

Mary's Summer Rose Newsletter



September - 2016

An Upcoming Event!



October 1, 2016 – The Lincoln Days Festival is in Hodgenville. ALP members are encouraged to attend and support this event. The Abraham Lincoln and Mary Lincoln Look-A-Like contest is Saturday, on the Main Stage located in downtown Hodgenville. The contest will begin at 11 am with the ladies first, followed by the men.

Mary and Abraham Lincoln participants will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to describe their costume and/or deliver a portrayal of some event in Mary's / Abraham's life. Participants will be judged on both authenticity of costume and presentation.

Prizes for each contest are:

1st Place — \$125 2nd Place — \$100 3rd Place — \$50

Out of town guests may stay at the Wingfield Inn,
11043 Executive Driver, Elizabethtown, KY 42701
Phone – 270-769-3030

The Inn offers a special rate to Lincoln Presenters
\$75 plus tax. Please try to register by September 20.

Information about the Festival – Iris LaRue
email abe@lincolnmuseum-ky.org or call 270-358-8710

For full schedule check out - www.lincolndays.org



*Traditionally ALP members have followed Jim Sayre over to the Cracker Barrel for dinner.
If enough Marys come we can plan an activity for Marys after supper at the hotel.

Mary Lincoln's Coterie – Springfield, Illinois

Each year, Mary Lincoln's Coterie members gather on July 16th to honor and pay tribute to the life of our beloved first lady, Mary Lincoln.



A Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony takes place at the Lincoln Tomb at 10:00 am, the exact time of Mary's funeral in 1882. Several organizations present wreaths including the Association of Lincoln Presenters, Lincoln's Tent 48, Mary Todd Lincoln House, Illinois State DUVCW, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Mary Lincoln's Coterie.

Founders of Mary Lincoln's Coterie - Donna Daniels, Donna McCreary and Valerie Gugala

Following the service, members gathered at Maldaner's Restaurant for a buffet luncheon. This year's key note speaker was Steve Ingram who discussed the process of photography during the Civil War era.

Other events included a strawberry party on Friday evening where guests were able to discuss various aspects of Mary Lincoln's life. On Saturday guests enjoyed a luncheon at Edward's Place followed by a discussion about the Todd family and a program about parlor etiquette led by "Mrs. Helen Edwards" (portrayed by Erica Holtz) and "Mr. Abraham Lincoln" (portrayed by Randy Duncan).

Next year, the anniversary of Mary's death falls on a Sunday, so there will be a slight change of dates. The Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 15th, with lunch following at Maldaner's. Other events will be held on Friday, July 14th. If you are interested in attending, please visit the Facebook page or contact Donna McCreary.



Get Ready....Start Planning
for the Bicentennial of
Mary Lincoln's Birth!!
2018



Debbie Hanon - San Diego, California
Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Lincoln



Debbie writes: I am honored to be representing Mary Lincoln in Southern California. This is my first summer and I hope to have many more. I was Mary Lincoln at Fort Mac with Robert Broski in July.

Next, I decided to attend Steampunk Day in San Diego Comic Con dressed as Mary.

I was honored by the Starburner Galactic Courier Service into their ranks for my work not only as Mary but for all my costuming.

Then I portrayed Mary at Twain Fest in Old Town, San Diego. This was a very informal event. I was able to interact with the Civil War groups who attended the event. Most remembered me from Fort Mac.

I will be closing my summer with a trip to Tombstone and Brisbee where I will be dressing as Mary for fun again. I am looking forward to meeting with all you ladies in Kentucky for the convention.

Sharon and Steve Woods – Claremont, New Hampshire

In May of 2016, Steve and Sharon Woods took part in the filming of a dramatization of "The Baltimore Plot", an episode of The Folklorist, an award winning series by NewTV, Newton, Massachusetts. Steve and Sharon travelled from their New Hampshire home to Dedham, Massachusetts where Steve was filmed in the Endicott Mansion for scenes showing Alan Pinkerton convincing Lincoln not to continue on his planned travel through Baltimore because of a credible plot to assassinate him.

The next week, both Sharon and Steve were filmed on Cape Cod at the Chatham Railroad Museum. The scene began with Lincoln giving his farewell speech in Springfield from the back of an antique train car. Sharon stood as Mary Lincoln among other "extras" in the crowd watching that speech.

Later Steve as Lincoln was spirited off the opposite side of the train with the help of a fog machine that added mystery to the scene.

Steve was impressed with the historical research the producers done to make the production as accurate as possible, and says that he "recognized Alan Pinkerton" as soon as he saw him backstage! Although Mary Lincoln did not have a prominent role in this script Sharon was welcomed as part of the cast and was pleased to have experienced this with Steve.

<http://thefolklorist.newtv.org/> and look for The Baltimore Plot episode online after it is released sometime this fall.

<http://www.newtv.org/blog/Pulling-Off-a-Period-Piece/>



MaryAnne Mathews – Carmel, Indiana

In July MaryAnne Mathews portrayed Mrs. Lincoln in the production *Indiana: The Musical*, an Indiana Bicentennial event. The show is a traveling one and will be presented in Lawrence at Theatre at the Fort (Benjamin Harrison) in November.

Besides performing her play *Mrs. President: A Visit With Mary Lincoln* at senior centers, she was featured in the Carmel Fourth of July parade with Abraham Lincoln (Danny Russell) and will pair with him again for Little Cousin Jasper Festival in Rensselaer in September.



Connie Rich portraying Anna Harrison and MaryAnne as Mary Lincoln



MaryAnne and Danny Russell in the Carmel, Indiana, Fourth of July parade

Sue and Tom Wright – Oak Ridge, Tennessee



The Lincolns visited Cumberland Gap in June for the Genealogy Jamboree, celebrated the Fourth of July at the Museum of Appalachia and a few weeks ago attended the Knoxville History Fair.

Sue and Tom are coming to Hodgenville for Lincoln Days.

Terry Pyles

Louisville, Kentucky

Terry doesn't portray Mary Lincoln. She said she had nothing to report other than giving a private tour of Farmington to presidential historian and author Doris Kerns Goodwin on 23 July 2016.



Doris came to celebrate Farmington's Bicentennial. (Editor's note – Wow!!Fantastic!!!)

Laura Keyes - Freeport, Illinois

Leslie Goddard - Darien, Illinois

The idea of a joint presentation between Leslie Goddard (ALP Member and living history performer since 2003) as Jackie Kennedy and me as Mary Lincoln wasn't actually our idea. We can't remember who came up with it, but it was either Donna Daniels (Lifetime ALP Member) or my husband Robert. So, we can't take the credit for it. However, once the idea was put into our heads, we were excited to create something new.

Since we each have been portraying our respective First Ladies for a number of years, we were already comfortable with those ladies. However, we both started research into the other lady's life, and that proved very interesting. Leslie and I both learned a lot more about the history of First Ladies in general and the White House in particular for this presentation, and we worked hard to include the most accurate information into the script.

This presentation is set in the First Ladies Exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution, more or less at present day. Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Kennedy meet, and discuss their experiences. These two ladies have a great deal in common, from their upbringing to their interests, to their involvement in their husband's administrations. They also have some marked differences, some of which the general public might not know or even comprehend.

Leslie and I have received a great deal of interest since we first performed this presentation in February 2015, and we are happy to continue the performances. So many audiences think they know these ladies from history, and they are surprised to discover there's always more to learn.



Bonnie and Fred Priebe - Bellville, Michigan

Bonnie and Fred were very busy this summer attending over eight different events. Here is a description of two:

On June 28 the Plymouth Historical Museum in Plymouth, Michigan hosted the premier of a special exhibit of First Ladies fashions. Several First Ladies were in attendance, some with their husbands. Included were Martha Washington, Dolly Madison, Mary Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Kennedy, Julia Grant and others. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln mingled with the crowd of over 150 guests, posed for pictures and enjoyed nice treats. The First Lady exhibit runs through September.

On August 6-7 Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln participated in a Civil War event in Port Sanilac, Michigan. There the President and the First Lady spoke on the subject of patriotism, horse trades and slavery, then and now. The audiences were very receptive to our remarks, some bringing friends back Sunday. Mrs. Lincoln also presented a program about Log Cabin Quilts, honoring the 102nd US Colored Troops who mustered in at Historic Fort Wayne in Detroit, for their valiant service during the Civil War. The event also included Civil War fashion show, encampments and a skirmish between Federal and Confederate troops.



President and Mrs. Lincoln had an image struck at the Port Sanilac event.

Joan Howard - Frankfort, Kentucky
Jim Sayre - Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

Joan and Jim have participated in Frankfort's Derby Day Celebration for many years. May 7, 2016



Susan Miller
Nicholasville, Kentucky

And here is Jim Sayre with another wife!
The Battle of Dog Walk in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky.

Thanks to all the ALP members who submitted pictures and articles for this edition of Mary's Velvet Rose newsletter. The next edition will coming your way with the 2017 ALP information and registration.

