NEWS FROM THE FORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

January 2000

"Dreams Do Materialize"

"At no time in my lifetime would I have dreamed the name of Gerald R. Ford would be associated with a school of public policy at this great university." So declared the most famous alumnus of the University of Michigan at a special meeting of the Board of Regents held on November 18, 1999. Flanked by university president Lee Bollinger and Dean Rebecca Blank of the newly named Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, the president listened as each regent paid tribute to his long career of public service and his special relationship with the university from which he graduated in 1935.

"I happen to think that politics is a noble profession," the former president told students in the audience. At the same time, he continued, "I'm not going to mislead you. It's very tough on your families." Asked to comment on pressing contemporary issues, Ford singled out Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid reform, campaign financing, and the projection of American military power overseas. Waxing nostalgic, he reminisced about the fall of 1931, when tuition cost $100 for two semesters and women weren't even allowed in the front doors of the Michigan Union. After joking about a gridiron career that unfolded "when the ball was round," he reiterated his strong support for women's athletics, reminding listeners that while in the White House, he signed Title IX into law over the objections of several advisors.

COURTESY BOB KALMBACH

The University of Michigan Board of Regents unanimously approved the naming of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy in Ann Arbor on November 18, 1999. [University President Lee Bollinger, President Ford, Dean Rebecca Blank]

He was just as outspoken in voicing his support for the university's admissions policies, reiterating the position first argued in a much quoted New York Times Op-Ed piece reproduced on page six of this newsletter. Speaking of his alma mater's efforts to insure a representative student body, Ford said, "I was tremendously impressed with the process where they had seven or eight criteria by which a student is graded as to his or her admissibility." While opposed to numerical quotas, the former president endorsed the university's approach as a fair and balanced means of obtaining both diversity and academic excellence.

Inside this Issue...

Museum Attendance Up Sharply 2
Excerpts from the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremonies 3
1999...And What a Year It Was! 4
Holzer and Isikoff Win Journalism Prizes 6
"Inclusive America, Under Attack" by Gerald Ford . . . 6
How the Research Grants Program Works 8
Research Grant Awards 8
Twenty-Five Years On: Opening the Vietnam Documentary Vault 9
Exploring with (and For) Lewis and Clark 10
Foundation Trustee Passes Away. 11
Coming UP! 11

Singing "America the Beautiful" at "An Evening to Remember: A Tribute to the Honorable Gerald R. Ford," August 12, 1999. [Kathie Lee Gifford, the Rev. Billy Graham, President Ford and former football player Frank Gifford]

The naming of the Ford School capped a year full of honors for both President and Mrs. Ford. Twenty-five years after his East Room inauguration, President Ford received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Clinton. On October 27, both Fords were honored with the Congressional Gold Medal in an emotional ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda. And in between the Reverend Billy Graham and others heaped praise on the 38th president before a capacity audience in Grand Rapids' DeVos Hall. Throughout the year the Millennium Lecture Series co-sponsored by the Ford Foundation and Grand Valley State University brought the Ford message before national audiences via C-SPAN and other media outlets.

Another day to remember came in April when the president formally dedicated the stark metal staircase that once led to the top of the United States Embassy in Saigon, serving as a final means of escape for thousands of South Vietnamese and Americans as Communist forces encircled the city.

April, 2000 marks the 25th anniversary of the end of the war in Indochina. To commemorate the occasion the Ford Library, in partnership with the Ford School, is planning a major conference, to coincide with the public release of nearly 40,000 pages of newly declassified materials. Among the historically significant files to be made available to researchers are Memoranda of Presidential Conversations, National Security Advisor's Backchannel Messages, Presidential Country Files, National Security Council Staff Country Files, and National Security Council Staff Intelligence and Other Reports on Vietnam.

The conference, the first joint program between the Library and the Ford School, is not designed to rehash the military struggle in Southeast Asia. Rather, we'll examine how America's experience in Vietnam changed this country, especially popular attitudes toward government, the military, and the media. No less important, we'll ask participants whether the ghosts of isolationism have resurfaced, and what lessons the Vietnam experience holds for policy makers.

President Ford with Frederik and Lena Meijer, whose family sponsored the exhibition of the Saigon Staircase.

All this is the fruit of a planning process that began two years ago between President Ford, the Ford Foundation, the Library and University of Michigan officials. From the start, Lee Bollinger was enthusiastic about the possibilities. A planning group chaired by former university president Robben Fleming took up the challenge of strengthening ties between the university and the Ford Library. It quickly became apparent that both the Library and the School of Public Policy would benefit from a closer relationship. Next spring's conference will demonstrate this fact for a national audience. It's just the first of many programs that will raise both institutions' profiles, expand their base of support, and increase their usefulness in ways that reflect Gerald Ford's own commitment to public service. ■

RICHARD NORTON SMITH
Museum/Library Director

Museum Attendance Up Sharply

The American Century turned out not only to be the biggest, but also the most popular exhibit in Ford Museum history. The end-of-the-century blockbuster drew 86,012 visitors during its six month run concluding October 17, easily topping last year's *The Great War.* The museum's annual visitation of 117,515 represents an 11 percent increase over the previous year —and the best numbers since the museum's tenth anniversary celebrations in 1991. As a result, the Ford is the fifth most visited in the presidential library system … behind the Johnson, Reagan, Kennedy and Bush Libraries.

The trend continues through the first quarter of fiscal year 2000. Through mid-December, attendance is up 40 percent over last year. The museum gift shop also reports a healthy increase in sales. Especially popular are White House theme items ranging from Bicentennial Calendars and Christmas ornaments to autographed books and reproduction china used by First Families. ■

"President Ford Represents What Is Best In Public Service, And What Is Best About America"

President Ford received the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, in a White House ceremony on August 12th, twenty-five years to the week after he became the 38th President of the United States. The following excerpts are from President Clinton's remarks on that day.

"When he left the White House after 895 days, America was stronger, calmer and more self-confident. America was, in other words, more like President Ford himself."

"During 25 years in the House of Representatives, and as House Republican leader, he won respect from both sides of the aisle. It is not just his penchant for hard work, or his acknowledged mastery of everything from budgets to foreign policy to defense, but the way he conducted himself—arguing his position forcefully on the House floor but, at the end of the debate, always reaching over to shake the hand of his opponents. Gerald Ford knew when to put politics aside and when to put the interests of our nation first."

WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

President and Mrs. Ford received the Congressional Gold Medal in the Capitol Rotunda on October 27, 1999 [shown here with Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, President Clinton and Sen. Strom Thurmond.]

At the Congressional Gold Medal presentation ceremony at the Capitol Rotunda on October 27th, President Clinton concluded his remarks with the following:

"Mr. President, there's one other personal thing I want to say. Every American remembers where he or she was when you became President. We're all up here talking now about how great you were in healing the country and the wonderful words you said. But you made some tough decisions, too. And when you made your healing decision, you made the Democrats and the liberals mad one day, and then you made the conservatives mad the next day. You made everybody mad at you.

I was a young politician trying to get elected to Congress. Thank God I failed; otherwise I would have never become President, probably. But I want you to know something personal. It was easy for us to criticize you, because we were caught up in the moment. You didn't get caught up in the moment, and you were right. You were right for the controversial decisions you made to keep the country together, and I thank you for that." ■

WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

Presidential Medal of Freedom Citation

"Gerald R. Ford assumed the Presidency and led America during a time of unprecedented challenge. Building on bonds of trust forged during 25 years of exemplary public service in the United States Congress, he guided our Nation toward reconciliation and reestablished confidence in our government.

A leader of character, courage, decency and integrity, he earned the Nation's enduring respect and gratitude. America is forever indebted to Gerald R. Ford—38th president of the United States—for his legacy of healing and restored hope." ■

A handshake between two presidents at the Presidential Medal of Freedom Presentation Ceremony, August 12, 1999.

THE AMERICAN CENTURY
★ 1900-1999 ★

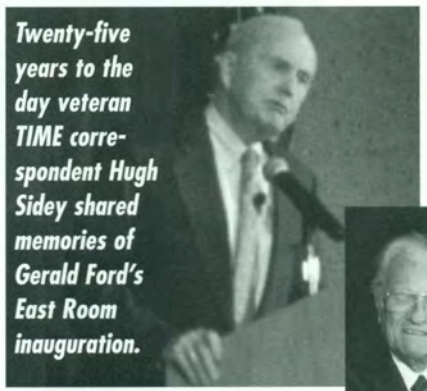
GERALD R. FORD MUSEUM
EXHIBIT OF THE CENTURY

1999...And Wh

Brian Lamb, chairman, founder and on-air host, shared his vision for C-SPAN on August 11th.

Harold Evans, author of the best selling book The American Century, opened the Millennium Lecture Series with President Ford on April 9th (shown here with Foundation Chairman Marty Allen.)

On April 24th historian Doris Kearns Goodwin's lecture focussed on the moral authority of the President. Afterwards, she toured The American Century *exhibit.*



Twenty-five years to the day veteran TIME correspondent Hugh Sidey shared memories of Gerald Ford's East Room inauguration.

Lavish accolades by the Reverend Billy Graham and others followed in Grand Rapids' own "Tribute to Gerald R. Ford" on August 19th.

The Reverend Billy Graham examines a DNA model in* The American Century *exhibit.

at a Year It Was!

Millennium LECTURE SERIES

COURTESY GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan addressed the nation's continuing economic expansion on September 8th at an event held at the downtown campus of Grand Valley State University.

Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens recalled his 1975 appointment by President Ford on September 16th.

Justice Stevens tours* The American Century *exhibit with Richard Norton Smith.

Museum Director Richard Norton Smith, Ford biographer Jim Cannon, President Ford, and Foundation Chairman Marty Allen.

On November 5th Julie Nixon Eisenhower opened America's House: The White House Model *with some well-chosen "Stories from Inside the White House."*

Richard Norton Smith escorts President Ford and Frank and Kathie Lee Gifford through The American Century *exhibit.*

Holzer and Isikoff Win Journalism Prizes

By Richard Holzhausen

At the National Press Club on June 9th President Ford awarded the 12th annual Gerald R. Ford Prizes for Distinguished Reporting to Robert Holzer, staff writer for *Defense News*, and Michael Isikoff, investigative reporter for *Newsweek*. Each year the Gerald R. Ford Foundation awards two $5,000 prizes to journalists whose high standards for accuracy and substance help foster a better public understanding in the areas of national defense and the presidency. Presiding over this year's selection process were Ronald O'Rourke, a defense analyst at the Congressional Research Service, and James Cannon, Ford biographer and journalist.

In selecting Michael Isikoff the committee noted that 1998 was dominated by news of the president's personal life, not his official actions or policies. The White House press covered these singular events and circumstances with varying degrees of insight and perspective. Press coverage led to the extraordinary consequences of a presidential impeachment. The judges concluded unanimously that Michael Isikoff demonstrated the greatest initiative and resourcefulness in uncovering the facts and understanding their significance. The enterprise of Mr. Isikoff changed the course of the Clinton presidency, and may have changed how Americans will view the office in the future.

Robert Holzer has covered naval warfare, joint operations, and intelligence issues for *Defense News* since 1989. For this competition he submitted an in-depth series of stories on U.S. Navy capabilities in undersea warfare. Holzer's series alerted readers to the continuing importance of undersea warfare without becoming alarmist or descending into exaggeration. The judges cited his engaging and understandable manner in treating the topic, his fair and judicious coverage, and the variety of perspectives he drew. He was commended for his resourcefulness in providing technical, political, bureaucratic and budgetary viewpoints drawn from dozens of interviews and an array of government reports.

Robert Holzer, President Ford, Michael Isikoff

Inclusive America, Under Attack

By Gerald R. Ford

Of all the triumphs that have marked this as America's century—breathtaking advances in science and technology, the democratization of wealth and dispersal of political power in ways hardly imaginable in 1899—none is more inspiring, if incomplete, than our pursuit of racial justice. The milestones include Theodore Roosevelt's inviting Booker T. Washington to dine at the White House, Harry Truman's desegregating the armed forces, Dwight Eisenhower's using Federal troops to integrate Little Rock's Central High School and Lyndon Johnson's electrifying the nation by standing before Congress in 1965 and declaring, "We shall overcome."

I came by my support of that year's Voting Rights Act naturally. Thirty years before Selma, I was a University of Michigan senior, preparing with my Wolverine teammates for a football game against visiting Georgia Tech. Among the best players on that year's Michigan squad was Willis Ward, a close friend of mine whom the Southern school reputedly wanted dropped from our roster because he was black. My classmates were just as adamant that he should take the field. In the end, Willis decided on his own not to play.

His sacrifice led me to question how educational administrators could capitulate to raw prejudice. A university, after all, is both a preserver of tradition and a hotbed of innovation. So long as books are kept open we tell ourselves, minds can never be closed.

But doors, too, must be kept open. Tolerance, breadth of mind and appreciation for the world beyond our neighborhoods: these can be learned on the football field and in the science lab as well as in the lecture hall. But only if students are exposed to America in all her variety.

For the class of '35, such educational opportunities were diminished by the relative scarcity of African-Americans, women and various ethnic groups on campus. I have often wondered how different the world might have been in the 1940's, 50's and 60's—how much more humane and just—if my generation had experienced a more representative sampling of the American family. That the indignities visited on Willis Ward would be unimaginable in today's Ann Arbor is a measure of how far we have come toward realizing however belatedly the promises we made to each other in declaring our nationhood and professing our love of liberty.

And yet, in the last speech of his life, Lyndon, Johnson reminded us of how much unfinished work remained. "To be black in a white society is not to stand on level and equal ground," he said. "While the races may stand side by side, whites stand on history's mountain and blacks stand in history's hollow. Until we overcome unequal history, we cannot overcome unequal opportunity."

Like so many phrases that have become political buzz-

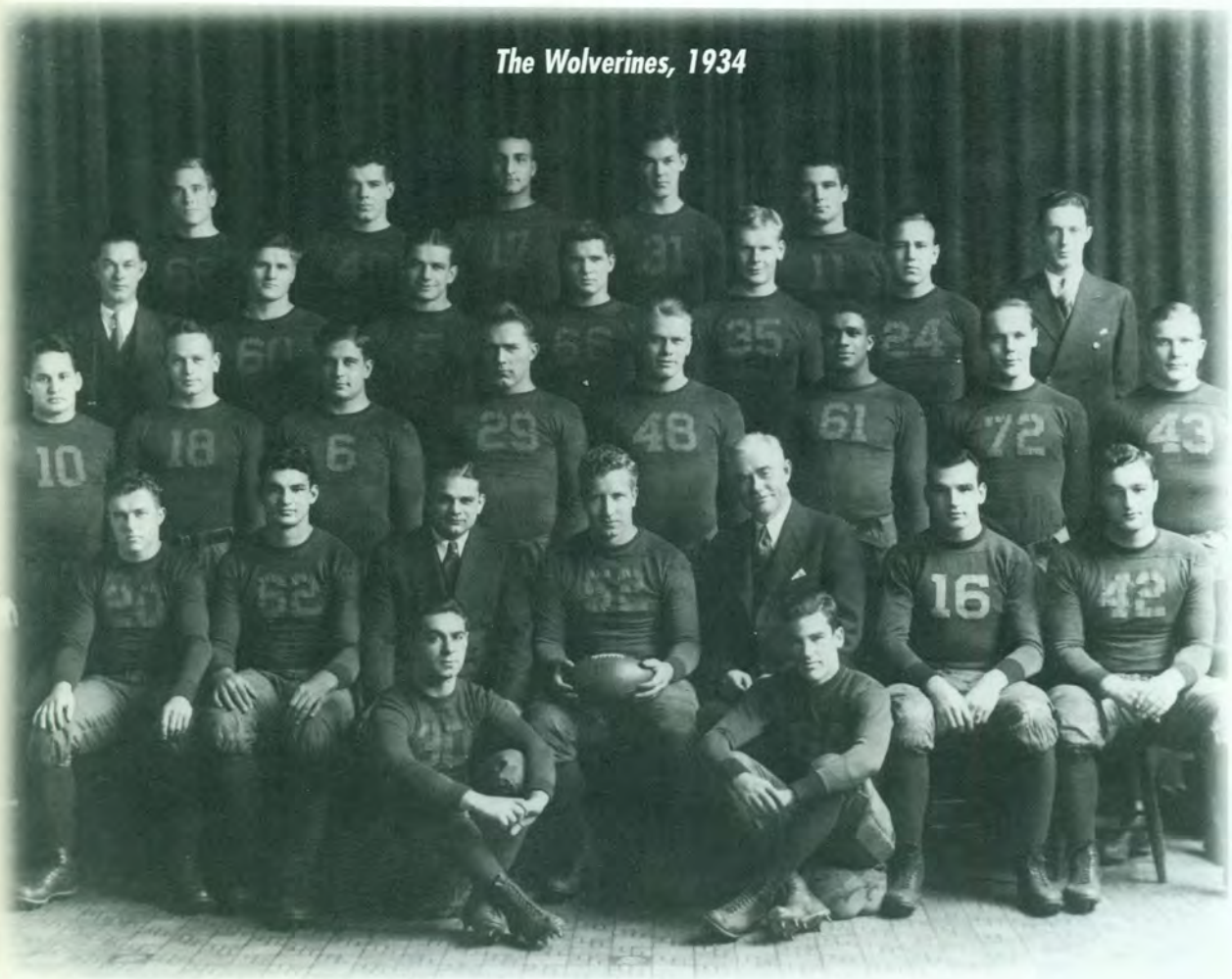
words, affirmative action means different things to different people. Practically speaking, it runs the gamut from mandatory quotas, which the Supreme Court has ruled are clearly unconstitutional to mere lip service, which is just as clearly unacceptable.

At its core, affirmative action should try to offset past injustices by fashioning a campus population more truly reflective of modern America and our hopes for the future. Unfortunately, a pair of lawsuits brought against my alma mater poses a threat to such diversity. Not content to oppose formal quotas, plaintiffs suing the University of Michigan would prohibit that and other universities from even considering race as one of many factors weighed by admission counselors.

So drastic a ban would scuttle Michigan's current system one that takes into account nearly a dozen elements—race, economic standing, geographic origin, athletic and artistic achievement among them—to create the finest educational environment for all students.

This eminently reasonable approach, as thoughtful as it is fair, has produced a student body with a significant minority component whose record of academic success is outstanding

Times of change are times of challenge. It is estimated that by 2030, 40 percent of all Americans will belong to various racial minorities. Already the global economy requires unprecedented grasp of diverse viewpoints and cultural traditions. I don't want future college students to suffer the cultural and social impoverishment that afflicted my generation. If history has taught us anything in this remarkable century, it is the notion of America as a work in progress.



The Wolverines, 1934

Do we really want to risk turning back the clock to an era when the Willis Wards were isolated and penalized for the color of their skin, their economic standing or national ancestry?

To eliminate a constitutional affirmative action policy would mock the inclusive vision Carl Sandburg had in mind when he wrote: "The Republic is a dream. Nothing happens unless first a dream." Lest we forget: America remains a nation with have-nots as well as haves. Its government is obligated to provide for hope no less than for the common defense. ■

Originally published in
The New York Times, August 8, 1999.

Funding Scholarship: How the Foundation's Research Grants Program Works

By Geir Gundersen

In 1982 the Earhart Foundation of Ann Arbor provided $25,000 with which to launch a program of research grants for the use of the Ford Library. The original Grants Screening Committee, chaired by University of Michigan economist Paul McCracken, met that fall and awarded the first grant for $1,500 to Donald Kettl, Professor of Government and Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia, for his project on decision-making at the Federal Reserve. In 1985, when the initial Earhart donation had been exhausted, the trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation voted to fund the grants program with income from the Foundation's endowment. With this decision, the Grants Screening Committee began awarding a total of $12,500 annually in grants, which the Foundation raised to $15,000 in 1987 and $20,000 in 1989. The grants program received two additional donations from the Earhart Foundation in 1985 and 1987, each in the amount of $12,000.

The Grants Screening Committee, which is appointed by the Ford Foundation and currently chaired by Foundation Trustee and University of Michigan legal scholar Thomas Kauper, meets semi-annually in the fall and spring to consider research grant applications.

The process begins when potential applicants contact the Ford Library for information about the grants program and the Library's archival holdings. When applying for a grant, applicants must submit an application form listing their budget estimates of up to $2,000 for travel, living, and photocopy expenses; a two-to-three page project proposal incorporating information about relevant archival holdings; a vita; and three professional letters of recommendation.

In preparation for each Grants Screening Committee meeting, Ford Library archivists compile staff reports ranking and evaluating the pertinence of Library collections described in each applicant's project proposal. The staff reports also contain revised budget estimates when the quantity of archival material does not warrant the number of days and/or photocopies requested in an application.

The applicant submissions and staff reports are sent to members of the Grants Screening Committee prior to each meeting for their review and assistance in determining which projects to fund. In making their selections, the Committee members base their decisions on the pertinence of Library collections, project significance, appropriateness of project design, and applicant qualifications.

The Grants Screening Committee's recommendations are then forwarded to the Awards and Grants Committee for comment. If there are no objections, the grant recipients are notified shortly thereafter. In return, the grant recipients must agree to begin their research at the Ford Library within one year of the award notice, acknowledge Foundation support in the resulting publication, and donate a copy of the publication to the Ford Library.

The grants program is open to any person in the United States or overseas with a serious research interest in the Gerald R. Ford Library's archival holdings. Over the past seventeen and one-half years, 262 grants, ranging in size from $165 to $2,000, have been awarded on a wide-variety of topics dealing with President Ford's domestic and foreign policy, his life and career, and the role of First Lady Betty Ford. The fall 1999 awards in the amount of $11,560 brought the cumulative dollar total awarded since the program's inception to $300,541. The majority of recipients have been established academic scholars and doctoral candidates, but authors, journalists, independent historians, research fellows, non-doctoral graduate students, and public school teachers have also benefited from the program. The grants have aided researchers in 39 states, including Alaska and Hawaii, the District of Columbia, and fifteen countries, including Australia, China, India, Russia, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. ■

Gerald R. Ford Foundation Research Grant Awards - Fall, 1999

Jennifer C. Bohrnstedt
Independent Scholar
Americans during the Ford Presidency

David Greenberg
Columbia University
Nixon's Shadow

Matthew J. Honohan
Ohio University
Building Stability in Southeast Asia: ASEAN and the United States, 1967-1991

Harold V. House
Arlington Woods Middle School
Indianapolis, Indiana
The Study of a President

Justin Martin
Author
Greenspan's Role in the Ford Administration

Howard L. Reiter
University of Connecticut
Politics Within Parties: Factionalism in the Major U.S. Parties

Andrew Rudalevige
Harvard University
The President's Program: Centralization and Legislative Policy Formulation, 1949-1996

Susan E. Stockdale
University of California at Los Angeles
Mandating the Boundaries Between State and Society: Explaining Shifts in Central Bank Independence

Ralph F. Wetterhahn
Journalist
Mayaguez, The Last Battle

David A. Yalof
University of Connecticut
Inside Investigations: The Disjointed Politics of Prosecuting Executive Branch Officials

Natasha Zaretsky
Brown University
The End of the American Century? Narratives of National and Family Decline in the 1970s

Twenty-Five Years On: Opening the Vietnam Documentary Vault

By Karen Holzhausen

The passage of a quarter century since the fall of Saigon has hardly salved the memories of those engaged in planning or fighting the war. Some things, fortunately, get easier with the passage of time, among them the declassification of secret government documents. In 1995, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12958, in effect instituting a new twenty-five year rule governing most classified documents. As a result, the spring of 2000 represents a historical milestone for the Ford Library. Most of our documents fall at or near the twenty-five year range. At the same time, we anticipate a surge of scholarly and public interest in America's longest, most controversial war.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will read of an upcoming conference on the legacy of Vietnam. With this program in mind, the Library staff decided to try a topical approach to systematic review, locating and reviewing all materials related to the Indochina war that could be readily identified. Various agencies have delegated significant authority for declassification directly to the Library, rather than having us submit copies of specifically requested documents to the originating agencies for time-consuming review. With the invaluable assistance and cooperation of the White House, State Department, and CIA, we hope to open for research a significant portion of the approximately 40,000 relevant pages in our holdings.

This does not mean that every one of our Vietnam documents (some of which are scattered in the most unlikely places) will be available to researchers come April of 2000. It does mean that for the first time students and historians will find in one place documents ranging from on-the-scene reportage and intelligence information from the war's earliest stages to harrowing accounts of Saigon's final evacuation.

Currently, folders from at least sixteen different collections or series of the National Security Advisor's files are being prepared for opening. These include country files for Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia; backchannel cables passing between the ambassador in Saigon and the White House; memoranda of high level conversations; NSC and other high level meeting minutes; intelligence reports on Vietnam going back to 1967; correspondence with foreign leaders; as well as more mundane matters such as administrative issues and requests for declassification of Vietnam materials that came into the Ford White House for action or concurrence. The project will also include documents related to the Mayaguez crisis that occurred hard on the heels of the U.S. evacuation of Saigon.

"No chapter of our history is more painful to recall," President Ford has said of those tumultuous weeks in the spring of 1975. "And none is more important to remember. I am pleased to see such historically significant materials become accessible to researchers, especially as part of our ongoing effort to strengthen ties between the Ford Library and the University of Michigan. I personally hope that these documents, in conjunction with the groundbreaking conference that will accompany their release, might shed new light on the Vietnam War and its continuing impact on American culture."

Newly Discovered South Vietnam Photographs

Thus far the Library's collections have yielded very few photographs of Saigon during the last months of the war, a subject of numerous requests from media researchers. During the course of a preservation project the audiovisual archivist recently discovered 13 new photographs by David Kennerly which had been mis-entered into the White House Photographic Collection three months away from their true date. Here are some of the best. ■

Amidst the farewells of U.S. Ambassador to Saigon Graham Martin, American and Vietnamese military officials and the press, U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Frederick Weyand departs from Saigon's Ton Son Nhut Air Base to meet with President Ford in California. Early April, 1975.

Exploring with (and For) Lewis and Clark

By Bettina Demetz/*Ford Museum Exhibits Specialist*

In recent years the Ford Museum has earned national recognition for such extraordinarily ambitious temporary exhibits as *41 Men*, *The Great War*, and *The American Century*. In preparing *The World of Lewis and Clark*, which begins a seven-month run on March 25, 2000, we have made arrangements to borrow a compass, sewing kit, branding iron, and journal used by the original Corps of Discovery. Also coming to Grand Rapids is the original treaty, in French, by which Napoleon agreed to sell the vast inland empire called Louisiana to the fledgling United States; a shell dress used by Northwest tribes; a Sioux war club; Mandan pottery; and, evoking the long term consequences of western expansion, a Conestoga wagon, cavalry uniform, and robe worn by Colonel George Armstrong Custer.

Capt. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark have a special place in the hearts of American history buffs, and rightly so—theirs was the first journey through the American West coordinated by the government for purely scientific purposes. Thomas Jefferson could hardly have foreseen the full consequences of their exploration, as the West evolved into a place of commerce, bloodshed and enduring myth. By any accounts, it's a remarkable story we have to tell. But how best to tell it?

Each temporary exhibit brings its own planning and design challenges. Months of discussion are needed to determine an exhibit's content, layout and story line. The question I'm most often asked is "how—and where—in the world do you find the materials for the exhibits?" With Lewis and Clark, the answer is easy—many of the materials found me!

It's no small undertaking to organize (in several short months) a cohesive exhibit around what scholars have devoted their lifetimes to—the study of Lewis and Clark, and their discoveries. To realize our goal, we made several early decisions. The exhibit would be laid out chronologically. It would concentrate on the most dramatic and/or historically significant parts of the journey. And along with original pieces we would accept replicas of artifacts for display.

Our job was made somewhat harder because the upcoming Lewis and Clark Bicentennial is sure to inspire other exhibitors. Many fragile artifacts may already be spoken for. On the other hand, because our exhibit is a few years earlier than most, we hope to "sneak" a few artifacts out from under other institutional noses!

So exactly how—and where—do we get the raw materials of history? The first source is other Federal institutions. For example, there are a myriad of National Park Service sites that commemorate the path of Lewis and Clark. And while their artifacts tend to be on permanent exhibit, Park Service personnel have proven excellent sources in helping us locate both replica and genuine artifacts elsewhere.

It will come as no surprise that I have taken many trips to the public library and local bookstores. Coffee-table books on Lewis and Clark are filled with pictures of artifacts, paintings, and documents. Just as conveniently, the appendices list which institution owns what. A quick computer search gave me the phone numbers and contact names of the relevant curators. Even if an artifact is not available for loan, curators aren't reluctant to suggest one or more other sources. A single phone conversation could produce a page full of names and phone numbers to follow up. Even then, it often took weeks of "phone and email tag" for this modern day Corps of Discovery to connect.

But my favorite research tool is the Internet, to which I am hopelessly addicted. A good thing, too, as one Lewis and Clark website I came across described the efforts of a single volunteer group to re-enact part of the historic journey. From there, I tracked down a phone number for the local chamber of commerce, the sponsor of the re-enactment event. This call led to a phone number for one of the re-enactor's shop, which led to his home number—and so on.

Needless to say, the best informational source is always a personal connection. Devotees and fans of Lewis and Clark comprise a large and varied group, whose interests range from photography and re-enactment to scholarly and popular research. Still, they all know each other! Having contacted one person, it seemed as though every Lewis and Clark fan in America knew of our plans. Suddenly, I was getting e-mail from all over the country. Everyone wanted to help out.

And help they did. Midwestern re-enactors are very aware of Bicentennial events, and they are thrilled to have such an important exhibit in their own region. Consequently, they have extended every kind of assistance—from advising me on the historical accuracy of sets, to supplying us with their personal (and historically accurate) re-enactment clothing, firearms and trade goods, to putting me in contact with other such groups throughout the nation. The prize, though, was when I was given the "super-secret" list of Lewis and Clark artifact locations compiled by another major museum (a list that took over three years to research!).

Not surprisingly, I think of myself as a detective in a complicated mystery. One requires a little savvy, some patience, pure luck and lots of clues to get the job done. But then, Lewis and Clark were themselves nothing if not detectives. The way I see it, we're both on expeditions of discovery. ■

Coming UP

Gerald R. Ford Journalism Prizes NOMINATION DEADLINE, MARCH 3, 2000.

Gerald R. Ford Foundation Research Travel Grants APPLICATION DEADLINES, MARCH 15 AND SEPTEMBER 15, 2000.

The World of Lewis and Clark, MARCH 25 THROUGH OCTOBER, 2000.

Vietnam Plus 25: How Did America's Longest War Affect Our Culture and Popular Attitudes toward Government, the Military and the Media? APRIL, 2000.

***America's House: The White House Model** continues through February 28, 2000. Stop by the Museum to view this sixty foot scale model of the 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue residence, with every stick of furniture in every room reproduced down to working televisions and a fully functioning West Wing movie theater.*

Foundation Trustee Passes Away

BY DAVID HORROCKS

The Foundation, Library and Museum have lost a very special friend. George Grassmuck passed away October 10, 1999 after a long illness. "I treasured his friendship," wrote President Ford. In this he was hardly alone.

A distinguished political scientist at the University of Michigan, George chaired the dedication of the Library in 1981. He served as Secretary of the Foundation in 1982-87, a critical formative period, and he continued as a trustee up to the time of his death. These were threads in a life-long tapestry of public service—as a naval officer in World War II, a distinguished government official in two presidential administrations, and as a much-honored teacher. For all his professional accomplishments, it was George's wry humor and innate courtesy that were most remarked upon by the Library staff, and by others fortunate enough to work with this rare scholar. To George's wife Barbara, their children and grandchildren, we extend not only our condolences, but also our gratitude for such a purposeful life. ■

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

President Ford
and Betty Ford
Honorary Co-Chairmen

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
Chairman

Steven M. Ford
Vice-Chairman

Robert M. Warner
Secretary

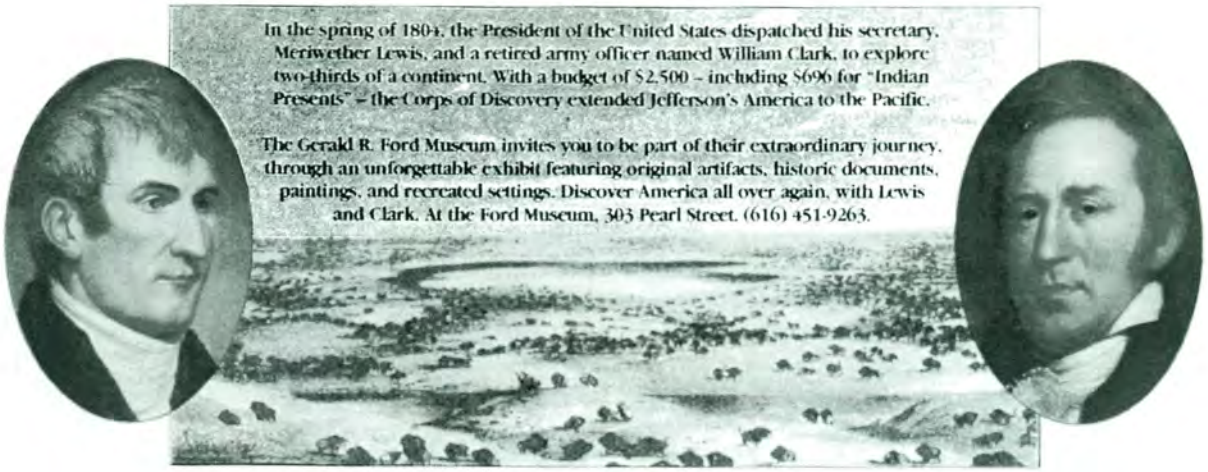
John G. Baab
Treasurer

Susan Ford Bales
Robert E. Barrett
Robert W. Browne
Philip W. Buchen, *Honorary*
James M. Cannon
Richard Cheney
William T. Coleman, Jr.
Marvin Davis, *Honorary*
Douglas L. DeVos
Richard M. DeVos, *Honorary*
Max M. Fisher
John G. Ford
Michael G. Ford
Richard A. Ford
David G. Frey
Danny Gaydou
Richard M. Gillett, *Honorary*
Robert P. Griffin
James P. Hackett
Robert T. Hartmann
Carla A. Hills
Roderick M. Hills
Robert L. Hooker
G. Richard Katzenbach
Thomas E. Kauper
Henry A. Kissinger
John O. Marsh, Jr.
F. David Matthews
Frederik G.H. Meijer
Hank Meijer
Terrence O'Donnell
Paul H. O'Neill
Seymour K. Padnos
Leon W. Parma
Peter H. Pocklington
Donald H. Rumsfeld
Brent Scowcroft
Peter F. Secchia
L. William Seidman
William E. Simon
Joseph M. Sweeney
David L. Van Andel
Jay Van Andel, *Honorary*
Frank G. Zarb

Ex-Officio
Richard Norton Smith

The World of Lewis and Clark

March 25 – October 29, 2000



THE GERALD R. FORD MUSEUM

And You Think the S-Curve Is An Adventure!

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose programs are supported entirely by contributions and bequests in an effort to honor Mr. Ford's lifelong commitment to public service. The focus of the Foundation is on community affairs and educational programs, conferences, symposia, research grants and special projects that improve citizen interest and understanding of the challenges that confront government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen, Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504-5353.

THE GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER
Editor: Nancy Mirshah
Publication Design: Image Graphics & Design, Ann Arbor, MI
Printed by First Impression Printing, Ann Arbor, MI

Gerald R. Ford Foundation

1000 Beal Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

For information about Library programs:
Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue,
Ann Arbor, MI 48109 -2114 (734) 741-2218
Email: library@fordlib.nara.gov
Website: http://www.ford.utexas.edu

For information about Museum programs:
Gerald R. Ford Museum, 303 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353 (616) 451-9263
Email: information.museum@fordmus.nara.gov
Website: http://www.ford.utexas.edu

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 25
ANN ARBOR

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED