



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

The Swearing-In
of the
38th President of The United States
Gerald R. Ford
August 9, 1974

Forty Years Ago...August 9, 1974 By Benton Becker

Recalling the impressions and emotions present at the White House forty years ago, on August 9, 1974, the day that Gerald Ford was administered the oath of office of President of the United States, rekindled conflicting feelings. Feelings that included joy, anger, and exhaustion. But, above all, pride. Pride, derived from the historical context for simply having been there at that time. Pride, that evolves from having satisfactorily completed a difficult task. And pride, for having been privileged to provide assistance to a man of such integrity and intellectual honesty on that memorable date.

The Day Before

Early in the afternoon, one day before August 9, 1974, President Nixon met privately with Vice President Ford in the Oval Office. The President had something important to relate in person to his Vice President of nine months. "I have made the decision to resign...it's in the best interest of the country," Nixon said in a firm voice. The President's unprecedented announcement was followed by forty minutes of free flowing dialogue, with Nixon doing most of the talking. He spoke of foreign policy, SALT II negotiating with Russian Premier Brezhnev, the deplorable state of the U.S. economy, Cabinet and senior White House personnel and possible worthy candidates for the soon-to-be-vacant Office of Vice President. When the arrangements for the next day's swearing-in ceremony and Nixon's family departure were resolved, the conversation ended abruptly. President Nixon thanked the Vice President for, "his support over these painful weeks" and offered his "prayers in the days and years ahead."

The remainder of the Vice President's day was devoted to a



Nixon Presidential Library

thousand details that required planning, scheduling and coordinating the anticipated August 9 swearing-in. They included ensuring travel arrangements to Washington for Chief Justice Warren Burger, vacationing at the time in the Netherlands. An Air Force plane had to be dispatched to fly the Chief Justice to a location where a nonstop flight to Washington could be obtained. The already pared-down list had to be further reduced to no more than 275 guests, the maximum number of people allowed in the East Room. Invitations to the ceremony needed to be hastily extended, received, and acknowledged. For some, like long-time colleague and golfing buddy, Tip 'O Neill, a personal telephone invitation was in order. When the Vice President invited Tip 'O Neill, the future Speaker demonstrated his well known charm and Irish wit, remarking "Isn't this a wonderful country? Here we can talk like this and you and I can be friends, and eighteen months from now (during the 1976 Presidential race) I'll be going around the country kicking your ass." The amused Vice President responded, "That's a hell of a way for a Congressman to speak to the next President of the United States."

Another person who needed to speak to the Vice President that day was Ford's longtime aid and speechwriter, Bob Hartmann. Hartmann had quickly composed an Acceptance Speech (not an Inaugural Address) for the new President to deliver at the conclusion of the next day's swearing-in ceremony. Incredibly, given the limited notice afforded Hartmann to write the speech, the speech was perfect in tone and content for the next day's quasi-solemn, quasi-joyous ceremony. It was pure Jerry Ford. With one exception. The Vice President's sensibilities were offended by one sentence in the speech, believing it to be "too hard on President Nixon." Ford told Hartmann he wanted the

**Gerald R. Ford
Presidential Foundation**

Red Cavaney
Chairman

Hank Meijer
Vice-Chairman

Terrence O'Donnell
Secretary

David Hoogendoorn
Treasurer

Martin J. Allen, Jr.
Chairman Emeritus

HONORARY TRUSTEES

William T. Coleman, Jr.

Richard M. DeVos

Alan Greenspan

Robert P. Griffin

Ralph W. Hauenstein

Seymour K. Padnos

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John G. Baab

James A. Baker, III

Susan Ford Bales

Vaden F. Bales

Robert E. Barrett

Benton L. Becker

David Brandon

Robert W. Browne

James Cavanaugh

Richard Cheney

Mary Sue Coleman

Douglas DeVos

John M. Engler

Michael G. Ford

Richard A. Ford

Steven M. Ford

David G. Frey

Danny Gaydou

James P. Hackett

Bryce "Larry" Harlow

Carla A. Hills

Roderick M. Hills

Robert L. Hooker

J. C. Huizenga

Robert D. Hynes

Michael Jandernoa

G. Richard Katzenbach

Thomas E. Kauper

Fred P. Keller

David Hume Kennerly

Henry A. Kissinger

John O. Marsh, Jr.

Robin B. Martin

William Martin

F. David Mathews

Stephen McConahey

M. Peter McPherson

John G. Morris

Mark A. Murray

Paul H. O'Neill

Leon W. Parma

Richard D. Parsons

Roger B. Porter

Donald H. Rumsfeld

Bill Schuette

Brent Scowcroft

Karen Scowcroft

Peter F. Secchia

Samuel "Buzz" Thomas, III

Frank A. Ursomarso

Steve Van Andel

Sanford I. Weill

Ronald Weiser

Gregory D. Willard

Albert C. Zapanta

Frank G. Zarb

ASSOCIATE TRUSTEES

Brian C. Becker

David S. Hooker

Paul H. O'Neill, Jr.

James P. Ursomarso

Frank G. Zarb, Jr.

Joseph S. Calvaruso
Executive Director

Elaine K. Didier
Library/Museum Director



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



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

The Michigan Historical Commission held its Fall meeting at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Pictured left to right: Michelle Davis, Michigan Historical Center Staff; Commissioners Thomas Truscott, Brian Egen, and Richard Micka; Commission Chairman John (Jack) Dempsey; Commissioner Susan Safford; Sandra Clark, Michigan Historical Center Director; Janell Keyser, Michigan Historical Center Staff; Commissioner and Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso; and Katherine Maguire, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Staff.

August 9 marked the 40th anniversary of the Swearing-In of President Gerald R. Ford as the 38th President of the United States, the only president to become President by operation of the 25th Amendment of the Constitution.

Over the next two and a half years we will be highlighting important milestones and accomplishments during President Ford's administration. Featured in this newsletter is Trustee Benton Becker's reflection on President Ford's first day in office.

We were proud to partner again with the President Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America, and continue our tradition of a day-long 9/11 remembrance. I was honored to chair this year's tribute. In addition, this year the Foundation sponsored

the "9/11 Never Forget" traveling exhibit, an interactive memorial that included videos, photographs, artifacts, and personal stories of those who witnessed the attacks first-hand. The exhibit received a proud West Michigan welcome with over 475 motorcycles, police, fire and EMS escort. Over 8,000 people came to participate in the salute and tour the exhibit.

The Foundation continues to champion President Ford's legacy with a diverse group of organizations. The Michigan Public Leadership Program of Michigan State University recently presented a program regarding President Ford's dedication to public service. The *Red Flannel Festival* celebrated its 75th anniversary this year with a special tribute to President Ford. The

Festival was one of President Ford's annual highlights as a Congressman. It was an honor to speak at both of these events and to recall President Ford's extraordinary legacy.

The Foundation's extensive Oral Histories are available on the Foundation's website: geraldrfordfoundation.org and are rich with stories and unique insights into the life of President Ford. I encourage everyone to visit the site and peruse the Oral Histories.

And, as always, a special thanks goes out to our Trustees, *Friends of Ford* and other donors that continue to support the Foundation's many projects.

Joe

Gerald R. Ford Job Corps' Student Government Association visits Museum



(l-r) D'Shaun Arrington, Robert Holmes, Jahrei Ross, Iryonna Hogan (SGA Coordinator), Billy Smith, T'Aire Booth, Eric Huitt and Keyara Graham at the front entrance to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center.

The Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center is located in President Ford's alma mater, South High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Student Government Association (SGA) came to the Ford Museum during the Job Corps' 50th Anniversary celebration to honor the connection and rich history of South High School's most famous alum. Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso, shared stories of President Ford's formative years with the group that laid the foundation of Character and Integrity which he carried with him to the White House. The Foundation is pleased to have developed such a wonderful working relationship with the Job Corps. In addition, a group of Job Corps students participated in the Annual Scout Salute on September 11, 2014, and other student groups are planning to attend events in the future.



Susan G. Komen West Michigan



The Susan G. Komen West Michigan *Race For The Cure* returned to downtown Grand Rapids for its 17th annual race on September 6, 2014. Susan Ford Bales was honored to serve as this year's Honorary Race Ambassador. The return to downtown Grand Rapids is the result of a collaboration with the Ford Museum and Spectrum Health, the presenting sponsor for this year's race.

Let's be candid. Betty would be proud.

On October 8, 2014 the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation partnered with Spectrum Health to host *Candid Conversations* to celebrate National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Susan Ford Bales joined this year's Candid Conversation, a Betty Ford Breast Care Services event, to foster public awareness and continue her mother's legacy of openness about her own experience with breast cancer.

"Good Morning America" anchor Amy Robach shared her journey with breast cancer following an on-air mammogram on October 1, 2013. The free community event also featured clinical experts representing the Spectrum Health Regional Cancer Center. The audience had the opportunity to ask their candid questions and visit a health fair to reinforce the need for awareness and early detection.



Spectrum Health

(l-r) Amy Robach, Susan Ford Bales and Dr. Judy Smith, Department Chief of Oncology at Spectrum Health, Grand Rapids, MI.

Looking Back
Leon Parma

Leon Parma was a close personal friend and advisor of President Gerald R. Ford and a frequent golfing companion. The special friendship among President and Mrs. Ford and Leon and Barbara Parma spanned over 40 years. Mr. Parma was a Honorary Pallbearer at President Ford's State Funeral.

Mr. Parma is the Managing Director and Co-Founder of the Genesis Financial Services Fund, LLC. He has an extensive career in several business disciplines that includes banking, real estate, manufacturing, broadcasting, distribution, baseball and government. He was a founder and Chairman of the Board at LaJolla Bank and Trust Co. for 20 years, and he negotiated the merger of the bank with Security Pacific, which in turn was acquired by Bank of America.

Mr. Parma's early career included executive positions with Teledyne, Inc., Solar Aircraft Co., California State Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Parma was co-owner of the San Diego Padres Baseball Club from 1990 to 1995. He served in Washington, D.C. as Chief of Staff to Congressman Bob Wilson and was a member of the transition team for President Gerald R. Ford.



Leon and Barbara Parma join President and Mrs. Ford in the Oval Office following the Swearing-In of President Ford on August 9, 1974.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Continued from page 1.

sentence deleted. Hartmann disagreed...and a debate ensued. The one line was ultimately allowed to remain intact. Today, forty years later, that one sentence remains the most quoted phrase from President Ford's Acceptance Speech, "Our long national nightmare is over."

At day's end, concluding with a late meeting with Henry Kissinger, the Vice President returned to his modest home in Virginia. After a quiet dinner with Betty Ford and the children, and a quick read of the day's News Summaries, the future President retired early. Tomorrow was going to be a busy day.

"The Festering Crisis is Resolved"

As if August 9, 1974 was going to be another day at the office, the Vice President rose early and made his own breakfast (one toasted English muffin and coffee). At 8:00 AM, he carried his own briefcase to the Vice President's limousine, and, in the company of Phil Buchen and Congressman John Byrnes, drove to the White House. Buchen and other members of a hastily formed ad hoc Transition Team had drafted a four page memorandum for the future President. Buchen handed the memo to the Vice President as the limousine departed the Ford home. The Transition Team memo addressed a variety of subjects, including the sensitive topic of The Continuation of Nixon Staff and Nixon Policy versus Implementation of Ford Administration changes. The memo warned, "You must walk a delicate line between compassion and consideration for the former President's staff, and the rapid assertion of your personal control over the Executive Branch." Ford thanked them for a "fine job".

When the Vice President's limousine arrived at the White House, President Richard Nixon was completing his final breakfast in the Lincoln Sitting Room and busily making notes on his farewell speech to his White House staff, scheduled for later that morning. Nixon was interrupted by Chief of Staff, Al Haig, who handed the President an unsigned letter of resignation addressed to the Secretary of State. "Something has to be done, Mr. President," said Haig. Nixon read the brief one sentence letter and, without comment, signed it. The letter read, "I hereby resign the Office of President of the United States, effective twelve noon, Eastern Standard Time, on August 9, 1974."

At 8:45 AM, Secretary of State Kissinger visited the Vice President to suggest scheduling a number of ten to fifteen minute meetings later that afternoon, from 2:30 to 7:00 PM, with foreign Ambassadors. The Vice President agreed, carefully reserving some allotted afternoon time for Transition advisors. Secretary Kissinger left, and following a quick review of the text of his Acceptance Speech, in the quiet solitude of the Vice President's Executive Office Building office, the Vice President of the United States, like so many of his fellow Americans that morning, turned on the television and watched President Nixon deliver an emotional farewell address to his White House staff and Cabinet. Years later, in an interview with historian James Cannon, President Ford described his feeling at that moment. "I was inwardly, deeply saddened that a longtime, personal friend ... whom I admired greatly

as a superb foreign policy Commander in Chief would resign the Presidency...to have such a tragedy happen to good friends was extremely difficult to understand and accept." "On the other hand, it was a tremendous relief to have the festering crisis resolved. For the previous nine months I had been sitting on a time bomb, with a blowup likely to take place at any time, as damaging evidence kept surfacing."

At 10:50 AM, the Vice President and Mrs. Ford were seated in the Diplomatic Reception Room, awaiting the arrival of President Nixon and his family. When the Nixons arrived, the two men spoke quietly to each other, whispering remarks of consolation and friendship. The moment was awkward and tense. Within moments, the outside door of the Reception Room swung open, and the President and Mrs. Nixon walked out onto a bright red carpet on the White House lawn. Pausing for the Fords to join them, the two couples then walked four abreast, as equals, down the White House lawn. The red carpet led to a helicopter, ready to transport the Nixons to nearby Andrews Air

Force Base, and from there, to board Air Force One for San Clemente, California. No farewell remarks were scheduled to be made by the departing President. The Nixon family boarded the helicopter first, and as President Nixon climbed the steps of the craft, he momentarily halted before entering. Impulsively, he turned around to face the White House lawn (and the nation, via national TV) and raised both arms upward above his head, flashing for the last time his "V" for victory signal. He turned back and boarded the helicopter quickly. The helicopter motors accelerated, the craft ascended, the White House shrubs and trees shook...and the Administration of Gerald R. Ford was about to begin.

At 11:35 AM, as the White House helicopter was making its way toward Andrews Air Force Base, Alexander Haig delivered President Nixon's letter of resignation to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in Kissinger's White House office.

By 11:36 AM, seated somewhat tightly in the East Room anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Vice President, were 275 quiet, well-mannered "inaugural" guests. The East Room was the same room where less than ninety minutes

earlier President Nixon had delivered his farewell to the staff. This gathering of dignitaries and friends for the Ford swearing-in could well



Nixon Presidential Library

"...impulsively he turned around to face the White House lawn..."



David Hume Kennerly

"...and the Administration of Gerald R. Ford was about to begin."



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

“...The Vice President of the United States and Mrs. Ford.”

have been described as...the government of the United States. Wearing his traditional black robes of office, the silver haired Chief Justice entered. He calmly walked to a raised platform in front of the room patiently prepared to preside at the appointed time. The atmosphere was a strange blend of solemnness (almost funeral like) mixed with a collective sense of relief. At 11:58 AM, the Marine Band struck up The University of Michigan Fight Song, as the Vice President and Mrs. Ford entered the room. Believing the occasion inappropriate for musical flourishes, the Vice President had earlier directed that *Hail to the Chief* not be played. An invisible microphone intoned “The Vice President of the United States and Mrs. Ford.” A deafening silence covered the room as the Fords joined the Chief Justice on a small platform.

The Chief Justice stated, “Mr. Vice President, (he would never again be addressed that way) are you prepared to take the Oath of Office of the President of the United States?” Ford replied, “I am, sir.” Betty Ford, standing on the platform between her husband and the Chief Justice, passed a family Bible to her husband, opened to Proverbs 3, Verses 5 and 6. At twelve noon, the oath of office was administered. The new President then addressed the nation.

Mr. Ford’s voice was strong, but one could sense an inner conflict between an effort to maintain stern control and an effort to avoid personal emotion. The crowd reacted noticeably with head nods and barely audible sighs as the new President announced, “Our long national nightmare is over.” One emotional eruption occurred during the speech, when the President asked for the nation’s “prayers for Richard Nixon and his family.” Speaking these words brought to the President’s mind his own recent prayers for guidance and he became emotionally caught up, pausing momentarily before continuing.

The entire ceremony was over in less than twenty minutes. The



Nixon Presidential Library

“...Alexander Haig delivered President Nixon’s letter of resignation to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.”

Marine Band played *America the Beautiful* as the newly installed President and First Lady exited the East Room. They proceeded to the Red Room for a sentimental visit with President Ford’s former congressional colleagues: Speaker Carl Albert (now for the second time in his life, number one in presidential succession), Senator Mike Mansfield and various others.

As the East Room crowd disbursed and departed, the crowd’s prior despondent manner followed. An obvious and noticeable change permeated the East Room (and concurrently, the nation). It was, as Bryce Harlow stated, “The nation’s frown had been replaced with a national smile.”

Guests departing the East Room and entering the White House hallways could not avoid noticing the change that evidenced the passage of the torch of freedom to a new leader. Less than thirty minutes earlier those same White House walls that had for the past five years displayed framed photographs of Richard Nixon, the Nixon family and Tricia Nixon’s White House wedding, now only featured framed photos of Gerald and Betty Ford and the Ford children, giving the impression that Gerald Ford had been President for years, not minutes. It was, at first, shocking...than reassuring. The newly hung White House photos carried a not too subtle message to the new President; Transition at the White House moves quickly and efficiently.

At 1:05 PM, at nearby Dulles Airport in Virginia, an airplane originating from Nice, France, landed, carrying the passengers; US Ambassador to NATO Donald Rumsfeld, and Mrs. Rumsfeld. One day earlier; while vacationing in southern France, Rumsfeld received a message that the Vice President had requested him to come to Washington “immediately.” A White House car and driver met the Rumsfelds at the airport, whereupon Ambassador Rumsfeld was handed a sealed envelope containing a letter from Ford asking him to head his new Transition Team. Rumsfeld invited his former assistant, who had also met the Rumsfelds at the airport on that fateful day, to accompany him to the White House. The thirty-ish year old former assistant’s name was Dick Cheney.

The remainder of the day was a whirlwind. At 1:30 PM, President Ford was unexpectedly ushered by Chief of Staff Al Haig into an unscheduled meeting with the senior members of the Nixon White House staff. This brief session was followed by a prolonged Economic Conference in the Cabinet Room with Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns, the Reserve Board Chairman designee Alan Greenspan, Treasury Secretary William Simon and others. This meeting would be the first of hundreds and hundreds of hours, the new President would spend over the next three years on trying (successfully) to cure the nation’s massive economic woes. The balance of the day, through 7:00 PM, was spent conferring with Ambassadors, assuring them and their nations that U.S. foreign policy remained the same, notwithstanding our change in Head of State. Some of the foreign Ambassadors that conferred with

Continued from page 5.

the new President that afternoon and evening represented Russia, Japan, People's Republic of China, Israel, and various Latin American nations. During the session with USSR Ambassador Dobrynin, the Ambassador was forcefully informed by the new President that under no circumstances should the Soviet Union seek to take advantage of this new period of change in the American Presidency.

At 5:40 PM, the President met in the Cabinet Room with the new Transition Team that had been assigned the task of organizing and carrying out the ongoing Executive Branch transition from the Nixon to the Ford Administration. The President appointed four former House veterans with whom he had worked closely as Minority Leader to head the Team. The four were Donald Rumsfeld, Interior Secretary Rogers Morton, Pennsylvania Governor William Scranton and Jack Marsh. Phil Buchen's unofficial ad hoc team would be dissolved and replaced with this new team.

Contrary to Richard Reeves' scathing (and fictional) description of this meeting in his 1975 volume "A Ford, Not A Lincoln", it was the new President, not Al Haig, who demonstrated a "commanding presence" throughout. Taking a moment to describe his personal work habits to the group, the President related that he, "starts work at 8:00 AM, and would begin with a daily intelligence briefing, followed by meetings with Bob Hartmann, Jack Marsh on legislative liaison and with the Press Secretary." By 10:00 AM, and not before, President Ford told his Transition Team he would be ready for morning appointments and other commitments. "I'll have an open door." he warned "but don't waste my time." Finally, desirous of a flexible White House presidential access structure, the President asked the Team to consider the feasibility of implementing a "spokes-of-the-wheel" procedure he had employed in his House Minority Leader office. Under that system, a Chief-of-Staff would be replaced with a number of co-equal assistants who would report to the President on different subjects daily. Although not vocalized at the time by any Transition Team member, the suggested system was not warmly received. Particularly not by Al Haig. The meeting concluded with Don Rumsfeld warning that, barring some major catastrophe, the Transition Team should conclude their work expeditiously and, "be out of here in a month." (The Team finished its work and disbanded in two weeks.)

A brief meeting with the Nixon Cabinet members followed. It featured the new President informally walking from chair to chair around the Cabinet table, shaking hands and speaking privately to each Cabinet member. The long day concluded with two late scheduled foreign Ambassador conferences. Like a Las Vegas casino, the White House has no clocks and the day was extended further by two unanticipated



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

"...The balance of the day was spent conferring with Ambassadors..."

and that the Nixon tapes "are still in the White House." A reporter then cited Ford's response to a question asked of him during the then Congressman's fifteen plus hours of testimony at the Senate and House Vice Presidential Confirmation Hearings, and asked the Press Secretary, "If Ford's position was still not in favor of granting Nixon immunity from prosecution?" "Yes," the Press Secretary responded, "I can assure you of that."

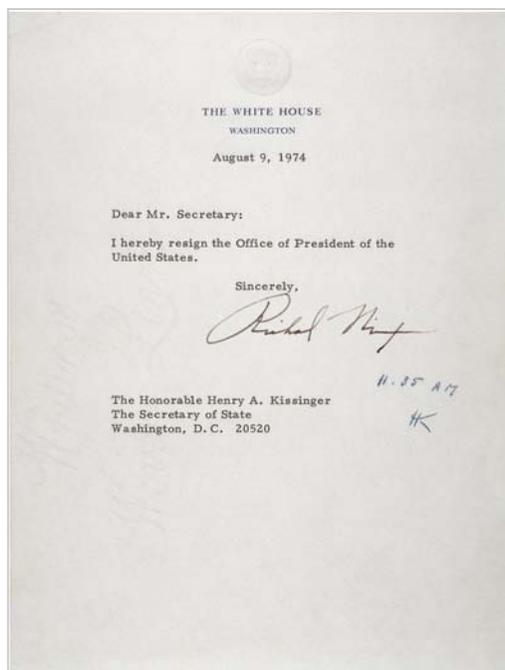
The work day mercifully ended at 8:00 PM.

On August 9, 1974, the Office of the President of the United States inherited by Gerald Ford was discredited and devoid of public trust. That adhesive "glue" (truth) that President Ford spoke of at his swearing-in, that was used to hold government together had dried out and been discarded. A significant number of the American people doubted, disputed and suspiciously questioned every announcement and utterance of the federal government, particularly if it originated from the White House. This public distrust adversely infected every aspect of the nation's being, including its ignored and sinking economy, its confusing perception by the international community, its non-legislating Legislative Branch, and its polarized generation of citizens opposed to the continuation of governmental status quo. This almost indescribable chaos

awaited Gerald R. Ford forty years ago on August 9, 1974. As usual, Henry Kissinger had it right, when on August 9, 1974 he wrote, "No one had taken over the Presidency under more challenging circumstances."

Throughout history, the American people have been blessed with exceptional Presidential leadership in times of national crisis. Lincoln in 1860, Theodore Roosevelt in 1900 and Franklin Roosevelt in 1941 readily come to mind. To this exalted list, add the name Gerald R. Ford in August 1974...and, on behalf of the nation, join me in expressing our heartfelt thanks to him.

[Sources in this article include personal memory and notes of the author, James Cannon's *Time and Chance*, Robert Hartmann's *Palace Politics*, Richard Reeves' *A Ford, Not A Lincoln*, and Gerald R. Ford's *A Time to Heal*.]



National Archives

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

With ArtPrize in full swing and visitors flooding into the Museum lobby and grounds, it must be autumn in Grand Rapids! Once again, we have three of our artists ranked in the top 20 as voted by the public in this competition among more than 1500 artists from around the world. In more good news, a recent Travelers' Choice survey conducted by Trip Advisor, the Museum ranked 7th among 36 attractions in Grand Rapids, receiving many very favorable comments from our visitors.

At the Library, the fall has been off to a busy start with our participation in the University of Michigan New Faculty Orientation Fair and also the Parents' Weekend Open House, during which parents and family members of UM students are invited to visit and tour cultural institutions on campus. The tours and treats drew many new visitors through our doors. We've started new partnerships with the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service at Albion College and also Grand Rapids Community College, hosting students and faculty for preliminary research visits. We're also partnering with the Consul General of Canada in Detroit and the UM Ford School of Public Policy to plan a symposium on U.S. - Canadian Arctic Policy Issues for March 2015.

The Library's textual and audio-visual collections continue to expand, as we are receiving regular mailings from Scott Cannon,

who has been very diligently sorting through and organizing Jim Cannon's papers. We are most grateful that the Cannon family is willing to make these wonderful resources available to researchers at the Library and are very appreciative of the enormous time and loving care Scott has devoted to this project.

The Foundation-supported digitization program continues at full speed at both the Library and Museum. I'm pleased to report that the Library has systematically digitized 318,406 pages of textual material and 13,016 White House Photographic Office contact sheets since June 2009. Some of the materials digitized this quarter included the Philip Buchen files related to the Nixon Pardon (2,309 pages). The Library also began a project to digitize Gerald Ford's Congressional Speeches (5,123 pages). The digital files for the completed projects are now available on the Library's website. We still have a long way to go, but this progress is fantastic and provides students and researchers with increasing access to our collections even if they can't visit us in person.

There were ten applications for the Foundation's Research Travel Grants program this fall, and all were approved for funding by the selection committee co-chaired by Foundation Trustees Tom Kauper and Roger Porter.

At the Museum, *Taking the Seas: Rise of the American Carrier* continues to draw steady streams of visitors and wonderful comments

from Navy vets. When Captain John Meier and several crew members from the *USS Gerald R Ford* visit in November, we look forward to showing them around the exhibit. At the Library, a new lobby exhibit focuses on President Ford's first 31 days in office. This was curated by Museum intern Erik Radowski.

In September, the Museum hosted the annual 9/11 salute by the Gerald R. Ford Boy Scout Council, and a special two-day visit of the traveling *9/11 Never Forget* exhibit in the parking lot. The unique exhibit of artifacts from the World Trade Center was accompanied by two New York City firemen who were on the site that fateful day. They held our visitors spellbound with their first-person accounts of the event and the heroic efforts of their colleagues and so many other first responders. Thanks to the Ford Presidential Foundation for supporting this new initiative.

Looking forward, we have a rich roster of public programs scheduled at both sites in the coming months, and are also preparing to host the 70-foot tall U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree in November, as it travels from Minnesota to Washington, D.C. In all, an action-packed fall at the Library and Museum!



Elaine K. Didier



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

On September 19, the Ford Library participated in the University of Michigan's annual Parents Weekend Open House where parents and family members of University of Michigan students are invited to visit and tour cultural institutions on campus. Lovely weather and enticing treats as well as welcoming staff brought an extra 110 people to the Library's north campus



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Sidney Jones was Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy to the Counselor for Economic Policy at the White House 1974-75, and then Counselor to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy in the Department of the Treasury 1975-77. He and his wife Marlene stopped by the Ford Library on September 26 to view his papers and to donate a copy of his book for the collection: *Greenspan*

Counsel, published in 2008. Dr. Jones later continued to work closely with President Ford on projects of the American Enterprise Institute.

location. The Library's primary greeters throughout the day were Tina Lockett, pictured here, and Kate Murray.

"Never Forget"

Annual September 11 Scout Salute at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

An immense line of over 450 motorcycles from the Patriot Guard Riders, Rolling Thunder, Axemen, Wart Hogs, and local law enforcement escorted the nationally traveling "9/11 Never Forget" mobile exhibit to the Ford Museum in Grand Rapids - traveling across three states to arrive on September 9. The exhibit was open, free to the public on September 10-11 and was held in conjunction with the annual flag salute by the Boy Scouts from the Gerald R. Ford Boy Scout Council of West Michigan. This was the eleventh annual flag salute and the only one of its kind in the Nation to have continued since the first anniversary of the attacks in 2002.

The "9/11 Never Forget" exhibit is dedicated to the memory of Steven Stiller, a firefighter who lost his life during that tragic day in 2001. The exhibit included numerous artifacts and videos — nearly 8,000 visitors toured the display over the two days. Two New York City firemen who were part of the rescue thirteen years ago provided tours of the exhibit.

From dawn to dusk, the Boy Scouts held a flag salute throughout the day with speakers and a program at noon with closing ceremonies that evening. Noted financial advisor and syndicated radio personality, Dave Ramsey, in town for a public appearance, took part in the salute that day followed by a tour of the Ford Museum.



Above Left: Dave Ramsey (far left) joins in saluting the flag during the annual 9-11 Scout Salute at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Above Right: Dave Ramsey greets retired NYC firefighter John Carroll at the "9-11 Never Forget" mobile exhibit. Photos courtesy of Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.



Pam Hammond

Scouts join together with police and members of the Axemen motorcycle group beside the "9-11 Never Forget" mobile exhibit upon its arrival at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on September 9, 2014.



Stephen Stiller Tunnel To Towers Foundation



Stephen Stiller Tunnel To Towers Foundation



Pam Hammond

Left: Artifacts within the "9-11 Never Forget" exhibit. Center: The Stephen Stiller Tunnel to Towers Foundation Exhibit. Right: NYC firefighter thanks escorts on September 9, 2014.



Over 450 riders from Rolling Thunder, Patriot Guard Riders, Axemen and Wart Hogs escorted the exhibit into Grand Rapids on September 9, 2014. Photo Courtesy of Barry Southwood.



Boy Scouts from Troop 304 Comstock Park welcome the exhibit to Grand Rapids. (l-r) Liam Smith, Spencer Schaffer, Connor Schaffer and Andrew Hammond. Photo Courtesy of Pam Hammond.

Below: Museum Curator Don Holloway (left) gives a tour to Dave Ramsey (center) with Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso. Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum



ArtPrize 2014

The 6th annual ArtPrize opened on September 24 amid the fanfare of Grand Rapids' biggest yearly celebration as over 1,500 artists entered for their share of the world's largest prize pool for an art competition. The Ford Museum, which hosted the top four prize winners in 2013, was requested as a venue by over half of the 1,500 artists entered in 2014. This year 26 artists were selected to be at the Museum which has been the highest attended venue the past two years. This year's attendance exceeded 192,530 visitors over a 19-day period.

This year's artists came from as near as Grand Rapids and Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and from as far as London, England. There were ten indoor art pieces including large cut paper animals (leopard, polar bear and eagle), an 18 foot glass sculpture of the Lake Michigan shoreline, and traditional two dimensional oils and drawings. Sixteen artists were on the Museum plaza, in the fountain and reflecting pool and along the circle drive. The outdoor pieces included a pastel chalk mural, hand-carved marble, and some whimsical entries such as the Mad Hatter from Alice in Wonderland.

This year the Museum was honored to have three venue artists make it into the Top 20 for the Public Vote in ArtPrize 2014. The works included are Carol Rooeda's "Color Out the Darkness", Jilly Barnes' "Engulfed in Glass" and Solo and Kojima's "A Series of Handmade Japanese Paper Cut Sculptures".

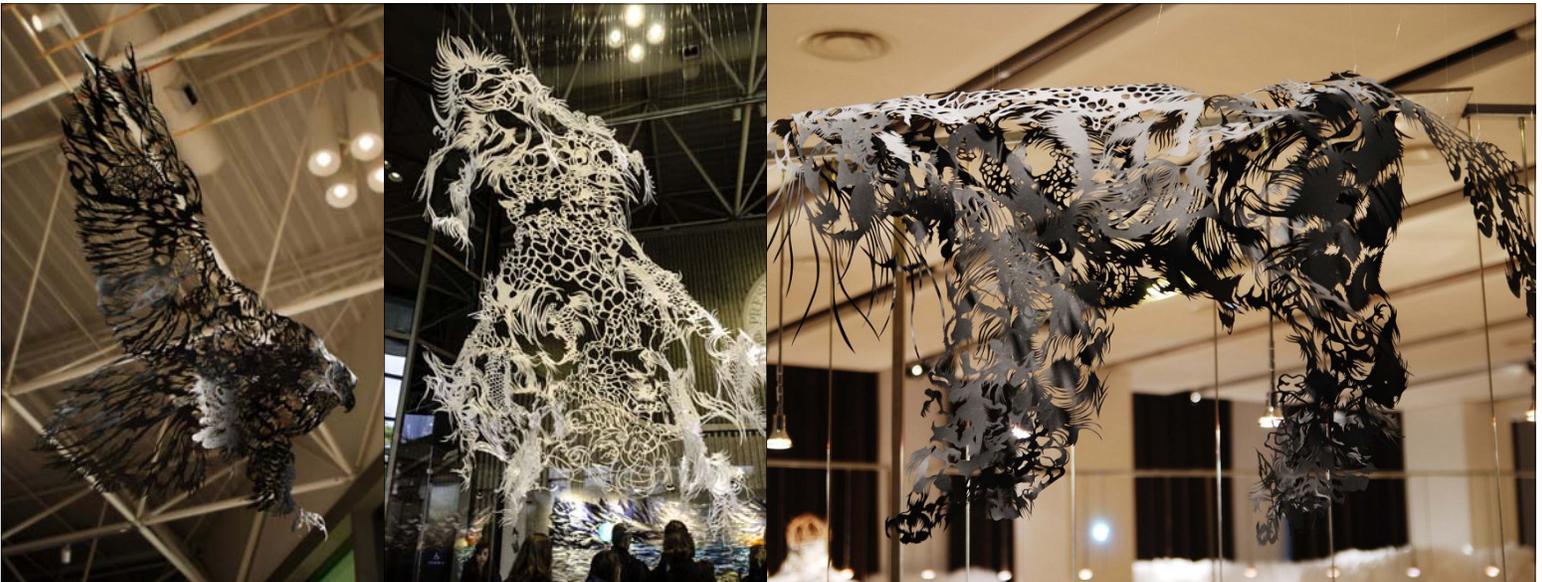
Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all the artists, volunteers, visitors, and especially the Museum staff who made this year such a great success!



3-D Finalist - Jilly Barnes "Engulfed in Glass".



Time Based Finalist - Carol Rooeda "Color Out the Darkness".



Installation Finalist - Solo and Kojima "A Series of Handmade Japanese Paper Cut Sculptures."

Herb Meyer
"What in the World Is Going On? A Global Intelligence Briefing"
 Tuesday, October 7, 2014

On October 7 the Hauenstein Center partnered with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library & Museum with the *American Conversations* program "What in the World Is Going On? A Global Intelligence Briefing" by Herb Meyer.

If you look beyond today's headlines, you will see a world that is more prosperous and more peaceful than most people are expecting. In this global overview, Herb Meyer – the Reagan Administration intelligence official who first predicted the Soviet Union's collapse – explained what really lies behind the current Middle East turmoil and why today so many countries are emerging from poverty and creating stable middle-class societies. Above all, he outlined the great challenges – and the great opportunities – that await students as they complete their education and head out into the world. In this return visit to Grand Rapids, Meyer drew on his expertise to share insights into the world's constantly changing geopolitical landscape. *Courtesy of the Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University.*



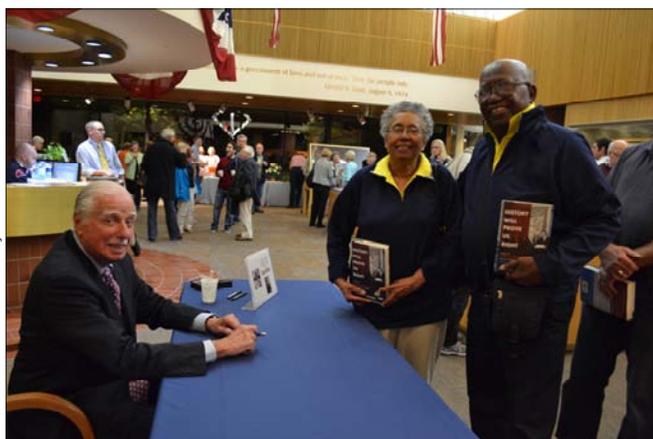
Herb Meyer

Howard Willens
"History Will Prove Us Right: Inside the Warren Commission Report on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy"
 Thursday, September 23, 2014



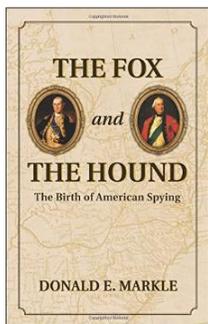
On September 23, the Library presented its first public program of the fall season, featuring Howard Willens, former Warren Commission staff member and author of *History Will Prove Us Right: Inside the Warren Commission Report on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy*, published in 2013. Then-Congressman Gerald Ford was one of the seven members of the Commission, appointed by President Lyndon Johnson.

Of the many books written about the Kennedy assassination, Willens' book is the only one written about the Commission by someone who was part of the three-person management team that supervised the largest criminal investigation ever conducted in the United States. His book is based on extensive personal journal entries made during the course of their investigation, and provides a unique perspective that illustrates the Commission's processes and deliberations. The program, which commemorated the 50th anniversary of the issuance of the Warren Commission Report on September 25, 1964, held a full house audience in rapt attention as Mr. Willens detailed the thoroughness of the Commission's work.



Howard Willens autographed his book for Robert and Sandra White following the presentation.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



Donald E. Markle
"The Fox and the Hound: The Birth of American Spying"
 Monday, September 15, 2014

Author Don Markle recounted the myriad of events and schemes that made up the espionage during the American Revolutionary War, eventually leading to the defeat of the British at Yorktown. Markle's latest book, *The Fox and the Hound*, told of several incidents including the fallacy of Paul Revere's celebrated midnight ride, the real reason

Nathan Hale was captured and executed as a spy, and the multiple deceptions practiced by George Washington's army to outwit the British in several battles. The event, attended by a capacity crowd on September 15, was cosponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and Foundation in conjunction with the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University.



The Hauenstein Center

Donald E. Markle



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

On October 3, Professor Robert Hendershot, who received a Ford Foundation research travel grant a few years ago while pursuing his Ph.D. in History, and four students from his course on the History of Foreign Relations at Grand Rapids Community College traveled cross-state through heavy rain for a research visit at the Library. Supervisory Archivist Geir Gundersen, pictured here with the students, gave them a personal tour and then guided their research. This represents a new academic collaboration for the Library and also is a wonderful example of how Ford Foundation support for the travel grants continues to pay dividends down the road.

In September the Ford Library welcomed the first Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation research travel grant recipient from an African university. Patrick Oluwole Ojo is a doctoral candidate at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. His research focuses on U.S. support for democracy in sub-Saharan Africa countries, in particular Nigeria and South Africa. Later this year we plan to welcome the second African grant recipient, Hanane Haichami, a doctoral student at Hassan II University in Casablanca, Morocco. To date, the Foundation has awarded 596 grants to students, faculty, and independent scholars from around the world.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

Dr. Elaine K. Didier, Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum; Doctoral Candidate Patrick Oluwole Ojo and Jeremy Schmidt, Archivist, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.



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.

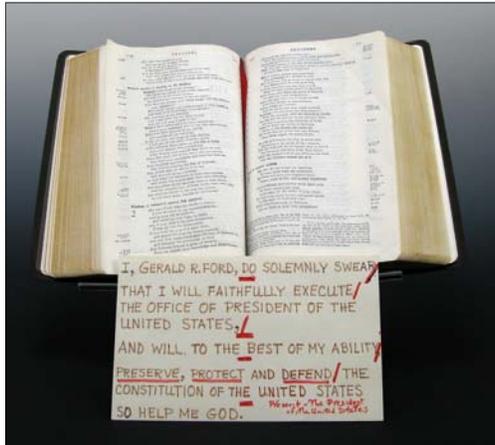
Members of "Friends of Ford" receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ 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. 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
303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353
616-254-0396

Museum's Digital Artifact Collection Project



Top Left: A light brown gavel with base that features the Great Seal inset in the head. The back features an inscription that reads "Presented to Gerald R. Ford 38th President of the United States August 9, 1974, 11:35 A.M." The donor, a retired telephone engineer, made the gavel out of a chestnut telephone pole for the president. He explained in an accompanying letter that the New Jersey telephone pole helped carry the first transcontinental telephone call from New York to San Francisco in 1915. *Gift of Clifton Keating on August 20, 2014.*

Top Center: President Gerald R. Ford used this ink pen to officially pardon Richard Nixon on September 8, 1974. It features President Ford's signature printed in silver on the blue plastic half with the other half composed of metal. The Parker Pen Company of Janesville, Wisconsin manufactured the pen. *Gift of the National Archives and Records Administration on September 15, 1997.*

Top Right: President Gerald R. Ford's name tag for the 75th Conference on Veterans of Foreign Wars, held in Chicago on August 19, 1974. President Ford announced his controversial conditional amnesty program for Vietnam draft evaders during this conference. *Gift of Ray Soden, former Commander in Chief of the VFW, on September 21, 1974.*

***Above Left:** Light blue, sleeveless dress with matching jacket owned and worn by Betty Ford. Mrs. Ford wore the dress to the Swearing-in Ceremony of her husband Gerald R. Ford as President of the United States on August 9, 1974. Frankie Welch designed the ensemble. The jacket features white trim and two front pockets. The dress features long pleating in the skirt, a white belt, and white trim up the center and around the collar. *Gift of Betty Ford.*

***Above Center:** Gerald R. Ford used this Jerusalem Bible given to him by his son, Mike, for both his Vice Presidential and Presidential swearing-in ceremonies. The Bible features a black cover, white pages with gold leaf trim, and a red ribbon bookmark. The Bible displayed Psalm 19 for the Vice Presidential swearing-in on December 6, 1973, and Proverbs 3, verses 5 and 6 for the Presidential swearing-in on August 9, 1974. This Bible then traveled in a display case on the Freedom Train during the American Bicentennial celebrations in 1976. *Gift of Gerald R. Ford.*

Above Right: A political button that celebrates the Ford / Rockefeller team in 1974. President Gerald R. Ford used the 25th Amendment to nominate Nelson Rockefeller to the Vice Presidency on August 20. Upon completion of Senate confirmation hearings, Rockefeller was sworn in as Vice President of the United States on December 19, 1974. This button features two black and white portraits - Gerald R. Ford on the left and Nelson Rockefeller on the right. There are red banners above and below the portraits with a white shield set on a larger blue background. The blue background contains white text that reads "Dec. 19 / 1974." *Gift of Peter Redebaugh on December 13, 1988.*

**Mrs. Ford's blue dress and the Jerusalem Bible are not part of the current Artifact Photography Project. These artifacts are currently part of the core Museum exhibit. All artifact photos courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.*

Check out the Museum's artifacts page - www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/museum/ArtifactCollectionSamples/newmain.asp and watch for additional artifact items to be highlighted in the *Friends of Ford* Newsletter.

Please visit our website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org



www.facebook.com/geraldrford



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38th President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy; conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum.