

MARY CHESEBRO LEE

DETACHED TENT #23

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DETACHED TENT #23 CELEBRATES 4 YEARS THIS MONTH!



The organizational meeting of our Tent took place on March 27, 2012 (*above*). Our first informal meeting was held on Tuesday, April 24 and our induction/installation ceremony was held on May 19th at the Wisconsin School for the Deaf (*below*). Happy birthday Tent #23!



KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM EVENTS

CIVIL WAR EXPO Saturday, March 12, 2016; 10am-3pm Living history, heritage groups, and Civil War Round Tables from around the Midwest will present samples of their programming and have informational tables set up throughout the Museum to introduce visitors to their Civil War interpretation. **12pm: Songs of the Civil War** Musical performance by The Old Soldier Fiddlers. **1pm: Co. E of the Calico 6th** David Wege presents personal stories and information on the men of Company E, 6th Wisconsin, a unit that was part of the famed Iron Brigade of the West.

GETTYSBURG: THE FIRST DAY'S FIGHTING Sunday, March 13, 2016; 1pm-3pm This workshop takes a detailed look at the events of Wednesday, July 1, 1863 by using detailed maps, troop movements, human interest stories, leadership analysis, and how the roads of Gettysburg decided the battle. Steve Acker, fresh from taking the Gettysburg licensed guide test, will be your guide through the first day's fight at Gettysburg. Registration required.

A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM Friday, March 18, 2016; 5:30pm-9pm Visit the Museum for a night of special lantern tours, historical activities, and behind the scenes fun at the Museum. Hot dogs, chips, drink, and cookies are included in the price. Registration required.

FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at
The Delavan Community Centre at 6:30pm
on Tuesday, March 22, 2016

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES

“The Lincoln-Douglas debates were a series of formal political debates between the challenger, Abraham Lincoln, and the incumbent, Stephen A. Douglas, in a campaign for one of Illinois' two United States Senate seats. Although Lincoln lost the election, these debates launched him into national prominence which eventually led to his election as President of the United States.

“Lincoln and Douglas agreed to debate in seven of the nine Illinois Congressional Districts; the seven where Douglas had not already spoken. In each debate either Douglas or Lincoln would open with an hour address. The other would then speak for an hour and a half. The first then had 30 minutes of rebuttal. In the seven debates, Douglas, as the incumbent, was allowed to go first four times.” (from <http://www.nps.gov/liho/learn/historyculture/debates.htm>)

“Historians have traditionally regarded the series of seven debates between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln during the 1858 Illinois state election campaign as among the most significant statements in American political history. The issues they discussed were not only of critical importance to the sectional conflict over slavery and states' rights but also touched deeper questions that would continue to influence political discourse. As Lincoln said, the issues would be discussed long after “these poor tongues of Judge Douglas and myself shall be silent.

“The timing of the campaign, the context of sectional animosity within which it was fought, the volatility of the slavery issue, and the instability of the party system combined to give the debates a special importance. Not long before, Douglas had defied President James Buchanan and the southern Democratic leadership when he opposed the admission of Kansas as a slave state under the controversial Lecompton constitution, a stand for which he received support from Republicans in Congress as well as their interest in his reelection. At the same time, Buchanan and the southern slave interests gave tacit (and in some instances explicit) support to Lincoln's candidacy because of their hostility to Douglas. As a result of this strange alignment, Lincoln's principal task was to keep Illinois Republicans from supporting Douglas by exposing the moral gulf that separated them from the senator and to win the support of radical abolitionists and former conservative Whigs. A relative newcomer to the antislavery cause (before 1854, he said, slavery had been a “minor question” with him), Lincoln used the debates to develop and strengthen the moral quality of his position.” (from <http://www.history.com/topics/lincoln-douglas-debates>)

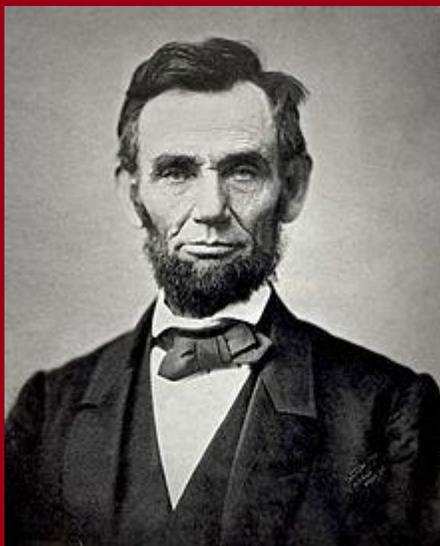


(Photo of Lincoln-Douglas debate in Alton, IL from <http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/34284>
Map of debates from <http://www.nps.gov/liho/learn/historyculture/debates.htm>)



TSAR ALEXANDER II

(photo from 1878 or 1881, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_II_of_Russia)



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

(Photo from 1863, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Lincoln)

LINCOLN & TSAR ALEXANDER II

“In 1861 Abraham Lincoln had just been inaugurated as the sixteenth President of the United States. Fort Sumter had surrendered to Confederate forces, and soon the Civil War would tear the nation in two. Half a world away in Russia, Tsar Alexander II proclaimed his Manifesto liberating twenty million serfs, one of the most transformative legislative acts in Russia’s history. Alexander’s liberating reforms would soon be mirrored by Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, freeing Americans held in slavery.” (from description of the book *The Tsar and the President*, <http://www.amazon.com/The-Tsar-President-Alexander-Emancipator/dp/0978720113>)

The two leaders never met in person, but exchanged numerous letters. Tsar Alexander II supported President Lincoln and the North by sending fleets to New York and San Francisco on a “goodwill” visit. This action played a big role in keeping Europe for the most part neutral during the Civil War (after Confederate victories early in the war, several European nations were tempted to side with the South).

In 1867, Tsar Alexander II sold Alaska to the United States for \$7.2 million in a deal negotiated with William Seward, who served as Secretary of State under Lincoln and until 1869. The tsar was hoping to keep Alaska out of England’s hands should there be a war between England and Russia.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN LINCOLN & TSAR ALEXANDER II

- Both were reformist leaders that struggled with similar sociological problems (the slaves in the U.S. and the serfs in Russia)
- Both faced violence and war in their own countries
- Both were assassinated (Lincoln in 1865, the Tsar in 1881)
- Lincoln became known as “The Great Emancipator” while Tsar Alexander II became known as “The Liberator”

“Robert Lincoln donated the family home in Springfield to the State of Illinois in 1887 under the condition that it would always be open free to the public and well maintained. Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Illinois.” (from <http://www.nps.gov/liho/learn/historyculture/debates.htm>)

