



May 2010

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Trustee **Benton Becker** presented *The Pardon of Richard Nixon* at the Library in Ann Arbor on March 10, 2010. Attorney Benton Becker was a key advisor to President Ford in the pardon of Richard Nixon and the disposition of Nixon's papers and the famous tapes. President Ford's first 100 days was one of this nation's most dramatic presidential transitions.

Gerald Ford's First 100 Days



President Ford delivering the Nixon Pardon.



Benton Becker meets with President Ford in the Oval Office to discuss the pardon of Richard Nixon.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Vice Chairman and Historian **Hank Meijer** presented *Senator Vandenberg and the Cold War* on March 27, 2010. Mr. Meijer delivered a lecture on Senator Arthur Vandenberg and his role during the Cold War. The lecture was presented in conjunction with the Ford Museum's current feature exhibition, **America and the Cold War**. Vandenberg was one of the leading U.S. Senators during the 1930s and 40s. As a close friend of Gerald R. Ford, Sr., Vandenberg played a significant role in getting Gerald R. Ford, Jr. to run for and win a seat in the U.S. Congress in 1948.



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Foundation News



*From the Foundation Executive Director,
Joseph S. Calvaruso*

**Tribute to Boy Scouts of America
on the 100th Anniversary of Scouting
Michigan State Capitol, Lansing, Michigan
February 10, 2010**



Joe Calvaruso at Michigan State Capitol,
Boy Scout Press Conference

Joe's Remarks:

On behalf of the Family of President Gerald R. Ford and the Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, please accept our heartfelt congratulations to the Boy Scouts of America on the 100th Anniversary of Scouting.

As I reflected on the significance of this Centennial, I recalled how important scouting was to President Ford. I was reminded of a tribute to President Ford that was written recently by his son Steve Ford. Steve's tribute is being published in the book entitled, *A Legacy for the Future Reminiscences of Scouting in West Michigan*, by the Boy Scouts Gerald R. Ford Council in Grand Rapids.

Steve Ford wrote:

Any serious thought about the fabric of my father's life brings forth the image of Dad as a young man wearing his Boy Scout uniform. My father was so blessed to have a loving mother and wonderful stepfather who were purposeful in surrounding him with life changing people, activities and organizations. The Boy Scouts were at the top of that list.

Scouting taught him so many core principles such as character, integrity and service to others.

Personal principles and leadership skills laid the foundation for him to be prepared to become President in 1974 at a time when America was in crisis. Even more importantly to us as his family, Scouting wove into him principles that allowed him to be a loving husband and great father. The thread of the Boy Scouts was always foundational to who Gerald R. Ford was as husband, father, friend and public servant.

Visitors to the Gerald R. Presidential Museum in

Grand Rapids are greeted by a magnificent statue of President Ford as an Eagle Scout. Those of you who knew President Ford will recall how proud he was to be an Eagle Scout and of the fact that he was the only President to have been an Eagle Scout.

On May 8th and 9th Adventure Base 100, the National Council of Boy Scouts of America traveling 100th anniversary exhibit, will be making its only stop in Michigan at the Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids. What a fitting tribute to Scouting and to President Ford this exhibit will be.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is humbled and deeply honored to have the opportunity to participate in the 100th anniversary celebration of Boy Scouts of America. Congratulations and our very best wishes for Scouting's second century.

Thank You.

Boy Scout Troop # 322 from Croswell, Michigan visited the Tomb of President Ford on Wednesday, April 7, 2010.



From the Library and Museum Director, Elaine K. Didier

News From the Library

A minute-by-minute log of Gerald Ford's presidential activities is now online and searchable worldwide. The so-called "Daily Diary" is a staple of each administration. The White House staff compiles it from appointment and telephone records, movement logs, flight manifests, Usher logs, and briefing material. The Ford Daily Diary is the most important, but certainly not the only, recent addition to the "Digital Ford Presidential Library." In recent months, the Library posted the January 1969- July 1974 private journals of Federal Reserve chairman Arthur Burns, a gift of the Burns family. In addition, the Library recently embarked on its most ambitious digitization project ever: the 13,000 still photograph contact sheets of the White House Photo Office. The Digital Ford Presidential Library now encompasses 20,000 images of documents at <http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/docs.asp>. The Daily Diary and other projects developed in partnership between the Library and the Foundation are additionally available at <http://www.geraldfordfoundation.org/>.

National security and foreign relations research got a big boost with release of the **Presidential Agency Files** and **Presidential Subject Files**. The bland titles were given by National Security Council file managers, but there is nothing bland in the nearly 40,000 pages of high-level material. Countless Cold War topics are treated, and President Ford's notes and initials are abundant throughout.

In other news, the extensive papers of **J. Stanley Pottinger, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, 1973-77** became fully opened. The newly acquired papers of **Michael Kelly**, a nationally known collector of presidential political ephemera, promise to become an exhibit as well as research resource for both the Library and the Museum.

Education Initiatives at the Ford Museum

The Museum's current exhibit, *America and the Cold War*, has been very well received by area educators who have been eager to bring their students in to tour the exhibit. Rich in content and with direct ties to the State Social Studies Curriculum, the exhibit is an excellent way for teachers to bring the events of the Cold War to life for students. Museum staff organized a workshop, *Teaching the Cold War*, hosted a Teacher Open House, and developed an extensive curriculum guide in conjunction with the exhibit, all to assist teachers in using the exhibit and primary source materials for their students. The Secchia – Allen Student Transportation Fund has made many of these school visits a reality for students and their teachers who otherwise would not have been able to visit.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Grand Valley State University's College of Education, and Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies have partnered on the development of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for the summer of 2011. Each workshop will be open to 40 teachers from across the country meeting at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library conducting original research on the topic of their choice. The culminating activity for the workshops will be the development of curriculum based on the week's lectures, workshops, and research.

An exciting collaboration between the Museum and Grand Rapids Public Schools will come to fruition during the 2010 – 2011 school year, where all Grand Rapids Public School 8th grade students will visit the Museum for a special program on Gerald Ford and the Constitution. Once up and running with Grand Rapids, the program will be made available to other area schools interested in participating.

A new addition is in the works for the Museum's on-line Education Center – Gerald R. Ford: Leadership in World Diplomacy which will explore Gerald Ford's diplomatic relations across the globe. Presented in a visually interesting and user friendly way, the site is designed as an introduction to using primary source materials. When complete the site will include Vladivostok and SALT II, the Helsinki Accords, Middle East Shuttle Diplomacy, and more.



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library installed a permanent lobby exhibit "Gerald R. Ford and the University of Michigan," also known as "Wolverine Corner." This new exhibit is a timeline of President Ford's 75 year involvement with the University of Michigan from his early days as a Wolverine football player, to his presidential campaign kick-off at Crisler Arena in 1976, to the tributes the University gave to President Ford upon his passing in December 2006. This timeline is the third and final installment of the permanent exhibit in the lobby of the Ford Library depicting the lives of President and Mrs. Ford.



Developed in the early 1950s, the Nike Ajax served as the United States' first operational supersonic anti-aircraft missile system. The U.S. military intended to use them as the last line of defense against Soviet bombers (Courtesy of the Selfridge Military Air Museum). This missile is on display at the Museum as part of the Cold War exhibit.

Photo Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries

President Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge

Each year the theme for our President Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge reflects an important part of Gerald Ford's character. During the 2009 – 2010 school year, students were asked to write about "The Meaning of Courage Today." Over 350 high school students from public and private, city, suburban, and rural areas participated. In some cases teachers made the essay a class assignment. In others, students took the initiative to write an essay on their own. The result was a diverse and thought-provoking selection of essays.

The 18 finalists are recognized each year at a special awards program at the Museum the evening of President's Day. This year's first place winner was Martha Veldkamp, a senior at Calvin Christian High School. The Essay Challenge is a collaboration between The Grand Rapids Press Newspapers in Education, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.



First Place Winner
Martha Veldkamp
Calvin Christian High School
12th Grade
Uncommon Courage
In Coopersville, Michigan



Second Place Winner
Sara DenBraber
Catholic Central High School
9th Grade
The Courage of a Lion



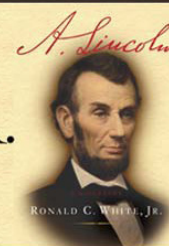
Third Place Winner
Rachel McDaniel
Allegan High School
12th Grade
Courage Today

Thanks and Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's challenge!

You can read the top 18 essays on line at www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov.



RONALD C. WHITE, JR.



Acclaimed Abraham Lincoln biographer, **Ron White**, addressed an overflow audience at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on February 16, 2010. Mr. White's *A. Lincoln* was a national bestseller in 2009, the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. White's lecture focused on Lincoln's ideals and lessons that could be applied to the issues that face us in the year of 2010. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation awards several Research Travel Grants of up to \$2,000 each in support of research in the holdings of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. A grant defrays travel, living, and photocopy expenses of a research trip to the Ford Library. Grants are awarded twice a year with application deadlines of March 15 and September 15. See details about the grants by visiting our website www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov.

Fall 2009 Foundation Research Travel Grants

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation's travel grants program has been providing assistance to Ford Library researchers since 1982. Although the bulk of the more than 450 researchers who have benefitted from this support were students or faculty from colleges and universities throughout the world, journalists and free-lance writers have also received grants. Many books, articles, and dissertations have resulted.

Last fall the Foundation's Grants Screening Committee selected the following grant recipients:

- Bennett, M. Todd, East Carolina University, *The Spirits of '76: The American Bicentennial and the Struggle for the Nation's Soul*
- Cavanna, Thomas, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (France), *The US Foreign Policy Towards India and Pakistan in the 1970s*
- Depow, Elaine, McGill University (Canada), *The Media's Role in Electioneering Presidential Elections*
- Francis-Fallon, Benjamin, Georgetown University, *Minority Reports: The Making of Hispanic Politics and the Rise of America*
- Gumm, Angela, Iowa State University, *Waste, Energy and Ideology: The American People and the History of Resource Recovery from 1965-2001*
- Hindman, Alex E., Claremont Graduate University, *Preserving the Constitutional Presidency Separation of Powers, the Ford Administration and the Resurgent Congress of the Post-Watergate Era*
- Kilinc, Aykut, University of New Hampshire, *American Foreign Policy Toward Cyprus, 1963-1977*
- Lechner, Zachary J., Temple University, *The South of Mind: America and the Imagined South, 1960-1980*
- Nemchenok, Victor, University of Virginia, *Contesting World Order: International Development and the Search for Justice, 1970-1988*
- Shaw, Jonathan Edwards, College of William & Mary, *Ujamaa and Authenticite: Nyere and Mobutu's Imagined Nations*
- Tulli, Umberto, Instituto Italiano di Scienze Umane (Italy), *From Helsinki to Madrid: The United States and Soviet Dissent (1975-1980)*

The newest round of applications closed on March 15, 2010, with a record high 28 applicants (16 faculty and 12 Ph.D. candidates). Several are from foreign countries including Spain, Great Britain (3), Japan, Italy (2), and China. The Grants Screening Committee will meet in April to decide which applications will be funded.

Program Highlights at the Museum

Inside the Cold War: The KGB and CIA Perspectives with **Peter Earnest and Oleg Kalugin** opened the Museum's newest feature exhibit: *America and the Cold War* on January 21, 2010.

Oleg Kalugin, former KGB agent and author of the book *Spymaster*, along with Peter Earnest, former CIA Agent, author of *The Real Spy's Guide* and founding executive director of the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC, shared their stories from the Cold War to a standing room only crowd.

A video of the presentation is available on our website www.geraldrfordfoundation.org.



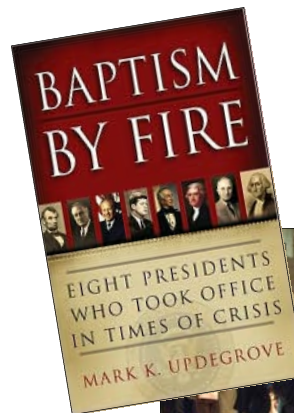
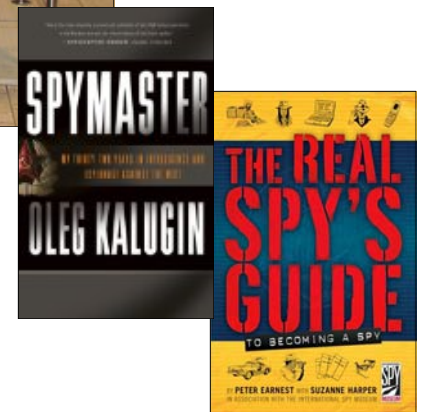
Tom Borchers, *Alligators in the East Room and Other White House Tales*. Visitors joined Tom for a lively conversation about the Executive Mansion during the President's Day Celebration at the Museum.



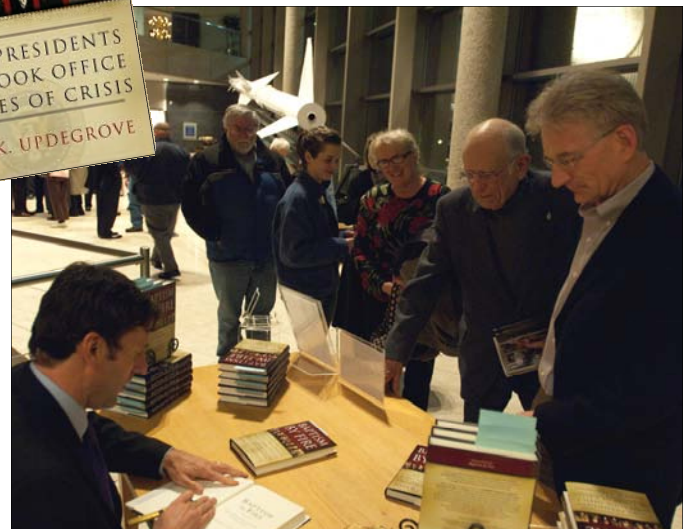
Peter Earnest (left) and Oleg Kalugin (right) share a moment at a piece of the Berlin Wall on permanent display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI.

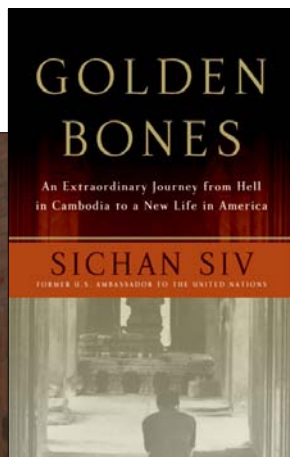


Photo courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries

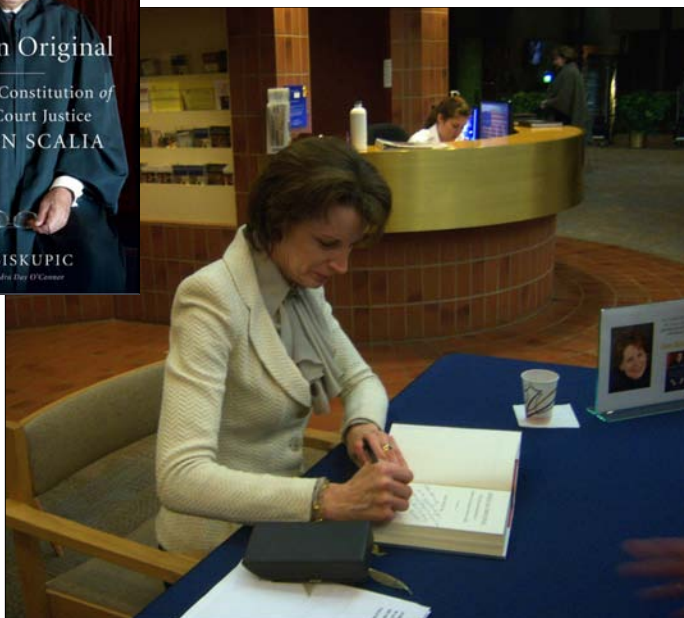
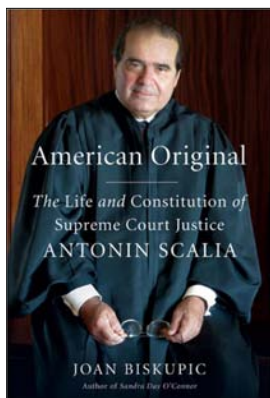


Mark Updegrave autographs his book *Baptism by Fire: Eight Presidents Who Took Office in Times of Crisis* following his presentation "The Presidents and the Cold War" on February 25, 2010. The presentation explored the profound challenges faced by several presidents from the founding of the nation through the Cold War. Mr. Updegrave is currently the Director of the Lyndon Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, Texas.





Ambassador Sichan Siv, author of *Golden Bones*, presented an inspirational program detailing his amazing journey from certain death halfway around the world in Cambodia to the corridors of power in Washington, D.C.



Joan Biskupic, USA TODAY Supreme Court correspondent, spoke at the Library about her new book *American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia* and signed copies during a reception that followed.



Sharon K. Fawcett, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries, National Archives and Records Administration presented *Presidential Libraries and Museums in the 21st Century: Reflections on the Dilemmas of History, Legacy, and Politics*, March 24, 2010.

This special presentation on the past and future of presidential libraries was planned in conjunction with the University of Michigan's LSA Theme Year celebrating the contributions of museums to the intellectual, cultural and social life of the community and the region.



Sharon K. Fawcett talks with the Library's student staff from the University of Michigan School of Information and others at a reception following her talk.

We wish to thank all of those who have contributed so generously to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Your dedication and continued support honors the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his life and allows the Foundation to continue sponsoring exhibits, programs, research grants and awards at the Gerald R Ford Presidential Library and Museum.

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On Exhibit:

Grand Rapids:

America and the Cold War (January 22, 2010 through June 13, 2010)

America and the Cold War was curated by the Ford Museum team. Pulled together from over thirty lenders across America, over one hundred artifacts and documents tell the story of how the Cold War influenced the United States. Featured in the exhibit are nuclear warheads, the safety plugs pulled from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, treaties signed by American presidents and Soviet premiers, spy gear, and Civil Defense material.

Ann Arbor:

Economy in Crisis, 1974-1975 (Now through Summer 2010)

Economic crises on an international scale are not new, and President Ford inherited a tough one in 1974. A new exhibit at the Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor show how he attacked a witch's brew of inflation, recession, budget deficits, and oil supply worries. This exhibit features rarely seen artifacts and archival materials from the Ford Presidential Library and Museum collections.

Upcoming Exhibits:

Grand Rapids:

Schoolhouse to the White House: The Education of the Presidents (July 2, 2010 through October 17, 2010)

Economic crises on an international scale are not new, and President Ford inherited a tough one in 1974. A lobby exhibit at the Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor shows how he attacked a witch's brew of inflation, recession, budget deficits, and oil supply worries. The exhibit features rarely seen artifacts and archival materials from the Ford Presidential Library and Museum collections.

The Betty Ford Collection (November 12, 2010 through February 27, 2011)

Meet one of America's most consequential First Ladies. From her style and grace to her advocacy for equal rights to her concern for issues of health and wellness, Betty Ford left a bold trail for the First Ladies who followed her. This exhibit will offer visitors a fuller examination of her career.

