



THE LINCOLN FORUM

BULLETIN

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HISTORY'S MOST CRUCIAL ELECTIONS—1860 AND 1864—WILL BE THEME OF LINCOLN FORUM IX IN GETTYSBURG, NOVEMBER 16-18, 2004

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY MARIO CUOMO



To mark the 140th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's 1864 re-election to the Presidency—in what many historians call, together with the 1860 contest, the most crucial White House races in history—the Lincoln Forum will devote its 9th annual symposium to the politics and oratory of these epochal, nation-changing campaigns. Lincoln Forum IX, "Electing and Re-Electing Lincoln," will be held November 16-18 in the town immortalized by both deeds and words in 1863: Gettysburg.

Appropriately, the keynote address will be delivered by one of modern America's leading political voices, former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, whose own oratory is widely considered among the greatest of the last century. Governor Cuomo will be marking the 20th anniversary of his acclaimed keynote speech, "The City on the Hill," at the 1984 Democratic National Convention, and the 15th anniversary of his equally celebrated "Unfinished Work" address at the Gettysburg National Soldier's Cemetery in 1989.

The co-editor of the widely praised 1990 collection *Lincoln on Democracy*, now available in five languages and soon to be re-published in a revised edition by

Fordham University Press, Mr. Cuomo is also the author of the eagerly anticipated new book, *Why Lincoln Matters: Today More than Ever* (Harcourt), which Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. calls "a thoughtful and challenging meditation on what Lincoln wisdom tells us we Americans should be doing today and tomorrow." Adds Walter Cronkite: "I was enthralled by this book."

"We are honored and thrilled that the greatest political orator of our time has agreed to speak at an event celebrating the greatest political orator of all time," commented Forum Chairman Frank J. Williams in announcing Governor Cuomo's visit to Gettysburg. "Mario Cuomo's deeply felt philosophy, his passionate expression of his beliefs, and his strong leadership in New York and across the nation, have made him one of the most extraordinary public figures of our generation. The fact that he has remained so vocal and passionate an admirer of Abraham Lincoln for nearly two score years is a source of pride to every Lincoln devotee, regardless of party. We look forward to welcoming him back to Gettysburg, and to his first Lincoln Forum."

"It is 'altogether fitting and proper' that we devote this year's Forum to election-related scholarship," added Chief Justice Williams, "for we will meet at the conclusion of the 2004 presidential campaign—a time that we hope, no matter what the outcome, will bring healing, unity, and analysis. And, as we all know, understanding the past can only help us comprehend the present and illuminate the future."

In addition to Cuomo, Forum IX will offer another stellar roster of leading scholars on election-related themes: Forum Vice Chairman Harold Holzer will speak on "Lincoln at Cooper Union" The Speech That Made

Continued on page 12



MESSAGE
from the
CHAIRMAN

It is hard to choose which of Lincoln's two elections to the presidency—1860 or 1864—deserves to be ranked as the most important election in American history. Both contests certainly have legitimate claim to pre-eminence.

And that is why, on the 140th anniversary of Lincoln's re-election, the Lincoln Forum has chosen to focus on not one but both campaigns: the one that elevated Lincoln to the White House in the most bitterly divided election in our history, and the one that returned him to office in the midst of unprecedented civil war.

In 1860, Lincoln faced three rivals in his quest for the presidency, and though he became the first Republican ever elected to the nation's highest office, he polled less than 40% of the popular vote, and did not even appear on the ballot in 10 Southern states. Following Election Day, these states began seceding from the Union, precipitating the greatest crisis any president-elect, or any president, ever faced.


Four years later, the triumph of the system came in the remarkable fact that a presidential election could be held at all, with the Union divided and one section of the country at war against the other. Lincoln went on to win, of course, but not before making selfless preparations to turn over power to his Democratic opponent when it seemed likely that the administration would be defeated. Lincoln went so far as to ask his Cabinet to sign a blind memorandum pledging cooperation with George B. McClellan should he win.

As we enter what has become a bitter presidential election season of our own—a 2004 contest that has been marked by angry debate about national security and civil liberties (much like the Lincoln-McClellan race 140 years ago)—it is useful for us, Republicans and Democrats alike, to ponder the miracle of 1864, when a nation at

war with itself paused to exercise the most sacred right of democracy: choosing our own leader. Surely all of us, no matter what our personal political beliefs, remain grateful for the right our Constitution gave us to elect our Presidents no matter how fearful the course of human events.

Then as now, paraphrasing Lincoln's words, "the election is a necessity."

As he told a crowd of well-wishers a few nights after his 1864 victory: "We can not have free government without elections; and if the rebellion could force us to forego, or postpone a national election, it might fairly claim to have already conquered and ruined us... . In any future great national trial, compared with the men of this, we shall have as weak, and as strong; as silly and as wise; as bad and as good. Let us therefore, study the incidents of this, as philosophy to learn wisdom from, and none of them as wrongs to be revenged."

May all of us summon the same wisdom, 140 years later, in honor of the government that Lincoln saved for posterity. 

Frank Weimer

Find The Lincoln Forum on the web at:

WWW.THELINCOLNFORUM.ORG

- Essay contest information
- Membership and Symposium registration forms
- Use the Amazon and The Lincoln Bookstore links to buy your books

If you wish to receive periodic information on Lincoln Forum activities via email, please advise administrator Annette Westerby (anetwest@earthlink.net)



THEN WAS THEN, AND NOW IS NOW

Actor Sam Waterston has won many awards—for both his acting and his devotion to the Lincoln theme. Pictured here are two cases in point, a decade apart, featuring the same cast of characters: Harold Holzer, Waterston, and Frank J. Williams. Top: In formal attire, Holzer and Williams present Waterston with the 1994 Award of Achievement of the Abraham Lincoln Association at Springfield, Illinois. Below: The trio returns for the Richard N. Current Award presentation in Gettysburg in 2003. Not much has changed...has it? (Photo below: Henry Ballone)



MOURNING A TWIN LOSS— IN MEMORIAM: PAUL SIMON AND RICH SOKUP

When Stephen A. Douglas re-enactor nonpareil Rich Sokup (left) greeted former United States Senator Paul Simon (D-Ill.) in Sokup's native Freeport in 2000, few would have predicted that the Lincoln community would lose both men in one tragic year. Senator Simon, a onetime presidential aspirant, intrepid champion of a balanced federal budget, former winner of the Richard N. Current Award of Achievement of the Lincoln Forum, died from complications following open heart surgery in Springfield. Sokup, a recently retired insurance executive, a Forum regular whose absence in 2003 was sadly noted by our attendees, and recently installed Forum Advisory Board member, died in Freeport just a few weeks later—a tragic twin loss for the Lincoln Forum community. Two “little giants” thus sadly left the scene, far too soon: a man who made history, and a man devoted to remembering it. The Forum mourns both of these beloved, irreplaceable Lincoln devotees. They will be sorely missed. Sokup's longtime partner, George Buss—the “Lincoln” to Sokup's “Douglas” in countless re-enactments, including two unforgettable C-SPAN Lincoln-Douglas debate recreations in 1994, shared this loving commentary following Rich's passing in January: “He loved the Forum Family and dearly missed not attending this year's meeting—the only one he ever missed. You were all special in his life and he spoke of you often in the Freeport community. Your selection of him to the Board of Advisors was treasured. I was proud to announce that to him personally upon returning from Gettysburg. I wish I could...swap a few stories and just reminisce about how much you meant to him. He knew that—because you showed him in the living way. (Photo: George Buss)



THE MEMBERSHIP SPEAKS: YOUR COMMENTS ON THE 8TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Your praise means much. Following is a sampling of the reviews for Lincoln Forum VIII from participants who shared their comments on the 2003 evaluation forms. As always, the Forum administration is grateful for your comments—and this year, received more completed forms than ever in the history of the organization.

"I especially enjoyed Forum 2003, and found it most informative—a lot of information to consume, very well presented."

"This has been one of the most intellectually stimulating events I have attended in many years! Often one with deep historic interests feels isolated: how many folks in a large checkout line are inclined to discuss any aspect of history? This is an oasis!"

"Administrative staff did a terrific job!!"

"I would like to compliment Annette Westerby. Unlike other smaller organizations, we had no trouble with registration, materials, etc. Everything ran very smoothly."

"It was a wonderful symposium, very well organized and full of great information. I loved meeting and mingling with such learned peers and look forward to many more great meetings."

"This year the spacing and breaks were timed just right. I really enjoyed the speakers. And the friendships developed have made each Forum very special. One complaint: I missed Virginia Williams' slide-show ["Lincoln Forum Memories"] as an opener"

"The small size is part of the success of the Forum—please do not give in to temptation to 'sprawl.' Like fine wine, there are a limited supply of seats. Cap it at 200."

"A grand get-together, as usual."

"This was my first symposium. I was very impressed with the speakers and their abilities."

"I simply love the intelligent speakers—especially ones who invoke controversy...one of the most valuable parts of the Forum is the graciousness of the professionals to answer our questions and interact with us."

"The Forum is reaffirming, restorative, and replete with scholarship. I'm addicted to it."

"Can't wait till next year."

"I'll be back. It was wonderful."

And some criticisms that your officers will, needless to say, consider seriously in planning future Gettysburg symposia and battlefield tours:

"Slides with writing are difficult to see—they don't help lectures, they hinder them."

"I think it is inappropriate that we thank Jesus or Moses or Mohammed in our invocations. Please keep it non-denominational so as not to offend people of another persuasion."

"A microphone for the field trip to Antietam would have been very helpful. It was very hard, and sometimes impossible, to hear Jim."

"Why don't we do the pledge to the flag anymore?"

"We could be taking better advantage of technology with microphones for tour guides and animated or CD-ROM maps for showing battlefield movements."

"Need to control growth. Bigger is not always better."

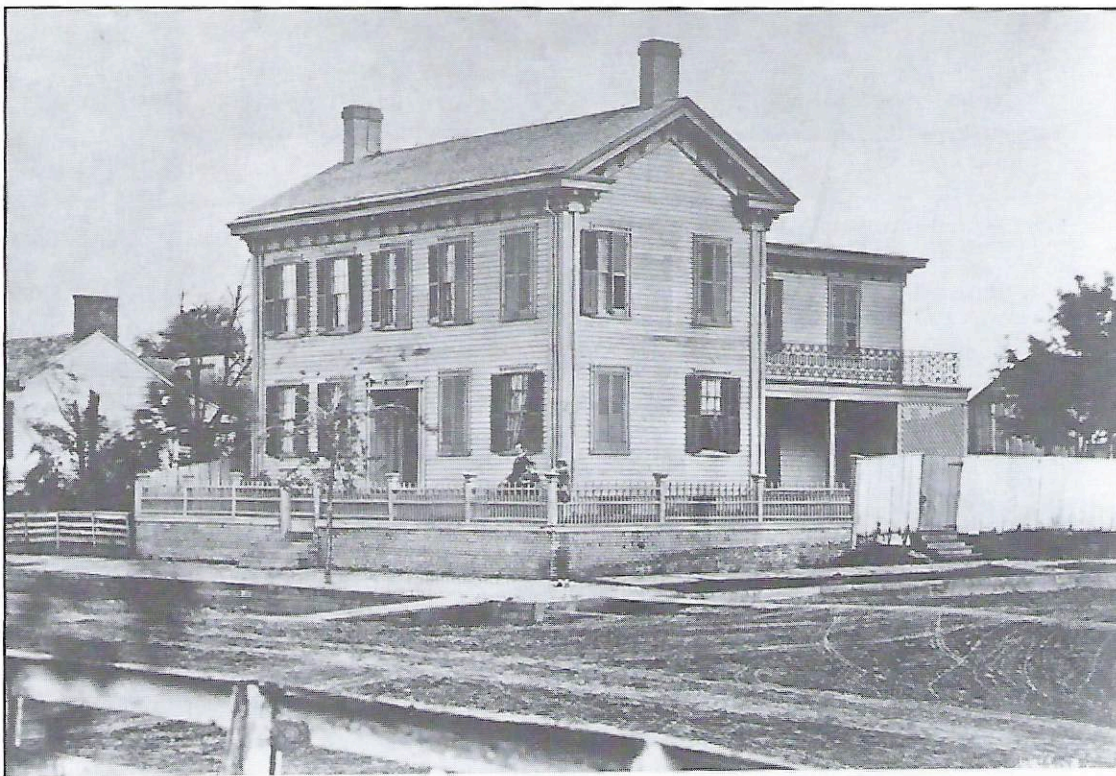
"You need a bigger hotel in order to grow."

"We need new blood. Same old same old!"

"We need more of the old speakers. Too many new faces who are not up to the old standards."

**Dinner at the Forum:
Another capacity crowd
(Photo: David Walker)**





Published by CHARLES DE LEEVER, No. 1229 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Entered according to Act of Congress in the Year 1863, by Chas. Deleeve, in the Clerk's Office of the Dist. Court of the E. D. of Penna.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AT HOME.

FAREWELL ADDRESS TO HIS OLD NEIGHBORS, SPRINGFIELD, FEBRUARY 12, 1861.

"Friends,—No one who has never been placed in a like position can understand my feelings at this hour, nor the oppressive sadness I feel at this parting. For more than a quarter of a century I have lived among you, and during all that time I have received nothing but kindness at your hands. Here I have lived from my youth, until now I am an old man. Here the most sacred ties of earth were assumed. Here all my children were born; here one of them has buried. To you, dear friends, I owe all that I have, all that I am. All the change chequered past seems now to crowd upon my mind. To-day I leave you. I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon General Washington. Unless the Great God who assisted him shall be with and aid me, I must fail. But of the same Omnipotent mind and the same Almighty arm that directed and protected him shall guide and support me, I shall not fail; I shall succeed. Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake us now. So I can I commend you all. Permit me to ask that with equal sincerity and faith you all will invoke His wisdom and guidance for me. With these few words I must leave you. For how long I know not. Friends, one and all, I must now bid you an affectionate farewell."

CAMPAIGNING THE WAY IT USED TO BE

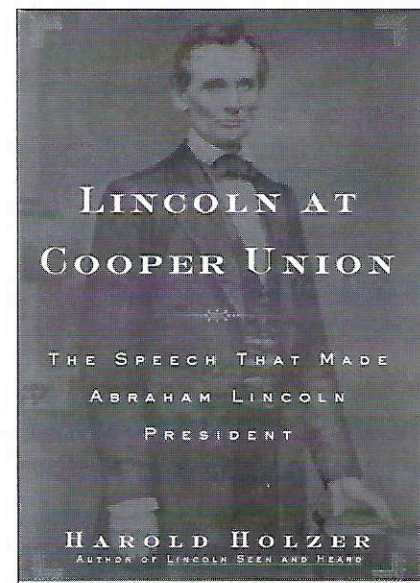
The hard-fought 1860 presidential campaign saw the mass-distribution of pictures, banners, pins, broadsides, and pamphlets, inspiring exuberant rallies across the nation, including the debut of the "Wide Awake" Republican marching clubs. But much unlike peripatetic modern presidential nominees, the candidate himself stayed home—and stayed quiet. After his nomination in May, Abraham Lincoln's only campaign "appearance" was a brief speech at a rally that gathered outside his Springfield home on August 8 (Lincoln towers above the crowd in his white coat, right). With "no intention of making a speech" that day, Lincoln begged to "be silent," after expressing surprise that his mere appearance generated "the tumult which I now witness." That same summer, Lincoln appeared again on the porch to pose for a photograph (above) alongside his sons Willie and Tad in their front garden. Aside from these, he made no public appearances. It was presidential "campaigning" like it used to be. (Photographs: Library of Congress)



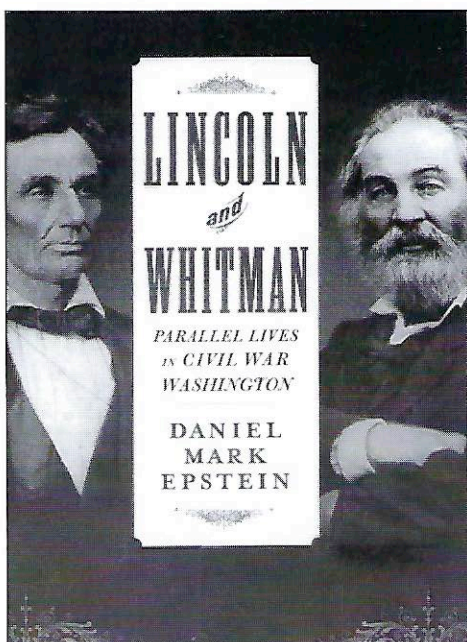
NEW ON THE LINCOLN BOOKSHELF

There is no sign yet—fortunately for Lincoln students—that the new golden age of Lincoln publications is waning. James McPherson was right when he noted last year in the most recent edition of his classic, *Battle Cry of Freedom*: the “rising wave of interest...has not yet crested.” May it ever remain at high tide!

Following are the latest titles in the Lincoln field, demonstrating again the wide range and impressive breadth of new publications about favorite subject, and its unending grip on the American consciousness:

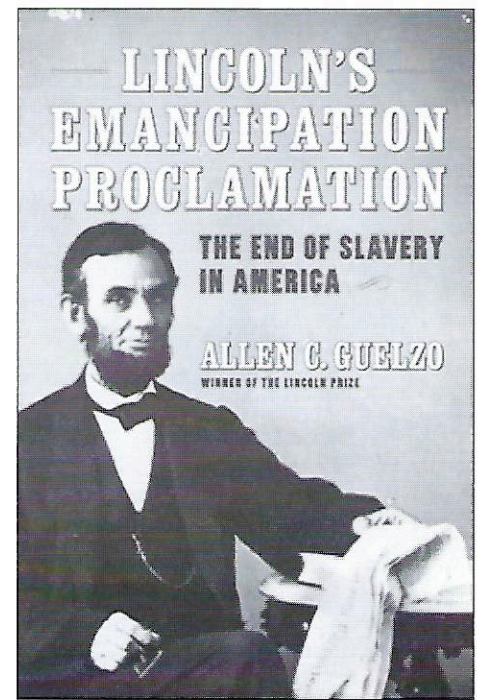


- *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Abraham Lincoln President* by Harold Holzer (Simon & Schuster), paints a new and complex picture of the events leading to Lincoln’s most influential pre-presidential speech, re-creates Lincoln’s research, writing, and voyage east, dissects the long address itself section-by-section, punctures old myths, and finds that the address—and Brady photo taken the same day—deserve their reputation. Michael Beschloss praised its “great sensitivity, elegance, and...vast understanding of Abraham Lincoln... . Holzer’s book has much to teach us.”
- *Lincoln and Whitman: Parallel Lives in Civil War Washington* by Daniel Mark Epstein (Ballantine Books) paints a vivid portrait of the fateful convergence of the lives of two of the 19th century’s most brilliant and original writers: the president and the poet. Harold Holzer noted: “The scholarship is excellent, the ideas provocative, and the writing simply sublime. Both Lincoln and Whitman...come vividly, sometimes startlingly, alive.”
- *Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation: The End of Slavery in America* by Allen C. Guelzo (Simon & Schuster) is the long-awaited first major scholarly book on Lincoln’s greatest act, the first full-length study of the Emancipation of any kind in more than 40 years. James Basker, president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, praised it as “beautifully written and rigorously researched,” and John Patrick Diggins hailed its “concrete evidence” and “insightful interpretations.”
- *Lincoln’s Last Months* by William C. Harris (Harvard University Press) sheds new light on the seldom-told story of Abraham Lincoln’s final days in office—and of life—arguing that his skills in planning peace, not just his sudden murder, justly enshrined him in American memory. “This fine book,” David Herbert Donald declared, “is admirable for the depth of its research and for the judiciousness of its interpretations. It is one of the half-dozen books on Lincoln published in the last decade that must be read by every student of the American Civil War.”



- Geoffrey Perret, *Lincoln’s War: The Untold Story of America’s Greatest President as Commander in Chief* (Random House), shows how the chief executive’s powerful role as commander-in-chief—now all but taken for granted—was in Lincoln’s day unprecedented and all but revolutionary. Booklist called the work “interesting and sometimes provocative.”
- *The Language of Liberty: The Political Speeches and Writings of Abraham Lincoln*, edited by Joseph R. Fornieri (Regnery Publishing) may be the definitive one-volume collection of Lincoln’s greatest orations and letters, a prodigious 800-page collection boasting insightful introductions to each entry organized around clearly defined eras and themes.
- *Murdering Mr. Lincoln: A New Detection of the 19th Century’s Most Famous Crime* by Charles Higham (New Millennium Press) presents a new, and sure-to-be-debated theory about the assassination: that Lincoln sealed his own doom by interrupting illicit trade with the South after years of secretly permitting the profiteering.

- *Dark Union: The Secret Web of Profiteers, Politicians, and Booth Conspirators That Led to Lincoln's Death* by Leonard F. Guttridge and Ray A. Neff (John Wiley & Sons) is another new volume determined to prove that Lincoln's complicity in cotton-trading inspired a complex, high-level plot that led to his assassination.
- *The President is Shot: The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln* by Harold Holzer (Boyd's Mills Press) is an illustrated story of the Lincoln murder designed for young readers. *Booklist* called it "a page-turner...strong, highly readable."
- *Mr. Lincoln's Wars: A Novel in Thirteen Stories* by Adam Braver (William Morrow) is the season's major entry in the realm of historical fiction. Best described as a collection of short stories, some incorporating Lincoln as a major or corollary character, this highly original book evokes the Civil War era with startling effect—though purists may recoil at the portrait of a president who drinks and takes drugs.
- *Abraham Lincoln's Political Faith* by Joseph R. Fornieri (Northern Illinois University Press, 2003). Yet another important study of Lincoln's religious faith and its influence on his politics, leadership, and rhetoric, this study argues that Lincoln showed remarkable consistency in his privately held and publicly expressed religious convictions. The nation's leading scholar of religious history, Martin E. Marty, commended the book for presenting "a strong vision of Lincoln's political religion." The author teaches political science at Rochester Institute of Technology.



Coming soon: *Why Lincoln Matters* by Lincoln Forum IX Speaker Mario M. Cuomo—an unapologetic progressive's loving look at his political hero—and his compelling argument that Lincoln can guide us toward a better, more humane, more inclusive America in the 21st century. Also due soon: a second volume on Lincoln's intellectual and moral development by William Lee Miller (*Lincoln's Virtues*); *Lincoln's American Eloquence* by Ronald C. White (Random House), author of *Lincoln's Greatest Speech*; and a new book about Lincoln's wartime reputation, first previewed several seasons ago at the Lincoln Forum by its author, Hans L. Trefousse.



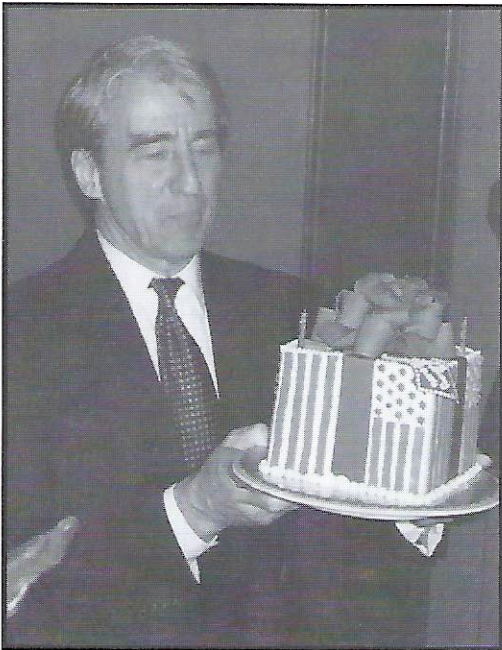
Platt Family 2004 Lincoln Forum Essay Scholarship

1st Prize \$1000 2nd Prize \$500 3rd Prize \$250

The Platt Family Essay Scholarship Contest of The Lincoln Forum is open to anyone who is enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student. The essay should be a minimum of 1,500 and a maximum of 5,000 words. Deadline for entries is July 31, 2004.

**This year's theme is "The Challenge of Holding an Election in the Midst of War."
Compare and contrast Abraham Lincoln's re-election in 1864
with other wartime elections in American History.**

Entries will be judged by the essay committee of The Lincoln Forum. Don McCue, curator of The Lincoln Shrine in Redlands, California serves as coordinator. For more information: Don McCue, Curator — Lincoln Memorial Shrine 125 W. Vine St. Redlands, CA 92373 e-mail: archives@aksmiley.org



Happy Birthday, Sam
(Photo by Henry Ballone)



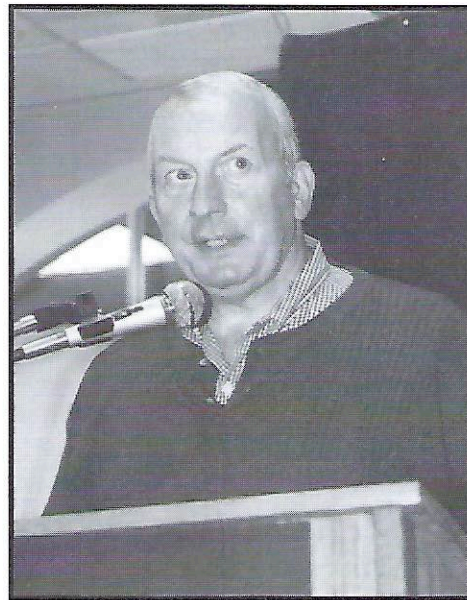
Craig L. Symonds...
(Photo by David Walker)



...and John Marszalek, in tandem
(Photo by David Walker)



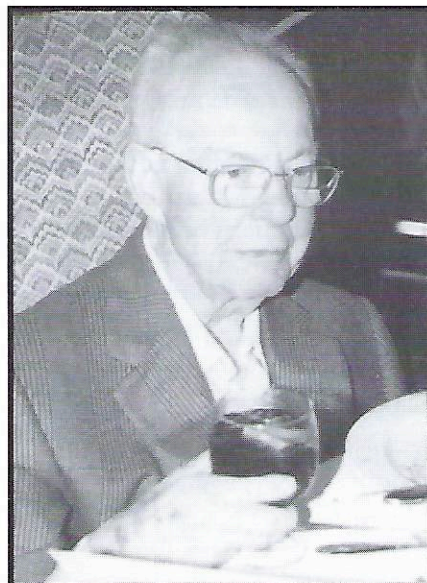
**Memorable debut:
Catherine Clinton**
(Photo by Joe Card)



**Is someone questioning the
Chairman?** (Photo by Joe Card)



**Long remembered: Jim Getty
with his annual rendition of
Lincoln's greatest speech**
(Photo by Joe Card)



**(Right) Return of a hero:
Richard Nelson Current.**
(Photo by Joe Card)



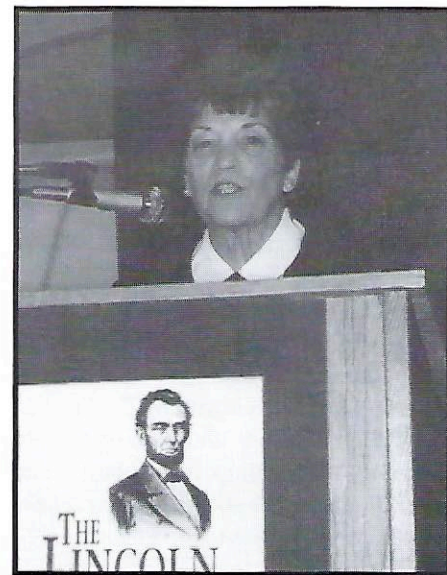
**Father and son speakers: David
and John Eicher** (Photo by Joe Card)



Artists in residence: Richard Wengenroth, Richard Masloski (Photo by Joe Card)



Masloski's Lincoln (Photo by Joe Card)



Don't budge during this talk: Budge Weidman speaks on her National Archives research (Photo by Joe Card)

LINCOLN FORUM VIII MEMORIES:

***AN ALBUM BY HENRY BALLONE,
JOE CARD, AND DAVID WALKER***

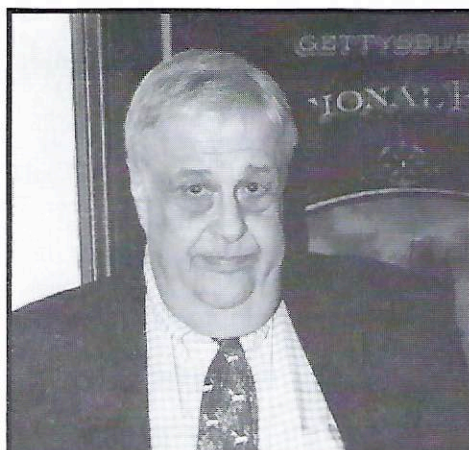
The 2003 symposium provided more than the usual supply of memories—captured here by some of our most loyal photographer-attendees. And remember: Henry Ballone is also hard at work on creating a new, four-page memory book to be distributed again courtesy of the generous Henry to all attendees of Lincoln Forum IX.



Strike up the (Providence Brigade) Band—a 2004 encore (Photo by David Walker)



Preservation Report: Richard Moe (Photo by David Walker)



John Y. Simon takes a break (Photo by Joe Card)



Back at the mike: Edna Greene Medford (Photo by David Walker)

Scholarship takes strategy— and stamina

By Donald Pieper

As the list of must-read Lincoln literature lengthens, scholars are challenged to find the time, energy and solitude to keep pace.

Studying Stanton and Seward and South Mountain takes strategy. And stamina.

The chair needs to be comfortable enough for long sessions with long books, yet not so comfortable that the temptation to nap overtakes the reader's curiosity about New Salem.

Research requires notes. How does technology affect the traditions of scholarly scribbles?

It is noted — and with pride — elsewhere in this Bulletin that Lincoln scholarship is a robust industry these days. Compelling, valuable and provocative interpretations of the Lincoln story keep rolling off the presses.

We asked John Marszalek and Craig Symonds — authors, researchers and popular Lincoln Forum speakers — how they cope. We appreciate their replies.

John Marszalek: "I like to sit in the rocker I received when I retired from Mississippi State University in 2002. It is in my home office, which is right next to the room that is our home library.

"When the weather is pleasant I also like to sit outdoors in a wicker chair. Sleepiness is only a problem at times and when it hits I try to get up and move around regularly to keep me alert.

"I do not listen to music, but noise does not bother me. I grew up in a family of five children and we lived behind and above a general store near Buffalo, N.Y., so I learned early how to concentrate no matter the interruption.

"I used to severely mark up my books but increasingly — as I try to keep up with the huge publication output — I simply put a checkmark next to a passage I want to remember and record that page with a short reference on a separate sheet of paper or on one of

the blank pages at the front of the book. I also heavily rely on photocopying of pages that I particularly need for my research.

"I have not as yet used any of the bibliographic computer software. I continue to use 3 by 5 index cards, listing full biblio info on one book per page. I then make brief notes about the book on this card and also indicate what pages if any I have photocopied. In the upper left hand corner, I write in the library call number. When I have finished consulting a book, I put a check mark next to the call number.

"The above may be more than you wanted to know."

Craig Symonds: "A lot of my reading is non-continuous; by that I mean that I have to read bits and pieces in time that I snatch between classes and meetings and grading, etc.

"When I do get a chance to read for long periods, it is usually in a chair by a window without music. If the book is putting you to sleep, then there MAY be something wrong with you, but more likely there is something wrong with the BOOK.

"I take notes by hand, usually on legal pads or 5 by 8 note cards. I do mark up my books.

"One trick I use that has served me well is that at the end of each chapter I often try to write a summary right in the book of the chapter's central argument. Often there is a half a blank page at the end of chapters where I can fit this in. This not only helps me focus on what I just read, but I find that I can go back later and read just the summary and recall most of what is in the chapter.

"I do not use software of any kind to keep track of this — I am a legal pad, note card kind of a guy, and my basement is full of file boxes of such material.

"Hope that helps." 📌

WATERSTON-HOLZER PERFORMANCE, JEAN EDWARD SMITH LECTURE, EARN HIGHEST RANKING FROM FORUM VIII

Lincoln Forum VIII attendees ranked three 2003 presenters—and their two highly different presentations—as their favorites of last year's gathering.

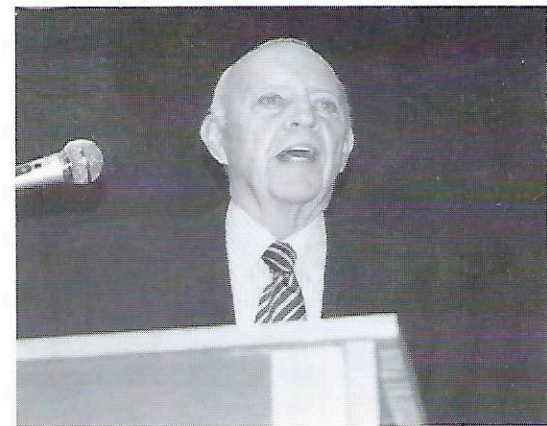
"Lincoln Seen and Heard," the words-and-pictures reading performed by acclaimed actor Sam Waterston and Forum Vice Chairman Harold Holzer at the opening night banquet at the Hotel Gettysburg last year, earned a 9.61 ranking, according to Forum VIII evaluation sheets ("an outstanding presentation," according to one attendee; "superb—thanks to both of them," said another).

Jean Edward Smith's morning-after lecture on Ulysses S. Grant received the identical ranking—9.61—marking the first time that two Forum presentations have tied for the highest approval rating. ("Jean Edward Smith was excellent," went a typical comment. "Sorry they ran out of his books." Said another admirer of his paper: "Reprint it as early as possible.")

Attendees offered high rankings—and many expressions of praise—for the rest of the stellar 2003 roster of lecturers: Craig Symonds and John M. Marszalek (9.43); John Y. Simon (8.89); Frank J. Williams (8.81); Catherine Clinton (8.48); Joseph Fornieri (7.59); and John and David Eicher (6.97).

The 2003 symposium achieved a 9.50 ranking overall, with high approval ratings for the accommodations, catered meal service, and *Bulletin*. The 2003 off-site tour to Antietam—the first ever to leave the Gettysburg vicinity—won a 8.9 ranking, with a 9.5 ranking for the distinguished tour guide, Professor James M. McPherson.

Last year's Forum attendees traveled an average of 484 miles to attend the eighth annual symposium. 📌



Jean Edward Smith (Photo: David Walker)

MARINERS' MUSEUM AGAIN HOSTS OFF-SEASON SYMPOSIUM, DRAWING FORUM REGULARS TO VIEW MONITOR TURRET

For the second year in a row, the Mainers' Museum in Newport News, Virginia—official home of the salvaged remains of the Union ironclad *USS Monitor*—hosted an annual scholarly symposium and family weekend to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Hampton Roads, March 5-7. The Lincoln Forum again co-sponsored the event, and a number of Forum members attended the two-day event.

The theme for the 2004 gathering was "The Children of the Civil War," and the featured address was presented by the leading scholar in the field, Marquette University Professor James Marten.

Among the other speakers were Craig L. Symonds (on the building of the ironclads *Monitor* and *Virginia*), William C. Davis (the battle of the ironclads), James I. "Bud" Robertson ("Billy Yank and Johnny Reb"), Frank Williams (the families of Presidents Lincoln and Davis), and Harold Holzer (the image of Civil War children). Naval historians John Quarstein and HOWARD J. FULLER were also on hand for lively debates and papers, with one panel moderated by Fred Schultz, editor of *Naval History*.

Mariners' Museum President and CEO John Hightower presided, and this year's family activities included presentations on children's book writing by Karen Winnick, author of *Mr. Lincoln's Whiskers*, and a Lincoln performance by the Forum's own George Buss. ■



Linda Wheeler of the Washington Post interviews Virginia Williams at the Mariners' Museum costume ball (Photo: Henry Ballone).

NEVER SAY NEVER: WATERSTON AND HOLZER REPEAT "LINCOLN SEEN AND HEARD" FOR EX-PRESIDENT BUSH

Many Forum VIII attendees expressed surprise—and regret—when actor Sam Waterston declared last November 16, in accepting the Richard N. Current Lincoln Forum Award of Achievement at Gettysburg, that the evening's acclaimed performance of "Lincoln Seen and Heard" would be the last ever presented to the public.

But never underestimate the power of a President of the United States.

Early in 2004, under the guidance of Michael F. Bishop, executive director of the U.S. Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Waterston and Harold Holzer decided to reprise the presentation at the personal invitation of former President George H. W. Bush ("Old #41," as he called himself). In an event sponsored by the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation, the duo offered "Lincoln Seen and Heard" before a sellout crowd of more than 700 at the Kinkaid Theatre in Houston on Sunday, April 4. Among the attendees were President and Mrs. Bush; former U.S. Senator and vice presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen (D-Texas) and Mrs. Bentsen; and legendary political columnist Hugh Sidey.

Waterston and Holzer—together with their wives, Lynn and Edith and Michael and Sarah Bishop—were guests of honor at a banquet following the performance.

The two have now performed "Lincoln Seen and Heard" at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Hotchkiss School in Connecticut, the Library of Congress (for the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission), and for the Lincoln Forum banquet last November. The Library of Congress version has aired several times on C-SPAN.

Is "Lincoln Seen and Heard" history? As Michael Bishop said after the April 4 event in Houston: "Never say never."

This May 5, Waterston is also scheduled to appear with Holzer in New York in a fresh program to mark publication of Holzer's newest book, *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Abraham Lincoln President*. Waterston, as the *New York Times* reported on April 8, was set to deliver the original, unedited, 90-minute-long original speech, from the same spot as the future president delivered it on February 27, 1860: the Great Hall of the Cooper Union. ■



Harold Holzer and Sam Waterston pose with President and Mrs. Bush before their reprise performance of "Lincoln Seen and Heard" for the George Bush Presidential Library in Houston. (Photo: Michael F. Bishop).

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Abraham Lincoln President" in 1860, to mark publication of his new book on the subject; historian David E. Long, the leading expert on the 1864 election, will present new research from his forthcoming volume on the 1860 contest; and Chief Justice Williams will present an illustrated lecture on the soldiers' vote in the Lincoln-McClellan race of 1864.

Notably, for the first time at the Lincoln Forum, Professor Gabor Boritt of Gettysburg College—whose annual Forum welcomes have become symposium traditions, and who won the initial Lincoln Forum Award of Achievement in 1996—will present a major lecture, on the election of 1864. Boritt is Director of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, Chairman of the prestigious Lincoln Prize, and is at work on a new book about the Battle of Gettysburg.

Also appearing at the Forum for the first time this November will be poet-biographer Daniel Mark Epstein, author of the widely praised new book *Lincoln and Whitman: Parallel Lives in Civil War Washington*, who will lecture on these two American originals and their unusual, hitherto-unknown impact on one another. Epstein, whose own poetry has appeared in the *Atlantic* and the *New Yorker*, wrote earlier biographies of Aimee Semple McPherson and Nat King Cole. Other first-time presenters will be Professors William C. Harris on Lincoln's post-reelection achievements, and Joseph T. Glatthaar on the impact of the Dahlgren Raid on the 1864 campaign.

Finally, a special appearance will be made by the nationally known historian Richard Norton Smith, newly named Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, to report on that soon-to-be-opened facility in Springfield, Illinois.

Returning to the Forum this year to serve as session moderators will be John C. "Jack" Waugh, author of his own highly popular history of the 1864 election; and Howard University's Edna Greene Medford, a leading authority on the African-American experience in Civil War-era America and co-author of a forthcoming book on the Emancipation Proclamation with Frank J. Williams and Harold Holzer.

This year's all-scholar panel will discuss the best—and the worst—within the rich trove of Lincoln books that have appeared since Lincoln Forum VIII—in what may arguably be the crest of the modern "golden age" of Lincoln scholarship.

The annual 2004 tour will, for the first time since the Forum began meeting in Gettysburg eight years ago, explore historic downtown Gettysburg itself, along streets and buildings consumed by the July 1863 battle, and which Lincoln himself saw during his historic visit to the village four months later. A special highlight will be an evocative group journey to the Wills House in the town square, where the President completed his final reading copy of The Gettysburg Address on the night of November 18, 1863.

As always, the Forum will present its annual Richard Nelson Current Award of Achievement, and again honor the man for whom it is named: the reigning dean of Lincoln scholars, Professor Emeritus Richard Nelson Current. The \$1,000 Platt Family Essay contest winner will again be selected from among student entries, this year expected to produce the largest response ever generated for the annual competition thanks to wide-ranging magazine and Internet publicity.

To register for Lincoln Forum IX—while openings remain—fill out and mail in the registration coupon included with this Bulletin. ■

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT: A SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM AT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY - JUNE 25-26, 2004

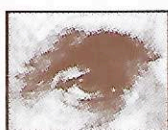
Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the passage of an important piece of pre-Civil War federal legislation, and Co-sponsored by Roger Williams University (RWU), the Lincoln Forum, and the Lincoln Group of Boston, the Symposium titled "Abraham Lincoln and the Kansas-Nebraska Act" will take place at the Roger Williams University campus in Bristol, Rhode Island, and its nearby Baypoint Inn and Conference Center in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Lincoln scholars, Civil War-era historians, high school and college/university educators, college and graduate students, and Lincoln and American history "buffs" will benefit from this symposium.

The symposium will commence on Friday evening, June 25, 2004, with a dinner at the Roger Williams University Baypoint Inn and Conference Center, followed by the keynote address, which will be delivered by Frank Williams, chairman of the Lincoln Forum and Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

On Saturday, June 26, 2004, symposium attendees will gather at the Roger Williams University School of Law building on the Bristol campus for a day-long presentation of papers on Lincoln, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and related topics. The symposium presenters will include Thomas Turner, John Y. Simon, Michael Morrison, and other Lincoln and Civil War-era scholars.

Registration, Travel, and Lodging:

The cost of registration for the full symposium is \$100 (\$50 for students and retirees), which includes a three-entrée dinner at the RWU Baypoint Inn and Conference Center on Friday evening and lunch on the RWU campus on Saturday. Saturday-only registration is also an option for \$50 (\$25 for students and retirees). Hotel-style lodging will be available on a first-come-first-served basis at the RWU Baypoint Inn for Friday and/or Saturday nights at the cost of \$75 per night (which includes a continental breakfast). RWU, located on scenic Mount Hope Bay in historic Bristol, Rhode Island, is twenty miles southeast of Providence and ten miles north of historic Newport. Major airlines land at T. F. Greene Airport, located ten miles south of Providence. Amtrak trains stop in Providence, and public buses connect Providence and Bristol. By car, Bristol is thirty minutes from Providence, one hour from Boston, and approximately four hours from New York City. For more detailed information on the symposium and a symposium registration form, see the flier included with this Bulletin.



If you have news to share — on your Lincoln or Civil War organization, activities, or studies — send it for inclusion in the next Bulletin to:

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