THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

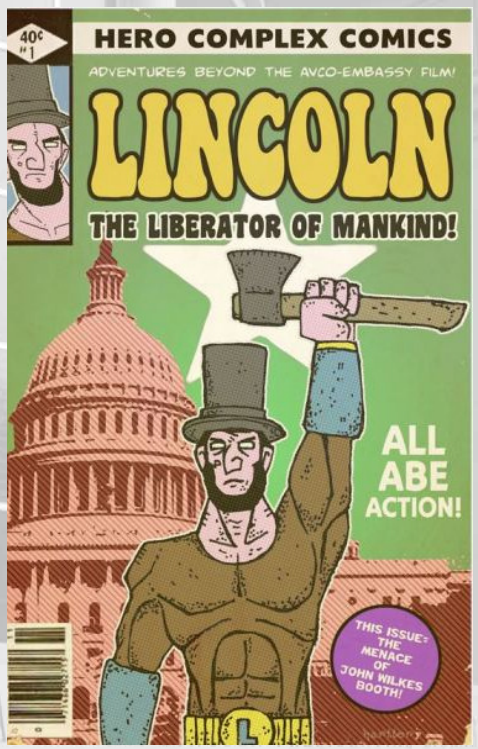
THE BROADSIDE

Volume 1, Issue 3 May 2012 www.presidentlincoln.org

Iconic representations of Abraham Lincoln have been a part of our culture since the 1860s. We're familiar with the bronze, marble, and stone statues of Leonard Volk, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Daniel Chester French, and Gutzon Borglum. The 19th century portrait artists G.P.A. Healy and Francis Bicknell Carpenter have rendered Lincoln in oil for posterity, and through the photographs of Alexander Hessler, Alexander Gardner, and Mathew Brady, Lincoln is alive and well and living in our museums and history textbooks.

Today, another generation of artists has staked their claim to our 16th President and made him more accessible and identifiable to young people. The illusive Banksy's representation of Lincoln pushing a shopping cart in post-Hurricane New Orleans, and the graphic Nuclear President and Liberator of Mankind drawn by American illustrator Sean Hartter appear below as modern-day examples of Lincoln's continued influence.

Whether thought-provoking, humorous, kitschy, controversial, sensational, or a mash-up of pop culture, Lincoln's image continues as a societal constant. Adapted as professional scholar, arm chair history, street graffiti, or comic book art, Abraham Lincoln belongs to us all.



Director's Corner

Among the few First Ladies who experienced the assassinations of their husbands, Mary Lincoln's life is the most tragic. Rare among women of her time, she was deeply interested in politics and issues. She rejoiced with her husband when he was nominated, and when he became president she was ecstatic. If arriving at the Executive Mansion was the high point of her life, the low point certainly was facing a jury of her husband's peers having been accused of insanity by her only living son. Twelve men found her insane and she was immediately sent to "be cured" at a sealed rest home in Batavia.

How would Mary fare today? Would she face a jury? Would she be found insane? What proof would be required? Why did Robert her only living son seek her confinement in a rest home? Would that resolution be possible now? Are there two sides or more to this story?

Multiple interpretations of the evidence of Mary Lincoln's insanity will be discussed and debated by public school teachers, historians, lawyers, and mental health professionals. Working together they will produce a curriculum featuring primary material including: Mary's letters to friends, news accounts of the trial, bills for household goods and expensive jewelry and dresses, and Robert Todd Lincoln's testimony against his mother. What should students believe? Who is telling the truth? What happened in the courtroom? Would such a trial take place today? While students may never think as historians do, they will seek to challenge misconceptions about how we come to understand the past. Students using this curriculum will confront different historical accounts of the trial, of Mary's behavior, of Robert's behavior. Students may become primary investigators and more critical of primary sources.

Susie Morrison, Deputy Superintendant of the Illinois State Board of Education has awarded a grant to the ALPLM and the Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission (ISCHPC) to hold a three day workshop from June 18-20. Teachers from every section of Illinois will be challenged to develop varied curricula models from Mary's tragic story.

Was Mary's obsessive love of clothing and jewelry a sign of mental illness or was she reflecting her status as the widow of the President? This workshop will study Mary and her times. Unusually interested in politics, why did she not seek the vote? Why did she not have control of her own financial resources? What psychological resources were available to treat depression, or as it was known in the 19th century, melancholia?

On the first day of the workshop participants will learn about the limitations placed upon the most educated women in the 19th century. They will view the U.S. Constitution and state Constitutions from a female perspective. They will examine the mental health codes from the perspective of those who had been incarcerated for mental illness. And they will debate the appropriate role of the state in the care and treatment of those who cannot care for themselves. During the workshop Mary's life will be studied: from the time she was a youthful belle of Lexington; her place as an aspiring wife and matron in Springfield; her White House triumphs; and her painful widowhood. On the final day of the workshop attendants will examine the insanity trial itself and plan a retrial.

Among the historians participating in the three day workshop are: Jean Baker, a leading biographer of Mary Lincoln; Holly Kent, UIS professor of women's studies and 19th century American history; Gwen Jordan, legal studies at UIS and Bryon Andreasen, ALPLM historian. Among the attorneys and judges who are participating are: Justice Anne Burke; Justice Rita Garman; Judge Ron Spears; Judge Carol Pope; Scott Szala; Kerry Peck; and Diane Beedy, ISBE Statewide Professional Development Coordinator, who will coordinate the workshop.

The workshop will be recorded and available on the ALPLM web site and the ISCHPC web site.

Amy Martin new Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Director

After an eight month search, Amy Martin has been selected by the IHPA Board of Trustees as new IHPA Director. Amy comes to IHPA from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) where she served as the Assistant Deputy Director for Regional Outreach and managed a team of economic development professionals throughout the state. From 2010-2011, she was also the State Coordinator of the Illinois Main Street Program and helped revitalize the program while working closely with IHPA Preservation Services Division. Ms. Martin will assume her new duties May 16.

"I'm looking forward to joining the Historic Preservation Agency," said Martin. "It's important that we continue to encourage tourism and education at our historic sites and museums, because the revenue that people generate when visiting our sites is especially important in these tough economic times."

Martin takes over from Acting Director Catherine Shannon, who has been leading the agency since September 2011. Shannon will return to her position as IHPA Deputy Director.

David Blanchette named Deputy Director of ALPLM

Long-time Communications Manager for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) David Blanchette, has been named the Deputy Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) effective May 16. IHPA Communications Manager since 1989 and for the agency-operated ALPLM since its inception, Dave has also been Communications Manager for the Illinois Capital Development Board since 2006 and the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission from 2007-2010. A broadcast journalist for eight years, Dave also received a 1987 Silver Dome Award from the Illinois Broadcasters Association.

"Dave is both a practical, pragmatic worker and a visionary. We will utilize all his talents as we continue to build the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum into a spectacular experience for all," said ALPLM Executive Director Eileen Mackevich.

Blanchette, 52, lives in Jacksonville with his wife, Kathy. They have two children and five grandchildren.

Those of us who have worked with Dave have long admired his work ethic and upbeat attitude. We wish him sincere congratulations.

Under His Hat: New Primary Source Website

What do the following items have in common: a photo of Willie Lincoln, a custard cup, a pearl ring, an effigy doll, and Abraham Lincoln's bloody gloves? These are just a few of the items included in the Lincoln Collection Digitization Project, a new educational resource using primary sources from the Horner and Taper Collections.

In an effort to connect and highlight these collections, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, through a grant from Archer Daniels Midland and Caterpiller, will soon launch a new educational website called *Under His Hat*. The site will offer digitized artifact photos grouped together under various themes with accompanying descriptions, stories, and suggested elementary, middle, and high school classroom activities.

The website will be appropriate for learners of all ages and will be accessible at www.presidentlincoln.org. Stay tuned for further launch details.

ALPLM Department Spotlight: Tech Department

Behind every good museum stands a masterful tech department. Few in number but mighty in deed and know-how, the ALPLM Technical Department is responsible for maintaining the daily behind-the-scenes operations that transform visitor's experience from the mundane to the exceptional. A jack-of-all-trades department, Sam Cooper, Jeff Nevins, and Tony LaMaster, along with Abby Davis, work long hours day and night when the Museum, as part of our outreach mission, features plays, films, musicians and speakers. In addition, the staff supports all internal and rental events and records all the podcasts broadcast from the ALPLM. Moreover, all the set pieces, the on-stage furniture that has to be assembled, moved, collapsed and stored, is designed and built by the tech staff. Set pieces for the Mary Surratt retrial and the productions of *Reunion*, *the Civil War*, *the Last of Mary Lincoln*, *Having Our Say*, *Lincolnesque*, *One Destiny*, and *Flight* were all designed and constructed by the ALPLM Tech Department. Not only do they design and build sets, but they also run the lighting and sound boards and shoot the video production of all shows produced at the ALPLM.

Set pieces built for Retrial of Mary Surratt

Lights in Union Theater

Every day the tech department performs maintenance on all the Museum's video, audio, and lighting components including: monitoring twelve video projectors that supply video from play back sources located in tucked-away control rooms; more than 15 streams of video sent to TV's and flat screens throughout the facility; and the installation of lighting, video and audio for all the ALPLM temporary exhibits. Typically, two hours each morning are spent performing standard start up duties and checks for each theater, a formidable task to undertake on a daily basis. And, most procedures must be completed in a certain order which determines whether the Museum design specifications are being met. In addition, safety checks are performed and rigging checks are completed, ensuring guest safety. On a regular basis, the rigging in Union Theater, over 25 pieces that move throughout the show, is inspected. Over the course of seven years, some rigging used in Union Theater has undergone constant use, having been moved over 210,000 times.

Video Cable Patch Panels in Union Theater

When the Museum opened its doors in 2005 its audio, visual and lighting equipment was brand new; but equipment, like anything else, has a standard shelf life. As components fail they must be replaced, and unfortunately most of the components are no longer available. Oftentimes, changing one nonfunctioning component requires changing several others due to different communication protocols between systems, something only the tech department can figure out. Without functioning video, audio, and lighting mechanisms, our visitors would find their museum experience a completely different experience. Keeping everything in working order and running smoothly is demanding and time consuming, but our versatile Tech Department makes it happen through their hard work, long hours, and commitment to the ALPLM. Thanks guys!

Tech Department Installs over 200 Light Emitting Diodes

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, with the assistance of two federal grants one administered by the Capital Development Board, has replaced its high-energy lighting with more efficient LED lighting. LEDs, have a lifespan of between 40,000 to 50,000 hours, according to the manufacture warranty. On the average, light emitting diodes are projected to save the Museum more than $45,000 per year and reduce energy consumption. LED lighting provides the same light levels as standard bulbs while producing less heat and ultraviolet light and using less energy. In addition, the LEDs produce less ultraviolet light, which will protect the museum's one-of-a-kind artifacts and murals.

Another Lincoln Discovery at NARA

National Archives Building

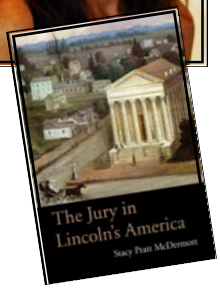
"Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration, will be remembered in spite of ourselves….The fiery trial through which we pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation…. We—even we here—hold the power, and bear the responsibility. In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free—honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, this last best, hope of earth…."

These words, part of Lincoln's Second Annual Message to Congress delivered on December 1, 1862, are some of the most memorable phrases ever written by a President. But the whereabouts of pages one and two of the 86 page Message had been a mystery for more than a century until Chandler Lighty, Assistant Editor with the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, solved that mystery during an ongoing search at the National Archives. He also discovered a complete second copy of the Annual Message signed by Lincoln. Lighty, who had been searching the records of the U.S. Senate at NARA for several months, discovered the misfiled documents when conducting a cross-reference of reports from the War, Navy, and Interior Departments.

"I was very excited to learn that once again researchers have mined the National Archives to discover important documentation that was previously unknown," said Archivist of the United States David. S. Ferriero. One copy of the 86-page message resides in the vault at the National Archives, but the first two pages had long been misfiled, until now. The second signed copy was not known to exist.

In addition, Lighty also found two dozen letters from Lincoln to the second and third sessions of the Thirty-seventh Congress, written by a clerk and signed by President Lincoln. The text had been available through a government publication but the whereabouts of the originals was unknown.

Papers of Abraham Lincoln Staff Publish Books

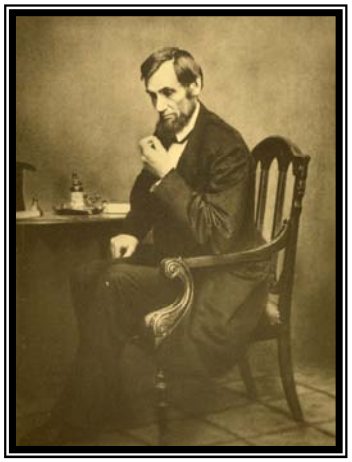


Two staff members of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln have recently had books published and the ALPLM wants to want to applaud their efforts and say congratulations.

Stacy Pratt McDermott, Assistant Director and Associate Editor of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln recently published *The Jury in Lincoln's America*, part of a multi-volume series on *Law, Society, and Politics in the Midwest,* published by the University of Ohio Press that explores the major historical and contemporary issues of the region. Springfield and Sangamon County proved a fertile research opportunity as a community study for three important reasons, according to McDermott. First, the area contained an amalgam of southerners and northerners, Irish and Germans, and a small free Black population. Second, both rural and urban elements were present and finally, there was a plethora of surviving intact legal records and documents, newspapers and manuscripts from which to draw information.

Christian McWhirter, Assistant Editor of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln at the National Archives in Washington, D.C published a new book that explores how music influenced popular culture during the war years in, *Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War*, by the University of North Carolina Press. With forty-two pages worth of notes, the book is divided into chapters that examine popular and patriotic music, anthems of the Confederacy, the home front, music in the armies, African-American music, end of the war music, and revival and legacy of the Civil War music. A native of Scarborough, Ontario, McWhirter received his Ph.D. in U. S. History from the University of Alabama in 2009.

ALPLM Displays Trifecta Lincoln Documents



Together for the first time since an all-night vigil in 2009, the State of Illinois's most significant original Lincoln documents were on display in the Treasures Gallery for Lincoln's Birthday weekend. On exhibit were the Gettysburg Address, the Lincoln-signed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Congressional resolution for the 13th Amendment signed by Lincoln and Congress. Only the Library of Congress and the ALPLM own an original of each of the three most famous documents of Lincoln's career

There are five original handwritten versions of the Gettysburg Address. Two are in the Library of Congress, one at Cornell University, one in the Lincoln Bedroom of the White House, and one is owned by the ALPLM. The ALPLM copy, written at the request of Edward Everett, was purchased by the State of Illinois in 1943 from the estate of James C. Ames for $60,000 thanks to the contributions of pennies by Illinois schoolchildren plus a donation by department store magnate Marshall Field III. Illinois' copy contains the two additional words "under God" that Lincoln had not included in his two original file copies.

The Emancipation Proclamation is one of the officially printed commemorative copies that Lincoln signed in full, along with Secretary of State William Seward and Lincoln's private secretary, John G. Nicolay.

The fully signed and recently restored copy of the Congressional resolution for a 13th Amendment ending slavery forever bears Lincoln's original signature plus those of Vice President Hannibal Hamlin and 139 members of Congress who voted for the resolution.

Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter

Some of the secrets behind the upcoming motion picture thriller *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter* were revealed at an ALPLM special event on February 10. Twentieth Century Fox flew in journalists and bloggers from around the country where actor Benjamin Walker, who portrays the 16th president, director Timur Bekmambetov, co-screenwriter Seth Grahame-Smith (author of the novel upon which the film is based) and producer Jim Lemley provided a first look at the film's trailer as well as selected footage and behind-the-scenes moments. Tim Burton, who serves as producer, sent in a taped greeting.

The film, set for a June 22 release, explores the secret life of Lincoln, who is portrayed as history's greatest hunter of the undead. For a review of the movie visit: http://entertainment.time.com/2012/02/13/tim-burton-abraham-lincoln-vampire-hunter-trailer-exclusive/

1922's Nosferatu

What's wrong with this photo?

Was Abraham Lincoln's Widow Insane?

As First Lady, Mary Lincoln consistently ranks at the bottom of popularity polls and if people know anything at all about her it is that she liked to spend money and was institutionalized by her eldest son on grounds of insanity. Now, you will have the chance to cast your ballot when the ALPLM and the Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission again join forces to enact a retrial of Abraham Lincoln's widow.

Bellevue Place

Mary Lincoln's four month confinement at Bellevue Place in Batavia, IL led to the lengthy estrangement from her son Robert, a rift that was mended shortly before she died in 1882. To learn more about this fascinating episode in the life of Mary Lincoln, plan to attend one of her retrials scheduled for the following dates: **September 24, 2012** in the Murphy Auditorium, Chicago and **October 1, 2012** at the ALPLM.

On April 16, 2012 a mesmerized audience listened as Scott Turow moderated a panel of historians, legal experts, and mental health professionals as they debated the legality of Mrs. Lincoln's insanity trial from an historic and modern perspective. Was Mary treated fairly by 1875 standards? Did her trial comply with the law? Was the 1875 medical code of ethics adhered to? Would Mary's treatment have been handled differently today? What rights do people who come before the courts have today? These questions were addressed and answered as the roundtable discussion reviewed Mary's diagnosis, insanity and treatment options. The transcript of the discussion will form the record for the insanity hearing retrials this fall in Chicago and Springfield. To learn more visit: http://www.alplm.org/blog/

Part of Mary Lincoln's mania involved her shopping habits and love of fashion. With that in mind and as a conclusion of Mary Lincoln's Insanity Retrial, a Culture of Clothing presentation examining 19th century women's fashion will take place on **November 12, 2012** at the Driehaus Museum, Chicago; and **November 19, 2012** at the ALPLM. For further information visit: http://www.wasmarylincolncrazy.com/

To Kill and To Heal: Weapons and Medicine of the Civil War

The Civil War remains to this day the most catastrophic of American conflicts. But, why was the Civil War so deadly? Hoping to answer that question the ALPLM's latest exhibit, *To Kill and to Heal*, which opened May 11, examines the war's leading causes of disease and death. Using statistics, artifacts, images, and soldier stories, the exhibit will provide a synopsis of how the military's medical community met the challenges of caring for the catastrophic number of wounded and maimed soldiers. Delving into the weapons of the war, the exhibit will explore the manufacturing and supply of weapons and different types of artillery.

The exhibit, located in the Illinois Gallery, displays a number of artifacts that are on loan from collections belonging to museums, institutions, and private collectors including the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA., University Museum at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois State Military Museum, Nancy Ross Chapter of the NSDAR (Pittsfield), IHPA - Old State Capitol, Rush University Medical Center Archives, Fort Sumter, and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library collections.

John Malinak installing reader rails in ALPLM exhibit, To Kill and To Heal

This exhibit contains graphic, authentic images of wounds, illnesses and medical treatments from the Civil War. Viewer discretion is advised.

If you haven't visited us in a while, now is the perfect opportunity to visit the Museum and our new temporary exhibit.

Shiloh Battlefield ALPLM Volunteer Destination

Shiloh Battlefield

Two charter busses, a first for the Volunteer Services Department, carrying 73 ALPLM volunteers, staff, and additional guests enjoyed beautiful weather on their recent trip to the Shiloh Battlefield on March 27-29, 2012. In fact, the weather was eerily similar to the warmer-than-usual temperatures that more than 110,000 Union and Confederate soldiers encountered in April 1862, 150 years ago.

Stream of American History at Corinth Interpretative Center

Joining the volunteers were two ALPLM historians, Bryon Andreasen and Mark DePue, who regaled the group with knowledgeable, colorful, and esoteric commentary over wide-ranging topics including William Jennings Bryan, former Illinois Secretary of State, Paul Powell, Davey Crockett, the exploits of the Civil War Brownwater Navy, Benjamin Grierson's famous 1863 Union cavalry raid, and Nathan Bedford Forrest. A hit with the volunteers was driving past the Sheriff Buford Pusser Museum in Adamsville, Tennessee. Remember the 1973 cult-classic movie *Walking Tall*?

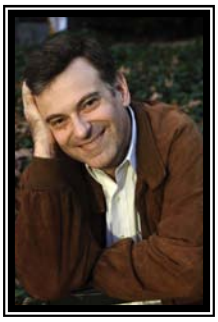
While the ultimate destination of this journey was the Shiloh National Military Park and the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center, the three day itinerary also included visits to Illinois' first state park, Fort Massac in Metropolis, Paris Landing and Pickwick Landing State Parks, Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Elvis Presley's Graceland, all located in Tennessee, Fort Defiance State Park in Cairo, the General John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro, and the opportunity to duck the "throwed rolls" at Lambert's Café in Sikeston, MO.

The Volunteer Services Department organizes an average of three trips a year to strengthen camaraderie among volunteers. Visits to historic sites such as Galena, Nauvoo, and Lexington, KY have been highlights. The next excursion, a slight departure from the norm but still history-related, will be a trip to Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre on **May 23, 2012** to see *The March,* based upon E.L. Doctorow's 2005 novel that dramatizes William Tecumseh Sherman's legendary March to the Sea. ALPLM volunteers and staff should contact the Volunteer Services Department for more details.

ALPLM Commemorates African American History Month

Charles Branham, senior historian at the DuSable Afro-American History Museum, prefers history with edges. Speaking at the ALPLM to help celebrate Black History month on February 27, Branham explained that February was chosen as a time to commemorate Black History by Carter G. Woodson, founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now called the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and considered the father of Black History, because it was the birth month of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. But, currently, the merits of observing Black History month and the validity of studying African American history are being questioned. Forged in the crucible of struggle, African American history, according to Branham, has been narrowed, distorted and turned into a movement that many believe began with the landmark NAACP Brown v Board of Education. It reached its culmination in the Civil Rights legislation passed during the 1960s and ended with the assassination of Martin Luther King. While Martin Luther King was seen as the movement's figurehead, thousands of ordinary citizens supported the Civil Rights movement across the country and fought for the goals of basic human rights and social justice. Initially begun as a struggle for Black civil rights, the Civil Rights Movement eventually broadened its scope fighting against racism, poverty, materialism, and militarism. Branham believes history is an argument and it is time to restart the argument about the meaning and legacy of the African American struggle for equality.

ALPLM Hosts Pulitzer Prize Winning Author



John Matteson, 2008 Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Eden's Outcasts: The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father,* and the newly released, *The Lives of Margaret Fuller,* appeared at the ALPLM March 15 in celebration of Women's History Month. Matteson's presentation highlighted *Little Women* author Louisa May Alcott and feminist Margaret Fuller. *Eden's Outcasts* focuses on the relationship between Bronson Alcott, a progressive educator and exponent of transcendentalism, and his daughter Louisa May, a resourceful and revolutionary writer. *The Lives of Margaret Fuller* examines Fuller's spirit, intellect, courage, and pioneering contributions to the advancement of women.

When asked what led him to write books about early feminists, Matteson explained that while he was completing his PhD, he was a stay-at-home dad and responsible for the daily care of his young daughter. Unlike father/son or mother/daughter bonds, the father/daughter bond, he believes, is little explored in modern literature and intrigued him enough to write two books that explored this unique connection. John Matteson holds doctoral degrees from Harvard and Columbia Universities and is an associate professor of English at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City, where he lives.

19th Century Fashion: Hollywood Style

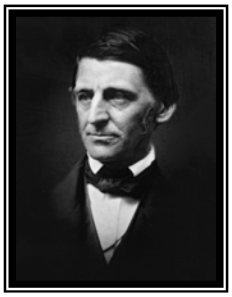
In March, the ALPLM celebrated women's history month with *The Evolution of Fashion,* a presentation by Holly M. Kent, Ph.D. Kent, examined the accuracy of Hollywood's depiction/interpretation of women's clothing in the films, *Gone with the Wind* and *Little Women*, both filmed in the 1930s. Kent opined that the most significant period of film history, and also her personal favorite, is the 1930s. This was when the film industry began to seriously consider the collaborative role costuming played in films. Up to this point, costuming was undertaken in a slap dash way with actors providing their own clothes when working on a film, leading to some interesting combinations. Striving for historical accuracy with how costumes were portrayed, the films of the 1930s sometimes hit the nail on the head while at other times intentionally introducing "sex appeal" that would appeal to modern audiences. Kent is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Illinois Springfield and Chief co-editor of *thirdspace: a journal of feminist theory and culture*.

From Slave to State Legislator

David A. Joens, Director of the Illinois State Archives and author of *From Slave to State Legislator: John W. E. Thomas, Illinois' First African American Legislator* sat down in Union Station on March 28 and delivered a presentation concerning Thomas' legacy as the first African American elected to the Illinois General Assembly (1876). Thomas was instrumental in drafting the first civil rights act in Illinois (1885). He was born a slave in Alabama, moved to Chicago in 1869, started a grocery store, invested in real estate, practiced law, and founded the first private school for African Americans in Chicago before he was elected to political office.

The Civil War and American Literature

Walt Whitman



Ralph Waldo Emerson

Poetry was the most important literary form and the principal cultural outlet of the 19th century, according to Randall Fuller, author and Professor of English at Drury University. Beginning his March 10 presentation by complimenting the literary dramatization and design perspective of the ALPLM galleries, Randall Fuller went on to explore the poetry of Walt Whitman and the Civil War experiences that affected his writing. Before the fighting began Whitman, who believed himself to be America's national poet, had a grandiose view of himself and participated in the pre-war saber rattling by composing jingoistic poems. But exposure to the Battle of Fredericksburg's carnage chastened Whitman's tone and his writing turned humble and reflective afterwards.

Randall Fuller

Fuller credits Ralph Waldo Emerson, revered by Whitman and other preeminent 19th century writers including Harriet Beecher Stowe, Emily Dickinson, and Henry David Thoreau, with introducing a uniquely American literature style based upon the idea of one's original relation with nature and experience. This philosophy was a revolution in literature and allowed authors to achieve moral change through their prose, and change the way their readers viewed the world.

Mary Lincoln Portrait Identified as Fake

When Jessie Lincoln Randolph purchased an 1864 portrait of her grandmother Mary Lincoln by Francis Bicknell Carpenter in 1929, she had every reason to believe it was authentic. Now 148 years later the painting has been identified as a fake, painted by an unknown artist of an attractive albeit unidentified woman.

Utilizing a tongue-in-cheek presentation, conservator Barry Bauman, who familiarized himself with the correspondence of Mary Lincoln as part of his research, led his audience through a series of imaginative letters exchanged between Mrs. Lincoln and him between 1928 until 2011. By combining 95% of Mary's original written words with his own, Bauman was able to lead his audience through a highly creative story of facts he uncovered while restoring the painting. Because the painting needed to be restored, James Cornelius, curator of the ALPLM Lincoln collection, sent it to expert painting conservator Bauman.

Barry Bauman unveils newly restored painting deemed not to be Mary Lincoln

In his conservation process, Bauman discovered that, not only was the painting suffering from years of neglect, but that much of the painting was overpainted by previous restoration efforts. Bauman also concluded that Mary's brooch and Carpenter's signature were resting on top of the painting's original varnish, a clear indication of forgery. Research of a dubious affidavit attached to the back of the painting led Bauman to eventually conclude that the affidavit was faked too.

Bauman, once an assistant conservator of paintings at the Art Institute of Chicago, established America's first national conservation laboratory dedicated to offering complimentary conservation services to museums and non-profit organizations in 2004. The fascinating case study of the *Demise of Mary Lincoln: an Artistic Conspiracy*, as well as Bauman's other conservation/restoration endeavors may be found at: http://www.baumanconservation.com/TheDemiseofMaryLincolnfs.html

Read All About It! ALPLM Book Discussion

Shortly after the Presidential Library opened in 2005, ALPLM librarians initiated a monthly book discussion group. Dennis Suttles, Genealogical Librarian, spearheaded the formation of a committee and chaired the committee through 2009. Committee members who coordinate discussions each year include Dennis Suttles, Glenna Schroeder-Lein, Carol Manning, Gwen Podeschi, and ALPLM volunteer, Jack Navins. The ALPLM committee focuses on Illinois history and usually includes a Lincoln title once a year. Currently two sessions each year are devoted to the Civil War. Whether Illinois classics or recently published, books are selected that also reflect different eras and regions of Illinois.

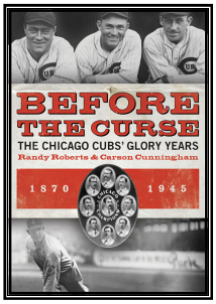
Exploring the criminal career of Dr. H. H. Holmes (a.k.a. Herman Webster Mudgett), participation was standing room only at the first discussion featuring Erik Larson's *Devil in the White City,* which was set against the backdrop of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Among the lives and careers examined have been Generals John A. Logan and Benjamin H. Grierson, Governor Henry Horner and State Senator Dawn Clark Netsch, pioneer settler Christiana Tillson and Depression-era storyteller Robert J. Hastings. The Sangamon County settlement Sugar Creek has been discussed as well as the early-20th century race riots in Springfield, Chicago, and East St. Louis. Discussion topics have been as varied and fascinating as the history of the Prairie State itself. Just for fun, the July titles usually feature Illinois vacation spots such as Giant City State Park or summer activities like Cubs baseball, or something else that can be an entertaining summer read.

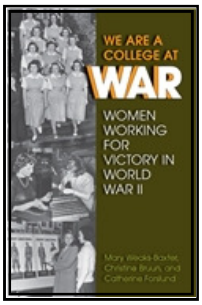
The Committee meets every fall to plan the upcoming selection calendar and throughout the year suggestions are welcome. Each committee member typically leads one discussion, but we have welcomed guest lecturers. For instance, in 2006 Bryon Andreasen, ALPLM historian, led the discussion on Richard Carwardine's *Abraham Lincoln: a Life of Purpose and Power*, and Margaret Kimball Brown led the discussion of her book *History as They Lived It: a Social History of Prairie Du Rocher in 2007.*

The March 20th discussion featured *Shiloh: the Battle that Changed the Civil War,* by Larry J. Daniel. Led by Jack Navins, many of the attendees later participated in the Volunteer Services trip to the Shiloh Battlefield.

Discussions are held in the library's first-floor classroom at 12:00 noon and last about one hour. Often, items related to the topic are displayed from the library's collections. Employees of the ALPLM, volunteers, and library patrons are all encouraged to participate. If you would like to suggest books for the 2013 discussion calendar, or would like to receive email notices about the discussions please email: gwenith.podeschi@illinois.gov.

2012 Book Discussion Schedule





July 17, 2012 Randy Roberts and Carson Cunningham, editors. *Before the Curse: the Chicago Cubs' Glory Years,1870-1945*. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2012.

September 18, 2012 Mary Weaks-Baxter. *We Are a College at War: Women Working for Victory in World War II.* Carbondale, Illinois: Southern Illinois University Press, 2010.

November 20, 2012 Darrell Dexter. *Bondage in Egypt: Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Southern Illinois.* Cape Girardeau, Missouri: Southeast Missouri State University, 2012.

ALPLM Meets PBS

Dr. James Cornelius and Dr. Tukufu Zuberi share a laugh as PBS History Detectives filmed in our vault on April 19, 2012. This segment, concerning a purported original Lincoln document that the ALPLM was asked to authenticate, will air in the summer on Season 10. Check your local television stations for dates and times.

Horace Mann / ALPLM Teacher Institute

June 2011 Fellowship participants

In June and July, from all over the country, fifty teachers will converge on the ALPLM as selected attendees of the annual Horace Mann / ALPLM summer teacher institute inaugurated in 2006. Bringing their K-12 teaching expertise in subject areas such as Social Studies, Language Arts and Technology, this year we also welcome two principals and a school superintendent into the mix.

Through a grant from Horace Mann to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, these exceptional teachers will be flown from their home states to St. Louis and shuttled to Springfield where a full *and all expense paid* agenda awaits them. For five days these teachers will concentrate their time and study on Abraham Lincoln as they attend lectures, tour historic sites, participate in classroom activities and discussions and network with each other. ALPLM and IHPA historians and library/museum staff will share their own expertise as they teach the teachers.

July 2011 Fellowship participants

Teachers will experience the Museum's cutting edge exhibits and learn about the Library's treasure trove of primary source materials which offer a multi-faceted portrait of our 16th president, his life, and the war that shaped his presidency. At the end of their institute, they will retrace their steps back to their home towns, schools, and students taking with them new knowledge, new memories and new-found friendships, all discovered in Mr. Lincoln's Springfield.

The Interns Are Coming, the Interns Are Coming…

Every year when summer rolls around not only does it signify vacations and hot, humid weather, but also a time when we at the ALPLM welcome new seasonal interns. This summer, nine students will receive on-the-job training in multiple departments of the ALPLM.

Just like a two way street, the internship program not only provides students with beneficial learning experiences but the library and museum staff often are exposed to innovative techniques, methodology and information. Learning doesn't just take place at the ALPLM though. Interns from outside Springfield must uproot and temporarily relocate to Springfield for the summer where they have to find housing, navigate the streets, find an affordable grocery store, and make new friends. Although intern positions are unpaid, ALPLM references and contacts can boost a student's opportunity for future employment or further programs of study. For additional information on the ALPLM internship program visit: http://www.alplm.org/education/interns.html

The Broadside is produced by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Education Division.
Questions or comments? Email us at noreen.obriendavis@illinois.gov or call (217) 558-8953

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