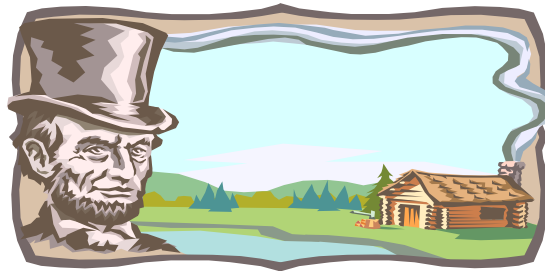


ABRAHAM LINCOLN / 200TH BIRTHDAY A YEARLONG CELEBRATION

February 12, 2009

*Program Idea Submitted by
Ruth Ann Kohlmann, Alpha Beta
Lambda State Program Committee Member*



One doesn't have to look far to be reminded that **Abraham Lincoln** is very special in Illinois. We see him everyday in the words "**Land of Lincoln**" stamped on the license plate of the car in traffic ahead of us.

Springfield, Illinois, with the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum** and many other **Lincoln** historical sites, is the global epicenter of all things **Abraham Lincoln**.

Lincoln's 200th birthday on February 12, 2009 will offer us an opportunity to reflect on his lasting legacy and ethical leadership. As Aristotle pointed out, ethics cannot be learned by reading a treatise on virtue. It can only be grasped by witnessing or studying the conduct of an ethical individual. **WHO IS A BETTER SUBJECT THAN ILLINOIS' OWN ABRAHAM LINCOLN?** (Al Gini, Professor, Loyola University Chicago)

Here are some ideas your chapter can do now and throughout the **Lincoln Celebration Year**:

- (1) Find and visit **Lincoln** sites in Illinois;
 - a. **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum**, Springfield
 - b. David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, Bloomington
 - c. Macon County Historical Society Museum Complex, Decatur
 - d. Early American Museum, Mahomet
 - e. **Lincoln** Home National Historic Site, Springfield
 - f. Old State Capital State Historic Site, Springfield

- g. **Lincoln** Tomb State Historic Site, Springfield
- h. Postville Courthouse State Historic Site, Lincoln
- i. ** For more Central Illinois **Lincoln** Sites visit www.visitcentralillinois.com or www.lookingforLincoln.com.
Also, contact the Central Illinois Tourism Development Office, 700 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701 for their 2008 Central Illinois Official Visitors Guide magazine.

- (2) Have a “Did You Know – Facts/Information Sheet About **Lincoln**” to share at each chapter meeting
- (3) Provide a speaker to talk about **Abraham Lincoln**
- (4) Develop and share a list of reading books and articles on **Abraham Lincoln**
- (5) Select one or two topics from the summary below to write about.
Share your ideas with your colleagues/chapter mates.

*“One could summarize **Lincoln’s** life by saying he began his life in a log cabin and ended it in the White House. He saved the Union and freed the slaves. **Lincoln** reformulated America’s commitment to freedom and democracy.”*

