

The ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

VOLUME XXXI

NUMBER 4

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2012

MAY MEETING

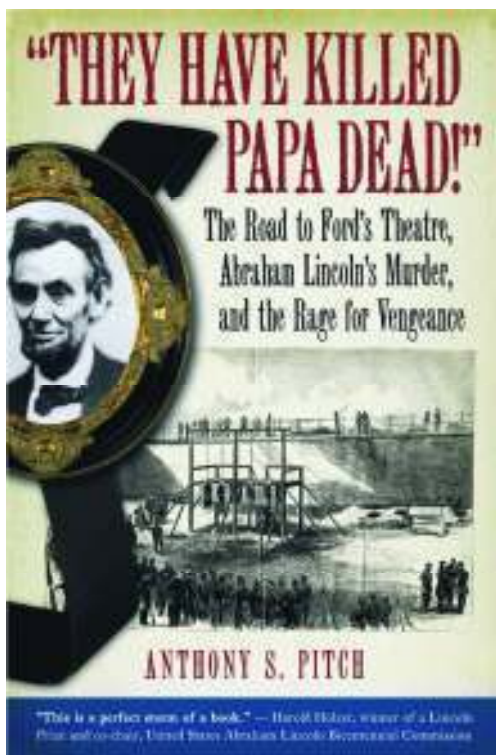
DATE: Wednesday, May 23, 2012

PLACE: The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia

TIME: 7:30 PM

SPEAKER: Author Anthony S. Pitch

“They Have Killed Papa Dead!” – The Road to Ford’s Theatre, Abraham Lincoln’s Murder, and the Rage for Vengeance”



Anthony S. Pitch will discuss his recent book, *“They Have Killed Papa Dead!” - The Road to Ford’s Theatre, Abraham Lincoln’s Murder, and the Rage for Vengeance* (Steerforth Press, 2008) at the next Alexandria Historical Society lecture.

Harold Holzer, co-chairman of the U.S. Commission on Lincoln’s Bicentennial, described it as “a perfect storm of a book,” and the *Chicago Sun-Times* raved, “If not the definitive story of the assassination and the events before and after, then the one that readers should turn to first.” The book received the 2009 Arline Custer Memorial Prize from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.

Mr. Pitch is also the author of *The Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814*, which was a selection of the History Book Club, 2001 winner of the Arline Custer Memorial Prize, and recipient of the Maryland Historical Society’s annual book award.

Mr. Pitch is a former Associated Press Broadcast Editor in Philadelphia, and a senior writer in the books division of *U.S. News & World Report* in Washington, D.C. He has spoken inside Ford’s Theatre about Lincoln’s assassination and appeared numerous times on C-Span TV, most recently in *Washington* (continued)

History Awards Presented

Last month at the annual Alexandria History Awards, the Alexandria Historical Society honored historian Robert L. Madison and journalist Michael Lee Pope, as well as four outstanding Alexandria high school history students. Congratulations to all!

Photo: (l-r) Robert LaRose of Bishop Ireton, Joslyn Chesson of Episcopal, Douglas Maggs of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes, Saara Kaudeyr of T.C. Williams, AHS President Bill Dickinson, and retired State Senator Patsy Ticer.



More on May Lecture

(continued) *Journal* in its documentary on the White House. He was interviewed on C-Span by Brian Lamb in the Library of Congress on the inaugural airing of Book TV.

Two of Mr. Pitch's anecdotal history tours, *The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln and Washington, D.C.*, *Homes of the Presidents Before & After the White House*, have been filmed by C-Span TV. He was also filmed by Tribune Broadcasting TV while narrating inside the White House and was featured in two separate documentaries on the War of 1812 produced for the History Channel and PBS. He has also been featured on National Public Radio, Voice of America, Fox News, BBC, TV2Denmark, and TV New Zealand.

A resident of Potomac, Md., Mr. Pitch is invited annually to give a speech at Fort McHenry on the anniversary of Francis Scott Key writing the national anthem. He gave the Judith P. Austin Memorial Lecture in the Library of Congress, and has been guest speaker inside the U.S. Capitol, at the Smithsonian Institution, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National Press Club.



The lecture is free and open to all. No reservations are required but seating is on a first come, first seated basis.

Proposed Changes to Constitution and Bylaws

The AHS Board of Directors recently mailed proposed changes to the Society's Constitution and Bylaws to the membership. The proposed changes, made after months of review and consideration, reflect current practices and include the following:

- Elaborates on the purpose of the Society
- Rearranges the articles to better reflect the process
- Clarifies the election process and duties of officers
- Clarifies the number of required meetings by the Board of Directors
- Provides for electronic voting when necessary
- Clarifies the investment of funds in the Endowment Fund

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at the second of any two consecutive membership meetings by a majority vote of present members, provided copies of the proposed amendments have been mailed to all members at least two weeks before the first membership meeting. These proposed changes will be presented at the May 23 and June 27 meetings and voted upon at the June 27 meeting.

Nominations for Alexandria Historical Society Board

The Nominating Committee Report has submitted the following slate of candidates for positions on the AHS Board of Directors for the 2012-13 term. The election will be held at the May 23 meeting.

President	Bill Dickinson	
Vice President	Peggy Gross	
Secretary	Ted Pulliam	
Treasurer	Lisa Adamo	
Director	Audrey Davis	3 years
Director	Katy Cannady	3 years
Director	Sara Coster	1 year

Lee-Fendall Seeks Volunteers

Looking for a chance to volunteer in Alexandria's historic community? The Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, 614 Oronoco Street, is seeking volunteer docents who will lead public tours focused on history, decorative arts, and customs, assist with special events, or work in the garden. Since its construction in 1785, the home has been associated with important events in American history. Due to the post-Civil War poverty of the South, the house has experienced few modifications since, apart from plumbing and electricity. Its footprint is unchanged, and its gracious staircase and dentil moldings remain intact. The Lee-Fendall House, with connections to the Lee family extending over a century, is the only historic house museum in Alexandria reflecting the taste of the Victorian era. New docents receive an orientation to the home and its fascinating history, and volunteers can work flexible schedules. Contact Erin Adams, the museum director, at 703.548.1789 to learn more about how you can get involved.

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NEWSLETTER**

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The AHS Newsletter is published by the Alexandria Historical Society, Inc., and mailed free to members. To join the Society, submit your check made payable to "Alexandria Historical Society," together with your name, address, and telephone numbers, to the Alexandria Historical Society, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Annual dues are: \$10.00, Student; \$20.00, Single; \$30.00, Couple; \$50.00, Sustaining; and \$100.00, Patron. The membership year is July to June. Dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The purpose of the Society shall be to promote an active interest in American history and particularly in the history of Alexandria and of Virginia.

The Society is organized exclusively for educational purposes.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.alexandriahistorical.org


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