

The theme of this year's conference is "Abraham Lincoln and the Crucible of War." Speakers will include James M. McPherson, Edwards Professor of American History at Princeton University and recipient of the 1989 Pulitzer Prize in History; Dr. McPherson will discuss the question of "Who Freed the Slaves?" Richard N. Current, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, will analyze "Lincoln's Loyalists: Union Soldiers from the Confederacy." John Y. Simon, Professor of History at Southern Illinois University, will elucidate "Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, and Fort Sumter," Frank J. Williams, President of the Abraham Lincoln Association, will examine and illustrate "Lincoln and His Contemporaries: The World's Statesmen Compared and Contrasted." Paul Findley, former United States Representative from Illinois' 20th Congressional District, will discuss his personal experiences in "Legislating the Authorization of Lincoln Home National Historic Site: A Twenty-Year Perspective."

Each year, the papers presented at the Colloquium are published in an illustrated booklet which has been widely praised for its attractive appearance and scholarly content. Following the event, registrants will receive a copy of the booklet through the mail.

On October 26, registration for the conference will begin at 11:00 a.m.; the registration table will be located just inside the ground floor entrance of Sangamon State University's Public Affairs Center. The program will commence at 11:30 a.m. and conclude at approximately 5:00 p.m.; a luncheon is included.

The registration fee is \$20.00 a person. Checks should be made payable to Eastern National Park & Monument Association, with the word "Colloquium" written on the "Memo" line of the check. Advance registration will greatly facilitate planning the arrangements. Please mail your registration fee to: Lincoln Colloquium, Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 South Eighth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1905.

The Sixth Annual Lincoln Colloquium is co-sponsored by Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Eastern National Park & Monument Association, the Sangamon County Historical Society, the Lincoln Group of Illinois, and Sangamon State University.

Anyone wishing to obtain further information regarding the event is welcome to call Lincoln Home National Historic Site at (217) 492-4150; please ask for George Painter.

Once again, the public is cordially invited to this stimulating conference, which will enrich understanding of Abraham Lincoln and his place in history.

The detailed program will appear in the October HISTORICO.

OLD STATE CAPITOL INTERPRETERS

Here is a chance to become involved at one of Springfield's most important historical sites! Training sessions will be held in September for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer interpreter at the Old State Capitol. These sessions will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. at the Old Capitol on two Thursdays, September 12 and September 19. For registration or further information, please call Karen Anderson at (217) 785-7961.

BOARD MEETING REPORT

The SCHS Officers and Board of Directors met at 4:30 P.M. at Lincoln Library on Wed., Aug. 28, with 20 members present. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted. Our total funds in all accounts are \$22,753.85. President Cullom Davis welcomed all members and expressed special thanks for the participation of the immediate past president and outgoing board members during the past year. Committee appointments were noted, and upcoming programs were announced. (See articles on fall meetings.) Committee reports followed. It was announced that our SCHS past presidents' plaque would be displayed in the new County Building as soon as immediate past president Janel Lundgren's name is added. Suggested destinations for spring tours were discussed. Board members voted to allow the Lincoln Colloquium to use our membership list for mailing Colloquium information only. The membership chairman announced that second notices had been mailed to delinquent members. At the present time our business office mails out 340 copies of the HISTORICO. The question of real estate taxes on Pioneer Park was discussed; we hope to have the Sangamon County decision to tax the park reversed. It was reported that the finance chairman is working on a procedure for allowing SCHS grants. The 1992 Annual Dinner meeting will be planned by Polly Myers and Polly Roesch. A letter from Ed Russo, Director of the Sangamon Valley Collection at Lincoln Library was read, thanking the Society for its contribution in honor of Floyd Barringer. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 4:30 P.M. at the Library on Wednesday, Oct. 16.

THE ANNUAL MEETING - OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Sangamon County Historical Society's Annual Dinner Meeting was held at the Island Bay Yacht Club on Tuesday, June 18, celebrating the 30th anniversary of our founding in June, 1961. Among those attending were three members of our original Board of Directors, John Chapin, Carrol Hall and Dr. Emmet Pearson. The chairman for this occasion was Polly Myers, who had decorated the tables with beautiful arrangements of Illinois wild flowers. The plaque honoring SCHS past presidents was on display; it will be placed in the new Sangamon County Courthouse. President Janel Lundgren welcomed those present and expressed her thanks to all members and especially to the Board of Directors for their active participation during the past year. Tom Patton led the invocation before dinner was served.

According to our custom, the speaker at the Annual Meeting is our president of ten years earlier. John F. Macpherson, Jr., the Society's president in 1981-1982, was introduced by Pat Henry, who noted that John not only had been our president, but also had served as Vice-President and for several terms as chairman of the membership committee and the program committee, and has been our treasurer for seven years. John's address was entitled "1871," and told the story of a year in the life of a young Springfield lawyer, Alfred Orendorff, who started a diary in August of 1871 and continued it until August, 1872. Orendorff, who was John's grandfather, had served at age 18 as a captain in the 133rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Following his military service, he studied at Albany Law School in New York, earning a bachelor of laws degree. In 1867, after his admission to the Illinois bar, he became a member of the law firm of Herndon, Zane and Orendorff. William Herndon had been Lincoln's law partner in earlier years. When young Orendorff started his diary he apparently was in practice for himself, although he mentioned visits with Herndon, who had moved out of town to live in the country. Alfred Orendorff's legal cases were many and varied. He settled property disputes, land-use suits, and handled cases involved with forgery, wills, divorces, injuries, loans, bankruptcy - even a case involving a horse thief! His relationship with judges and with other lawyers was good, and he often expressed his admiration for John T. Stuart and Stephen T. Logan, former partners of Abraham Lincoln. Both