

# *Among* FRIENDS *of LBJ*

Issue Number LXXIII, October, 2000



**Three Members of the “Johnson Gang”  
And the Writer Who Immortalized Them**

See Page Two



# White House Telephone Tapes and the "Johnson Gang"

The recordings of President Johnson's telephone conversations have been steadily stimulating interest since the Library opened the first ones in 1993.

In articles on the Johnson families—immediate and extended—in its July issue, *Texas Monthly* magazine called attention to what it considered the tapes' contribution to the continuing upswing in LBJ's historical standing. (A recent panel of historians ranks him the tenth best U.S. president.)

The story on the tapes themselves was written by Paul Burka. Calling them "a remarkably candid portrait of a master politician at work," Burka noted that the passage of time and a new appreciation of Johnson's social programs clearly contributed to his new look. But

without the release of the tapes at this time, a quarter-century before the schedule set by the President, he wrote, "a new appreciation of Johnson would have remained at least 23 years in the future," and "contemporaries (such as historian John Kenneth Galbraith and former Senator George McGovern, one-time harsh critics who have recently revised their judgments) "would never have had the chance to reassess their opinions."

Brian Sweany, author of the story on "The Johnson Gang," says the question he is most often asked is why he became interested in Lyndon Johnson, "who died eleven months after I was born." The reason, he maintains, is two-fold: "I have always been interested in politics and Texas history," and "[LBJ's] life

is kind of a capsulation of Texas history in this century. . . . The other thing is the release of the Johnson tapes. As I began listening to them, and then reading about him, there were these amazing things that had been completely overlooked in my mind: his commitment to civil rights . . . the liberal programs which are still so important in our society . . . Medicare, Medicaid, federal assistance to education, the most sweeping series of environmental laws that have ever been passed at any one time, a program such as had never been instituted on a national scale—the War on Poverty. So that's how I became interested in Lyndon Johnson. . . . He was the consummate politician."

## Brian Williams Assesses LBJ Tapes

Brian Williams, anchor and editor of NBC's cable news program and backup to Tom Brokaw's "Nightly News," says the tapes are filling in many blanks in the record, and forcing a major overhaul of history books.

Speaking at the Library in June—delivering the fifth Harry Middleton Lecture—Williams said that "These tapes afford us an ability to know Lyndon Johnson in a way unlike we have known any other president." C-SPAN has put hundreds of the tapes on their web site, and with historian Michael Beschloss' first volume on the tapes, *Taking Charge*, they are bringing home to America the earthy and inimitable character of Lyndon Johnson. This,

**Cover: *Texas Monthly* writer Brian Sweany and three members of the LBJ Administration he wrote about: Liz Carpenter, Bob Hardesty, and George Christian. Carpenter was press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson; Hardesty was a speechwriter, and Christian was LBJ's press secretary.**



plus the passage of time, Williams said, have encouraged many of LBJ's early critics to urge that we take a "rich second look" at this record.

The tapes are also instructive about the human side of the Johnson White House. How else would we know, Williams asked whimsically, of Mrs. Johnson's devotion to the highly popular TV series "Gunsmoke," if we had not heard, on certain presidential phone calls from the living quarters in the Mansion, Marshal Matt Dillon and the sounds of Dodge City gunplay in the background?

Williams likened LBJ's telephone style to a famous painter's technique. "[I]t was during the long conversations, like Jackson Pollack's broad strokes, that the poetry was to be found, the philosophy of Lyndon Johnson, and the beauty of it and, at times . . . the great pain and self-doubt. . . ."

Williams leaves the controversy over Vietnam to the judgment of history. But, he said, "I have heard the anguish. . . . [and] the advice [he was getting]: 'Go in; keep going; once you're in, build up!'" even as other voices warned of tragedy. In mid-1964 Senator Richard Russell of Georgia told LBJ that Vietnam was "the damned worst mess I ever saw, and I don't like to brag." And LBJ responded glumly, "I've been thinking that way for the past six months."

An occasional Johnsonian malaprop helps balance the somber moments, Williams observed, such as "What I'm trying to do is avoid a fait accompli ahead of time." And "All of our people talk too much; they've got hydrophobia of the mouth."

How will history deal with LBJ? "Lyndon Johnson will be ranked at or

FREE THE TEXAS RANGER KILLER, BY GARY CARTWRIGHT  
DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN DELL • J.C. PENNEY, PINCHED

# Texas Monthly

## THE LBJ GANG TODAY

Exclusive photos of the president's inner circle—from Moyers to McNamara—and four generations of Johnsons.

Plus: The man who saved Lyndon, by Paul Burke



near the top, in terms of domestic accomplishments in this century, his chief competition being, of course, Franklin Delano Roosevelt," Williams believes. "[T]he Vietnam War [will

be] the single event that LBJ is most critiqued upon," but LBJ's enduring legacy is "the most sweeping package of social legislation in American history." Williams referred to a recent



Because of the LBJ tapes, says Brian Williams, "I know him as well as any man I'll never meet."

poll of historians which puts Johnson in the top ten of all presidents. "Lyndon Johnson's image is undergoing an incredible renaissance; whatever answer I give tonight will . . . soon be moot as these tapes continue to come out."

A member of the audience asked how, thirty years hence, Williams might assess William Clinton in an address at *his* presidential library. Williams smiled: "Well . . . thirty years from now, I'll tell you."

**Making the telephone recordings available to the public is a long and complicated process, requiring the work of the entire Archives staff. Despite other demands on their time, they review and process an average of 6.5 hours of recordings a month, and open the conversations in chronological segments. To date, they have opened the conversations from November 22, 1963 through March 1965, and plan to open the conversations for April and May 1965 early next year.**



# Changing of the Guard: Director Middleton to Retire

By Robert Hicks  
Public Relations Officer

Harry Middleton, long-time (and almost the only) Director of the LBJ Library and Museum, plans to hang it up. In a letter to John Carlin, Archivist of the United States, Middleton stated his intention to step down effective Fall 2001.

In the letter, Middleton writes, "My 30-year run as leader of this great institution has been an adventure without equal, an encounter with history . . . that has filled the experience with excitement and purpose."

President Johnson let it be known he wanted Middleton as director while he was working with LBJ on the President's memoirs. In 1970, one year before the Library was dedicated, he took over from Chester Newland, who resigned after less than a year.

Middleton joined the Johnson Administration as a speechwriter in 1966 after meeting the President while writing the report for a presidential commission.

Prior to that, he had worked as a reporter for the Associated Press, as news editor of *Architectural Forum* magazine, and as a freelance writer. A native of Kansas, Middleton graduated with a degree in journalism from Louisiana State University. In 1986, LSU's Manship School of Mass Communication inducted Mr. Middleton into the Manship School Hall of Fame for distinguished alumni.

The August 2000 edition of *Texas Monthly* magazine described Middleton as "The Man Who Saved LBJ," for his decision to release President Johnson's taped telephone conversations, 25 years before the 50-year embargo the President had placed on them. Since the public release of the tapes began in 1993, historians have taken them into account in reassessing the Johnson presidency. A panel of 58 historians assembled recently by the C-SPAN television network ranked LBJ tenth among the 41 U.S. presidents.

Others credited Middleton for his role in the presidential library system. Former President Gerald Ford

said during a speech at the Library in 1997, "Harry, President Johnson would have been so proud of the leadership you have provided over the years—not only in making this great institution worthy of the man it honors, but in setting standards of excellence that have transformed the presidential library system."

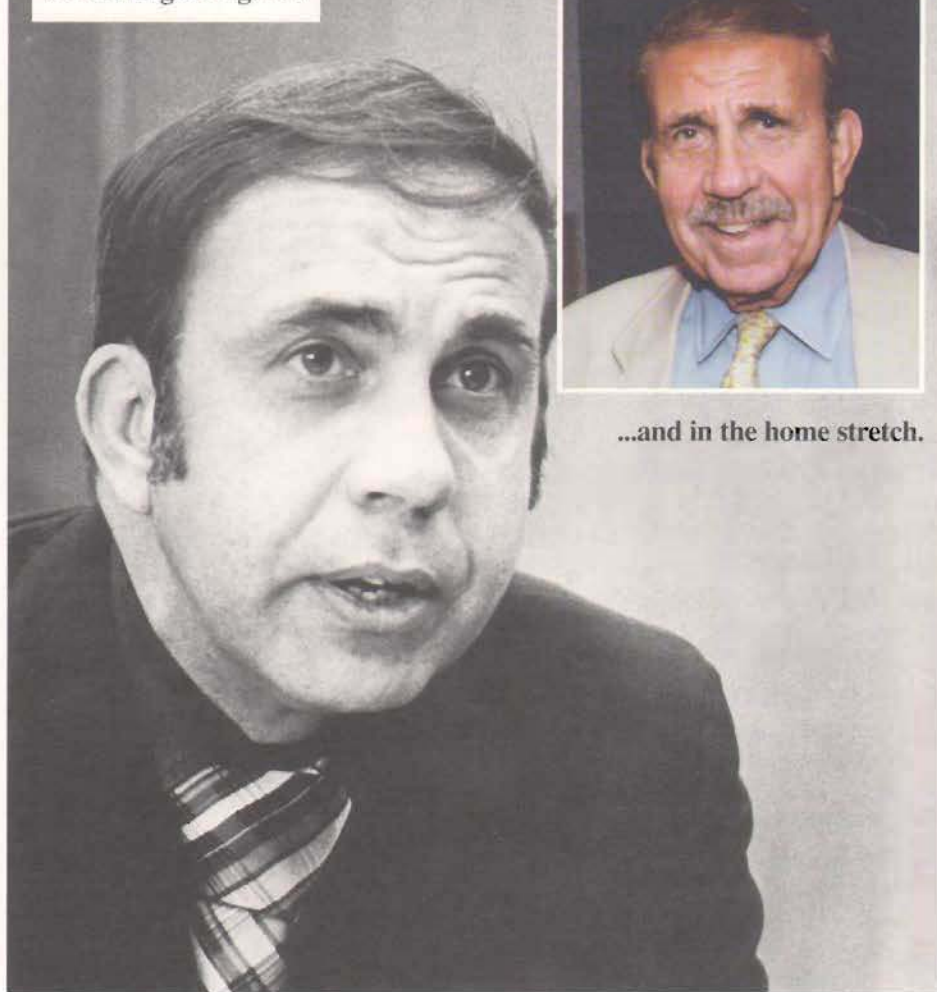
During his tenure, the Library has served researchers and historians by providing invaluable assistance and access to the 45 million historical papers of LBJ and his close associates. It has also provided a forum for scholars and policy-makers to debate broad-ranging subjects: civil rights, the Great Society and Vietnam.

Middleton says that whatever success the Library has achieved has come because it has followed LBJ's instructions that the Library should look ahead, and not solely at the past.

To that end, the Library has hosted dozens of symposia convened to address such topics as "Our Children in Crisis," the conflicting demands of energy and the environment, and "The Press: Free and Responsible?" Lecturers of every political persuasion—from Barry Goldwater to Jimmy Carter—have filled the LBJ Auditorium.

The retiring director says the thing he is proudest of is that the Library kept the word of Lyndon Johnson, who remarked during the Library's 1971 dedication ceremonies: "It is all here: the story of our time—with the bark off. There is no record of a mistake, nothing critical, ugly or unpleasant that is not included in the files here. . . . This Library will show the facts, not just the joy and triumphs, but the sorrow and failures, too."

At the beginning. . .



...and in the home stretch.



## Changing of the Guard: Library Gets New



**New Museum curator Cohen**

Dr. Sandor ("Sandy") B. Cohen recently became the third curator to serve the Johnson Museum in its 29 years of operation. Born and raised in Baltimore, Sandy was educated at Towson University, Wright State University, and Columbia Pacific University. For twelve years he was Director of Curatorial Operations at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington, D.C. Before that he was Curator of the New Jersey Historical Society, and taught at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida.

Cohen has extensive experience in museum operations and has a number of major exhibits to his credit, including *Rescue and Renewal: GI's and Displaced Persons (1946 to 1957)*; *Women in the Military: A Jewish Perspective*; *GI's Remember: Liberating the Concentration Camps*; and *Thus United Free: New Jersey in the Age of the Constitution*.

He has a background in film as well. Cohen was a consultant for several documentaries on American military history, and particularly on Jewish-American contributions to that heritage, such as *Nazi America: A Secret History* (shown on The History Channel); *Jewish-American Patriots* (Dane Hansen Productions); *The National Memorial: A Place to Remember* (Robert Pierce Productions), and *Nightmare's End* (shown on Discovery Network).

In addition to exhibitions on the holidays with LBJ, artists' renditions of the White House, and a collection of photos from Harry Middleton's *LBJ: The White House Years*, all to open soon, Cohen is looking ahead to a major production entitled "Treasures of the HRC." This will showcase numerous priceless artifacts from the collections at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center of The University

of Texas. They include a 1450 printing of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, a Gutenberg bible, letters from George Washington, Elizabeth I of England, Thomas Jefferson, and Napoleon; the last known manuscript of Albert Einstein; and memorabilia of Houdini, Gloria Swanson, Edgar Allan Poe, Alfred Hitchcock, and George and Ira Gershwin.

The Cohen family—wife Debbie (a physical therapist assistant) and ten-year-old daughter Alexis—are getting acclimated to Austin, and learning to like barbecue and enchiladas (although nothing, they say, can entirely replace the East Coast seafood they left behind).



## Curator, PR Officer, Secretary

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Handling public relations is a relatively new job at the Library. Ms. Kim Head held it for a year. Replacing her now is Robert Hicks. Having spent two years at Southwest Texas State University (LBJ's alma mater), and two more at UT Austin studying journalism (Mrs. Johnson's alma mater and major field of study), Robert Hicks can claim to be uniquely qualified to join the LBJ Library and Museum staff. He was born in California but grew up in Richardson, Texas, where he went to Plano High School. He spent two years as a staff writer for the Alexandria, Louisiana *Town Talk*. After a stint at the local NBC affiliate KALB, covering local and state politics, he became executive producer of news at CBS affiliate KLFY in Lafayette. Then, having spent sixteen years away, Hicks decided to return to Texas. "As the saying goes," he grins, "I got here as fast as I could."



**Former TV producer Hicks joins staff**



**Ms. Thornburg is new secretary**

Anyone who has phoned the Library recently to talk to Director Middleton has very likely had the pleasure of meeting Jacqueline (Jackie) Thornburg, his new secretary. Born and raised in Natchez, Mississippi, Ms. Thornburg flipped burgers in L.A. for a while after high school, then went to work for the Chicago Post Office in 1970. Since then she has worked as a secretary for the Chicago Academy for Orthopedic Surgeons and for the Veterans Administration, has been a teaching assistant, and has worked as a legal secretary for the U.S. Attorney's office in Phoenix, Arizona. She enjoys crossword puzzles, fishing, and Cajun cooking. That wide variety of experience and hobbies will serve her well. She replaces Barbara Biffle, who after 11 years took on a job with the Veterans Administration.



# Wreath Ceremonies Mark LBJ's 92d Birthday



LBJ grandson Patrick Lyndon Nugent spoke movingly of his grandfather's legacy

Lyndon Nugent, President Johnson's eldest grandchild, laid the wreath at his grandfather's grave on August 27, LBJ's birthday. B. Gen. Pete Sutton of Randolph AFB assisted.

As fit the time of year, it was a hot day, but relatively comfortable in the shade of the live oaks on the banks of the Pedernales.

At a dinner party at the LBJ Ranch the evening before, Nugent's mother, Luci Johnson, read a letter the President had written to his namesake on June 21, 1968, the young man's first birthday. "Dear Lyn," it began:

Today is a very special day for both of us. It marks your first year of life and my first year as a grandfather. It is a role which has given me more joy than any other, and it would not have been possible without you.

There is a great deal of talk about the generation gap these days. Perhaps when you are old

enough to read this letter, it will have all disappeared. Right now, I do not fear it. I salute it. For the generation gap between us creates those very special feelings that come when I hold your hand in mine, or jiggle you on my knee. That sort of behavior won't last too long, I'm afraid. It will be replaced too soon by demeanor more fitting to a senior citizen and his grandson. As the gap in years diminishes between us, we will shake each other by the hand; I will still call you Lyn but in a different voice; and you will sprinkle your conversations with me liberally with "Sirs."

But let us make a pact, here and now, never to forget inwardly these days, these emotions, this warmth and trust we share, no matter how custom in years to come may restrict our outward behavior and expression.

You are my link to the future; you are also my link to the present.

In you and through you I have an even deeper sense of responsibility to all the other children, their mothers and fathers and their grandparents, not just in America but throughout the world. And I devoutly wish for them the happy, fruitful and ennobling life I wish for you—a life free of war, poverty, disease, and inner darkness; an end to the conditions that separate fathers from their families on happy occasions like this.

This I wish, and with God's help, to this I dedicate myself. In the time left to me, I will do everything in my power to make it so. Not just for us in our time – but for all men, for all time.

God Bless You, grandson.

With love,

Lyndon B. Johnson



Meanwhile at the LBJ Grove in Washington, D. C., Bess Abell did the honors for the President at the annual birthday ceremony at the LBJ Grove.

Ms. Abell, who was in charge of social activities at the White House, told the assembled group that a specialty of Johnson White House entertaining was country fairs on the lawn. On one occasion, LBJ told her, "I want to do something for the Congress—they worked hard, stayed late. People appreciate what you do for their children more than what you do for them. I think what we ought to do is something fun and special for the congressional kids."

For the first country fair, a midway was created with a Ferris wheel and other circus accoutrements, she recalls, "even including a fortune teller's tent. I called a company in New York to rent a crystal ball for the fortune teller. The man taking the order said, 'Where do you want me to send the crystal ball?' I said, 'Send it to the White House.' There was a long pause, and then he said, 'Lady, I'll send it, but you gotta tell the President it won't help him one bit.'"



Bess Abell at the Grove's monolith of red Texas granite.



## From the Mailbag: Library's Resources Assist Historians of All Ages

The following letter was recently received by Archivist Charlaïne Burgess:

"Donahue, Iowa  
June 27, 2000

Charlaïne Burgess  
Lyndon B. Johnson  
Presidential Library  
2313 Red River  
Austin, Texas 78705

Dear Ms. Burgess:

My name is Alex Cahill and I would like to thank you for assisting

me in my history project for National History Day regarding the Berlin Wall. The information you shared with me was crucial in allowing me to get a better understanding of my topic.

My project received the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library's Award for best use of Presidential Library Sources at State competition. I was chosen to represent the state of Iowa at National History Day competition held at the University of Maryland. During the week of competition, I was one of eight students to present their project at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C.

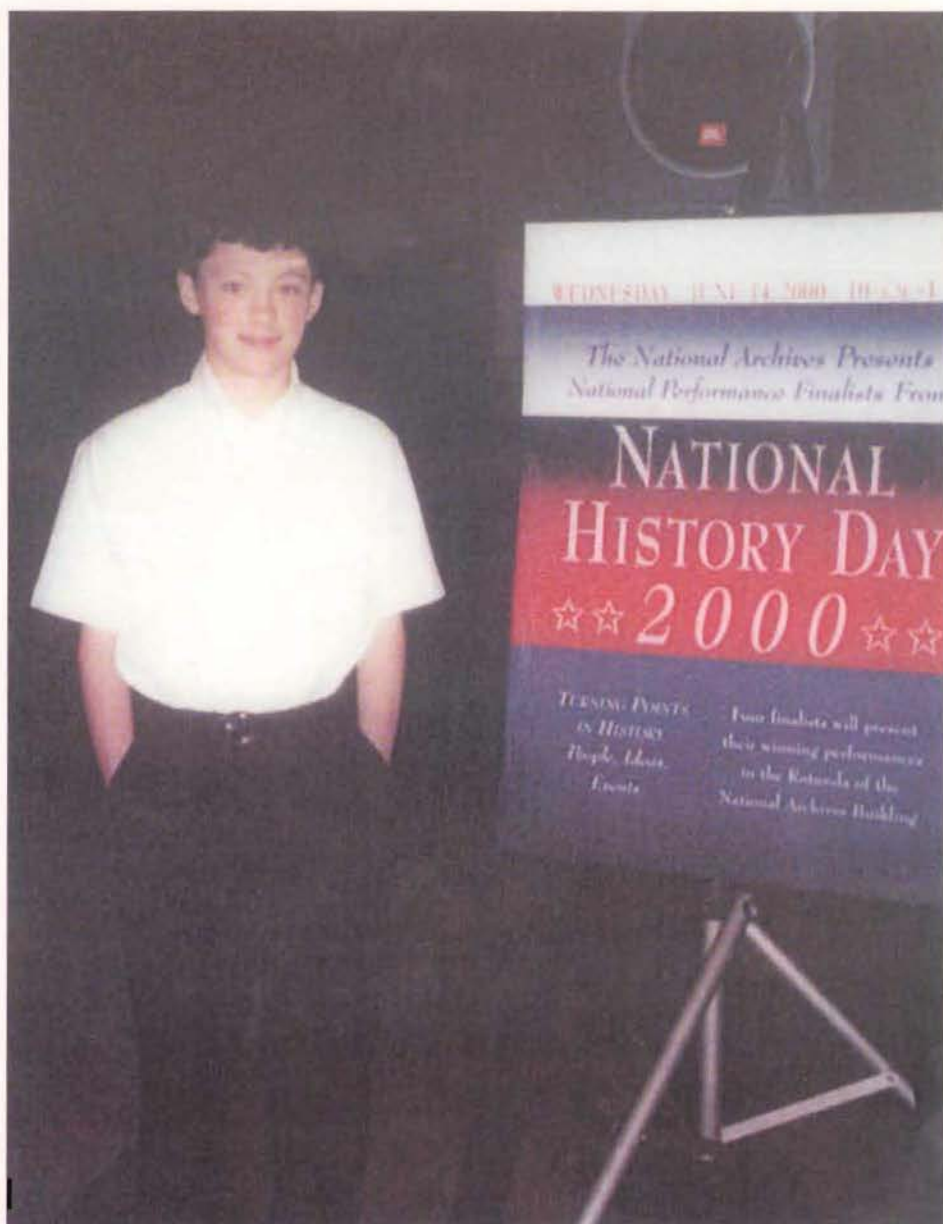
National History Day is a nationally acclaimed academic enrichment program that promotes the study of history in grades 6-12. Students learn research, writing, and communication skills and gain an understanding of the importance of historical perspective. Over 600,000 students participate in the program nationally, of whom 2,000 are selected to participate in National competition.

Again thank you for taking the time to assist me. It was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Alex Cahill"





# Liz Carpenter's Advice: *Start With a Laugh*

This year marks the LBJ Library's thirtieth season of distinguished speakers. On September 6, a few days after her 80th birthday, Liz Carpenter became the 1,122nd person to appear in this series.

Library Director Harry Middleton introduced Ms. Carpenter to the auditorium crowd with an anecdote from their days in the White House. Marvin Watson, LBJ's appointments secretary, also had authority over certain White House expenditures. Once in an ill-considered moment of thrift he stopped the newspapers which went to Carpenter's office. She immediately fired off a note saying, "Are you going to put this office back on the list to get newspapers, or do I have to take up whoring to pay for them?" The papers resumed the next day.

Austin personality and Liz' friend Cactus Pryor lent a hand by reviewing her new book, *Start With a Laugh*. One chapter, Pryor swore, is titled "The Things I Vowed to Never Tell, But if It Sells Books, Then What the Hell." There are some striking pictures as well, he announced, such as those showing Liz with various presidents: Clinton, Bush, Reagan, Ford, Johnson, Nixon, Carter—and Lincoln.

Her birthday mail brought Liz some new and welcome material for her speaking engagements. She read to the audience a letter from Former President Bush:

"Dear Liz: Though 80 years enti-



The Getting Better all the Time Singers, better known simply as the G-BATS, brought Liz on stage with a take-off on the Broadway tune, "Mame."

tle you to a lot of respect, it's also a good time for change. *So change parties*. You're compassionate—a liberal maybe, but definitely compassionate. So join us; become a Republican now. Can't you see all that old Ronnie-Dugger Austin-liberal beer-joint crowd? Can't you imagine how Ralph Yarborough would feel? Do it! Start with a laugh, cross the bridge into the new millennium."

"I love it," Liz said, "but I'm not gonna do it."

Laughter helps in almost any situation, she asserted, insisting that "politics ought to be pleasure, not poison. . . . Humor is a plus for all public

speakers, even when you are only giving a treasurer's report—especially if you are short on funds."

She gave the example of Al Casey, the former chairman of American Airlines. At one gathering where he was to speak, the MC failed to show up. Casey had to introduce himself, and later said he had been amazed to hear of accomplishments and character strengths that had never been mentioned before.

Liz recalled how Cactus Pryor gently reminded Austin Mayor Kirk Watson of his city's traffic problems. Pryor was welcoming Watson back from Japan, and he explained to the crowd that hizzoner hadn't meant to go to Japan; he'd just gotten in the wrong lane on IH 35.

Humor can lessen the load of high office, and self-deprecation can deflect the criticism that goes with it. "Consider our fourteenth president, Franklin Pierce," Liz invited. "He liked to tell the story of his nomination. He had been picked on the 49th ballot, in a desperate move to break a deadlock. Pierce wasn't even there; he was sitting innocently in New Hampshire. By chance, his manservant, shopping in Concord, heard the news. He rushed home, burst through the door, and exclaimed, 'Oh, Mr. Pierce! Mr. Pierce! Ridiculous as it may seem, you have been nominated for the presidency!'"

**Liz Carpenter (you already know what she looks like) did a thriving business signing copies of her book after her speech.**





# What the Heck is “FRUS?”

By Regina Greenwell  
Senior Archivist

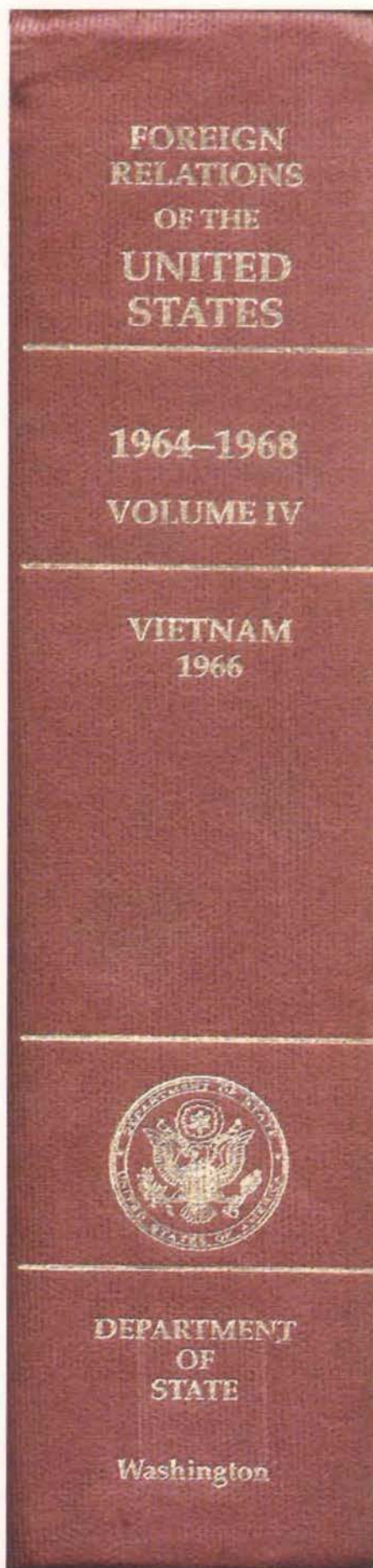
FRUS stands for *Foreign Relations of the United States*, and it is the official documentary record of major U.S. foreign policy decisions and significant diplomatic activity. The series began in 1961 and is produced by the Office of the Historian of the Department of State. Since 1952, the volumes have been organized chronologically according to presidential administrations, and in recent years the series has included documents not only from State Department records, but also from the Defense Department, the Central Intelligence Agency, and many other sources, including presidential libraries.

A total of 34 volumes are planned for the Johnson Administration. Most of them will cover U.S. foreign policy towards Vietnam and Western Europe, but some deal with subjects such as arms control and economic policy. From 1992 to 1998, State Department historians have made 66 visits to the Johnson Library to do research for the

volumes. These historians had security clearances and were authorized to go through classified as well as open files. They photocopied thousands of pages of classified documents, which ultimately will be declassified and published in the *FRUS* volumes.

The State Department historians were also very interested in the recordings of White House telephone conversations, and we sent them copies of 1,076 conversations for use in their research. Some will be published in full or significant part; many others will be used as footnotes or for background information.

All this has meant a great deal of grueling labor for the Archives staff. The visits of the State Department historians required a huge amount of preparatory work to assist them in their research. The research is done now, and we can begin to reap the rewards. Sixteen volumes for the Johnson years have already been published, both in hard copy and on the world wide web, a great boon to researchers here and abroad.





# What's New on the Web?

## ★ LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

[Home](#) - [Search](#) - [Museum Exhibits](#) - [Reference Desk](#) - [Archives Collections](#) - [Museum Store](#) - [NARA](#)

NARA Home

Archives Collections

Frequently Asked Questions

Photographic Archives

Audio Archives

Telephone Recordings

Oral History Interviews

President's Daily Diary

Related Sites

Lyndon Baines Johnson  
Library and Museum  
2313 Red River St.  
Austin, TX 78705

Reading Room Hours:  
9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.  
Weekdays, closed on  
Federal Holidays

Museum Hours:  
9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.  
Every day but Christmas

**Privacy Statement:** We do not  
provide personal data about visitors  
to this web site... [Read more](#)

**Admission is Free**  
[webmaster@lbjlib.utexas.edu](mailto:webmaster@lbjlib.utexas.edu)  
Last Updated  
August 4, 2000



Image of the Week



### MUSEUM EXHIBITS

## TIME

and the Presidency

July 1 - September 24, 2000

### ONLINE EXHIBITS

## THE PRESIDENTS DAILY DIARY

New  
Release  
of  
Telephone  
Conversations



Bit by bit, the LBJ Library is creating a virtual image of itself on the wide world web. The Library recently added these items to its home page:

Oral history transcripts with George Ball, Horace Busby, Tom Clark, Roswell Gilpatric, Billy Graham, Louis Martin, Robert McNamara, Drew Pearson and Earl Warren;

Texts of Lyndon Johnson's State of the Union speeches for 1967,

1968, and 1969, and his address at Gettysburg on Memorial Day (May 30), 1963;

Answers to "Frequently Asked Questions" about LBJ; his cabinet, favorite things, genealogy, military service, pets, and religion. (The "favorite things" category includes the President's preferences in food and drink, music, movies, scriptures, flowers, places to eat, fun things to

do, even his after-shave lotion.) And the staff is adding video and sound recordings. Visitors to the web page can hear LBJ's oath of office on Air Force One following the Kennedy assassination, the stunning climax of his March 31, 1968 speech—even a selection of LBJ humor.

Go to <http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu> for a look.



# Entering Students Meet the LBJ School's Namesake

For years the LBJ Library and Museum has informally welcomed new students at the LBJ School of Public Affairs with a reception and tour. This year LBJ School Dean Ed Dorn and Library Director Middleton agreed to make the event a regular part of new-student orientation.

On August 28, accordingly, fifty members of the class of 2002 gathered in the first-floor theater of the LBJ Library.

Welcoming the students, Middleton showed them a film of President Johnson speaking to their predecessors in one of the School's first classes, twenty-eight years ago, in September, 1972. It was a few months before he died.

The original black and white film is badly flawed by age. It has been copied onto video for preservation, but even so its quality is so poor that audio-visual technician Charles Bogel suggested thinking twice before showing it.

Nevertheless the screening proceeded. And despite the film's blurs and flickering, LBJ's appeal, his articulation of his political philosophy, and his dedication to the purpose of the School came through strongly. The audience was visibly moved. At the reception that followed, many of



**LBJ School students tour the Museum. Left to right: Sarah Brownstein; Cassius Johnson; Paul Jack; Diane Tate; Brandalyn Patton.**

the students commented on its significance to them personally. "I wish I could send [it] to all my friends," said

first-year student Natalie Britton of California, "to explain why I'm here instead of working for a dot.com company, and why I have this desire to be in public service."

**Dean of the LBJ School Ed Dorn with new students Sarah Lovering and Travis Hale.**





## From the Photo Archives



Lyndon Johnson's first "real" job was as teacher and principal at the Welhausen School for Hispanic children in Cotulla, in the heart of the South Texas brush country. He is the tall young man in the center of the photograph. President Johnson cited his experience in Cotulla many times later in his life, to explain the origins of his empathy for the disadvantaged.

During LBJ's White House years, Daniel Garcia, one of the young boys pictured here, appeared on the television show "I've Got a Secret." Mr. Garcia's secret, which a panel of expert questioners tried to ferret out, was that he had once been spanked by the President of the United States. (Garcia laughingly recounted the episode in an oral history interview on file in the Johnson Library.)

LBJ had a number of dogs, but he is only reported to have sung with one. It is the small white dog here depicted. His name was Yuki; he was a stray which Luci Johnson found and refused to leave behind.

Yuki and LBJ often entertained guests with an impromptu a capella duet. White House photographer Yoichi Okamoto photographed this one in the Oval Office, on February 6, 1968. The clock in the background reads five minutes after six. The delighted onlooker is Hon. David K. E. Bruce, Ambassador to Great Britain.





## Remembering Yolanda

A tribute to the memory of Yolanda Boozer, long-time LBJ staffer and for many years a mainstay of the Friends organization, is being planned. Two handsome limestone benches with a suitable bronze plaque will be placed at the entrance to the LBJ grounds. If you wish to donate to this memorial, please send your contribution to:

Larry Reed  
Assistant Director, LBJ Library  
2313 Red River  
Austin, TX 78705



## In Memoriam



Carl Rowan, diplomat, civil rights advocate, journalist; he headed the United States Information Agency and sat on the National Security Council in 1964-1965.

## Hitchcock Chairs

Some years ago, the Hitchcock firm made a limited edition of chairs commemorating LBJ's presidency and his Ranch homestead. If anyone

has one of these chairs and would like to sell or donate it to a worthy cause, please contact Ted Gittinger at 512-916-5137 ext. 265.

## Coming Events, Fall, 2000:

- October 31: "White House Impressions" exhibit opens; a collection of artists' interpretations of the national Capitol.
- November 9: "An Evening with Senator Tom Daschle," LBJ Auditorium.
- November 13: "An Evening with Liz Smith," LBJ Auditorium.  
"Holidays in the White House" exhibit opens.
- December 20: Celebration of Lady Bird Johnson's birthday. Nash Castro, former Executive Secretary of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, will give a presentation on the new exhibit, "Holidays in the White House."

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Technical Assistance: Fletcher Burton

Photography: Charles Bogel, Margaret Harman, Bess Abell, James Watson

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

