

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Mother's Day

May 11, 2008 at 2:00 P.M.

Lincoln City, Indiana

***Celebrating the
Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial
in Indiana***

Abraham Lincoln—February 12, 1809–April 15, 1865





Mother's Day

Mother's Day is observed throughout the United States and in some other countries as well. It took time and a lot of effort to make it the special day it is today.

The roots of the traditional Mother's Day date back to the spring celebrations in ancient Greece. It evolved into a day called Mothering Sunday, which was celebrated in England.

In 1872, Julia Ward Howe, the author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," suggested that a Mother's Day be held in the United States. Not much came of the suggestion until Anna Jarvis came along. She was completely devoted to her mother, Anna Reese Jarvis.

After her mother's death, Anna Jarvis continued her mother's campaign with the help of friends and neighbors to have an official day declared Mother's Day. She thought an official day for mothers around the United States would encourage children to honor and appreciate their mothers, especially while they were still alive.

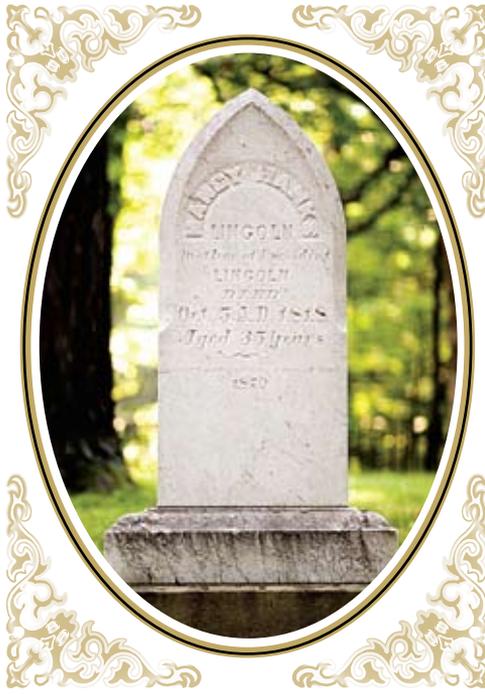
In 1908, she persuaded her church to hold a Mother's Day observance on the second Sunday of every May. A white carnation was given to all mothers at the church service.

In May of 1913, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a resolution that requested the President and all federal government officials to wear a carnation on Mother's Day. Finally, in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day would be observed on the second Sunday of every May.



Abraham Lincoln *and his mother*

During Abraham Lincoln's Indiana years, three major events occurred that had a profound impact on his development: the death of his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, when he was 9; the dramatic realignment of the Lincoln family after Thomas Lincoln remarried and his new wife Sarah Bush Johnston brought three more children into the household; and the death of his beloved sister, Sarah Lincoln Grigsby, in 1828, when Abraham was 18. Therefore, today we have come to honor these three "mothers" in his life and all mothers who have instilled in their children these same qualities he learned here in southern Indiana.



"All that I am or ever hope to be I owe to my angel Mother"

A. Lincoln

The first two years in Indiana were of great importance to Lincoln. They were the last two years he was to know the guiding influence of his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. She encouraged him to attend school and learn to read and write. Lincoln's writing and speeches throughout his life showed his familiarity with the Scriptures he learned at his mother's knee. Nancy Hanks was born Feb. 5, 1784 in Virginia and died of "milk sickness" on Oct. 5, 1818 at the age of 34. She is buried on a knoll just north of the flagpole. We remember and honor her today and are mindful that her teaching and influences still are affecting us. Therefore, let her be an inspiration to us all.

Abraham Lincoln in Indiana



“My father . . . removed from Kentucky to what is now Spencer County, Indiana, in my eighth year. We reached our new home about the same time the State came into the Union.”

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, came to Indiana in 1816, when he was seven years old. The Lincoln family included his parents, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and his sister, Sarah. Indiana was his home until 1830.

During these 14 impressionable years,

Lincoln grew physically and intellectually into a man. The people he knew here and the things he experienced had profound influences on his life. His sense of honesty, his belief in the importance of education and learning, his respect for hard work, his compassion for his fellow man and his moral convictions about right and wrong were all born of this place and time. The time he spent here helped shape the man who went on to lead the country.

His life here was marked by poverty, grueling physical labor and a lack of formal education.

“There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for education,” he remembered.

Lincoln attended ABC schools “by littles.” His Hoosier schoolmasters were Andrew Crawford, James Swaney and Azel W. Dorsey. Lincoln attended the ABC schools for less than a year altogether. He later expressed amazement that, when he left Indiana, “somehow, I could read, write, and cipher to the Rule of Three.” But “that was all” and he admitted “when I came of age I did not know much.” He regretted his lack of education and did his best to educate himself. He always strived for economic progress and education.

Lincoln lived a quarter of his life in Indiana. Years later, he recalled that his father came to Indiana “chiefly on account of the difficulty in land titles in K[entucky]” and “partly on account of slavery.” The Land Ordinance of 1785 subdivided Indiana neatly into sections by government survey, and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 outlawed slavery there. The Lincolns settled near Little Pigeon Creek in western Perry (now Spencer) County.

Lincoln was a boy “raised to farm work,” and, since he was “large for his age,” he “had an axe put into his hands at once; and ... he was almost constantly handling that most useful instrument – less, of course, in plowing and harvesting seasons.” He remembered Indiana as “a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods,” and his life in the “unbroken wilderness” was a fight “with the trees and logs and grubs.”

He found it difficult to wax nostalgic about his hardscrabble years in Indiana. Still, he could recall the good times on the frontier and wrote a humorous poem about a boisterous “Bear Hunt” that put the “woods ... in a roar” with a “merry corps” of hunters; it made the usually quiet and solitary forest alive with fun.”

On March 1, 1830, the Lincolns left Indiana for Illinois; lured by word from John Hanks that the soil was good and there was no milk sickness.

Two years after he left Indiana, Lincoln published his first political platform. It recommended “good roads” and “clearing of navigable streams” for “thinly populated countries” as well as better educational opportunities. In other words, his earliest political platform, indeed his subsequent devotion to the Whig party, with its ambitious programs for economic development of the West, was an attempt to remedy the faults of his Indiana experience: too much wilderness and too little education.

Lincoln returned to Indiana only in 1844, 1859 and 1861. Significantly, when he spoke in Indianapolis in 1859, he remarked, as the newspaper reported, that the “scenes he passed through today are wonderfully different from the first scenes he witnessed in the state of Indiana.”



Spencer County Lincoln Attractions

Lincoln State Park and
Colonel Jones Home
Lincoln City, IN
812-937-4710
[IN.gov/dnr/parklake/
properties/park_lincoln.html](http://IN.gov/dnr/parklake/properties/park_lincoln.html)

Lincoln Amphitheatre
in Lincoln State Park
Lincoln City, IN
812-937-4493
lincolnamphitheatre.com

Lincoln Ferry Park
Troy, IN

Lincoln Pioneer Village
and Museum
Rockport, IN
812-649-9147
lincolnpioneervillage.org

Buffalo Run
Lincoln City, IN
812-937-2799
legendaryplaces.org/buffalorun

Lincoln Landing
Rockport, IN

History of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial was originally built as the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Park and was completed in 1943. It preserves the place where Lincoln learned to laugh with his father, cried over the death of his mother, read the books that opened his mind, and triumphed over the adversities of life on the frontier. Importantly, it is the hallowed ground where his mother was laid to rest.



By the late 1950s, there was talk of transferring the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Park to the federal government and making it a national park. In 1959, Senator Vance Hartke, of Evansville, introduced a bill in the Congress that authorized the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a feasibility study. Although the study did not recommend against it, it did not endorse the idea either. In the meantime, though, local businessman William Koch, became convinced that it was a good idea and worked with Congressman Winfield K. Denton to introduce legislation proposing the establishment of an NPS unit at Lincoln City. When the state endorsed the proposal and offered to donate 200 acres containing the cabin site, the gravesite, and the memorial building, the legislation passed easily. President John F. Kennedy signed the act authorizing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial on Feb. 19, 1962. In a ceremony in front of the memorial building, the formal transfer was made and Indiana's first authorized unit of the National Park System was dedicated.

A major addition to Lincoln Boyhood came about in 1968 when the Lincoln Living Historical Farm was created. Because there was not enough documentation to accurately reconstruct the Lincoln farm, it was decided to recreate a farm that was representative of the 1820s time period. The farm would be used as an interpretive tool to help visitors understand what life was like for the Lincolns and other Indiana pioneers. Following archeological testing of the site, which revealed no remnants of the historic farm, ground clearing began in February 1968, and by April, the buildings and fences were standing.

All of the logs for the buildings came from old structures found in Spencer and surrounding counties. It generally took one day to knock down the old building, another day to move it, and approximately two

weeks to rebuild it on site. When completed, the complex included a hewn log cabin, hewn log barn with shed, a smokehouse, a corncrib, a chicken house and a workshop, all enclosed by split rail fences. Research about 19th century farm life enabled park staff to begin conducting living history interpretation on the site.

With the completion of the living historical farm in 1968, development of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial was complete. The National Park Service is proud to be entrusted with its care and is dedicated to fulfilling the long-standing tradition of preservation and interpretation. Those first efforts to mark the gravesite began with Joseph Armstrong in 1874. The present marker was placed by Peter Studebaker in 1879, replacing the primitive stones and fence taken by souvenir hunters after Lincoln's death in 1865.

Learning about Abraham Lincoln in Indiana

Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site
1230 N. Delaware
Indianapolis, In 46202-2598
317-631-1898

Evansville Museum of Art,
History and Science
411 SE Riverside Dr.
Evansville, Indiana 47713
812-425-2406

Gen. Lew Wallace Study & Museum
200 Wallace Ave.
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765-362-5769

Holiday World/Splashin' Safari
OV Brown Lincoln Collection
Santa Claus, Indiana 47579
812-937-4401

Indiana Historical Society
450 W. Ohio
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3669
317-232-1882

Indiana State Museum
650 W. Washington
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-1637

Indiana War Memorials
431 N. Meridian
Indianapolis, In 46204
317-232-7615

Lane Place
212 South Water Street
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765-362-3416

Levi Coffin House
Indiana State Historic Site
113 U.S. 27 North
Fountain City, IN 47341
765-847-2432

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
P.O. Box 1816, Indiana 162
Lincoln City, IN 47552
812-937-4541

Morris-Butler House Museum
1204 N. Park Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-636-5409

Northern Indiana Center for History
808 W. Washington
South Bend, Indiana 46601
574-235-9664

Oakleaf Collection, Lilly Library
Indiana University
1200 East Seventh Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47405-5500

Studebaker National Museum
201 S. Chapin Street
South Bend, IN 46601
574-235-9714

The Lincoln Museum
200 E. Berry
Fort Wayne, IN 46801
260-455-3864

Tri-State University,
Gen. Lewis B. Hershey Museum
Ford Memorial Library
1 University Ave.
Angola, IN 46703
260-665-4162

Abraham Lincoln Mother's Day

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
2:00 P.M., May 14, 2018

Pre-ceremony Music..... Red Bank Reunion Band

Welcome..... Randy Wester, *Superintendent*
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

National Anthem Led by the Celebration Singers

Master of Ceremonies Shelly Kirk, *ABC News 25*

Invocation Patricia A. Koch, *Holiday World and*
Splashin' Safari

Music: "Nancy Hanks" Shelia S. Billings

Remarks Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels

Remarks Congressman Baron Hill

Introduction of
Wreath Presentations Dr. Connie K. Nass,
Chair, Indiana ALBC

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Inauguration Ceremony

at
National Memorial
May 11, 2008

<i>A Mother's Prayer</i>	Celebration Singers
<i>Wreath Presentations</i>	Refer to following pages with the panel information
<i>Remarks</i>	Dr. Darrel E. Bigham, <i>National ALBC</i>
<i>Dramatic Reading</i>	Students from the Department of Theatre, University of Evansville
<i>Keynote Address</i>	Joan Flinspach, <i>National ALBC</i>
<i>Announcements</i>	Randy Wester
<i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i>	Celebration Singers
<i>Stephen Foster and Traditional American Music Concert</i>	Celebration Singers

Abraham Lincoln

Welcome to Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial



Dirk Kempthorne, *Secretary of the Interior*

“Today is a day to celebrate the bold and visionary accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln, a man from humble beginnings who, through his own efforts, became President of the United States. Lincoln once said, ‘Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.’ This celebration, one of many taking place in your national parks throughout the next two years, is just one example of all our efforts to lead Americans in preserving our treasures for future generations.”

Mary A. Bomar, director, *National Park Service*

“On behalf of the National Park Service, I would like to welcome you to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Mother’s Day Celebration. No other individual has been able to shape our nation and world as did Abraham Lincoln. Over the next two years, working with our many partners, we have planned national events to honor our 16th President, who left an indelible mark on this nation. I hope you will enjoy this event and join us for other celebrations throughout the nation.”



GUEST SPEAKERS

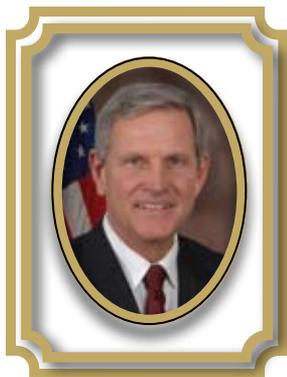


Mitch Daniels Jr. is the 49th Governor of Indiana. He was elected Nov. 2, 2004 and sworn into office on Jan. 10, 2005.

Daniels was Director of the Office of Management and Budget under President George W. Bush from 2001 to 2003 and previously served as chief of staff for Sen. Richard Lugar and senior advisor to President Ronald Reagan.

Born in Middlebury, Daniels was named a Presidential Scholar as the state’s top male high school graduate in 1967 by President Lyndon Johnson. Daniels went on to earn a bachelor’s degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University in 1971. While working full time, he earned a law degree from Georgetown University in 1979.

Gov. Daniels and his wife Cheri have four daughters.



Baron Hill represents southern Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he is a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science and Technology Committee. He was re-elected to Congress in 2006 after serving three previous terms.

Born in Seymour, Hill graduated from Furman University in 1975 with a degree in history. He returned home and ran an insurance and real estate business for 15 years.

Hill was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1982 and served eight years. He left the legislature to run for the U.S. Senate and narrowly missed an upset victory.

In 1992, then-Governor Evan Bayh named Hill executive director of the Indiana State Student Assistance Commission. Hill later returned to the private sector as a financial analyst for Merrill Lynch until his election to Congress in 1998.

Congressman Hill and his wife Betty have three daughters.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Joan Flinspach is president and CEO of The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne and serves as secretary of the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

She has authored and/or edited numerous articles on Abraham Lincoln and is a frequent speaker and author in museum circles. She has spoken at Presidential Libraries and Sites Conferences and most recently wrote about the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill., for the Ohio Valley Review, and a critique of C.A. Tripp's "The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln" for The Claremont Institute's Claremont Review of Books.



Flinspach was named in 2000 to the NALBC, a Congressional commission charged with planning the international celebration of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Gov. Mitch Daniels appointed her to the Indiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. She was appointed to the Ford's Theatre Advisory Board in 2007.

She came to The Lincoln Museum in 1993 and oversaw construction of the multimillion-dollar exhibit that included 11 galleries, four theaters, and 18 computerized hands-on exhibits.

Flinspach directed the Historic General Dodge House in Council Bluffs, Iowa, from 1984-86. It is the home of Gen. Grenville Dodge, builder of the Union Pacific Railroad. From 1986-93, she directed the Boys Town Hall of History in Omaha, Neb., where she designed much of the new museum and the creation of numerous traveling exhibits. The history museum chronicles the story of the founding of Father Flanagan's Boys' Home and its growth to national stature as a child care facility.

A native of Fairfield, Iowa, Flinspach graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Iowa in 1980. She received her master's in historic preservation and museum studies in 1983 from Middle Tennessee State, graduating summa cum laude.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr. Connie K. Nass – Nass was appointed by Governor Daniels to Chair the Indiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. She is also the Governor's liaison to the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission's Governor's Council. She retired in 2006 after two terms as Indiana Auditor of State. She served as Mayor of Huntingburg from 1987 to 1996 and received a Sagamore of the Wabash from Governor Daniels in 2006.

Dr. Darrel E. Bigham – Bigham is a member of the National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and the Indiana ALBC. He also leads the Lincoln States Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Task Force for Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky. He has organized or been president of numerous Evansville organizations and is the author of eleven books. He is director of Historic Southern Indiana and professor of history at the University of Southern Indiana with plans to retire in June after 38 years of service. He is a native of Harrisburg, PA.

Patricia A. Koch – Koch is Director of Values at her family-owned Holiday World and Splashin'Safari in Santa Claus. She also heads up the Santa's Elves program designed to ensure every child's Letter to Santa mailed to the town's famous post office receives a personal reply. In 1962, Mrs. Koch stood in the Oval Office with her husband, Mr. Bill Koch, as President John F. Kennedy signed the legislation creating Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. She also helped to lay the cornerstone of the Memorial Building in 1941. Mrs. Koch is the mother of 5 and grandmother to 13. She is a native of Mariah Hill.

MUSICIANS



Celebration Singers – The volunteer community choir was organized in the spring of 2002 and has more than 100 members who reside in Dubois, Pike and Spencer counties. The choir performs approximately 10 to 12 times a year, presenting patriotic concerts as well as programs featuring Broadway songs, movie show tunes, sacred selections, and gospel songs. The Celebration Singers Community Choir is a non-profit organization and has no paid staff.

Red Bank Reunion Band – Under the direction of Wayne Jones, this group of musicians is passionate about making music and is committed to sharing history with students of all ages. They come from different backgrounds, professions and regions of the country to work shoulder-to-shoulder in recreating music of the Civil War era using actual band arrangements and appropriate instruments. Their collection of instruments dates to 1820. The music comes from the Brass Band Journals of the 1850s, the Library of Congress, and Collections in Historical Societies.

Shelia S. Billings – A native of Mississippi, she was raised in Chicago, where she attended the Sherwood Conservatory of Music. She received a bachelor of fine arts at Paul Quinn College and a master's degree in music performance from Akron University. She also studied and performed in Austria and Italy and now resides and teaches privately in Elkhart.

The Kentucky Panel

illustrates the years of Lincoln's life spent on the Sinking Spring and Knob Creek farms. On the far left dressed in the style of the frontier is Jesse LaFollette, grandfather of Wisconsin Senator Robert M. LaFollette and neighbor of the Lincolns at Knob Creek. Beside him stands Thomas Lincoln, father of the President. Seated is Dr. Christopher Columbus Graham, doctor, scientist, and visitor at the Lincoln home. His stories fascinated Lincoln, who is pictured here at the age of seven. Behind the boy is his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Sarah, his only sister, stands at the churn. On the far right is Caleb Hazel, Lincoln's second schoolteacher.

Wreath presentation represents the influence and love of Abraham Lincoln's birth mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln and sister Sarah Lincoln Grigsby.



INDIANA 1816-1830



The Indiana Panel

depicts Lincoln as a youth, but fully grown and capable of doing a man's job. At the extreme left is James Gentry, wealthy farmer and merchant. Lincoln was a frequent visitor in his home. Next to him is Josiah Crawford. Lincoln worked for him three days to pay for a book he borrowed which was damaged by rain. Behind Lincoln, "The Railsplitter," holding a hewn log are Aaron Grigsby, husband of Lincoln's sister, and Dennis Hanks, his mother's cousin. To the right is James Gentry's son

Allen who was Lincoln's companion on a trip down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. Beside him is Thomas Lincoln's second wife, Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln.

Wreath presentation represents the influence and love of Abraham Lincoln's step-mother, Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln.

The Illinois Panel

depicts Lincoln receiving congratulations from his friends and associates on his election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1846.

John Stuart, his first law partner, is on the left. Next is Stephen T. Logan, a later law partner. Grasping Lincoln's hand is his close friend, Joshua Speed, the merchant.

Between Lincoln and Speed is William Herndon. To the right sits editor Simon Francis. The woman behind him is Mary Todd Lincoln, and the last figure is Lincoln's friend, Orville H. Browning, who served as U.S. Senator and in the cabinet of Andrew Johnson as Secretary of the Interior.

Wreath presentation represents the influence and love of Abraham Lincoln's wife and mother of his children, Mary Todd Lincoln.

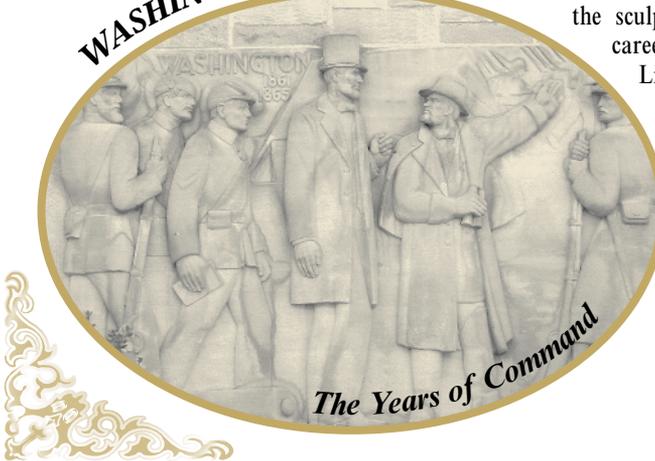


WASHINGTON 1861-1865

In the Washington Panel,

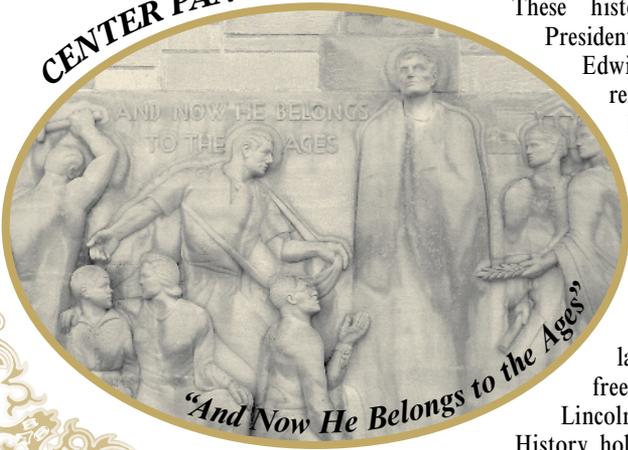
the sculptor has chosen Lincoln's career as Civil War President.

Lincoln is pictured with General Ulysses S. Grant at Grant's headquarters in Petersburg, Va., near the close of the war. The other figures are soldiers symbolic of the many brave men who made victory possible.



Wreath presentation represents the love and devotion of those mothers whose sons fought and died in the Civil War.

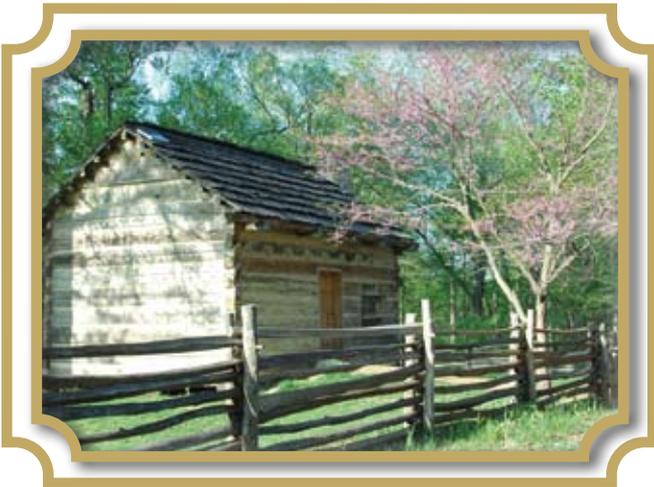
CENTER PANEL



These historic words of the President's Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, are a reminder of the heritage left to the men and women of all time to come. The figures in the panel represent some of the people to whom Lincoln will forever belong—the farmer, the laborer, the family, the freedman. At the right of Lincoln stands Cleo, Muse of History, holding a scroll on which the deeds of the Emancipator are recorded.

Beside her is Columbia offering the wreath of laurel, tribute of a nation to its leader. In the background, a cabin and the White House serve as symbols of American opportunity.

Wreath presentation represents those mothers who found their freedom from slavery.



National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin (Ill.), co-chair
U.S. Rep. Ray LaHood (Ill.), co-chair
Harold Holzer, co-chair
Joan L. Flinspach, secretary
Dr. Jean Bandler
Dr. Darrel E. Bigham
Dr. Gabor Borritt
U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning (Ky.)
Julie Cellini
Dr. James O. Horton
U.S. Rep. Jessie L. Jackson, Jr. (Ill.)
Lura Lynn Ryan
Louise Taper
Judge Frank J. Williams (R.I.)
Judge Tommy Turner (Ky.)

Indiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Dr. Connie K. Nass, chairperson	Jack L. Smith
Daniel W. Bortner	Rep. Dennie Oxley II
Brian A. Blackford	Rep. Russell Stilwell
William E. Bartelt	Rep. Thomas E. Saunders
Dr. William H. Wiggins, Jr.	Rep. Suzanne Crouch
Daniel B. Smith	Sen. James A. Lewis
Joan L. Flinspach	Sen. Thomas J. Wyss
Dr. Darrel E. Bigham	Sen. James W. Merritt Jr.
Jack N. Kroeger	Sen. Richard D. Young
Ray W. Robison	Melissa Miller, Secretary

Spencer County Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Committee

Officers:

Helen Kennedy, co-chair
Key Bertl, co-chair
Betty Grose, secretary
Judy Carrell, treasurer

Mother's Day Committee

Randy Wester, chair	Phil Brown	Gil Holmes
William Bartelt	Mike Capps	Bill Miller
Kay Bertl	Mike Crews	Mattie Miller
Dr. Darrel E. Bigham	Adam Dickey	Melissa Miller
D Brown	Barbara Hevron	Dr. Connie K. Nass
Kristi Brown	Jim Hevron	Brad Young

Our Thanks to: Heritage Hills High School – Nick Alcorn, Principal
Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana
Boy Scouts of America, Buffalo Trace Council
Girl Scouts of America, Raintree Council
Christmas Lake Village Garden Club

Cover: "The Boy Lincoln at His Mother's Knee" was done by M. Leone Bracker for Lincoln National Life Insurance Company in 1934. The original is a black and white charcoal drawing (not a painting) measuring 46½ x 51 inches. The advertising department created colorized versions.



DNR
Indiana Department of
Natural Resources

