

Mary's Velvet Rose

August 2018

ASSOCIATION OF LINCOLN PRESENTERS



Freeport 2018 Conference



The Association of Lincoln Presenters conference

The Mary Lincolns had a lovely catered lunch and speaker at the Freeport Conference. Peggy Whitney, a retired elementary education teacher gave a first person interpretation of Mrs. Julia Grant.

Congratulations to Laura Keyes. Her conference was well organized and extremely educational. We also congratulate Laura and Leslie Goddard for an inspiring presentation of America's Two First Ladies. They received the ALP Excellence Award.

More information about the conference in the next [Lincarnations](#).....

200th Bicentennial Mary Lincoln's Fan

Available only to ALP members is a reproduction of Mary Lincoln's fan that is in the collection at Ford's Theater. It is a Jenny Lind style hand fan. It will be offered in a choice of blue silk, like the original, or cream for more versatility. If you would like a fan please order by October 2, 2018.



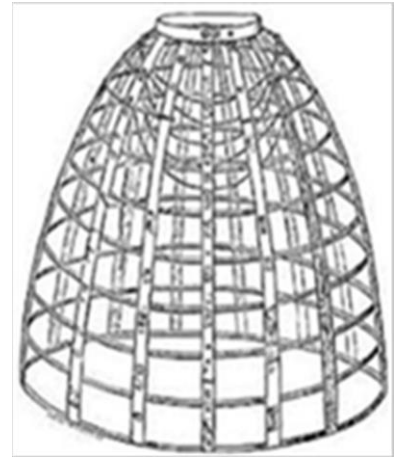
The fan will be \$98 plus \$7 Priority Mail shipping. You can email the creator at rudedelapaixrepros@gmail.com to order. Please use that email address to pay through PayPal. She will also accept check or money order by mail.

The fan will feature birch wood sticks, vintage spangles, and Silk Taffeta in either light blue or pale cream. This "Mrs.

Lincoln" fan is an exclusive design for ALP members which will not be offered on the Etsy site RuedelaPaixRepros Check this article:

www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/reliable-source/post/sally-field-to-play-ma...





Hoop Skirt or Crinoline or Cage

A hoop skirt is a women's undergarment worn to hold the skirt extended into a required shape but it took some time to evolve into what we now know as the "hoop skirt".

The predecessor of the hoop skirt is the Spanish "farthingale". Cage rings were made from green wood that would stiffen and maintain the skirt's shape and volume. It is believed that the scandalous Joan of Portugal (1439-1475) started wearing farthingales to cover up her pregnancy. Catherine of Aragon brought the farthingale to England by marrying Arthur Prince of Wales in 1501. She was widowed and then married his younger brother Henry VIII...and was the first of his 6 wives.

A crinoline is a stiffened or structured petticoat designed to hold out a woman's skirt, popular at various times since the mid-19th century. Originally, crinoline described a stiff fabric made of horsehair (crin) and cotton or linen which was used to make underskirts and as a dress lining.

The 18th century petticoats were used to support and shape the growing length and diameter of the early Victorian dress. During the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901) petticoats were replaced by a hoop skirt to eliminate layers and layers of crinolines and petticoats.

By the 1850s the term crinoline was more usually applied to the fashionable silhouette provided by horsehair petticoats and to the hoop skirts that replaced them in the mid-1850s. In form and function these hoop skirts were similar to the 16th and 17th century farthingale in that they too enabled skirts to spread even wider and more fully.

Steel wire hoops were incorporated into the petticoat and it made the garment light but strong. Most importantly, steel wire helped the skirt to maintain its original shape after a severe bend. It collapsed flat for easy storage or sitting too. Women started to move freely without heavy petticoats around their legs and could pass building doors comfortably.

This type of underskirt was extremely popular and was worn by all classes of women and ages. The steel-hooped cage, first patented in April 1856 by R.C. Milliet in Paris became extremely popular. Steel cage crinolines were mass-produced in huge quantity, with factories across the Western world producing tens of thousands in a year.

Mass production made cage crinolines affordable. Alternative materials, such as whalebone, cane, gutta-percha and even inflatable caoutchouc (natural rubber) were all used for hoops, although steel was the most popular.

As a consequence women were able to have several skirts in different styles, sizes and shapes. Crinoline cage skirts that didn't have crinoline became known as "cage skirts" as their open frames resembled a cage. It was among the most significant fashion innovations liberating women of the Victorian era.

At its widest point, the crinoline could reach a circumference of up to six yards, although by the late 1860s, crinolines were beginning to reduce in size. By the early 1870s, the smaller crinolette and the bustle had largely replaced the crinoline.

Crinolines were worn by women of every social standing and class across the Western world, from royalty to factory workers. This led to widespread media scrutiny and criticism, particularly in satirical magazines such as *Punch*. They were also hazardous if worn without due care. Thousands of women died in the mid-19th century as a result of their hooped skirts catching fire. Alongside fire, other hazards included the hoops being caught in machinery, carriage wheels, gusts of wind, or other obstacles.

The crinoline silhouette was revived several times in the 20th century, particularly in the late 1940s as a result of Christian Dior's "New Look" of 1947. The flounced nylon and net petticoats worn in the 1950s and 1960s to poof out skirts also became known as crinolines even when there were no hoops in their construction.



In the mid-1980s Vivienne Westwood designed the mini-crimi, a mini-length crinoline which was highly influential on 1980s fashion. Late 20th and early 21st century designers such as John Galliano and Alexander McQueen have become famous for their updated crinoline designs. Since the 1980s and well into the 21st century the crinoline has remained a popular option for formal evening dresses, wedding dresses, and ball gowns.

Several Internet resources were used for this article.

Joan Howard and I took a cage class in July. "Hoopfully" we will be wearing our cages April of 2019 in Atlanta.



Mary Todd Lincoln House Seminar

November 2, 2018, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky.
William T. Young Library, The UK AA Auditorium, Room 162



Mary Todd Lincoln House is partnering with the University of Kentucky to bring 3 prominent Mary Lincoln authors to Lexington to celebrate the 200th birthday.

The 3 authors who have been invited are: Jennifer Fleischner, author of Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Keckly Catherine Clinton, author of Mrs. Lincoln, A Life and Angela Elder, who has written about the ways Mary Lincoln and Emilie Todd Helm handled widowhood. This article can be found in Kentucky Women, edited by Melissa McEuen and Thomas Appleton.

The lectures will be packaged as a symposium and the date is November 2. The Symposium is free. But make sure you notify Susan Miller if you are going to attend and you will have reserved seating. Susan Miller – susanviolamiller@gmail.com or home phone 859-885-7294

Hotel: Holiday Inn – 1,000 Export Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40504
859-389-6800 – This hotel is a couple of blocks from UK. Cost is \$125 a night plus 16.07% tax. This includes state tax and occupancy tax. **Please make your reservations at the hotel before OCTOBER 2.** You must tell the reservations clerk that you are a member of ALP to receive the discount.

This weekend is a UK Home football game. Rooms will be at a premium and because of the game the room cost on Nov. 1st is \$191.95 and Nov. 2nd is \$269.95. Don't delay in making a reservation if you think you will attend.

Susan will be planning dinner close to the hotel on Thursday night. Lunch on Friday – There are several restaurants within walking distance of the theater. MTLH is working to be able to provide a "Lincoln" inspired lunch on campus. Saturday morning activity – ?

MTL House is using the Hyatt Regency (right beside the MTLH) for their presenters – it's rate \$137.00 a night plus tax.

Lincoln Days Hodgenville, Kentucky

October 6 – 7, 2018

<http://www.lincolndays.org/schedule/>

Wingfield Inn – \$85.99 / night

1043 Executive Drive
Elizabethtown, KY 42701
270-769-3030



This is always a great event for ALP members. The Woman's Club serves a great breakfast and lunch – free for our members in costume. There are Abraham and Mary Lincoln Look-A-Like Contests along with a parade and craft booths. Y'all Come!

