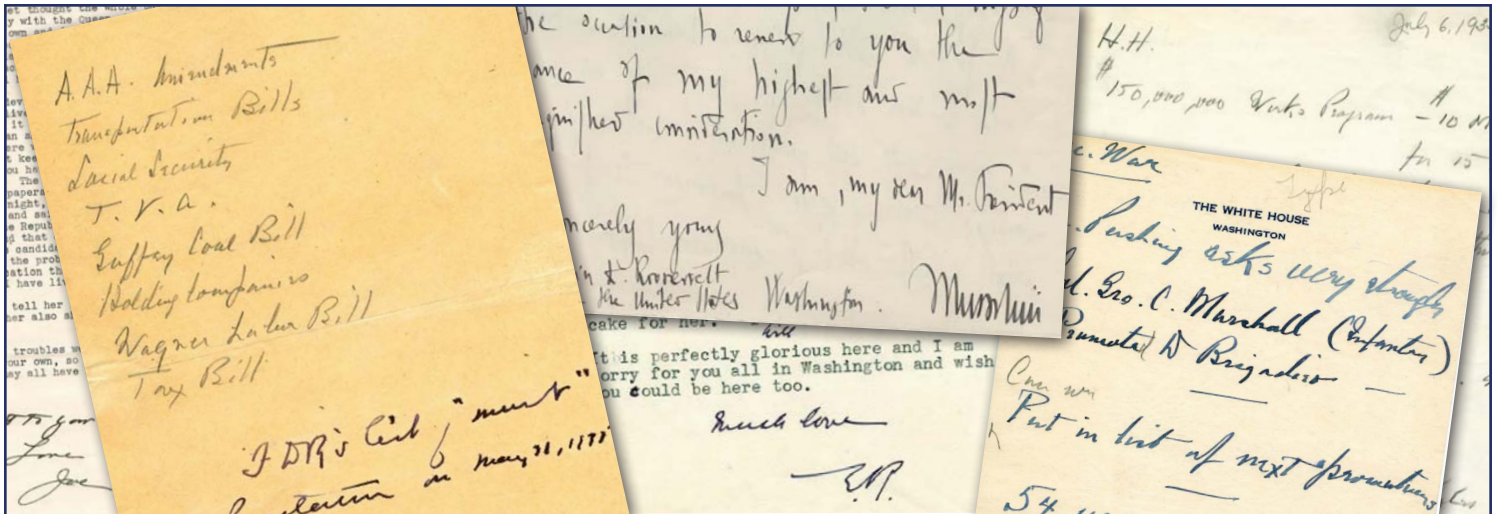


On Our Way

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

with support from the Roosevelt Institute

The Grace Tully Collection - Open and Online



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

The FDR Presidential Library, over the course of eight months, acquired a significant collection of Roosevelt-era papers, opened these materials to the public for research and made the entire collection available on the Library's web site.

The Tully Collection is an archive of original FDR-related papers and memorabilia that had been in the possession of the President's last personal secretary, Miss Grace Tully. This donation to the Roosevelt Library is the result of more than five years of negotiation between the government and the private parties involved.

The Grace Tully Collection was donated to the Roosevelt Library by the Sun Times Media Group, now known as the Chicago Newspaper Liquidation Corporation, following

enactment in February 2010 of Public Law 111-138, sponsored in the Senate by Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) and in the House by Representative Louise Slaughter (D-NY). Sun Times is a successor to Hollinger International, whose CEO, Conrad Black, had purchased the Tully Collection and authored, *Franklin D. Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom*.

Interesting documents in the collection include a 1936 FDR "chit" regarding the promotion of George C. Marshall to Brigadier General; a handwritten list by FDR indicating his legislative priorities for the year 1935, including Social Security and the Wagner Labor Bill; a letter from Amb. Joseph P. Kennedy to Missy LeHand describing his views on World War II, the social scene in London following the outbreak of war, and the loneliness of serving abroad without his

family; and a June 1933 handwritten letter from Mussolini expressing his deep gratitude and admiration to the President. Il Duce also expresses his hope that he and FDR might meet one day to "discuss the outstanding world problems in which the United States and Italy are mutually interested."

On November 15, 2010, the Grace Tully Collection was officially opened to researchers at the Roosevelt Library, and the entire collection was digitized and made available online in March of 2011. The finding aid is now posted on the Roosevelt Library's website at www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

ONLINE RESOURCES

[About the Grace Tully Collection](#)
[Online Finding Aid and Documents](#)
[Prologue Article - Spring 2011](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

APRIL 2011

THE GRACE TULLY COLLECTION - OPEN AND ONLINE
SOCIAL SECURITY EXHIBIT - IN THEIR OWN WORDS
REMEMBERING RIVINGTON R. WINANT
FDR AND AMERICA'S "NATIONAL PASTIME"

ARCHIVIST ALCYIA VIVONA TO RETIRE
SUMMER 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
OUR PARTNER: THE ROOSEVELT INSTITUTE
THE NEW "ON OUR WAY" NEWSLETTER

Social Security Exhibit: In Their Own Words

The Roosevelt Library and Museum's current special exhibition, *"Our Plain Duty": FDR and America's Social Security* has been enthusiastically received by visitors. Below are a selection of remarks taken from the comment book in the exhibit. *"Our Plain Duty" is open through December 31, 2011.*

“OUR



PLAIN



DUTY”



FDR AND AMERICA'S
SOCIAL SECURITY

SPECIAL EXHIBITION

“Yes!
It is still our
Plain Duty.”

“Social Security helped support me as a child when my father died. It helps me now in my older years. It helps so many people. God bless all who made it possible.”

“*Absolutely*, Social Security is still ‘our plain duty.’ Those who are elderly, infirm, alone deserve our help. WE are required by our conscience to devise a way to clothe, feed, and house every American.”

“What a remarkable vision—and the courage to withstand the political fury. Perhaps today’s politicians should re-read their history books and learn how to act in the interests of ALL people.”

“World’s *biggest* Ponzi scheme.”

“Without freedom from want none of the other three can sustain. Thank you FDR, Francis Perkins . . . I cheerfully contribute to the welfare of my fellow Americans knowing that it makes my country stronger in every way.”

Rivington R. Winant



JACK MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Rivington R. Winant, longtime Roosevelt Institute board member, former Treasurer of the United Nations and son of John G. Winant, the first Chairman of the Social Security Board, passed away on February 3, 2011. He was a dear friend and supporter of the Roosevelt Library.

“Riv,” as he was known to us, participated in the Library’s opening celebration of the “Our Plain Duty” exhibit on August 14, 2010. He is pictured here (*center*) with members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

FDR and America's "National Pastime"

Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "Baseball has been called the national pastime and rightly so because it stands for the fair play, clean living and good sportsmanship which are our national heritage. That is why it has such a warm place in our hearts." This statement – and FDR's strong support for professional baseball in 1942 – redefined baseball's role in American culture and ensured its place as America's national pastime.

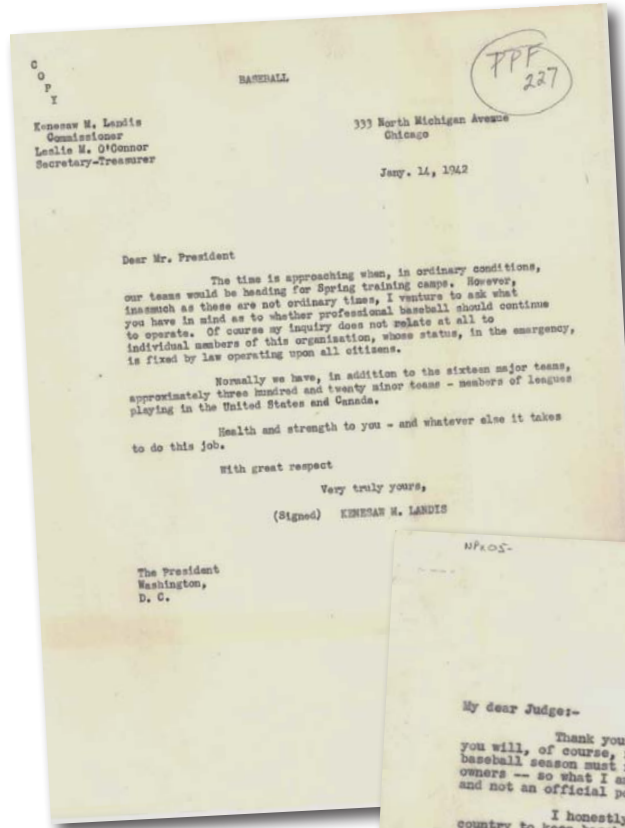
When the United States entered World War II, professional baseball, like many other American institutions, was called upon to make sacrifices and serve in the war effort. Prior to the 1942 season, Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis wrote to the President asking "whether professional baseball should continue to operate."

In response, President Roosevelt issued his famous "Green Light Letter," stating that he felt it would be best for the country to keep professional baseball going with those citizens who did not qualify for military service. Roosevelt believed that keeping the nation's



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

FDR throws out the first pitch of a regular season game between the Boston Red Sox and the Washington Senators at Griffith Stadium, Washington, DC. April 24, 1934.



pastime alive would provide needed recreational activities for American citizens. This idea provided pivotal support for the survival of the game during the war and afterwards.

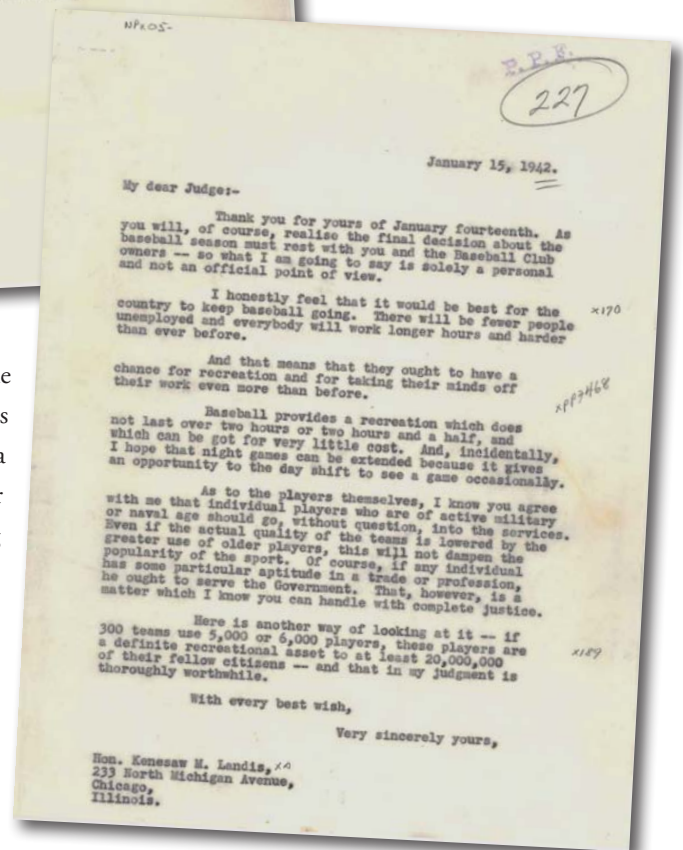
On the Home Front baseball served as a pleasant diversion for Americans. Towns organized teams as a source of local entertainment when gasoline and rubber rationing kept families close to home.

Baseball became a large part of the war effort as well. Professional baseball clubs held fundraisers to benefit the USO, American Red Cross, and a number of other service organizations to support the war effort. Military personnel played "pick-up" ball games and received box scores on the front lines. All in all, baseball provided an important boost in morale for American citizens on all fronts.

FEATURED DOCUMENTS

Left: The "Red Light Letter" from Baseball Commissioner Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis expressing concern about the propriety of proceeding with the baseball season, January 14, 1942. FDR Presidential Library

Below: The "Green Light Letter," FDR's prompt response to Judge Landis' inquiry giving baseball the go ahead to proceed and expressing the value of baseball in time of war, January 15, 1942. Carbon Copy. FDR Presidential Library



Commissioner Landis's original "Red Light Letter" and the official carbon copy of President Roosevelt's "Green Light Letter" are located in the Roosevelt Library archives. The original "Green Light Letter" resides at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Document Pack - Presidents and Baseball
Featured Store Item - FDR Baseball T-Shirt

Archivist Alycia Vivona Retires After 34 Years

A farewell from Alycia . . .

It was April when I came and it is April again, thirty-four years later, and I leave the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library with many wonderful memories. It is a bittersweet time, a time for parting but also a time for new challenges and adventures.

What will I remember most of these past thirty four years? First, I will remember the people: my colleagues, the devoted volunteers and those special people with a link to the Roosevelt family, some of whom are now dear friends; the researchers, both those who could follow directions and those who could not; the support staff (guards, mechanics and maintenance) all of whom added to the quality of my working life.

I will remember the documents that President Roosevelt left to this nation so that people like myself, a girl from the Bronx, could better understand the past and believe in the future – the multiple drafts of his speeches with handwritten annotations and corrections, the Queen’s letter following the hot dog picnic, Einstein’s letter that led to the development of the atomic bomb and Stalin’s “shopping list” for Lend-Lease aid.

And the personal memorabilia associated with his life leg braces, ship models, the Navy cape an emaciated President Roosevelt wore at Yalta and his books, many with autographs, few with comments. And, I will remember that I handled every single one of FDR’s personal books as I redefined his original gift to the United States Government.

But, perhaps most of all, I will remember the challenge of answering thousands of reference queries, sometimes trying to find that needle in the haystack of seventeen million pages of documents. And the feeling of exhilaration

when one could find that obscure fact or corroborate that family story. And, just maybe, I won’t quite give that part up.

But, if I have a story to tell, and I am not a storyteller by nature, it would be about President Clinton’s first trip to Hyde Park and my part in preserving the integrity of the study of a previous inhabitant of the White House.



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

I was a museum specialist at the time and President Clinton was to be interviewed in FDR’s Study. Armed with my white gloves, I was charged with moving museum objects as the media set up their cameras, curtailing the unnecessary use of light, unlocking cabinets for the Secret Service, etc.

Although I had moved to the background, I was the first person President Clinton greeted as he entered the building. I said something inane like, “Welcome to Hyde Park, Mr. President.” I wondered how many times he’d heard that before. He paused, greeted me, shook my hand, admired a pin I was wearing and made me feel like the most important person of the moment. He seemed unhurried, unpressured and I was charmed.

He entered the gate into the Study before I realized he was carrying an FDR mug which, I presumed, was filled with coffee. When he contemplated placing the mug on the desk behind him I shuddered involuntarily fearing I would have to say, “Please remove that coffee cup from the President’s desk, sir.” Luckily, I was not called upon to make any such pronouncements. Instead, the President placed the coffee mug, out of sight, at his feet. My relief was short lived. The desk was a reproduction; FDR’s son James had inherited the original, his father’s George Washington desk. The carpet, on the other hand, was a priceless gift to FDR from the Shah of Iran.

During the interview, I listened with respect to the newly elected President, but I kept an eye on that coffee mug at his feet. As soon as the interview was over and the President stood up, I made a beeline to the coffee cup, still on the floor. It is fortunate that the Secret Service knew who I was or the consequences might have been embarrassing. But, I rescued the cup from the carpet, surrendered it to the Secret Service and breathed a sigh of relief. The next day, the Director who, I believe, was unaware of the events of the previous day, provided me with a photograph. There stands the President and there I am with an FDR coffee mug in my hands. It is a wonderful memento of a remarkable day.

When faced with running for an unprecedented third term in 1940, FDR said, “I find myself, as almost everyone does sooner or later in his lifetime, in a conflict between a deep personal desire for retirement on the one hand, and that quiet, invisible thing called ‘conscience’ on the other.” With a country on the brink of war, he had to stay and finish the job, but, for me, I can retire with a clear conscience that my job is done. My colleagues will carry on and I wish them the same sense of fulfillment that I take with me on retirement.

Summer 2011 - Featured Programs and Events

Friday, May 27, 2011

USO Show

Location: Henry A. Wallace Center

Time: 7:00 p.m.

An evening of WWII-era entertainment will transport visitors back to the Roosevelt days as the FDR Presidential Library hosts a USO Show on Friday, May 27, 2011. Attendees will enjoy an evening of comedy and entertainment, historic film footage, and music from the 1940s. *Free public event.*

Saturday, May 28

through Sunday, May 29, 2011

Bivouac: Living History Encampment

Location: Lawn behind Roosevelt Library

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29, 2011 the lawn behind the Roosevelt Library will take on the appearance of a World War II encampment. Period military vehicles of all sizes, weapons, insignia will be on display and soldiers in battle dress will be on hand to share their love of history with World War II enthusiasts, families, teachers, and students. *Free public event.*

Saturday, June 18, 2011

Roosevelt Reading Festival

Location: Henry A. Wallace Center

Time: 9:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The FDR Presidential Library will present the 8th Annual Roosevelt Reading Festival on Saturday, June 18, 2011. In concurrent sessions throughout the day, authors of recently published works that draw upon the Roosevelt Library archives will present author talks followed by book signings. Copies of all of the authors' books will be available for sale in the New Deal Store located in the Wallace Center. *Free public event.*

Please note: Authors listed to the right will be featured in this year's Reading Festival.



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

The "Bivouac" Living History Encampment is an interactive experience for the whole family.

Sunday, September 11

through Saturday, September 17, 2011

Constitution Week

Display in Henry A. Wallace Center

Time: 8:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

In partnership with the Constitution Center's annual *I Signed the Constitution* program, the Roosevelt Library will commemorate Constitution Day (Sept. 17) with a week-long display in the Wallace Center. A copy of the U.S. Constitution will be on display for the general public, and citizens can publicly acknowledge their dedication to the ideals of our governing document. *Free public event.*



Subscribe to our email bulletin to receive press releases and up-to-date information about upcoming programs and events.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS

based on research at the Roosevelt Library

Altschuler, Bruce E.

Acting Presidents:

100 Years of Plays about the Presidency

Palgrave Macmillan, 2010

Beasley, Maurine H.

Eleanor Roosevelt:

Transformative First Lady

University Press of Kansas, 2010

Dinunzio, Mario R.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

and the Third American Revolution

Praeger Publishers, 2011

Dunn, Susan

Roosevelt's Purge:

How FDR Fought to

Change the Democratic Party

Belknap Press

of Harvard University Press, 2010

Moye, J. Todd

Freedom Flyer;

The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II

Oxford University Press, 2010

Robinson, Greg

A Tragedy of Democracy:

Japanese Confinement in North America

Columbia University Press, 2009

Snow, Richard

A Measureless Peril:

America in the Fight for the Atlantic, the Longest Battle of World War II

Scribner, 2010

Terzian, Philip

Architects of Power: Roosevelt,

Eisenhower, and the American Century

Brief Encounters, 2010

Waller, Douglas

Wild Bill Donovan:

The Spymaster Who Created the OSS and Modern American Espionage

Free Press, 2011

Wynn, Neil A.

The African American Experience during World War II

Rowman and Littlefield, 2010

Our Partner: The Roosevelt Institute

The Roosevelt Institute is dedicated to carrying forward the values and vision of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. With offices in Hyde Park, New York City, and Washington, D.C., the Institute enjoys a special relationship with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum.

The Institute also works across the country to nurture leaders in public service inspired by the models of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, through a network of 80 progressive college campus-based think tank organizations that include more than 8000 student members. The Institute also promotes fresh thinking in critical areas of economic and social policy, building new paradigms for the 21st century based on the Roosevelts' values and vision.



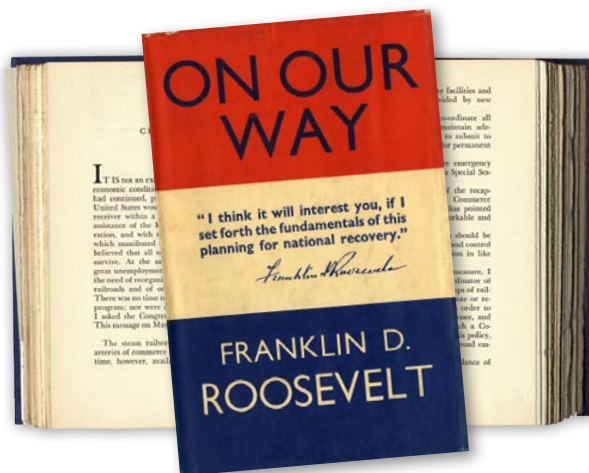
As the nonprofit partner to the FDR Presidential Library, the Roosevelt Institute supports the Library's educational programs, exhibits, and special initiatives. Call (212) 444-9130 or follow the link below to become a Member and receive special benefits at the Roosevelt Library.

To learn more about the Institute visit www.rooseveltinstitute.org.

About the *On Our Way* Newsletter

The Roosevelt Library is proud to present this new online newsletter. *On Our Way* is designed for both online viewing and easy printing from a home computer. When viewing this PDF newsletter online, readers can link directly to additional internet resources about the Roosevelts, the era in which they lived, and the FDR Presidential Library and it's offerings.

The title *On Our Way* is borrowed from a 1934 book – of the same name – written by President Roosevelt himself giving his personal account of the first year of his administration and describing the basic ideas for the New Deal.



As the Library goes through an extensive renovation and prepares a new permanent exhibition – to bring a “new deal” to a new generation – we think it is particularly appropriate to use this inspirational phrase to name our new online newsletter.

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

The Roosevelt Library and it's parent agency, the National Archives and Records Administration, are now using Web 2.0 technologies to create new ways of communicating with the public.

Please visit the links below to learn more about our resources, upcoming events and news from the Roosevelt Library.

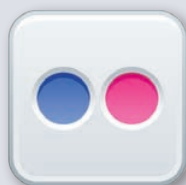
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