

AMONG FRIENDS *of LBJ*

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The Johnson women (most of them): Lucinda Robb, Lynda Robb, Lady Bird Johnson, Cathy Robb, Nicole Nugent Covert, Luci Baines Johnson, Nicole (Mrs. Lyndon) Nugent. (Missing: Claudia Nugent, Rebekah Nugent, Jennifer Robb.)

Johnson Granddaughter Gives Library Program

Lady Bird Johnson, her daughters, three of her six granddaughters and her granddaughter-in-law assembled in the LBJ auditorium one evening along with more than 700 other Friends of the LBJ Library. The

occasion: a presentation by the eldest Johnson granddaughter, Lucinda Robb. Ms. Robb, a co-curator of an exhibit titled "Our Mothers Before Us" for the National Archives (she works in its Center for Legislative

Archives), brought that exhibit to the Library and on the night of its opening spoke to an enthusiastic audience about the long effort of women to secure the vote.

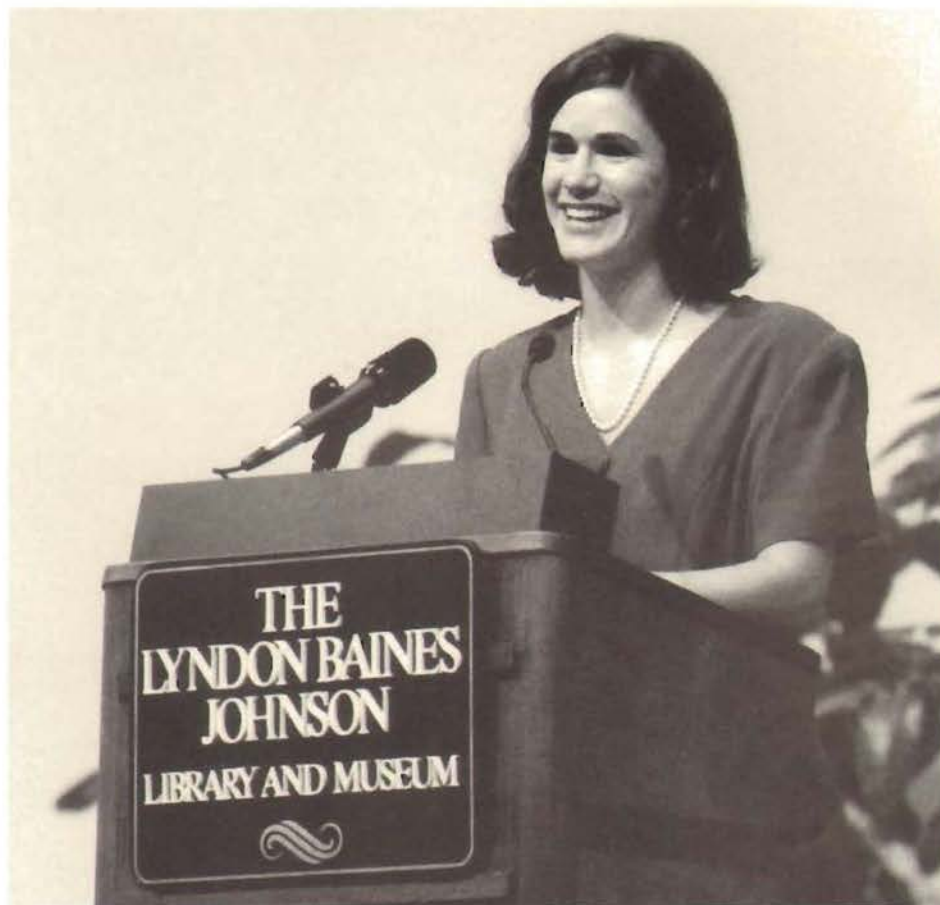
“Our Mothers Before Us”–Continued

“Because of the women in my family,” Ms. Robb said, “I always thought women ran the country.”

It was a light note in a serious presentation that traced an illustrious history. The “most amazing” thing she learned from developing the exhibit, she said, was that “the vote is not all that is important... It is really the grass roots activity that women participated in that makes such a difference. Even before they could vote there was so much they did to change the country...”

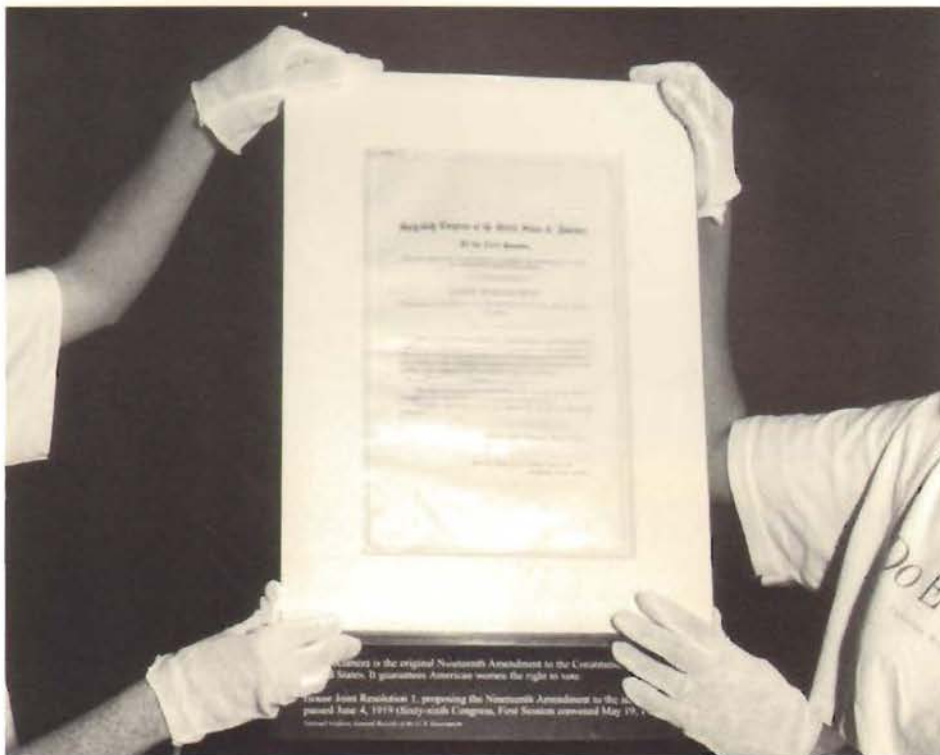
Examples:

- “Before they could vote, women could not own property.
- “Women could not make a will.
- “Women were not entitled to their own wages.
- “Husbands could will children to someone else. If you died, your husband could decide he wanted to give your children to his best friend down the road.
- “Widows in New York State could not live in their house more than 40 days after their husband died without paying rent.
- “And yet all of these things changed because of their efforts, before they had the vote.”



Commenting from the audience, the speaker's mother, Lynda Robb, said: “What we have to make [understood] is it is not really effective for our country

not to use everybody's talent. That's the kind of thing your grandfather would be so pleased you are working on now, because that's how he felt.”



A special feature of the exhibition for the first few weeks of its stay at the LBJ Library was the original copy of the 19th amendment, the resolution passed on June 4, 1919, by the 66th Congress that granted suffrage to American women. Ms. Robb and two colleagues from National Archives, Alysha Black and Richard Hunt, brought the document to Austin.



The exhibit, "Our Mothers Before Us," documents the activities of women in many areas and causes in the years of agitation for the vote. Areas other than suffrage that are depicted which engaged women's energies and devotion are anti-slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction, Western expansion, temperance, and Progressive Era Reforms. The exhibit will be on display in the Library until the end of February, 1996.



Another, somewhat smaller, exhibit at the Library is "Workers at the White House," borrowed from the Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies of the Smithsonian Institution. The workers celebrated are the indispensable behind-the-scenes staff who provide continuity from administration to administration: the doormen, housekeepers, calligraphers, floral arrangers, butlers, gardeners, plumbers and carpenters. It, too, will stay up through February.

John Kenneth Galbraith Outlines the "Good Society"

Speaking at the Library two days short of his 87th birthday, John Kenneth Galbraith, the economist, teacher and writer whose history of public service stretches back to the administration of Franklin Roosevelt, gave a look into a book on which he is working, calling for a "Good Society"—"not precisely the Great Society of LBJ, but our best hope in these more than slightly retrograde times." Even though, he said, his title is "one grade down from the long-standing, deathless expression which Lyndon Johnson gave us," there should be "no doubt as to where the ultimate inspiration came from."

He was asked by a member of the audience how his concept of a "Good Society," dependent on various government programs, could be financed by a government intent on balancing the federal budget. Galbraith replied that he took a "minority view" on the balanced budget issue: "We are using the deficit as an instrument against decency. Anything that needs to be done, anything that is desperately urgent, we find ourselves falling back and saying, 'but we must not, we must reduce the deficit'."

In "all economic life," he said, "a certain amount of borrowing is accepted. Nothing will increase our productivity, and increase our tax flow in the future more reliably than education. Some of our education is an investment for the future and for future income. So as long as our charge against current revenue doesn't increase, as long as the interest charge does not increase, I am not disposed to worry about the deficit. I recognize that this is an exceptional position. It is something which will be regarded with acute suspicion. I want to see careful, efficient government. I want to see careful attention to the tendency of government to explode in size, a basic tendency of all great organizations, public and private. But I also want to see the necessary investment for future growth, future tax revenues out of which future taxes will be paid."



James K. Galbraith, professor in the LBJ School of Public Affairs, introduced his illustrious father. During the question and answer

period that followed the formal presentation, the younger Galbraith repeated the questions from the audience to the 87-year-old senior.

From James Galbraith's Introduction:

The most common question that I have been asked, I think, in my entire life is, "What was it like to grow up with John Kenneth Galbraith as your father?" In my smart aleck days I developed a defensive little answer which was to say that I really had no basis for comparison because I'd never had anybody else. But I will share with you the truth that truly there was nothing like it. The home that I grew up in was a place of kindness, good order, serious purpose, raucous humor, and reasonable, but not excessive personal discipline. It was a place of many friends, none of whom ever disappeared for very long. It was a place of continuity, creativity, and stability and so it remains to this very day.

If I am psychologically incomplete in any way it is probably because I never went through that character forming phase of adolescent rebellion

against my parents. I'm sure this is due in part to the fact that they had the wisdom to send me away to school and I rebelled against that. But the deeper reason is that each time that I started down that road, honesty would compel me to conclude that my father and I were really on the same side. And I suppose that is the true test of an enduring progressive—a man who keeps ahead of his children. It is something that I have learned to live with, I have very little choice in the matter.

John Kenneth Galbraith has been my model, my mentor, my critic, my friend, a continuing source of encouragement and support in my life and my small endeavors even as he keeps to the amazing record of creative work in economic and social leadership that he has engaged in for more than the past sixty years.

Other Evening Programs at the Library

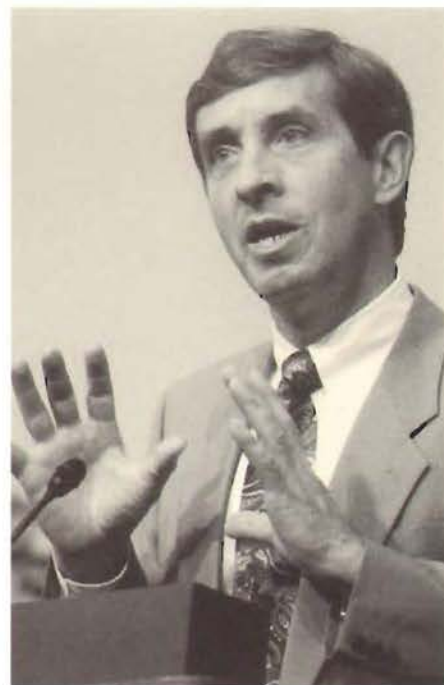


James Lovell, commander of Apollo 13, the spaceship that was forced to abort its trip to the moon in 1970, described the excitement of that mission on the eve of the release of the popular motion picture dramatizing the experience.

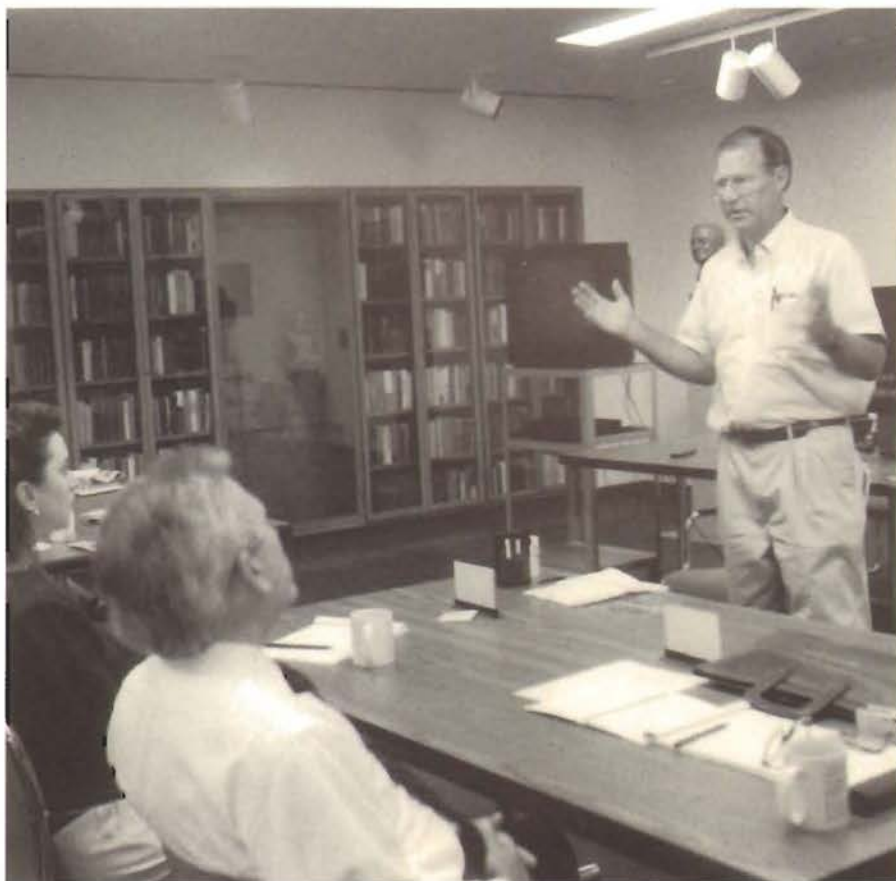
Gary Gallagher, widely acknowledged as one of the nation's leading experts on the Civil War, who began his scholarly career as a graduate student working in the Library's archives, returned to the Library to speak about the battlefields of that war as part of our national heritage.

Reminding his audience that "more Americans died during the Civil War than during all other American wars combined from the colonial wars through the mid-point of the war in Vietnam," Gallagher described its battlefields as "places where veterans and civilians from both sides could gather" to reflect on the experience that "had been a crucible out of which emerged a great nation.

"The ground at Gettysburg, Antietam, Manassas, the Shenandoah Valley and elsewhere," he said, have "much to instruct us about our history...One of the best ways to understand what [the Civil War] meant for this nation in the long



run is to make certain that future generations will be able to visit historic sites and forge their own bond with the past."



The LBJ Library and Museum, in conjunction with the Taft Institute and Abilene Christian University, hosted the second annual Taft Seminar for Teachers. The seminar's theme was "Restoring Faith in the American Party System." The three-fold purposes of the seminar, as outlined by the Institute, were "to explore the causes of the lack of confidence in American politics and government, to explore the prospects of restoring faith in the system, and to enable educators to more effectively prepare their students to assess both the problems and premise of the American party system."

David McNeely, political columnist for the *Austin American-Statesman*, addresses the seminar. Other speakers included the chairman of the Republican and Democratic Parties of Texas, other state officials, and media representatives, business leaders and educators.

Symposium Focuses on Arts and Humanities

"Government's Stake in American Culture" was the subject of a two-day symposium at the Library. Jointly sponsored with the University of Texas and the LBJ School of Public Affairs, the symposium

observed the 30th anniversary of President Johnson's signing the legislation creating the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities by exploring the history, accomplishments and

future of those institutions.

A publication based on the symposium's proceedings is now in preparation and plans are to distribute it with the next newsletter.



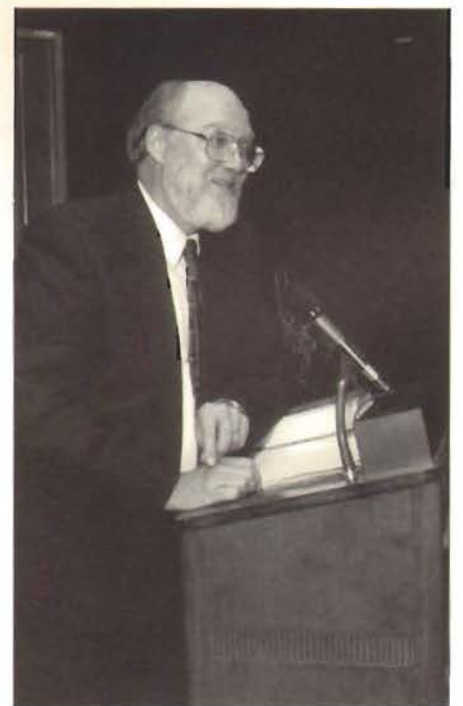
Keynoting the symposium was Daniel Boorstin, Librarian Emeritus of the Library of Congress, who said in his address: "The [LBJ] Library is a vivid example of how private citizens can use their resources to support the arts."



Two former members of Congress who helped create the National Endowments, John Brademas and William Ford, with Mrs. Johnson.



A dinner honoring the participants showcased Texans who have benefited from the Endowments. Buck Ramsey (left) of Amarillo, known as the "Cowboy Poet", entertained with songs and poems he had written. Herman Saatkamp, professor of history at Texas A&M University, who with NEH help is producing a series of works on George Santayana, read selections from that material.





Through most of the summer, the lobby of the Library featured some of the art and memorabilia from the LBJ Ranch. Included were paintings by American artists N.C. Wyeth, and Winslow Homer, along with a leather and silver-plated saddle and a colonial dowry chest, both gifts from presidents of Mexico.



The 30th anniversary of the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 prompted an exhibit calling attention to that historic legislation.

Oral History Guide Project Nears Completion

The Library's Oral History collection is one of the largest in the country. Nearly 1,100 interviews are currently available for use, and more are being opened all the time. Yet this valuable historical source has always been under-used, for there has been no index to help researchers find their way through it. Now, thanks to the efforts of a number of docents and volunteers, that lack is about to be remedied. The first edition of the *Guide to the LBJ Library Oral History Collection* will be out this year, and it will be published first on the Internet.

The project was first designed by Regina Greenwell, on the archives staff, and later was supervised by Ted Gittinger, in charge of the Library's Special Projects.

Grants to Scholars Cover Variety of Topics

Grants to help scholars conduct research in the Library were awarded to 17 individuals. The grants—provided through an endowment from the Moody Foundation to the LBJ Foundation—represent the funds available for the first half of the year. Their purpose is to assist students, teachers and writers use the Library's resources by providing support for travel and living expenses.

Those receiving grants and the titles of their proposed projects are: Robert Buzzanco, "Tet, The Gold Crisis, and the Challenge to American Leadership in early 1968"; Thomas F. Clarkin, "Federal Policy and Native Americans, 1961-1969"; Shane C. Fricks, "The Johnson Administration and Economic Aid to

North Vietnam"; John Garofano, "Power and the Definition of the National Interest: U.S. Military Intervention from Korea to Vietnam"; Francis J. Gavin, "Gold, Dollars and Power: A Political History of the Balance of Payments, 1958-1968"; Terence Kehoe, "The Persistence of Cooperation: Government Regulation of Great Lakes Water Pollution, 1960-1978"; LeeAnna Y. Keith, "Lyndon Johnson and the Imperial Mind: The Dominican Intervention"; Charles M. Lamb, "Presidents, Federalism, and Fair Housing Policy"; Rodney K. Longley, "Southern Maverick: The Life and Times of Senator Albert A. Gore, Sr. of Tennessee"; Joseph A. Palermo, "Robert F. Kennedy, The War in

Vietnam, and Democratic Party Strategy, 1964-1968"; Delia T. Pergande, "Humanitarian Politics: American Nongovernmental Organizations in Vietnam, 1954-1965"; Christopher K. Riggs, "Indians, Liberalism, and LBJ's Great Society, 1964-1969"; Verena Salzmann, "German Foreign Policy Towards its Western Allies, 1963-1965"; Nicholas E. Sarantakes, "Keystone: The American Experience in Okinawa"; Jonathan M. Schoenwald, "More Fire Than Smoke: The Conservative Consolidation, 1958-1972"; Scott J. Spitzer, "Race and Welfare: The Politicization of Aid to Families with Dependent Children"; and Tracy Tullis, "A Vietnam at Home: Policing the Inner City, 1963-1974".



Members of the University of Texas faculty—Bruce Buchanan, Government; Robert Divine, History; and Richard Schott, LBJ School—who comprise the committee that evaluates applications for grants-in-aid for the Library, meet to determine the bi-annual recipients.

Visitors to the Library



Museum Curator Gary Yarrington escorts Pierre Salinger, press secretary in the Kennedy and the early part of the Johnson administration, and the Honorable Rene Garrec, Governor of Normandy, through the Library's new permanent exhibition.



Vice President Al Gore speaks at a conference of the nation's mayors, held at the Library.

Clinton On LBJ

Speaking at the Library last spring, Harry McPherson called attention to the "total absence" in the vocabulary of President Bill Clinton "of the two words 'Lyndon Johnson'." It was a phenomenon noted by many others associated with LBJ.

When he came to Austin in October to deliver the Liz Sutherland Carpenter lecture, President Clinton broke his long silence on President Johnson.

Among his comments:

"The rift we see before us that is tearing at the heart of America exists in spite of the remarkable progress Black Americans have made in the last generation, since Martin Luther King swept America up in his dream, and President Johnson spoke so powerfully for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy in demanding that Congress guarantee full voting rights to Blacks."

"In the past when we've had the courage to face the truth about our failure to live up to our

own best ideals, we've grown stronger, moved forward and restored proud American optimism. At such turning points America moved to preserve the union and abolished slavery; to embrace woman's suffrage; to guarantee basic legal rights to America without regard to race, under the leadership of President Johnson."

"We have to give every child in this country, and every adult who still needs it, the opportunity to get a good education. President Johnson understood that, and now that I am privileged to have this job and to look back across the whole sweep of American history, I can appreciate how truly historic his commitment to the simple idea that every child in the country ought to have the opportunity to get a good, safe, decent, fulfilling education was. It was revolutionary then, and it is revolutionary now."

"The great divides of the past called for and were addressed by legal and legislative changes. They were addressed by leaders like Lyndon Johnson, who passed the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act."

LBJ's Birthday Commemorated...



Former Congressman J.J. (Jake) Pickle delivered the eulogy at the President's grave at the LBJ Ranch.



Larry Levinson, White House aide to President Johnson, spoke at the LBJ Grove outside Washington, D.C.

A special remembrance of LBJ's birthday was sent to Mrs. Johnson by the actor Laurence Luckinbill who has presented the one-man show LYNDON in many parts of the country (including the LBJ Library) over the last several years. With Mr. Luckinbill's permission, the letter is printed herewith.

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

I thought of you all weekend on the occasion of your husband's birthday...I had my own kind of celebration here, as I performed the play LYNDON for one night only at the Westport Country Playhouse in Westport, Connecticut. The producer of the theater had seen the play earlier and asked me to do it especially for the remembrance of a great and embattled President (and because it's a good play!)

Four hundred people showed up—on a Sunday night in Connecticut, a miracle in itself—and they laughed and cried and listened raptly, and at the end, stood up as one in a long, long ovation for, as I always believe, their suddenly enhanced understanding of Lyndon, and you, and the trying and testing times that we all lived through together.

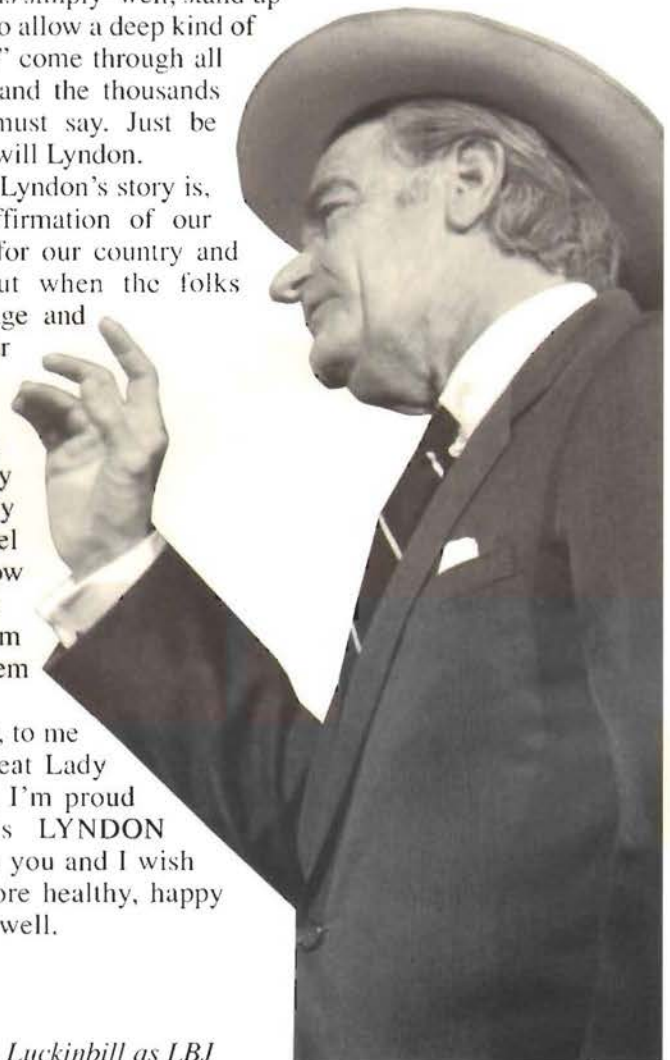
When I play, I never think that LBJ is a role, like other parts I perform

as an actor. It is simply—well, stand up there and try to allow a deep kind of "Americaness" come through all the make-up and the thousands of words I must say. Just be there, and so will Lyndon.

I believe Lyndon's story is, finally, an affirmation of our better hopes for our country and ourselves. But when the folks come backstage and express their feelings, I'm always left with a sense of how deeply and warmly they also feel about you. How important you were to them and are to them still.

Certainly, to me you are a Great Lady of our times. I'm proud to have this LYNDON connection to you and I wish you many more healthy, happy birthdays, as well.

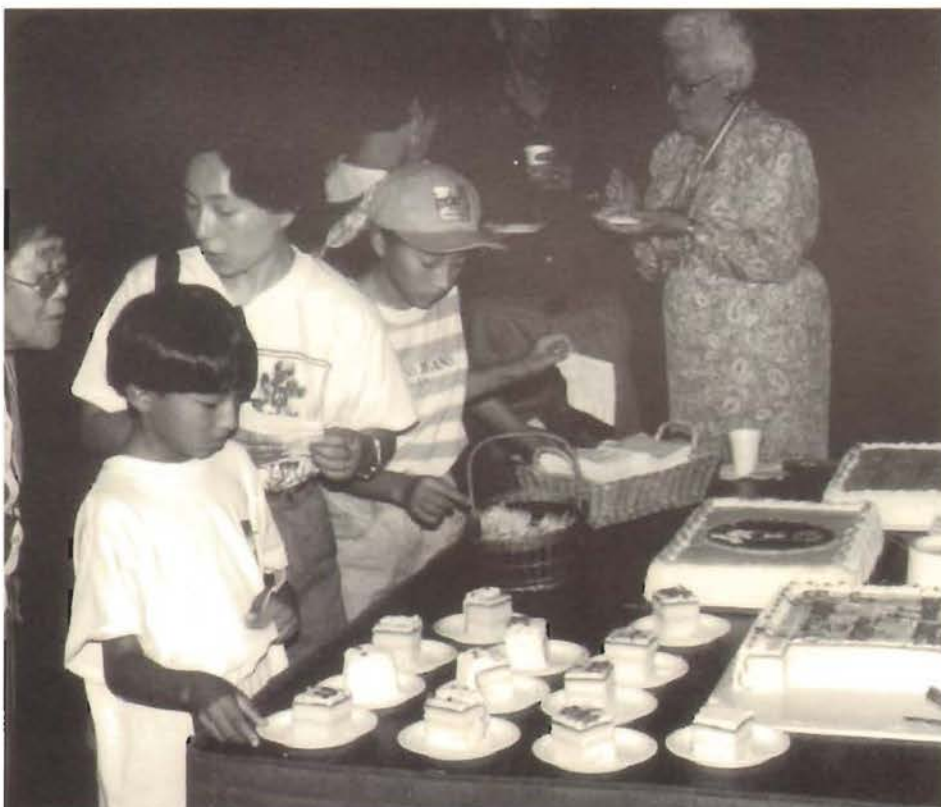
Laurence Luckinbill as LBJ



...at Ranch, Grove and Library



Outside the Library, a band from Austin's LBJ High School gave a concert for visitors.



Inside, those touring the halls were served cake...



...and entertained by the string quartet from LBJ High School in front of Alfred Leslie's painting "Thirteen Americans" in the lobby.

IN MEMORIAM



Douglass Cater
Special Assistant to President Johnson
1923-1995

Tatum Rebekah Nugent ushered in (or in the words of her grandmother, **Luci Baines Johnson**, "angeled in") the fourth generation of the **Lyndon and Lady Bird Johnson** family. Tatum, daughter of **Lyn and Nicole Nugent** and shown here with her parents and grandmother, was born **October 24**.



The future confronts the past: First year students at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, at a reception given by the Library to familiarize them with the institution, toured the exhibits and found particular interest in the wall depicting the major laws of the Great Society, passed before they were born.

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The LBJ Library is one of nine presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration.

