**The Presidency and the Supreme Court**

A Conference Organized by the Presidential Libraries

**November 11 - 12, 2007**

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

The Archivist of the United States and the nation’s twelve presidential libraries will host the “The Presidency and the Supreme Court,” a national conference being held at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, the nation’s first presidential library, in Hyde Park, New York, November 11-12, 2007.

The conference is scheduled to coincide with the 125th anniversary of Franklin Roosevelt’s birth and the 70th anniversary of the Constitutional Revolution of 1937. The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, the Foundation for the National Archives, and the presidential libraries and their foundations have generously funded this gathering of prominent scholars, policymakers, and journalists, who will deliberate on the complex relationship between the Supreme Court and the Presidency and the impact of that interaction on American society.

The conference will be modeled on the first joint sponsored presidential libraries conference, “Vietnam and the Presidency,” which was held at the Kennedy Library in March 2005. In a bi-partisan manner exemplifying the impartial role of the presidential libraries, the Supreme Court conference will bring together a wide range of speakers who represent the diversity of American political conviction. The conference will feature a taped video welcome by former President George H. W. Bush and a keynote address by former Associate Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

The conference opens with an overview of the Hoover and Roosevelt Courts, moderated by Columbia University Provost Alan Brinkley, editor of a recent American Historical Review article on The Constitutional Revolution of 1937. A panel moderated by Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein will examine the political process of Supreme Court nominations and confirmations from Presidents Truman through Clinton. Throughout the second day of the conference, National Public Radio’s Nina Totenberg will moderate panels of distinguished speakers who will examine the Court’s influence on social issues, civil rights and presidential power in times of crisis. In all panel discussions ample time will be provided for audience participation.

“The Presidency and the Supreme Court” will be held at the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Home in Hyde Park, New York. The conference is open to the general public free of charge. Seating is very limited and reservations are required. To make a reservation call (845) 486-1966.

**CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007**

1:00 p.m. Welcoming Remarks
Professor Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States; Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Co-Chair; Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute; Former President George H. W. Bush (via video).

1:15 - 3:00 p.m. Presidents Hoover and Roosevelt and the 1930s Supreme Court
The consequential Supreme Court decisions, appointments and presidential politics of the 1930s.
Chair: Alan Brinkley, Provost, Columbia University; Professors William E. Leuchtenburg and G. Edward White; Author and Newsweek Senior Editor Jonathan Alter.

3:00 - 4:45 p.m. Shaping the Modern Court: Presidents Truman through Clinton
Insider accounts of Supreme Court appointments and how the appointment process has changed over the past sixty years.
Chair: Allen Weinstein; Ambassador C. Boyden Gray; Professors Douglas Brinkley and Laura Katman.

5:00 p.m. Keynote Address: The Honorable Sandra Day O’Connor

**Monday, November 12, 2007**

9:15 a.m. Welcoming Remarks
Sharon Fawcett, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries; The Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York.

Moderator for the day:
National Public Radio Legal Affairs Correspondent Nina Totenberg.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. The Presidency, the Supreme Court and Civil Rights
The interactions of Presidents and the Supreme Court on topics relating to discrimination, equality and civil rights.
Chair: Civil rights leader and former Assistant Attorney General Roger Wilkins; Professor David A. Nichols; former Secretary of Education the Hon. Shirley Hufstedler; Professor and former Civil Rights Attorney General Roger Truillo; National Public Radio Senior Correspondent Juan Williams.

Lunch Break
12:45 - 2:45 p.m. The Presidency, the Supreme Court and the “Culture Wars”
Presidential and Supreme Court concerns and decisions relating to abortion, the death penalty, gay rights, religion and other topics of societal division.
Chair: The Hon. Michael W. McConnell; Professors Heather Gerken and Michael C. Dorf.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. The Supreme Court and Presidential Power
Supreme Court adjudication of the limits of executive power under the Constitution, especially in times of war and crisis.
Chair: Professors John Q. Barten, former White House Counsel John W. Dean, Author and former New York Times Columnist Anthony Lewis; former White House Counsel Beth Nolan.

5:00 p.m. Concluding Remarks
Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute

The Presidency and the Supreme Court is sponsored by the nation’s twelve presidential libraries, their foundations, the National Archives, the Foundation for the National Archives, and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute with generous support from:

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- FROM THE DIRECTOR

This issue of Rendezvous is headlined by “The Presidency and the Supreme Court,” which is a national conference being held in Hyde Park, sponsored by all twelve of the nation’s presidential libraries—from Hoover through Clinton—the National Archives, and the foundations that support our presidential libraries.

The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute is taking a leadership role in co-sponsoring this important conference, whose topic was originally suggested by Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel when he attended the first national conference sponsored by the presidential libraries: “Vietnam and the Presidency” held at the Kennedy Library in 2006. The then-director of the Kennedy Library, Deborah Leff, spearheaded this important first step in the development of educational programs on inclusive themes that cut across a broad swath of the history of the modern American Presidency.

The fact that we are now offering the second collaboratively developed presidential libraries conference is a major step to a goal we in the presidential libraries have been working towards for several years. We owe much to our leader, Sharon Fawcett, the assistant archivist for presidential libraries, for nudging us along and for nurturing a spirit of cooperation rather than competition. This is important because it can only lead to better service and an increased understanding of the presidency among the American people, who are the constituency for all of our libraries.

Another joint presidential libraries project is the Presidential Timeline, an interactive online chronology of the presidencies in the federal system of presidential libraries that are part of the National Archives. This important project has been spearheaded by Betty Sue Flowers, director of the LBJ Library, who worked with the University of Texas to submit a successful grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities, which provided the start-up costs. Now new private funders are responding to this important learning tool that will provide historical context and a long-term view of presidential history accessible to students, teachers, and the general public. One day, if we are successful, the Presidential Timeline will encompass all 43 American presidents. I invite you to view it online at www.presidentialtimeline.org.

(continued on page 2)
Roosevelt Library’s New Deal Store Launches Online Shopping Cart

The New Deal Store online is here! No need to leave the comfort of your computer screen to shop for Roosevelt-related books, gifts, and other treasures from our New Deal Store in the Henry A. Wallace Center.

Available at www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu, the online store is a one-stop shopping experience for FDR and ER admirers all over the world. Better yet, shoppers help the “cause” of supporting the work of the FDR Presidential Library and the Home of FDR National Historic Site.

Online shoppers can browse and buy using the electronic shopping cart. Check out is easy and purchases will be on their way within two business days. From the latest books on the Roosevelts and their times, to T-shirts, ties and caps, multimedia, campaign memorabilia, and museum replicas—the New Deal Store has it all. New items are added weekly so come back and browse often.

For our Rendezvous readers we have a special incentive. Just type in the word “Rendezvous” in the code box and receive a 10% discount on your entire order until December 25, 2007, so plan to do your holiday shopping here.

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute Announces New Leadership

The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute announced new leadership at its April 2005 Board of Directors and Governors meeting.

Richard F. French, Jr. will join Anna Eleanor Roosevelt as Co-Chair of the combined Roosevelt Institute Boards. Stepping down as Co-Chair is Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, who will take over the role for many years as President and Co-chair. He will continue to offer guidance and inspiration in his new role as Founder and Chairman Emeritus. Joining Mr. French and Ms. Roosevelt in leadership of the Board is Alison Overseth, who will serve as Chair of the Executive Committee. Christopher J. Breiseth has resumed his position as President and CEO following his tenure as President Emeritus, completing the leadership team.

The change comes as the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute marks the twentieth anniversary of its founding in 1987 under the late Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Ambassador vanden Heuvel and the late Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. Fredrica Goodman was FERI’s first Executive Director; she has served on the board ever since.

Last Chance to see World War II Exhibition

There are just a few weeks left to experience the special exhibition Freedom From Fear: FDR Commander in Chief. The popular exhibit closes on December 31, 2007 after an extended two-year run. It has attracted large numbers of visitors and inspired substantial media coverage, including strong reviews in The New York Times and other publications.

Freedom From Fear—on view in the vanden Heuvel Special Exhibitions Gallery—offers visitors an unprecedented glimpse into President Roosevelt’s wartime leadership with rich displays of top secret documents, rarely seen artifacts, and immense audiovisual productions.

The speed and scope of Roosevelt’s actions during these dramatic days was unprecedented. The nation-changing actions he initiated continue to shape our economic and political lives today. Seventy-five years later, new presidents still recall FDR’s historic first days in office, emphasizing the agenda for their own first “100 Days.”

100 Days That Saved America opens on March 4, 2008—the 75th anniversary of President Roosevelt’s inauguration and the famous inaugural address in which he assured the nation that “the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” It will feature treasured and rarely seen documents and artifacts from the Library’s collections, along with historic photographs, posters, films, and audio reflecting life in America during the first months of the Roosevelt administration.

The Roosevelt Library is completing work on a collaborative project with the crew of the USS Roosevelt (DDG 80) to create exhibits aboard the ship that feature reproductions of photographs, documents and posters from the Library’s collections. The Roosevelt is a guided missile destroyer named in honor of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

USS Roosevelt Displays

The Roosevelt Library is preparing for the C-SPAN broadcast, September 14, 2007.

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We at the Roosevelt Library are delighted to be part of this new sense of shared mission among the presidential libraries—for all of us it was FDR who established what was to become the presidential libraries system. Nearing the end of his second term and contemplating his post-presidency, Roosevelt began casting about for a way to preserve in one place the millions of pages of papers from his life in public service. No other repository would take it all—from his years as New York state senator, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Governor of New York and finally the Presidency. Moreover he had his vast personal collections of ship models, naval and maritime art, gifts from heads of state and ordinary Americans, New Deal art, Hudson Valley art and artifacts—and of course, family papers and mementoes. And so he conceived the model that is followed to this day. He established a private foundation to raise the funds to build the library and when it was complete, turned it over to the National Archives, a new agency authorized in 1934 to collect and preserve the papers of our federal government. President Truman followed suit and by 1955 under President Eisenhower’s leadership, the Presidential Libraries Act established the system of presidential libraries.

At the last meeting of the directors of presidential libraries—held at the Harry Truman Library in Independence, Missouri, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of that library—we adopted a mission statement. I think it is high time we share it with you, the American people:

Presidential Libraries promote understanding of the presidency and the American experience. We preserve and promote access to historical materials, support research, curate interactive programs and exhibits that educate and inspire.

Cynthia M. Koch
September 2007

(continued from page 1)

Franklin Roosevelt. The eighty students syncopated song whose lyrics tell the "Tribute to Our First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt". I am glad to have it and more than appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending it to me.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Hollier
261 Rogers Avenue
Brooklyn 25, New York

Dear Mr Hollier:

Thank you very much for the "Tribute to Our First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt".

It was a new acquisition in 2007.

From Eugene Westerberg the Library received a loan with intent to deposit a unique "chit" handwritten by FDR on or about December 13, 1941 in which he lists four action points related to wartime joint strategic planning between the United States, China, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain. In this single document we can see the origins of the coalition that Franklin Roosevelt would later call the "Four Policeman" of the United Nations.

During the weeks surrounding the first inaugural of Franklin Roosevelt. The Roos were spiritual confidants of Wallace, and he shared with them in these letters some of the extraordinary events he experienced during the First Hundred Days, including designing the New Deal farm programs and watching FDR sign the bill abrogating the gold clause. A classic archival story, these letters were found in an old shed by the new owner of the Roos house in California.

Twelve year to learn about the Roosevelts and the creation and operations of the Office of Government Reports established during the FDR administration.

Although as of this writing the Library's fiscal year is not yet over, we already have exceeded last year's researcher numbers, which made us the busiest research room in the presidential library system. As of August 31st, the research room has hosted 1,394 researcher visits and the Library staff has responded to 2,555 requests for information—putting us in good stead for retaining our right to claim the mantel of busiest research room for another year.

The archives was particularly happy to welcome to the research room noted Roosevelt biographer James MacGregor Burns and his co-author Susan Dunn, as well as the many students, scholars and citizens who come to the Library every year to learn about the Roosevelts and the Roosevelt era.

During July 31 to August 2, the National Park Service’s Teaching the Hudson Valley professional development seminar was held in the Wallace Center for 125 teachers from the region. This year’s theme was “Explore, Innovate, and Inspire.” Archivist Robert Clark presented a workshop on using the Roosevelt Library’s primary source documents.

Jeffrey Urbin also presented other workshops this summer: The Emboldened President for the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics; The Call Fellows Program Summer Leadership for Columbia University’s Teacher College; 2007 Teaching American History Project Summer Institute for EASTCONN Regional Education Service Center. In August he traveled to Washington, D.C. for the Campaign 2008 Classroom Educators’ Conference at the C-SPAN headquarters. Director Cynthia Koch conducted a seminar at the 2007 Penn Legacy Institute in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on the significance of the Election of 1932.

During the first two weeks of August, 80th and 120 teachers were introduced to Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. While here they were trained in how to use primary source material in their classrooms and how to get students to analyze and think critically about such material. For those workshops held on site, the classroom experience was capped off with tours of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, and the Research Room.

Participants from the Roosevelt Institute’s NEH sponsored FDR and World Crisis, 1933-1945: Roosevelt in Hyde Park gathered around the statue of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, July 19, 2007.

To learn about programs of the Roosevelt Library sign up for our Email Bulletin by sending an email to clifford.laube@nara.gov and typing “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line.
**JOIN THE WORLD OF THE ROOSEVELTS**

Become a member of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. Enjoy the benefits—and the knowledge that you are providing vital support to the FDR Presidential Library and Museum.

### Membership Benefits

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<tr>
<td><strong>Individual</strong></td>
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<td>Unlimited free admission for one adult to the Roosevelt Library and Museum for one year. Children 15 and under admitted free; 10% discount at the New Deal Museum Store; Subscriptions to <em>The View from Hyde Park</em>, the FERI newsletter, and <em>Rendezvous</em>, the Roosevelt Library newsletter; Discounts for conferences, lectures, and seminars sponsored by FERI and the Roosevelt Library; Free admission to all Presidential Libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. <a href="http://www.archives.gov">www.archives.gov</a></td>
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<td><strong>Family</strong></td>
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<td><strong>New Dealer</strong></td>
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<td>Includes the benefits of Family membership plus unlimited free admission for four adults and a subscription to <em>Prologue</em>, the quarterly magazine of the National Archives.</td>
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<td><strong>Cuff Links Club</strong></td>
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<td>Includes the benefits of New Dealer membership plus free admission to all Roosevelt Library and FERI seminars, conferences, or lectures, where a fee is required.</td>
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<td><strong>Brains Trust</strong></td>
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<td>Includes the benefits of Cuff Links Club membership plus a behind-the-scenes tour for up to four people of the Roosevelt Library archives.</td>
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**Membership Form**

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