Gerald R. Ford Foundation *NEWSLETTER*

Fall 1996

Rededication Plans Take Shape for April, 1997

Mark your calendars for April 16-17, 1997. That's when at least three former Presidents join with thousands of President Ford's friends and admirers in rededicating the Ford Museum. The program begins on April 16, with a conference commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Marshall Plan—and a look at U.S.-European relations at the end of the 20th century.

"...a conference commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Marshall Plan."

Noted diplomats, journalists, historians and others will gather in Grand Rapids, the hometown not only of President Ford, but of Michigan's legendary Senator Arthur Vandenberg, to examine the postwar program of European reconstruction made possible in no small part through Vandenberg's support. Fifty years later, we'll also consider the dangers of a possible revival of American isolationism in an ever shrinking world.

That evening, Presidents Ford, Carter, and Bush, will host a recreated White House State Dinner, to be staged in the Pantlind Ballroom of the Amway Grand Hotel. Everything will be done to make the evening a memorably authentic reproduction of White House hospitality—including representatives from White House families going back half-a-century.

"...Presidents Ford, Carter, and Bush will host a recreated White House State Dinner."

Festivities reach a climax on the morning of April 17, when the Presidents will—what else?—preside over a ceremony formally rededicating the Ford Museum and opening to the public an entirely new permanent exhibit made possible through the generosity of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. For more details, call (616) 451-9263. Better yet, join our new support group, the *Friends of Ford*, and learn in advance of all the exciting programs planned for 1997 and beyond! ■

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Richard Norton Smith

A Letter from the Museum/Library Director

Small incidents can reveal large truths. At the outset of the Ford Library's September 26th conference, *The Trouble with Washington...*, former South Dakota Senator and 1972 Democratic presidential candidate George McGovern recalled an invitation he received to a White House dinner during the final days of the Vietnam War. As the leading critic of American involvement in Vietnam, McGovern hadn't exactly been the most popular of presidential dinner partners. Throughout the presidencies of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, McGovern reminded President Ford at the time, he had never been invited socially to the White House. "I know, George," replied the President. "That's why I asked you."

"...a day long examination of American politics and government in the 1990s, whose recurring theme was the loss of a civility ..."

Senator McGovern's story set the tone for a day long examination of American politics and government in the 1990s, whose recurring theme was the loss of a civility symbolized by Gerald Ford's inclusive gesture of April, 1975. Before the day ended, conference participants and a national C-SPAN audience were treated to some remarkable perspectives concerning the state of our democracy. On balance, the outlook was pronounced hopeful.

"...acute students of human nature who deliberately created a government wherein trust was reserved for institutions over individual leaders."

Former Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin in his keynote address reminded us that the American Founders were skeptics as well as idealists, acute students of human nature who deliberately created a government wherein trust was reserved for institutions over individual leaders. It was a suitably provocative start to a program in which conventional wisdom was challenged and popular assumptions were turned inside out. President Ford concluded the day with perhaps the most unorthodox prediction of all—suggesting that reform of entitlement programs, widely viewed as politically untouchable, may yet provide the impetus for a revitalization of American political parties.

The Trouble with Washington... never would have happened without the tireless efforts of my colleagues at the Ford Library in Ann Arbor, led by Dick Holzhausen, who put literally hundreds of hours of time into conference preparations. Together, they fashioned a day devoted to rethinking what we thought we knew. As such, the program serves as a metaphor for other changes underway at the Ford Library and Museum.

"Few things in this life are as fluid as historical interpretation—unless it is the technology of museum storytelling."

Few things in this life are as fluid as historical interpretation—unless it is the technology of museum storytelling. Both factors combine to justify and inspire a four million-dollar make over of the Ford Museum's permanent exhibits. Fifteen years have elapsed since the Grand Rapids Museum was dedicated in September, 1981. With the added perspective of those years, it is possible to see the Ford Presidency in a new light. For example, the Helsinki Accords, signed in 1975, are no longer viewed as an isolated diplomatic achievement, but as an important link in the chain of events leading to the collapse of the Soviet Empire.

"With the added perspective of those years, it is possible to see the Ford Presidency in a new light."

Likewise, the Ford presidency blazed new trails in economic deregulation and the renewal of America's military strength; indeed, virtually every weapon system that came on-line during the Reagan era, and was tested in the 1991 Gulf War, had its origins during Gerald R. Ford's relatively brief White House tenure.

Fittingly enough, it is the technological advances of recent years that will help us transform the present Ford Museum from a passive, two dimensional exhibit into a highly interactive recreation of the sights, sounds, and experiences of the Ford years. Beginning in April, 1997, Museum visitors will no longer be on the outside of history looking in. Rather, they will become historical participants, able to visit the White House Situation Room, and travel via video with President Ford and Secretary Kissinger to various hot-spots around the globe. They will take a holographic tour of the Ford White House. Inside the Oval Office, they will experience a day in the life of presidency, incorporating a new soundtrack and sophisticated lighting to introduce the most famous room in America "up close and personal."

Students of President Ford's life and times will find much to engage their interest. The new Museum will recreate the Ford Paint and Varnish Company in Grand Rapids where the President worked as a boy. It will put visitors in the hot-seat of a Senate committee hearing in the fall of 1973, as Grand Rapids' favorite son is grilled over his qualifications to be vice-president. It will enable them to stand on the floor of the 1976 Republican National Convention in Kansas

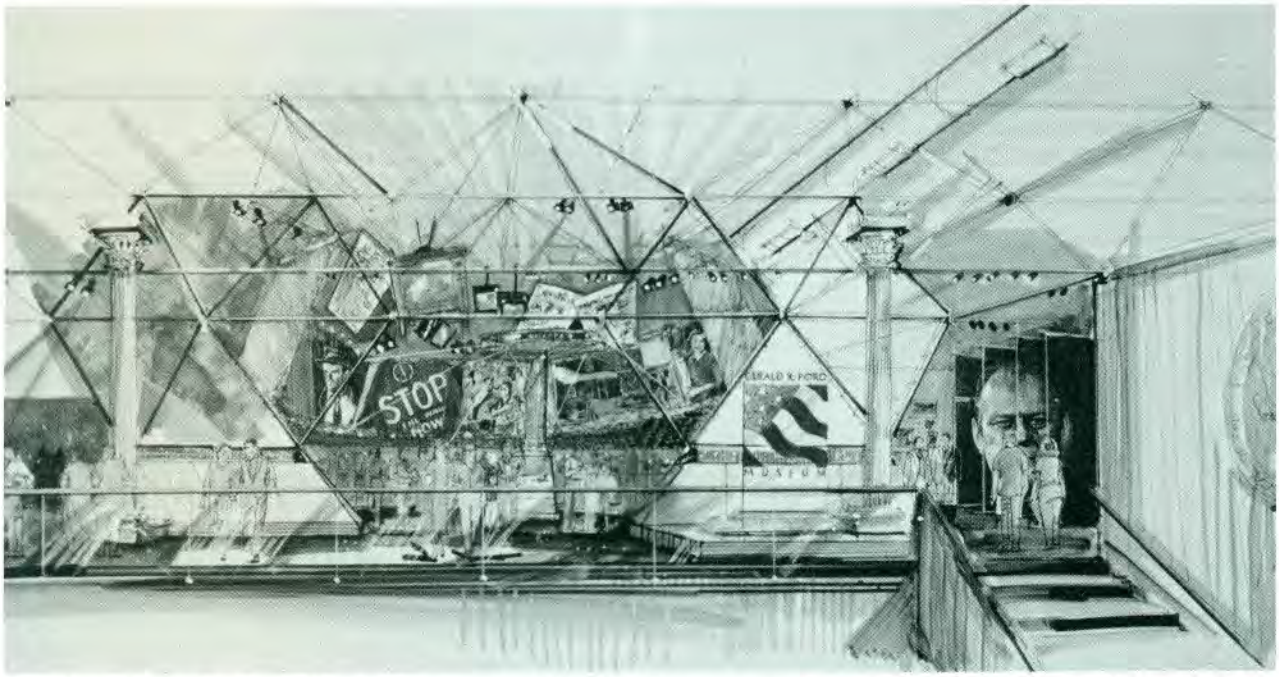
"...take a holographic tour of the Ford White House."

City, and in the East Room of the White House on August 9, 1974, as the new President proclaims "our long national nightmare is over." And, for those who never lived through the age of leisure suits and the Partridge Family, there will even be a 1970s disco to show what they missed!

The new 15,000 square foot permanent exhibit, enhanced by a revised film in the museum auditorium, will also feature greatly expanded displays on Mrs. Ford, the 1976 Bicentennial, and the Fords' post-White House lives. All this represents the input of many creative minds.

Ultimately, however, it is the result of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation's determination to create a 21st century institution worthy of the President and First Lady it honors. Thanks to the Ford Foundation's generous support, the Ford Museum will be a showcase of its kind, and a source of continuing pride to the people of Grand Rapids and western Michigan.

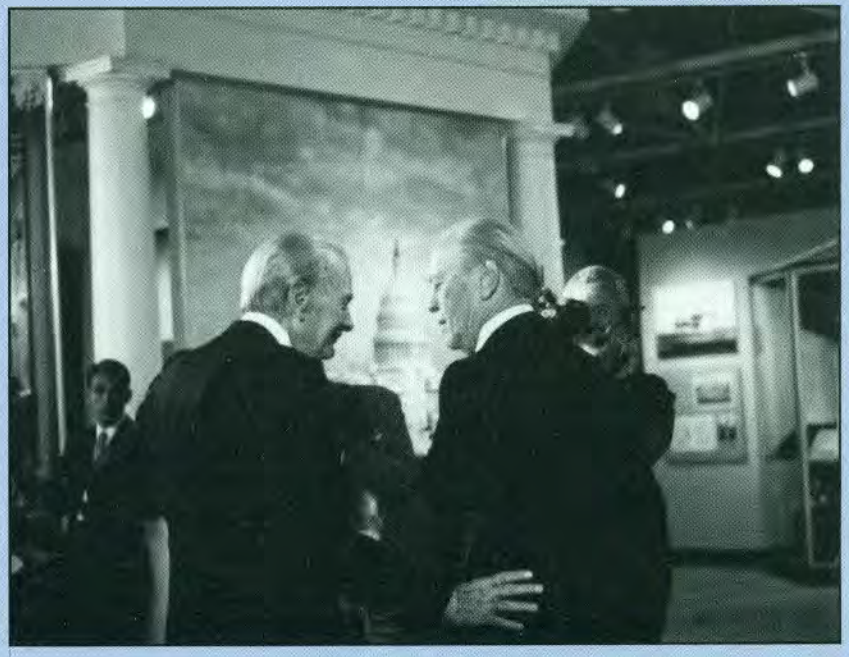
For now, the Ford Museum and Library are governed by the simple realization that as history changes, so must we. In doing so we honor President Ford's own wish, expressed on September 18, 1981, that the museum which bears his name must be a living place, always changing, a classroom of democracy as dynamic as America herself. ■



Artist's rendering of "The 1970s, An Overview," the multimedia, interactive entry to the Museum's new exhibition hall.

(Above) "Flexing the Nation's Muscle: Presidents, Physical Fitness and Sports," running through January 5, 1997, features over 100 artifacts detailing the presidential love of sports from Teddy Roosevelt to Bill Clinton.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS...



(Right) On November 1, David Brinkley interviewed Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole at the Ford Museum for his weekly public affairs broadcast "This Week." Here, Mr. Brinkley greets an old friend, the 38th President of the United States.

(Left) "and HOWE!" booksigning, October 12. Hockey great Gordie Howe and his wife viewed the physical fitness exhibit and spoke about their joint autobiography.

(Left) Actress Kay Kuhlman, seen here with education specialist Barb Packer, portrayed First Ladies Mamie Eisenhower and Jackie Kennedy before S.R.O. crowds, November 15-16.

Christmas on the Grand: A Brand New Ford Museum Tradition

Twinkling lights line the Museum's silhouette and walkway. Inside, 22 Christmas trees, 17 Christmas quilts, 500 glittering snowflakes, greenery and wreaths, plus the Oval Office decorated for the season. It's the Gerald R. Ford Museum as you have never seen it before, imaginatively decked out for *Christmas on the Grand*.

The 22 spectacular trees reflect a variety of cultural, sport, and historical themes—from A (the Grand Rapids Art Museum) to Z (the John Ball Zoo.) Joining them are a Whitecaps tree reliving the team's championship season, a music tree from the St. Cecilia Music Society, a United Auto Workers tree commemorating the centennial of the automobile, a Bicentennial Memories tribute from museum docents, as well as numerous trees showcasing unique qualities of western Michigan. For example... a covered bridge tree from Ada Township. A river boat tree from Lowell. A Grand Valley State University tree. From Cedar Springs, a tree decorated in red flannel. To name just a few.

Christmas on the Grand is a memorable celebration of Grand Rapids, its rich culture and history. Special thanks to Mayor John Logie and the City of Grand Rapids for lighting up the banks of the Grand River to coincide with the Museum's seasonal exhibit. ■

So Long Mr. Lincoln, Hello Santa Claus

The weekend of November 22-24 marked an important ending—and beginning—at the Ford Museum. On Friday night, November 22, President Ford, joined by Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie, formally inaugurated a brand new Grand Rapids tradition, *Christmas on the Grand*. Twenty-five hundred people turned out for the lighting ceremony, followed by hot chocolate and plenty of seasonal cheer inside the Museum.

The next night the Museum played host to the Republican Governors Association. Once again, President Ford was on hand to welcome the nation's 32 GOP Governors, who were meeting in Grand Rapids at the invitation of Michigan Governor John Engler. The Governors took time out from their deliberations to tour the Museum's popular *41 Men* exhibit, featuring over 250 items of personal memorabilia from each of America's Presidents.

Sunday, November 24, marked the last chance for the general public to see *41 Men*. During its seven month run, the show drew 80,899 visitors, a 27 percent increase over last year's attendance. Even more spectacular increases were racked up in the Museum's new Gift Shop, where sales soared by 86 percent. Already interest is running high for the Museum's next big April-October exhibit—*The Blue and the Gray*, opening in April, 1997. This elaborate Civil War display will include two dozen original uniforms, the last surviving surgeon's tent from the war, and hundreds of other artifacts assembled from museums and private collectors throughout the nation. Watch this space! ■

(Top): President Ford congratulates museum staffers Debra Gaborino and Don Holloway for their tireless efforts to organize "Christmas on the Grand."

(Bottom): Former Presidents Bush and Ford are joined by Michigan Governor John Engler, his wife Michelle, and the Engler triplets. For young and old, the Ford Museum is a busy place these days!

Ford's Seven Rules of Civic Engagement

[Excerpt from President Ford's remarks at a Ford Library conference, "The Trouble with Washington...," September 26, 1996]

Out of my experience I have distilled what you might call Ford's Seven Rules of Civic Engagement. Some amount to little more than wishful thinking. But all are designed to address the "trouble" with Washington, and dispel feelings of alienation which have taken root in recent years.

Rule Number One: Politicians should never forget to whom they are responsible. Contrast recent campaigns, with their focus groups, ever shrinking sound bites and consultants who sometimes act as if they are candidates. Contrast all that with the race that Jimmy Carter and I ran exactly twenty years ago. As the first post-Watergate candidates, we were governed by stringent limits on how much we could spend. Today, the same financial laws apply, yet most spending restrictions resemble Swiss cheese. As a result, there is more money, and less participation, in our politics than at anytime in recent memory.

Early in this century the comedian Will Rogers anticipated this dilemma when he said that running for office had become so expensive, "it takes a fortune just to get beat." Now I revere the Constitution as much as any man. If I were a member of the Supreme Court, I might have a different view of the First Amendment as it relates to the unlimited right of individuals to influence political decisions through unlimited expenditures.

But as someone who has spent the better part of a lifetime in political persuasion, I can't avoid the feeling that any system awash with cash will pose at least a subtle temptation to office holders and office seekers alike to represent checkbooks instead of constituents.

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Of course, the '76 campaign was shaped by far more than federal spending limits. Because the specter of Vietnam and Watergate loomed so large, I found myself, in effect, running two campaigns: one, to win a full term as president in my own right, and another, to restore the shattered confidence of the American people in our democratic institutions.

I was unsuccessful in the first. But as I left Washington I could take some consolation in knowing that the national mood was very different from what it had been just a few short years earlier.

Twenty years later, it seems as if we've turned the clock

"The Trouble with Washington..."

The Trouble with Washington..., a major public conference took place at the Library on September 26, sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. Former Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin gave the keynote address. Three panel discussions followed with closing remarks by President Ford (see excerpt.) Hal Bruno, of ABC News, moderated the two morning sessions. Participants in the first session,"The Players," were Edward Cabot, Chairman of Common Cause; Ken Duberstein, President Reagan's Chief of Staff; former Senator George McGovern; Lyn Nofziger, Reagan presidential spokesman; and Mary Louise Smith, former Chair of the Republican National Party. The next session, "Pundits and Pollsters," included discussants James Cannon, President Ford's Domestic Council Director and recent biographer; nationally syndicated columnist James Pinkerton; TIME Magazine's Hugh Sidey; Republican political strategist Robert Teeter; and Richard Willing of *The Detroit News*, Washington bureau. Library Director Richard Norton Smith moderated the afternoon session, "The Hill," in which former Speaker of the House Thomas Foley, Republican leader Robert Michel and Senator William Cohen examined the state of Congress and agreed on the need to recapture the civility which marked Gerald Ford's years on Capitol Hill. Audiotapes of the conference may be ordered from the Library's audiovisual department. ■

"The Hill," moderated by Richard Norton Smith, featured comments from Senator William Cohen, former House Republican leader Bob Michel and former Speaker of the House Tom Foley.

back—not to 1976, but to the late '60s and early '70s, when an unpopular war and the taint of political scandal combined to produce a level of distrust that can only be imagined by the students in our audience this afternoon.

In some ways the problems we experienced then were actually preferable to the current climate. For a generation ago, it was possible—if depressing—to trace voter unhappiness to specific policies and personalities. People objected to the war, the way it was being conducted, and the presidents of both parties who conducted it. This isn't necessarily a bad thing. Because in a democracy, differences are not only unavoidable—if pursued with civility as well as conviction, they are downright healthy. Only political indifference is lethal. Put another way, I'd much rather deal with honest contention than creeping cynicism. This, I fear, is the greatest single difference between the disillusionment of the seventies and the widespread feeling among today's electorate that the system itself has broken down.

Maybe that's a reflection of the times and the issues which dominate the public discourse. Which brings me to **Rule Number Two: Elections should be about more than personal ambition or short term political advantage.** In 1948, my first race for Congress, I ran against an entrenched Republican incumbent who believed that the United States had been divinely placed between two oceans to protect us from foreign contamination.

I disagreed passionately. As a young Navy officer, just back from the Pacific war, I felt we could no longer take shelter behind geography or tradition. I had seen enough of the world to know that it was not going to go away.

I ran for Congress because of a big idea—the idea that American isolation was a thing of the past, and that only American leadership could help to shape a future where peace was possible and freedom triumphant.

Across the hall from my office in the Old House Office Building was another young Navy veteran of the Pacific front. His name was John F. Kennedy. Although our parties differed, our priorities were much the same. We were both internationalists in our outlook, both willing to accept the burdens of leadership in standing up to Soviet aggression. We often walked over to the floor of the House together. Once there, we might go our separate ways politically—but we never questioned each other's patriotism or motives.

Which brings me to **Rule Number Three: There are no enemies in politics, just opponents who might vote with you on the next roll call.** Today our nation's Capitol inspires various comparisons. To its harshest critics, it is a chamber of horrors. To many of those holding office, it is a pressure cooker. To me, Washington is a mirror held up to the people and the process it represents. If it is less civil than it might be, isn't that a reflection of a society coarsened by tabloid values, one in which fame is confused with notoriety, and shame is the surest ticket to 15 minutes on daytime television?

In a culture where more people recognize Oprah than the Speaker of the House, it's easy to say that politics have been crowded out of our lives by other forms of mass entertainment.

President Ford was the final speaker in a day long program examining the problems—and the possibilities—of America's love-hate relationship with its Capitol city.

The problem with this theory is that Oprah doesn't set your taxes or run your schools or commit young Americans to foreign wars.

Meanwhile, the more the political parties try to make themselves over into vehicles of entertainment, the smaller the audience and the greater the popular disappointment when we fail to solve problems the way Jessica Fletcher solves a mystery—neatly, in sixty minutes, before a final plug for Miracle Grow or the Chrysler LeBaron.

"...it's easy to say that politics have been crowded out of our lives by other forms of mass entertainment."

Ford's **Rule Number Four: Don't make politics more like television; make television pay more attention to politics.** That means free time for the major candidates on all leading media outlets. It means more than four and a half hours of convention coverage every four years. It even means showing the vice presidential candidate's acceptance speech instead of a "Seinfeld" rerun.

Some network executives complained that the recent conventions were overly scripted. Perhaps we would have more

spontaneity if the networks didn't lay down an ultimatum to the parties, restricting coverage to one hour each night of the convention.

But if there is too little media attention paid the unglamourous aspects of self-government, in my opinion there is far too much showered on the trivial and the tawdry. Let me put it bluntly: if I want to attend a horse race I'll go to the track. If I want to choose a president, or member of Congress, I'd like to rely on serious, substantive reporting about issues, character and performance.

Rule Number Five: Let's hear from the candidates, not their consultants. Too many of the latter are hired guns, for whom the lure of celebrity takes the place of conviction or even loyalty. Don't get me wrong. There are some superb pollsters, speech writers, strategists and advisers out there. My own campaign in 1976 benefitted greatly from their work. But their proliferation since, not to mention their shameless self-promotion, has only furthered the popular belief that politicians are puppets on a string, dancing to the music of the spinmeisters. That tarnishes democracy itself.

Politics is not a spectator sport, much less an episode of "American Gladiators." Yet much of the media persist in treating it as such. Worse, one can hardly watch a week's worth of network news without concluding that many journalists aren't just hostile to conservatives—they're anti-politics! They believe conventions are boring, parties are obsolete, and Presidents are guided solely by polls. They think that national political discourse is something restricted to the McLaughlin Group.

They're wrong, which brings me to **Rule Number Six. An informed electorate deserves something better than what I call "gotcha" journalism,** which puts the spotlight on the reporter rather than the candidate, asks questions designed to entrap rather than elucidate, and ignores difficult issues with long-term consequences to concentrate on the flap of the moment.

In de-emphasizing serious coverage of the political process, journalists and network executives stand on their First Amendment rights. They are hardly alone in this. Thanks to the women's movement, the civil rights revolution, and other campaigns for individual empowerment, we have belatedly fulfilled many of the noble promises that we made to ourselves and to each other two hundred years ago. We are all better for it.

But in pursuing our rights as individuals, we should never forget our responsibilities as citizens. In 1992 approximately 55% of eligible voters cast ballots in that year's presidential contest. That was up from 50% in 1988, yet sharply lower than the 63% who voted in the Kennedy-Nixon race of 1960. Is it any accident that voter turnout has fallen along with party allegiance, a rise in media skepticism, the fragmenting of the television audience and the general fraying of community?

Once upon a time parties mattered. So did party loyalists and the conventions they attended. We could do a lot worse than to recreate that sense of belonging to a cause larger than ourselves, which in turn made Washington something more than a gigantic soundbite factory.

Historian and former Librarian of Congress Daniel Boorstin delivered a characteristically thoughtful keynote address.

Veteran ABC newsman Hal Bruno moderated two morning panels including...

..."The Players." [l-r: Mary Louise Smith, Lyn Nofziger, former Senator George McGovern, Ken Duberstein, Edward Cabot, Hal Bruno.]

Let me put in a good word for the much abused smoke filled room of political legend. Over the years I've sat in more than my share of such castigated rooms. I won't claim that I never inhaled—but I will argue that a strong party system and yes, a boss or two, gave us Lincoln, both Roosevelts, Truman and Eisenhower—not to mention such distinguished also-rans as Al

Smith, Tom Dewey, Adlai Stevenson and even my youthful hero Wendell Willkie, who owed his nomination to more than those noisy galleries in Philadelphia.

Ironically, the bigger the issue, the greater the need for parties to help us organize consensus. It was true when I entered politics because I felt strongly about the future role America should play in the world. And it will be just as true as we debate such sensitive subjects as the future of current entitlement programs.

"...the big issues and the big ideas may yet revitalize public faith in a system that earns our trust..."

I said earlier that Washington was a mirror reflecting our instincts. That includes the instinct for political survival. I'm an optimist. Call it a hunch, but I think it's a mistake to underestimate the American people—millions of whom are willing to help forge the necessary consensus that will keep entitlements from strangling our economy or mortgaging the future of our children. In any event here is a challenge worthy of American democracy in the 21st century.

Which brings me to my **Seventh and final rule**. The Founders designed a government in which it is easier to do nothing than to do a great deal all at once. But they also counted on the will and wisdom of Americans to conceive and implement reforms where necessity demands solutions. So I leave you with the most radical thought of all—and a hint that big issues and big ideas may yet revitalize public faith in a system that earns our trust by appealing to what Lincoln called "the better angels of our nature."

Entitlement programs, we are told, represent the third rail of American politics. Touch it and you die—politically at least. Wouldn't it be ironic if those supposedly untouchable third rails were to supply the very track that will carry us into the next century and a renewal of confidence in a political system that is wise enough to listen and strong enough to lead?

Two hundred years ago, our first President summed up both the glory and the frustration of American politics when he said, "a democratic state must feel before it can see; that is what makes it slow to act. But the people, at last, will be right."

Whatever troubles may plague the city named for George Washington, they can be resolved as long as we place our ultimate trust in the people—and as long as we, the people, demand less of Washington and more of ourselves. ■

Oral History Project Launched

This winter and spring, senior staff of the Ford Library will conduct nearly two dozen oral history interviews with selected men and women of the Ford administration.

Funded by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, the interviews will fill some of the gaps and silences in the written record. Anyone who has followed a paper trail knows it lacks human spark and can end abruptly. Over the years, the Library has encouraged researchers to donate the tapes, transcripts, and notes created during their own interviewing of persons associated with the Ford administration. Today, the Library holds nearly 400 such interview records. It is the richness of these records that has inspired the Foundation-funded program.

Although some pieces of the historical puzzle are lost forever, the passage of twenty years offers some special opportunities. Like historians, the interviewees themselves can reflect upon their actions from a richer perspective. ■

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation semi-annually awards grants of up to $2,000 to support research in the Ford Library's collections. For grant application forms and information, please contact Geir Gundersen, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or call (313) 741-2218 [Internet: geir.gundersen@fordlib.nara.gov]. Application deadlines are March 15 and September 15. The recipients of the fall 1996 awards and their topics are:

Bruce A. Beaubouef
University of Houston
The Strategic Petroleum Reserve - Energy Security and Oil Politics, 1975-1995

MaryAnne Borrelli
Connecticut College
Patterns of Opportunity, Patterns of Constraint: The Nomination and Confirmation of Women Cabinet Secretaries

R. Steven Daniels
University of Alabama at Birmingham
When Crises Happen: Presidential Decision Making in Domestic Policy

Hien Duc Do
San Jose State University
Presidential Power and the Shaping of Vietnamese Refugees in America

Robert L. Hetzel
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
The Political Economy of Monetary Policy

Clifton Hood
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
The Political Economy of New York City

Karen A. Hult and Charles E. Walcott
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Governing the White House: Nixon, Ford, and Carter

Michael Sanchez
Northern Arizona University
Presidential Policy and Colonialism: A Case Study of President Ford's Puerto Rico Statehood Act of 1977

Jeremi Suri
Yale University
Where Money and Diplomacy Meet: The Economic Aims of American Foreign Policy During Detente, 1968-1977

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

Flexing the Nation's Muscle: Presidents, Physical Fitness, and Sports, through January 5, 1997.

Christmas on the Grand, November 23, 1996-January 5, 1997.

Pat Oliphant: A Political Cartoonist's View of the Ford Years, December 6, 1996-January 5, 1997. An exhibit of approximately 70 original Oliphant cartoons recall the 1970s with a chuckle.

Holiday Open House, December 8, 1996. From 1:00-5:00 pm, enjoy seasonal entertainment, refreshments, even a visit from Santa Claus, while viewing the very special holiday display, *Christmas on the Grand*.

JANUARY

Messages, January 11-March 30, 1997. An exhibit of recent works by mother, AIDS activist, and HIV-positive artist, Mary Fisher. Ms. Fisher served as assistant to President Ford from 1974-1976. Since discovering she was HIV-positive in 1991, she has become an outspoken advocate on behalf of AIDS sufferers, addressing the 1992 Republican National Convention, founding the Family AIDS Network, Inc., and writing several books, including her 1996 autobiography, *My Name is Mary*.

From Truman to Clinton: Presidents on TIME, January 18-March 30, 1997. A fascinating selection of 27 original presidential portraits which have appeared on TIME magazine covers. The works, ranging from watercolors and photographs to papier mache and marble sculpture, are on loan from the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

APRIL

A Recreated White House Dinner, at the Pantlind Room of the Amway Grand Hotel, April 16. Hosted by Presidents Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter, and George Bush.

REDEDICATION DAY! A WHOLE, NEW FORD MUSEUM! April 17, 1997.

The Blue & The Gray, opening April 17, 1997. The biggest Civil War exhibit ever seen in Michigan. Hundreds of items assembled from around the nation, including nearly 20 original uniforms, plus weapons, historical documents, medical instruments, and personal memorabilia from combatants on both sides of America's most tragic conflict.

http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/ford/

Call up the Library/Museum/Foundation homepage and explore! Learn more about our public programs, special events and exhibits, and the Library's documentary holdings.

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

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and Betty Ford
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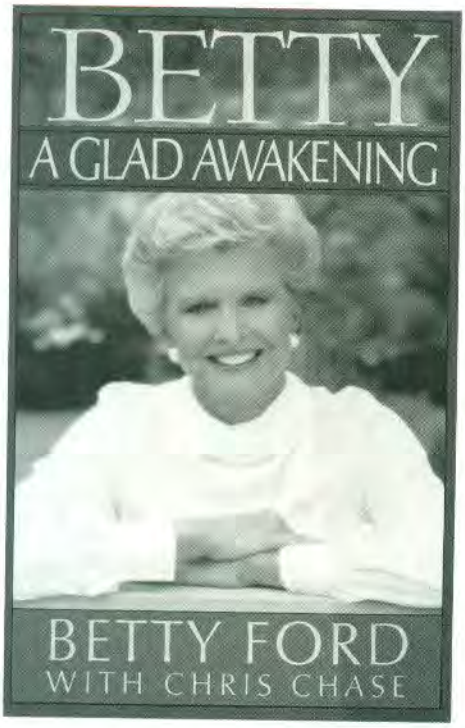
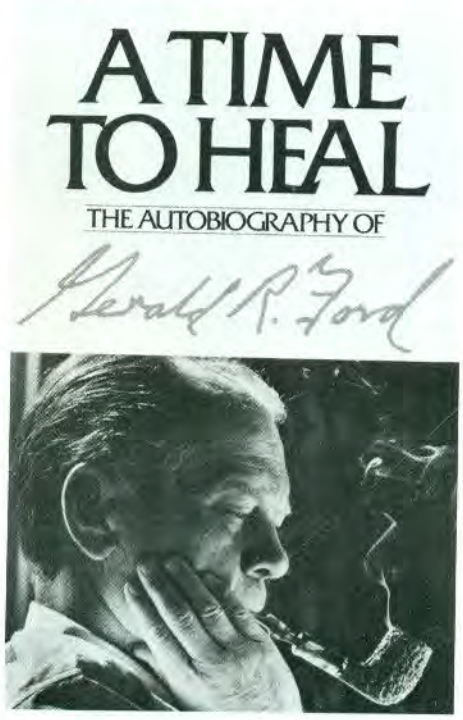
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT THE MUSEUM



Betty: A Glad Awakening

Autographed, hardbound. The deeply personal story of one of the most celebrated women of our time. Mrs. Ford shares her experience, understanding, and hope in a moving memoir written with Chris Chase.



A Time to Heal

Autographed, hardbound. Gerald R. Ford's autobiography, a revealing account of his White House years—and the pre-presidential experiences which shaped his character, values, and outlook.

[Photo unavailable at time of printing]

NEW! The Gerald R. Ford Museum Christmas Ornament

Three-dimensional, 24 kt. gold finish, crafted in America. After an emotional swearing-in in the East Room of the White House on August 9, 1974, President Gerald R. Ford reassured Americans that "our long national nightmare was over." By 1976, Americans felt good about themselves as they celebrated the Bicentennial of the United States. This ornament, created exclusively for the Gerald R. Ford Museum, features the official Bicentennial logo along with the President's profile. It comes in a handsome blue and gold box and makes a great gift for any history buff.

Return this mail order form to:

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The 38th and 41st Presidents at the Gerald R. Ford Museum on November 1, 1996, accompanied by the man who would be president, Bob Dole, and his wife, Elizabeth. While at the Museum Senator Dole sat down for a televised conversation with veteran ABC journalist David Brinkley.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose programs are supported entirely by contributions and bequests in an effort to honor Mr. Ford's lifelong commitment to public service. The focus of the Foundation is on community affairs and educational programs, conferences, symposia, research grants and special projects that improve citizen interest and understanding of the challenges that confront government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504.

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