



*A. Lincoln*

# Lincoln Society of Virginia

Bridgewater College  
Bridgewater, Virginia



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lincoln Symposium will be held on Friday, March 24, 2006, 7~9 PM in Cole Hall at Bridgewater College. The theme is "How Should Virginia (and the Old Confederacy) Interpret Abraham Lincoln?"

Two nationally renown speakers will be featured by the Symposium:

Dr. Barry Schwartz, Professor of Sociology *emeritus* at the University of Georgia and author of *Abraham Lincoln and the Forge of National Memory*, is known for his scholarly works in the field of sociology and for publications about historical figures. He authored *George Washington, The Making of an American Symbol*, and is currently working on planned books, *Abraham Lincoln in the Post-Heroic Era: History and Memory in the Late Twentieth Century*, and *The New Gettysburg Address: Collective Memory and Historical Truth*. In 2002, Dr. Schwartz was appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. Through the use of results of surveys conducted over the years, Dr. Schwartz contends that the perception of Southern hostility toward Lincoln has been greatly exaggerated.

Mr. Jeffrey D. Wert is an historian and author specializing in the Civil War. He has written seven books on the subject, including *Sword of Lincoln: The Army of the Potomac*, which is the first authoritative single-volume history of the Army of the Potomac to be written in many years. Mr. Wert's presentation will focus on Union soldiers' perceptions of Lincoln as a man, president, and commander-in-chief, and he will link those viewpoints to Lincoln's execution of the war against the Confederacy.

The Symposium is free and open to the public. An exhibit of Lincoln artifacts and documents will be on display from 6~7 PM and 9~9:30 PM. For more information, contact Elaine Dellinger (540-828-5620) or edelling@bridgewater.edu.

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## Lincoln Society of Virginia Membership Form

*I would like to join / renew my membership in the Lincoln Society of Virginia for 2006-2007 and have enclosed my dues in the amount of:*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 per individual    or    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 per couple or family  
(Make check payable to: Lincoln Society of Virginia)

*Below is information currently on file with LS<sup>V</sup>. Please make any necessary changes or additions of phone numbers or email addresses below.*

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Please return to: Phillip C. Stone  
Lincoln Society of Virginia  
Bridgewater College  
Bridgewater, VA 22812

## A Message From The Lincoln Group of New York

By Joseph Garrera

Last year's inaugural program of the Lincoln Society of Virginia was greeted with eager participation and support from the general public. Nearly 200 people attended the symposium held on the beautiful campus of Bridgewater College. An even greater number visited the exhibit of vintage Lincoln collectibles on display throughout the day.

The program this year promises to be equally successful as two nationally known scholars make important presentations. Jeffrey Wert, a leading Civil War authority, and Dr. Barry Schwartz, a leading expert on national collective memory, will both deliver informative lectures.

The success of the Lincoln Society of Virginia underscores Abraham Lincoln's importance in American popular culture. Lincoln remains relevant because he faced transcendent universal issues of national indivisibility, social justice, and freedom and equality. These issues remain central challenges in America today.

The formation of a Lincoln society in a former Confederate state has been embraced with considerable enthusiasm and support in the North. Harold Holzer, Co-Chair of the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, views the action as very positive, stating in part, "Many scholars are eager to engage a Lincoln audience in the South, and the new Lincoln Society of Virginia provides a perfect venue for such a dialogue."

As president of The Lincoln Group of New York, I can state that our entire membership admires and supports the historic work of Dr. Stone and the Lincoln Society of Virginia. In fifty years when historians revise the history of reunification, the Civil War and national indivisibility, they may well point to the formation of the Lincoln Society of Virginia as evidence of a renewed spirit of nationalism in America. And so we should all take great pride in supporting and being a part of such an important and positive effort.



Phillip C. Stone  
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