



Gerald R. Ford

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation

News from the Ford

August 2009

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE GERALD R. FORD MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens was selected as the recipient of the 2009 Gerald R. Ford Medal For Distinguished Public Service. The medal was presented by Jack Ford, Chairman of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, at the Foundation's Annual Dinner on June 1, 2009 at the Willard InterContinental Hotel, Washington, DC.

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FORD FAMILY PAYS TRIBUTE TO DR. HENRY KISSINGER

The Ford Family and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation paid tribute at the Annual Dinner in Washington to Dr. Henry Kissinger. In addition to the Waterford Crystal Capitol Dome, as pictured, the Ford Family presented Dr. Kissinger with the two bookends from President Ford's desk in Rancho Mirage, California.

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TRUSTEE DICK CHENEY PRESENTS AWARDS AT THE 22nd ANNUAL GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION JOURNALISM AWARDS CEREMONY

In 1988, the Gerald R. Ford Foundation established the Journalism Prize Competition. With these annual awards, President Ford sought to recognize and encourage thoughtful, insightful, and enterprising work by journalists covering the presidency and national defense. The Foundation is proud to continue this tradition. Again this year, the Foundation awarded two \$5,000 prizes for distinguished reporting on the presidency and national defense during calendar year 2008. The awards were presented by Trustee Dick Cheney on June 1, 2009 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

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Secretary William Coleman, Jack Ford, Justice John Paul Stevens, Susan Ford Bales, Steve Ford, and Michael Ford



Susan Ford Bales, Dr. Henry Kissinger, and Steve Ford



Trustee Dick Cheney at the National Press Club during awards presentation

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Foundation News

Letter from the Foundation Executive Director, Joseph S. Calvaruso

Preparing for this year's annual meeting, my thoughts reflected on the passing of Trustee William Seidman. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to have dinner with Bill and Trustee Ron Weiser before Bill's speech in April at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor. His analysis of our country's current economic situation and his thoughts on where we go from here were very insightful. As a former Chairman of the FDIC and RTC, he had a unique perspective of service during one of our nation's most serious economic crises. He worked extensively during the savings and loan crisis to restore solvency to the failing savings and loan sector. Also, as the first Chairman of RTC he presided over the disposition of a substantial amount of assets from failed thrifts. A man of such great accomplishments will be missed.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Board of Trustees was held June 1, 2009 at the Willard InterContinental Hotel in Washington, DC. The Board discussed and approved changes of the Foundation name and logo. This was an exciting and historic day for the Foundation. The new name "Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation" better represents the Foundation's mission to promote the ideals and legacy of America's 38th President. The new logo, with its presidential style and 38 stars, was well received by the Ford family and the Trustees.

Also at the Annual Meeting three new Trustees were elected to the Board. Joining the Board are David Hoogendoorn, who will also serve as our Treasurer; Robin B. Martin, and Robert D. Hynes. More information on our new Trustees will be in our next newsletter.

Two special presentations highlighted the annual dinner. The first was the 2009 Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service awarded to Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens. Jack Ford, Chairman of the Foundation presented the award to this extraordinary individual. The second was to Dr. Henry Kissinger. The Ford family honored him for his service to the Nation and to President Ford. Susan and Steve Ford presented him with a special gift from the family. There was also a very touching video of Dr. Kissinger's service and special friendship with President Ford.

The annual Journalism Awards luncheon at the National Press Club was also held on June 1. The 2009 Gerald R. Ford Prizes for Distinguished Reporting were presented to James Kitfield of The National Journal for his reporting on National Defense and to Kenneth T. Walsh of U.S. News and World Report for his examination of the final year of the Presidency of George W. Bush. It was an honor to have Trustee Dick Cheney as the keynote speaker for the luncheon.

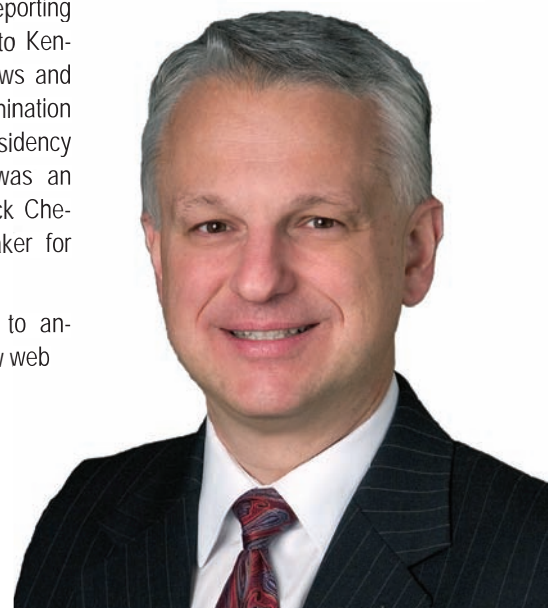
The Foundation is proud to announce the launch of a new web

site. The new design is fresh, modern and centered on the Foundation's mission. We are committed to keeping the site updated with new content, event announcements and features. You will find more about our website on page 4 of this newsletter. When we were searching for a company to develop the site we received several good proposals. A key factor was that the website designer had to understand the importance of the Presidency and the significant role our 38th President played in our nation's history.

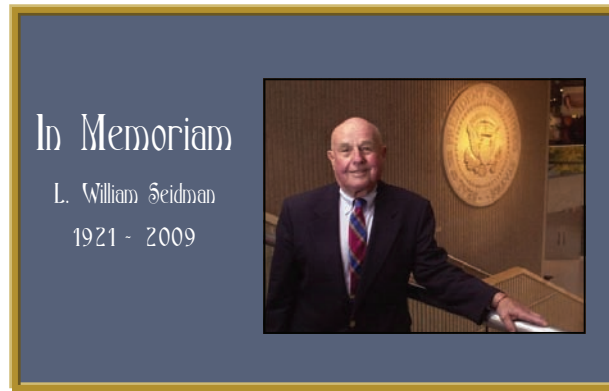
Techsonit not only met that criteria they exceeded our expectations with their level of skill and commitment to the project. A special thank you is extended to their staff and all the individuals who assisted in the research and review.

In addition to the new name and logo, the Foundation has updated the format of the newsletter. Our goal is to provide you three newsletters per year and to make them available by email if your prefer. We will keep the content current and always welcome your ideas.

Joe Calvaruso



Joseph S. Calvaruso



Friend and Trustee Bill Seidman, passed away on May 13, 2009, sadly just three weeks after delivering a talk about the economy at the Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor. The Foundation was fortunate to have a man of such extraordinary success in business, education, government and media. His energy was magnetic, and he combined an uncommon blend of "smarts, humility and fun." An excerpt from Bill Seidman's April 22, 2009 presentation can be found on page 10 of this newsletter, and the complete text is available on our website.

Letter from the Library and Museum Director, Elaine K. Didier

The Library and Museum have been very busy places over the last several months, hosting a total of eight public programs in addition to several events co-sponsored with the Hauenstein Center of Grand Valley State University. Much of the activity centered around celebrations of Mrs. Ford's 91st birthday on April 8, when the Museum had more than 3700 visitors come to tour the exhibits and enjoy birthday cake! Related programs included Patti Matson, former Assistant Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford, speaking at the Library, and John Schwarzlose, Director of the Betty Ford Center, at the Museum.

In addition to these distinguished speakers, the Museum was the site for a gala preview of the new PBS documentary, *Betty Ford: the Real Deal*.

In conjunction with the highly popular feature exhibit *White House in Miniature*, the Museum featured a wonderful panel of three former White House Social Secretaries – Maria Downs, Bess Abell and Laurie Firestone held the capacity audience spellbound as they shared a behind-the-scenes peak at everything that could go wrong at a State Dinner!

Other programs were of a different tone, ranging from Ford Journalism Award winner Peter Baker's commentary on President Obama's first days in office, to a program on

National Press Club, to William Seidman's sobering assessment of the state of the economy. Be sure to read the text of his remarks else-where in this issue. We were all very saddened by his passing just three weeks after his insightful presentation.

The Ford Presidential Foundation's research travel grant program continues to bring scholars from around the world to do research at the Library. Since the program's inception in 1982, this program has provided travel support to 451 scholars, providing a very tangible demonstration of the Foundation's commitment to facilitate access to the papers of President Ford and his administration.

Library and Museum staff have accelerated their efforts to expand the scope of materials available on both the Library's website and the new Ford Presidential Foundation's website. Current digitization projects include the Presidential Memoranda of Conversations collection, the Ford Family photo albums, and oral histories in the Library's collections. Future projects will target the President's Daily Diaries and other special collections of interest to researchers and the general public.

A newly expanded "kid friendly" section of the website will debut shortly, as will an audiovisual presentation of the new tribute section of the Museum exhibit. In addition, we've added an RSS feed to enable you to sign up to receive e-mail alerts as we add new material to

the website, and we now have created a mobile website that is accessible on your smart phone or other mobile device. Check out these new developments at www.fordlibrarymuseum.org.

We welcome your comments and suggestions and look forward to having you visit us this summer, in person and online!

Elaine K. Didier



Elaine K. Didier

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Launches New Website

Concurrent with the publication of this newsletter, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation unveils an entirely new website design at www.geraldrfordfoundation.org. The new site offers viewers a fresh look at Gerald Ford's influence as President during a historic time for our country and enables the Foundation to continue to improve delivery of its message. Techsonit, Inc of Dearborn, Michigan has upgraded the website to include modern innovations in user experience and social media to better serve the goals of all websites: adding new viewership, enticing past viewers to return, and communicating a target message with user-friendly delivery for all ages.

Incorporating its experience with design, marketing, and political strategies, members of Techsonit have taken the website into the mainstream of modern web design, with a focus on the Foundation's mission "to increase awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38th President." New features include: Timely Foundation News Updates; Ford Administration Photographs, Video, Audio and Documents; Audience Expansion by Integration with Social Networking Sites such as Facebook and Digg.

A new Legacy Section includes:

- Today in the Life of President Gerald R. Ford. Each day displays a different activity of President Ford on the same day and month of his presidency.
- Artifact of the Month highlights a gift received by President and Mrs. Ford (and the United States) with a story behind the presentation and information about the artifact.
- America's Tribute to Gerald R. Ford depicts special moments in America's farewell to President Ford after his passing in December, 2006, from Palm Desert, California to Washington, D.C., to his final resting place at the Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Techsonit President Jerry Kowalewski and Techsonit Vice President Eric Ochmanek met to discuss the new website with Library staff.

Working with the Foundation, and Library and Museum staff, members of Techsonit logged numerous research hours, listening to personal accounts of Gerald R. Ford and brainstorming with employees for new ideas. The Foundation is highly appreciative of their skillful and generous contributions. Special thanks go to President Jerry Kowalewski, with over 10 years experience in design, marketing and systems administration; Vice President Eric Ochmanek, senior advance staff for President and Mrs. George W. Bush; managing director for media at the 55th presidential inaugural, and staff for Secretary Michael Leavitt at the US Department of Health and Human Services; and Brian Wagner, with over 9 years of web application and programming experience providing companies in many industries a leading edge with technological innovations in e-commerce, e-learning and e-healthcare web applications.

In addition, Eric Ochmanek previously assisted the Foundation through the Office of Advance for Vice President Dick Cheney, working alongside hundreds of Grand Rapids volunteers on the State Funeral of Gerald R. Ford and with the entire Museum and Foundation staff in support of Vice President Dick Cheney's December 2007 visit and remarks.

Further developments and enhancements are planned for this summer and beyond: photos will be incorporated into the Today in the Life of Gerald R. Ford line; viewers will be able to register online for Museum and Library events, email information to friends, and receive event reminders and change notifications electronically. New feature sections later this year include a Ford Cabinet section, updates on the USS Gerald R. Ford and much more.

**Please visit our new website at
www.geraldrfordfoundation.org
and let us know what you think!**

Vice President Dick Cheney presents awards continued from page 1

Kenneth T. Walsh, Chief White House Correspondent for U.S. News & World Report and author of four books, has won the 22nd annual Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency.



Jack Ford joins Trustee Dick Cheney in the presentation of the 2009 Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency and Distinguished Reporting on National Defense at the National Press Club June 1, 2009.



James Kitfield, National Security and Foreign Affairs Correspondent for the National Journal, has won the 22nd annual Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense.



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Library and Museum are going **GREEN!** By using more e-mails there will be less postage and paper used to get you the important news and coming events. The e-mails will come from either the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation or the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum. Help us keep our lists current! Contact the Ford Presidential Foundation to add or update your email address.

Program Highlights

Laurie Firestone, Maria Downs, and Bess Abell, White House Social Secretaries for First Ladies Barbara Bush, Betty Ford and Lady Bird Johnson, respectively, joined in a lively panel discussion about their insiders' view of State Dinners and entertainment at the Executive Mansion. The panel was moderated by WOOD-TV 8 political reporter **Rick Albin**, April 7, 2009 at the Museum in Grand Rapids.



On March 12, 2009, a private screening and reception premiering a new PBS documentary, *Betty Ford: The Real Deal*, took place at the Museum in Grand Rapids, co-sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum, Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and WGTV TV & Radio.

The film's producer, **Mary Beth Durkin**, spoke of Mrs. Ford before the presentation. *"I think her impact was huge,"* said Durkin. *"She really did break the mold. But not only did she break the mold as First Lady, she became something larger, which is a symbol for women."* Narrated by award-winning actress Jane Alexander, *Betty Ford: The Real Deal*, features never before seen photos and film footage, plus interviews with Mrs. Ford, her four children and close friends. Other interviews include Presidential Historians, Michael Beschloss, Richard Norton Smith, and former White House Photographer David Hume Kennerly.

Durkin cut a cake in celebration of the special screening of her documentary. Two hundred guests attended the event.



On March 9, 2009 the 2008 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Journalism Prize Winner for Reporting on the Presidency, **Peter Baker**, delivered a talk at the Library in Ann Arbor about his coverage of the new presidency as a *New York Times* reporter. Mr. Baker focused on President Barack Obama's first 50 days in office.



Happy Birthday Mrs. Ford!



We thank the volunteers who served over 1000 pieces of cake at the museum in honor of Mrs. Ford's Birthday.



On March 31, 2009, Mrs. Ford's White House Assistant Press Secretary **Patti Matson** delivered a talk at the Library in honor of Mrs. Ford's upcoming 91st birthday on April 8th, entitled *Betty Ford, Strength in a Package Marked Fragile*.

On April 14, 2009, in a talk entitled *Betty Ford: A Love Story*, **John Schwarzlose**, President of the Betty Ford Center, made a return visit to the Museum in Grand Rapids to speak in celebration of Mrs. Ford's birthday on April 8th.



Justice Stevens article continued from page 1

Justice Stevens' service on the Supreme Court has been marked with intellectual consistency, respect for Court precedent, and as a tireless champion for the rule of law. In 2005, President Ford reflected on Justice Stevens' thirty years on the Court and of his respect and admiration for Justice Stevens. President Ford wrote:

Historians study the significant diplomatic, legislative, and economic events that occurred during a Presidential term to evaluate that Presidency... Let that not be the case for my Presidency. For I am prepared to allow history's judgment of my term in office to rest (if necessary, exclusively) on my nomination thirty years ago of John Paul Stevens

to the U.S. Supreme Court... He has served his nation well, at all times carrying out his judicial duties with dignity, intellect and without partisan political concerns.

John Paul Stevens' career of distinguished public service spans nearly 70 years. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1941 with a B.A. degree, Phi Beta Kappa, and shortly before the attack on Pearl Harbor enlisted in the United States Navy. He served in the Navy as an Intelligence Officer in the Pacific Theater, and won a Bronze Star for his extraordinary service as a cryptographer on the code-breaking team that discovered vital elements of Japanese military codes. Following the war, he returned home to the Midwest and earned his law

degree at Northwestern University Law School in 1947, graduating first in his class and with the highest grade-point average in the school's history. He subsequently served in a series of distinguished positions, including law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Wiley Rutledge, Associate Counsel to the U.S. House of Representative's Subcommittee on the Study of Monopoly Power, and as a member of the Attorney General's National Committee to Study Antitrust Law. After a successful career in private law practice, he was appointed in 1970 to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Then, in 1975, President Gerald R. Ford nominated him as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and on December 19, 1975 he assumed his seat on the Court, after being confirmed by the Senate by a vote of 98-0.

Dr. Henry Kissinger article continued from page 1



A video tribute was played that included remarks by President Ford about Secretary Kissinger on January 13, 1977.

Excerpts from President Ford's remarks:

"His superb record of achievement is unsurpassed in the annals of American History. But let me mention just a few examples:

The agreement that brought our men home from Vietnam;

The historic beginning of our relationship with the Peoples Republic of China;

The foundation and the first building blocks of the strategic arms limitation;

The turning point in the history, the modern history of the middle east and the first steps toward peace;

The breakthrough towards peaceful settlement in Southern Africa;

The closest friendship among the North Atlantic allies in a generation;

The linking of Japan our permanent friend into the community of the industrial democracies;

The new dialogue with Latin America;

The seven special sessions of the UN General Assembly, a mile stone in world economic history.

In every case, Secretary Kissinger has worked mightily for peace. And in every case the cause of peace has been advanced by his efforts."

"He led the way in awaking the industrialized nations – the industrialized world – to the changes that must be made if the poor of the world are to know hope and prosperity. He has been the architect of a new and productive relationship with our adversaries. His is a record of unprecedented scope and enormous accomplishment. Is a record which all Americans take pride. And it's a record worthy of special recognition."

"Secretary Kissinger, whom we're honoring tonight, we have been impressed by our association with him on a personal basis; impressed by his intellect and his insight; and thankful for his mighty efforts for the cause of peace for mankind on a worldwide basis. He is, so far as this American is concerned, the greatest Secretary of State in the history of our republic."



Dr. Henry Kissinger at the 2009 Annual Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Dinner in Washington, DC.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Travel Grants

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation semi-annually awards travel grants of up to \$2,000 to support research in the Ford Library's collections. For grant application forms and information, please contact Bill McNitt, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, by phone 734.205.0557, or email William.McNitt@nara.gov. Application deadlines are March 15th and September 15th.

Spring 2009 Recipients

Barr, Kathleen
Texas A&M University
The Energy Crisis of the 1970s: America and Its Allies Confront OPEC

Chen, Ming Hsu
University of California (Berkeley) School of Law
From Civil Rights to Multiculturalism: Political and Legal Incorporation of Language Minorities, 1964-1979

Cominelli, Lucrezia
Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane (Italy)
Italian American Relations in the Era of Détente

Honeycutt, Lee
Iowa State University
"The Moral Equivalent of War": Presidential Language in American Energy Politics

Hwang, Ingu
University of Chicago
Politics of Human Rights under the National Security State: Democratization and Korean-American Relations from 1968 to 1980

Klieman, Kairn
University of Houston
"Before the Curse": Petroleum, Politics, and Transnational Oil Companies in the Gulf of Guinea, Africa, 1960-1982

McFarland, Victor
Yale University
The Oil Crisis: The United States, the Arab World, and the Shock of the 1970s

Middleton, Stuart
University of Queensland (Australia)
Reputational Crisis Management in Campaign '76

Rezk, Dina
Cambridge University (United Kingdom)
Worlds Apart? Anglo-American Political and Intelligence Assessments of Egypt Over Two Decades (1957-1977)

Roth, Tanya L.
Washington University in St. Louis
America's Finest Ladies: Women as Soldiers, Citizens, and Workers in the U.S. Military, 1945-1978

Sahara, Ayako
University of California, San Diego
Global Humanitarianism: U.S. Empire in Asia through U.S. Involvement in the Indochinese Refugee Issue

Shiao, Xiao
East China Normal University (Shanghai, China)
The United States and the Vietnam Unification War (1973-1975)

Stahl, Jason
University of Minnesota
Selling Conservatism: Think Tanks, Conservative Ideology, and the Undermining of Liberalism, 1945-Present

Stur, Heather
University of Southern Mississippi
Transformations in Gender Relations and Foreign Policy in the Post-Vietnam War Era



The U.S. Economy...What's Ahead

A talk by L. William "Bill" Seidman

at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library on April 22, 2009

Excerpt:

"One of the great privileges of my life was to serve Gerald Ford. I had an office in the West Wing during his term as President; I was with him as Vice President. One thing that has always bothered me is that everyone celebrates his ability to "heal" the nation after Watergate. The fact of the matter was that he had one of the most active and serious economic problems during his administration that we had had since the Great Depression. It was something that is at the same level as we have today.

I won't go through all that but I want to give you a couple of instances why I so admired him. He knew government. He knew how to run the machinery and he knew how to make decisions. As I watch presidents since then, if there is one thing that we have seen, it is that some presidents really have great difficulty arriving at decisions that are well thought out and good for the Republic. Ford, as you know, had been a Republican congressman for 25 years and he really understood the fact that when you were making a decision that affected 300 million people in a \$12 trillion economy, it wasn't like running Goldman Sachs. That's something our last Secretary of the Treasury never found out, which is an entirely different kind of a ball game. Let me illustrate: when Ford had major economic problem as he did, he wanted to hear every point of view. We had meetings three times a week in which people argued for various types of action that ought to be taken. After one meeting he told me, "Don't invite that guy back again. He didn't say anything. I want people who advocate."

As I've watched presidencies since then if there's one thing that every president ought to have is a way to make decisions after full information. One of the things you can say if you look at the presidency of George W.

Bush was that he had a very narrow group that advised him. As a result of that he made some very narrow decisions. His people were the same way. The one thing you could say about Gerald Ford was that he loved to have people disagree with him. I defy you to find anybody else in politics who really enjoys that. He just happened to have learned from being a congressman for 25 years that you need to have an information base, and that it's very difficult in a huge, diverse country.

To illustrate, when a recession came along, the question was "What should the President do about the recession?" Ford's two top economic advisers were Alan Greenspan and Bill Simon and--- I don't want to call them right wing--- but they were way over on the right, conservative Republicans who were devastated by the fact that the government was running, what is it--- a \$60 billion deficit--- not enough today to even bother to look at the numbers. They both took the strong view that Ford could not cut taxes. He could not start new programs. If he would just tell people to take life as it came there would be an upswing based on the natural resiliency of the economy in the United States.

He finally said to me, "I'm getting all this information that's the same." I said, "I'd like to introduce you to some other people who don't agree with our friends." So we had in some of the leading economists in the country. They made their presentations. Simon and Greenspan were there and violently objected. But Ford was really one of the first Republicans who cut taxes as a way to try to increase economic activity. That program, in this case, proved to be a remarkable success. At the end of his 2 1/2 years, the economy was heading toward a balanced budget, unemployment had gone down from 9% to under 6%, inflation had gone from 12% to

under 6% and every vital sign was going in the right direction.

Now I will show my partisanship--- within two years after his successor President Carter got in office, all of those lines turned around and were going the other way. Inflation was going up. Unemployment was going up. Gerald Ford was far more than a healing president; he was really a president who could handle the situation because he knew government.

I'll give you just one more illustration. As you know, he vetoed over 50 spending bills---more than any president had ever done in the past. Every time he vetoed a bill, some group that thought they were getting a lot of money ended up not getting so much money. I remember talking to him about it. "Aren't you concerned? You're alienating everybody in the United States. You've vetoed a bill for almost anybody who gets anything from the government."

He said, "No, that's not really the way it works. Our government works on the basis of 'all politics is local' for the Congress, for the Senate. But there's one person who has to protect all the citizens and that's the President of the United States. So when I veto a bill, whoever sponsored that bill probably knows he got too much money, probably knows that really if he could represent the Republic as a whole instead of his constituency, he wouldn't have gotten so much money. I'm taking the heat for him now so that after the veto he can vote on a lower amount and we can move toward a balanced budget." The fact of the matter was that those 50 vetoes, as far as anybody can tell, were not an important factor in his losing the election."

The complete text of Mr. Seidman's presentation is available at www.geraldrfordfoundation.org.



Yes I want to be a "Friend of Ford"

Become a member of Friends of Ford and help support the Library & Museum's many exhibits and programs. Join us as we seek to enhance public understanding of American history, government and the presidency.

"I am profoundly grateful for the kind words that have been said about me, but the finest tribute of all will be to see the Gerald R. Ford Museum living and growing and constructive and useful."

Members of Friends of Ford receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
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- ★ Foundation Newsletter, "News From The Ford"
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Gerald R. Ford
Museum Dedication
September 18, 1981



As a member of Friends of Ford you are invited to participate in many special Library and Museum activities that are not open to the general public.

To join the Friends of Ford, please mail the completed application form to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation at the address below or visit our website at www.geraldrfordfoundation.org. For further information, please contact Diane VanAllsburg at 616.254.0396 or email diane.vanallsburg@nara.gov

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Website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org

For information about Library programs:

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1000 Beal Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2114
734.205.0555
Website: www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov

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The mission of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is to support the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum by sponsoring historical exhibits, educational programs, conferences, research grants and awards. In fulfilling its mission, the Foundation honors the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his public service career. The Foundation also aims to educate Americans about the unique history and significant events of the Ford presidency. Finally, the Foundation seeks to enhance public understanding of American history and government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Joe Calvaruso, Executive Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504-5353.

Upcoming Events:

Grand Rapids:

Bruce Bustard

Curating Picturing the Century

Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 7:30 PM

Dr. Bustard is an Exhibit Curator on the public programs staff of the National Archives and Records Administration. His talk will discuss image selection for the exhibit. For reservations, please call 616.254.0384 or email at ford_events@nara.gov.

Rushmore Live - A Constitution Day Celebration

Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Join George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln for a Constitution Day celebration. The four former presidents will meet on stage at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Bill Barker as Thomas Jefferson, Jim Foote as Theodore Roosevelt, Jim Getty as Abraham Lincoln, and Dean Malissa as George Washington. This event is co-sponsored with Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. Reservations can be made by calling 616.331.2770.



We look forward to seeing you!

On Exhibit:

Grand Rapids:

A Child in the White House - Caroline Kennedy's Dolls (ending August 31, 2009)

More than 70 dolls and puppets from 30 countries given to young Caroline Kennedy from 1961 through 1963. This collection is on loan from the John F. Kennedy Library.

Musings (ending August 31, 2009) - This juried exhibition of quilts from across the country by members of Studio Art Quilt Associates focuses on the theme of "musings", which connotes contemplation, meditation, and reflection. The idea of the artist's muse comes to mind.

Picturing the Century: One Hundred Years of Photography from the National Archives (September 12, 2009 through January 9, 2010)

The exhibit commemorates the end of the 20th century with a selection of photographs from the vast and varied holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration. The photographs vividly capture the sweeping changes of the last one hundred years, both the mundane and high political drama, society's failings as well as its triumphs, war's ugliness as well as its bravery.

ArtPrize (September 23, 2009 through October 10, 2009) - The Museum will serve as a venue for artists displaying work in ArtPrize. Artists from around the world will be exhibiting—from established to emerging, throughout Grand Rapids. The winner is determined by public vote. Any visitor can vote. The vote will determine who wins the largest art prize in the world, \$250,000.