

## LUNCHEON SERIES

# TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

We are pleased to announce our next lunch hour speaker.

Begins @ Noon

## Prof. Jonathan Russ

A Very Dramatic Plot: John Wilkes Booth and the Conspiracy to Assassinate President Lincoln.

We live in an age in which conspiracies are quickly promulgated across the Web and, for the most part, we come to find that they are meritless. Nearly 160 years ago, however, there was a very real conspiracy surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. John Wilkes Booth, one of the highest paid celebrity actors of his day, managed to kill the 16<sup>th</sup> President, while his co-conspirators were assigned to assassinate the Vice President and the Secretary of State, all in a plot to decapitate the United States government. Graced with charm, wit, fortune, and fame, Booth carried out his deed in plain sight, and evaded the largest manhunt in U.S. history for 12 days. Although Booth's scheme fell short of its larger goal, it nevertheless shook the war-weary country to its core, and ultimately resulted in a military tribunal in which four defendants were sentenced to hang and others were sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor. Join us as we discuss Booth's harrowing plot and the ramifications it held for a fragile country.



Jonathan Russ is a professor of history at the University of Delaware, where he specializes in the histories of U.S. business, Delaware, and American assassinations. He is the author of *Global Motivations: Honda, Toyota, and the Drive Toward American Manufacturing*, and an upcoming book on the history of Delaware's Court of Chancery. He has been a featured historian on The History Channel's *Titans that Built America* and Fox Nation's *American Dynasty*. A graduate of Colby College (A.B.) and the University of Delaware (M.A., Ph.D.), Professor Russ joined UD's faculty in 1999, and is a recipient of the University's Excellence in Teaching Award.

### Menu

Chicken Noodle Soup

GRILLED VERLASSO SALMON, SOUR CREAM DILL SAUCE

Mixed Fresh Fruit

Members will be billed for the cost of the Luncheon.

Please Contact the Club for Reservations: 658.4287 or [wilmclub@comcast.net](mailto:wilmclub@comcast.net)