



# Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

May 2014, Issues 1 & 2

## PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD CENTENNIAL YEAR



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

March 2013



### ISLAND LANDING CEREMONY

USS GERALD R. FORD (CVN 78)  
NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING  
JANUARY 26, 2013

555 ton island is lowered into the flight deck of the USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78)



Special sandstone mementos placed by Susan Ford Bales during the Island Landing Ceremony.



Mementos placed under the USS Gerald R. Ford's island

On January 26, 2013, the Island Landing Ceremony of the USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78) took place at the Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS) in Newport News, Virginia. The ceremony represents a significant milestone in the structural completion of the ship. The island will serve as the command center for flight deck operations aboard the first of the next-generation Ford Class of aircraft carriers. Susan Ford Bales, the ship's Sponsor, was joined by Fleet Admiral Test Branch, Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic; Captain John Meier, USS Gerald R. Ford's first commanding officer; and NNS President Matt Mulhern.

Susan described her memento: "My memento is a piece of sandstone from the same sandstone used in the construction of the White House and U.S. Capitol. Embedded into it is a personal coin I created for this ceremony, together with Dad's five official seals. Those seals represent Dad's extraordinary service to our Nation: the Lt. Commander's oak leaf and the U.S. Navy seal are in tribute to Dad's distinguished naval service in World War II; the seal of the U.S. House of Representatives honors his twenty-five years of service in the House, the longest of any U.S. President; and the seals of the Vice President and President of the United States represent those two offices in which Dad served with such distinction."

Captain Meier chose to place his aviator wings under the island. "It's been a longstanding Navy tradition to place items of significance. I will be placing my wings under the island. To me, they are not only my designation as a naval aviator, but they are symbolic that freedom is not free. They are a constant reminder that freedom requires hard work, integrity, dedication to duty, and even sacrifice in order to maintain our great nation."

Continued on page 4

#### A Mariner's Tradition

In ancient Rome, coins were put into the mast of a ship to make certain that each member of the crew was assured a safe voyage.

The U.S. Navy, steeped in customs and traditions, continues the tradition. However, the coins today symbolize and pay tribute to significant aspects of the ship's heritage, safe passage, and good luck. They remain forever welded in the island of the ship.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter  
Celebration of an Extraordinary Legacy

Summer 2013, Issues 2 & 3



2013-2014 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Board of Trustees



Trustee Dick Cheney at the Centennial Dinner Celebration on May 6



Trustee Henry Kissinger at the Grand Rapids Economic Club luncheon on May 6



Trustee Brent Scowcroft at the Centennial Dinner Celebration on May 6



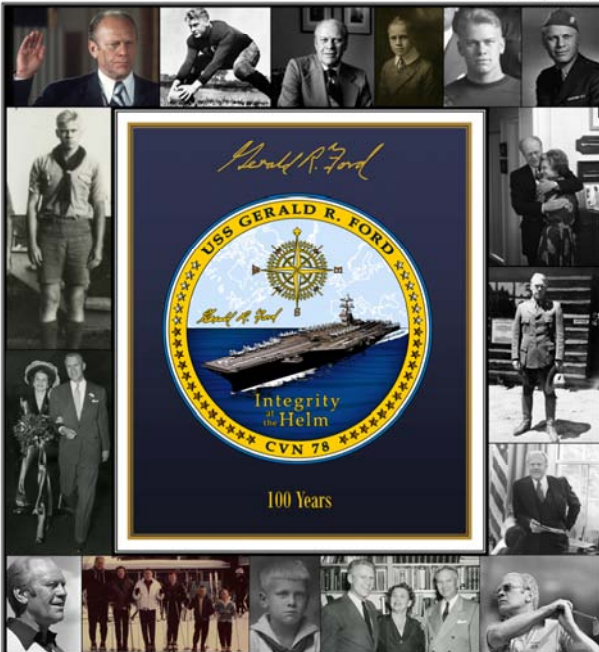
Trustee Paul O'Hair at the 'Growing Up Grand' Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 7



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

## President Gerald R. Ford Centennial

Fall 2013, Issues 4 & 5



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

December 2013, Issues 6 & 7



USS Gerald R. Ford  
CVN 78  
Christening  
November 9, 2013

Ship's Sponsor Susan Ford Bales christens the USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78). She is joined by 3rd Commanding Officer Captain John Meier, U.S. Senator Carl Levin, and Matt Mulhern, Newport News Shipbuilding. Mahons of Honor Heather Devers and Tyme Berlanga look on.

#### The Christening of the USS Gerald R. Ford

The Christening of the USS Gerald R. Ford was based on traditions thousands of years old. Ancient shipbuilders accompanied the launching of their ships with religious ceremonies invoking favor over the ship and her sailors. Today, the tradition has evolved into a ceremony that honors the individuality of the ship and the life ahead of her. Susan Ford Bales, the Ship's Sponsor proclaimed, "I christen thee United States Ship: Gerald R. Ford. May God bless this ship and all who sail her." She then shattered a ceremonial bottle of American sparkling wine against the bow of the carrier. The ship was "launched" on November 17 and moved to a pier where cutting will continue until the ship is ready for delivery.

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



First, my boundless gratitude and thanks go out to the Foundation Trustees, Friends of Ford, volunteers and supporters for everything they did to make possible the wonderful tributes to President Ford's Centennial Birthday. The cover of this edition of our newsletter highlights those special tributes and other events in 2013. Those celebrations culminated with the spectacular Christening of the *USS Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) by the Ship's Sponsor, Trustee Susan Ford Bales, and the wonderful events that surrounded the Christening. The Christening Weekend and the events during the Centennial Year were tributes quite worthy of President Ford's remarkable legacy.

April 8 marked what would have been Mrs. Betty Ford's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mrs. Ford's dear friend Rosalynn Carter came to Grand Rapids and shared personal stories and heartfelt tributes to Mrs. Ford. Following her personal remarks, Foundation Chairman Steve Ford moderated a discussion with questions from the audience. Thank you, Mrs. Carter, for your very special tribute to Mrs. Ford.

Also in April, Trustee Dick Cheney

and his cardiologist, Dr. Jonathan Reiner, came to Grand Rapids for a luncheon and discussion on their book: *Heart: An American Medical Odyssey*. Prior to the luncheon, they visited Spectrum Health's Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center. It was a wonderful day for all. Thank you, Mr. Vice President!

August 9 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of President Ford being sworn in as the 38<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. Special programs and tributes are being planned to remember that remarkable period.

President Ford's July 14 birthday will be celebrated this year in Grand Rapids. The annual Presidential Wreath Laying Ceremony will be conducted that morning at President Ford's Tomb. Later that day, the William E. Simon Lecture in Public Affairs will be delivered by Foundation Trustee Jim Baker. Thank you, Mr. Secretary, for your plans to come to Grand Rapids and to pay tribute to President Ford on what would have been his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. Also that day, Trustees Susan Ford Bales and Jim Baker will formally open the Museum's new temporary



(l-r) Bob Worthington, Mercantile Bank; Bill Coderre, Junior Achievement President, Eric Draper, and Joe Calvaruso. Photo Courtesy of Junior Achievement.

exhibit that highlights the *USS Gerald R. Ford* and the history of American aircraft carriers. Included in the exhibit will be presentations about the *USS Monterey*, the aircraft carrier President Ford served aboard during World War II, and about the Navy's new Gerald R. Ford Class of aircraft carriers.

Thank you again for your support in 2013! It is an honor and privilege to be a part of continuing the legacy of our extraordinary 38<sup>th</sup> President.

*Joe*

*New Gerald R. Ford Statue Unveiled in East Grand Rapids, MI*



(l-r) Chairman Emeritus Marty Allen, Sue Allen, Mayor Amna Seibold, Sculptor Brett Grill, and Devon Grill.

On December 28, 2013, a bronze statue of President Ford was dedicated in the City of East Grand Rapids, Michigan commemorating President Ford's Centennial Birthday. The statue is a gift of Foundation Chairman Emeritus Marty Allen and his wife Sue to the City of East Grand Rapids, President Ford's hometown.

The sculpture is a scale model of the bronze statue of President Ford which stands in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C. which was dedicated in 2011. J. Brett Grill, the sculptor of the original statue in Washington D.C. and the scale model in East Grand Rapids, attended the dedication.

In a letter to the city's Mayor Seibold, Foundation Chairman Steve Ford wrote "The Ford family is so honored by the dedication of Dad's statue in his hometown of East Grand Rapids. East Grand Rapids gave him a wonderful foundation to serve his nation while being a loving husband and father."

**Front Cover:** The photos depict the front covers of the 2013 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletters. Copies can be viewed and downloaded from our website: [www.geraldrfordfoundation.org](http://www.geraldrfordfoundation.org).

**Back Cover:** Photos on the back cover are courtesy of David Hume Kennerly, Dr. Robert M. Humphries, Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University, and Spectrum Health.

## “Race For The Cure” Returns to Downtown Grand Rapids

April 21, 2014



Trustee Susan Ford Bales films public service announcement from Spectrum Health's Betty Ford Breast Care Services.

Susan Ford Bales started her morning especially early with a public service announcement for the **2014 Susan G. Komen: Race for the Cure** at the Betty Ford Diagnostic Breast Center in the Spectrum Health Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion. She graciously agreed to film the announcement promoting the race on September 6, 2014 which will be moved back to its original location in downtown Grand Rapids near the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum after 16 years in Grandville, MI.

As the Honorary Ambassador for the race, Susan emphasized the importance of the cause behind the race. It was Betty Ford's candor about her diagnosis early in her days as First Lady that brought breast cancer awareness to the forefront of the nation's attention. As a result, research and information became readily available, and the lives of countless women have been saved since.

After the announcement, Susan concluded her visit with a look at the Digital Breast Tomosynthesis for enhanced breast cancer diagnosis.



Dr. Thomas A. Getz, Mammography Section Chief and Medical Director of Spectrum Health's Betty Ford Breast Care Services shows Trustee Susan Ford Bales the Digital Tomosynthesis System, the newest technology for enhanced breast cancer diagnosis. Joining them are Richard Funnell, Senior Director of the Oncology Program and Dr. Judy Smith, Department Chief of Oncology at Spectrum Health.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries.

## Looking Back James A. Baker, III

Secretary James A. Baker, III has served in senior government positions under three United States presidents. He served as the Nation's 61st Secretary of State from January 1989 through August 1992 under President George H. W. Bush. Baker served as the 67th Secretary of the Treasury from 1985 to 1988 under President Ronald Reagan and Chief of Staff from 1981 to 1985. His record of public service began in 1975 as Under Secretary of Commerce to President Gerald R. Ford. Long active in American Presidential politics, Secretary Baker led presidential campaigns for Presidents Ford, Reagan, and Bush over the course of five consecutive presidential elections from 1976 to 1992. Secretary Baker serves on the Board of Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.

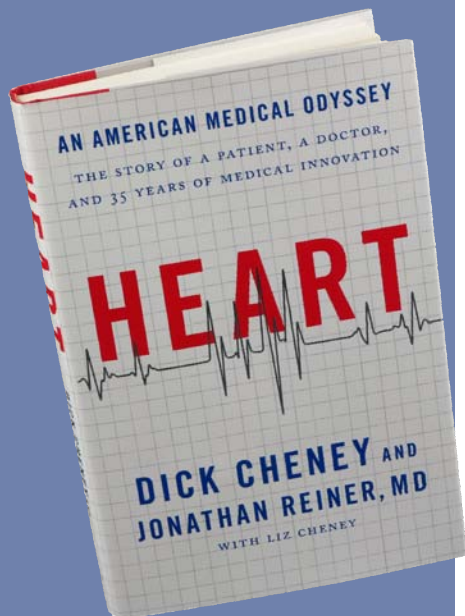


Under Secretary of Commerce James Baker meets with President Ford in the Oval Office, September 11, 1976.

# Heart: An American Medical Odyssey

## Dick Cheney and Jonathan Reiner, MD

April 21, 2014



On Monday, April 21, 2014 the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation hosted Vice President Dick Cheney and his longtime cardiologist, Jonathan Reiner, M.D., at a joint luncheon event with the Economic Club of Grand Rapids for a capacity crowd. For as long as he has served at the highest levels of business and government, Vice President Cheney has also been one of the world's most prominent heart patients. At the luncheon he shared his very personal story of his courageous thirty-five year battle with heart disease, from his first heart attack in 1978 at the age of 37 to the heart transplant he received in 2012. Cheney opened up about his health struggles and challenges while keeping a healthy sense of humor despite the serious topic. He shared personal stories of doctors' suggestions and comments as well as personal family moments. Dr. Reiner provided his perspective on Cheney's case and the important discoveries and innovations that have saved the Vice President's life and countless others. The conversation was moderated by Susan Ford Bales, Foundation Trustee. The Vice President and Doctor ended the luncheon program by answering questions proctored by Susan Ford Bales from the captivated audience.

More details of the very private and public accounts of the Vice President's journey are chronicled in a memoir, *Heart: An American Medical Odyssey*, released in October 2013 written by Vice President Cheney and Dr. Reiner. Signed books were available for purchase to attendees at the event.

Prior to the luncheon, Susan Ford Bales, Vice President Cheney, and Dr. Reiner generously dedicated their morning to a roundtable discussion at Spectrum Health's Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center. There, they met with top cardiologists from Spectrum's Cardiovascular Care Services as well as key administrative executives. They discussed Vice President Cheney's unique medical history, changes in cardiovascular care since his first heart attack in 1978 and the value of a long-term physician-patient relationship.



Maat Mendelssohn

Jonathan Reiner, MD



Kara Aherm



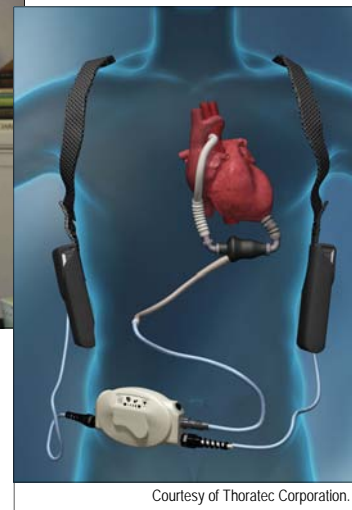
Jonathan Reiner, MD

### Photos from *Heart: An American Medical Odyssey*:

Left: With Dr. Shashank Desai and Pat Rakers, ICU Nurse, one year after the transplant.

Above: Dick Cheney at home with Lynne Cheney in McLean [VA] a few hours after he was released from the hospital following heart transplant surgery.

Right: Schematic diagram of HeartMate II LVAD system that was implanted in Dick Cheney on July 6, 2010.



Courtesy of Thoratec Corporation.



Dr. Jonathan Reiner, Trustees Dick Cheney and Susan Ford Bales.

Jim Dunlap, Chair of the Economic Club of Grand Rapids introduced Trustee Susan Ford Bales.



Trustees Dick Cheney, and Susan Ford Bales with (left photo) Vice-Chairman Hank Meijer and (right photo) Trustee Dick Ford prior to the luncheon.



(l-r) Trustee Dick Cheney, Joan Secchia, Trustees Peter Secchia and Susan Ford Bales prior to the luncheon.



Trustee Dick Cheney, Drs. Jonathan Reiner, and Asghar Khaghani at joint press conference held at Spectrum Health.



**Above:** (l-r) Kevin Splaine; Trustee Susan Ford Bales; Michael Dickinson, MD; Asghar Khaghani, MD; Lawrence Patzelt, MD; Trustee Dick Cheney; Patrice Villemure; Ashraf Mansour, MD; Jonathan Reiner, MD; and Steve Heacock at the roundtable discussion at Spectrum Health's Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center.



**Left:** (l-r) Steve Heacock, Trustee Dick Cheney, Dr. Jonathan Reiner, and Trustee Susan Ford Bales at the roundtable discussion at Spectrum Health's Fred and Lena Meijer Heart Center.

*America's First Ladies: A Journey of Friendship*



*"I am really happy to be here to help celebrate Betty's 96<sup>th</sup> birthday and it's easy to see, when I think about it, how we became such good friends because she was so warm and easy to be with." - Rosalynn Carter*

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter joined Grand Rapids in commemorating the anniversary of Mrs. Ford's birth at an April 8 luncheon and program, **"America's First Ladies: A Journey of Friendship."** Mrs. Carter was joined on stage by Steve Ford as she reminisced about life, education, marriage, politics, friendship, and the issues that brought her and Betty Ford together. Both women married men who served in the U.S. Navy, spent much of their lives as political wives, each had three sons and a daughter, both firmly believed that women deserved equal rights ... and were active and outspoken in their advocacy of those rights. As first ladies, Betty Ford and Rosalynn Carter supported other overlapping issues, women's health, mental illness, and later, substance abuse. Both testified before the U.S. Congress in support of the health issues they felt so passionately about.

Two strong, outspoken women with the vision and drive to make the world a better, healthier place became dear friends. It was from that place that Mrs. Carter and Steve Ford came together for a wonderful look back at Mrs. Ford and the role of modern first ladies. The luncheon was hosted by Sue Allen, Deb Hoogendoorn, and Judy Hooker and held in the JW Marriott's International Ballroom.

Discussions continued at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum following the luncheon with **"Betty Ford's Legacy in Women's Health"** sponsored by Spectrum Health. Panelists included Dr. Judy Smith, Department Chief of Oncology at Spectrum Health; Dr. Thomas Getz, Medical Director of Betty Ford Breast Care Services at Spectrum Health; and Gleaves Whitney, Director of the Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University. When the First Family went public about Betty Ford's breast cancer diagnosis and treatment, it changed the national conversation. Betty's legacy continues as we talk about that pivotal moment in women's health and the tremendous advancements in breast cancer treatment realized since then.



Steve Ford places flowers at the Tomb of First Lady Betty Ford

Videos from these events are available on the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation website: [www.geraldfordfoundation.org](http://www.geraldfordfoundation.org)



Top: Co-host Deb Hoogendoorn welcomed guests to the luncheon.



Right: Chairman Steve Ford and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter.



(l-r) Foundation Treasurer David Hoogendoorn, Trustee Bob Hooker, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, Chairman Emeritus Marty Allen, Chairman Steve Ford, and Executive Director Joe Calvaruso.



Chairman Steve Ford and First Lady Rosalynn Carter visit with Brent and Diane Slay prior to the luncheon.



First Lady Rosalynn Carter participated in a press conference prior to the luncheon.



(l-r) Luncheon Co-hosts Judy Hooker and Sue Allen, Mrs. Carter, Co-Host Deb Hoogendoorn, Lena Meijer, and Chairman Steve Ford prior to the luncheon.



(l-r) Dr. Thomas Getz and Dr. Judy Smith from Spectrum Health along with Gleaves Whitney from the Hauenstein Center participate in the panel discussion at the Museum.

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

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We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Katie Maguire at 616.254.0396 or [kmaguire@38foundation.org](mailto:kmaguire@38foundation.org) with any corrections.

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

The pace of the centennial year has continued, as illustrated by the numerous public programs and events covered throughout this issue. With the advent of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ford Administration this August, the Foundation and Library/Museum staff have identified 40 key events/accomplishments of the Administration, and are planning a number of special programs related to these topics. In addition, artist applications for display at the Museum during ArtPrize 2014 are already in full swing!

The Library's digitization program continues to make steady progress, with more than 200,000 pages of textual material and 13,000 White House Photographic Office contact sheets digitized since 2009. With additional Foundation support provided this year, we are bringing on three summer interns to increase the pace. One of these will take on digitization of Ford family photographs received recently, including many photos of Mrs. Ford's youth. These will be a great resource as we select materials to include in the exhibit renovation process. At the Museum, another Foundation-supported digitization technician is taking high resolution photographs of the artifact collection in order to make artifacts available for research and public access, as well as improving accountability for preservation and security.

The project will add nearly 7,000 artifact photos to our files by year-end. As with the textual images and photos mentioned above, these will ultimately be available on the digital library on our website.

The Foundation-supported Research Travel Grant Program continues to draw a steady stream of applications from graduate students and scholars around the world. The spring's round drew 21 applications that the Foundation selection committee, co-chaired by Tom Kauper and Roger Porter, will be reviewing shortly.

The Gerald R. Ford Scholar Award in Honor of Robert Teeter is now in its 10th year, and has drawn a record 12 applications for the \$5,000 award to a doctoral student to support dissertation research and writing on an aspect of the United States political process and public policy. The selection committee is comprised of several University of Michigan faculty along with representatives of the Teeter firm and/or family. As you can appreciate, this award is highly competitive and draws top students from the U.S. and abroad.



Eric Draper autographing a copy of his book for Director Elaine Didier.

Both the Library and Museum have been especially busy hosting tours for special groups this winter and spring. In addition, I've been honored to receive multiple invitations to present illustrated overviews of presidential libraries and the Ford Library and Museum's unique collections, as well as a talk about *The Presidents' Retreat: Camp David* and its predecessor, *Camp Rapidan*. Museum Deputy Director Jim Kratsas has also spoken about President Ford to several groups, and recently developed a new illustrated presentation about Mrs. Ford, which was very well received. In all, it's another very busy and wonderful year!



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library Director and staff join Dr. Allida Black. (l-r) Audio-visual Archivist Ken Hafeli, Director Elaine Didier, Special Events Coordinator Kate Murray, Dr. Allida Black, retired Archivists Helmi Raaska and Leesa Tobin, Archivist Mark Fischer, and Supervisory Archivist Geir Gundersen.

### Dr. Allida Black "Outspoken Women: What Eleanor Roosevelt and Betty Ford Taught Us About Leadership" Thursday, April 24, 2014

In honor of Mrs. Ford's birthday, on April 24, the Library hosted Dr. Allida Black speaking about "Outspoken Women: What Eleanor Roosevelt and Betty Ford Taught Us About Leadership." In a dynamic and riveting presentation to a full house, Dr. Black profiled the parallels and differences in the political influence these two remarkable first ladies had on their husband's public policy initiatives and their re-election efforts. She also discussed how each of them re-defined themselves and took on new public roles after leaving the White House. Describing both first ladies as "special gifts" and models for our country based on their political and personal courage, Dr. Black's broad knowledge and passion held the audience spellbound.



A Picture Perfect Evening with  
Former White House Photographer **Eric Draper**

*“Front Row Seat, A Photographic Portrait of the Presidency of George W. Bush”*



Former White House Photographer, Eric Draper, gave a riveting lecture to a capacity crowd on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. The presentation, *Front Row Seat*, also the title of his latest book, provided an unprecedented photographic view into the life and presidency of George W. Bush. During the presentation, Mr. Draper shared some of his

favorite photographs and memories from his eight years in the White House. He also shared personal stories about life in the limelight, learning on the job and getting into the car with the wrong President. His charming, relaxed personality and photographic talent captivated the audience and gave them a small taste of what life was like in the White House.

Mr. Draper was the personal White House Photographer to President Bush for all eight of his White House years and touched on the time commitment and dedication that such a job required. Many a dinner was missed at the Draper household in order to get such a complete photograph collection. *Front Row Seat's* extraordinary photographs captured all aspects of the 43<sup>rd</sup> presidency, from the stressful times of national crises to candid moments with the Bush family, and Mr. Draper gave the audience the background scoop on some of his most famous pictures. Prior to his White House career, Mr. Draper spent eight years with the *Associated Press* covering an array of national and international events including five Olympics, presidential campaigns, NBA and NFL Championships and various natural disasters.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Museum staff as well as the Ford Family were excited to have Mr. Draper in town. Trustee Susan Ford Bales said, “We’re delighted that Eric Draper provided Dad’s Presidential Museum and the Grand Rapids community with the opportunity to hear and see Eric’s perspective on the inner-workings of the presidency of George W. Bush. The Official White House Photographer has a singularly unique insider’s view of the President and his family. Dad welcomed such access into his presidency, including his roles as Commander in Chief, President, husband, and dad. Eric’s book, *Front Row Seat*, is a wonderful photographic history of President Bush’s White House years.”

This outstanding event was generously sponsored by Mercantile Bank, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. A book-signing reception with specially ordered White House cookies followed the event. While in town Mr. Draper was nice enough to spend his morning at Davenport University giving a speech inspiring 200 plus Junior Achievement high school students to reach for their goals no matter how high.



Junior Achievement

Eric Draper talks to high school students at Davenport University as part of the Junior Achievement Titan Business Challenge hosted by Mercantile Bank.

Mr. Draper’s visit to Grand Rapids and his electric presentation on photography reminded a community frustrated by relentless snow to see the beauty and capture the important moments around them.

**Left Photo:** Eric Draper (right) with Bob and Janet Kaminski in the Museum prior to the evening presentation.

**Right Photo:** J.C. Huizenga chats with Eric Draper prior to the evening presentation.



Eric Draper event photos courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries except where noted.

## Museum's Digital Artifact Collection Project



**Far Left:** Digital Technician Jen Vos and Registrar Jamie Draper in the studio at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

**Above Left:** A hand-painted Bicentennial caricature of Gerald R. Ford. The sculpture is made out of Pennsylvania river stones painted to look like President Ford in a striped suit. The donor, Michael R. Manning, spent over 36 hours making the caricature. It was part of his "Stoney Maloney" series in 1976.

**Above Center:** President Gerald R. Ford received this traditional tea set consisting of a tea pot, sugar bowl, and twelve cups and saucers from his state visit to Romania in August 2-3, 1975. The set was presented by President and Mrs. Nicolae Ceausescu. Each item features hand-painted gold and white designs and multicolored floral accents. A light green box with a gold Romanian seal houses the set.

**Above Right:** This metal ice chest was given to Congressman Gerald R. Ford while he attended the 1952 Republican National Convention. Congressman Ford supported Dwight D. Eisenhower's nomination for the Republican ticket in that Presidential election. The chest features the Coca-Cola logo on one side and a smiling GOP elephant on the other.

A vast artifact photography project is moving the Ford Museum further into the digital age and revolutionizing the way the collection is perceived. The completion of an extensive artifact inventory in 2012 offered the opportunity for staff to focus on the long-term health of the collection. Increasing internal and external demands for digital content helped plot a new course. Museum Registrar Jamie Draper saw an opportunity to enhance artifact preservation and interpretation. Photographer Jen Vos entered the scene through the Padnos Museum Internship Program and helped devise a system that exceeds National Archives standards and expands the Museum's digital footprint. With clear goals identified, equipment purchased, and studio set, the work proceeded.

Through generous support from the Foundation, Jen Vos now coordinates the project as the Museum's Digital Technician. The Museum can now boast over 5,000 of its collection of 19,000 artifacts professionally photographed. Those completed so far include high-value items, Head of State gifts, Bicentennial quilts, and the entire campaign button collection, among others. The project involves more than simple photography; each object requires the completion of many steps within a controlled, studio environment. Artifacts are extracted, mounted, illuminated, and photographed. Jen captures multiple angles of each object, uploads the high-res images, organizes them for storage, and cleans specific images for promotional use. The final polished product will provide a snapshot of the entire artifact collection within a given moment in time. These images will not only serve internal accountability needs, but can also help creatively engage the public. The Museum hopes to use the photographs to create online exhibits, develop unique promotional materials, and offer a searchable, online database for students and researchers. The potential for public interpretation and crowdsourcing research offers infinite possibilities. Check out the Museum's artifacts page - <http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/museum/ArtifactCollectionSamples/newmain.asp> - for more examples of Jen's photography and watch for additional items to be highlighted in the *Friends of Ford* Newsletter.

On March 25 & 26, 2014, respectively, audiences in Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor thoroughly enjoyed the back-to-back programs highlighting Jim Cannon's professional life and second Ford biography, "**Gerald R. Ford: An Honorable Life**". In a discussion moderated by Professor Barry Rabe of the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy, James Cannon III's two sons, Scott and Jim, shared reminiscences of their father's dedication to journalism and the political arena, and their shared admiration for President Ford and his accomplishments. The discussion was followed by lively question and answer sessions.

Prior to serving as Gerald Ford's White House domestic policy advisor, Cannon was national affairs editor at Newsweek. "**An Honorable Life**" was published posthumously in 2013 to coincide with the Centennial of President Ford's birth. Also by Jim Cannon, "**Time and Chance: Gerald R. Ford's Appointment with History**".



Professor Barry Rabe (right) of the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy moderates a discussion with (l-r) Jim and Scott Cannon at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum



(l-r) Joe Calvaruso, Kallen Schwark, Arika Spote, Michael Aaberg, Grand Rapids Police Chief Kevin Belk.

The **Gerald R. Ford Student Essay Challenge Awards** Ceremony was held at the Museum on April 29, 2014. Each year we focus on a theme that reflects on one of the character traits and beliefs that made Gerald Ford the man, the congressman, and the president he was -- integrity, courage, leadership, and liberty.

Nearly 600 students submitted essays on this year's theme "**The Meaning of Courage Today**". The top prize went to Michael Aaberg, a Senior from Forest Hills Northern High School. Second place was awarded to Kallen Schwark, also a Senior from Forest Hills Northern High School. Arika Spote, a Senior from Plymouth Christian High School was awarded third place. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all those who participated in this year's competition!

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



"Friends of Ford" Fred and Sarah Steingold with Peter Baker (right) following the presentation.

**February 20: Ann Arbor: "Days of Fire: Bush and Cheney in the White House."**

Ford Journalism Award winner **Peter Baker**, Chief White House Correspondent for the *New York Times*, gave a riveting presentation to a rapt audience at the Ford Presidential Library. People braved snow, thunder and rain to attend and were not disappointed. Baker's carefully researched book (based on 400 interviews with 275 people), explores the complicated relationship between President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney. In the process, he exploded many myths about their relationship, describing how their relationship waxed, and then waned, over time. As with his prior presentation at the Library in 2009, Baker gave a nuanced and insightful presentation.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



The **Michigan Historical Commission** met in December at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. (l-r) Commissioner Richard Micka, Commissioner Brian Egen, Commissioner Larry Wagenaar, Governor's Appointments Officer Nancy Short, Commission Chairman John (Jack) Dempsey; Commissioner Kimberly Johnson; Michigan Historical Center Director Sandra Clark, Commissioner Joan Frear Capuano, Commissioner Thomas Truscott, Commissioner and Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso, and Michigan Historical Center Staff Mary Patrick. The Commission was given a special tour of the Library by Director Elaine K. Didier.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

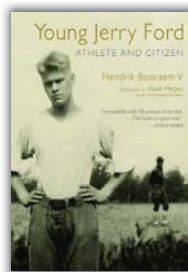


(l-r) Captain (Retired) Paul Ryan, US Navy Reserved, West Michigan Recruiting District Assistance Council (WMRDAC); Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Iman Parirokh, US Navy, Division 2, Navy Recruiting District - Michigan; Library and Museum Director, Dr. Elaine Didier; Commander Hal Ledbetter, US Navy; Executive Officer; Navy Recruiting District - Michigan; Library and Museum Deputy Director, Jim Kratsas; Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso in President Ford's Foundation office.

The West Michigan Recruiting District Assistance Council (WMRDAC) presented a *Letter of Appreciation* to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum for their support of WMRDAC's objectives during the "**West Michigan Future Sailors, Family & Friends Night**" at the Museum on April 16, 2014. WMRDAC's objectives are (1) to provide support in fulfilling the Navy's mission to recruit quality young men and women; (2) to increase support and acceptance of the Navy among community Centers of Influence (COI) in order to enhance recruiting effectiveness; and (3) to assist Navy recruiting by increasing public awareness of opportunities in today's Navy.

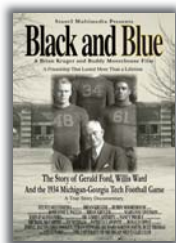


Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

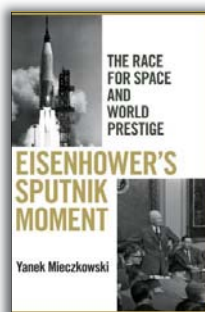


**Rik Booraem**  
**“Young Jerry Ford, Athlete and Citizen**  
 Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Rik Booraem, retired professor of social and political history and author of books about many presidents, shared his assessment of Jerry Ford's years at the University of Michigan. Though remembered for his accomplishments on the gridiron, Booraem argued that Ford's experiences as a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon were more formative and influential to Ford's later years. Booraem spoke at the Museum to an audience seated in front of the Museum's exhibit, **Growing Up Grand**, which explores Jerry Ford's youth. Booraem spent the next day speaking to school groups in Grand Rapids. He is the author of **Young Jerry Ford, Athlete and Citizen**, published in 2013.



**Grand Rapids** -- West Michigan Aviation Academy students visited the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in February for a special opportunity to view **“Black and Blue”** the story of Willis Ward, Gerald Ford, and University of Michigan football. Special guests Trustee Buzz Thomas (Ward's grandson) and Buddy Moorehouse, one of the film's producers, were on hand to discuss the film's story and production. The 400 students from West Michigan Aviation Academy came in two groups. Each group began by viewing the Museum's current feature exhibit, **Growing up Grand**, which includes original artifacts and documents from the infamous Michigan / Georgia Tech football game that was the basis for “Black and Blue.”



**Yanek Mieczkowski**  
**“Eisenhower's Sputnik Moment: The Race for Space and World Prestige”**  
 Thursday, January 16, 2014 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library  
 Thursday, April 3, 2014 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

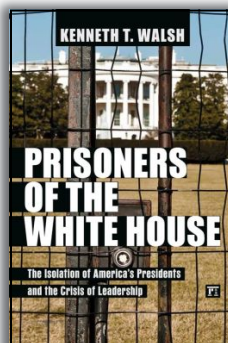
The Library and Museum hosted author and historian, Yanek Mieczkowski, who spoke about his new book **“Eisenhower's Sputnik Moment: The Race for Space and World Prestige.”** The book captures the critical Cold War moment in 1957, when the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the world's first satellite. Dwight D. Eisenhower's presidency suddenly changed. Mieczkowski took the audience through a comprehensive story of Eisenhower's reaction, including his refusal to panic. Ultimately the President guided America's space program, although in a sharp political conflict with John Kennedy, over sending men to the moon and improving America's global prestige.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



**Ken Walsh**  
**“Prisoners of the White House: The Isolation of America's Presidents and the Crisis of Leadership”**  
 Tuesday, December 3, 2013

**Ann Arbor** -- Ken Walsh, White House correspondent for *U.S. News*, spoke to a packed auditorium at the Ford Library about his new book, **“Prisoners of the White House”**. With a series of fascinating historical presidential photos, he took the audience through each administration's methods, from Roosevelt to Obama, for accessing the public mood and staying connected with the nation within an increasingly insular White House.

In December the Rotary Club of Grand Rapids held their weekly meeting at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso, had the opportunity to speak to the group of over 100 Rotarians about President Ford's legacy and the Foundation's mission to support it. Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director of the Museum, fielded historical questions and updated the group on the Museum's success.

Rotary Club of Grand Rapids



Museum Deputy Director Jim Kratsas.



Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso.

### Archivist Helmi Raaska Retires



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Archivist Helmi Raaska retired on March 21 following a 29 year career at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. Helmi began as an Archives Technician in January 1985 and quickly moved into an Archivist position. She contributed in almost every program area at the Library and played a critical role in building the Library into the well-regarded and highly-respected institution it is today. Over the years, Helmi worked with countless on-site and off-site researchers; processed and described many donor review collections; worked on the Museum exhibit redesign in the late 1990s and smaller temporary exhibits at the Library; assisted with education, outreach, and public programs; served as coordinator for the Foundation Research Travel Grand program, and staff librarian; and in declassification she systematically reviewed a good number of the Library's most important National Security Adviser collections. In all of these areas, Helmi generously shared her knowledge and expertise as she mentored staff and served as a valuable resource for researchers, co-workers, and the Foundation. She has been a wonderful colleague and friend and we are delighted Helmi will continue her relationship with the Library as a volunteer one day a week.



## *Yes, I want to be a member of "Friends of Ford"*

*Become a member of "Friends of Ford" and help support the Library and Museum's many exhibits and programs.*

*Join us as we seek to enhance public understanding of American history, government, and the presidency.*



*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.*

#### Members of "Friends of Ford" receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
- ★ Advance notification of speakers and exhibits at both the Library and Museum
- ★ Invitation to pre-opening exhibit tours by staff members
- ★ Foundation Newsletter, 5 issues per year
- ★ 10% Discount on merchandise at the Museum Store
- ★ Free admission to other Presidential Libraries and Museums
- ★ Membership card
- ★ Members at the Family, Associate, Sustaining, Patron, President's Cabinet and Legacy membership levels receive additional benefits.

*For further information, please contact Katie Maguire at 616.254.0396 or email [kmaguire@38foundation.org](mailto:kmaguire@38foundation.org).*

Attached is an application envelope for your convenience. Memberships are tax deductible to the limits allowed by the IRS.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

**Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation**  
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616-254-0396

