

Mary's Velvet Rose  
May, 2008  
ASSOCIATION OF LINCOLN PRESENTERS



We look forward to our annual gatherings all year, ever more intensely as the time gets closer. Then, the weekend is here -- we travel, enjoy, return home and, in no time at all, we're caught up in "business as usual" and the ALP Convention is but another memory. But what wonderful memories they are!

I would like to thank Patrick McCreary and his hard-working committee who laid out a tightlypacked weekend and carried out their plans with remarkable success. Mother Nature did not grant us sunshine and warmth, but neither did she send heavy rain, snow or damaging winds.

The people of Alton were most gracious, the festivities were grand and, most importantly, we enjoyed each other's company once again.

I'd also like to thank Mary Elliott, Jane DeBeaumont and Vicki Woodard for joining me in our luncheon presentation. We received many compliments afterward, and it was very satisfying to be able contribute to the weekend's events in a new way.

Each convention's activities are different, influenced by the place in which we meet. The 2009 Convention will be like no other. The committee is limited by higher costs for lodging and food, the impossibility of our relying on our own cars to get around the city, and the need to adapt our usual convention activities to the uniqueness of our nation's capital.

At the board meeting in Alton, I suggested that the ALP actively seek underwriters to offset some of the costs of the convention. In the past, each year's convention committee has done that to varying degrees. I proposed that those of us who are willing to do so could send letters to our local newspapers or to potential donors in our town or state, asking for donations to help keep our convention costs down.

I have drafted a letter that could be used by individual ALP members all over the country, asking for underwriters for the 2009 ALP Convention. The board is still considering this proposal as this newsletter goes to press. When a consensus is reached, members will be notified. If approved, a sample letter will be sent for interested members to use.

Steve and I wish you all a wonderful summer. We look forward to visiting with you, our ALP friends, as often as we can in the years ahead.

Sharon Wood, MTL Committee Chair