

## REVIEW NOTICES

*Dear Mr. Lincoln*  
*Letters to the President*  
Edited by Harold Holzer

(Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1993, reprint 2006. Pp. xvii, 381. Illustrations, notes, index. \$24.95.)

*The Lincoln Mailbag*  
*America Writes to the President,*  
*1861-1865*

Edited by Harold Holzer

(Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1998, reprint 2006. Pp. xxxv, 245. Illustrations, index. \$22.95.)

*An Oral History of Abraham*  
*Lincoln*  
*John G. Nicolay's Interviews and*  
*Essays*

Edited by Michael Burlingame

(Carbondale: Southern Illinois University, 1996, reprint 2006. Pp. xix, 168. Notes, index. \$19.95.)

*With Lincoln in the White House*  
*Letters, Memoranda, and Other*  
*Writings of John G. Nicolay,*  
*1860-1865*

Edited by Michael Burlingame

(Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2000, reprint 2006. Pp. xxi, 274. Notes, index. \$22.95.)

The approach of the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth seems to have induced Southern Illinois University Press to produce paperback editions of four interesting books that highlight Lincoln's relation to Americans via his private secretaries. The Lincoln White House received somewhere between 250 and 500 pieces of mail each day, out of which his secretaries selected 10 to 20 for his personal attention. *Dear Mr. Lincoln* presents the text of letters seen by Lincoln between 1860 and 1865, organizing them into ten topical categories—advice, requests, compliments, complaints, inventions, gifts, business, invitations, family matters, and threats. Harold Holzer prefaces each chapter with an introduction and makes note of the nature or existence of the president's replies. Holzer's second volume, *The Lincoln Mailbag*, grew out of interest in the first. It presents additional letters seen by Lincoln as well as many that were simply forwarded to others for reply. Like the first volume, this also contains annotation regarding his replies, though these letters are presented in chronological order without prefatory commentary.

Michael Burlingame focused his analysis on one of Lincoln's secretaries, the Bavarian-born immigrant John G. Nicolay who lived in Indiana (among other places) before settling in Illinois where he met the future president. *With Lincoln in the White House* presents the secretary's letters and writings organized chronologically for the years of the presidency. After Lincoln's death, Nicolay set out to write a history of the presidency and interviewed a variety of people in Springfield, Illinois, and Washington, D.C. in the 1870s and 1880s. Feeling that the information gleaned was too personal, Nicolay eventually decided against using the material in *Abraham Lincoln: A History* (1890), written with another White House secretary, John Hay. In *An Oral History of Abraham Lincoln*, Burlingame edits the interviews and presents them largely in the chronological order in which the interviews were conducted. For his collective work on Nicolay, Burlingame received the Lincoln Prize Honorable Mention in 2001.

NOTE: Only *An Oral History of Abraham Lincoln* was reviewed in the *IMH* (March 1997).



*Fighting for Liberty and Right  
The Civil War Diary of William  
Bluffton Miller, 1st Sergeant,  
Company K, 75th Indiana  
Volunteer Infantry*

Edited by Jeffrey L. Patrick and  
Robert J. Willey

(Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press,  
2005. Pp. xi, 422. Illustrations, notes, bibliog-  
raphy, index. \$42.00.)

The editors of this book have chronologically organized the wartime diary entries of Sergeant William Bluffton Miller of the 75th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, added historical and military context to each set of entries, and provided a brief biographical sketch of Miller as a soldier. The diary chronicles Miller's involvement in some of the most important campaigns in the Western theater, and it also uncovers the private journey of one man through the Civil War. In his writing, Miller grapples with his assumptions about race, within the context of the nation's past and of his own vision of the future.



*Indiana Civil War Veterans  
Transcription of the Death Rolls of  
the Department of Indiana, Grand  
Army of the Republic, 1882-1948*

By Dennis Northcott

(St. Louis, Mo.: Dennis Northcott, 2005. Pp.  
ix, 400. Appendices. Paperbound, \$29.99.  
Order from [www.ngpublications.com](http://www.ngpublications.com))

This volume abstracts the death rolls for one department (Indiana) of the

Grand Army of the Republic, the largest association of Northern Civil War veterans. Each listing contains the name of the veteran, his rank, company and regiment, GAR post number, age at death, and date of death, as well as from which yearly GAR state journal the information has been taken. Appendices include a roster of all of the state GAR posts and their locations, a roster of the department's yearly encampments from their inception in 1880 until the last in 1948, a roster giving complete state membership by year, and a collection of the GAR's memorial sketches of selected veterans. The author has also published the death rolls for Illinois; the departments of Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas are forthcoming. This volume and its companions should be in every library where patrons are researching the Civil War and their nineteenth-century ancestors.



*To Draw Down Heavenly Dew  
150 Years of Monastic Life, Prayer,  
and Work at Saint Meinrad  
Archabbey*

(St. Meinrad, Ind.: Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 2004. Pp. ix, 107. Illustrations, timeline. \$39.95.)

Anyone who has ever driven by the beautiful sight of St. Meinrad's Archabbey in southern Indiana and wondered what the buildings looked like inside and what life was like for those who lived there, will be interested in this extensively illustrated history,

published to coincide with the archabbey's 150th anniversary. Chapters discuss the early history of the abbey, its abbots and monks, prayer and labor within the abbey's walls, and the parishes and educational projects of the abbots and monks far afield.



*Monk's Notre Dame*

By Edward A. Malloy

(Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2005. Pp. viii, 174. Illustrations. \$50.00.)

Feeling "a responsibility to share with others the tales passed on to me," Father Edward Malloy, President Emeritus of Notre Dame, has collected his memories of the university he attended and then served for decades. The stories are touching, funny, and illuminating of the people and events that make college life memorable.



*The Story of the Natural Sciences  
at Manchester College*

By William R. Eberly

(North Manchester, Ind.: Manchester College Press, 2005. Pp. xiii, 236. Illustrations, index. \$25.00.)

Written to coincide with the opening of the college's new Science Center, William R. Eberly's book provides a highly detailed history of how the sciences have been taught at one Indiana college. Much of the text is devoted to outstanding professors and their research, but the author also

considers the work of many successful alumni and, of course, the growth of the institution. The book is well-produced and generously illustrated. It should be of interest not only to graduates of the college but to anyone interested in the history of science education in Indiana.



*Berea College  
An Illustrated History*

By Shannon H. Wilson

(Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2006. Pp. xi, 246. Illustrations, notes, index. \$35.00.)

This book, like so many institutional histories of colleges and universities, is divided into chapters according to presidential tenure. However, Berea College archivist Shannon Wilson has written the kind of educational history to which other authors should aspire. The book is very well illustrated but does not rely on illustrations for its primary interest. Rather than losing the reader in the minutiae of administrators and policy, Wilson places the college within the context of race relations, the history of Appalachia, and the history of modern educational practice, and does so in an engaging prose style. Anyone interested in the history of progressive higher education in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the history of race and education in America, and the history of Appalachia will profit from reading this book.

*A History of the Society of  
Indiana Pioneers*

By Murray Holliday

(Greenfield, Ind.: Mitchell-Fleming Printing, 2005. Pp. 132. Illustrations, tables. \$25.00.)

This revised edition of the late Murray Holliday's history (originally published in 1980) maintains the original text and organization while adding a biographical sketch of society organizers John H. and Evaline R. Holliday and material at the end of each chapter that brings the topics under discussion up to date. Chapters treat the society's history, debates over membership qualifications, and the efforts to publish a yearbook, organize pilgrimages, and erect historical markers. Appendices document officers, charter members, award winners, annual dinners and pilgrimages, and deceased members.



*Whitley County Pictorial  
History, 1835-2005*

Edited by Randy Baumgardner

(Paducah, Ky.: Turner Publishing Company, 2005. Pp. 135. Index. \$37.50.)

This handsomely bound volume clearly reproduces dozens of photographs of Whitley County's people and families, buildings, businesses, churches, farms, leisure activities, soldiers, social organizations, police and fire personnel, schools, streets, and vehicles. Many of the photographs are undated, and the captions vary from providing full names and extensive

biographical detail (p. 19) to stating as little as “Grandma Reese and Robert” (p. 6). Presented without any narrative, the juxtaposition of images implicitly suggests a silent continuity of past and present. For example, on page 27 a stern-faced, Victorian-era couple sits with hands clasped in front of their white clapboard house; in a photo immediately above, a 1990s-era senior-portrait style photo depicts two sisters in jeans and sweaters seated with hands clasped, at the base of a tree—aside from a common family name in both captions no other explanation is given. This volume should prove useful for its dissemination of a wide variety of historical photographs depicting small-town life in Indiana.



*Swimming with Frogs*  
*Life in the Brown County Hills*

By Ruth Ann Ingraham

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006. Pp. xii, 257. Illustrations, bibliography. \$19.95.)

When she started this book project, following the death of her husband, Ruth Ann Ingraham resolved to “write about nature, survival and regeneration.” She has done so, in an articulate and charmingly illustrated journal-guide to simple, contemplative rural living and personal growth and discovery.

*The Golden Age of Indiana*  
*High School Basketball*

By Greg Guffey

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006. Pp. 215. Illustrations, appendix. Paperbound, \$19.95.)

This handy reference brings together photographs and commentary about Indiana high school basketball between 1945 and 1959, though it remains unstated why only these years were “golden.” Photographs depict players in mostly posed or candid settings, though a few document actual play. Likewise, the commentary primarily emphasizes players and teams, with some description of actual games. An appendix lists brackets and scores for each year’s tournament from the sweet sixteen round to the finals.



*Bringing the World to*  
*Our Neighborhood*  
*The Lotus World Music and*  
*Arts Festival*

By LuAnne Holladay

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2005. Pp. xiii, 158. Illustrations, CD of recordings. \$29.95.)

The Lotus World Music and Arts festival has been an annual event in Bloomington, Indiana, since 1994, when it began as a “let’s put on a show” idea that quickly took on a life of its own. Holladay has captured that hometown flavor in this colorful photographic retrospective, as well as a

sense of the chaotic scramble of musicians from around the world that (somehow) always comes together in a seamless “work of art and love.” The accompanying compact disc gives readers a small sample of the festival’s musical performances.



*Quilts of the Ohio  
Western Reserve*  
By Ricky Clark

(Athens: Ohio University Press, 2005. Pp. x, 115. Illustrations, notes, index. Paperbound, \$19.95.)

The Western Reserve of Ohio was once part of Connecticut, and traces of early New England culture can still be found there—especially, argues Ricky Clark, in the practice of quilt making. In this book, Clark has assembled richly colored examples of calamanco, T-shaped, and borderless pieced quilts to illustrate those cultural connections and to demonstrate the civic and commemorative significance of quilts.



*A Century of Indiana Glass*  
By Craig Schenning

(Atglen, Penn.: Schiffer Publishing Company, 2005. Pp. 158. Illustrations, references. Paperbound, \$29.95.)

This extensively illustrated book was published as a guide for collectors. Nonetheless, it also offers an introductory history of the Indiana Glass Company of Dunkirk, Indiana, and

will instruct interested readers in the huge array of patterns and objects available from the company’s beginnings in 1896 until the final closing of production in 2002.



*Saving the Big Cats*  
*The Exotic Feline Rescue Center*  
By Stephen D. McCloud

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006. Pp. xiii, 90. Illustrations. \$39.95.)

Since 1991, the Exotic Feline Rescue Center near Center Point, Indiana, has been a home for big cats—166 lions, tigers, leopards, ocelots, cougars, and bobcats as of this book’s publication—that have either grown too old for zoos and circuses or suffered abuse and neglect at the hands of private owners. A foreword warns the average person of the complications and dangers of owning big cats as pets, but the beautiful, full-page, color portraits of the animals paired with compelling life histories will make any reader want to drive out and see them in person.



*More of Indiana’s Laughmakers*  
By Ray Banta

(Indianapolis: PennUltimate Press, 2005. Pp. 147. Illustrations, appendices, index. Paperbound, \$12.95.)

Picking up where *Indiana’s Laughmakers* (1990) left off, this volume catalogs over 200 humorous Hoosiers from the late 1900s to 2003. Here

readers will find information about radio, screen, and stage performers; writers, cartoonists, and illustrators; clowns, comedians, and comedy clubs. Conveniently, the index contains entries for both the 1990 and the present volumes.



*A Place of Recourse  
A History of the U.S. District  
Court for the Southern District  
of Ohio, 1803-2003*

By Roberta Sue Alexander

(Athens: Ohio University Press, 2005. Pp. xviii, 417. Maps, illustrations, appendices, notes, selected bibliography, index. \$60.00.)

*A Place of Recourse* examines the two-hundred-year-long rise of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, from obscurity to a place of political, economic, and cultural prominence. This district court has helped to frame issues such as antebellum admiralty law, wartime treason and dissent (during the Civil War and World War I), crime during Prohibition, legal challenges to the New Deal, and many of the social/economic challenges of the late twentieth century. Judges have played important roles in directing these decisions and, accordingly, Alexander devotes ample discussion to the politics and personality of judges, within the context of their court rulings.



*Aviation's Great Recruiter  
Cleveland's Ed Packard*

By H.L. (Herm) Schreiner

(Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2005. Pp. xvii, 352. Illustrations, charts, appendices, references. \$39.95.)

This lavishly illustrated book presents a comprehensive history of Edward T. Packard and his Cleveland model company, known worldwide for intricately detailed aircraft miniatures. Created from balsa wood, these models authentically replicated early plane prototypes as well as the complete line of American and foreign fighters and commercial airliners. The popularity of these replicas (from the 1930s to the present) and the insight hobbyists gained through constructing them earned Packard the title of "Aviation's Great Recruiter," as he brought the dream of flight (even if only in miniature) to thousands.

