

# THE GRAPESHOT

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Scottsdale Civic Center Library  
(Auditorium)  
3839 N Drinkwater Blvd  
Scottsdale AZ

3rd Tuesday of the month  
September thru May  
6:40 PM - 8:45 PM

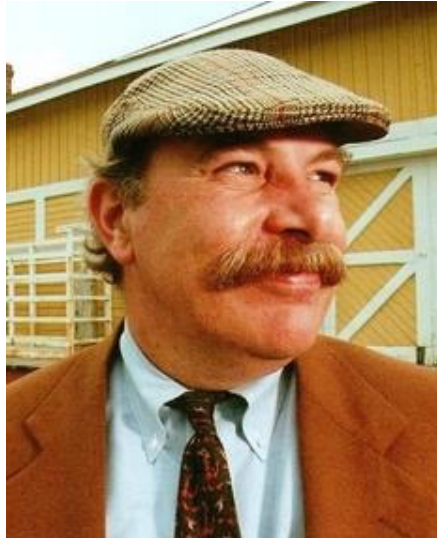
\$35 Annual Dues (individual)  
\$45 Annual Dues (family)

## EVERYONE WELCOME

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## JOHN QUARSTEIN

### Battle of the Ironclads

October 20, 2015

6:40 PM

Scottsdale Civic Center  
Library  
(Auditorium)

John V. Quarstein is an award-winning historian, preservationist, lecturer, and author. He served as historian for the city of Hampton's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He previously worked for thirty years as the director of the Virginia War Museum and as consultant to The Mariners' Museum's Monitor Center. Quarstein is now serving as the Chief Development Officer for the USS Monitor Foundation at The Mariners' Museum.

Quarstein has been involved in a wide variety of historic preservation initiatives including the creation of Civil War battlefield parks like Redoubt Park in Williamsburg or Lee's Mill Park in Newport News as well as historic house museums such as Lee Hall Mansion and Endview Plantation. His current preservation endeavors feature the Rebecca Vaughan House, Lee Hall Depot, Causey's Mill, Big Bethel Battlefield and Fort Monroe. John Quarstein also serves on several boards and commissions such as Virginia Civil War Trails, Virginia War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Advisory Council and the Newport News Sesquicentennial Commission.

John Quarstein is the author of fifteen books, including *Fort Monroe: The Key To The South*, *A History of Ironclads: The Power of Iron Over Wood*, and *Big Bethel: The First Battle*. Quarstein's volume, *The Monitor Boys: The Crew Of The Union's First Ironclad*, received the 2012 Henry Adams Prize for excellence in historical literature. He also has produced, narrated and written several PBS documentaries, such as *Jamestown: Foundations of Freedom* and the film series *Civil War In Hampton Roads*, which was awarded a 2007 Silver Telly. His latest film, *Hampton: From The Sea To The Stars* is a Bronze Telly winner.

Quarstein is the recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1993 President's Award for Historic Preservation; the Civil War Society's Preservation Award in 1996; the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Jefferson Davis Gold Medal in 1999; and the Daughters of the American Revolution Gold Historians Medal in 2009. Besides his lifelong interest in Tidewater Virginia's Civil War experience, Quarstein is an avid duck hunter and decoy collector. He lives on Old Point Comfort in Hampton, Virginia, and on his family's Eastern Shore farm near Chestertown, Maryland.



## Appomattox - "The Last Days of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia"

by Michael E. Haskew

Michael is the author of the well known book "*West Point 1915: Eisenhower, Bradley, and the Class the Stars Fell On*".

The end of the war began when in 1864 General Grant initiated the Overland Campaign. The grinding war of attrition followed from the Wilderness and Spotsylvania to Petersburg and Richmond. Only when he could fight no more did Lee surrender at Appomattox Court House.

In the bitter course of four years of bitter conflict the Army of Northern Virginia and its longtime commander, Robert E. Lee, became the stuff of legends. By April 1865, however, its days were numbered.

Military historian Michael E. Haskew puts the hardship and deprivation suffered by this army's soldiers while defending their home and ideas into proper perspective.

"Appomattox" examines the struggles, the sacrifices, and the heroism that characterize the last months of this illustrious fighting force.

Reviewed by Dr. John Bamberl

### CIVIL WAR WEST COAST CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 13 -15

<http://sjvcwrt.com/conference.html>

Tulare Historical Museum  
444 W Tulare Ave  
Tulare, California  
559-686-3633

Speakers: Ted Savas, Michael Oddinino, Jim Stanbery, Thomas Cartwright, Gary Joiner, Dr. Brian Clague, Mike Green and Edward Alexander



### UPCOMING MEETINGS Sept 2015 - May 2016

- November 17...Howard Strouse  
*Lew Wallace: Glory in Which Arena?*
- December 15...Thomas Cartright  
*Humor In The Civil War*
- January 19...Ed Bearss  
*Another Evening with Ed Bearss: Your Questions Answered*
- February 16...John Hennessy  
*First Manassas: Legends, Lies, and History's Revisions*
- March 15...Craig Symonds  
*Cutting the Gordian Knot: Abraham Lincoln & the Problem of Slavery in American History*
- April 19...S.C. "Sam" Gwynne  
*Stonewall Jackson: One of the Civil War's Great Transformations*
- May 17...Greg Biggs  
*The Question Was One of Supplies - The Logistics for William T. Sherman's Atlanta Campaign*

### OFF TO A RECORD SETTING SEASON!

\$4,155 has been donated so far this season! That's a record for the SCWRT.

We stand at 300 members with 80 of you out there that have yet to renew your membership.

### COME ON! RENEW NOW!

Please continue to support this valuable organization so that it continues to thrive into the future by following our mission statement to educate the public about the American Civil War as well as contributing to battlefield preservation.

👉 Only you can help us do that! 👈

# LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS

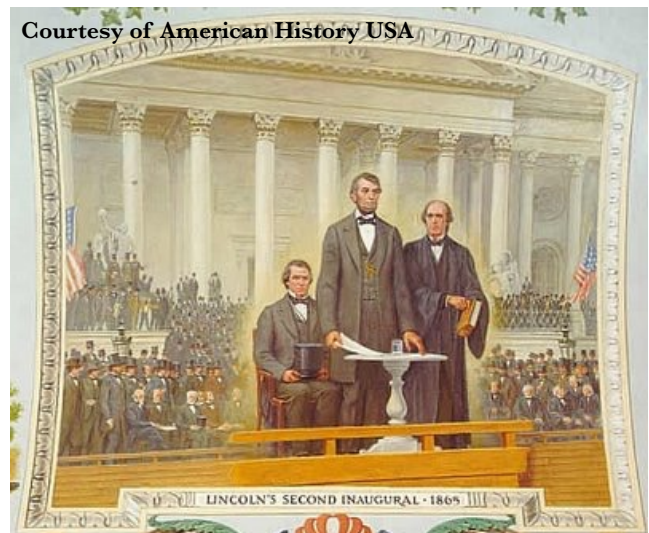
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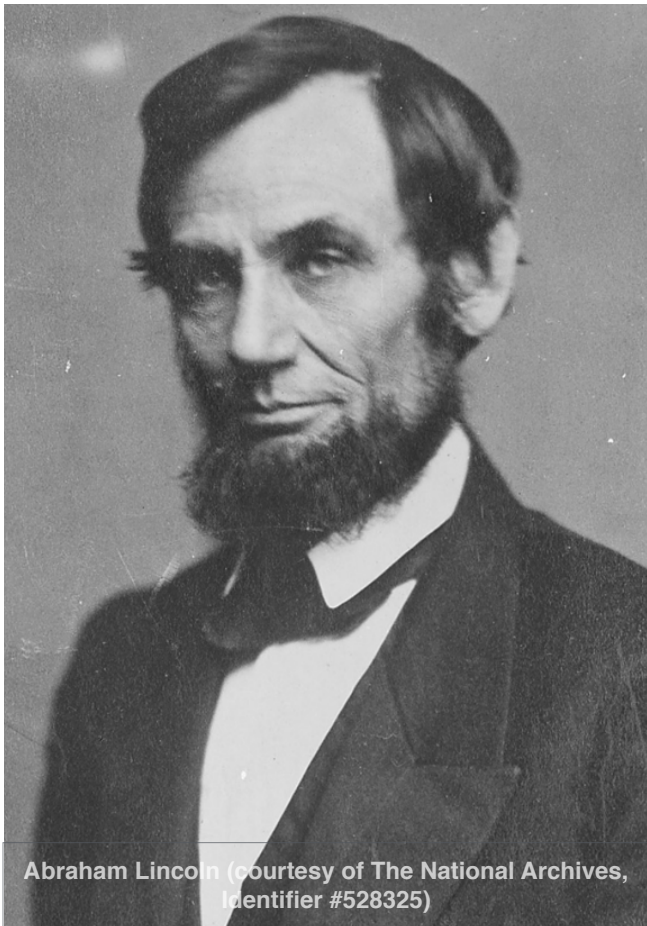
Dr. Mary Lannon (SCWRT Member)

By March 4, 1865, the end of the Civil War was in sight. Indeed, Lee's surrender at Appomattox would occur on April 9, 1865. The crowd gathered to witness the second inauguration of President Lincoln would have reasonably expected a speech both triumphant and congratulatory, celebrating the anticipated victory of the North over the South. The crowd would also have expected Lincoln to discuss what would be done with that victory. How would the nation move forward with what came to be known as reconstruction? What would happen to the recently emancipated slaves, to the land and property of the Confederacy, to those guilty of having committed crimes during the war? The social and legal problems that would come with the end of the war were endless, and these questions were on the minds of those who came to hear Lincoln speak, and those who would later read his words in print.

One of the most obvious characteristics of the Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address is its brevity. At just over 700 words, it took Lincoln approximately six to seven minutes to deliver, as compared to the 35 minutes spent delivering his First Inaugural Address. The address is also characterized by what it does not say. Lincoln in fact begins by listing what he will not discuss, namely those topics expected by his audience. Lincoln says that there is "less occasion for an extended address" than when he first took office, and that with regard to the war "little that is new could be presented." As the nation listened to hear Lincoln discuss the questions of war, and its coming end, Lincoln suggested instead, as Gary Wills has phrased it, that "there was nothing useful to say about the war." As Ronald C. White Jr. has observed in his study of Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, Lincoln was opening the door to an address very different from what was typical on such an occasion.

After first mentioning what he will not discuss, Lincoln goes on to set the background for his coming message. As Douglas Wilson has recognized in his study of Lincoln's writing, the harbinger of the true subject of the speech was not struck until the end of the second paragraph, with four final and ominous words: "And the war came." Lincoln then returns to setting the background, until the mention of slavery shifts the tone and character of the speech. As Wilson observes, Lincoln employs a crucial device, which is the pairing of the North and the South as warring "parties," such that what is true of one is also true of the other. Lincoln says, "Neither party expected for the war..." He begins subsequent sentences with "Neither," "Each," and "Both," to further emphasize this point. At the same time, we see a shift into theological and biblical language: "Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces; but let us judge not, that we be not judged." This carries us into what Wilson has described as "an unexpected and unorthodox theological interpretation of the war." Intensifying his language in reference to slavery, Lincoln quotes directly from the Bible, saying "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh." Here he specifically names slavery as one of those offenses. In addressing an audience comprised of one of the warring parties to which he refers, Lincoln delivers what is both an even-handed and severe pronouncement: that the war was the judgment of God for the offence of slavery. What is interesting to note here is that Lincoln does not distinguish between the North and the South.





Abraham Lincoln (courtesy of The National Archives, Identifier #528325)

While he might well have been expected to cast the blame of slavery upon the South, he deliberately describes the offense as one perpetrated by the nation as a whole. This is further evidenced in his reference to “two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil.” Lincoln reminds his audience that slavery had been part of American history from its beginnings. Thus, the entire nation was due the punishment of war for the offense of slavery.

While the evolution of Lincoln’s writing in 1864 to include increasing references to religion and a theological interpretation of the war makes for an interesting study, what is perhaps more interesting is the risk (though not uncalculated) that Lincoln takes in delivering an address so richly steeped in the religious context. As Wilson has pointed out, in a lifetime of public speaking and writing, Lincoln had rarely, if ever, delivered anything that could have been classified as an interpretation of divine purpose. Thus, his Second Inaugural Address is a distinct and noticeable departure from his previous efforts. Indeed, in the 18 inaugural addresses delivered by 14 presidents before Lincoln, the Bible was quoted only once. However, as White has noted, the centrality of the

Bible in the 19<sup>th</sup> century cannot be overstated. The publication of the Bible far exceeded that of all other books, and ordinary citizens were confident in their ability to understand the Bible. White observes, “If in the twentieth century people would argue over the authority and interpretation of the Bible, in the nineteenth century the Bible was fundamentally a personal resource in life and death.” Thus, while the topic of the speech itself represented a marked departure from what was expected both from Lincoln and from a presidential inaugural address, Lincoln recognized that his words were likely to be appreciated, and his message understood, as he described the offense of slavery and the punishment of war, recognizing that “the judgments of the Lord, are true and righteous altogether.”

While we can be sure Lincoln was sharing his true thoughts and interpretations of the war with his audience, there is yet another, perhaps more significant, purpose to his speech. By setting both the North and the South as warring parties, complicit in the same offense of slavery, Lincoln was effectively preparing the nation for what would be necessary in the years of reconstruction to come. Lincoln begins his final paragraph of the Address by asking all Americans to enter a new era of forgiveness. These words defined Lincoln’s vision of a post-Civil War America. In the final words of his speech, Lincoln asks his audience for compassion. As White has so eloquently stated, Lincoln summons America “to overcome the barrier of race and the boundary of sectionalism and come together again in reconciliation.” Wilson notes that Lincoln was answering the unspoken question: what do we do now? Before the celebrations of victory, Lincoln wants to establish the mood, to set the tone, for what is to come. “With malice toward none, with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right.” These words and the elements therein are Lincoln’s vision of the reconstructed America and the principles by which it should be guided. Lincoln preempts the conclusion of the war and the associated social and legal problems that would come with a call for charity, for magnanimity, for union.