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Among Friends of LBJ

A NEWSLETTER OF
THE FRIENDS OF THE LBJ LIBRARY



Faces from the first decade (See p. 4)



Tom Johnson



Mrs. Johnson greets new Board member George Christian.

Foundation Board Meets in Special Session

Members of The Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation Board of Directors met November 15 in special session to elect new officers following the death of the Board's longtime Chairman Frank C. Erwin, Jr. (see story on p. 9)

Newly elected officers are W. Thomas Johnson, President, George Christian and Chancellor E. Don Walker, Co-Vice Presidents. Walker and Christian were also appointed to serve on the Executive Committee. Also elected to Board: Library Director Harry Middleton.



The honoree with President Carter.

LBJ School Fellowships Created to Honor Strauss

One thousand political allies and foes of Robert Strauss gathered in Washington in December to salute him—and in the process to create an endowment in his name to provide fellowships for students in the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. Leaders from both political parties attended the event, which raised a fellowship fund of more than \$1 million.



The bipartisan nature of the affair was evidenced by the presence of Vice President-elect George Bush (right) and Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill (left).



Acquisitions



Cater



Macy



Okun

The Library recently acquired the personal papers of three leaders of the Johnson Administration—Douglass Cater, who served as Special Assistant to the President, John Macy, who was Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and Arthur Okun, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. The papers of Okun, who died last summer, were given to the Library by his widow, Sue Okun. (For another story on Cater, see below.)

Cater Lecture Examines Electoral Politics

Douglass Cater, in a second lecture co-sponsored by the Library and the LBJ School of Public Affairs during 1980, took a searching look at the way America elects its Presidents and suggested the following reforms for Presidential campaigns:

- Reduce the time span of Presidential primaries to a period of eight weeks beginning no earlier than June 1.

- Group primaries by time zones, to cut down on the frenetic travel of candidates and delay the early locking-up of the nomination.

- Bring more equity to a state's party primary by fixing bound-delegate ratios in proportion to total voter turnout, and by permitting citizens who wish to defer their choice to support an uncommitted slate drawn up by a state's party leadership.

- Reduce the size of nominating conventions so they may become more deliberative and thus, in the age of television, minimize their "circus aspects."

- Reduce publicity bias at national conventions by reducing live television coverage focussing on disruptive shenanigans.

Cater, a Senior Fellow at the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, will spend several weeks at the LBJ School in the Spring as a Sid Richardson Visiting Professor.



Thirty volunteers who joined the Library's staff as docents launch their service with a get-together with Mrs. Johnson. Twenty-one of the docents are giving guided tours to visitors. The other eight work with the collections in the museum.

Civil Rights Conference



A committee appointed by President Carter to seek ways to effect the transition between civil rights legislation and the full realization of equality—a part of the President's Commission for a National Agenda for the Eighties—met at the Library in the Fall. The meeting was chaired by Benjamin Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP (left).

ON THE COVER:

Some of the leaders who have spoken at the Library

Top: Kirk Douglas, Helen Hayes, Vernon Jordan, Henry Kissinger
Middle: Nelson Rockefeller, Earl Warren, Dean Rusk, Hubert Humphrey
Bottom: Sam Ervin, Beverly Sills, Walter Cronkite

**Other Faces
in the 10-year Cavalcade**



Hugh Sidey



Carl Albert



Congressman Jake Pickle



Marianne Means



Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.



John Gardner



Barbara Ward



Barry Commoner



Elliot Richardson



Gloria Steinem



R. Buckminster Fuller



Dan Rather



Rosalynn Carter



Felix Rohatyn

Library Looks Back Over First 10 Years

Ten years of history were celebrated on November 14, in a ceremony of speech, song and dance, motion pictures and slides, commemorating the Library's first decade.

Held six months before the actual 10th anniversary—because in the Spring the Library will be in the throes of the physical renovation of its museum area—the program was attended by members of the Friends of the LBJ Library.

Mexican folk dances, country-western songs, music from World War I and the 1920s were in the spirit of some of the

exhibits and programs sponsored by the Library since its dedication in May 1971. Motion pictures and slides traced the political career of Lyndon Johnson and documented the activities which have crowded his Library's calendar these past 10 eventful years.

Some of the highlights of those activities taken from the presentation in the November celebration, are recaptured in the following pages.

The first years, which set the style and tone of those to follow, were enriched with the presence of LBJ. World leaders, such as Britain's former Prime Minister Harold Wilson, visited Texas as they once did Washington.



President Johnson inaugurated the symposium series, and participated in the first two. At the Civil Rights conference in December 1972, he conferred with Barbara Jordan and Vernon Jordan.



When he died the following month, his body lay in state for 24 hours in the Library. Before the honor guard bore him away, 10,000 visitors filed through to pay their final respects.





1971
Two presidents open the Library housing the papers of one of them



1972
To commemorate the symposium on Civil Rights, LBJ's last public appearance, the Library exhibited the Emancipation Proclamation



1973
A symposium on "The American City" drew urban experts and marked the opening of the papers on urban problems



1974
Celebrating the opening of the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, established through legislation proposed by LBJ, 24 works by 12 prominent sculptors from the museum's collections, were displayed in the Library's Great Hall



1975
Leaders from the world of the arts assembled to discuss the future relationship between government and the arts



1976
Press secretaries to four presidents and reporters covering the White House squared off in the "Presidency and the Press" symposium



1977

Jefferson's proclamation of the Louisiana Purchase was among 200 treasured historical items exhibited in "America," a collection borrowed from the Morgan Library in New York



1977

Helen Hayes, Preston Jones, and Kirk Douglas presented a program honoring Lady Bird Johnson in the culmination of a drive which raised a \$2 million endowment for the Friends of the LBJ Library



1978

An exhibit documenting World War I, gathered from institutions and citizens across the country, observed the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice



1979

Flappers (including a First Lady who remembers the era), jazz bands, antique cars, and bathtub gin ushered in an exhibit on the 1920s



1980

Walter Cronkite and a panel of national leaders pursued the question: "America in the 1980's: Where Do We Go From Here?"



1980

In the course of one week, 35,000 visitors filed through the Library to see Great Britain's Magna Carta

Lady Bird's Reflections On The Library

Appropriately enough, to coincide with the Library's observance of its 10th anniversary, an interview with Mrs. Johnson, appearing in the December 1980 issue of *American Heritage*, contained some of her observations and reflections on the origins and activities of the institution. Following are excerpts from that part of the interview. (*American Heritage* advises that it will offer members of the Friends of the Library discount prices of \$3 for the single issue or an annual subscription of \$18.)*

The proposal for Lyndon to leave his papers to the University of Texas at Austin came to us very early, I think within a month after Lyndon was inaugurated in '65. They proposed to build a building to house them. And then they proposed to start a School of Public Affairs, and that was the selling point with Lyndon . . .

I liked the idea of being on a university campus. I think it was about midsummer of '65 that we reached the decision to give it to the University of Texas . . .

I didn't any more know what a Presidential Library was—who does? But Lyndon sort of delegated that to me as he did a lot of things, and he said, "Okay, you learn a lot about it and you tell me."

The first one [I went to] was Hyde Park, which has unending appeal to me. I had already been there two or three times, but I went looking at it from a different vantage point. It soon dawned on me that it was in large part a museum and that John Q. Public and his wife and children came in by the thousands while the researchers—they did indeed come, but they came in by dribblets.

Then I went to see President Truman's. That was during his lifetime and he gave me what he called the "five dollar tour." And I went to President Eisenhower's and [later] to President Hoover's. At each place I learned something . . .

First, [the Library is] a research facility. We house all of Lyndon's papers—you can't get librarians to throw anything away—and the papers of a good many of the people who were his working associates or friends during those years. And then we have oral histories which have turned out to be a marvelous source for filling in the gaps. I remember being uncertain about those at first . . . Everybody remembers differently, you know. It's like asking the blind man what an elephant is like. It depends on where he touches him. But I found myself once at lunch sitting next to Allan Nevins, the historian, and he was so glowingly in favor of it that I was convinced. And now we have about 700 on the shelf completed.

Second, the Library is a visual picture, with its displays, of what that piece of history was like—the 60s and the decades before when Lyndon was in Congress. It serves many more people as a museum than the research part does.

Then—and this is what Lyndon was determined it should be—we are a lively, vigorous ongoing center for the study of today's problems. We have symposia. Civil Rights will always be one of the most dramatic ones we ever did, because it was almost Lyndon's last public appearance. He died about five or six weeks later, and all during it he was chewing nitroglycerin pills like they were Life Savers.

We've done one on energy and the environment, and where they clash. When I think that was several years ago, I'm right proud of it. The symposia are the Library's new life. It makes me flinch whenever I hear people say "monument to your husband" or something like that, because I like to think of this place, and I know he did, as an ongoing, useful part of the life of this state and this region . . .

*For more information—Subscription Dept., American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc., 10 Rockefeller Plaza, NY, NY 10020, Attn: Mariann Moery



Mrs. Johnson with William Livingston and Robert Hardesty, who were co-narrators for the 10th anniversary program.

A Final Salute To Frank Erwin

By Harry Middleton

Many hands have shaped the Library in this first phase of its life. First of all, of course, there was the President, whose ambitions for the institution constituted a challenge against which every succeeding staff will have to measure its performance. There was, and is, Mrs. Johnson, whose close and continuing interest in every phase of our activities has given the Library a particular distinction.

And then there was Frank Erwin. He was in at the creation, accompanying Board of Regents Chairman Bill Heath to the White House even before the echoes of the 1965 inaugural ceremonies had faded, to persuade President Johnson that the depository for his papers should be on the campus of the University of Texas. Subsequently, as Chairman of the Board himself, he supervised every complicated—and sometimes controversial—stage of its construction.

As President of the LBJ Foundation, he presided over the endowment created by private support which has made it possible for us to try to become the kind of active center that LBJ envisioned; but “presided” is a weak word when applied to Frank. He had a lot of concerns, but we thought the Library was at the top of them all, so freely did he give us his time and his attention.

He was controversial and sometimes contentious. But we didn't see much of those qualities around here. What we knew, and knew in abundance, were his strength and his generous spirit, the interest he took in our fortunes, and his unflagging support of our activities—all of them, whether he agreed with all of them or not, and he did not always.

In an institution blessed with good friends, his friendship was unique. In this Library, he will be sorely missed.



Frank C. Erwin, Jr.
(1920-1980)



Chairman Erwin of the U.T. Board of Regents, with President and Mrs. Johnson and a model of the Library complex, in 1968.



LBJ Foundation President Erwin officiating at the Library's dedication, on a stage filled with national and state leaders, in May 1971

Library & School Host Conference In Washington To Probe Economic Issues

Two hundred prominent Americans from the worlds of business, labor and government gathered on Capitol Hill December 10 to draw up a bipartisan economic agenda, in the first symposium sponsored by the Library and the LBJ School of Public Affairs away from the University of Texas campus.

The conference, entitled, "The Economy of 1981: A Bipartisan Look" was also co-sponsored by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress and the Harvard Competitiveness Group.

The purpose of the conference was to formulate a bipartisan agenda setting forth the economic problems facing the country, for the consideration of the incoming Reagan Administration. No effort was made to arrive at a consensus, but rather the conference served as a collector of ideas about the economy which the new President could consider.

Keynote speakers for the conference were Senator Howard Baker, now the Senate Majority Leader; Barbara Jordan, professor at the LBJ School; Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL/CIO; and William Batten, chairman of the Board of the New York Stock Exchange. Other members of Congress who took part, aside from Senators Baker and

Bentsen, were Rep. Clarence J. Brown, Rep. Richard Bolling, Rep. Henry Reuss, Senator William Roth, Rep. Parren Mitchell, Senator Jacob Javits, and Rep. William Moorhead.

In his opening statement, Senator Bentsen said: "In one way or another, inflation and unemployment affect all Americans. These are not partisan economic issues—and they cannot be resolved by divisive partisanship.

"Instead, our pressing economic concerns demand that we build sturdy new bridges between Republicans and Democrats, Congress and the Administration, major economic groups and the government . . .

"Now we expect to deliver to President-elect Reagan a bipartisan set of recommendations for dealing with the Nation's economic problems: slow growth, falling productivity, insufficient capital formation, persistent high inflation, and unacceptable levels of unemployment. Prompt action is necessary to convert these problems into the building blocks of a robust economy that can provide the jobs of the future."

The Joint Economic Committee will issue a report from the ideas presented at the conference.



Elspeth Rostow, Dean of the LBJ School, opens the conference.



The session stimulated lively discussion



Roth



Bolling



Jordan

Excerpts from
Barbara Jordan's
address:

Joint appearances at conferences by representatives of business and labor cannot obliterate decades of hostility and confrontation. We cannot expect that labor will renounce its Samuel Gompers heritage of devotion to self-interests, such as improvements in wages, fringe benefits and working conditions. Similarly, we cannot expect business to abandon its devotion to the self-interests of profit and growth.

What we can and do ask is that business and labor enlarge their bargaining framework—widen their perspective—raising their sights from limited, narrow interests to national interests, from consideration of domestic market to worldwide market.



Senators Bentsen and Baker share a light moment.

Visitors To The Library

Two Former Secretaries Meet at the Library

Wilbur Cohen, former Secretary of HEW managed to smuggle his successor, Secretary of Education Shirley Hufstедler, past the rope barrier for a picture in the Oval Office exhibit when Mrs. Hufstедler visited the Library in September. Cohen is currently an occupant of the Sid Richardson Chair in Public Affairs at the LBJ School.



Also visiting the Library during the fall was the ambassador from the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Peter Hermes.

Research Grants Awarded To 16 Scholars

Sixteen scholars have been selected as the 1981 recipients of grants to study in the LBJ Library. The funds, totalling \$12,150 this year, are made available by The Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation (by virtue of a grant from the Moody Foundation) to help students, teachers, and writers use the Library's resources by providing support for travel and living expenses.

The topics of this year's recipients, reflecting the variety of research potential in the Library, include Presidential policy making, the War on Poverty, congressional relations, the federal judiciary, and the economy. Several relate to U.S. policy in other nations, including South Africa, Australia, and Vietnam.

Conferences Slated for Spring

A conference jointly sponsored by the Library, the LBJ School and the Brookings Institution, to be held February 12-13 in the Library, will examine the history of energy policy in the United States, beginning with the Truman Administration and moving through the Carter Administration.

A major symposium entitled, "The Press: Free and Responsible?" will take place April 3 in the LBJ Auditorium. Co-sponsored by the Library and the University of Texas at Austin, the symposium will center on the constitutional issue of press freedom and the ethical issue of press responsibility.

The list of participants, which will include representatives of the media, government leaders and scholars from across the U.S., will be announced later.

Lady Bird Johnson Commemorates Highway Beautification

The Lady Bird Johnson Beautification Award has been given for the past ten years. Candidates for these awards have produced photographs from each of the twenty-five districts of the State of Texas Highway Department.

The award winning photographs have been published in a book entitled *Texas—A Roadside View* by Mrs. Johnson.

From every section of Texas, the photographs illustrate the efforts workers are making to beautify rights-of-way throughout the state. The book was put together to commemorate those persons who contributed to the maintenance and propagation of the natural beauty of the Texas roadsides.

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