

THE UNION INFORMER

Monthly Newsletter of the Indian Nations Camp No. 3
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Tulsa, Oklahoma

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2019



Presenting an SUVCV membership certificate to new member Clint Anderson is Cdr. Mike Rusk accompanied by Charlie Walker on his right and Rex Griffin and Mike Gates on his left.

August Camp Meeting

The program for the August camp meeting will be held at the Oak Room of the Hardesty Regional Library on our regular 4th Thursday meeting date, August 22nd at 6:30 p.m. The topic for discussion will be the *Battle of Honey Springs*. As previously noted, the battle will be reenacted this fall at Rentiesville, OK. We're expecting our new member, Scott Preston, to attend. He's not really a 'new member,' just new to us, because he's transferring in from the Lincoln-Cushing camp in Alexandria, VA. Let's try to have a good turnout to welcome him to our camp!

Kevin White will give a report on his attendance at the National Encampment this month. He was our only representative at the Encampment.

July Camp Meeting

Cdr. Mike Rusk reports that we had a good camp meeting in July, with a good response from members who were urged to attend. Answering the call were brothers Rex Griffin, Mike Gates, Kevin White, Charlie Walker, Mike McGraw, Cdr. Rusk, and of course, new member Clint Anderson.

Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress

(Scanned images of the original documents have been available from the Library of Congress Website since 2001 - 2002)



About this Collection

The papers of Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), lawyer, representative from Illinois, and sixteenth president of the United States, contain approximately 40,550 documents dating from 1774 to 1948, although most of the collection spans from the 1850s through Lincoln's presidency (1861-1865). Roughly half of the collection, more than 20,000 documents, comprising 62,000 images, as well as transcriptions of approximately 10,000 documents, is online. Included on this website in their entirety are Series 1-3 of the Lincoln Papers and the original materials in Series 4. Excluded from this online presentation is a sizeable portion of Series 4, which consists of printed material and reproductions of government and military documents made from originals in the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Treasures in the collection include Lincoln's first and second inaugural addresses, his preliminary draft of the Emancipation Proclamation, the two earliest known copies of the Gettysburg Address (the Nicolay and Hay copies), his August 23, 1864, memorandum expressing his expectation of being defeated for re-election in the upcoming presidential contest, and a condolence letter written to Mary Todd Lincoln by Queen Victoria following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in 1865. The Lincoln Papers are characterized by a large number of correspondents, including friends and associates from Lincoln's Springfield days, well-known political figures and reformers, and local people and organizations writing to their president.

Notable correspondents include Nathaniel Prentiss Banks, Edward Bates, Montgomery Blair, Salmon P. Chase, Schuyler Colfax, David Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, John Hay, Andrew Johnson, Reverdy Johnson, Mary Todd Lincoln, George Brinton McClellan, George Gordon Meade, Edwin D. Morgan, John G. Nicolay, William S. Rosecrans, William Henry Seward, Horatio Seymour, Caleb B. Smith, Edwin McMasters Stanton,

Charles Sumner, Lyman Trumbull, E. B. Washburne, and Gideon Welles.

The Index to the Abraham Lincoln Papers created by the Manuscript Division in 1960 after the bulk of the collection was microfilmed, provides a full list of the correspondents and notes the series number, dates, and mounting-sheet numbers for items in Series 1-3 of the Abraham Lincoln Papers. This information, in addition to the keyword search capability in the online presentation, is helpful in finding individual letters or documents in the online version. Additional letters received by the Library after 1960 are not listed in this index.

A current finding aid ([PDF](#) and [HTML](#)) to the Abraham Lincoln Papers is also available online.

Brief History of the Lincoln Papers

Abraham Lincoln's papers were acquired by gifts, transfers, deposits, purchases, and reproductions during the years 1901-2013. The Lincoln Papers came to the Library of Congress from Lincoln's oldest son, Robert Todd Lincoln (1843-1926), who arranged for their organization and care shortly after his father was assassinated on April 14, 1865. At that time, Robert Todd Lincoln had the Lincoln Papers removed to Illinois, where they were first organized under the direction of Judge David Davis of Bloomington, Illinois, Abraham Lincoln's longtime associate. Later, Lincoln's presidential secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay, assisted in the project. In 1874, most of the Lincoln Papers returned to Washington, D.C., and Nicolay and Hay used them in the research and writing of their ten-volume biography, *Abraham Lincoln: A History* (New York, 1890). Robert Todd Lincoln deposited the Lincoln Papers with the Library of Congress in 1919, and deeded them to the Library on January 23, 1923. The deed stipulated that the Lincoln Papers remain sealed until twenty-one years after Robert Todd Lincoln's death. On July 26, 1947, the Lincoln Papers were officially opened to the public.

The most complete account of the early history of the Abraham Lincoln Papers appears in volume 1 of David C. Mearns, *The Lincoln Papers* (Garden City, N.Y., 1948), 3-136. An article by the same author which appeared in the December 1947 issue of the *Abraham Lincoln Quarterly* [External](#) contains the substance of the story. An additional history of the provenance of the collection was prepared for the *Index to the Abraham Lincoln Papers*, pp. v-vi ([PDF](#) and [page view](#)) and subsequently reproduced in the finding aid

([PDF](#) and [HTML](#)). A version appears on this website as the essay [Provenance of the Abraham Lincoln Papers](#).

Some Lincoln documents which had been retained by Nicolay were restored to the Lincoln Papers and were arranged as Series 2 to assure their identification. Other miscellaneous acquisitions are found in Series 3 and 4.

Scanned images from the Abraham Lincoln Papers first became available online in 2001 as the American Memory website *Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress*. Transcriptions prepared for roughly half of the documents by the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College were added in 2002. The present iteration of the online Abraham Lincoln Papers is an updated version of the American Memory site, with additional features, original materials not included in the previous presentation, and the replacement of images scanned from the microfilm edition with full-color images scanned from the original documents.

Description of Series

The Abraham Lincoln Papers are arranged in five series. All of the documents contained in Series 1-3 are reproduced online, as are the original materials contained in Series 4. Although collection items in the online presentation are described at the item level, they may be accessed in groups at the Series level. Individual document headings and available transcriptions can be searched by keyword.

Series 1, General Correspondence and Related Documents, 1833-1916

Consists of manuscripts inherited by Robert Todd Lincoln, which have been designated "The Robert Todd Lincoln Collection of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln." Series 1 includes the so-called "Carpet Bag Documents," which were stored in a carpet bag that suffered water damage. [A list of the "Carpet Bag Documents"](#) created in 1874 by Lincoln's secretary John G. Nicolay is available in this series.

Series 2, Additional Correspondence, 1858-1865

Comprised of correspondence retained by Lincoln's secretary John G. Nicolay, which remained with the Nicolay Papers (received by the Library in 1947) until August 1959, when the letters were removed and reincorporated with the Lincoln Papers.

Series 3, Miscellaneous, 1837-1897

Includes single or small numbers of manuscripts which have been acquired by the Library of Congress from a variety of sources.

Series 4, Addenda, 1774-1948

The addenda to the Abraham Lincoln Papers consists mostly of reproductions of government and military documents made from originals in the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration, 1774-1887. Reproductions of documents held by the National Archives are not represented on this online collection, nor are published materials. Original items contained in Series 4 are included in this online collection and include letters written by Abraham Lincoln, an autobiographical sketch written in 1859 at the request of Jesse W. Fell, mourning cards, political ephemera, a pen purportedly used by Abraham Lincoln, and papers omitted as not being integral to the collection when it was microfilmed and indexed in 1960. Please consult the collection finding aid ([PDF](#) and [HTML](#)) for more detailed information about the contents of Series 4.

Oversize, 1776-1865

Includes original correspondence and facsimile reproductions, certificates, pardons, a petition, a poem, pen, and printed matter. Images of all oversize materials in Series 1-3 and original materials in Series 4 are included in the online presentation and appear with the series from which they were withdrawn when rehoused as part of an oversize series. Oversize facsimiles and reproductions were not included in the online presentation.

Transcriptions Included on this Website

Transcriptions are included for about 10,000 items (about half of the online collection). The Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois performed the editorial work, which included selecting the documents to be transcribed. Their choices were based on either a document's historical importance or as representative of the president's unsolicited incoming mail. Annotated transcriptions were provided for all of the documents in Lincoln's own hand and for secretarial copies of Lincoln documents located in Series 1-3 of the Lincoln Papers. Many of the other transcriptions were also annotated to aid users in identifying the people involved and in better understanding the content and historical contexts. Annotations for Lincoln's autograph documents usually include a headnote providing historical and documentary context, as well as annotations on the content of the document. Annotations for incoming correspondence typically identify persons and organizations writing to Lincoln or referred to in the documents, explain terms and events, and provide brief historical context. Together, these fully searchable transcriptions and annotations dramatically extend access to the Abraham Lincoln Papers and enhance their teaching and research value.



The Murder Weapon – John Wilkes Booth's .44-caliber Derringer pistol.

Officer Elections Approaching

It's not too early to begin thinking about camp officers for next year. Please give consideration to accepting a leadership position in the camp. Everyone needs to take part in camp affairs and do their duty in this regard. Elections will be held at camp meetings in either October, or early December. Officer duties are detailed in the SUVCW Constitution and Regulations on the SUVCW website.

Camp Business

After a disappointing experience this year with the Kaiser Library as a site for our monthly camp meetings, we have considered alternatives. The Kaiser library would only accept us if we'd be willing to change our meeting date to a different day of the week. We certainly appreciate the library system's accommodation of us by providing a free meeting site that we can count on.

A poll of members as to their desired meeting location, revealed that the Hardesty Regional Library was even *preferred* as a meeting site, and we'd be able to keep our regular 4th Thursday as our meeting day. Therefore, Cdr. Rusk will work on reserving meeting times at Hardesty for next year. Meeting dates for the rest of the year are:

- August 22 Hardesty Library, Oak room
- September 26 Thurs, Hardesty Library, Oak room
- October 24, Thursday, Hardesty, Oak room
- December 5, Thursday, Hardesty, Oak room

Patriotic Instructor Joe Fears will be organizing a program for our observance of Remembrance Day in November. If anyone has suggestions for that program please notify Brother Fears. This is one of our most important events of the year, and we

want it to be a good one that has appeal to those who attend.

There have been no preparations for our participation in Tulsa's Veteran's Day parade this year. Unless, there is a desire to participate this year, and soon, we won't be in it. Meetings have been going on for several months, but a late entry is still possible. One of the main discouragements for participation is the two to three-hour wait from the time that entries begin lining up, until the actual time the parade begins. This presents a time to visit with other participants in the parade, but it can be a boring waste of time too. It is a televised event, although some entries are cut for commercials, and that's what happened to us last time.

There has been some discussion of scheduling a camp event that would involve spouses, etc., or the Auxiliary members, or both. However, no firm plans have been made. It has been difficult to assess the interest in such an activity. For example, we could have a dinner at a restaurant, or a cookout similar to what we have done in the past. Please discuss this with your partner, and if this is something you would like, and an idea you would support, please make your views known to Cdr. Rusk.

We are certainly encouraged to have our two latest camp members join us: Brothers Clint Anderson and Scott Preston. All camp members are urged to introduce themselves and do all we can to make these gentlemen feel welcome and appreciated.



Camp Calendar

- August 22 Camp Meeting – Hardesty Regional Lib.
- Sept. 10 Joint Camp Meeting – SCV/SUVCW at Hardesty Regional Library
- October 24 Camp meeting – Hardesty Regional Lib.
- Nov. 1-3 Reenactment of Battle of Honey Springs
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day Parade – Downtown Tulsa

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