



# THE STUMP

Publication of the Lincoln-Douglas Society

Number 25

Summer 2019

## The Lincoln-Douglas Society

was founded in 1929 for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the 1858 debates between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln during their race for the United States Senate.

### “The Stump”

The use of the “stump” as a metaphor for a platform for political discourse traces its roots back to the earliest days of American history. Just as Douglas argued his political ideas “from every stump in Illinois,” the Lincoln-Douglas Society seeks to share information and ideas about one of the key events in our Nation’s history.



Freeport’s George Buss, a/k/a Lincoln, holds one of the highway signs which will soon be placed along US Route 20 east and west of Freeport. [Photo provided by Looking for Lincoln]

## FREEPORT ADDED TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Under legislation enacted by Congress and signed into law, Freeport has been added to the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area (ALNHA). The National Park Service oversees all national heritage areas. Freeport’s inclusion in the ALNHA will boost tourism and economic development.

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## 2019 MUSIC IN DEBATE SQUARE

The Lincoln-Douglas Society’s popular “Music in Debate Square” series will continue this summer with four Thursday evenings of free music. **All programs begin at 6:30 p.m.**

Long-time favorite **Kendra Beth (Swanson) Masters** returns to Debate Square on **July 11**.

A new group to the series, **Cifonie Quartet** will bring its eclectic mix of pop and classical music on **July 18**.

The **Highland Community College Jazz Band** under the direction of Bill Peterson will bring back their swinging sounds on **July 25**.

The summer series ends on **August 1** with **Southpaw Stance**, returning in response to popular demand.

All of the programs are free, but a free-will offering will be taken up for the benefit of the musicians. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. **Tim Connors** manages the series.



## *Moments in Lincoln's Life*

From time-to-time newly published works on Lincoln arrive and we like to share as many of them with our members as possible. The latest is **Tom Emery's *Moments in Lincoln's Life***, published in 2019 by History in Print.

The monograph at hand is a collection of fifty-seven newspaper article Emery wrote over the years for various publications. The book has 138 pages of text, an index, and a very useful annotated bibliography.

This work will be of great interest for anyone who likes to take in history in small doses. Each article runs from a couple pages to as many as five. This makes for easy reading for short periods, but an avid reader can consume as many articles at a time as time and appetite dictate.

The articles are arranged under ten broad headings, ranging from "The Frontier Years" to "Legacy." The Section entitled "Pre-Presidency" includes articles on the 1858 debates between Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas.

There are ten pages of photos and images in the center of the book, including a reproduction of the United States Post Office stamp issued for the centennial of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates.

Emery is a veteran newspaper writer who also has twenty-one books to his credit. Among his other works, is the 2018 second-edition compilation *The Civil War in Illinois*, and a history of the Illinois State Library and library development in Illinois titled *The Illinois State Library Heritage Project: 1839-2013*.

*Moments in Lincoln's Life* sells for \$19.99 (IL residents add \$1.25 tax) plus \$3.76 postage and handling (\$25 total). Orders may be placed using PayPal (order via e-mail: [enjoyhistorytoday@gmail.com](mailto:enjoyhistorytoday@gmail.com)) or mail by sending your name, address, phone, and check or money order to History in Print, 337 E. Second South, Carlinville, IL 62626. For more information, call 217-710-8392.

The copy of this book provided for our review purposes has been donated to Freeport Public Library where it is available for circulation.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM

The Lincoln-Douglas Society will hold its annual membership meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Freeport Public Library on Saturday, **August 25, 2018**. Election of Board of Directors positions will be held, in addition to reports on the status of the organization. At 6:00 p.m. Lincoln (**George Buss**) and Douglas (**Tim Connors**) will hold a discussion in Debate Square to mark the anniversary of the Freeport Debate. Admission is free. Lawn chairs are recommended.

### *The Stump*

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Lincoln-Douglas Society  
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or visit us at  
**[www.lincoln-douglas.org](http://www.lincoln-douglas.org)**

Questions about this publication  
can be sent via the email listed on  
the Society's website.

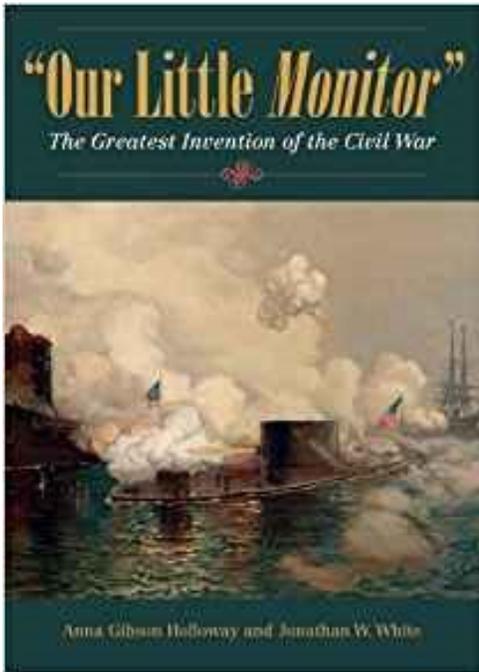
### The Lincoln-Douglas Society

President: Nicole M. Bauer  
Vice President: George R. Buss  
Treasurer: Mindy S. Borgmann  
Secretary: Edward F. Finch, D.A.

**Board of Directors:** Timothy R. Connors, Carole Dickerson,  
Frank E. "Ned" Furst, Mary M. Hartman, Scott Leiser,  
Mickey Martin, Sally Noble, Michael Perry, M.D.,  
Jim Shankland, Connie Sorn, and Alan Wenzel

**Board Members Emeritus:** Robert Plager & Olga Carlile

**Ex Officio Directors:** Honorable Jodi Miller, Mayor of Freeport,  
and Nicole Haas, Greater Freeport Partnership.



## SOKUP LECTURE SET

**Anna Gibson Holloway and Jonathan W. White**, authors of the newly published book *Our Little Monitor: The Greatest Invention of the Civil War*, will deliver the 2019 **Richard F. Sokup Lecture** on **Thursday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m.** at **Freeport Public Library**.

The *Monitor* was the name of the Union ironclad ship which fought the 1862 epic battle with the Confederate ironclad *Virginia* (commonly called *Merrimack*).

Holloway is the former curator of the USS *Monitor* of the Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia. White is associate professor of American Studies at Christopher Newport University.

The Sokup Lecture Series was instituted to honor the memory of Freeporter **Richard F. Sokup**, a long-time portrayer of Stephen A. Douglas and who served as president of the Lincoln-Douglas Society for many years.

The lecture is open to the public free of charge.

## LINCOLN STATUE DEDICATED

Freeport artist **J. Ramon Castor's** sculpture of Abraham Lincoln, titled *Captain Lincoln: Burial Detail*, was dedicated on June 23, 2018 at the Black Hawk War Monument at Kellogg's Grove, in rural Stephenson County.



**Frank J. Williams**, Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court (Retired) delivered the dedication address. Entitled "Abraham Lincoln: The Evolving Commander-In-Chief," the well-received address chronicled the 16th President's development into a wartime leader.

Speaking of Lincoln's service during the Black Hawk War, Williams noted, "It was a defining moment in his life, much like Captain Harry Truman's during World War I. Both drew many lessons from their experiences, the most important for young Lincoln was that exuberant young men could not make the transition from civilians to soldiers overnight, and would never fully transform themselves into full-time military men. He also learned that raw recruits came from a democratic culture with a high disregard for authority. Many of these civilian soldiers in the end simply could not, and would not, recognize the right of the military to keep them in service longer than they wished to stay. Such attitude owed little or nothing to cowardice, laziness, lack of patriotism, but had a great deal to do with a cultural instinct for independence."

The thesis of Williams' speech was, "Lincoln's most important legacy as a strategist was his establishment of the modern command system: a Commander-in-Chief to establish overall strategy; a General-in-Chief to implement plans; and a Chief of Staff to relay information. Thus Lincoln, without recognizing his long-range contribution to our modern command system, laid its foundation in 1864."

The Lincoln-Douglas Society plans to publish the full text of Justice Williams' presentation in the near future.

The Lincoln-Douglas Society  
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—ALNHA continued from page 1:

The new law adds the cities of Freeport and Jonesboro, the only two of the Lincoln-Douglas debate sites not included in the original legislation. Livingston County is also added to the ALNHA by the legislation..

The addition of Freeport, Jonesboro and Livingston County to the ALNHA was sponsored by Congressman **Adam Kinzinger**, in whose district Livingston County is located. All Illinois members of Congress supported the plan. Senator **Richard Durbin** of Illinois shepherded the legislation through the U.S. Senate.

In May 23, **Sarah Watson** and **Heather Wickens** of the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, the organization which manages the ALNHA on behalf of the National Park Service, came to Freeport to meet with the “Freeport Working Group,” which consists of the Lincoln-Douglas Society board, as well as Freeport Mayor **Jodi Miller**, City Manager **Lowell Crow**, **Nicole Hass** of the Greater Freeport Partnership, and Freeport Public Library Executive Director **Ashley Huffines**.

As part of the ALNHA, Freeport will now offer a passport stamping station inside Freeport Public Library. The “Official Visitors Guides” for the ALNHA are available at Freeport Public Library, as well as the Freeport/Stephenson Visitors Center. To collect all of the ALNHA passport stamps, tourists will need to visit forty locations around the state.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please remember to renew your Lincoln-Douglas Society membership using the form enclosed. Your continued support is critical to maintaining Debate Square.