On December 2, 2010, President George W. Bush was warmly received by Susan Ford Bales, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Trustees, Library and Museum staff as well as over 250 Friends of Ford for a special moderated question and answer discussion about his book, *Decision Points*.

Susan Ford Bales, daughter of President Gerald R. Ford and Mrs. Betty Ford, introduced President Bush. She commented on the special friendship between the Bush and Ford families. Bales said “It’s a personal joy and honor today to welcome – with a big smile – a man of principle and compassion, a man of impeccable integrity and honesty, a man of courage and humility, a man my father deeply respected and was so proud to call his friend.” President Bush commented that he and Susan belong to a very exclusive club. “Children of the Presidents Club.”

President Bush spoke for over an hour to an overflow crowd that listened intently. There were numerous funny moments. President Bush was asked how it feels to be a bestselling author, he said, “Some people are shocked I can even read, much less write.” He talked about the decision point President Ford made to pardon Richard Nixon as being one of the great Presidential decisions. “It was a selfless decision, a decision that likely cost him the presidency,” Bush said. President Bush talked about the process of choosing Dick Cheney as his running mate. “I am glad I picked him then, and I am glad I picked him now. He was a great Vice President. His advice was steady when the crises were on. He was calm, cool and collected. He gave me his unvarnished opinions.” Cheney serves as a Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Trustee.

The moderator for the program was Al Pheley, Director of the Albion College Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service. Al also serves on the Foundation’s Grant Screening Committee. At the conclusion of his presentation President Bush, accompanied by Susan Ford Bales, paid their respects at the Tomb of President Ford.

The question and answer session with President Bush was moderated by Al Pheley, Director of Abion College’s Gerald R. Ford Institute. Al also serves on the Foundation’s Grant Screening Committee.

The Bush-Ford family relationship goes back to when President Ford served in Congress with George Bush’s grandfather, Prescott Bush, and dad, George H.W. Bush, in Congress and the Ford administration. Susan Ford Bales’ comments about the families’ relationships and her introduction of President Bush are included on page 6 of this newsletter.

Also, during his visit to the Museum, President Bush accompanied by Susan, paid respects at the Tomb of President Ford.

Elaine Didier, Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, and I represented our respective organizations at the groundbreaking for the George W. Bush Presidential Center on November 16, 2010. The Center, located on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, will be the nation’s thirteenth Presidential Library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. Not only will the facility be home for the Library and Museum it also will house the Bush Foundation and George W. Bush Institute. The archival collection is extensive with over 70 million pages of paper documents, approximately 80 Terabytes of electronic information, 43,000 artifacts and 4 million photographs. The facility will be dedicated in 2013.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation trustee, Dick Cheney was a speaker at the ceremony.

I hope you enjoy this special edition newsletter prepared in honor of our distinguished guest to Grand Rapids, President George W. Bush.

I would like to thank the many “Friends of Ford” who donate time, services and funds to make possible the activities that sustain President Ford’s legacy. We wish you and your families a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Letter from the Foundation Executive Director, Joseph S. Calvaruso

In Memoriam

Peter C. Cook

Peter Cook, an Honorary Trustee of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, passed away on November 28, 2010 at the age of 96. He attended South High School in Grand Rapids with President Ford and they became lifelong friends. Peter was well known in Grand Rapids as a very successful businessman and generous philanthropist.

James T. Lynn

Jim, a Trustee of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, passed away on December 6, 2010 at the age of 83. Jim was Director of the Office of Management and Budget during President Ford’s administration and served as Undersecretary in the Commerce Department and Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development under President Nixon. He had been a Trustee of the Foundation since 2001.

Both gentlemen will be greatly missed by the Ford family, the Trustees of the Foundation and the staff of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

Cover Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries
George W. Bush Presidential Center 
Groundbreaking Ceremony 
November, 16, 2010

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso and Library/Museum Director, Elaine Didier joined more than 3,000 friends and supporters, as well as Former Vice President Cheney and Former Cabinet Secretaries Don Evans, Condoleezza Rice and Margaret Spellings at the groundbreaking ceremony for the George W. Bush Presidential Center, America’s 13th presidential library complex.

The Bush Center will sit on a 23-acre lot on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas, and include the George W. Bush Library, which includes the archives and museum, and the George W. Bush Institute. In addition, the site will feature a Texas Rose Garden, having the same proportions, solar orientation, and formal organization as the White House Rose Garden. The Archives for President Bush contain 80 terabytes of digital information, including 200 million e-mails. There are more than 43,000 artifacts from the Bush Administration on file with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

“Serving as President was the honor and privilege of a lifetime,” said former President George W. Bush. “Laura and I are eager to continue our work through the Bush Institute to spread freedom, promote education excellence, defend markets and improve global health. This groundbreaking is an important milestone in that ongoing effort.”

Looking Back
Byron M. “Red” Cavaney, Director of White House Advance Office and Terrence “Terry” O’Donnell, Special Assistant to the President.

Red Cavaney currently serves as the President of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and is Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, for ConocoPhillips.
Terry O’Donnell currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and is a Partner at Williams & Connolly, LLP in Washington, D.C.

Red and Terry have kindly agreed to be two of the co-chairs of an upcoming capital campaign for the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.
On December 14, 2010, the Big Ten Conference announced the creation of the Ford-Kinnick Post Graduate Award for Leadership.

The Big Ten announcement of the Ford-Kinnick Trophy comes as part of the creation of 18 trophies to honor just a small sampling of the countless student-athletes and coaches who have contributed to the conference’s rich and storied history. Starting with the 2011 season, the Big Ten will honor its top football student-athletes with these newly named trophies.

“These trophies will honor our legends and leaders for generations to come,” said Big Ten Commissioner Delany. “The names on these trophies are fitting tributes to the hundreds of thousands of student-athletes and coaches whose hard work and dedication have contributed to the legacy of the Big Ten Conference over the past 115 years.”

Gerald R. Ford was part of the University of Michigan’s undefeated conference and national championship teams in 1932-1933, was voted the team’s most valuable player, and appeared in the annual East-West College All-Star game after his senior year in 1934. Following his standout career as a Wolverine (1932-1934), Ford had offers from the Detroit Lions and Green Bay Packers to play professionally. He declined those offers, choosing instead to devote his work to community service.

Nile Kinnick, lauded for selflessness and leadership, was the epitome of the elite student-athlete at Iowa (1937-1939). Kinnick, was a two-time All-Big Ten performer while at Iowa (1937-1939). Not only was he the winner of the 1939 Heisman Trophy, Walter Camp and Maxwell Awards, he was senior class president and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Kinnick enrolled in law school before enlisting in the Naval Air Corps Reserves and was called to active duty just three days before the attack on Pearl Harbor. In June 1943, Kinnick died when his fighter plane crashed into the Caribbean Sea.

Joe Paterno Receives the 2011 NCAA President’s Gerald R. Ford Award

Joe Paterno was introduced as the 2011 NCAA President’s Gerald R. Ford Award winner to a standing ovation at the NCAA annual convention in San Antonio, Texas, January 13, 2011. The award honors an individual who has provided significant leadership as an advocate for intercollegiate athletics on a continuous basis throughout his or her career. That the award was named after an old friend made it even more special. “I think for what he stood for and his love of what he did in athletics, I think it’s a very appropriate award,” Paterno said. “Whether I deserve it or not remains to be seen, but I think it’s great the Association has an award named after him. I’m obviously delighted to get it.” Paterno said of his first meeting with President Ford, “He was such a true blue Michigan guy.”
USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN78) and future Ford-class carriers will have a new carrier-based launch system called Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, or EMALS, technology.

The U.S. Navy made history in December when it launched the first aircraft using the EMALS technology at the Naval Air Systems Command, Lakehurst, N.J. test site. The Navy has been using steam for more than 50 years to launch aircraft from carriers. The EMALS technology will replace steam catapults on future aircraft carriers.

“I thought the launch went great,” said Lt. Daniel Radocaj, the test pilot from Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 23 (VX-23) who made the first EMALS manned launch. “I got excited once I was on the catapult but I went through the same procedures as on a steam catapult. The catapult stroke felt similar to a steam catapult and EMALS met all the expectations I had.”

Susan Ford Bales, Ship’s Sponsor for the USS Gerald R. Ford, praised the EMALS team: “This is an exciting milestone for the USS Gerald R. Ford. I know Dad would share my pride in the continued patriotic commitment to excellence of the EMALS team and all the shipbuilders.”

The mission and function of EMALS remain the same as the steam catapult; however, EMALS employs entirely different technologies. EMALS will deliver the necessary higher launch energy capacity as well as substantial improvements in system weight, maintenance, increased efficiency, and more accurate end-speed control.

“I felt honored to be chosen as the Shooter to help launch the first live aircraft tested on the new EMALS track at Lakehurst,” said Chief Petty Officer Brandon Barr, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division Test Department, Lakehurst. “It was very exciting to knowingly be part of naval aviation history. Petty Officers 1st Class Hunsaker and Robinson, Petty Officers 2nd Class Williams, Wong, and Simmons, were the sailors on my team who worked together to help make this test a success. We all look forward to seeing this cutting edge technology deployed on the USS Gerald R. Ford.”
Mr. President, Al Pheley, Secretary Land, Joe Calvaruso, Trustees and Staff of the Foundation and Museum, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Welcome to this wonderful afternoon in Grand Rapids, here at Dad’s Museum. Today is a magnificent occasion for us -- to host someone who, with his family, has an extraordinary, decades long friendship with Dad and the Ford Family. I thought a lot about how to adequately describe the depth of the friendship and love between the Bush and Ford families. Ladies and gentlemen, it has NOT been an easy task!!

As many here today will recall, in the twilight of his life, Dad often remarked, “When I wake up at night and can’t sleep, I think of Grand Rapids.” When Dad would say that, one other thing would always happen. He would get that great big smile on his face. Mr. President, as I reflected on the special friendship between our two families, my thoughts kept coming back to that single image – Dad’s smile.

I remembered when you and Laura hosted all of us at the White House to celebrate Dad’s 90th birthday. It was a wonderful evening, the Ford family and the Bush family were together again. And that entire evening with you and Laura, as the photo here in the Museum lobby vividly captures, Dad’s unmistakable smile was ever-present.

In April of 2006, you visited Dad and Mother at their home in Rancho Mirage. At the end of your visit, Dad walked you to your car. He stood quietly on the step and watched as your motorcade drove away. And there, reflecting the boundless pride and friendship of our two families, was Dad’s unmistakable smile.

Several months later, Dad passed away. Those several days of his State Funeral were difficult indeed. They were especially difficult for Mother. The pain the public saw on her face, was also there in our private moments. One afternoon that week while we were in Washington, President Bush and Laura came to Blair House to visit Mother. No fanfare, no entourage - just the President and First Lady coming to comfort Mother. Mr. President, the three of you visited for quite awhile that afternoon. Then, I quietly came into the room and joined you. I will always cherish my memory of that moment. Amidst a sea of tears and sadness, there – with you and Laura – was Mother with, yes, and for the first time in weeks, a huge smile on her face. I will never forget that smile and, most of all, I will never forget the friendship and love from the Bush family that Mother’s smile that day will always represent – always.

Thus, it’s a personal joy and honor to welcome with a big smile - a man of principle and compassion, a man of impeccable integrity and honesty, a man of courage and humility, a man my father deeply respected and was so proud to call his friend, and a man who, once again today, has brought the Bush Family and the Ford Family together again. Ladies and gentlemen, the 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush.
President Bush is greeted by Foundation Honorary Trustee Rich DeVos.

“Susan and I are members of an exclusive club, children of the presidents club.”
President George W. Bush

Susan Ford Bales welcomes President George W. Bush to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Foundation Executive Director, Joe Calvaruso; Library/Museum Director Elaine Didier; President George W. Bush and Susan Ford Bales.

President George W. Bush shares a private moment with Susan Ford Bales at the Tomb of President Gerald R. Ford.

Jim Kratsas, Museum Deputy Director and President George W. Bush

President Bush Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries
On December 2, 2010, President George W. Bush discussed his newly released memoir *Decision Points* to an overflow audience at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Below are excerpts from that visit. A video of the presentation was produced by Wood TV 8 and is available on our website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org.

**Al Pheley:** I would like to thank you for being here and taking the time to talk to us today. Your book *Decision Points* has now been out a few weeks. It’s sold record numbers of copies and it’s been on the top of the New York Times Best Seller List since it came out. How does it feel to be a best selling author?

**President Bush:** Well some people are in shock that I can even read much less write (laughter). It’s a little odd to go from a hundred miles an hour to zero, which is exactly what happened. I watched my successor get sworn in which was an amazing ceremony. I love the fact that we transfer power peacefully in the United States and then I got on an airplane and flew back to our beloved state of Texas. I woke up the next morning and there wasn’t much to do! So I started writing. I thought about this book ahead of time. I planned it but I was busy up to the last minute of my Presidency and so I started writing when I got home that day and it was a really great experience. I am pleased people are buying the book and for those of you who bought it, I thank you, and for those of you who haven’t - give it a look, a lot of pictures (laughter and applause).

**Al Pheley:** Can you tell me how you chose the format?

**President Bush:** I decided to interest the reader on what it was like to be President during some consequential times and the best way I felt to organize the book and to draw your attention and keep you interested was to organize around set decisions which were consequential. The other thing that is interesting about the book is that it is very anecdotal. I like stories, I like to read history based on anecdotes. So the first line in the book is: Can you tell me a day in which you haven’t had a drink? It’s an interesting way to start a Presidential Memoir. It’s my wife asking me that question. I can tell you I couldn’t remember a day. The whole point of the story is that I needed to quit drinking and I can tell you I wouldn’t be sitting here as a former President had I not quit drinking. The reason it’s in the book is that the first decision is why run for president at all. In order to make that decision meaningful to you, I had to describe the person making the decision. One of the key moments in my life was the decision to quit drinking. I was in Houston signing books and a woman came up to me and said her 37 year old son read my book and wants to quit drinking. It honored me that she would say that and hopefully this is a contribution. I’m beyond worrying about, frankly, what people think and what I tried to do was write something that will stand the test of time. I wanted to contribute, be a data point for a time when objective historians finally show up. I don’t say that cynically, I say that realistically. There is no way history can be viewed objectively until enough time passes. Take for example Susan’s (Ford Bales) father’s pardon of Richard Nixon. At the time many historians were aghast, he was condemned by people in the short term. In the long term it has turned out to be one of the greatest presidential decisions. A selfless decision, a decision that likely cost him the presidency but nevertheless a decision that when viewed objectively and weighed in a way that is devoid of the prejudices of the moment is seen differently now. So when people show up that have had enough time and perspective, I hope this is a place where some historians turn to and they get the perspective of a person that happened to be in the middle of the action.

**Al Pheley:** How is your Mom and Dad doing?

**President Bush:** They are doing great. I measure their spirits to answer your question. Their spirits are high, which I’m learning more and more is important in life. Mother is still telling me what to do on a regular basis (laughter). In the book I describe my relationship with my dad but I also spent a lot of time on my relationship with my mother. I had a little sister, they had a daughter, who died when she was 3. I was 6 and mother just smothered me with love as the one child that could communicate. Jeb was hardly born. I am convinced that is why the closeness with my mother evolved. Interestingly enough I picked up a lot of her characteristics, which got me in trouble, blunt-tongue! (laughers).

Please visit our website to view the video in its entirety. It was a captivating conversation and one that was enjoyed by all!
**Christmas on the Grand … Year 15!**

The Museum’s ever-popular Christmas on the Grand lit up the West bank of the Grand River for the fifteenth consecutive year this holiday season. Over 2000 people came out for the official Tree Lighting Ceremony and presentation of awards on November 17th. The outdoor program included emcees Susan Shaw and Brian Sterling from local NBC affiliate WOOD TV8, Major Ralph Hansen from the Salvation Army, music, refreshments, and announcement of the Rockford Girl Scouts *Silver and Gold* as “Best of Show,” winning over 20 other fun and festive trees decorated by a wide range of community groups, non-profit and service organizations from throughout the greater Grand Rapids area. The People’s Choice Award went to Clark Retirement Community for their tree, *A Salute to the Silver Screen*.

On the afternoon of Sunday, December 5th nearly 1000 visitors enjoyed our Holiday Open House. In addition to the normal fare: choirs, storytelling, reindeer, and visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, two special activities reminded all of the true meaning of the season. Children decorated bags for Kids’ Food Basket, a local non-profit providing over 3,100 sack suppers to children in Grand Rapids each day with the help of volunteers of all ages.

The bags were decorated with holiday drawings and heartfelt wishes expressed by other children. Crash’s Landing / Big Sid’s Sanctuary brought three cats to the Open House, bringing to life the theme of their Christmas tree, *Wreak the Halls*. All three animals loved the attention and were very effective ambassadors for the organization. Volunteers at both facilities care for the cats and find loving homes for them. Both groups were first time participants in Christmas on the Grand.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries
**Carl Anthony**  
**Betty Ford and the Issues:**  
*Liberating and Expanding the First Lady’s Role*  
**Wednesday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
Join historian and author Carl Anthony as he discusses First Lady, Betty Ford.  
For reservations call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov.

**Ken Walsh**  
**Family of Freedom:**  
*Presidents and African Americans in the White House*  
**Saturday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
**Sunday, February 20 at 2:00 p.m. Ann Arbor**  
Join author and 2008 Gerald R. Ford Journalism Award winner, Ken Walsh as he discusses his newest book *Family of Freedom*. Just released, this book examines the intertwined relationships between the presidents and the African Americans who have been an integral part of the White House. In Grand Rapids call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov for reservations.

**Chris Vallillo**  
**Abraham Lincoln in Song**  
**Saturday, March 5 at 2:00 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
Chris Vallillo takes the audience on a musical journey, making history come alive with his excellent blending of music and storytelling. For reservations call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov.

**Ethics in Our World - An Annual Symposium**  
**Exploring Ethics in America**  
**Tuesday, March 15 at 4:30 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
This first year’s symposium is a collaboration between the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum, Grand Rapids Bar Association and Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids. The keynote address, *Lessons Learned from my Dad*, will be delivered by Steven M. Ford. For program participants visit the web, for reservations call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov.

**Joe Galloway**  
**The American Story**  
**Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
Award winning author Joe Galloway is back to open the Museum’s feature exhibit, *The American Soldier - A Photographic Tribute to Soldiers and Marines from the Civil War to Iraq*. Don’t miss this remarkable event. For reservations call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov.

**William T. Coleman**  
**Counsel for the Situation:**  
*Shaping the Law to Realize America’s Promise*  
**Wednesday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. Ann Arbor**  
**Thursday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. Grand Rapids**  
The Honorable William T. Coleman, the venerable civil rights lawyer, was the first black American to clerk for the Supreme Court. In his extraordinary career, Coleman, winner of the 1995 Presidential Medal of Freedom, served on the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* case, was a senior counsel to the Warren Commission, and was appointed Secretary of Transportation by President Ford. Join us as William Coleman, and his daughter, Lovida Coleman, Jr., discuss his newly released autobiography, chronicling the obstacles and opportunities in his distinguished career.  
For Reservations call (616) 254-0384 or email ford_events@nara.gov.
Gunshots and Banquets: Recalling President Ford's Visit to Mao's China

Ron Nessen

A fascinating talk by Ford press secretary Ron Nessen opened the Library’s new exhibit “Gerald Ford in Mao’s China: The Historic 1972 and 1975 Visits.” Both C-SPAN and Michigan Productions recorded the November 16 event for later telecast.

The exhibit and the talk helped celebrate the Library’s progress releasing thousands of pages of once-classified White House files on U.S.-China relations.

Mr. Nessen was indefatigable as well as informative. The morning of the event he participated in a videorecorded oral history interview with supervisory archivist David Horrocks. In the afternoon, he spoke to a political science class. The next day, he graciously returned to the Library for an informal Q&A with staff before departing for his flight home.

By happy chance, exhibit installation coincided with the Ann Arbor visit of Richard Solomon. He was Ford’s National Security Council staff person for China affairs in 1975-76. Ambassador Solomon regaled Library staff with his insights and anecdotes during a special brunch at the Library in the hours before the exhibit went up. Later in the day, he spoke at the Ford School of Public Policy on his work as president of the United States Peace Institute. ~ David Horrocks, Supervisory Archivist, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Travel Grants - Fall 2010 Recipients

Allen, Michael; Professor, Northwestern University; Bleak House: Congressional Activism and the Confidence of Crisis, 1968-1969
Badalassi, Nicolas; Ph.D. candidate, University of Paris (Sorbonne); France and the Origins of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
Donnelly, Jennifer; Ph.D. candidate, University of North Carolina; Caught in the Middle: Ford, the Politics of Abortion and the New Right
Farrington, Joshua D.; Ph.D. candidate, University of Kentucky; Forgotten Republicans: African Americans and the Party of Lincoln, 1948-1972
Golland, David H.; Professor, Borough of Manhattan Community College/CUNY; Biography of Arthur A. Fletcher
Grove, DeeAnn; Ph.D. candidate, University of Iowa; The Education President: The Effects of Presidential Election Campaign on Educational Policy
Johnson, Jeremy; Visiting Lecturer, Brown University; The Republican Welfare State: Social Policy Reinvestment from Nixon to Obama
Lazarowitz, Arlene; Professor, California State University, Long Beach; The American Jewish Leadership and President Gerald R. Ford: Differences over the Middle East “Reassessment” Plan

Macekura, Stephen; Ph.D. candidate, University of Virginia; The Fights for the Commons: NGOs, Global Environmental Politics, and the Rise of Sustainable Development, 1972-1992
Marchiel, Rebecca; Ph.D. candidate, Northwestern University; “To Make this City Viable Again”: National People’s Action and Urban Reinvestment, 1968-1989
Peterman, Kelly M.; Ph.D. candidate, University of Virginia; Liberalization on the Nile: Architects, Allies, and Opponents of Globalization in Egypt, 1973 to 1991
Rosenfeld, Sam; Ph.D. candidate, Harvard University; Polarization and the Transformation of the American Party System, 1956-1994
Saranthakes, Nicholas Evan; Professor, U.S. Naval War College; Buffalo Men: The Boy Scouts of America and the Oval Office
Snyder, Sarah; Lecturer, University College London (United Kingdom); The Rise of Human Rights in United States Foreign Relations
Zake, Ieva; Professor, Rowan University (New Jersey); Ethnic Politics of American Political Parties and Presidential Administrations, 1960s-1980s

Yes, I want to be a member of “Friends of Ford”

Become a member of “Friends of Ford” and help support the Library & 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, “News From The Ford”
- 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 Diane Van Allsburg at 616.254.0396 or email dvanallsburg@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.
The mission of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is to support the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum by sponsoring historical exhibits, educational programs, conferences, research grants and awards. In fulfilling its mission, the Foundation honors the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his public service career. The Foundation also aims to educate Americans about the unique history and significant events of the Ford presidency. Finally, the Foundation seeks to enhance public understanding of American history and government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Joe Calvaruso, Executive Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504-5353.