunningham
Belfast, Antrim, United Kingdom
John Cribb
Spartanburg, South Carolina
Hal Funk
Springfield, Missouri
Hapsie and Ned Furst
Freeport, Illinois
Elizabeth and Lewis Harris
Minneapolis, Minnesota
D. Leigh Henson
Springfield, Missouri
Evan Kaplan
Bronx, New York
Eileen Mackevich
Springfield, Illinois
Christina Smith
Danvers, Illinois

Holiday Gift!

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

It is as simple as:

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

Call Mary Shepherd toll free at (866) 865-8500.
Harriet Dallman: Mary Lincoln’s Good Friend

She (Mary) was capable of great generosity and kindness toward her neighbors. Shortly after Tad’s birth, when young Mrs. Charles Dallman was sick and unable to nurse her newborn infant, Mary breast-fed that baby along with her own.

David Donald, Lincoln, p. 158.

My hobby of collecting 19th century Springfield photographs is often pursued in stops at antique malls along Interstate 55 in Central Illinois. Recently I was pleased to find a set of five neatly framed carte de visites by Springfield photographers picturing an adult man and woman and four children. On the back, the couple and the children were identified—Charles and Harriet Dallman and Charles Jr., Vincent, Alice and Florence Dallman.

The Dallman name was familiar, but it was only after I did a little research that I remembered that the Charles Dallman family were neighbors of the Lincolns. But more than that, they were the objects of one of the most touching examples of the mutual kindness and personal generosity of Abraham and Mary Lincoln. Their story was originally told by William Dodd Chenery in a 1938 newspaper reminiscence. Various versions have been retold in numerous Lincoln biographies since that time, but never better than Chenery’s original telling. It now deserves a retelling with the addition of photographs of Harriet, Charles and Charles, Jr.

Richard E. Hart

Mary Todd Lincoln Should Be Remembered for Many Kind Acts, Chenery Says

Protests Against Stories of High Temper of Martyred President’s Wife: Cites Kindness to Dallman Family as Instance of Interest in Neighbors and Friends.

On February 9, there appeared in the first editorial column of the Illinois State Register an article headed “Honoring Mrs. Lincoln” that protested against the printing of rumors regarding the alleged high temper of Mrs. Lincoln, and that said in part in the closing paragraph: “Respect for Mrs. Lincoln ought prompt the press to decline to repeat those stories. We pledge avoidance in the future.”

That entire eloquently written editorial caused one to wonder why the countless friends of Mary Todd Lincoln did not record the innumerable kindly acts shown by her to neighbors, and also mention the love and devotion for her family—traits inherited by her son, Robert. Herein will be recalled words of praise for Mrs. Lincoln that this writer heard from the lips of one to whom loving attentions were paid by Mrs. Lincoln.

Immediately after the breaking out of the Civil war the women of Springfield organized the “Soldiers Ladies Aid Society,” forerunner of the present day Red Cross Society, in the auditorium of the “Town Clock Church,” the Baptist church on the corner of Adams and Seventh streets. Twenty years or more after the close of the war those women, elderly and reminiscent, reorganized for purely social purposes, meeting at the homes of the various members for monthly evening dinners. The mother of this writer was the secretary of the opening meeting of that civil war period, and recently among her papers was found a history of that Society that would make an interesting article in itself.

One summer afternoon in the early nineties the society held a picnic in the home grounds of my mother. Among them was a petite, dainty little lady, whose auburn-brown hair was just faintly streaked with grey, and whose speaking voice held the clearness of a silver bell. It was Harriet Waters Dallman (Mrs. Charles Dallman), mother of Alice Dallman (Mrs. John W. Cobbs) and Vincent Young Dallman, Sr., now editor of the State Register. This is the story related—vaguely told from my memory:

The middle of the last century was a period when ambitious young men and young women of the British Isles sought to better their prospects by emigrating to the Land of Promise. In England, a youthful, but skilled architect, Charles Dallman, and his close friend John W. Young, decided to go to America, Mr. Dallman to make the journey first, select a location and then send back for Mr. Young, and for his English sweetheart, Harriet Waters. In 1850 he reached Springfield, established a prosperous business firm of architects and builders, in partnership with Alexander Graham, and was joined by his bride-to-be, Harriet Water.

This is a photograph of Charles Jr. and Harriet Dallman taken circa 1858 by Christopher S. German, the Springfield photographer who also took the final photographs of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield on February 9, 1861.

The Dallmans made their first home in a red brick bungalow that then stood on the north side of Jackson street, a few doors west of Eighth street and only a stone-throw from the Lincoln home, just around the corner. On April 4, 1853, Tad Lincoln was born. [Thomas or “Tad” was the fourth and last child of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.] About this same date came the second child, Charles, to the Dallman couple. Mrs. Dallman was at that time unable to nurse her baby. When Mrs. Lincoln heard of that fact, she sent her husband over to the Dallman home and had him bring the infant to her for nursing and continued to do so for the necessary time.

(Continued on page 7)
Mrs. Dallman, who died in 1916 age 85, told me a very graphic story with tear-dimmed eyes, how the tall, gaunt figure of Abraham Lincoln came across the street from the Lincoln Home, knocked at her door, entered with gentle step so as not to disturb the sick mother, and then gathered up the little mite of a newborn child into his big brawny hands, formed like a basket for that purpose, and carried the infant across the street. Soon he would return in that same eloquent silence with a tender expression of profound sympathy upon his picturesque countenance as he deposited the little child in a cradle. Often, she said, this humanitarian whose life later gave inspiration to the world, would sit beside the cradle and rock it gently with his toe as he seemed to be in deep meditation about some great problem of human service that he was planning to render.

The baby died in early childhood and its funeral gave another opportunity to display the kindly character of Mrs. Lincoln, for upon the return of the Dallman family from the funeral Mrs. Lincoln sent over by her husband a generous supper, on a large tray, set with some of her choicest silver.

Helped Build State House

Other incidents in the career of Charles Dallman are worthy of permanent record. The first state house (present Court House) was many years in building. According to Paul Angle’s history of Springfield, “Here I Have Lived,” it was not entirely completed till 1853. Among the last portions to be finished was the replacing of a temporary stairway by one of solid walnut. The railing and spindles of the permanent stairway were turned on lathes in the carpenter shop of Dallman and Graham, located at 909 East Monroe street. That historic old carpenter shop where many of the early residences of Springfield were planned and where doors and window sash were made by hand, was razed years ago. It was located ...Just across the street, at the southwest corner of Tenth and Monroe streets, the old Wabash station was located where Abraham Lincoln delivered his immortal “Farewell Address.”

Another contact that Charles Dallman had with the Lincoln family was when, in 1856, Mrs. Lincoln wanted to surprise her husband by having the story and a half homestead made into a full two story house. According to Angle’s record, the contract was let by her to the building firm of Cannan and Ragsdale for a sum of $1,003. According to Mrs. Dallman’s recollections, in order to complete it in Mr. Lincoln’s absence, they secured the assistance of Dallman and Graham. Both these men personally worked on the rebuilding. For many years Mrs. Dallman had a photograph showing Mr. Graham standing on a ladder against the Lincoln home, taken during its rebuilding. Some relic seeker “acquired” that photograph, greatly to Mrs. Dallman’s regret.

There were eleven Dallman children, born during a long period. Of these two survived, Alice Dallman Cobbs, the seventh child (a schoolmate of this writer), and Vincent Young Dallman, the youngest or eleventh child, named for his father’s English friend of boyhood days, Vincent Young, and the editor of the Illinois State Register. Accompanying this article is a cut made from a photograph of Charles Dallman wearing the official black and white rosette which the Mayor and all City officials wore at the time of the funeral of Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Dallman was at that time a member of the City Council of Springfield. He was in the City Council as alderman from the old Fourth Ward in 1864, 1865 and 1866….

The writer cites the above facts in which Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln are the principal figures to show that only domestic tranquility could prevail in a home where such friendship and love was displayed for a sick neighbor—a mother and baby.

Charles was a noted builder in Springfield at the time of Lincoln credited with building the center staircase in the Governor’s mansion. Charles held office as a Ward alderman and was active in the civic and business life of the community.

Perhaps Charles Dallman’ biggest claims to fame are that his son, Vincent, was an editor of the Illinois State Register and an advocate for creation of the publicly owned city of Springfield electric and water services at Lake Springfield. The large power plant there is now known as the Dallman Power Plant.
As we reported in the last issue, Thomas F. Schwartz has taken a new position as the Director of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, Iowa. We already miss him, but his recent departure was not without appropriate farewells.

On June 16, 2011, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum held a going away reception for Tom in the Library. Over 100 attended the event which was chaired by David Blanchette and featured a tribute by Representative Rich Brauer.

Abraham Lincoln made a virtual visit from his library bidding his good friend Tom an affectionate holographic farewell and wishing him well in his new venture. But Lincoln was puzzled. Who was this fellow Herbert Hoover?

The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum, represented by Eileen Mackevich, and the Abraham Lincoln Association, represented by Richard Hart, announced that henceforth the annual February 12 noon luncheon lecture would be known as the Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz Lecture. Both expressed their hopes these lectures would become a forum for young Lincoln scholars.
FALL LINCOLN PROGRAMS
SPONSORED BY ALA FRIENDS—ALA DIRECTORS PARTICIPATE

Lincoln and the Civil War
Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series at UIS
October 13, 2011

Lincoln and the Civil War is the theme of the 9th Annual Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series to be given on October 13, 2011, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Brookens Auditorium on the campus of the University of Illinois Springfield.

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required. A light reception and book signing will follow the lectures.

The speakers will feature two ALA Directors, Dr. Michael Burlingame, Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies at University of Illinois Springfield, and Dr. Lucas E. Morel, Lewis G. Term Professor of Politics at Washington and Lee University.

Burlingame’s lecture will focus on Lincoln as the Indispensable Man: The Central Role of his Leadership in Determining the Outcome of the Civil War.

Morel will discuss War and Remembrance in Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address.

Cullom Davis, UIS Professor Emeritus of History and a former ALA President, will serve as the moderator.

The UIS Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series is sponsored by the Center for State Policy and Leadership in cooperation with Professor Michael Burlingame. For information contact Barbara Ferrara, at bferr1@uis.edu or 217-206-7094.

Legal Heritage of the Civil War
October 22, 2011

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the Northern Kentucky Law Review will host its Fall Symposium on the Legal Heritage of the Civil War on October 22, 2011. The symposium will be held at the Student Union Ballroom of Northern Kentucky University from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The symposium will feature former ALA Presidents Roger Bridges (Salmon P. Chase and the Legal Basis for the U.S. Monetary System) and Frank Williams (Military Trials of Terrorists: From Lincoln Conspirators to the Guantanamo) and Board Member Roger Billings. (Civil War Legislation and the Growth of Federal Power). For more information, contact Dr. Roger Billings at 859-752-9211 or billingsr@nku.edu.

Road Scholars Plans Program
Around February 2012
ALA Events

In February 2009, the Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) Program in Springfield coincided with the ALA Bicentennial Lincoln Banquet. The Road Scholar planners made early reservations for the banquet not knowing who was to be the featured speaker. On the evening of February 12, 2009, over 35 Road Scholars from all over the country were treated to an unexpected surprise when President Obama appeared and made a moving address.

That was the beginning of a fine relationship between the ALA and the Road Scholar Program.

In 2012, a Road Scholar program will come to Springfield for the 203rd celebration of Lincoln’s birth. The Life & Legacy of Abraham Lincoln is the title of their special program that will include attendance at the ALA events of February 11 and 12, 2012.

For information and registration, contact the Road Scholar office at (877) 426-8056 or www.roadscholar.org. Call Kathy De Hart at 217-415-1132 for more information about the program.

Lincoln Colloquium
Chicago History Museum
October 29, 2011

The 26th annual Lincoln Colloquium will be held on Saturday, October 29th at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.
James William Patton, III

This issue of “For The People” features a short biography of longtime ALA Director and Banquet Committee Chairman, James William Patton, III.

James William Patton, III was born on November 19, 1940, Gettysburg Address Day. His ancestors came to Sangamon County in the Spring of 1820, and his great-great grandfather, Charles H. Lanphier, was the editor of the Illini State Register during Lincoln’s Springfield days.

This photograph of Jim was taken in August 2011 in Anchorage, Alaska while Jim was on a salmon fishing trip to Unalakleet.

Jim was raised in Springfield, Illinois where he attended school. He received further education at Western Military Academy in Alton, Illinois, Springfield Junior College and the Cincinnati College of Embalming.

Jim is married to Mary Knox (Swartout), who is retired from teaching math at the University of Illinois Springfield. Jim and Mary have one son, Charles Christopher Patton, who is married to Archana Mathur, and they have two children, Connor and Tessa.

Jim’s first career was 15 years of serving as a funeral director and embalmer at the Boardman-Smith Funeral Chapel in Springfield.

Jim’s second career was with the Illinois Department of Conservation Historic Sites Division (now the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency) as the lead interpreter and resident blacksmith at Lincoln’s New Salem. He also served as the interim site manager at the Old State Capitol. Jim retired from the IHPA in 2002.

From 1959 to 1965, Jim served in the U.S. Army Reserve, and from 1980 to 2000, was a City of Leland Grove Alderman.

Jim has been a very active community volunteer and leader. He is a past President of the Sangamon County Historical Society and the Springfield Sertoma Club. He is a past Board Member of the Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America and Master of Chatham Lodge 523, A.F. & A.M., Ansar Shrine, Springfield Consistory. For almost 50 years, Jim has been associated with the Boy Scouts of America.

Jim is an historical reenactor in reenactments of the French & Indian War, American Revolution, War of 1812, Black Hawk War, War for Texas Independence and Civil War. Jim is currently a Lt. Col. and Board member of the 114th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry (Reactivated).

Jim combined many of his skills when he served as art director, costumer and extras casting director for the new Lincoln Home orientation film.

In his free time, Jim pursues his hobbies including whitetail deer hunting and fly fishing for trout and salmon. Jim and Mary spend as much time as possible with their grandchildren and enjoying their new house on Lake Springfield.

Lincoln’s Sangamon River in Early October

The Sangamon River is an often overlooked historic Lincoln Site. It is an environment that was well known to Lincoln and one whose appearance has changed little since his day. To know Lincoln’s Illinois, one must know the Sangamon River and the people who lived along her banks. The best way to do that is via canoe. But short of that, please go to the following website for a wonderful hour exploring the River via a documentary prepared by University of Illinois Springfield Professor Charles Schweighauser.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7bqdCf8h4Q

Jim Patton is no stranger to the River and he makes his appearances in this video at 10.06. and 16.50.
February 2012
ALA Sponsored Lincoln Events

February 11, 2012  Evening lecture at the University of Illinois Springfield
James Oakes, University of California, Berkeley

February 12, 2012  Morning Symposium at the Old State Capitol
Ethan Rafuse, United States Army Command & General Staff College
Chandra Manning, Georgetown University

February 12, 2012  Lunch and Dr. Thomas F. Schwartz Lecture
at the Presidential Library and Museum
Howard Jones, University of Alabama

February 12, 2012  Evening banquet at the President Lincoln Hotel in downtown Springfield.
The Abraham Lincoln Association banquet celebrates President Lincoln’s 203rd birthday. We have not finalized the speaker at this time.

Mid Year Board of Directors Meeting Held at New Salem
Schwartz Honored  Patton Guides

The mid-year meeting of the ALA Board of Directors was held on Friday, June 24, 2011 at Lincoln’s New Salem. Board Secretary, Thomas F. Schwartz, who is leaving for a new position as the Director of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, Iowa, was presented with a going away gift—a photograph of A Greater Task, a statue of Abraham Lincoln by John W. McClarey that stands in Union Square Park across from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. The photograph was taken by Ron Schramm and was included in the ALA’s bicentennial publication Lincoln in Illinois, a photographic record of Lincoln statues in Illinois.

After a productive Board Meeting, lunch was served in one of the older New Salem log structures and then Jim Patton gave us a tour of his world—New Salem. Jim is one of the most knowledgeable persons when it comes to life at New Salem.

Below are a few pictures from that day. At left, Tom Schwartz and President Bob Lenz are shown displaying Tom’s going away gift to Board Members. In the middle, Jim Patton guides Board Members through his New Salem. At right, Tom Schwartz makes his farewell remarks to the Board.

Visit our website at www.abrahamlincolnassociation.org
Edward Dickinson Baker, an English-born American politician, lawyer, and military leader, was a close friend of Abraham Lincoln. In 1846, Abraham and Mary Lincoln named their second son after Baker—Edward Baker Lincoln.

In his political career, Baker served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois and later as a U.S. Senator from Oregon. Baker served as U.S. Army colonel during both the Mexican-American War and the American Civil War.

On October 21, 1861, Baker was killed in the Battle of Ball’s Bluff while leading a Union Army regiment, becoming the only sitting U.S. Senator to be killed in the Civil War.

Abraham and Mary Lincoln’s 11-year-old son, Willie, wrote a poem memorializing Baker.

There was no patriot like Baker,  
So noble and so true;  
He fell as a soldier on the field  
His face to the sky of blue...  
No squeamish notions filled his breast,  
The Union was his theme,  
‘No surrender and no compromise,’  
His day thought and night’s dream  
His country has her part to play,  
To ‘rds those he left behind  
His widow and his children all—  
She must always keep in mind.  

A year later, Willie died.

Lincoln’s secretary, John Hay, recorded the memorial service for Senator Baker on December 13, 1861: “The galleries were more crowded than ever before this session. There was something about the flash and glitter of Baker’s mind that irresistibly fascinated the people, and they all came to hear him mourned. And just before Senator Newsmith rose to announce the death of his colleague, the door to the left of the President’s chair opened, and Abraham Lincoln entered, seemingly taller and more gaunt than of old, the lines deepening around his mouth, the first fall of the snow visible in his hair, dressed more carefully than in former days, and walking it seemed to me, more erectly than I had noticed before. ... The Vice President rose and resigned his own chair to him... The President sat quietly there, leaning his shaggy leonine head upon his black-gloved hand, with more utter unconsciousness of attitude than I ever saw in a man accustomed to being stared at, and listened earnestly to what the Senators had to say about his old friend.”