



# Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

## Statue Dedication Issue

June 2011



*Statue of President  
Gerald R. Ford  
Unveiled in a Ceremony  
at the United States  
Capitol Rotunda  
May 3, 2011*



*Statue of President Gerald R. Ford  
Becomes Part of the Statuary Hall Collection in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda*

House Speaker John Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi hosted the dedication of the statue of President Gerald R. Ford on May 3, 2011 in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol. Also taking part in the dedication ceremony was Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and the Honorable Henry A. Kissinger, 56<sup>th</sup> Secretary of State of the United States. Ford family members Susan Ford Bales and Steve Ford took part in the ceremony. The remarks of each are in this newsletter.

Musical selections were performed by SFC Alvy Powell, vocalist, and The United States Army Chorus. At the opening of the program SFC Alvy Powell sang the National Anthem, and later in the program the United States Army Chorus sang "America the Beautiful". Also joining the program speakers for the unveiling was statue sculptor Brett Grill.

The President Ford statue was chosen by the Michigan legislature to become part of the National Statuary Hall Collection, which is comprised of statues donated by individual states to honor men and women notable in each state's history. As part of the three year process to have the President Ford statue sent to Washington was the selection of West Michigan native Brett Grill as the artist and the approval of the State of Michigan and the federal government. The final step in the approval process was a concurrent resolution by Congressman Fred Upton this past March, H.Con.Res.27, which authorized the placement of the statue of President Ford in the Rotunda. The resolution, which was co-sponsored by all 14 members of Michigan's Congressional delegation, passed both legislative chambers with unanimous, bipartisan support.



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*Letter from the  
Foundation Executive Director,  
Joseph S. Calvaruso*

This special edition newsletter covers the very special day, May 3, 2011, when President Gerald R. Ford's statue was unveiled in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol where it will remain on permanent display. The bronze statue, created by sculptor J. Brett Grill, is placed on top of a black granite base and inscribed with quotes from the Honorable Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill and President Ford.

We will forever be grateful for the statue funding provided by Foundation Honorary Trustees Peter Cook, Rich DeVos, Ralph Hauenstein, Fred Meijer and Seymour Padnos. Their generosity and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

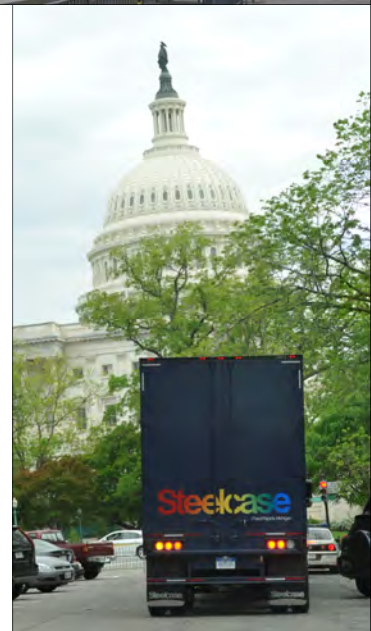
Later that day the Foundation Board had its annual meeting and dinner. A special presentation by Ambassador Carla A. Hills can be found on page 3 of this newsletter in which Bill Coleman was awarded the 2011 Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service. In March, Bill Coleman and his daughter Lovida Coleman Jr., gave well received presentations at both the Museum and Library. Bill also signed his book "Counsel for the Situation". Thank you, Bill Coleman, for your service to the Foundation and our country.

A special thank you to Speaker John Boehner and his staff for their efforts in making the statue unveiling ceremony memorable. We would also like to say thank you to the Dinner Arrangements Planning Group: Vaden Bales, Red Cavaney, Bob Hooker, Greg Willard and Frank Zarb for their outstanding work in making this year's annual dinner such a remarkable evening. Many thanks go to the trustees, staff, volunteers and members of "Friends of Ford" for making the statue ceremony in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol an outstanding event, as well as many other events throughout the year possible.

*Joe*



Thank you Steelcase for delivering the statue of President Gerald R. Ford to the United States Capitol.



*Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Board of Trustees Welcomes New Member*



Richard D. Parsons is a Senior Advisor at Providence Equity Partners Inc., a leading private equity investment firm specializing in media, communications and information companies. He is also Chairman of the Board of Citigroup, Inc. Prior to serving in those roles, he was the Chairman of the Board and CEO of Time Warner, Inc., the world's largest media and entertainment company, from 2002 to 2008. In its January 2005 report on America's Best CEOs, Institutional Investor magazine named Mr. Parsons the top CEO in the entertainment industry.

Before joining Time Warner, in 1995, Mr. Parsons was Chairman and CEO of Dime Bancorp, Inc., one of the largest thrift institutions in the United States. Previously, he was the managing partner of the New York law firm Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler. Prior to that, he held various positions in state and federal government, as counsel for Nelson Rockefeller and as a senior White House aide under President Gerald R. Ford.

In 2008, Mr. Parsons served as a member of then President-Elect Barack Obama's Economic Transition Team. His other civic and non-profit commitments include Chairman Emeritus of the Partnership for New York City; Chairman of the Apollo Theatre Foundation and of the Jazz Foundation of America, and service on the boards of the Museum of Modern Art and the American Museum of Natural History. Mr. Parsons is also a member of the boards of The Estee Lauder Companies, Inc. and Madison Square Garden, Inc.

## William T. Coleman, Jr. Awarded the 2011 Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service

Remarks by Ambassador Carla A. Hills



Ambassador Carla A. Hills, Foundation Trustee

Tonight as we celebrate the remarkable legacy and leadership characterized by President Ford... integrity, hard work, fidelity to principle and judgment, we present the Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service to a man whose life is a testament to the traits that we so admire in President Ford and have talked about today.

William T. Coleman, Jr. has achieved the highest pinnacles of success. In academia, in business, law, and public service and against substantial odds, the America in which he grew up was still suffering from the plague of discrimination. His high school abolished its swim team rather than risk his membership on it.

In WWII he interrupted his law school education at Harvard University to volunteer to serve his country and the United States Army Air Corps. During his training in the deep South, he experienced the ugly discrimination that was then

rampant there. And even in his early efforts to gain employment as a lawyer in the North his efforts were complicated by the color of his skin. These experiences, rather than embittering him, strengthened his dedication to hard, hard work and to the fidelity of principle of equality for all Americans. He fought against discrimination through his personal example of outstanding achievement.

A magna cum laude graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, first in his class at the Harvard Law school, clerk to Justice Frankfurter and first law clerk of color on the Supreme Court of the United States, respected partner in prestigious law firms and Secretary of Transportation in the Cabinet of Gerald R. Ford. While working full time he gave countless hours on weekends and late at night collaborating with Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund to eliminate racial discrimination. His work on numerous legal briefs and arguments included two history-changing decisions by the Supreme Court: *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954 and *Cooper v. Aaron* in 1958. These decisions created the legal foundation for ensuring equal opportunity for all Americans.

Under his leadership the Department of Transportation issued its first National Transportation Trends and Choices Report packed with graphs and statistics indicative of the tough analysis so typical of Bill Coleman. In the year 2000, Secretary of Transportation Slater opened his report by stating "A quarter of a century ago



Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr.

William T. Coleman Jr., the 4<sup>th</sup> Secretary of Transportation, opened a window into the lives of Americans that was extraordinary. He used the knowledge of the past to look into the future and then he set about to create a planning and decision making framework to guide that future and remarkably the future unfolded just as Secretary Coleman had envisioned in his 1977 report."

Last year Bill Coleman authored an exquisitely written inspirational account of the experiences and encounters he has had over the past 9 decades. His book "Counsel for the Situation" covers a period in our history that Americans need to recall to understand fully the principles that make our nation great and this wonderful book documents the integrity, leadership, hard work, character, and fidelity to principle that the Executive Committee and the Ford family seek in awarding the Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service.

The decision to name William T Coleman, Jr. as this year's recipient was unanimous. Bill, we salute you for all you do and all you have done.



President Ford and Speaker Tip O'Neill in the Oval Office.

David Kennerly, White House Photographer, February 6, 1975  
Photo Courtesy of Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



### Looking Back

#### Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill

President Ford and Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill remained good friends despite their political differences. A quote from Tip O'Neill is inscribed on the granite base of the Gerald R. Ford Statue in the United States Rotunda.

*"God has been good to America, especially during difficult times. At the time of the Civil war, He gave us Abraham Lincoln. And at the time of Watergate, He gave us Gerald Ford - the right man at the right time who was able to put our nation back together again."* -The Honorable Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives



### 2011 Annual Foundation Dinner

A special thank you to the United States House of Representatives for allowing the Annual Foundation Dinner to take place in Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol. This truly remarkable evening brought to a close a very special day, the statue unveiling of President Gerald R. Ford in the United States Capitol Rotunda.

We also would like to thank our Dinner Sponsors: Doug & Maria DeVos, Jim & Esther Cavanaugh, William & Lovida Coleman, David & Judy Frey, Patrick Gallagher, Don & Joyce Rumsfeld, Peter & Joan Secchia, Marty & Sue Allen, James Baker, Joe & Donna Calvaruso, Red Cavanaugh, Richard & Helen DeVos, Steve Ford, Alan Greenspan, Rod & Carla Hills, David & Debra Hoogendoorn, Robin Martin, Frank Ursomarso and Ron & Eileen Weiser.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries



Trustees Rod and Carla Hills



Foundation President Red and Sheri Cavanaugh



Trustee Don and Joyce Rumsfeld



Trustees Paul O'Neill and Bill Coleman



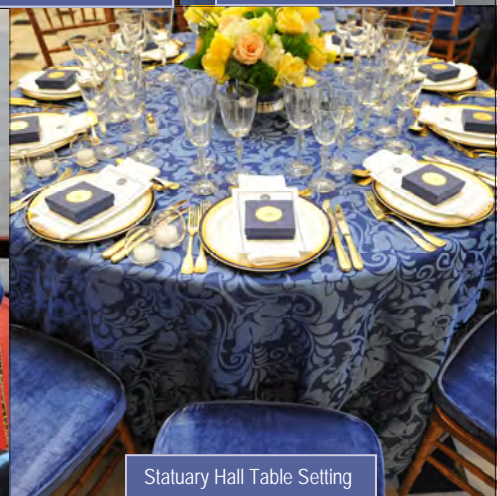
Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki and Steve Ford



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Statuary Hall Table Setting



Speaker John Boehner



Trustees Terry O'Donnell and Dick Cheney



Trustee Dick Cheney and Kristen Frahler Chaplin



Steve and Mike Ford



Congressman Fred Upton



Amey Upton, Mike and Gayle Ford



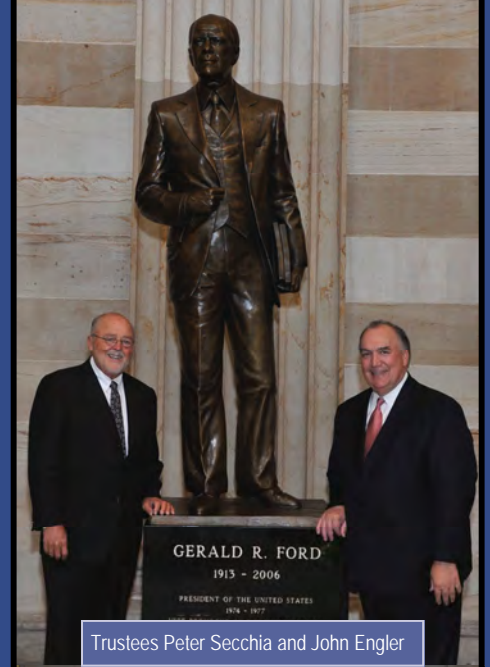
Steve Ford, Trustee Alan Greenspan and Andrea Mitchell



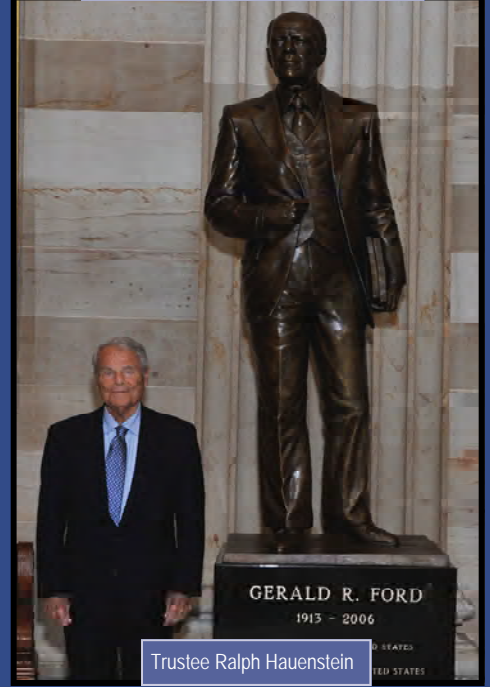
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Trustee Ralph Hauenstein



(l-r) Steve Ford, Nancy Pelosi, Rick Snyder, John Boehner, Harry Reid, Mitch McConnell, Dr. Henry Kissinger, and Susan Ford Bales.

*Susan Ford Bales:*

Mr. Speaker, Leaders Reid, McConnell, and Pelosi, Members of the Senate and House of Representatives, Governor Snyder, Doctor Kissinger, Japanese Ambassador Fujisaki, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Mother, I extend congratulations to sculptor Brett Grill. Brett, your statue of Dad is wonderful. Mother and our family are grateful to you beyond words. Special gratitude goes to Governor Snyder and the people of Michigan and to the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate for making this remarkable tribute to Dad a reality.

The Rotunda has been a special part of the Ford family for decades. As a young girl, I often accompanied Dad on weekends to his Capitol office, and happily played hide and seek in the Rotunda and Statuary Hall for hours.

Years later in 2006, I returned, under very different circumstances, for Dad's State Funeral. When last our family gathered in the Rotunda, it was a time to remember and a time to say good-bye.

Those were difficult days, but we drew strength and comfort from the many kindnesses of House and Senate members from both sides of the aisle. And, in particular, we were strengthened by the unprecedented tributes the House and Senate paid to Dad.

I remember my feeling of awe and pride when we arrived at the Capitol that first evening. Instead of utilizing the traditional center steps

*Remarks On The Occasion of The Dedication  
of The Statue of President Gerald R. Ford  
In The United States Capitol Rotunda  
May 3, 2011*

into the Rotunda, the House of Representatives had Dad's casket carried up the House steps. It was then placed in repose outside the lit House Chamber

in honor of Dad being the President who served the longest in the House of Representatives. Several days later, to honor the only President who went directly from the House of Representatives, to the Vice Presidency and President of the Senate, and then to the Presidency, the Senate placed Dad's casket in repose outside the Senate chamber. The casket was then carried out the Senate steps for Dad's final journey home to Michigan.

In the twilight of his life, Dad was invited back to speak at the Capitol. On that special evening, he reflected fondly on his time here, "While I may have lived at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue for two and a half years, Capitol Hill has always been my home - always. And I am very, very proud of that." Today, the House and Senate and the people of Michigan symbolically and permanently welcome Dad back to the Capitol, to the home that - in his heart - he never left.

As I thought about this statue, I wondered what school children visiting the Rotunda in a hundred years will learn about Dad. Perhaps they'll read Speaker O'Neill's moving words.\* Perhaps they'll recall Vice President Cheney's description of Dad's first day as President, "... The 62nd year of Gerald Ford's life [was] a bitter season in the life of our country. It was a time of false words and ill will. There was great malice, and great hurt - and a taste for more. And it all began to pass away on a Friday in August - when Gerald Ford laid his hand on the Bible and swore to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." Or perhaps the school children will consider Senator Tom Daschle's gratitude, "President Ford did more

than wake us from our national nightmare; he made it possible for us to dream again." Or maybe they'll reflect on David Broder's conclusion, "In an odd, inexplicable way, the truth has begun to dawn on the American people that Gerald Ford was the kind of President Americans always wanted, and didn't know they had."

Certainly, Dad was proud and always humbled by such tributes. But he would be even prouder if school children in a hundred years will look upon his statue and consider whether Dad kept the promise he made immediately after taking the Presidential Oath:

"I am acutely aware you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, and so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers. I have not campaigned for the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. I have not sought this enormous responsibility, but I will not shirk it. I solemnly promise to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right, and to do the very best I can for America. God helping me, I will not let you down."

Today, the people of Michigan and Dad's beloved House of Representatives and Senate have spoken to future generations about that solemn promise Dad made in 1974. Dad, their message fills the Rotunda this morning. You did not let America down. You kept your promise. You healed our Nation. You allowed us to dream again. And, as shown by this wonderful statue, the American people are, and will be, forever grateful.

Mr. Speaker, Senate and House members, Governor Snyder, on behalf of Mother, thank you from the bottom of my heart for the honor you've bestowed upon Dad.

May God bless and watch over the United States Capitol and all who serve within her walls. And may God Bless America. Thank you all very much.

\*God has been very good to America, especially during difficult times. At the time of the Civil War, He gave us Abraham Lincoln. And at the time of Watergate, He gave us Gerald Ford - the right man at the right time who was able to put our Nation back together again."



Dr. Henry Kissinger

### *Dr. Henry Kissinger Remarks at Statue Unveiling Ceremony*

adversaries were emboldened and its allies disheartened.

"I am not one of those oratorical geniuses," Ford said to me early in his presidency, "...I have to be myself." And that happened to be just what the country needed. In no other country are personal relations so effortless and generous as in small-town America, which shaped Gerald Ford. Ford had never aspired to the presidency; he was free of the fixation on polls and focus groups, which stress the mood of the moment rather than a vision of the future. His highest ambition had been to become Speaker of the House of Representatives, a position achieved by the consensus and respect of colleagues. Buttressed by the indomitable Betty, Gerald Ford exuded serenity in a tumultuous time and restored confidence to a battered society.

Calm and unassuming, Gerald Ford overcame a vast array of international challenges. His persistence produced the first political agreement between Israel and Egypt, which led to a peace agreement two years later. Over passionate opposition, he concluded the European Security Conference, whose establishment of internationally recognized human standards hastened the collapse of the Soviet satellite orbit. He sparked the American

initiative to bring majority rule to Southern Africa. In his presidency, the International Energy Agency was established, which still fosters cooperation among oil-consuming nations. He was one of the founders of the annual economic summit for cooperation among the industrial democracies, which remains a core element of the international dialogue. Few will dispute that the Cold War could not have been won had not Gerald Ford emerged at a tragic period in our history to restore our faith in ourselves.

In office only twenty-nine months, Gerald Ford left with no regrets, no second-guessing of his successors, no obsessive pursuit of his place in history. All of us in this room who served under Gerald Ford consider it as a high point in our lives. For thirty-five years, we have been meeting once a year, together with the Ford family, with an amazingly complete attendance to recall what he did and to recapture the generosity, good will and good cheer with which he suffused his administration.

Let me thank the leadership of the Congress for enabling Gerald Ford to return to these halls in this manner. His statue will, I hope, remind this and future generations as they face their choices that societies thrive not by their divisions but by their reconciliations.

Distinguished leaders of the Congress, Ladies and Gentleman,

Providence smiled on America when Gerald Ford was sworn in as the 38th President. The Vietnam war had divided the country. Watergate had demoralized the Executive Branch. The Cold War was still raging and, as the guardian of international order, America faced the nightmare of global chaos as its



*Lord, when this land desperately needed strong moral leadership, you gave it; President Gerald Ford's astuteness, honor, commitment and courage. When we needed a model of unswerving integrity, you provided us with someone who was committed to stand for right. Accept our gratitude for President Ford's courage to decide based upon principles, for his pragmatic leadership during cynical times and for his efforts to bind the nation's wounds after Watergate and Vietnam.*

*Lord, thank you for permitting him to remind us that family and faith still matter and that right living is a language which is clear to everyone. May this statue continue to remind us of President Ford's dignity, decency, diligence and decisiveness, thereby challenging us to use our lives for your Glory.*

Dr. Barry Black, Chaplain of the United States Senate.  
Invocation at the Statue Unveiling Ceremony in the United States  
Capitol Rotunda, May 3, 2011.



*Steve Ford:*

Wow! I got a lump in my throat to see Dad. We are so proud. I echo Susan's sentiments in thanking the leadership, Speaker Boehner, Governor Snyder. Congressman Vern Ehlers who was in Dad's district for years and was so much help to get this statue put in here today. I look out in this audience and there are a lot of people that had a lot to do with this back in 1974, to help heal this nation. I see Secretary Bill Coleman. I saw Frank Zarb, Paul O'Neill, Vice President Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Carla Hills is somewhere out there. So many people went into Dad's administration to help heal this nation.

Susan's exactly right; our family has had numerous moments in this Capitol because of Dad. I remember, recently, 4 1/2 years ago, we stood here for Dad's funeral. Susan, my brothers Jack and Mike; I can't tell you the honor that each one of us felt as we came in here and watched thousands of people come through to pay their respects to Dad. We stood here shaking hands with those people, those great citizens of this country who came here to pay their respects to Dad. He would have done it. That's what Dad would have done.

Susan is exactly right. Back, probably in 1965-66, she and I were about 9 & 10 years old and Dad, on Saturdays, used to bring us in to his congressional office because he would answer correspondence back to his constituents in Grand Rapids and western Michigan. Dad would tell Susan and I "Now listen...before you can go and play, you need to type a letter to your mother and tell her how much you love her and how great a mother she is". So, we

would get that done and Dad would let us come out and play hide and seek in Statuary Hall and the Rotunda. Probably not doing that anymore! As we know it's a much more dangerous, dangerous world today.

It wasn't many years after 1965 that, about 8 years later, in the fall of 1973 when my dad was nominated by President Nixon to be the next Vice President. Now...you have to understand the story. My Dad had been in Congress for 13 terms, 25 years, he was going to retire because he had never gotten to be Speaker of the House. My mother had him convinced to move back to Grand Rapids and have a nice quiet life. He would start practicing law again. Then President Nixon nominates him to be Vice President, and my mother's plans were pushed aside. She was not happy. I remember my Dad putting his arm around her and saying "Betty don't worry...Vice Presidents don't do anything!"

Now we all know our history and that didn't quite work out. Ten months later, as we know, Secretary Kissinger described it very well, our family stood on the South lawn of the White House as President Nixon left in a helicopter; a great shadow over the White House. We walked into the East Room of the White House, we saw Mom hold the Bible, as Dad put his hand on the Bible to take the oath of office. Now think about it...this was a crisis in America. You had the Vietnam war, the country was divided, soldiers coming home in body bags, the cold war with the Russians, inflation that was double-digit, high unemployment. Six months before Dad became President the stock market lost 45% of its value. Twelve months before Dad became President the price of oil was \$3.00-4.00 per barrel and in the next twelve months it went up 300-400%.



Steve Ford, Susan Ford Bales and Mike Ford

This was the presidency that he inherited. And here you had a man who was going to put his hand on the Bible and take the oath of office; who had not gone through a general election and elected by the American people. It was a crisis in America. He took over the reigns of this country at a tough time, but he never forgot the lesson that he came to Washington to serve; to be a servant.

You can look back at the fabric of his life and there is a thread that runs through it that is so apparent, this thread of character and integrity. Leader Pelosi talked about this...he worked well with both sides of the aisle, Democrats and Republicans. He knew the importance of finding the right decision. I remember Paul O'Neill talking about how Dad would challenge him to make sure he had both sides of the argument in a meeting because he wanted the right answer and not be bound by ideology. My brother Mike and Susan, will remember this; how many nights we sat around the dinner table and Dad used to say "a government big enough to give you everything is a government big enough to take everything away". He believed those words.

So as we stand here today and I think the inscription that former Democratic Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, has on my Dad's statue, says that basically God is very good to America, this country, and he's right, God had a hand in my fathers life. As a young man growing up in Grand Rapids Michigan, God made sure that he placed the right people around him; the right mother, the right step-father, the right football coach, the right teacher, the right church pastor, the right Boy Scout leader. To plant the seeds in him of character and integrity that he would need years later to heal this nation.

Selfishly as a son, I close by saying what I miss the most is how Dad led our family. How he showed us how to be a great father, how he showed us how to be a great husband. Thank you Dad! God Bless You!



Dick and Mike Ford



Speaker John Boehner

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder

Senator Mitch McConnell

Senator Harry Reid

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

*Excerpts from other Statue Dedication Ceremony remarks:*

"President Ford always put the best interests of the Republic first. It is an honor to place him in this hallowed Rotunda among the greats. In reality Gerald Ford belonged to all of us...he looked down on no one and trusted in the good sense of the American people. Now the gentleman from Michigan has come home and may this statue be an open book of bronze that tells of the most uncommon of common men; one who kept the faith when his countrymen needed it most. *John Boehner, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives*

"President Ford was the personification of courage, integrity and civility; a role model for us all to follow." *Rick Snyder, Governor of Michigan*

"Gerald Ford was honest, he was unafraid to believe that truth is the glue that holds our society together. He was more than an American...he was an All-American." *Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the United States Senate*

"President Ford's leadership in the House was marked by fair and reliable leadership. He was effective and respected by both parties, both sides of the aisle and always bipartisan in his approach." *Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Leader of the United States House of Representatives*

"This statue will solidify history's judgment that Gerald Ford held our nation together in one of her most difficult times...he restored a nation's confidence in itself. That is no small thing." *Mitch McConnell, Republican Leader of the United States Senate*



(l-r) Steve Ford, Susan Ford Bales and Mike Ford with President Ford's statue sculptor, J. Brett Grill, in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

*Artist J. Brett Grill Completes Statue of President Gerald R. Ford*

In 2008, artist and sculptor J. Brett Grill was commissioned to create the statue of President Gerald R. Ford. His work culminated with the public dedication of the statue in the United States Capitol Rotunda on May 3, 2011.

Brett currently resides in Columbia, Missouri. He attended the University of Michigan where he studied sculpture, earning a Bachelors degree in fine art in 2001. He received his MFA in painting at the New York Academy of Art in 2003. Brett has been awarded artist residencies in France and Norway and various grants from the University of Missouri. He has lectured on his own work and historical painting techniques throughout the Midwest and has exhibited at various galleries and museums across the nation including Chicago and New York. He is represented in private collections all over the nation.

Brett is currently Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Missouri where he continues his investigations of history painting, narrative, and the sublime. Additionally, he has received several figurative sculpture commissions.

## Betty Ford's 93rd Birthday Celebration April 8, 2011

Over 2,000 people visited the Museum on April 8th to celebrate former first lady Betty Ford's 93rd birthday. The annual birthday celebration includes free admission and the first 750 attendees have the opportunity to sample Mrs. Ford's birthday cake. Once again, Meijer, Inc. generously donated the cake for this year's celebration.

**Happy Birthday Mrs. Ford!**

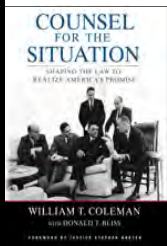


Fran Pollert, Museum volunteer, helped serve birthday cake.



### Georgetown University Leadership Program (GULP)

Japanese government officials from Tokyo, Okinawa, Hiroshima, Ibaragi, Oita, Chiba, and Mie prefectures (provinces) toured the Museum with Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso, and Jamie Draper, Museum Registrar, on Thursday, May 5, 2011. The GULP program was created to expose Japanese mid level policy makers to the U.S. government system, public private partnerships and environmental sustainability programs. This is a partnership between Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies, Kyodto News and Amway Japan. This effort has the potential to change the understanding and strengthen the relationship between the U.S. and Japan. The Foundation and Museum were truly honored to host the delegation.



William T. Coleman, Jr. at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, MI on March 30, 2011.

### William T. Coleman, Jr. *Counsel for the Situation* March 30 & 31, 2011

On March 31, 2011, William T. Coleman, Jr. visited Grand Rapids to speak about his life, triumphs, obstacles and challenges. Those experiences are now collected in his new book "Counsel for the Situation: Shaping the Law to Realize America's Promise". Coleman is a member of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and life-long friend of the Ford family. President Ford appointed Coleman as the Secretary of Transportation during his time in The White House. The feature event took place at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Coleman also spoke on March 30th at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



William T. Coleman, Jr. accompanied by his daughter, Lovida, signs the guest book in President Ford's Foundation office in Grand Rapids, MI on March 31, 2011.

Coleman was accompanied by his daughter, Lovida H. Coleman, Jr., who assisted her father in writing his memoir. West Michigan lawyer John Smietanka moderated the conversation at the Museum, and University of Michigan Law Professor Sallyanne Payton moderated at the Library. A video of the entire presentation can be viewed on the Foundation's website: [www.geraldfordfoundation.org](http://www.geraldfordfoundation.org).

**Tom Clavin**

*Last Men Out*

May 11 & 12, 2011



Tom Clavin, co-author of *Halsey's Typhoon*, spoke at both the Ford Library and Museum about his new book, *Last Men Out*, the story of eleven Marines who were the last to leave Saigon as the city fell to the North Vietnamese in April of 1975. This was a traumatic time for our nation as Americans watched the end of our involvement in the war in South East Asia unfold on their televisions. Unforgettable footage of helicopters and cargo planes airlifting Americans and Vietnamese refugees out of Saigon filled news reports. There were scenes of panic and chaos as desperate Vietnamese tried to storm the American Embassy and U.S. Marines sought to hold back the crowds. Feelings of loss mounted among Americans as newscasters recounted the countless wounded and tens of thousands of dead American soldiers after years of a conflict in a far corner of the globe.

This also was a painful time for President Gerald R. Ford, who wrote that these were his worst days in the White House. Ford felt that the United States could not abandon those Vietnamese who helped America during the long years of conflict nor could he abandon Americans still in Viet Nam. Tom Clavin and co-author, Bob Drury, bring to life the last desperate hours inside the U.S. Embassy and the courageous Marines who were briefly forgotten and left behind there. Much of the research for *Last Men Out* was done at the Ford Library. Mr. Clavin pored through the numerous cables and military transmissions that were generated during the evacuation as well as conducting interviews with the surviving U.S. Marines who were the last Americans to leave Saigon. ~ *Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.*



**Ben Feller**

*Front and Center: The White House Story from the First Row*

April 13, 2011

Ben Feller, Chief White House Correspondent for the Associated Press, who sits in the coveted front-row center seat during White House Press Briefings discussed what it's like to question the president, travel aboard Air Force One and cover one of the most competitive, important and exciting beats in journalism "from the front row".

Mr. Feller was the 2010 recipient of the Gerald R. Ford Journalism Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency. Feller took questions from a charmed audience at a reception following his well-received talk at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, MI.



*2011 Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies*

*Co-Sponsored with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Museum*

**Ron Chernow, *Washington - A Life***

March 28, 2011

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ron Chernow discussed his new book *George Washington - A Life* to a capacity crowd.



**H.W. Brands, *American Ulysses: The Journey of General Grant***

April 7, 2011

Henry William Brands is the Dickson Allen Anderson Centennial Professor of History at the University of Texas, Austin. He is a prolific author. His books include *Traitor to His Class*, *Andrew Jackson*, *The Age of Gold*, *The First American*, and *TR*. *Traitor to His Class* and *The First American* were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. Brands has captivated Museum audiences since 2004.





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**Correction from April 2011 Newsletter:** Our sincere apology to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Clouse, *Friends of Ford* Associate Members, whose names were mistakenly omitted from the 2010 Annual Membership List.