



THE LINCOLN FORUM BULLETIN

ISSUE 5

MAY 1999

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Don E. Fehrenbacher, 1920-1997
Ralph G. Newman, 1911-1998

FOURTH LINCOLN FORUM SYMPOSIUM SET FOR NOVEMBER 16-18, 1999;

Theme to be "Lincoln the Commander-in-Chief"

"Abraham Lincoln, Commander-in-Chief," will be the theme of the fourth annual Lincoln Forum Symposium when it convenes in Gettysburg — site of the most momentous battle of the Civil War — on November 16-18, 1999.

Chairman Frank J. Williams announced a roster of major scholars for Lincoln Forum IV, including several who will address the symposium for the first time. Among the new speakers will be William C. "Jack" Davis, author of the acclaimed 1998 book, *Lincoln's Men: How President Lincoln Became Father to an Army and a Nation*; and William D. Pederson of Louisiana State University at Shreveport, and co-editor of several books, including *Abraham Lincoln: Contemporary*.

Also appearing will be Arnold Taylor of Howard University, scheduled to speak on African-American troops in the Civil War; and two writers who have made important contributions to our understanding of the wartime 1864 election: David E. Long, author of the definitive study, *The Jewel of Liberty*, and John C. Waugh, author of *Re-electing Lincoln*.

Returning from 1998 will be Forum favorites Craig L. Symonds of the U. S. Naval Academy, John Marszalek of Mississippi State University; John Y. Simon of the Ulysses S. Grant Association; battlefield guide Gary Kross with a new tour for attendees, the Second Day's Battles at Gettysburg; and Forum chairman and co-chairman Frank J. Williams and Harold Holzer.

An invitation has also been extended to the dean of Lincoln scholars — the legendary Richard N. Current — to return to Gettysburg after a one-year absence.

In response to last year's highly popular lecture on Lincoln collecting, Louise Taper will also return, participating in a special panel on Lincoln collecting that will also feature fellow collectors William Gladstone, Stuart Schneider, and Frank J. Williams.

And Gettysburg's own perennial Lincoln re-enactor, James Getty, will deliver an exclusive performance of his nationally renowned portrayal of the 16th President.

Once again, Professor Gabor Boritt of Gettysburg College's Civil War Institute will provide a welcoming talk, and this year, for the first time, Virginia Williams will create a slide-show recollection of Forum III memories.

And at the annual banquet on November 18, the fourth annual Richard N. Current Award of Achievement will be presented to the latest in a line of distinguished winners: Gabor S. Boritt (1996), Brian Lamb (1997), and John Hope Franklin (1998).

Early hotel registration at \$55 nightly is once again available at the Holiday Inn Gettysburg Battlefield (717-334-6211), and the symposium registration fee, again \$235, should be mailed to Lincoln Forum Treasurer Charles D. Platt (14 Blue Heron Dr., Greenwood Village, CO 80121). The Forum urges symposium veterans to sign up soon; registration will be limited to the first 180 enrollees.

Once again, all those on hand will be eligible to sign up for the annual luncheon of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania (this year's speaker: Harold Holzer), and to attend the free, annual Gettysburg Address anniversary ceremonies at the National Cemetery (featuring New York Governor George Pataki), and the yearly Fortenbaugh Lecture at Gettysburg College (1999 speaker: Jean H. Baker) — all taking place on November 19.

Gettysburg College is also organizing an exhibition of Lincoln art by illustrator Sam Fink, the former advertising company art director whose picture book, *The Illustrated Gettysburg Address*, appeared in 1994.



A Lincoln gallery:

Eight performers attended the 1998 Forum. From left to right are B. F. McClerren, James Getty, George Buss, Charles Brame, and William Ciampa. (Photo: Virginia Williams)

TO ENHANCE THE UNDERSTANDING
AND PRESERVE THE MEMORY OF
ABRAHAM LINCOLN
AND THE
CIVIL WAR

**THE LINCOLN FORUM
BULLETIN**

published twice yearly by

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**DOUGLAS L. WILSON WINS
THE 1999 LINCOLN PRIZE**

An acclaimed, highly original analysis of Lincoln's early years, *Honor's Voice: The Transformation of Abraham Lincoln*, has won the 1999 Lincoln Prize for its author, Douglas L. Wilson. The prize, the most generous national award in the field of history, was presented on April 15 — anniversary of Lincoln's death — at the annual banquet at the Union League Club of New York.

Founded in 1991 by business leaders Lewis Lehrman and Richard Gilder, together with Gabor Boritt of Gettysburg College, the prize has been won by such scholars as James McPherson, David Herbert Donald, Philip Shaw Paludan, and, for lifetime achievement, Don E. Fehrenbacher and Kenneth Stampp, along with filmmaker Ken Burns, who won the first prize.

Wilson, who in the last year has also published a collection of essays (*Lincoln Before Washington: New Perspectives on the Illinois Years* and co-edited an important edited volume of the research work of Lincoln's long-time law partner, William H. Herndon (*Herndon's Informants: Letters, Interviews, and Statements about Abraham Lincoln*) is co-founder and co-director of the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.

Wilson earned \$35,000 in prize money and a large bronze bust of Lincoln based on Augustus St. Gaudens' life-sized sculpture, *Lincoln the Man*.

**C-SPAN AIRING
"YEAR OF THE PRESIDENTS"
ON NATIONAL CABLE TELEVISION**

Brian Lamb, the chairman and principal on-air host of the C-SPAN cable network, is presenting and hosting a series of day-long special broadcasts devoted to the 41 presidents of the United States: *American Presidents: Life Portraits*.

Abraham Lincoln will be profiled June 28 from the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Andrew Johnson is featured July 9 from the Johnson Historic Site in Greenville, Tennessee. And Ulysses S. Grant will be the subject on July 12 from Grant's Tomb in New York City. Check local cable guides for the correct station in your area.

**DEBUT LINCOLN FORUM BOOK
DUE FOR PUBLICATION THIS SPRING**

The long-awaited published edition of the highlight proceedings from the first Lincoln Forum symposium in 1996 will appear later this spring. The book, *The Lincoln Forum: Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg, and the Civil War*, was edited by John Y. Simon, Harold Holzer, and William D. Pederson, and will be issued by Savas Publications, 202 Frist Street, Suite 103A, Mason City, IA 50401; e-mail cw_books@mach3ww.com tel (515) 421-7135.

The illustrated volume features essays by Sandra Day O'Connor, Edna Greene Medford, Harold Holzer, John Y. Simon, Richard N. Current, and Frank J. Williams, along with an introduction by William C. Davis. Included in the book is an interview with Forum Chairman Williams on the organization's four-year history, along with a list of all active members as of February 1999. A second volume is contemplated for 2000.

The new book is priced at \$19.95 plus \$4.00 shipping.



TWO VIEWS OF LINCOLN AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF are portrayed in period prints.

Above, the flattering engraving *Lincoln and His Generals* depicted the Civil War president presiding over an outdoor conference of war with (left to right) Admiral Porter, General Halleck, General Sherman, General Thomas, General Grant, and General Sheridan.

Below, Adalbert J. Volck's disparaging etching, *Don Quixote and Sancho Panza* pokes fun at the commander-in-chief and one of his most controversial generals.



MEMORIES FROM LINCOLN FORUM III

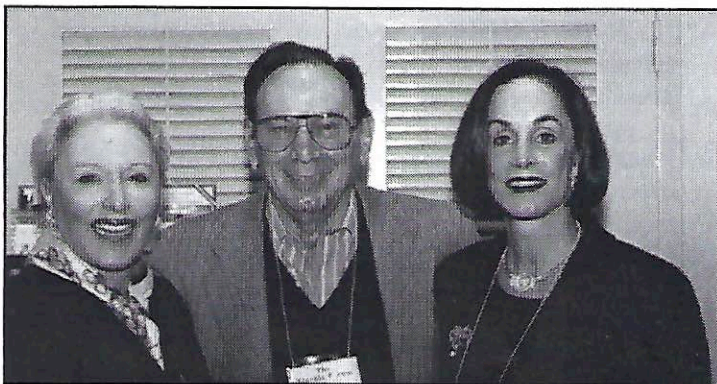
More than 150 enthusiasts and scholars gathered in Gettysburg for the third annual Lincoln Forum symposium November 16-18, 1998. Cameras were at the ready to record the highlights — and on the following pages, the lectures, banquets, award ceremony, and special moments are all remembered.



The gang's all here: the 1998 enrollees gather for a unique group portrait outside the Dobbin House restaurant on November 18. (Photo: Harold Holzer)



Gary Kross leads battlefield tour of Cemetery Hill on November 18. (Photo: David Walker)



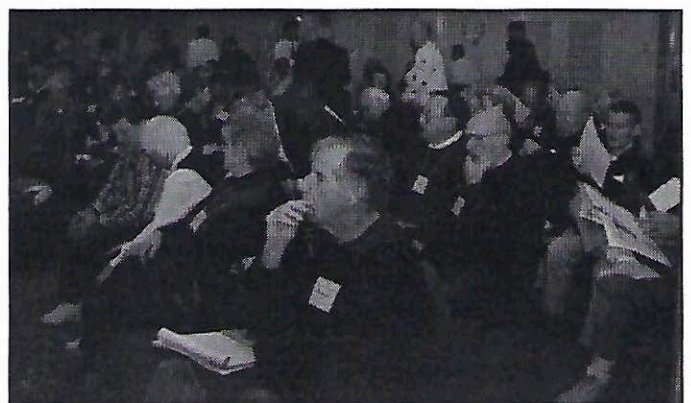
First time attendees Eunice and Hal David (he wrote the lyrics for such all-time hits as *Raindrops Keep Fallin' on my Head* and *Do You Know the Way to San Jose*) join their friend, lecturer Louise Taper, after her November 17 talk. (Photo: Edith Holzer)



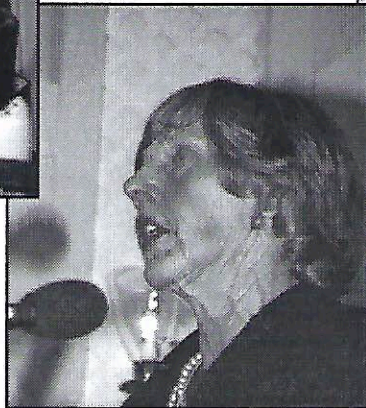
Greeting Eleanor Stoddard (center), the granddaughter of Lincoln's White House clerk William O. Stoddard, are (left to right): Vice Chairman Harold Holzer, Rich Sokup, Chairman Frank J. Williams, and George Buss. (Photo: Edith Holzer)



The newly renamed Richard N. Current Award of Achievement of the Lincoln Forum is presented to John Hope Franklin on November 18 by (left to right): Harold Holzer, Edna Greene Medford, and Frank J. Williams. (Photo: Virginia Williams)



A typical audience — crowded, engaged, involved — throngs the Holiday Inn ballroom for a mid-day lecture. (Photo: Virginia Williams)



AT THE PODIUM...

Another strong roster of scholar-speakers graced the microphone at Lincoln Forum III.

Caught in the act — or between performances — during their memorable week of lectures were... (clockwise from top left):

Craig Symonds

Jean Baker

John Marszalek

Edna Greene Medford

John Hope Franklin

Rich Sokup and George Buss

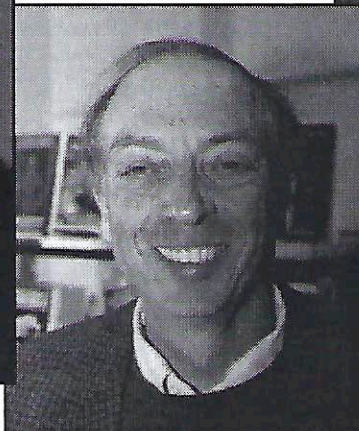
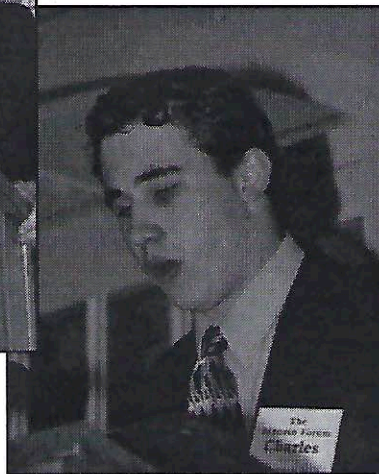
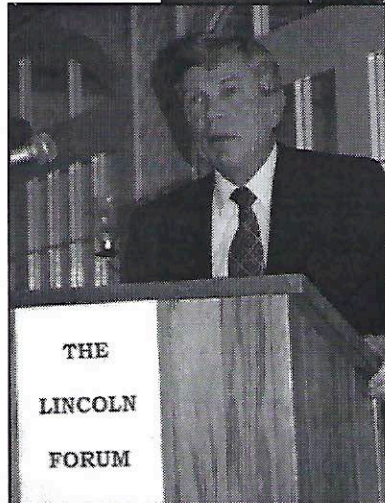
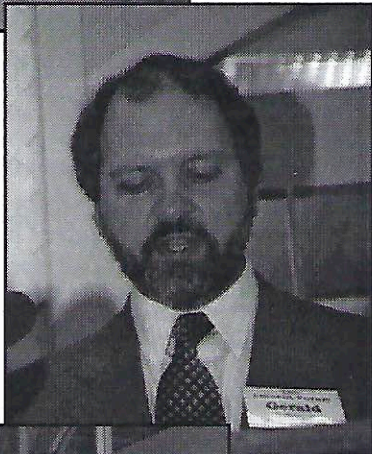
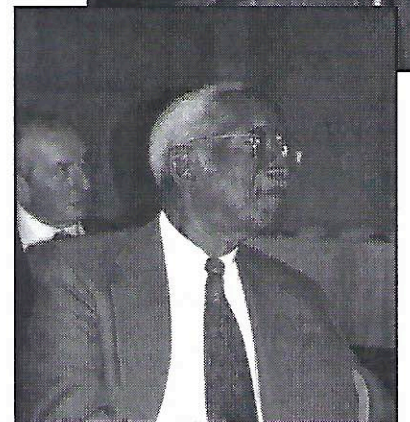
Gabor S. Boritt

Student Lecturer Charles Dittrich

James McPherson

Gerald Prokopowicz

Louise Taper



THE 1998 LINCOLN FORUM SURVEY: HOW YOU VOTED

SYMONDS RECEIVES HIGHEST RANKING AMONG FORUM III SPEAKERS

Professor Craig L. Symonds of the U. S. Naval Academy was voted the best speaker at the 1998 Lincoln Forum symposium, according to a tally of Forum III evaluation sheets submitted by symposium attendees. Symonds received a 9.72 average rating — highest in the Forum's history — for his talk, *Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln and Union Naval Strategy*. Nearly 80% of the respondents awarded Symonds a perfect "10," another Forum record, and several sheets contained ratings higher than 10, although nothing higher than 10 was recorded in the final tallies.

Forum Chairman Frank J. Williams announced — even before the vote was tallied — that Craig Symonds will return for the Lincoln IV symposium in 1999.

FROM NEAR AND FAR: ALL ROADS LEAD TO GETTYSBURG

Forum attendees who submitted 1998 evaluation sheets traveled a total of 39,163 miles to get to the third annual symposium — from as far away as 3,000 miles, to as close as three blocks.

The average mileage logged en route to Lincoln Forum III was 663.7.

Enrollees represented 27 different states, plus the District of Columbia and Canada. Pennsylvanians numbered 18, Marylanders 15, and residents of Illinois (land of Lincoln) 14. Fourteen New Yorkers attended, and 9 each represented Texas, Virginia, and California.

YOUR 1998 COMMENTS: DECONSTRUCTING LINCOLN FORUM III

Respondents to the 1998 survey overwhelmingly indicated a preference to continue using Gettysburg as the seat of operations for the annual Lincoln Forum symposium — although some respondents suggested exploring alternate sites, including Washington, Richmond, and Springfield, for future meetings.

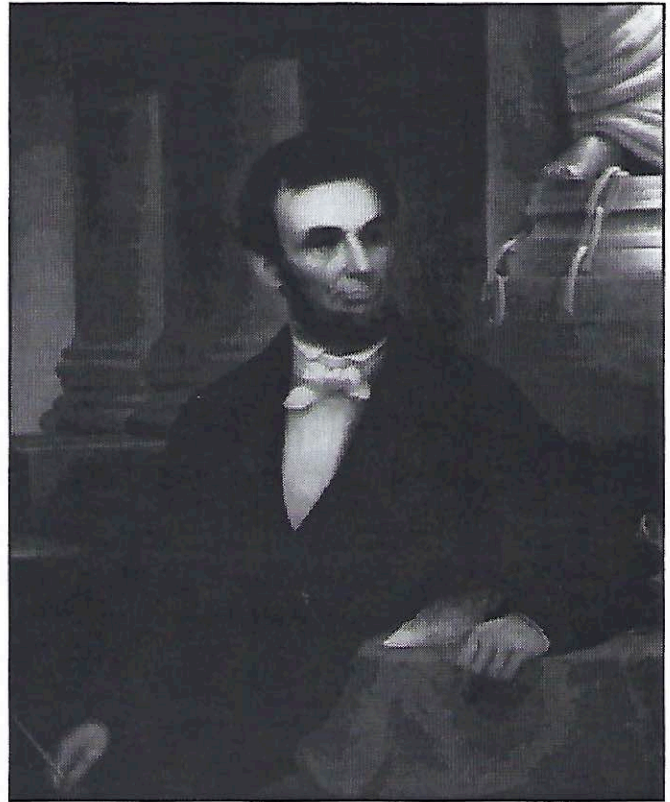
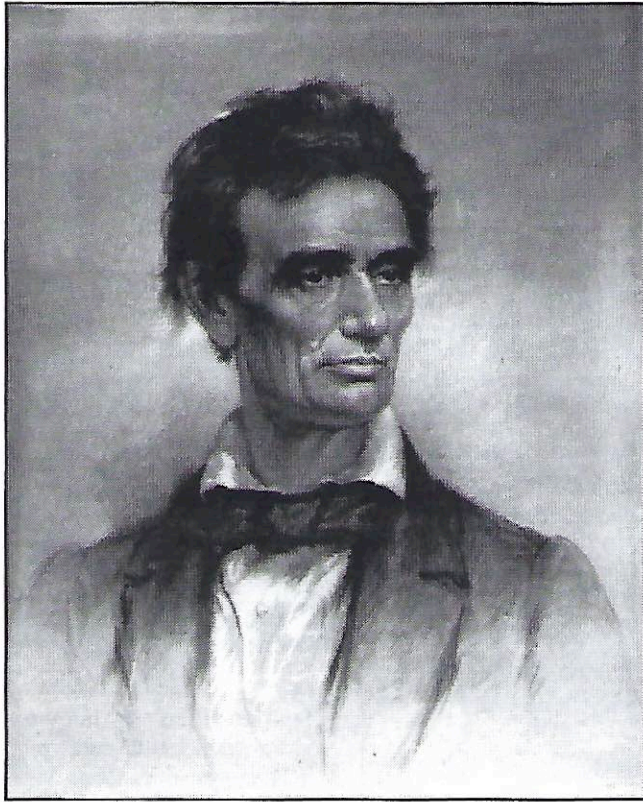
The Holiday Inn Gettysburg Battlefield — our headquarters hotel in 1998, and again in 1999 — received good marks (especially for food), although some voters expressed the hope of returning eventually to the Eisenhower Inn, site of our first two meetings (a possibility when and if it expands).

Following are some sample comments from Forum III enrollees — both pro and con:

- *"Best forum to date. People are exceptionally friendly and made many new acquaintances and renewed old friendships. Organization, logistics, location, food, and lodging very good."*
- *"You are doing an excellent job overseeing, organizing, and promoting the entire program. Very much looking forward to next year."*
- *"Thanks for a great Lincoln Forum."*
- *"Another great conference and great people, both speakers and audience."*
- *"I'm always aghast to hear Civil War fanatics talk about battles as if they were high school football games. For God's sake, people died and were dismembered! We should never glorify war. Not ever."*
- *"An excellently run conference. Looking forward to '99."*
- *"Never schedule slide presentations after lunch unless you want to give your audience a chance to take a nap."*
- *"Enjoyed the Forum at Gettysburg. Some informal meetings with speakers — to be able to discuss questions not pertaining to matters being discussed — would be good."*
- *"Best Lincoln Forum so far!"*
- *"Well-organized, excellent program. I look forward to returning."*
- *"Excellent conference. Our executive leadership is top-notch, and Hon. Frank Williams as a moderator is unsurpassed."*
- *"Excellent forum. Keep 'em coming."*
- *"Cover those mirrors."*
- *"This was my first forum, and have only basic knowledge of Lincoln and the Civil War, and thus was overwhelmed with the knowledge — not only of the speakers, but the Lincoln scholars in attendance. This was an excellent forum — a balanced program — and good accommodations as well."*
- *"A superb forum. You should be commended for your outstanding efforts in making the Lincoln Forum a huge success."*
- *"I had a wonderful time. You made me feel so welcome. I look forward to November 1999."*
- *"Great job."*

THE FORUM ON THE WEB

The Lincoln Forum posts up-to-the-minute information on its web site, <http://web.mountain.net/~niddk/forum>. Lincoln scholar Edward Steers, Jr., has acted as a volunteer webmaster for the site, and welcomes response and reaction at his own email: niddk@access.mountain.net. Chairman Williams is also available via e-mail, alincn@worldnet.att.net; vice chairman Holzer at hholzer@compuserve.com; and treasurer Chuck Platt at cplatt@bigfoot.com. Members and prospective members may also contact our Lincoln Forum Administrator, Annette Westerby, at westerby@dnvr.uswest.net.



THE CANDIDATE AND THE EMANCIPATOR

Lincoln sat for the beardless crayon portrait by Charles Alfred Barry in 1860 while a candidate for the presidency. Philadelphia painter Edward D. Marchant posed him for the white-tie oil-on-canvas after Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation (note the shattered chains on the Liberty statue above the table). Both pictures are on view at the Lincoln Museum exhibition. (Photos: Memorial Hall Library, and the Union League Club of Philadelphia).

LINCOLN LIFE PORTRAITS IN FIRST-EVER EXHIBITION AT LINCOLN MUSEUM, FORT WAYNE

The first-ever exhibition to bring together important paintings and sculpture for which Abraham Lincoln posed from life opened at the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on April 24. The show runs through October 17.

Some 50 works of art are on view, including life masks, busts, portraits, sketches, and the photographs that artists and sculptors used as models to help them capture Lincoln's elusive features.

Rarely seen together, the paintings range from campaign canvases by George Frederick Wright and Alban Jasper Conant, to the Emancipation-celebrating heroic portrait by Edward Dalton Marchant.

They range from the very first portrait from the flesh — the life mask by Leonard Wells Volk — to the very last: a painting by Matthew Henry Wilson from February 1865, a life mask by Clark Mills, made around the same time, a painting of the mortally wounded Lincoln being carried across Tenth Street after being shot at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865, and a sketch of the late President lying in state in his coffin.

The works reside permanently in such cities as Chicago, Yonkers, Philadelphia, and New York City, and have never been brought together for a single display.

Award-winning actor Sam Waterston, who portrayed Lincoln on television in the mini-series Gore Vidal's *Lincoln*, and on the New York stage in a revival of *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, gave an opening-night address and performance on April 24, and was the honored guest at a reception and supper that night.

Harold Holzer was guest curator of the exhibition. The Museum Lincoln scholar in residence is Gerald Prokopowicz.

Admission to the Museum, which is located at 200 East Berry Street in Fort Wayne, is \$2.99 for adults, and \$1.99 for seniors, children 5-12, and groups of 12 or more. For group tours, call: 219-455-3864.

FIRST ANNUAL LINCOLN FORUM ESSAY WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED IN NOVEMBER

The first annual Lincoln essay contest is underway, with a first prize of \$1,000, second prize of \$500, and third prize of \$250. The purpose of the competition, according to its administrator, Forum Advisor Don McCue, curator of the Lincoln Shrine in Redlands, California, is "to stimulate interest in Abraham Lincoln among America's students."

Entrants are asked to write an essay of at least 1500 words on the subject, "Abraham Lincoln the myth vs. Abraham Lincoln the man." The prospectus goes on to explain: "Abraham Lincoln had many solid accomplishments in his lifetime, which helped him to achieve his ranking as our number one president, but he is also surrounded by a great deal of myth... Compare the mythical Lincoln with the real Lincoln."

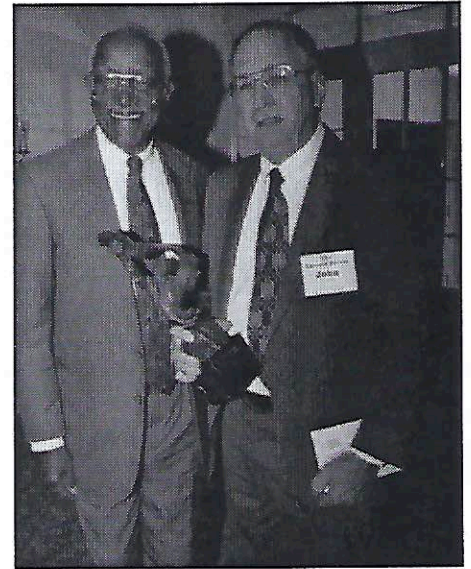
The contest is open to anyone enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at an American college or university. Deadline for entries is June 30, 1999, with judging to take place over the summer by the Forum's essay contest committee. Mr. McCue can be reached at the Shrine, 125 West Vine Street, Redlands, CA 92373; by phone — 909-798-7632; and via e-mail, at archives@aksmiley.org[.]

NEW FORUM ADMINISTRATOR

Annette Westerby of Englewood Colorado is the new Administrator of the Lincoln Forum, succeeding Catherine Boyers, who retired from the post after three years to concentrate on her budding career in the airline industry.

Annette is a professional graphic artist as well as a wife and mother of two high school students. She is also active in Theatre Arts and has worked in several theatre companies as a properties artisan. She will join us at Lincoln Forum IV in November.

The Forum leadership joins in thanking Catherine for a job well done, and wishing the best of luck to Annette as she takes the reins for 1999 and beyond.



Sculptor John McClarey created the impressionistic statue presented to honoree John Hope Franklin (left) at the third annual Lincoln Forum Symposium.



**THE LINCOLN FORUM
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AND PRESERVE THE MEMORY OF
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