



PRESS RELEASE

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
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VISIT

FEBRUARY 10, 2006
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY
PRESENTS PRESIDENTS' DAY WEEKEND
AUTHOR TALK & BOOK SIGNING**

**ERIC S. PETERSEN
EDITOR OF *LIGHT AND LIBERTY: REFLECTIONS ON THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS*
WRITINGS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 2 PM
HENRY A. WALLACE CENTER AT THE
FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND HOME**

HYDE PARK, NY—The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will host an author talk and book signing at 2 PM on Sunday, February 19, with Eric S. Petersen, editor of *Light and Liberty: Reflections on the Pursuit of Happiness*, a compilation of writings by Thomas Jefferson. A special introduction will be given by the Roosevelt Library's supervisory archivist, Robert Clark, who will speak about Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton and their influences on Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mr. Petersen will be available to sign copies of his book following the talk.

This event is being held in support of the exhibition, *Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America*, the latest exhibit of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District, at the Adriance Memorial Library, open through Friday, February 24. Visit <http://poklib.org/> for details.

Light and Liberty is the book of inspiration that Thomas Jefferson never wrote, although every word is his. Editor Eric S. Petersen, after extensive study of Jefferson's reports, state papers, speeches, and twenty thousand letters, has elegantly woven together thirty-four concise essays on how to lead a meaningful life, both as individuals and in our life as a nation. The subjects include patriotism and liberty, hope, forgiveness, patience, and humility, all considered in Jefferson's uniquely rational and eloquent voice.

Mikhail Gorbachev, former President of the Soviet Union, praised Mr. Petersen's book stating, "I admire the huge work undertaken by the author, Eric S. Petersen, who has examined countless letters and papers written by Thomas Jefferson over more than half a century. The outcome of Petersen's painstaking research is this extraordinary book, *Light and Liberty*, which contains a wealth of opinions and pronouncements from the third President of the United States on such universal values as liberty, faith and the pursuit of happiness. The book is indeed very interesting and extremely enlightening, and I am convinced that it will have a lasting effect. Today, at this critical juncture in history, when a global world is being shaped and when people are learning how to live in concert and strengthen relations with one another, Thomas Jefferson's lessons can greatly benefit us all."

Copies of Mr. Petersen's book will be available for sale after the lecture. There is no charge for this event. Please contact Cliff Laube, Public Affairs Specialist, at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with any questions about the event.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to preserving historical material and providing innovative educational programs, community events, and public outreach. It is one of twelve presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For information about the FDR Presidential Library call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

Historic Hyde Park is a group of government and private non-profit organizations based in Hyde Park, New York. Each has a unique mission, but all are united in their dedication to extending the legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt to new generations. HHP includes the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. For more information about HHP visit www.HistoricHydePark.org.