

Committees

Chairman—Lion H. Otis McLain

Program—Lions Rev. Robert T. Bonham, J. C. Honn,
Curtis Alexander and Robert W. Riegel

Moving of Plaque—Lion Lyle H. Franks

Landscaping—Lion President Alvin G. Olson, George
White, F. D. Lewis, and V. L. Horton

Historical Review of the Tolono Plaque

The Tolono Lincoln Tablet is one of the most important in the interesting "Lincoln Country" of Illinois. It is near the campus of the University of Illinois. It is one of the most available Lincoln Sites to the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the University.

Abraham Lincoln, as President-elect of the United States, made his last railway journey across Illinois the morning of February 11, 1861, the day before his fifty-second birthday. His "Farewell Address to the Citizens of Springfield," early that morning, is one of the real prose classics in the English language. Lincoln also spoke at Decatur, and possibly a few words at Danville, but his last public address was at Tolono. At noon, the Great Western train (now the Wabash) reached State Line City, Indiana. Lincoln never again saw his beloved Illinois.

Rededication Program

Lincoln Memorial Plaque
Tolono Union Station
Tolono, Illinois



Saturday, September 20, 1952
3:00 P. M., D. S. T.

Compliments Tolono Lions Club

Lincoln at Tolono

Originally, the Lincoln Memorial Tablet was erected and dedicated by Alliance Chapter, Urbana and Champaign, Daughters of the American Revolution and Tolono citizens in July, 1932. The original site was located just east of Route 45 in a park which is now abandoned.

Tolono is honored in having heard Lincoln's last public address in the State of Illinois on February 11, 1861.

"I am leaving you on an errand of National importance, attended as you are aware, with considerable difficulties. Let us believe as some poet has expressed it, 'Behind the cloud the sun is still shining,' I bid you an affectionate farewell."

Historical accuracy of the site has been attested to by Paul M. Angle, Chicago Historical Society, and the late Clint Clay Tilton, Danville, Illinois, Past President of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Program

Unit 7 Community—Unity High School Band

Directed by Mr. Carl Stover

National Anthem—Boy Scout Troop 55 Flag Raising

Directed by Scoutmaster Lion Ken. Fredrick

Pledge of Allegiance—Lion Pres. Alvin G. Olson

Invocation—Lion Rev. Robert T. Bonham

Welcome to Tolono—Lion Mayor Ray Robinson

Introduction—Master of Ceremonies

Lion Chairman H. Otis McLain

Master of Ceremonies—Mr. C. C. Burford, Historian

GUEST SPEAKERS

Miss Cora Price, Regent, Alliance Chapter, D. A. R.

Pres. George D. Stoddard, University of Illinois

Dr. Coleman R. Griffith, Provost, University of Illinois

Emeritus Pres. C. P. McClelland, MacMurray College

Prof. C. H. Coleman, Eastern Illinois State College

Mr. H. E. Pratt, Sec'y Illinois State Historical Society

Mr. Wayne C. Townley, Past Pres. Illinois State Historical Society

Pres. Arthur K. Atkinson, Wabash Railroad Company

Attorney John W. Freels, Illinois Central Railroad Company

Benediction—Rev. Roy Burrill