

## The Grand Review of 2011

Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance Newsletter

June 2010 – Vol. 1, Issue 1

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### Dear Friends,

Welcome to the first edition of the Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance (known as LATCRA or "The Alliance") Newsletter, **The Grand Review of 2011**. We will keep you informed of our plans and progress, upcoming events and interesting facts as we approach November 2011 and the re-enactment of Lincoln's Grand Review of 1861 at Bailey's Crossroads.

In this issue we set forth our mission and overall goals and briefly outline plans for 2010. A preliminary outline for the November 2011 Grand Review is included, and we have included some historical facts about Northern Virginia during the Civil War period.

The dedicated volunteers at The Alliance hope to employ Lincoln's legacy to inspire a concept of what it means to be an American, with the byproduct of encouraging immigrants to become naturalized citizens. Our vision of our journey includes fostering increased historical education and promoting educational activities through the placement of historic signs and development of related educational materials. Finally, we want to inspire community cohesiveness in the Bailey's Crossroads area through the commemoration of a shared historical Lincoln legacy.

Watch for illustrations from *Harpers Weekly*, *The Illustrated London News* and other newspapers of the Civil War era that we will be including in our newsletters. These pictures have been provided by Kim Holien from his vast collection of Civil War memorabilia. In this issue, just above, we show a Union soldier writing a letter to friends or family from *Harpers Weekly* of July 20, 1861, and below we include a picture of a soldier in a hammock at camp from the same issue. These sketches were made by the



Writing a Letter Home

magazine's "special artist" who was with General McDowell's army. We have also included an illustration of a Union scouting party in Alexandria from *The Illustrated London News* of July 13, 1861.

We encourage you to visit our web site, [www.ladcra.org](http://www.ladcra.org), for additional information.

Maria Elena Schacknies  
President

### Support the Cause

Living history and preserving our past are vital to future generations. Our children today learn more through visualization. Simply reading about our past is no longer sufficient. Reenactments and memorials such as the planned events at Bailey's Crossroads are necessary to provide a vision of our past so it can be understood and preserved for the future.

The Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance is totally dependent on your support. Please be as generous as you can, and accept our heartfelt thanks for helping us do our small part to preserve our history for future generations.

Donations are being collected to erect Ron Tunison's sculpture of a life-size Lincoln viewing a double bas-relief of the Grand Review. This will be a permanent piece of public art placed prominently along the review route.

The Lincoln At The Crossroads Alliance is certified as a Virginia tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

Federal employees can use Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) number 46239 and be assured that 100% of your donation supports the Cause.

By contributing securities with unrealized long-term capital gains directly to the Charitable Gift Fund, instead of selling the assets and then donating the proceeds, you can give more to LATCRA and enjoy significant tax savings.

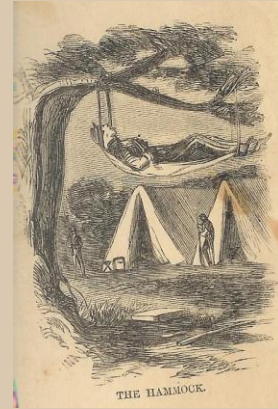
You can link to Charitable Gift Fund and become a contributor. The link is <http://www.charitablegift.org/charity-giving-programs/daf/tax-benefits.shtml>.

We are currently able to accept payments through PayPal.

## Our Goals

### Goals of the Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance

The celebration of the Sesquicentennial of Lincoln's Grand Review of the Army of the Potomac will take place on November 12, 2011. The original review consisted of 70,000 Soldiers divided into seven marching divisions. The Sesquicentennial will consist of approximately 5,000 Soldiers, civil war re-enactors and local citizen organizations divided into five marching divisions. Each marching division will be headed by a ceremonial detachment and marching band representing each of the five uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard). The parade will include a large contingent of active personnel from the U.S. Armed Forces and Virginia National Guard (see article below with a preliminary list of review participants and the order in which they will appear.) The Alliance hopes to establish future reenactments every five years.



Relaxing in a Hammock

Ron Tunison, the world renowned sculptor of historical monuments, is creating a major public art work in the form of a life-size bronze statue of President Lincoln at the Grand Review. This statue will be placed at the southwest corner of Leesburg Pike and Skyline Drive (adjacent to the entrance to Target at the Skyline Shopping Center). The miniature model of the monument was unveiled on June 11, 2009, at "An Evening with Mr. Lincoln" at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. You can see some of the images of the sculpture at our [website](#).

The Alliance also hopes to facilitate the placement of Virginia Civil War Campaign Trail signs along Route 7 (between the City of Alexandria and Falls Church, Virginia) and on Columbia Pike (between the Air Force Memorial and Annandale). We anticipate coordination with the jurisdictions of Alexandria, Bailey's Crossroads, Arlington County, Fairfax County and Annandale in the development and placement of these signs denoting activities directly connected to Lincoln's Grand Review or other significant Civil War events. This objective would have an expected completion date of 2015 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

A renowned Civil War artist will be commissioned to create the official painting of the Grand Review of 1861, and five Civil War paintings by other Civil War artists will be announced shortly. A handsome portfolio of these paintings enriched by period illustrations with a written text on each Northern Virginia community will be edited by professional military historian Kim B. Holien.

## 2010 Plans

This is a most critical year for The Alliance! The hard work of the past three years needs to be complemented by the completion of goals as we move closer to November 2011. We will continue to update our website, [www.latcra.org](http://www.latcra.org), and add the Bailey's Crossroads historical tour to it.

Four more painters will be asked to join our ranks to complete the various painting options concerning the Grand Review and the aspects of the war in and around Bailey's Crossroads.

LATCRA will continue to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #46239), grant writing, and the development of information kits for the media.

We are excited about another event to be held in the fall starring Jim Getty on "Lincoln and his Leadership." Jim Getty, considered to be America's foremost Lincoln portrayer, currently lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he portrays our 16th President in a one-man show during the tourist

season. He has spent years researching Lincoln and his contemporaries and has developed several "first person" presentations as the President.

As LATCRA looks at the calendar leading to the November 2011 reenactment of President Lincoln's Grand Review, we need to consider our approach to the local school systems and the local civic and veterans' associations, so that they become partners with us in this wonderful and important endeavor. We would like to develop educational kits at the elementary, middle school and high school levels. In addition, we hope to involve the various veterans, civic, and service organizations both in the greater Bailey's Crossroads area and throughout Northern Virginia and the Greater Washington Metropolitan area.

## **The Grand Review of 2011**

Here is a preliminary overview of the 2011 Grand Review participants and organization:

The original Grand Review for President Lincoln at Bailey's Crossroads in November 1861 consisted of 70,000 Soldiers marching in 10 divisions and took approximately 10 hours to pass the reviewing area. As a side note, there were no reviewing stands; people were in their carriages, on horseback or on foot.

The Sesquicentennial Grand Review will take place on November 12, 2011, from approximately 9am - Noon along a specific section of Route 7/Leesburg Pike. It will consist of 5,000 participants divided into five divisions of 1,000 each, with each division honoring one of the five divisions of the American Armed Forces: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

Each individual division will have its own Grand Marshal (a Medal of Honor recipient) and an Honorary Grand Marshal who will be named later. Each of the five divisions will have an Honor Guard from the service it is honoring plus a Civil War Honor Guard and a brass marching band of its selected service plus one from the Civil War era. Each division will honor a specific grouping of veterans: World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Cold War - Desert Storm and Global War on Terrorism.

In addition, each division will have a specific Civil War theme: 1st Division - Regular Army; 2nd Division - African American units; 3rd Division - Western Regiments (e.g. Iron Brigade); 4th Division - USMC/USN/USCG and 5th Division - Confederate units.

The divisions will also include members of patriotic organizations, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, civic organizations, service organizations and local schools. To honor the many ethnic groups that served in the Union Army, the various embassies in Washington, D.C., will be asked to contribute a marching element from their embassy staffs and also to have a group in the grandstand.

The overall Grand Marshal for the Grand Review will be Ed Bearss, retired Chief Historian of the National Park Service and former Marine Raider of World War II. The Honorary Grand Marshal for the Grand Review is to be determined.

## A Union Army Scouting Party in Alexandria



The Civil War in America: Unionist Scouting Party in the Virginian Woods in the Neighborhood of Alexandria

The caption on this illustration is taken directly from the picture displayed in *The Illustrated London News* dated July 13, 1861 and was prepared from a sketch by one of the publication's special artists. The text accompanying the illustration states:

"One night our Special Artist accompanied the scouting party, of which the annexed is an Illustration, twelve miles into the enemy's country. The men were dressed in round slouched hats, rough flannel blouses, and carried revolvers and bowie-knives in their belts. Two in advance carried guns, ready cocked, keeping a sharp look out for ambuscades on each side among the trees. The Lieutenant in command and our artist were in the centre."

## A Glimpse of Northern Virginia in 1861

At the start of the war year 1861, Northern Virginia was a pleasant rural grouping of small villages along old colonial roads or modern turnpikes. The only exception to this was the old colonial port town of Alexandria which went no further west than today's King Street metro station. Its population was only about 12,000.

Today's Arlington County consisted of rural farm land with a population of only some 1,600 citizens of the Old Dominion. Falls Church was just a village stretching along Route 7, and Bailey's "Cross

Roads" was just that, a cross roads where the Leesburg Turnpike and the Columbia Pike crossed.

Annandale had only a handful of homes, farms and a beautiful Methodist Church which would soon be lost during the travail of war. Occoquan was a forgotten colonial river-crossing site, but Fairfax Station was a new train location on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Centreville was a decaying old colonial village set along the Warrenton Turnpike.

Fairfax Court House was the county seat and location of the county court house. Its surrounding region featured multiple brick and wooden homes. It stood at the interchange of the Little River Turnpike and Chain Bridge Road.

Vienna was a small village at the crossing of the Chain Bridge Road and the Loudoun & Hampshire Railroad (today's Northern Virginia Regional Park bike path). Tyson's Corner was known as the Peach Orchard, because that's all that was there. Herndon was a farmer's stop along the Loudoun & Hampshire Railroad. Dranesville was a tavern location where the Georgetown Turnpike intersected the Leesburg Turnpike.

Woods stretched everywhere as did small farms and abandoned older farm sites with the soil played out by tobacco farming. Starting in the 1840s many northerners had come down to Northern Virginia to buy up the old farm sites and attempt to revitalize them.

Mt. Vernon had just been purchased by the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association under the leadership of Miss Pamela Cunningham.

*article contributed by Kim B. Holien*

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**"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives  
I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."  
—Abraham Lincoln**

## Contact Us

This Newsletter is published by The Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance (LATCRA) and is the property of The Alliance.

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