

## The Grand Review of 2011

Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance Newsletter

October 2010 - Vol 1, Issue 2

### In This Issue

Support the Cause

Updates

An Evening with Mr. Lincoln

Errata

Julia Ward Howe

The Tune and the Inspiration

About Us

Contact Us

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

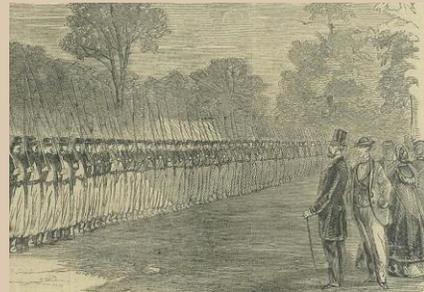
### Quick Links

[www.latcra.org](http://www.latcra.org)  
[info@latcra.org](mailto:info@latcra.org)  
[newsletter@latcra.org](mailto:newsletter@latcra.org)

### Dear Friend,

Welcome to the October 2010 edition of the Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance (known as LATCRA or "The Alliance") Newsletter, *The Grand Review of 2011*.

We are continuing to let you know of our plans and progress, previous and upcoming events, and interesting facts as we work towards the November 2011 re-enactment of Lincoln's Grand Review of 1861 at Bailey's Crossroads.



Military Review - 1861

We continue to meet with local, state, and federal officials to coordinate the logistics and details of our upcoming 2011 commemoration. Special thanks go to Virginia State House of Representatives Delegate Kaye Kory (38th District), Fairfax County Supervisor Penny Gross of the Mason District, and Fairfax County School Board Member Sandy Evans for their support and efforts on our behalf.

Jim Getty, considered to be the nation's foremost Lincoln portrayer, reminisced about Mr. Lincoln at a special evening performance at Bailey Crossroad's Goodwin House, and we include a brief article about the performance.

One of the most memorable outcomes of the November 1861 review of the troops at Bailey's Crossroads was Julia Ward Howe's poem *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, and we have included Jenée Lindner's article about her and the circumstances of her writing this famous poem. After the poem was written and published, many groups involved in the Grand Review suggested that they were the inspiration for her writing the poem. Kim Holien has found instances of seven different groups that believed that they were the source of her inspiration, and we mention them below.

Enjoy some of the old illustrations of the Civil War era that we

continue to include in our newsletters. In this issue, we are including a picture of Julia Ward Howe and two of the Willard Hotel as it appeared in the 19th century and how it appears now. In addition, you will see two illustrations from *Harper's Weekly*, July 20, 1861, from photographs, that show soldiers from the 11th Indiana Regiment of Zouaves in military formation and during recreation.

If you missed our first newsletter of June 2010, you can read it on [a page at our website](#).

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

Maria Elena Schacknies  
President

### Support the Cause

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.

LATCRA has been approved again this year to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign, and Federal employees can use 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 able to accept payments through PayPal.

[Make a Donation](#)

### Updates

On September 3, Maria Elena Schacknies, David Feld and Kim Holien attended a meeting of the Fairfax County School Board, and Mr. Holien had the opportunity to briefly address the School Board members. He mentioned that in November 2011 LATCRA is planning to hold a commemorative review of the Grand Review of 1861 at Bailey's Crossroads, preceded by a musical concert at the NOVA/Alexandria Campus and followed by a Civil War Grand Ball.

LATCRA hopes that this event will be an "inclusive" commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial to include veteran organizations, school marching bands, civic organizations, active duty military units, and civil war reenactment organizations.

If possible, Fairfax County students could be involved in a hands-on manner through writing historical

essays on what life was for young people living in the County during the four years of the war; acting in relevant plays; creating artwork; actually marching in the Grand Review reenactment; and providing parade assistance before, during and after the event. The students could benefit by furthering their knowledge of their American heritage as exemplified in the life of Abraham Lincoln.

After the meeting, they spoke with Mr. Peter Noonan, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and presented him with a packet of LATCRA's first newsletter, our brochure, and the pamphlet "Connect with History," a Fairfax County publication that addresses sites and stories of the Civil War in Fairfax County, including the Bailey's Crossroads Grand Review. Mr. Noonan forwarded the information and LATCRA's ideas to the FCPS Social Sciences Department.

On October 20, Maria Elena Schacknies and Kim Holien will meet with teachers who represent elementary, middle and high schools to discuss how FCPS students could be part of the Sesquicentennial commemorations and participate in LATCRA's planned activities.

We will be submitting an application to secure authorization for roadway use to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and then to the Fairfax County Police Department and Fire and Rescue. Before all these applications can be finalized, we will be developing a proposed road closure map.

On February 11, 2011, in partnership with the Willard InterContinental Hotel in Washington, DC, and with financial support from the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation, LATCRA is presenting a commemoration of the Washington Peace Conference that was held at the Willard Hotel in February 1861. This Conference was the final effort by American politicians to avoid the impending crisis of a Civil War. More than 100 politicians attended from the North and the South. Fourteen northern states and seven southern states were represented. The group met for three weeks and held meetings that consisted of much screaming and posturing, and finally produced an impractical document that was passed by a narrow vote. When this proposal, which would have enshrined and expanded slavery, was presented to the entire U.S. Senate, it was rejected, and there was no workable political compromise available to avoid the Civil War.

This sesquicentennial symposium, "The Peace Conference at 150: A Call to Compromise," examines the issues, intrigues and the opportunities lost - in reexamining the conference that almost saved the Union. More information will be detailed in the next newsletter issue, including the program, honored speakers and guests, and information about registering to attend this momentous event.



**The Willard Hotel In the 19th Century**



**The Modern Willard  
InterContinental Hotel**

These pictures were provided to LATCRA by The Willard InterContinental Hotel. Note The White House in the far left of the picture of the 19th century Willard Hotel.

## An Evening with Mr. Lincoln

September 9 was a special evening at Goodwin House, a retirement community in Bailey's Crossroads ([www.goodwinhouse.org](http://www.goodwinhouse.org)), that along with LATCRA sponsored "Lincoln and his Leadership," presented by Jim Getty, considered to be America's foremost Lincoln portrayer. Mr. Getty, an actor, historian and scholar, currently lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he portrays our 16th President in a one-man show during the tourist season. He has spent more than 30 years researching Lincoln and his contemporaries and has developed several "first person" presentations as the President. ([www.jimgetty.com](http://www.jimgetty.com)).

More than 200 Goodwin House residents and guests, including Virginia State House of Representatives Delegate Kaye Kory (38th District) and Fairfax County Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross, were captivated by Mr. Lincoln's recollections about his work as a lawyer in Illinois, being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, participating in the famous debates with Stephen Douglas, and becoming President of the United States. He reminisced about Civil War battles, and his writing of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Address. He talked about the significance of the Bailey's Crossroads area and how inspired he was to see the 70,000 troops looking so fine and well trained during the Grand Review of November 1861 and how stirring he found the poem written by Julia Ward Howe on this occasion.

LATCRA especially thanks Linda Lateana, Executive Director of Goodwin House, and Colleen Ryan Mallon, Corporate Director of Marketing at Goodwin House, for hosting the event.

## Errata

In our June 2010 newsletter article on The Grand Review of 2011, we mentioned that there were no reviewing stands at the original Grand Review of 1861. Instead, people were in their carriages, on horseback, or on foot. In reading [From Bull Run to Chancellorsville, The Story of the 16th New York Regiment](#) by Major General Newton M. Curtis, Kim Holien found this quotation that refutes the notion that there were no reviewing stands.

"After that we waited for about half the number to pass, before our turn came to march by the reviewing stand, from which we made a circuit of two miles, to reach the road which led to our camp, and when we reach it, also we had performed a hard days work." *Letter from Lieutenant Albert M. Barney to his sister.*

(book published by G. P. Putnam and Sons, NY, 1906. *The Knickerbocker Press*, pp. 82.)

## Julia Ward Howe and *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*



A Young Julia Ward Howe

Julia Ward Howe lived in one of the most turbulent times in our American history, a time when lives were broken by a Civil War that triggered the dynamics of routine family and community life to be torn apart by ideological bickering, politics and violence. She was celebrated during her lifetime as a trailblazing author, poet and lecturer. She is mostly remembered today for her poem *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* which was published in the *Atlantic Monthly* in 1862 and which was set to already existing music, becoming a stirring anthem for the North during the Civil War.

Julia Ward was born May 27, 1819, and was raised in New York City in a wealthy family that was descended on her father's side from Roger Williams and two governors of Rhode Island and on her mother's side from Francis Marion, a Revolutionary War "legend." In 1843, she married Samuel Gridley Howe, a leading educator and social reformer who founded the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts.

The pivotal event for which we remember her best came on November 20, 1861, while she was visiting Washington, DC, for a conference on the founding of the Sanitary Commission, chartered to help sick and wayward soldiers. After learning about a big military and political event to take place in nearby Virginia, she, her husband, their pastor and scores of others came to watch thousands of soldiers parade in review before President Abraham Lincoln at Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia, the first such

review during the Civil War.

After the Grand Review, in the confusion and crush of people surrounding them in their attempt to get back to the Willard Hotel where they were staying, she heard a tune sung by soldiers as they passed the Howe's buggy while making their way back to their military campgrounds. This tune was then called by several names but was most popularly called John Brown's Body. ([See the article below for information about the tune and her inspiration for writing the poem.](#))

It has been said that her pastor, an old family friend, asked her, "Mrs. Howe, why do you not write some good words for that stirring tune?"

She would write those good words ... that very night. She said later of writing the words while exhausted back in her room "of how the verses were weaving themselves together as I drifted off to sleep. Afraid I would forget them at dawn, I forced myself out of bed, lit a candle, and wrote the words down on the window ledge as to not wake the children." She said it was a God-given gift.

Those words would become known as *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* and are reproduced below:

*"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord: He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored: He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his His terrible swift sword: His truth is marching on.*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on!*

*"I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps, They have builded Him an alter in the evening dews and damps; I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps: His day is marching on.*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His day is marching on!*

*"I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel: As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal; Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with His heel, Since God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since God is marching on!*

*"He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat: Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Our God is marching on!*

*"In the beauty of the lillies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me: As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, While God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! While God is marching on!*

*"He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave, He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is Succour to the brave, So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of Time His slave, Our God is marching on."*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Our God is marching on!*

She referred to her poem frequently for the remainder of her life as a blessing and a curse, hoping against hope, as mothers like to do, "to make it all better." She was a woman who spoke and wrote fervently for the end to slavery, the budding suffrage movement, and organizations for international peace. Another well-known legacy we still enjoy today is called Mother's Day, which was established as a national holiday in 1870.

Julia Ward Howe lived another fifty years following the Civil War. She would never stop speaking and writing, wanting to cleanse the distressed, bandage the wounds of the anguished, and hoping for healing, restitution and a renewal of peace in our nation. One day, after considerable public attention, Howe said, "I wish very much that it may do some service in time of peace, which, I pray God, may never more be broken."

*article contributed by Jenée B. Lindner*

Reference: Stephen T. Foster, "Civil War Cards," Atlas Editions, USA, 1963

## The Tune and the Inspiration



The original tune for *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* comes from an ante bellum religious camp song titled "Canaan's Happy Shore" or "Brothers, Will You Meet Me?"

In the late 1850s/early 1860s, the 2nd U.S. Regular Infantry was stationed in New England. They claimed that one of their own, Private John Brown, died of disease and that they used the tune previously mentioned above, but changed the wording, to make it 'John Brown's body lies a moldering in the grave.'

### Camp Recreations - From Tattoo to Taps

There is, of course, the strongly believed story that the John Brown referred to is the abolitionist John Brown who was executed in December 1858 for his October 1858 raid at Harpers Ferry.

Once Mrs. Howe's poem was published, many groups that were in military encampments around Northern Virginia took credit for being the inspiration that led her to write her famous poem and then put the words to the stirring tune.

The famous 12th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment (commanded by Fletcher Webster, son of Senator Daniel Webster) claims that Mrs. Howe heard them singing the tune and thereafter wrote her version.

However, the equally famous Iron Brigade (made up of the 2-6-7 Wisconsin Infantry Regiments, the 19th Indiana and the 24th Michigan) make the same claim based upon a possible visit by Mrs. Howe to their camp at what is today Southern Towers, a high-rise apartment and condominium complex on Seminary Road, across I-395 from Fort Ward.

Moreover, there is the Vermont Brigade camped at Salona in McLean that makes the same claim.

Bruce Catton, in his first book, Mr. Lincoln's Army, claims that Mrs. Howe heard the tune being sung on her way back from Bailey's Review, along Columbia Pike, by an Army unit and that a traveling companion turned to her in her carriage and stated: "Mrs. Howe, certainly you can put better words to that tune."

The Willard Hotel claims that Mrs. Howe was inspired by units passing underneath her window along Pennsylvania Avenue singing the song.

Then, there is the skirmish between the 14th Brooklyn Zouaves and the 1st Virginia Cavalry Regiment on the Fairfax Road between Upton's Hill (at present day 7 Corners) and Fairfax Courthouse that Mrs. Howe claims she witnessed. (However, our historian has seen a pencil sketch of that combat attributed to the Battle of Antietam.)

Finally, in The Fight for Fairfax: A Struggle for a Great American County by Russ Banham, the story of a group of local citizens in Fairfax County (i.e., an attorney, a university president, a homebuilder, county officials, real estate developers, and engineers) who have expended their efforts for more than 50 years to create a locale that would be more than simply a Washington, DC, suburb, Lincoln's Grand Review is mentioned. It was stated that the review itself was the inspiration for the writing of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

*article provided by Kim B. Holien*

## About Us



### Board of Directors

María Elena Schacknies  
Frank Sellers  
Kim Bernard Holien  
Gary Ecelbarger  
Chief Justice (ret.) Frank J. Williams  
Harold Holzer  
Louise Taper

### Honorary Board Members

Congressman Gerry Connolly  
Congressman Jim Moran  
Congressman Frank R. Wolf  
Supervisor Penelope A. "Penny" Gross  
Delegate Adam P. Ebbin

### Board of Advisors

Ed Bearss, *Grand Marshall of Lincoln's Review*  
Spencer Crew, PhD  
John H. Thillmann  
Chris M. Cotone  
E. Hunt Burke  
James Percoco  
Richard W. Clelland, EdD  
Burrus M. Carnahan  
June Baker  
Lori Moreno

James O. Horton, PhD  
Frank Cooling, PhD  
George A. Lomas  
David. A. Joswick  
Susan Saum-Wicklein  
Wendy Swanson  
Robert L. Hodge  
Jenée B. Lindner  
M. David Feld, PE

**"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.

Correspondence may be addressed to LATCRA, 3713 S. George Mason Drive, Suite 1302, Falls Church, VA 22041, or you may contact us at [newsletter@latcra.org](mailto:newsletter@latcra.org).

Our telephone number is 703/820-1904.

Publisher: Maria Elena Schacknies  
Historian: Kim B. Holien  
Editor: June Baker