



THE LINCOLN FORUM BULLETIN

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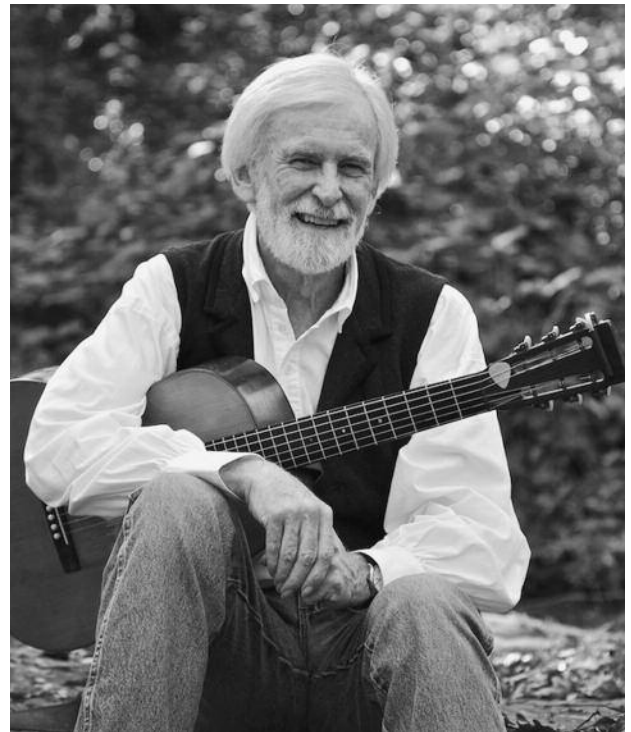
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'THE PEOPLE SAY LINCOLN'—WITH SESQUICENTENNIAL FOCUS ON 1864—TO BE THEME OF 19th ANNUAL LINCOLN FORUM SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 16-18 AT GETTYSBURG

The pivotal year of Abraham Lincoln's presidency—and, in many ways, in the life of the nation he so strongly believed must “live”—will be the focus of the 19th annual symposium of the Lincoln Forum when it reconvenes November 16-18 at the Wyndham Gettysburg. “The People Say Lincoln! Fighting for Political and Military Victory in 1864” marks year five of the Forum's six-year focus on the Civil War sesquicentennial.

Forum Chairman Frank J. Williams, in officially unveiling the 2014 schedule, noted: “As we approach the sesquicentennial anniversaries of the climactic political and military events of 1864 and 1865, we take special pleasure in offering one of the richest and most diverse programs in Forum history, featuring another stellar roster of favorite veteran presenters and historians making their Forum debuts. We will not only cover the all-important 1864 presidential campaign—arguably the most important election in U.S. history—and the bloody and agonizing military stalemates East and West, but also focus on the civilians, women, people of color, artists and musicians, and partisan newspaper powerhouses all caught up in or fanning the maelstrom. Seldom have we assembled such a brilliant faculty, and seldom have we set out to cover so many different facets of war, leadership, and citizenship in war-torn America.”

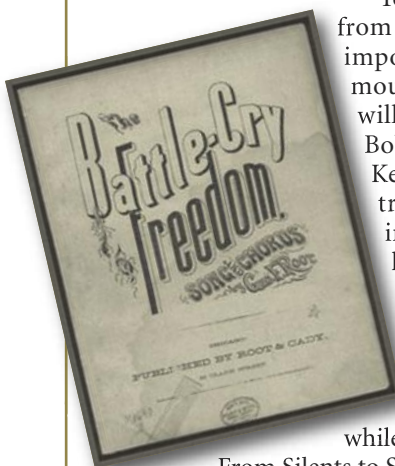


Bobby Horton

To fully convey a year filled not only with profound oratory and screams of agony from the battlefield, the symposium will make a special effort to shed light on the other important sights and sounds of 1864, including, for the first time, the rousing, mournful, and inspiring music of the campaign and campfire. To do so, The Forum will feature the long-awaited debut of Birmingham-born musician and musicologist Bobby Horton, who has produced and performed music for 16 PBS films, including Ken Burns' acclaimed documentaries *The Civil War* and *Baseball*. In lieu of the traditional closing-night banquet keynote, Horton will perform a multi-instrumental and vocal concert of Civil War music. Horton's talent and unmatched knowledge have been on display for more than three decades at performances around the country. Among his many CDs is a 14-volume set of authentic Civil War tunes, for which Horton played all the instruments and sang the vocals.

Additional after-dinner presentations will come from Forum leadership. Vice Chairman Harold Holzer will introduce his eagerly anticipated new book *Lincoln and the Power of the Press* with a major talk on the role of newspapers in 1864 politics, while Chairman Frank Williams will present an image-filled survey of “Lincoln on Film: From Silents to Spielberg.”

Craig L. Symonds and John F. Marszalek return for one of their acclaimed *continued on page 2*





MESSAGE
from the
CHAIR

THE CRITICAL YEAR

1864 was a difficult and painful year for President Lincoln. Military campaigns planned for both the East and West in the spring, with Ulysses S. Grant as General-in-Chief, began with great optimism. But by July 4, the two principal Union armies were bogged down in front of Richmond and Atlanta with 95,000 total casualties—three-fifths of the total casualties of the previous three years. Unhappily timed, President Lincoln, on July 18, called for 500,000 more volunteers warning that any deficiencies would be met by a new draft.

Copperheads—the Northern peace wing of the Democratic Party—and Confederates, beginning in mid-1864—mounted a largely successful disinformation campaign involving the issue of slavery, hoping to turn Northern sentiment against President Lincoln in the year he sought a second term. They were successful, too, as Lincoln was seen as intractable by continuing to insist on the end of hostilities, reunion and emancipation. Sudden military victories with the surrender of Atlanta to General William T. Sherman and General Phillip Sheridan’s victories in the Shenandoah Valley brought re-election to Abraham Lincoln. The vote was 2,200,000 for him and 1,800,000 against him. While a significant victory, the North remained a “house divided.” How else does one explain the 1.8 million votes against Lincoln? This is a large number who opposed the President and his administration and who desired peace—without emancipation.

Our Forum will examine this conundrum and many other aspects of this critical year.

As we know now – but with no way of knowing 150 years ago in the spring of 1864 - Lincoln would be inaugurated for a second term on March 4, 1865, by remaining committed to Union victory no matter the cost or how long it took. 📖

Frank J. Williams

‘THE PEOPLE SAY LINCOLN’—WITH SESQUICENTENNIAL FOCUS ON 1864

continued from page 1 joint lectures—in this case, “Sherman and Johnston at Atlanta and Beyond,” covering the signal military event of the year. And rising scholar Jonathan A. White of Christopher Newport University will speak on his own forthcoming book, offering new insights into the battle for the soldiers’ vote in the presidential campaign of 1864.

Forum favorite Catherine Clinton again visits from Northern Ireland to present a brand-new lecture on “Looking Backwards, Looking Forward: Women & The Civil War”. And Duke University Professor of African American Studies Thavolia Glymph will appear for the first time to discuss the extraordinary research and analysis behind her landmark study, “Disappeared: Enslaved Women in the Armies of the North.”

Of particular interest, Lewis Lehrman, historian, philanthropist, co-founder of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (GLI), and author of the critically hailed book *Lincoln at Peoria*, will deliver a lecture on his latest book, *Lincoln “By Little’s.”* Mr. Lehrman will also be on hand officially to accept when the GLI is presented with the Forum’s annual Wendy Allen Award, bestowed on institutions and organizations that have contributed outstandingly to the study of Lincoln and the Civil War. (Previous winners include Ford’s Theatre and The Lincoln Shrine in Redlands, CA.)

While additional individual speakers may still be

announced, the 2014 schedule will again feature two historians’ panels: a discussion of “Atlanta and the Wilderness: Lincoln and the Battles of 1864,” featuring last year’s audience favorites John Marszalek, Richard McMurry, and Craig Symonds, moderated by William C. (Jack) Davis; and “The Campaign of 1864 in Politics and Print,” with Thomas Horrocks, and Jonathan White, moderated by Matthew Pinsker.

And again, by popular demand, participating and visiting historians will gather for a group book and CD signing; renowned Lincoln enactors Jim Getty and George Buss will perform key Lincoln speeches and letters from the year 1864; and the Valley Forge Military Academy will provide a color guard. The first 48 participants to enroll will be given a guided bus tour of Gettysburg’s newest attraction, the Seminary Ridge Museum. Small-group breakout sessions will again offer enrollees the chance to interact in conversation with many of the scholars on the 2014 roster; and Frank Williams and Claude Rodier return to offer another of their popular joint presentations, “The Chief and the Chef.”

The winner of the annual Richard Nelson Current Award of Achievement will be announced at the symposium.

For more information, and registration instructions, members are invited to visit www.thelincolnforum.org. 📖



ELEANOR STODDARD, GRANDDAUGHTER OF LINCOLN'S PRIVATE SECRETARY, DIES A WEEK SHY OF HER 93rd BIRTHDAY

(Washington, D.C.)—Eleanor Holden Stoddard, the last surviving grandchild of Lincoln's White House secretary William Osborn Stoddard, died from complications of a stroke on January 7, 2014 at Chevy Chase House, where she had lived since April 2012. Born January 16, 1921 in Summit, N.J. to Eleanor Sanford Holden and Ralph Gordon Stoddard, she grew up in Madison, N.J. and attended Summitt's Kent Place School before earning a degree in economics from Vassar College in 1942.

In Ms. Stoddard's own words published in the 1992 Vassar 50th Reunion Book: "Like many of us, I benefitted from World War II in that I got my start in the marketplace with few credentials. As time went on I received a great psychological boost from the women's movement, which definitely increased my sense of my own value. Probably my chief satisfaction today is in studying social change and the forces that bring it about and trying to understand human motivation." Unlike many of her classmates, she chose a more adventurous and independent life. She turned down all seven proposals of marriage that came her way.

Professionally, Ms. Stoddard specialized in research, writing, and editing. Her distinguished career began during World War II. After graduation, Ms. Stoddard came to Washington, DC where she joined the Office of Price Administration, the federal agency that mandated rationing of consumer goods. Longing for adventure, she soon made her way to its bureau in Juneau, AK. By 1943, she had returned to Washington to work for the Quarter Master's Corps. For its Civilian Relief Department, she researched relief requirements for the United States Army to supply civilian populations in liberated areas of Europe and the Far East.

At the war's end, hired as a reporter and writer at TIME Magazine, she moved to New York. Next she worked in the advertising department at U.S. News and World Report and then in promotions for the journals of the American Chemical Society. She also worked for Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.


She returned to Washington, DC in 1955 to work as an editor for the National Science Foundation. In 1978, she was credited for her excellent work in planning the collection of data on government's social obligations for research and development funding in a collaborative report, *The Funding of Social Knowledge Production and Application: A Survey of Federal Agencies*, a four-year study published by the National Research Council. Eleanor Stoddard concluded her notable career with retirement in 1983.

Throughout her life, she held an absolute devotion to the importance of education. She became involved in tutoring Washington inner city youth and adults. Among them, she paid special attention to the doorman at her Chevy Chase apartment building who had never learned to read.

In 1983 she took a course on oral history. Shortly thereafter she originated a project to interview women who had served in the military, or as associates, during World War II. She spoke with 38 women who represented all branches of the armed services, military nurses, and the Red Cross. Her project's tapes and transcripts are available to the public at California State University, Long Beach Archives.

A published author, Ms. Stoddard researched and wrote, *Fearless Presence: The Story of Lt. Col. Nola Forrest, Who Led the Army Nurses Through Heat, Rain, Mud, and Enemy Fire in World War II*, published in 2007. The book documented the remarkable life and service of Lt. Col. Nola Forrest, director of Army nurses in the South Pacific Arena during World War II. Her biography chronicled Forrest's career spanning more 20 years of service in the U. S. Army

Nurse Corps and Forrest's unflinching bravery as she led nurses from two field hospitals into the Philippine island of Leyte under enemy attack. Forrest later conducted the dramatic and successful rescue of 67 Army nurses from a Japanese internment camp in Manila.

As perhaps the last living person to have met someone who knew Lincoln, Eleanor and her younger brother sat on their grandfather's lap as toddlers and playfully pulled at his beard before his death in August 1925. Ms. Stoddard later collaborated with Harold Holzer on the annotated version of her grandfather's autobiography *Lincoln's White House Secretary: The Adventurous Life of William O. Stoddard*, published in 2007. At a number of Mr. Holzer's lectures and events surrounding his work on the life of Lincoln, if the understated Ms. Stoddard was present in the audience, Holzer always introduced her as, "The hand that touched the hand that touched the hand of Abraham Lincoln." Memorial contributions may be made in her name to Scholarship/Vassar College Alumni Fund at www.vassar.edu/makeagift. 



Eleanor Stoddard during World War II, and below as Forum members will recall her from her memorable visits to our symposia.
(Photos Courtesy the Stoddard Family)



FORUM AWARDS TWO STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2013

By Tom Horrocks

Shannon Bogaski, a senior at Shoreham-Wading River High School in Shoreham, New York, and Ryan Connor, a senior at Lincoln High School in Lincoln, Rhode Island, were awarded scholarships by The Lincoln Forum to attend its annual symposium, which was held in Gettysburg on November 16-18, 2013. Ms. Bogaski has a strong interest in history, law, and political science. Very active in her community, she plans to join the United States Army ROTC program when she goes to college. After college, she hopes to attend law school and get a law degree so she can become a Judge Advocate General's Corps officer. Attending The Lincoln Forum symposium with her father, Ms. Bogaski was highly impressed with the friendliness of Lincoln Forum members and by the quality of the presentations: "The lectures...inspired me to learn more and confirmed my passion for history. Each lecture was unique...and provided me with new information about President Lincoln and the Civil War era."

Planning to major in history in college, Ryan Connor is currently president of his high school history club. Recently named an AP Scholar with Distinction, he is the recipient of the 2013 Herbert and Claiborne Pell Medal for United States History and the 2013 Harvard Book Prize. Like Shannon Bogaski, Ryan attended

The Lincoln Forum symposium with his father. Mr. Conner characterized the meeting as "a unique experience." And it was not just the scholarship that impressed him; the "background atmosphere was important." He, of course, is referring to the family-like ambiance that Lincoln Forum members find so attractive: "This welcoming family leapt at the opportunity to embrace new potential members...and I was welcomed as if I was an old friend, and not a new stranger. The friendly and familiar atmosphere served as an outstanding component of my experience at The Lincoln Forum."

This is the second year of The Lincoln Forum's Student Scholarship program. The program recognizes outstanding elementary and high school students who have demonstrated academic excellence as well as an avid interest in the life and career of Abraham Lincoln and in the Civil War. The scholarships enable the winners to attend Lincoln Forum meetings by covering registration, travel, and accommodation expenses. This year and last, two student scholarships were awarded. The Lincoln Forum would like to increase this number on an annual basis so that deserving students like Shannon Bogaski and Ryan Connor can take part in The Lincoln Forum experience. Lincoln Forum members can help make this happen. Please consider making a financial gift to The Lincoln Forum to strengthen this worthy program. 📌

THE LINCOLN FORUM 2013 TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

By Ruth Squillace

This was a rather exciting year for The Lincoln Forum, as we launched a new marketing campaign. With the help of distinguished Forum members, Wendy Allen and Elaine Henderson, The Forum was able to develop an advertisement, which was placed in the National Council for the Social Studies' publication, *Social Education*, as well as with online scholarship-based websites. This aided the Forum in broadening its outreach to educators throughout the country. In turn, we received applications from Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Additionally, our organization was able to expand its Teacher Scholarship Initiative by offering this prestigious and academically-rich opportunity to three worthy and talented educators.

Thomas Bruno is a third grade teacher from South Douglas Elementary School in Georgia. In 2009, he was selected as his school's Teacher of the Year and was a finalist for County Teacher of the Year for Douglas County Schools. Just last year, he had the opportunity to visit Springfield, Illinois, where he studied the life of Abraham Lincoln as a Horace-Mann Fellow. Of his experience at Lincoln Forum XVIII, Mr. Bruno said, "My visit to Gettysburg was an experience that I will hold in my heart for the rest of my life. Everyone at the Forum was very gracious and welcoming to me. I went into this opportunity with high expectations because I spent hours watching C-Span's coverage throughout the years, but my expectations were exceeded in every way." As a dedicated 3rd grade teacher, he found Michelle Krowl's presentation particularly helpful and he has since shared numerous Lincoln objects and documents made available through the Library of Congress with his students.

Sean Kennedy, an AP U.S. History and American Government teacher at Perryville High School in Baltimore, Maryland, has taught for the past 18 years at several Baltimore-area

schools and also worked for the Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. In addition to his work as an educator, he currently works part-time for United States Senator Barbara A. Mikulski and is active in Maryland politics. Mr. Kennedy, who enjoys sharing his passion for Civil War history with his students by taking them to Gettysburg's hallowed battleground each year, commented, "I think the fact that this Forum exists is simply incredible and my attendance gave me some serious credibility in my classroom." Inspired by John Stauffer's lecture, Mr. Kennedy is determined to create a lesson on The Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Matthew Salas, who has been teaching Social Studies and Language Arts for two years at Nuestros Valores High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, was the third scholarship recipient. He has also run a literacy program and worked for a non-profit, which provides mentoring, academic, and career guidance to high school students. In his opinion, what sets this teacher scholarship apart from others is that it provides educators the opportunity to take part in an extended event, as opposed to a single-day of curriculum development. "The Forum greatly helped me gain a deeper and broader understanding of the culture and complexities of the times. I feel I can better teach my students that Lincoln and the Civil War was more about changing a nation's culture towards race, slavery, and politics, as opposed to the simple narrative of freeing slaves."

As with all prior teacher scholars to date, this year's recipients expressed a commitment to returning to the Forum in the future, to broadening their knowledge-base concerning all-things Lincoln, and to becoming more involved with the community of fellow enthusiasts who welcomed them to the Lincoln Forum Family.

If you or a friend/colleague are interested in applying for a Lincoln Forum Teacher Scholarship, please refer to our website, which will provide you with application information. Deadline: June 30, 2014. 📌

ATTENTION BOOK LOVERS

Make your purchases at The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop through our website at www.thelincolnforum.org.

“LINCOLN, THE MOVIE AND THE MAN” SYMPOSIUM AT M. S. U.

By John F. Marszalek

The motion picture, *Lincoln*, was a major film event of 2012. Producer Steven Spielberg and screen writer Tony Kushner both received rave reviews for their work on this film. The Lincoln Forum thought this motion picture was significant enough to show it the evening before its 2012 annual meeting and, in 2013, to present to screen writer Kushner its prestigious Richard Nelson Current Award.

The airing of the film in theaters around the nation and later its publication in DVD form has resulted in a great deal of conversation in the United States and overseas. Both Lincoln scholars and enthusiasts flocked to see the film and evaluate its authenticity, accuracy, and dramatic effectiveness.

In Starkville, Mississippi, the home of Mississippi State University and the Ulysses S. Grant Association's Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library, the film played to packed houses, and the Grant Presidential Library received numerous inquiries about it.

Two key figures who saw the film and had questions about it were the President of MSU, Dr. Mark Keenum, and first lady, Rhonda Keenum. In a discussion with MSU Libraries Dean Frances Coleman and her husband Tommy, John and Jeanne Marszalek, and Frank and Virginia Williams, Rhonda Keenum wondered how MSU could insure that as many of its students as possible saw the film. The discussion took place in MSU's Guest House, "Eckie's Cottage" while the four couples enjoyed one of Frank Williams's gourmet meals. (Williams was visiting MSU in late January 2013 to present the prestigious Collins Lecture in the Mitchell Memorial Library.)

By the time dinner was over, a decision had been made to have the Grant Presidential Library and the MSU Libraries organize a symposium on "Lincoln, the Movie and the Man." A committee consisting of Coleman, Marszalek, and Williams, met by conference call, and decisions were made on how to proceed. The Office of the President provided the funds for the event, and it was co-sponsored by the Grant Presidential Library, the MSU Libraries, the Shackhous Honors College, and the African-American Studies Program.

Plans were finalized during a late April MSU plane flight to the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas. (The Keenums, the Marszaleks, and Coleman were all invitees to the event.)

The September Symposium accomplished its aim: to educate MSU students, faculty members, staff, and community residents about Abraham Lincoln and his depiction in the motion picture. All parts of the symposium were taped for later distribution to elementary and high schools throughout the state of Mississippi.

The Symposium began on Monday evening September 23rd with a viewing of the film in a large auditorium on the MSU campus. The invited speakers were George Buss, a Lincoln Forum interpreter of Lincoln; Dr. John David Smith, endowed chair holder at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Dr. John F. Marszalek, executive director of the Grant Presidential Library; Dr. Stephen Middleton, director of the African American Studies Program; and Frank J. Williams, Lincoln Forum chair and president of the Ulysses S. Grant Association. At all the events, undergraduate student members of the Honors College and African American Studies program were ushers and introduced the speakers.

Tuesday, September 24th, began with the speakers panel to discuss the motion picture and answer questions from the audience.

Following the panel, there was an open house at the Grant Presidential Library, followed by a luncheon in the Templeton Music Museum in the Mitchell Memorial Library. MSU President Mark Keenum presented USGA President Frank Williams with a print of

Ulysses S. Grant holding an MSU cowbell, a traditional part of MSU history and lore. Frank Williams presented Keenum with a USGA check to be placed in the MSU Foundation for USGA future use. This ceremony displayed again the close relationship which has developed between MSU and USGA.

That afternoon, George Buss (aka Abraham Lincoln) held a press conference, answering questions from journalist Sid Salter and the audience. John David Smith spoke about the United States Colored Troops; John Marszalek discussed the relationship between Lincoln and U.S. Grant; and Stephen Middleton analyzed Lincoln and the thirteenth amendment. That evening, Frank Williams, using video clips, discussed how motion pictures from *Birth of a Nation* to *Abraham Lincoln*, *Vampire Slayer* and Stephen Spielberg's *Lincoln* depicted the nation's sixteenth president.

MSU students reacted well to the event, with the Forum's own George Buss in costume stopping traffic around campus. The speakers and the audiences found the motion picture to be an excellent presentation of the last months of Lincoln's presidency and the Symposium an effective teaching tool. 📖

I Went to See Lincoln

By Robert Taylor

*I Went to see Lincoln today, don't suppose
he'll give me another chance to have my say.
The man's truly great... filled with wit and wisdom,
the sort of person you either like or hate... or like to hate.*

*It's true, Lincoln loves to spin a yarn, likes to hold the fort,
he's often hurt when you tell him what you thought,
especially when an opinion isn't sought,
I just had to sit there and let him beguile me with his talk.*

*Today it was Lincoln I went to see. I wished to
discover the real character of the man... opened up there before me.
He was most courteous, willingly opened his heart for all,
showed us the darker side... trapped in his moment of history
stolen moments now set free.*

*He's hard its true... carries a huge burden... yet
in that eye... there's a strange kind of softness set.
His shoulders rounded, hair unkempt... both belie
the real character of the man... but he's not
what you might think a President should be, at least not to me.*

*I'm afraid there's too much made of his slavery wishes,
too much of the bunting and tinsel,
not enough of the real man who would have war still
and who would ignore... the travesty of his ways.*

*It was a dark day, rain thundered on the roof, echoed in the loft
but Day-Lewis would have his way... and what he saw to portray.
I thank him for it, he revealed another side to me... but not the travesty,
not the blind eye, that other eye... not so soft.
I went to see Lincoln today... but I don't think he saw me. 📖*

LINCOLN FORUM



Betty Anselmo & Jerry Desko



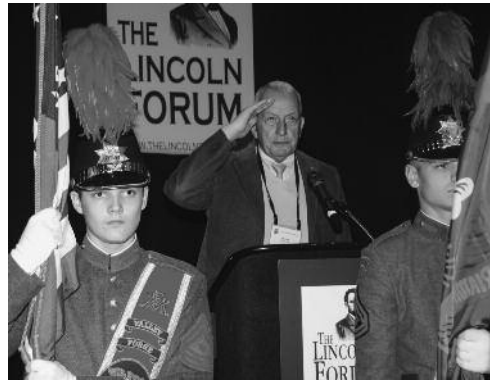
Patricia & James M. McPherson & Frank J. Williams (center)



Carol Becker & Russ Weidman



Harold Holzer, James M. McPherson, Jared Peatman, & Martin P. Johnson



Frank J. Williams & Color Guard



Wendy Allen & Elaine Henderson



Dr. Alice Hinsley & Toni Tolbert



Jack Davis & Dave Walker



Craig & Marylou Symonds, & John Fabian Witt (center)



Harold Holzer & Frank J. Williams



George Buss & Tim Branscum



Jane & Martin Waligorski



Jack Davis & Jeff Shaara



Albert Anselmo & Ron Robinson



Harold Holzer, Tony Kushner, & Edith Holzer



Buzz Carnahan, John Eliff, & Roger Billings

XVIII MEMORIES



Joe Card & Craig Symonds



Frank J. Williams, Jack Davis, Craig Symonds, John Marszalek, & Richard McMurry



Edna Greene Medford



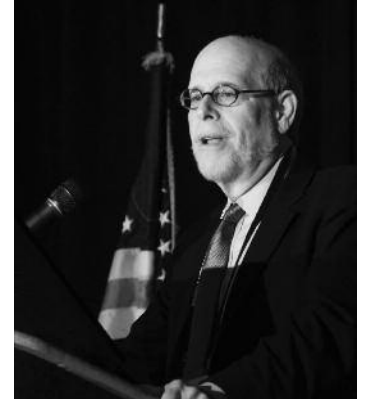
Henry F. Ballone & Betty Anselmo



Barnet Schecter



James Getty



Harold Holzer



Harold & Edith Holzer



Tom Horrocks, Jim Santagata, & John Marszalek



Linda Platt, Tony Kushner, & Annette Westerby



Frank J. & Virginia Williams



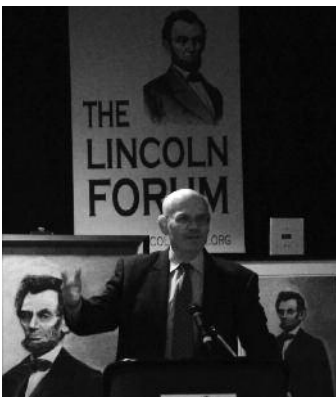
Steve Koppelman & Walter Stahr



Jeanne Marszalek & Jane Waligorski



Edith Holzer & Sandra Davis



James Oakes



Bob Lenz & Bob Willard



John Stauffer



Harold Holzer, Tony Kushner, & Frank J. Williams

JOHN STAUFFER VOTED BEST FORUM XVIII SPEAKER, 2013 SYMPOSIUM RATED A SUCCESS

By Jerry Desko

The Eighteenth Annual Lincoln Forum Symposium was a resounding success—as expressed by the opinion of 130 attendees (40% of the total) who filled out evaluation forms. Kudos were given to speakers and panelists, the conference accommodations, the food service, The Lincoln Forum staff and most importantly you, the Forum members and attendees.

In regards to the numerical ratings, the 2013 Symposium, the hotel and the meals all received an over ninety percent approval.

One evaluator stated: “Attendees are very friendly & welcoming,” while another commented: “Always a pleasure to come—enjoy the camaraderie with members!” Our folks are not only personable but as another put it, “it was very nice to meet such interesting and intelligent attendees who share a love of Lincoln and history!”

“Another great Lincoln Forum!” yet another attendee remarked, while another wrote, “The Forum is always excellent and very well run.” The opinion of one member was: “This is the absolute highlight of my *history related* year! Your recipe is magic!”

As far as speakers were viewed, Harvard’s John Stauffer rated a stellar 9.8 on a scale of 1 to 10, making him last year’s top-ranked speaker. His illustrated talk on “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” and its variations and uses by disparate people struck a chord with many listeners (What pun?). Michelle Krowl, Walter Stahr, John Fabian Witt, and Tony Kushner also received ratings over 9.

Both panel discussions were rated high. Highest ranking went to “the North, South, East, West” theater of war discussion moderated by Frank Williams with panelists William C. “Jack” Davis, John Marszalek, Richard McMurry, and Craig Symonds. They rated a 9.7. Evaluators enjoyed the point-counterpoint, intelligent insights,

and humor of the panelists. They felt it provided a more relaxed and refreshing atmosphere in which to learn.

The educational and entertaining performances of Lincoln impersonators, James Getty and George Buss were highly rated at 9.4. The breakout sessions were very popular with attendees while Dining Inside the White House III received many superlatives in the evaluations.

As is customary for such a large event, not all was perfect. While the book signing was enjoyed by many, it was a bit cramped. Meals in general were rated favorably but some preferred other options for breakfast. These matters will be addressed in preparation for the 2014 Forum. I think these opinions reflect the large and diverse population of The Lincoln Forum family.

The staff of the Forum strives to give its members the best educational, intellectual and enjoyable forum as possible. To that end we do value your feedback. There was a 40% return for evaluation forms which is considered good; however we think a higher return would benefit all.

I will close with a quote from one of our attendees. I believe it reflects our commitment to provide a quality product and also reflects on your dedication and loyalty to our organization. “For a 1st time tag-a-long who really came in with a desire to see Gettysburg (but no real interest in delving into Civil War history) and a deep admiration and respect for Abraham Lincoln (having been born & raised in Illinois) I didn’t imagine in my wildest expectations that I would leave here with a real desire to learn & experience more - all because of the quality of the presentations, the knowledge and personalities of the presenters - and the diversity of the Forum members. What a positive experience all around! Kudos to a job exceptionally well done. :)”

LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT LONG ISLAND SYMPOSIUM

Social Studies teacher and Lincoln Forum Board of Advisors member Ruth Squillace was awarded a \$5,500 grant from the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation to support the development of “The Living Lincoln Symposium,” which will be held at the Shoreham-Wading River High School in Shoreham, New York in eastern Long Island on October 10, 2014 from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lincoln authors Joseph Fornieri, Harold Holzer, and Frank Williams, and celebrated Lincoln Artist, Wendy Allen, are scheduled to speak. The symposium is intended for both the school’s eleventh grade U. S. History students and guests from the historical community. Participants will be invited to view Abraham Lincoln through a variety of lenses and encouraged to examine our 16th President as ever the contemporary and relevant subject.

Created by Congress and the President of the United States in 2000, the original Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission worked from 2001 to 2010 to plan and organize the national celebration of Lincoln’s 200th birthday in 2009. It was

succeeded by the current Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation, which supports and encourages the study and appreciation of Lincoln—particularly during the current, ongoing Civil War Sesquicentennial, which lasts until 2015. The Foundation awards monetary grants and endorsements to schools, not-for-profit organizations, state and local historic agencies, historic homes, tourism consortia, and other groups to help them pursue research, education, high-tech digitization of historical records, and preservation projects, as well as to encourage and support scholarly conferences, public programs, and civic engagement around the Lincoln theme.

For those interested in attending, 100 seats will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis to college history departments from Long Island institutions, as well as members of historical organizations including, but not limited to The Lincoln Forum. Please contact Ruth Squillace at rsquillace@swr.k12.ny.us for additional information and to reserve a seat.

To receive e-mail updates about The Lincoln Forum and other Lincoln news, enter your email address to our automated email system on our home page at: www.thelincolnforum.org

TEACHER INSPIRED BY LINCOLN ATTENDS FIRST FORUM

By Ron Daniel for the *Douglas County (Georgia) Sentinel*

South Douglas Elementary School third-grade teacher Thomas Bruno, Jr., was among the crowd of several thousand who went to Gettysburg, Pa., on Nov. 19 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the famous speech by Abraham Lincoln.

The United States Marine Band played “God Bless America,” top scholars on America’s 16th president and dignitaries including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia read remarks. And at precisely the same time Lincoln started his speech in 1863, a re-enactor read the same 272 words that begin with the infamous “Four score and seven years ago.”

“It was amazing,” said Bruno, who remembers the cold Pennsylvania air being bone-chilling for most of the day.

For Bruno, the Gettysburg celebration came at the end of a prestigious trip where he got to engage with the foremost authorities on the man who has been a hero to him since he was about the same age as his students at South Douglas.

Bruno was one of three teachers from across the country selected to attend the 18th annual Lincoln Forum in Gettysburg as a teacher-in-residence. The trip was all expenses paid and was the third academic trip Bruno has been on involving Lincoln. He has been to Springfield, Ill., home to many Lincoln landmarks including his presidential library and his burial site, and also previously visited Gettysburg. James McPherson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and noted historian, gave keynote remarks on Dedication Day, the formal name for the annual observance of the Gettysburg Address since 1938.

Bruno said McPherson talked about how much different the world might be today if Lincoln hadn’t fought to keep the nation united during the Civil War. “If Abraham Lincoln hadn’t lived, we probably wouldn’t have been strong enough to stand up to Nazi Germany,” Bruno recalls McPherson saying during his speech.

Bruno has a library in his home with over 60 books about Lincoln, several pictures and other artifacts. On the desk in his portable classroom at South Douglas, a bobble-head doll of Lincoln sits among the papers and books. Bruno, a New Orleans native who moved to west Georgia after his home was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, got addicted to history, reading and specifically Lincoln at an early age.

“The very first book I read I can still remember,” Bruno said. “I was in second grade and it was a biography on Abraham Lincoln.” The third-grade curriculum doesn’t have a unit on Lincoln, but Bruno has been creative in finding ways to teach his students about his hero. As part of his English lesson, Bruno has his students read chapter books about Lincoln. And during a social studies unit on Frederick Douglass, the freed slave who was a leader in the abolitionist movement, Bruno talks to his students about the friendship Lincoln and Douglass had.

After Lincoln’s second inauguration, Bruno said Douglass went to the White House and at first wasn’t allowed in. But Bruno said that didn’t sit well with the president. “He said, ‘Let my friend in,’” said Bruno.

Bruno said Lincoln was born in Kentucky, but since it was a slave state, Lincoln’s father, who didn’t approve of slavery, moved the family to Indiana, which was anti-slavery.

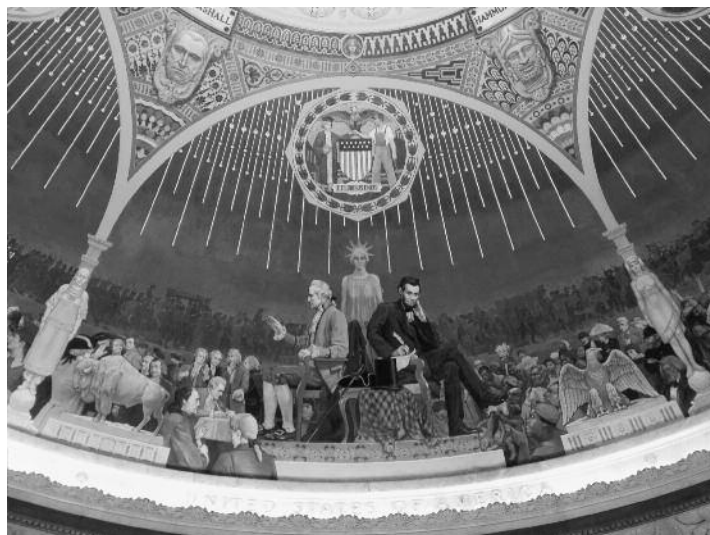
He said Lincoln hauled hogs down the Mississippi River on a flatboat when he was about 22 or 23 and witnessed his first slave auction in New Orleans. “When you tell kids stories, that makes it come alive,” Bruno said.

He said his students, especially the boys, are fascinated when he tells them about how after Lincoln was assassinated, the president’s body was brought back to the White House for an

autopsy. He said the top of Lincoln’s skull was taken off to weigh his brain and that the bullet that killed him fell out during the autopsy. While that sort of trivia is fun, Bruno also uses Lincoln’s life story to inspire his students.

In an essay he wrote that led to his selection to attend the Lincoln Forum, Bruno talks about how his students identify with Lincoln because of the many hardships he faced in his life. He also tells his students about how Lincoln had one year of formal education, taught himself to read and persevered. “He came from nothing and became the President of the United States,” said Bruno. 📖

LINCOLN—AND FRIEND— IN NEW YORK



LINCOLN—AND FRIEND—IN NEW YORK (Photo: Brian J. Ballone)

How many New Yorkers know that Abraham Lincoln is heroically portrayed in town not only in Union Square Park (standing sculpture), at Cooper Union (paintings and busts), and in the midtown Lincoln Building (gilded bust, now removed from lobby and on view in a law firm upstairs)—but also at State Supreme Court at 60 Centre Street. Henry Ballone’s son, Brian, was visiting there recently when he spotted this giant fresco of Lincoln, sitting back to back with his hero, George Washington, adorning the inside of the lobby’s richly painted and beautifully restored dome. Interestingly, Washington is shown merely orating, while Lincoln is seen writing what is evidently the Emancipation Proclamation, as slaves, along with free men and women, look on. Among them are Union soldiers and even Frederick Douglass (bottom right), another famous New Yorker, albeit of the upstate variety. 📖

The Lincoln Forum Bulletin welcomes contributions from members and historians—articles and photos alike. Send to editor Harold Holzer at harold.holzer@metmuseum.org. The editor particularly thanks the contributors to the current issue.

LINCOLN'S DEATH WATCH?

By Paul Mellen

In March of 2012, I purchased a gold pocket watch on e-Bay which was engraved to a relatively unknown Civil War Paymaster named Major Jonathan Ladd of Lowell, Massachusetts. This watch became the catalyst that motivated me to research the storied life of Jonathan Ladd—and his uncanny, intriguing relationship to Civil War violence, including the death of Abraham Lincoln.



Watch Inscription: The engraving on the watch reads: "Presented To Paymaster Ladd By the Officers of 2nd C.V.A. March 1864"--- (Author)

Digging into the National Archives in Washington, I retrieved a letter that Ladd wrote to Senator Henry Wilson, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, in which he articulated his initiative to protect President Lincoln and the national capital.

On April 15, 1861, President Lincoln called for volunteers and Ladd gained appointment as Massachusetts master of transportation by Governor John A. Andrew. Ladd immediately traveled to the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, where he was headquartered, and made plans to dispatch Massachusetts regiments to Washington.

Ladd wasted no time in transporting the 6th Massachusetts to Washington under direct orders from both Lincoln and Andrew. Unfortunately, he had no choice but to use the B & O Railroad, which required the troops to disembark and march through the streets of belligerent Baltimore. This city was already well known for its hostility toward Lincoln, who had stealthfully passed through Baltimore on the final leg of his inaugural train ride to Washington. At that time, Lincoln's security advisor Allan Pinkerton was concerned about an assassination plot by Lincoln's enemies there. Pro-southern sentiments abounded in Maryland, one of the nation's 15 slave states, which earned it the reputation as an anti-Lincoln, anti-union, anti-northern, pro-slavery bastion of southern sympathizers. Undoubtedly, pro-Lincoln men lived in Maryland, too, but they remained silent in fear of the secessionists.

Baltimore also had an inconvenient city ordinance which

prohibited railroad steam engines from traveling within city limits. This made Ladd's 6th Massachusetts regiment vulnerable to mob violence, since tracks from the north ended at one of the city's depots, requiring passengers to cross town and pick up southbound trains at a different station. Horses had to tow slow-moving railcars filled with Union troops from President Street Station east of the city to Camden Station ten blocks west. On April 19, 1861, a secessionist mob halted the procession and forced Ladd's troops onto Pratt Street, where they were assaulted and fired upon. Sadly, Jonathan Ladd's first cousin, Luther Ladd, was killed on Pratt Street and thus became the first casualty of the Civil War—exactly 86 years after the first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord.

Shortly after learning of the death of Luther Ladd and the carnage of the Baltimore riot, Lincoln called on Governor Andrew to send an additional 1,200 Massachusetts troops to Washington. Lincoln was fearful of a Rebel advance across the Potomac from Virginia, which had seceded a few days earlier on April 17. In a letter to Senator Wilson, Ladd described how he was denied transportation for his Massachusetts 5th regiment by a member of General Winfield Scott's staff in New York. He wrote: "Tompkins informed me he had no authority to furnish transportation for 1200 troops and could not furnish it. I then on my own responsibility and in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts chartered the steamships Ariel and DeSoto and put upon them the troops and their subsistence and started them on their way to Washington... I have continued in the service of my country ever since."

Ladd's connection with the Massachusetts 5th was immortalized in Steven Spielberg's movie, *Lincoln*, which opens with a conversation between Corporal Ira Clark, an African-American soldier from the Massachusetts 5th, speaking to Lincoln about the inequity of pay for "colored" troops. To those who know the full history of the 5th, this poignant moment brings together Ladd's association with the regiment and his responsibilities as Paymaster.

In 1864, Jonathan Ladd played a vital role in the reorganization of the army of the Potomac under General Winfield Scott Hancock, who had recently recovered from wounds sustained at the Battle of Gettysburg. General Ulysses Grant entrusted Hancock to expand the army of the Potomac to strike a final blow to the Confederate military force in the Shenandoah Valley. Ladd was assigned to pay bounties and organize recruits for the 2nd Connecticut Volunteer Heavy Artillery (2nd C.V.A.) under the command of Colonel Elisha Kellogg. *continued on page 12*



Deathbed scene (loc.gov)

LINCOLN'S LEGAL GEM - THE 1863 CONKLING LETTER

By Burrus M. Carnahan

At the end of August 1863 President Lincoln wrote his famous “public letter” to Illinois politician James C. Conkling. In the wake of Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, Conkling had invited the President to return to Springfield, Illinois, to address a mass rally of “unconditional Union men” on September third. The press of official duties prevented Lincoln from leaving Washington. As an alternative, on August 26 he sent Conkling a letter to be read aloud to the meeting, defending his conduct of the war and, in particular, his Emancipation Proclamation.

The 1600-word Conkling letter was not a literary masterpiece on the order of the Gettysburg Address or the Second Inaugural. In the last third of the document Lincoln uncharacteristically descended to the use of clichés and Victorian purple prose, including references to the “sunny South,” and to the US Navy as “Uncle Sam’s webbed feet.” Politically, however, the letter was a major influence on state elections in the fall of 1863. After the Springfield mass meeting, the Republican party circulated the letter widely in a campaign pamphlet. Lincoln biographers David Herbert Donald and Michael Burlingame both believe the Conkling letter helped Republicans win crucial votes in Ohio, where the Peace Democrat Clement Vallandigham was running for governor, and in Pennsylvania, where the Republican governor was narrowly re-elected.

In one key paragraph of the Conkling letter, the President defended the legality of the Emancipation Proclamation as follows:

You dislike the emancipation proclamation; and, perhaps, would have it retracted. You say it is unconstitutional—I think differently. I think the constitution invests its Commander-in-chief, with the law of war, in time of war. The most that can be said, if so much, is, that slaves are property. Is there—has there ever been—any question that by the law of war, property, both of enemies and friends, may be taken when needed? And is it not needed whenever taking it, helps us, or hurts the enemy? Armies, the world over, destroy enemies’ property when they cannot use it; and even destroy their own to keep it from the enemy. Civilized belligerents do all in their power to help themselves, or hurt the enemy, except a few things regarded as barbarous or cruel. Among the exceptions are the massacre of vanquished foes, and non-combatants, male and female.

While this 150-word paragraph has been largely ignored by historians, it is a minor gem of clear, succinct legal argument.

In plain language, the President explained to ordinary Americans how the Emancipation Proclamation was justified under the law of war. Lincoln’s position that as commander in chief of the army and navy he had the power to act under “the law of war, in time of war,” was supported by weighty legal authority. The doctrine that in wartime the president could constitutionally authorize any military measure permitted by the international laws and customs of war originated with Supreme Court Justice Joseph Storey, one of the greatest American legal minds in the first half of the nineteenth century. Later, former president John Quincy Adams repeatedly invoked the same argument in congressional debates on whether the federal government could emancipate slaves as a war measure. Even President Lincoln’s main judicial opponent, Chief Justice Roger Taney, had declared in an 1849 decision that the governor of Rhode Island could use all means authorized by the law of war to suppress a rebellion in that state.

Having based his position on the law of war, the President then argued that the rules and principles of the law of war justified freeing enslaved persons under Confederate control. Like a good trial lawyer, Lincoln based his argument on his opponents’ own assumption that

slaves were property, and nothing more, entitled to no rights as human beings. Even if that were the case, there had never been “any question that by the law of war, property, both of enemies and friends, may be taken when needed? And is it not needed whenever taking it, helps us, or hurts the enemy?” Offering freedom to slaves under Confederate control was a way of taking property to hurt the enemy’s war effort, and since many of these freedmen were willing to fight for the Union, as Lincoln pointed out later in the letter, freeing them would also “help us.”

Although he never used the term, Lincoln was actually appealing to the customary international legal principle of military necessity. Francis Lieber, a contemporary American expert on the law of war, and an advisor to Lincoln administration officials, stated that military necessity justified governments at war in taking any “measures which are indispensable for securing the ends of the war, and which are lawful according to the modern law and usages of war.” Lincoln may have avoided the phrase “military necessity” because it was a technical legal term, easily subject to misunderstanding. In practice, countries at war have not taken literally the terms “necessity” or “indispensable.” Historically, military necessity has justified almost any action that, as Lincoln phrased it, hurts the enemy or helps the side taking the action, except for acts prohibited by specific rules of law, such as the use of poisoned weapons.

President Lincoln knew that opponents of the Emancipation Proclamation had at least one other legal argument against it, an argument based on the very wartime customs to which the President was also appealing. While history provided many examples of armies taking or destroying property to either help themselves or hurt the enemy, these historical examples only occurred after the property had come into the physical control of the army in question. (At a minimum, in the case of enemy property destroyed by artillery, it had to be within the range of the guns.) Similarly, while European and Latin American military commanders had often offered freedom to their enemies’ slaves, these offers only applied to enslaved persons who had actually reached areas under the control of the emancipating armies.

Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation claimed to go far beyond these precedents. It recognized the immediate freedom of all persons held as slaves in Confederate controlled territory. In this respect, critics could credibly argue, the Emancipation Proclamation violated the established laws and customs of war. Lincoln offered a subtle response to this argument in the last two sentences of the paragraph. “Civilized belligerents” the President noted, “do all in their power to help themselves, or hurt the enemy, except a few things regarded as barbarous or cruel.” Perhaps recalling the deaths of non-combatants during the 1862 Sioux uprising, he noted that among these exceptions were “the massacre of vanquished foes, and non-combatants, male and female.”

The President’s larger point, however, challenged his critics to demonstrate that there was a specific rule of law prohibiting belligerents from recognizing the immediate freedom of enslaved persons still under enemy control. In the absence of such a rule, as commander in chief he was free under the law of war to do all in his power to help the Union or hurt the Confederacy, including recognition of immediate freedom for an oppressed people.

Early in his presidency, Abraham Lincoln freely admitted he knew little about the law of war, telling Congressman Thaddeus Stevens, “I don’t know anything about the law of nations.” By 1863, however, he had so thoroughly mastered the law of war that in one short paragraph of the Conkling letter he defended the legality of emancipation in a well-reasoned and sophisticated application of that law. More remarkably, he did this in plain language that could be understood as common sense by ordinary Americans. 📖

LINCOLN'S DEATH WATCH?

continued from page 10 From archival letters and regimental history, it was learned that Ladd was presented with a gold pocket watch by Colonel Elisha Kellogg for his success in preparing the 2nd C.V.A. for deployment to the Second Brigade, First Division, VI Corps.

The 2nd C.V.A. went on to fight in the Battle of Cold Harbor in June 1864. Tragically, more than 323 of Ladd's men were killed or wounded there, including Colonel Kellogg, who suffered two bullets to the head. Because the 2nd C.V.A. was newly formed, battle reports mentioned that the men's pristine uniforms were distinguished on the battle field and magnified the horror of death and destruction. This June, we remember the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Cold Harbor, which claimed the lives of over 10,000 men.

Major Jonathan Ladd served the entire Civil War as Paymaster, and astonishingly, ended his wartime career at President Lincoln's deathbed on April 15, 1865. No one is sure why Ladd turned up on the scene of this historic event, but he was well known in Washington. Ladd was not only related to former Vice President Hannibal Hamlin, but was a first cousin to Connecticut Senator Lafayette Sabine Foster, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate. Had the assassins been successful in their plot to kill not only Lincoln but also Secretary of State William H. Seward and Vice President Andrew Johnson, Ladd's first cousin would have become President of the United States.

Most historians do not realize the uncanny connection between Paymasters and the assassination of President Lincoln. For example, William T. Kent, a clerk in the Paymaster's Office, provided the knife that Dr. Leale used to cut open Lincoln's clothing shortly after he was shot at Ford's Theatre. Kent also retrieved the derringer that Booth used to shoot the President. While all this was happening, yet another Paymaster, Major Joseph Potter, was assisting Major Henry Rathbone, who was wounded at the theater by



Watch face set to 7:22 (author)

Booth's dagger. Major Potter is known to history as the man who escorted Major Rathbone, Clara Harris, and Mary Lincoln over to Peterson House. The next morning, Jonathan Ladd was present at Lincoln's deathbed—but why? We know that General Henry Burnett, a judge advocate assigned to the Lincoln assassination investigation, later confirmed that Ladd was among the witnesses who surrounded Lincoln's bedside at the time of his death at 7:22 on the morning of April 15. That confirmation begs another fascinating question: did the Ladd pocket watch I bought on e-Bay perhaps record Lincoln's time of death?

(Paul Mellen, a business communications consultant, new member of the Forum, and avid watch collector, lives in Duxbury, MA. For more information about the subject of this article, visit the website www.majorjonathanladd.com)

DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN OBSERVED

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 15th April 2014: 149th death anniversary of Abraham Lincoln has been observed in Bangladesh today by paying homage to three of the great leaders of all time, Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. These Great Leaders sacrificed their lives for the well being of their countrymen and contributed largely to establish the true meaning of independence and democracy. The death anniversary program was organized by Abraham Lincoln Society of Bangladesh and ALSB President Zahurul Haque announced the plan for organizing an International Exhibition and Seminar on the life and works of Abraham Lincoln,

Mahatma Gandhi and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in mid August 2014. Mr. Haque mentioned that Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, International Lincoln Center of USA and Mahatma Gandhi Foundation in India will be invited to co-organize this great event. Held at the conference room of Pinnacle Resource at Dhaka, the death anniversary program was presided over by FOA Bangladesh President Mr. Md. Giasuddin Khan and attended by a good number of Lincoln's followers in Bangladesh. The program was held in cooperation with the U. S. Bangladesh Foundation and Friends of America.

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