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Among Friends of LBJ

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LBJ LIBRARY



Distinguished Lecturers Pack Auditorium

Former Secretary of State Dean Rusk and retired Senator Sam Ervin were the first two speakers of 1975 in the Distinguished Lecturer Series, co-sponsored by the Library and the LBJ School of Public Affairs. The program, supported through a grant from the Moody Foundation, brings prominent speakers to the Library each year. Other distinguished lecturers have been Averell Harriman, Elliot Richardson and British Prime Minister Harold Wilson. Rusk and Ervin each packed the LBJ Auditorium during their respective visits in January and March. (See article on Page 2.)



The Yoruba Tribe cult mask (above) was a gift presented to President Johnson by Leopold Sedar Senghor, President of the Republic of Senegal. The spring and summer of 1966 had brought poor weather conditions and a small harvest for the African republic. In September of 1966, Senghor visited President Johnson to request 193,000 tons of United States millet to feed his hungry people. As a result of their discussions that day, the aid was granted.

The mask, which Senghor brought as a gift, is carved from a single piece of wood and painted with earth pigments. It is on exhibit in a new glass-encased display on the Library's first floor.

Friends Invited To Symposium Reception

On September 29, the tenth anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Library will host a major national Symposium on "THE ARTS: Years of Development, Time of Decision." That evening, as the major event in this year's program, the Friends of the LBJ Library will be invited with the symposium participants to a reception in the Great Hall. Details of the Symposium will be included in the next issue of the newsletter.

Friends Organizing Committee Meets To Set Agenda For Coming Year

The Organizing Committee for the Friends of the LBJ Library, meeting in Washington, D.C., elected to provide continuing support to the Library for research grants for scholars and tour guide salaries. In addition, the Committee decided to fund this year the symposium on the Arts, and a series of lectures and seminars at the Library.

To oversee the day-to-day operations of the Friends of the Library, the Committee appointed an Executive Committee composed of Mrs. Johnson, Leonard Marks, Warren Woodward, Jack Valenti, and Liz Carpenter.



From top to bottom: Rusk answers question from audience; Rusk flanked by LBJ Library Director Harry Middleton and LBJ School Dean William Cannon; Ervin at the podium; the overflow crowd watches Ervin lecture on closed-circuit television in the hallway; Ervin obliges autograph seekers following his remarks.

Ervin Speaks On American Heritage

Students, professors, businessmen and housewives—they all came to hear and see former Senator Sam Ervin, the "country lawyer" who had become an overnight folk hero. As they came they packed the LBJ Auditorium, and then the adjoining lecture hall equipped with television monitors, and finally they filled the spacious halls where additional monitors were called into service. And still they continued to come.

Those who were fortunate enough to secure a seat were treated to a lively sermon on our heritage of freedom and its recent abuses. The former Senator cited specific fields in which "freedom is suffering many defeats": the adoption of no-knock laws, the collection and storage of personal data on individuals, the usurping of the power of states to regulate their internal affairs, and extravagant expenditures for foreign and domestic programs.

Following his prepared presentation, Ervin solicited questions from the audience, remarking, "I may have to plead ignorance. I will not plead the Fifth Amendment, however."

Several in the audience questioned him on his opposition to the pending Equal Rights Amendment. Ervin's position on the amendment, he explained, is because "it's wholly unnecessary." He stated that current laws, if vigorously enforced, would attain the same goals.

When questioned about the feminist lobbyists who worked Capitol Hill prior to Congressional consideration of the ERA, Ervin commented, "I came to the conclusion that maybe they should draft these militants because if they frighten the enemy like they frightened my colleagues, the enemy would hoist a white flag without us ever having fired a shot."

Dean Rusk Lectures On Detente

Addressing an overflowing crowd in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Auditorium, former Secretary of State Dean Rusk set a sober tone in his analysis of the United States' foreign posture. Although he told his audience that nuclear countries must continue to work together towards arms limitations, Rusk expressed concern that unilateral disarmament by the United States might be misinterpreted as a sign of weakness.

"When we think about detente," he said, "I, for one, am a little concerned about unilateral disarmament to the point of bringing about reassessments in other capitals as to what might be possible One of the problems that democracies face is that of how to avoid tempting thieves. That is, how to avoid misjudgments and misinterpretations on the part of other nations."

Commenting on the common interest of Moscow and Washington to avoid the possibility of nuclear war, Rusk said that ceilings on nuclear arms should be viewed as only a step toward total nuclear disarmament. "We have built a dam on nuclear weapons about one-fourth of the way across the river, but if we don't find ways to extend it, the nuclear arms race will continue with increasing costs, increasing dangers and increasing foolishness."

"With the limitation of the number of missiles that each side may deploy being approximately 2,400," Rusk warned, we will still have "three times the number of MIRVs it would take to completely destroy the world. After World Wars I and II, America had a chance to pick itself up. After World War III, there won't be a chance to do that. There won't be anything left."

But, Rusk added, "Fortunately I think there are those both in Washington and Moscow who understand that."





Oliphant, *Denver Post*, *Los Angeles Times* Syndicate

"Jawboning," an expression that originated with the Johnson Administration, was used to describe President Johnson's approach to labor-management negotiations. This is how it looked to the cartoonists.



Wallmeyer, *Long Beach Press Telegram*, 1965

THE ECONOMY:

As The Cartoonist Saw It Then

Inflation and recession command a stronghold on today's news spotlight. As they struggle with the economy, President Ford and the new Congress are taking more than a few jabs from the powerful pens of editorial cartoonists.

This is hardly the first time cartoonists have faced a challenge in dealing with the economy. In the 60's, the issues were different, but the cartoonists' skills were just as sharp.



Alexander, *San Francisco Examiner*, 1968

President Ford's recent budget presented a clear target for the sharp pens of the political cartoonist. President Johnson knew that feeling.

"NOW, SAY IT OUT LOUD IN A LOUD, CLEAR VOICE, PLEASE DARE MY TALK!"



Werner, *Indianapolis Star*, 1968

Tax policy has always been a favorite subject for editorial cartoonists. Today the issue is the tax rebate. During the Johnson years, the cartoonists probed the President's proposed surtax.



Crockett, *Washington Star*, 1967



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(2)



(3)

These photographs show various individuals who have oral history interviews on file at the LBJ Library. Pictured are: (1) George Meany and other labor leaders meeting with President Johnson; (2) Cyrus Vance and Averell Harriman arm-in-arm with the President; (3) Roy Wilkins (center) and Whitney Young (right) in the Cabinet Room; (4) Earl Warren; and (5) Everett Dirksen.

The recollections of a Johnson cabinet member, an advisor, a boyhood friend—their's are voices from the past filling gaps in written records. They add a perspective that can only be provided by individuals who played a part in the unfolding events. This is oral history.

Intimate letters and personal records are often the thread by which historians reconstruct the fabric of the past. But with modern communication and transportation technology, much of a President's business is now conducted over the telephone or through face-to-face encounters. Key conversations and records of meetings have been lost to history.

The LBJ Library operates an active program of securing oral history accounts of the Johnson years. More than 1100 taped interviews have been conducted to record the reminiscences and candid accounts of persons who knew the President or were involved in important events of his administration or career. Transcripts of the interviews became an important part of the Library's archival collection and, with the consent of the persons interviewed, are made available to researchers.

The oral history program—begun by The University of Texas, with Dr. Joe Frantz in charge—has recently been turned over to the Library. Administering the program is John Fawcett, Chief of the Library's Audiovisual Division (see article on page 5). According to Fawcett, many individuals who give oral histories plan to write and publish their memoirs, "but they continue to live their lives as very busy people and never find the time." Fawcett believes that oral histories capture "the flavor of the individual's personality which his formal, written recollections could never provide."

To evoke significant historical material, the interviewer must devote long hours of research on the background of the subject. Mike Gillette, who conducts most of the oral history interviews for the Library, spends more than 20 hours in preparation for each hour of tape recorded in an interview. He must become familiar with the subject's role in history and learn of gaps in the existing record which the subject might fill.

To encourage candor in interviews, the Library observes careful measures of security to protect the confidential nature of many oral history accounts. After an interview, the tape is transcribed and edited by Gillette, and returned to the person interviewed for their corrections and additions. The interview subject is asked to define the restrictions that will be placed on the use of the material. Although some request that their interviews be closed for a period of years, their recollections become a permanent part of the Library's archives, and will some day be available to tell the story of the Johnson years.

Oral History Fills Gaps In Record



(4)



(5)

LBJ Award To Go For Cleaner Energy

This year the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation Award will be given to recognize outstanding contributions in the area of "Cleaner Energy."

The recipient of the third annual \$25,000 award will be named this summer.

Each year the Award is presented to a living American who has made a significant contribution to the national well-being in a specific field of endeavor. The field changes from year to year.

Previously, the Award had gone to Roy Wilkins, Executive Director of the NAACP, in the field of Civil Rights; and Ivan Allen, former Atlanta Mayor, and Frank Thomas, President of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, in the field of Urban Affairs.



John Fawcett Heads Audiovisual Archives

In addition to its collection of 31 million papers, the LBJ Library offers scholars a variety of historical materials that document the record of the Johnson years. The Library's audiovisual archives, headed by John Fawcett, maintains a prize collection of more than 1,000 historic films, 8,000 audio tapes, and 4,000 hours of video tape.

Fawcett and his staff are responsible for preserving the treasure of audiovisual materials, and for making the collection available to scholars and researchers who come to the Library. Periodically film and television producers contact Fawcett in search of historic film or tape for use in documentary motion pictures and news presentations.

Many of the Library's permanent exhibits bear the stamp of Fawcett's team. They frequently work closely with the museum staff to help design, operate and maintain displays that are given life through voices and scenes from the past.

John Fawcett has been Chief of the Audiovisual Section since 1973. He began his career as a museum assistant with the Hoover Library while studying physics at the University of Iowa. He soon changed his major to history, and became an archivist upon graduation.

Following a term in the National Archives Training Program, Fawcett was assigned to the White House in 1968 to assist in preparing materials for the LBJ Library. At the end of the Johnson Administration he moved to Austin and became a permanent Library employee.

Fawcett is presently working part-time towards a PhD in Government at The University of Texas. He and his wife Sharon, who is also an archivist, have a new son, Allen, born February 4.



Mrs. Johnson unveils the bust of the former President in the chambers of the Texas House of Representatives.

LBJ Bust Dedicated In State Capitol

A bronze bust of President Johnson was unveiled in the Texas House chambers recently as the 64th Legislature paid tribute to "the memory of one of the greatest Texans of all times." Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby addressed the joint session at ceremonies to dedicate the bust. Following are excerpts from his remarks:

"The Presidency of Lyndon Johnson was marked by the greatest outpouring of creative and innovative legislation this nation has ever seen . . . legislation that touched the lives of every man, woman and child in America."

"He understood the people because he was one of them. Though he rose to fame and fortune, he never forgot his humble beginnings. He never forgot those he left behind because in a very real sense he didn't leave them behind. He brought them with him every step of the way."

"He was uniquely a product of his Texas environment. The populism of the Texas frontier was as much a part of him as the air he breathed. The plight of the small farmer and rancher trying to eke out a living from the unyielding caliche soil gave him a sense of compassion that remained with him."

"Lyndon Johnson never served in the Texas Legislature but his father, Sam Ealy Johnson Jr. did. And it was through his father's service there that Lyndon Johnson learned his first lessons of politics."

"I remember," he once remarked, "what my father said to me about public service when I was a little boy walking around following him barefooted and standing there in the hot sand of Blanco County. He used to say to me, 'Son, if you are to speak for people you must know them, and if you are to represent people, you must love them.'"

"Perhaps Lyndon Johnson's Presidency was best summed up by his Secretary of State Dean Rusk at the late President's Memorial service at the United States Capitol in January 1973. Here is what he said: 'More than a thousand years ago in a simpler and more robust age, perhaps we might have known him as Lyndon the Liberator, for he was determined to free our people in body, mind and spirit.'"

"Well his determination was translated into action and action into programs. His legacy is written large in the laws of the land and we are a better people because of it."

Library Acquires New Personal Papers

The historical holdings of the LBJ Library have recently been enriched by the acquisition of the personal papers of columnist Drew Pearson and former Johnson cabinet members John Gardner and Robert Wood, and the diary of Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson.

In its continuing solicitation program the Library has now acquired the papers of more than 100 personal friends or professional associates of President Johnson.

Alexis Johnson, who is currently United States Ambassador-at-Large, served as Deputy Ambassador to Vietnam in 1964-1965 and Ambassador to Japan in 1966-1969. Gardner was Secretary of HEW from 1965 to 1968, and Wood was Under Secretary of HUD from 1966 to 1968 before becoming Secretary in the final days of the Johnson Administration. Pearson was a nationally syndicated political columnist and personal friend of the President.

Additionally, Congressman Wright Patman is arranging for his papers to be made part of the Library's collection. Congressman Patman, the dean of the Texas Congressional delegation, served with President Johnson in the House of Representatives, and with his father, Sam Johnson, in the Texas Legislature.

In special ceremonies the Library was also given the early papers of the Lower Colorado River Authority including some of the memoirs of Alvin Wirtz, its first Director. Wirtz was later appointed Under Secretary of the Interior by President Roosevelt. He was a close personal friend and political mentor of President Johnson both in Texas and Washington.

Johnson Speeches Available on Tape

Four of President Johnson's most important speeches now are available on cassette tapes. The tapes may be purchased at the sales desk in the Library or by mail for \$5 each. The speeches are: President Johnson's first address to the joint session of Congress after the assassination of President Kennedy, November 27, 1963; the State of the Union message in which he declared the "War on Poverty," January, 1964; "The American Promise," a Special Message to Congress on Civil Rights, March 15, 1964; and the speech in which he declared a bombing halt and announced his decision not to seek reelection, March 31, 1968.

Also available is a tape of humorous remarks and anecdotes excerpted from various speeches by President Johnson. The humor tape sells for \$5.

The Library's Sales Desk also offers several original campaign buttons including those endorsing William Taft, Dwight Eisenhower, and Douglas MacArthur. Others are "Keep Coolidge," "Garner for President," "Kick Out Depression With A Democratic Vote," and a Barry Goldwater button, "In Your Heart You Know He's Right."

Among Friends of LBJ is a publication of the Friends of the LBJ Library

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LBJ High School Dedicated in Austin

A new high school in Austin, named after President Johnson, was dedicated in March. Keynote speaker at the inaugural ceremonies was Mrs. Johnson.

Although LBJ High opened its doors to students last fall, the official dedication was delayed until completion of construction. The new facility, with a 2500-student capacity, has a current enrollment of 1600.

Scholars Get Grants For Library Research

Eleven scholars have been selected as the 1975 recipients of grants to study in the Library. The grant funds are made available by the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation and the Friends of the LBJ Library.

The annual research program was established to assist students, teachers and writers in using the Library's resources by providing support for travel and living expenses without which they would be unable to undertake their projects.

This year's grant recipients and their topics include: Mr. Harold F. Bass, "Structural and Organizational Changes in the President's Role as Party Leader, 1945-1974"; Dr. Monroe Billington, "Lyndon Baines Johnson and Black Civil Rights"; Dr. Y.C. Halan, "Federal Aid to Economically Depressed Areas in the U.S.—A Case Study of the Appalachian Region"; Dr. Kenneth Hendrickson, "Work Relief in Texas During the Great Depression"; Mr. Charles W. Mitchell, "President Lyndon Baines Johnson's Efforts on Behalf of the American Indian"; Mr. Philip R. Rulon, "From Pedagogue to President: The Educational Thought of Lyndon Baines Johnson"; Dr. George E. Urch, "America's Educational Commitment Abroad During the Johnson Administration."

LBJ School Alumni Form Association

Graduates of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, located adjacent to the Library, have recently formed an alumni association to assist the School in the areas of student and faculty recruitment, intern and job placement, and curriculum evaluation and development.

The School, which trains students for professional careers in the public service, will graduate its fourth class this spring. The graduating students will receive Master's Degrees in Public Affairs.

Presently nearly 100 alumni of the School are working in public service positions throughout the country.