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Reddick Mansion to Present "Ragman's Roll", a Novel about General W. H. L. Wallace, by Jon Neal Wallace

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On Saturday evening, May 31st, at 7:00pm, the Reddick Mansion Association along with the Book Mouse will present the second in a series of "Readings by the Author, <u>Ragman's Roll</u> by Jon Neal Wallace. The author has written a novel about his relative, General William H. L. Wallace.

The main story line of the novel follows two men, Will and Tom, who are aides to President Lincoln and who helped Lincoln win the nomination for President in 1860. They were also involved with the security of the Lincoln family on their famous train ride into Washington, D.C. Later, the two men enlist when the Civil War breaks out. Tom becomes Wallace's scout as W. H. L. Wallace is promoted throughout the war. As the hero of two battles Fort Donelson and Shiloh, Wallace is responsible for saving Grant's army at Shiloh, despite being fatally injured. A secondary plot focuses on the dreams of General Wallace as he lay dying from the wounds he suffered at the Battle of Shiloh. Mother Africa appears to the General in his dreams and reminds of him of the true reason for his sacrifice—to ensure the end of slavery and to preserve democracy.

Christ Episcopal Church will also be open from 6:30-7:00pm for people who would like to view the stained glass window dedicated General Wallace. Al Kammerer, a member of the church, will be available to talk about the window and to answer any questions.

After the presentation, the author will sign his books (which the Book Mouse will have available for sale).

This event is free and the public is invited. Refreshments will be served and any donations will be gratefully accepted. All money raised will be used for the preservation and renovation of the Reddick Mansion.

The Reddick Mansion, at 100 W. Lafayette Street, was built in 1858, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Sites. It is open to the public for tours and also has meeting/reception rooms available for rent for special events.