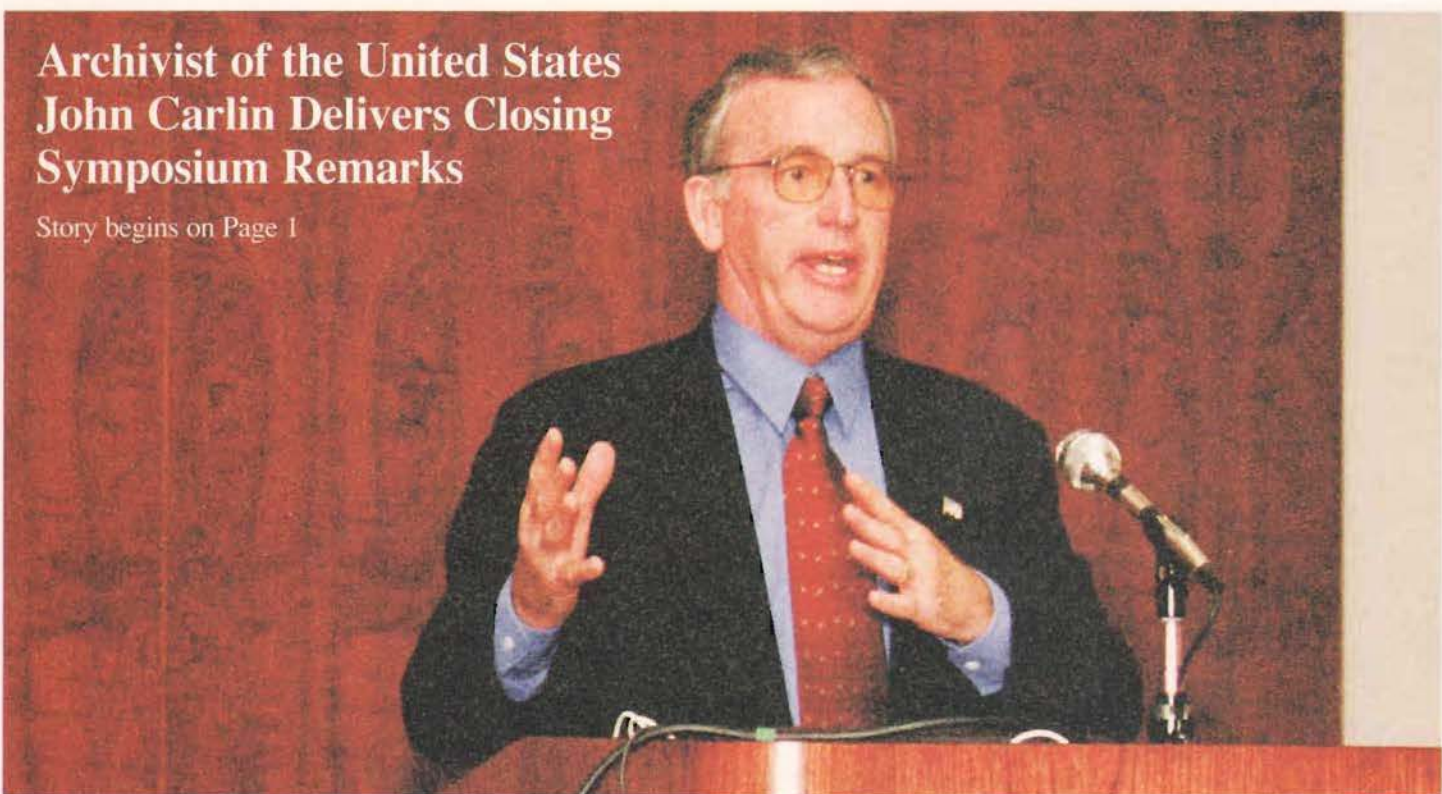


Among FRIENDS *of LBJ*

Issue Number LXVII, March, 2002



**Luci Baines Johnson
Greets the Audience at the
Symposium on the Future
of Presidential Libraries**



**Archivist of the United States
John Carlin Delivers Closing
Symposium Remarks**

Story begins on Page 1

The Future of Presidential Libraries: A Symposium



The attentive audience filled the lecture hall.



"The effect of new communications technologies."
Jack Holl; Mark Hall; Ann Richardson Kenney;
Thomas Kochtanek; panel chair David Woolner.

Congress created the nation's presidential libraries system in order to provide facilities which, as a minimum, maintain the papers of the nation's chief executives and make them accessible to researchers. On November 26 and 27, a distinguished group of the clients of those facilities came together at the LBJ Library to consider how well the libraries are doing their job.

The topic was deceptively simple. In his introduction, LBJ Foundation Tom Johnson outlined the symposium's agenda this way:

"When Harry Middleton became director of the LBJ Library, thirty years ago, there were six presidential libraries. Today there are eleven. Will there be six more of them thirty years from now? What kind of facilities will they be, in this very new age of

high-tech communications?

"Thirty years ago little attention was paid to their museums. Today the museums are an integral part of the libraries and perform major public and educational functions.

"I think we can safely assume that the changes we have seen in the past thirty years will pale in significance in the next thirty. That's what we're here to discuss—the changes that are coming and their significance."

Eminent presidential historian Michael Beschloss gave the keynote address. He stated that the LBJ Library has led the way in making symposia and educational programs part of the libraries' basic functions. But the more mundane function of preserving the written record has not been neglected, he said, recalling that on one occasion Archivist Nancy

Smith took all of five minutes to retrieve a letter that Beschloss, as a child, had written to LBJ. That brought home to him what the public can get from a presidential library, even "if you're just a kid who happens to stroll in and wants to see something that will link him or her to the past."

That is changing in important ways, Beschloss said, due to the advent of things like special prosecutors; the modern, real-time, invasive media; and high-tech communications such as email. Why would future presidents or their advisors keep diaries, for example, knowing they are liable to be subpoenaed? The traditional records used by historians are drying up. If we cannot find ways to prevent that happening, future histories will be written from press



"Access issues." Robert Schulzinger; John Prados; W. Roger Louis; John Brademas; Martha Kumar; panel chair Hugh Graham. (The panel is applauding the appearance of Lady Bird Johnson in the lecture hall.)



"The role of education." Cathy Gorn; Maura Pierce; Larry Hackman; Rosemary Morrow; panel chair David Eisenhower.

releases, public speeches, and media articles. That is the first topic the symposium would take up.

The acquisition and preservation of historical records, Beschloss explained, was the second. "The biggest question associated with this issue," he said, "has for years been, is it a good idea to go on with the presidential library movement, where you have large . . . expensive buildings and staffs that collect the records of one administration in some place connected to that president, or is it better . . . to save money and have a mammoth presidential repository in Washington?" Not surprisingly, Beschloss declared, he would vote for Option A. Only when the personalized touch is maintained will there be a real chance that "you will preserve the paper trails and other trails that tell you about presidents," he declared. Presidential

insiders "are not likely to put collections of papers in a mammoth building in Washington [which is run by] a sort of generic expert on the presidencies of the twentieth century."

Beschloss outlined the third symposium topic: presidential libraries as educational sites. "If you walk into the Lyndon Johnson Library, you learn not only about Lyndon Johnson and his times, but a lot about Texas, and Mexican Americans, and these wonderful temporary exhibitions that tell you a lot. . . . I hope we'll do that into the indefinite future [as we build on] the ability to bring documents and other material straight into [people's] houses through the glories of the internet. . . . This is one of the big jobs the presidential libraries are going to have: getting as much of these collections on the net so that you don't have to be a presidential scholar. You don't have to have the money to travel to

Austin or to Abilene or to Boston to get a sense of what these presidential libraries hold.

"The final question [before the symposium] is going to be how quickly and how widely these documents are opened. The last couple of weeks it's been very much a subject of conversation. . . . I've been amazed at how much the public has been aware of this executive order the President has signed that has changed the rules for the opening of papers of past presidents."

President George W. Bush's executive order, which apparently tightens the rules for opening presidential papers, may be counterproductive, Beschloss stated. "[I]t's almost a rule of thumb that each time a president's . . . papers are opened, it almost always causes his reputation to go up. . . . Dwight Eisenhower is a marvelous example of this. . . ."



"Should the libraries be centers of debate on public policy and history?" John Shattuck; H. W. Brands; Frank Gavin; Bruce Buchanan; panel chair Betty Sue Flowers.

The LBJ tapes are an even better example, Beschloss believes. When LBJ Director Harry Middleton decided to open them as quickly and widely as possible, asked Beschloss, "what message did that send to historians, me among them?" It was a message of frankness and full disclosure, he answered, and the results have boosted LBJ's reputation immensely.

"Thanks to the tapes, we know [that] on issues like civil rights and poverty [LBJ] is someone who in private meant it even more than he did in public."

After the keynote address, the symposium's four panels considered each major topic in turn. The LBJ Foundation staff is editing their proceedings, which will be published as soon as time permits. Contact Ted Gittinger at 512-916-5137 ext. 265 for further information (ted.gittinger@nara.gov).

Retiring LBJ Library Director Harry Middleton invited Archivist of the United States John Carlin to make the closing remarks. Middleton noted that in fact the original idea for the symposium came from Mr. Carlin, and from Tom Johnson. The Archivist, he said, "has taken on the responsibility of preparing a road map for the future of the National Archives and Records Administration." Middleton also acknowledged the key role of his fellow library directors, "[who decided] what the format of this symposium would be and who the participants would be. Everything that has gone on here over these last two days represents the work of my colleagues."

Archivist Carlin concluded the symposium with his estimate of the magnitude of the challenge facing not only presidential libraries, but the National Archives and Records Administration in general. He stressed

that the new electronic records pose huge problems. For example, he said, "The Department of Defense has made it very clear, they're out of the paper business when it comes to military personnel records." The rapid rate at which the technology changes only complicates the picture further. Will we even have machines that can read today's electronic records, fifty years from now? But research is going on to solve these issues, he stated, and he is confident that there are solutions to be found.

As to the controversy over President George W. Bush's executive order on presidential papers, Governor Carlin repeated what the Administration advised him to do: "Wait and see how it works." He promised that "We will follow the law and the executive order, and push the envelope, and see what can be done to bring access as quickly as possible."

October 24, 2001: An Evening With Retiring Library

On May 18, 1970, Harry Middleton became director of the LBJ Library and Museum. Just over thirty years later, on his eightieth birthday, he reflected on a career he had never sought—had tried to avoid, even.

It began when Mr. Middleton came back to Austin with LBJ in 1969 to help him write his memoirs, and wound up being virtually shanghaied into the library director's job. When he protested to the former President that he didn't know anything about running a library, he ran into one of LBJ's core beliefs: If you can do something well—such as writing, in this case—you ought to be able to do anything well. End of debate.

The following three decades at the Library have seen a flood of distinguished speakers and exhibits impossible to summarize in the short time Mr. Middleton gave himself to speak. He recalled some of the scenes that linger in his memory: Julian Bond paying moving tribute to LBJ for his leadership in securing civil rights, and Leontyne Price thrilling an audience with her magnificent voice; Jake Pickle, noting that "this is slightly unrehearsed," played a harmonica duet with a saxophonist who bore a striking resemblance to William Jefferson Clinton. Kirk Douglas and Helen Hayes read from the letters LBJ and Lady Bird Taylor wrote during their courtship (What career was LBJ intent upon? asked Ms. Taylor. "I hope it is not politics.")

In April, 2000 former Presidents Ford and Carter appeared together, recalling days when politicians of differing views could "disagree without being disagreeable." On other occasions, historians Michael Beschloss and David McCullough headlined their best-selling works. Robert McNamara presented his own mea culpa on

Vietnam. Barry Goldwater delineated "A Conservative's Philosophy."

Sid Davis and George Christian laughingly recalled how LBJ contributed to his credibility gap when he got carried away during an impromptu talk to a group of servicemen, and declared that his great-granddaddy had died at the Alamo. Christian warned LBJ that Sid Davis had recorded that remark and was regaling the press corps with it. The President retorted, "I don't care what Sid Davis recorded, I didn't say that."

One memorable evening featured the Arbuckle Boys, a quartet that specializes in traditional western music. (They take their name from Arbuckle's coffee, a trail-drive favorite.) Two cowboy poets accompanied them. One poet sang a tune "a capulco," which he explained was the cowboy version of a capella. The other recited the very first known example of cowboy poetry—so he claimed. It was this entry in an ancient jingle contest:

"Borden's Milk is the best in the land,
It comes to us in a little brown can.
No teats to pull; no hay to pitch,
Just poke a hole in the son of a b_____."

When the World War I exhibit opened with a gathering on the Library plaza, perhaps thirty veterans of that conflict attended, Middleton remembered. "When they stood to be recognized, it was as if a wind stirred the assembly. . . . It was a moment . . . when the time of service, even glory, of a passing generation was recaptured."

In 1992 General Colin Powell inaugurated the exhibit on World War II, saying "You must see this exhibit. *This is America!*"

Currently a collection of great rarities, treasures from the University of Texas Ransom Center's collec-

tions, is on display on the Library's second floor.

The Museum has exhibited a long list of historic documents: Thomas Jefferson's authorization of the Louisiana Purchase; Cornwallis' letter to Washington, asking for the terms of surrender; Hitler's last will and testament; literary manuscripts from the pen of Ernest Hemingway; Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

Library visitors formed long lines to view an original copy of the Magna Carta (a journalist asked one boy if he had ever before seen anything that old. After a moment's reflection the young man replied, in all sincerity, "Rocks.")

"These are some of the portraits and snapshots of a passing history which linger in my memory," said the retiring director, "and which have made these years so rich and rewarding. They provide the color and drama of the past three decades for me. But supporting all this activity—all of it—is the basic mission of the Library . . . to maintain the papers of the President . . . and make them available to anyone who wants to study them. . . . 750 books and 1,000 articles have been written, based on our holdings."

Middleton recalled that historian George Herring once remarked that the greatest monument to President Johnson's memory is the Library's policy of open disclosure, which originated with LBJ himself.

LBJ Foundation President Larry Temple had summed it up when he introduced the evening's program. Any historian, Mr. Temple said, will tell you that the LBJ Library is the best research facility of its kind anywhere, and the Museum's quality is just as good. "That didn't happen accidentally. That happened because of Harry Middleton and his leadership."

Director Harry Middleton



Pulitzer-Prize winning political cartoonist Ben Sargent presents Middleton with the framed original of the caricature he crafted for Middleton's retirement party program. See page 9.

Retiring Director Harry Middleton Gets Send-Off

It was a gala night, with some poignant moments: Harry Middleton's retirement celebration, November 28, 2001. Five hundred guests braved an ice storm to attend the black-tie affair, held in a gigantic tent on the plaza in front of the Library.

MC and LBJ Foundation Chairman Tom Johnson noted that Library Director Middleton had tried to retire twice before; once when he turned seventy and again when he hit seventy-five. Both times his resignation was turned down. This time Mr. Middleton issued an ultimatum: either he was retiring or the Foundation must put him on display as one of the Museum's permanent exhibits.

In a way, that in fact has happened. Mr. Johnson announced that

the Foundation has created and endowed a Library fellowship: the Harry J. Middleton Distinguished Scholar for the Study of the American Presidency. The Foundation's intent, explained Johnson, "is to permanently associate the name of Harry Middleton with the LBJ Library and the American presidency."

A distinguished roster of speakers reviewed Middleton's Library career. Archivist of the United States John Carlin reminded the crowd of the support that the Foundation and the Johnson family had given both Middleton and the National Archives and Records Administration over the years. Mr. Carlin then broke precedent and named Middleton the first Presidential Library Director Emeritus.

University of Texas President Larry Faulkner recalled the Library's commitment to scholarship and to the UT community. And as did many speakers on the program, Faulkner praised Middleton for opening LBJ's White House telephone tapes.

Catherine Robb and Lyndon Nugent spoke for the Johnson grandchildren. Ms. Robb thanked Middleton for reintroducing her to the grandfather she barely remembers. Grandson Lyndon drew a laugh when he recalled, "Harry Middleton and I joined the LBJ Administration at about the same time."

NBC anchorman Brian Williams attributed the rare ice storm to LBJ's displeasure at Middleton's retirement. "*National Geographic* is here,"



A place setting at the party. Under the glass plate is a copy of the program. Its back cover features the Ben Sargent cartoon, next page.

he quipped, "filming a special on 'The Winter Wolves of Austin, Texas.'" Williams reflected that although he always regretted death, he was glad that President Johnson was not here to have his heart broken by what happened on September 11, "a disastrous blow at all he had sworn to protect and defend."

Historian Michael Beschloss touched on the debt which scholars owe LBJ for his policy of openness. When, three decades ago, the former President thought he detected that Middleton was showing a bit too much caution in opening the presidential papers, LBJ scolded him: "Good men have tried to protect my reputation for forty years, and failed. What makes you think that you can?"

Beschloss went on to note that "we are all terrifically lucky to have Betty Sue Flowers pick up that torch and build on what Harry has created. He'll still be a Dutch uncle for us historians, and a wise man for all of Texas and all of America."

For the occasion, Middleton and the Library staff collaborated in creating a comic takeoff on the telephone tapes. LBJ's lines, below, are authentic, although he was not speaking to Middleton when he said them. Middleton's responses to the President are of course circa 2001.

LBJ: "Have you done anything for me today?"

Middleton: "Mr. President, it's 2 a.m.!"

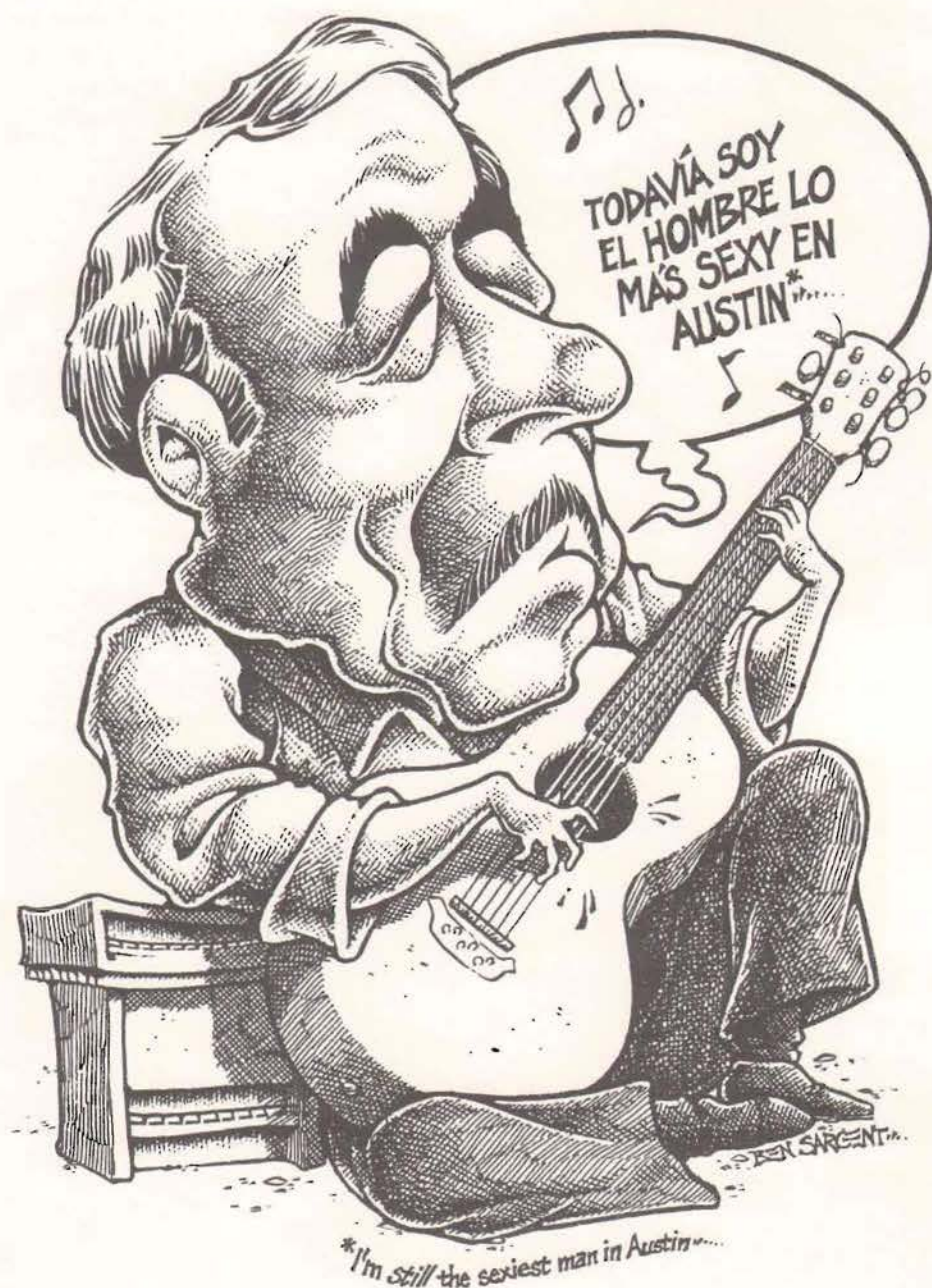
LBJ: "I don't know *where* Moyers is. He's probably off with a woman, or drunk."

Middleton: "He's in the bar across the street with Liz Carpenter."

LBJ: "I've got to eliminate you from the vice president's race. Do you care?"

Middleton: "But you *promised*!"

The evening's program listed a Distinguished Surprise Mystery Guest. It turned out to be humorist and media personality Cactus Pryor, appearing in the guise of George Herbert Walker Bush. He too praised Middleton—in a way: "He is handsome, and has a lot of friends. And he



When Ben Sargent agreed to do a caricature of Director Middleton for his retirement party program, he learned that columnist Liz Smith once described his subject as "the sexiest man in Austin"—and that Middleton had joked about using his retirement to study Spanish and the guitar.

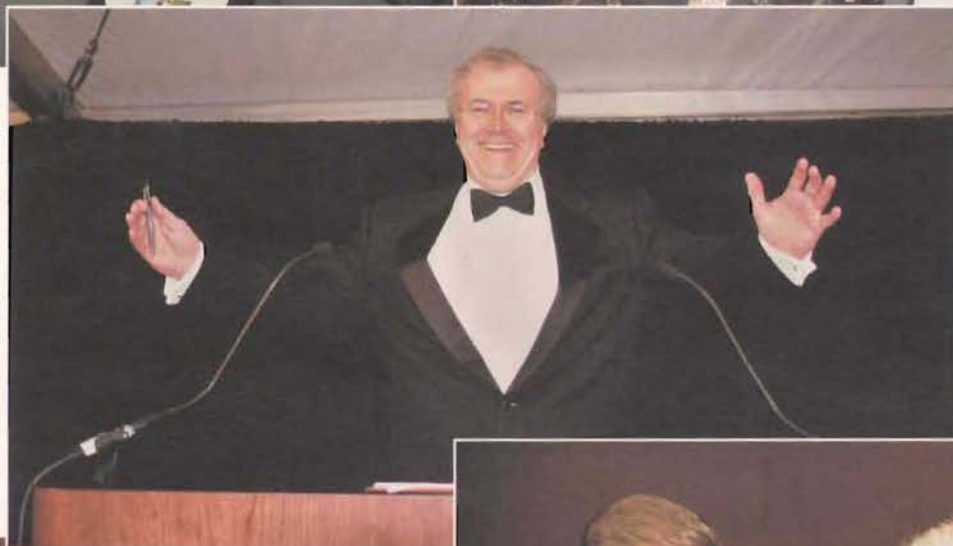
needs them, because he never learned to drive a car or pay for a taxi."

There was plenty of music. Liz Carpenter and the G-Batts (Getting Better All The Time Singers) gave a rendition of "We're Just Wild about Harry." Carol Channing delivered a version of "Hello, Lyndon," the song she made famous nearly forty years ago (but on this night the lyric went, "Farewell, Harry"). At the conclusion

of the program, the audience stood to sing "America the Beautiful," to the accompaniment of Sid Fly, Lady Bird Johnson's favorite guitarist.

Mr. Middleton rose to say that he was accepting the night's accolades in the names of those who had helped him along the way: first the Library staff, for "they are the true architects of the Library's reputation." He paid tribute to the LBJ

Harry Middleton Send-Off *(continued)*



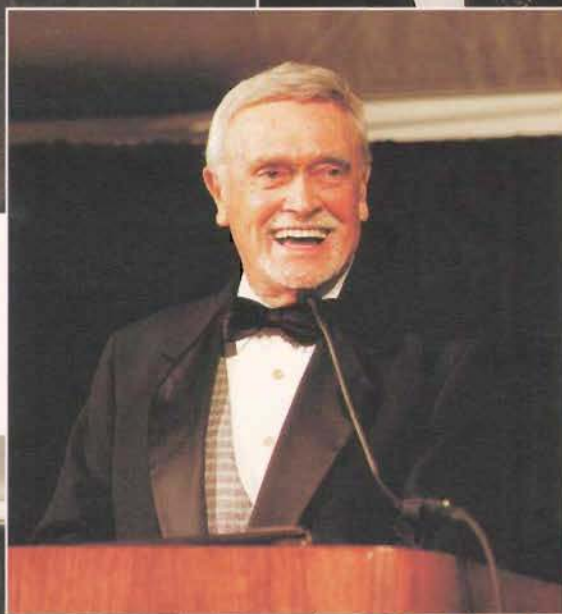
Foundation and its Board of Directors, "whose steady, unstinting support, through the years, enabled the Library . . . to reach well beyond its charter, and strive for a performance that would never, ever, ever have been possible without it.

"I've had a wonderful time for these past thirty years. It's been an encounter with history, past and present, that has been endlessly rewarding and exciting. And I have loved every single minute of it.

"President Johnson is at the center

of that history. The line leading back from tonight to the day I started working for him is obvious and clear. . . .

"But he *is* a memory, and the dominant *living* influence in the Library through these years has been Lady Bird Johnson. She has infused



the years with her graceful presence and her generous, spirited support, and I have benefitted in ways that could never . . . be counted.

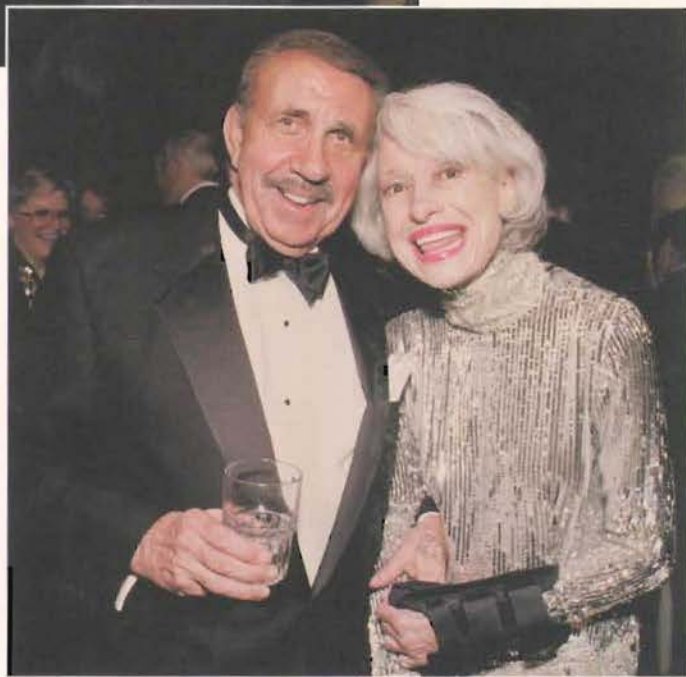
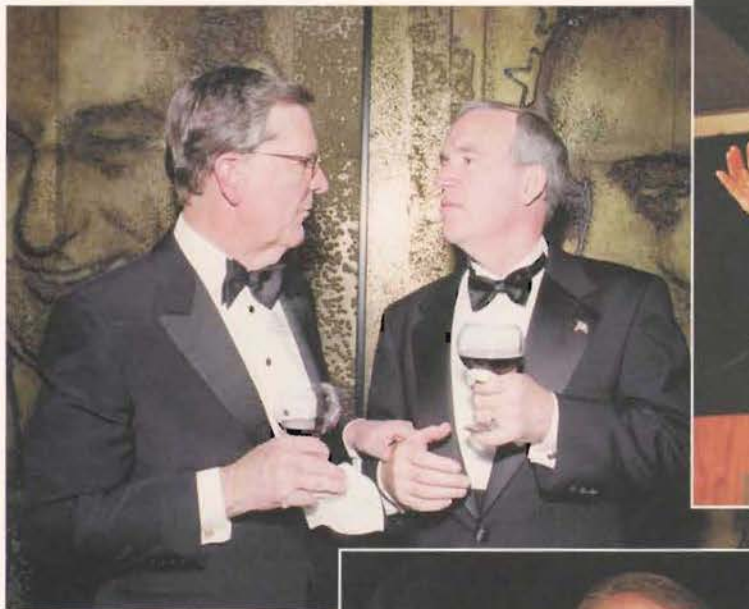
"To her, to Miriam, to my son and daughters, to my sisters and all of my relations, to my grandson, and to

friends and colleagues from every stratum of a bountiful life, I thank you for contributing to the richness of that experience, and for sharing this night to remember."

Lady Bird Johnson had the final word. "All you fellow admirers of

Harry: It's been a great adventure. How lucky we are, Harry, that Lyndon picked you."

Harry Middleton Send-Off *(continued)*





“They Have Hijacked God”: An Evening With Bill Moyers

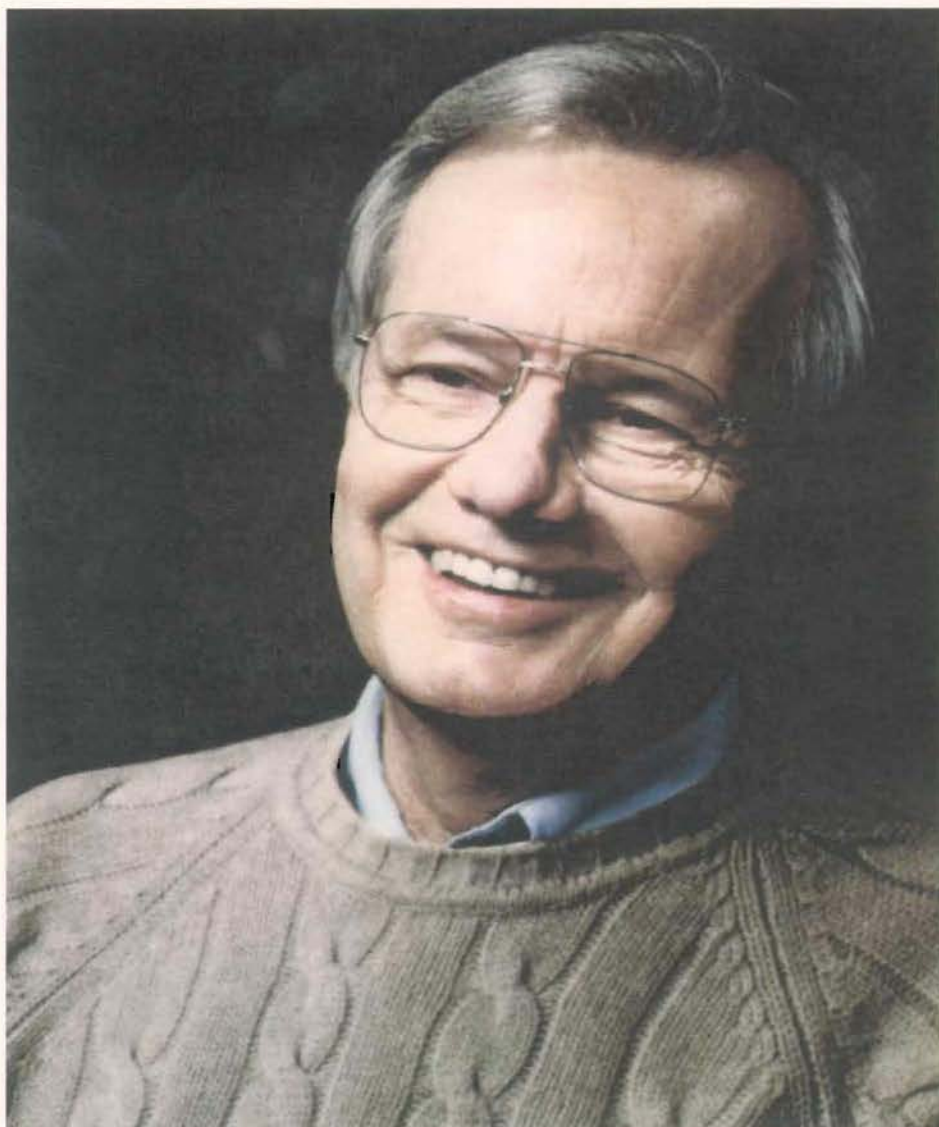
On January 4, Bill Moyers delivered the seventh Harry Middleton Lecture to an overflow crowd, estimated at 2,000 people. The lecture-ship was endowed by Lady Bird Johnson in 1995 to honor the man who had directed the Library's affairs for virtually its entire existence.

“Those of us who served in the Johnson Administration,” said Moyers, “are indebted to Harry for enabling us to put our lives in perspective; for his conviction that what we did in our time isn't done yet; that our vanities, vices and virtues, our visions and vulnerabilities, our aspirations, compromises, accomplishments and defeats . . . that all of this should not perish with our individual memories but be available to anyone trying to understand . . . the possibilities and limitations of politics and governance.”

Moyers congratulated the library on its new director, Betty Sue Flowers. “Her long association with the university—as student, professor, and administrator—fostered a far-ranging intellect that joins the perceptions of poetry to questions of justice and power. . . . What Harry nurtured over this past generation will flourish in the next with Dr. Flowers.”

Years ago, Moyers recalled, Middleton asked him to come to the Library and lecture on the phenomenon of faith: “what it means, what it gives, what it takes.” Moyers, an ordained minister, agreed but was dismayed by the vastness of the topic. So he hedged his bet. I will give that lecture, he told Middleton, when you retire—confident that Lady Bird Johnson would never allow that to happen.

It was a miscalculation. “You can imagine my shock when early last year, the devil called to collect his due.” Moyers agreed to make good on



his promise to lecture, “But this is not the speech Harry expected. It is not the speech I intended. I had all but completed that speech the weekend before September 11, the last weekend before the world changed.”

That event changed our “gross national psychology,” Moyers asserted. “It's where terrorists like to pilage. . . . [T]heir real aim is to possess our psyche, deprive survivors of our

peace of mind, of trust and hope and resolve—to keep us from ever again believing in a decent, safe, and just world. . . . Terrorists do that. They invade and despoil our private worlds. That is their legacy.”

“Luis Batista, restaurant worker,” intoned Moyers, reading from a list of the casualties of 9/11. “William Steckman, communications engineer. Elizabeth Holmes, jogger and choir

singer. Linda Luzzicone and Ralph Gerhardt, a couple planning their wedding. Mon Jahn-bul-lie, janitor.

"Fred Scheffold, Chief, 12th Firefighter Battalion. . . . This morning, his shift had just ended and he was starting home when the alarm rang. He jumped into the truck. . . at One World Trade Center he pushed through the crowds, heading for the top. The last anyone saw of him he was heading for the top.

"And I can't get out of my mind the reason they died. These were calculated deeds, deliberately conceived, meticulously planned, and methodically executed by people who believed they were pleasing God.

"The social philosopher Eric Hoffer wrote about such people in a book I first read almost fifty years ago. He called them true believers—people whose inner rage seeks refuge and validating rebirth—a religious conversion, if you will, within a charismatic movement. Once they marched for Hitler; now they march for God."

Osama bin Laden has hijacked God to serve an evil cause, but it is not a unique occurrence, Moyers angrily admitted. The U.S. has its own religious, textbook-censoring autocrats, who are on record that 9/11 was "God's judgment on a decadent America." Such people believe, Moyers declared, "that people like Luis Batista . . . had to die to propitiate a wrathful God."

How is it that the God to whom so many come for solace and hope becomes the God of cruelty, oppression, and vengeance? "I have wrestled with this," Moyers declared, "as a southerner from deep East Texas.

Our history is haunted by the violent intimidation and terror, the night-riding, the cross-burning, and the mob assaults perpetrated by Klansmen who claimed to be deeply religious Christians, dedicated to the preservation of the Anglo-Saxon white race. . . . They raged against not only blacks, but Catholics, Jews, foreigners, and all kinds of sinners. . . .

"They hijacked Jesus, dressed Him in a white robe and hood, put a noose in His hand and murder in His heart.

"Religion has a healing side; we know this, and honor it. But it also has a killing side, and virtually every armed conflict occurring on the planet today is explicitly driven by religious motives. . . ."

Since LBJ signed the Immigration Act of 1965, Moyers believes, "America has become the most spiritually diverse nation on earth." He predicted that religious diversity may well replace race as the most dominant social issue facing our democracy in the 21st century. Whose God will it be, he asked, when we look at our currency and read, "In God we trust?" His answer: "Count on democracy to save us, from those who would save us against our will."

Moyers remains hopeful about the future. "But not all the signs have been encouraging," he observed, and concluded with a blistering indictment of those who have tried to turn the attacks of September 11 to their advantage. "It didn't take long after 9/11 for the profiteers to start cashing in on the tragedy." Taking special note of the government's \$15 billion bailout of the airline industry, he wondered why there was no bailout

for the 140,000 workers whom the airlines laid off. The answer, Moyers said, came from the Majority Leader of the House, "Texas' own Dick Armey." Such a move ". . . would not be commensurate with the American spirit."

"If I sound a little bitter about this, I am. Whose side are these people on, anyway? . . . It's not just religious true believers who threaten our democracy. It's the believers in the god of the market who would leave us to the ruthless forces of unfettered corporate capital, where even the laws of the jungle break down. And they're counting on your patriotism to distract you from their plunder. While you're standing at attention with your hand over your heart, pledging allegiance to the flag, they're picking your pocket. . . ."

"There's a fight going on here too, for democracy to stop powerful interests from setting us back a hundred years . . . to when the poor, old, and sick were on their own; to when the sheriff, police, and military were free from public scrutiny—back to when huge corporations had the country in their pockets. . . ."

Moyers recalled the old story of an Irish immigrant, about to step off his ship, observing a riot in progress on the docks. "Is this a private fight," he asked, "or can anybody join in?"

Moyers' answer: "Democracy is our fight. Come on in. Keep the faith."

(Tape cassettes and CDs of Mr. Moyers' address are for sale through the Museum Store, 512-916-5137 ext. 249, or through www.lbjstore.com.)

Faces on the Wall: Presidents and First Ladies



These portraits are not new to the Library, but the exhibit is. On facing walls of the Library's Second Floor, above the Great Hall, hang copies of the "official" portraits of the nation's presidents, from Washington through the elder President Bush, and the likenesses of twenty-one of our first ladies.

The originals of these presidential images belong to the White House art collection and are considered the official portraits. It is unclear when the idea of the "official" presidential portrait originated. The White House Historical Association now commissions official portraits, and they are frequently painted some



time after the president leaves office.

"Official" portraits of the first ladies are even more problematic. In the first place, not all presidents had first ladies. Buchanan, for instance, was a bachelor. Andrew Jackson's wife Rachel died after he was elected

but before his inauguration. And some single presidents had female relatives perform as hostesses in the White House. In that capacity, some would argue, they were first ladies too.

Many of the first-lady portraits were donated by various benefactors;

others were purchased by the government. Some are copies of paintings in other collections. The most recent of them are gifts from the White House Historical Association.



“The Church and the City”: An Evening with Bishop John McCarthy



Tom Staley, Director of the Harry Ransom Research Center on The University of Texas campus, introduced the man who has been Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin since 1986. John McCarthy, said Dr. Staley, “has been a passionate leader of the ecumenical spirit, and his service in education and public health to the wider community of Austin and Central Texas has been extraordinary. His commitment to the social order, to the commonweal, as it were, is profound.”

Bishop McCarthy began by defining his terms. “When I talk about ‘the church’ I don’t mean the Roman Catholic Church or the Christian churches; I mean it in a very vague, umbrella-type frame. Any time a group of people come together for reasons of faith, and

organize themselves to stay together in sharing that faith . . . that’s how I use the word.

“And when I say ‘the city,’ I mean wherever people over the centuries have organized themselves in one geographic area and shared economic and social benefits together. . . .”

Two thousand years ago, McCarthy noted, the center of Rome was crowded with temples. Religion was a powerful force in the city. Similarly, at the beginning of the sixteenth century Paris was visually dominated by Notre Dame. “That was *the* building. The power that was in that city, a great deal of it, centered on the church.”

By contrast, said McCarthy, if you fly into Austin today by helicopter, you must look very carefully to find the few churches that remain in

the center of town. “[I]t’s an external sign that the role of the church in modern society has changed dramatically. . . . The church does not have any power today. It has influence, yes, but if you got all the churches and the synagogues of Travis County together today, and tried to get them to do something in terms of the economic and social direction of the city, you’d find that nothing would come of it. . . . Our Founding Fathers very wisely made sure that religion as a structure does not have power in the economic and social entities around which we built our civilization. . . . If . . . a person . . . has the power to tax you, to imprison you, and that person has a direct line with God, you have a problem.”

That does not mean that the church today has no interest in secular society, McCarthy asserted, noting that the Old Testament prophets insisted that in order to be faithful to God, you had to be concerned about the downtrodden. Jesus of Nazareth, he stressed, came straight out of that tradition.

But if the church lacks power, how is it to relate to the larger society, to the city? In a word, said McCarthy, with service. McCarthy admitted that all communities of faith do good things: there are Christmas baskets for the poor, scholarships for minority students, Boy and Girl Scouts, and the like. “But in comparison to the pain that’s out there in human society . . . we’re doing very, very little.”

The core of the problem, explained the Bishop, is that most churches do not have built-in structures to deal with the city’s pain. The churches have worship services and religious education that are budgeted, and scheduled, and structured. McCarthy urged his listeners to challenge the churches to do the same in alleviating the city’s pain. “When we will be purest in our tradition, and most faithful to the teachings of those who got us started, is when we use our knowledge and our resources to lessen pain. That’s the role of the church in relationship to the larger society.”

12 Millionth Visitor Honored at LBJ Library & Museum

By Robert Hicks, Public Relations

On December 11, 2001, Angeles Guerrero of Georgetown, Texas became the 12 millionth visitor to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum. Ms. Guerrero was accompanied by her husband Robert, and their five-year-old daughter, Mary Ann. She had first visited the LBJ Library and Museum as a girl on a field trip, explained Ms. Guerrero, and wanted to expose her daughter to the culture on display. The Guerrero family received a gift certificate to the LBJ Museum Store, a hardcover catalog highlighting the exhibit *From Gutenberg to Gone With The Wind: Treasures From the Ransom Center*, and Library Director Harry Middleton's book, *LBJ: The White House Years*. Representatives from the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau were also on hand to present the Guerreros with an Austin gift pack, including dinner certificates and items featuring the unique Austin experience.



South Texas School Named After LBJ



At the December 7, 2001 dedication of the Lyndon B. Johnson High School in Laredo, Texas: Robert Hicks, LBJ Library and Museum Public Relations Manager; LBJ High School Principal Oscar Perez and United Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Jerry Barber. Mr. Hicks was the featured speaker at the dedication and presented the school with the eight-volume set of LBJ's *Presidential Papers*; Harry Middleton's book, *LBJ: The White House Years*; and an exhibit catalog from "Cartoonists' Ink and LBJ." Mrs. Johnson sent the school a bust of LBJ.

The school is a \$21 million facility. The majority of the students are Mexican-Americans from the Rio Bravo and El Cenizo areas. The *colonia* neighborhoods are among the poorest in the state.

Former Forest Service Chief Honored

The fourth winner of the Lady Bird Johnson Conservation Award—a prize established by the LBJ Foundation—is Michael P. Dombeck, recently retired chief of the U.S. Forest Service. The award consists of a three-inch silver medal, graven with Mrs. Johnson's image on the obverse. The reverse bears a likeness of the famous Treaty Oak of Austin, Texas. A check for \$1,000 accompanies the medal.

The Lady Bird Johnson Conservation Award was established by the Board of Directors of the LBJ Foundation to underscore the lasting devotion of the former First Lady to conservation and to the environment. Recipients are chosen for their bipartisan, collaborative approaches to problem-solving, particularly in the political arena. Senator John H. Chafee of Rhode Island, then Chairman of the Senate Environment Committee, received the first award. The second went to Laurance

Rockefeller, for a lifetime achievement in service to conservation; the third to Conservation Fund Chairman Patrick Noonan.

Prior to his time as head of the Forest Service, Dr. Dombeck was Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, in the Clinton Administration. He has been noted for his organizational management skills, and his positive approach in building coalitions to resolve difficult issues.

The Award selection committee members are William Reilly, former Secretary of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Henry L. Diamond, former Chief of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in New York State and Washington, D.C.; Story Clark Resor, prominent land conservationist in Wilson, Wyoming; and Cathleen Douglas Stone, former Chief of Environmental Service for the City of Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Dombeck plans to travel to Austin in March, 2002, to receive the award at a luncheon given at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library.



A Memorial for Yolanda



The LBJ Foundation here honors the memory of a long-time stalwart of the LBJ staff. Supervisory Archivist Tina Houston chose the design and arranged for the delivery of two of these specially carved limestone benches. They now sit under the live oaks near the LBJ School breezeway. The inscription reads, "In Memory of Yolanda Boozer, LBJ Library, 1969-1998."

Beschloss Introduces Second Volume in Telephone Tapes Series

As Snoopy writes in the "Peanuts" comic strip, "It was a dark and stormy night." In the late afternoon of November 15, amid torrents of rain and high winds, there were reports that a tornado had been sighted in South Austin. Library Director Harry Middleton contacted the night's speaker, historian Michael Beschloss and told him that because of the weather his audience was liable to be very small. Dr. Beschloss replied that he would be glad to speak to any hardy souls who came, no matter how few. And in fact nearly two hundred showed up.

Beschloss' first volume on LBJ's White House telephone tapes was titled *Taking Charge*. It covered the period from November 22, 1963 to September, 1964. The just-out second volume, *Reaching for Glory*, continues the story through the summer of 1965.

Historians of the presidency, said Beschloss, have a litmus test to judge the caliber of the man in the Oval Office. It is his commitment, his willingness to take large political risks for matters of principle. LBJ's commitment to civil rights is a classic case. His public stance was unwavering, and the telephone tapes show that privately he was even more resolved. "It's obvious that this is someone who, if anything, is more radical and cares more deeply about things like civil rights and helping the Negroes and the poor than you see in public."

The tapes reveal a poignant side of the LBJ persona, Beschloss observed, one which would not let him enjoy his triumphs as he might have. He had what Winston Churchill called "the seeing eye," the ability to sense where things would go wrong, down the road. He foresaw the con-

servative backlash against civil rights and the War on Poverty. He realized that his domestic policy would alienate the South.

Even in the earliest days, Vietnam filled him with foreboding. A now-famous taped telephone conversation with McGeorge Bundy in early 1964 recorded his anguish as he sought a solution for that dilemma.

And at the close of summer, in 1965, when LBJ should have been

ebullient about his legislative triumphs, he was not.

It was a side of LBJ, Beschloss reflected, which was illustrated in a story that he would sometimes tell on himself. It concerns the old men in the Johnson City square who sit in the shade of the live oaks and play dominos. One observed, "Ol' Lyndon sure has moved up in the world, hasn't he?" "Yeah," answered another, "up the road about half a mile."



In the wake of his smashing victory at the polls in November, 1964, LBJ could still find a dark lining. Here is an excerpt from a telephone conversation with George Reedy, November 16:

Their theory, which they've pretty well sold America on . . . is that "it wasn't Johnson's popularity . . . It was the hate and fear of Goldwater." Now the liberal Republicans have sold that, and the Kennedy people have sold that, and the country has bought that. . . . Now . . . they've sold the picture that we've got to be watched and we're corrupt. The Walter Jenkins thing has hurt us.

LBJ and the Man from Independence: An Evening With David Schafer

Throughout most of his life, Lyndon Johnson found older mentors who befriended him and helped him on his way. Perhaps the first was the president of Southwest Texas State Teachers College in San Marcos, Cecil Evans. Alvin Wirtz, the canny Austin lawyer, gave Johnson invaluable advice and support in his early days in Congress. Speaker Sam Rayburn took Congressman Johnson under his wing. LBJ was a court favorite of Franklin Roosevelt's.

And formidable Georgia Senator Richard Russell first made LBJ minority leader and then majority leader of the Senate.

Harry Truman did not play that sort of role in LBJ's career. Still their friendship was genuine, and it deepened after Truman left office. National Park Ranger David Schafer recounted the story of that relationship to a crowd at the LBJ Auditorium on January 10. He began by citing a letter from Johnson to Truman dated December 15, 1945:

"Dear Mr. President:

- Because of your friendship through the years;
- Because of your many kindnesses to me;
- Because I want you to have the finest Christmas turkey the finest state in the Union can produce;
- Because I look forward to your company and counsel in the years to come;
- Because of all these things, but mainly because you're you, there is a Christmas turkey at the Terminal Refrigerating and Warehousing Corporation at 4th and D Streets, SW, Washington, D.C., left there for you by

Lyndon B. Johnson

Among the artifacts that the Park Service found in the Truman home, said Schafer, was a Stetson Homberg hat, in Truman's size. Embossed on the sweatband were the words, "Made by Stetson especially for Lyndon B. Johnson."

"That hat," Schafer continued, "is a tangible link between these two presidents." But then there are many such links, he explained, and he is in a position to know. He has spent years as a ranger at the historic sites named for both men.

While president, LBJ flew to Missouri seven times to see Truman, Schafer noted, and they talked by phone many times. At LBJ's request, Truman accompanied Lady Bird

Johnson to Greece for the funeral of King Paul I. Schafer quoted from Mrs. Johnson's *White House Diary* to illustrate Truman's presidential style. "Get all the information you can," Truman told Mrs. Johnson while on the plane to Greece, "make up your mind and go ahead—and tell them [the critics] to go to hell."

Schafer described how the Johnsons and the Trumans met at the World Fair in New York. LBJ gave Bess Truman an enthusiastic hug. "There's not many men I'd let greet my wife like that," grinned Truman. LBJ retorted, "There's not many men I'd let take my wife to Greece, except you."



Library Visitor Sees Herself in Portrait

By Robert Hicks, Public Relations

Heather Lattuca had only hazy memories of posing for an artist in her hometown of Amherst, Mass. That's understandable, because she was three years old at the time.

In 1981, Lady Bird Johnson commissioned artist Alfred Leslie to paint a portrait of "Thirteen Americans," representing the people for whom the extensive social legislation of the 1960s was enacted. The artist chose Heather as one of his models. Twenty years after posing, she finally saw the finished product for the first time in the lobby of the LBJ Library and Museum. Heather's parents joined her in Austin to view the artwork and pointed out to Heather various neighbors who also posed for Leslie.

This could be a case of life imitating art. In "Thirteen Americans," Heather represented children who were to be helped by LBJ's Great



Heather Lattuca and her parents. She was the model for the little girl in the painting, just over her right shoulder.

Society programs. Today, as an adult, Heather herself is working with children. She is part of a worldwide project called the Missoula Children's

Theater. In early August, Heather was in Austin helping children to stage a play in an effort to introduce more young people to theater and the arts.

Let's Be Friends. . . .

Members of the Friends of the LBJ Library are eligible to attend the many events made possible by the Friends organization: Preview receptions for major exhibitions; symposia and conferences; and the highly successful "Evening With" lecture series, which in the past has featured such noted authors, politicians, columnists, statesmen and historians as William Bundy, Horace Busby, Joseph Califano, Ramsey Clark, David and Julie Nixon Eisenhower, John Kenneth Galbraith, Barry Goldwater, Ann Landers, David McCullough, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Charles Robb, Dean

Rusk, Liz Smith, William Westmoreland, and Brian Williams. You will have free admission to all the other presidential libraries (the LBJ Library is the only one that doesn't charge), and a 15% discount on purchases made in the Museum store.

To join, fill out the form below, cut along the dotted line and send, with a check, to:

Larry Reed
LBJ Foundation
2313 Red River
Austin, TX 78705-5702

I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LBJ LIBRARY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Membership | \$65 per person annually
(\$130 per couple) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Membership
(Age 65+) | \$50 per person annually
(\$100 per couple) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership | \$200 annually
(Accumulative toward Lifetime Membership) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership | \$2,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Membership
(Please call 478-7829 for Corporate Membership information) | \$5,000 annually |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check. | |

Name *(please print)*

Address

City

Zip

Telephone

Please make checks payable to The Friends of the LBJ Library.

In Memoriam



Cyrus Vance, 1917-2002
Deputy Secretary of Defense



Joseph Laitin, 1914-2002
Assistant White House
Press Secretary



John Gardner, 1912-2002
Secretary of Health,
Education and Welfare



John Barr, 1938-2002
Secretary/Treasurer,
LBJ Foundation

Coming Events:

Treasures from Hollywood Film Series, sponsored by the Ransom Center in the Bass Lecture Hall, LBJ Library. Library doors open at 6:00 p.m. to view exhibit on second floor; movies at 7:00. Steve Wilson, Ransom Center film curator, will introduce each film.

North by Northwest, March 13, 2002

Gone With The Wind, April 24, 2002

- March 19 *An Evening With: "September 11—Six Months Later."* What has changed since September 11? What have we learned—and what do we need to learn? A panel of distinguished analysts will discuss these issues from four perspectives: **Government**—Elspeth Rostow (former Dean of the LBJ School of Public Affairs); **Counter-terrorism**—Philip Bobbitt (former Senior Director for Critical Infrastructure Protection, NSC); **Foreign Relations**—Bobby Ray Inman (former Deputy Director of Central Intelligence); **Media and Popular Culture**—Rod Hart (Director, Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation). 6:00 p.m., LBJ Auditorium.
- May 1 *An Evening With: "What If?"* Three distinguished writers examine some crucial turning points in history: What if Socrates had died at Delium? What if William the Conqueror had lost at Hastings? And several "iffy" questions about FDR. 6:00 p.m., LBJ Auditorium.

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

Editor: Ted Gittinger

Columnist: Robert Hicks

Research Assistance: Phil Scott, Robert Hicks, Char Diercks, Kyla Wilson

Technical Assistance: Fletcher Burton, Charles Bogel

Photography: Charles Bogel; Ave Bonar

www.lbjlib.utexas.edu

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

