



September 20, 2013

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum  
presents an author talk and book signing with  
President Emeritus of the National Trust for Historic Preservation  
and Carter Administration Senior Staff Member  
RICHARD MOE -- author of ROOSEVELT'S SECOND ACT:  
THE ELECTION OF 1940 AND THE POLITICS OF WAR  
Thursday, October 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
Henry A. Wallace Center at the  
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to present an author talk and book signing with **President Emeritus of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and senior staff member to President Jimmy Carter RICHARD MOE -- author of ROOSEVELT'S SECOND ACT: THE ELECTION OF 1940 AND THE POLITICS OF WAR.** The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 3, 2013 in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Following the presentation, Moe will be available to sign copies of his book. Attendees can visit the Library's new permanent exhibition until 10:00 p.m. -- free of charge -- after the program. This event is free and open to the public.

On August 31, 1939, nearing the end of his second and presumably final term in office, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was working in the Oval Office and contemplating construction of his presidential library and planning retirement. The next day German tanks had crossed the Polish border; Britain and France had declared war. Overnight the world had changed, and FDR found himself being forced to consider a dramatically different set of circumstances.

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In *ROOSEVELT'S SECOND ACT*, Richard Moe focuses on a turning point in American political history: FDR's decision to seek a third term. Often overlooked between the passage and implementation of the New Deal and the bombing of Pearl Harbor, that decision was far from inevitable. As the election loomed, he refused to comment, confiding in no one, scrambling the politics of his own party; but after the Republicans surprisingly nominated Wendell Willkie in July 1940, FDR became convinced that no other Democrat could both maintain the legitimacy of the New Deal and mobilize the nation for war. With Hitler on the verge of conquering Europe, Roosevelt, still hedging, began to maneuver his way to the center of the political stage.

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David McCullough said, "In *ROOSEVELT'S SECOND ACT* Richard Moe has shown in superb fashion that what might seem to have been an inevitable decision of comparatively little interest was far from it."

**RICHARD MOE** was president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation from 1993 - 2010, chief of staff to Vice President Walter Mondale, and served on President Carter's senior staff. His books include *THE LAST FULL MEASURE: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE FIRST MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERS* and *CHANGING PLACES: REBUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE AGE OF SPRAWL*. He lives in Washington, D.C. and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Copies of Moe's book will be available for sale after the talk. There is no charge for this program. Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email [clifford.laube@nara.gov](mailto:clifford.laube@nara.gov) with questions about the event.

### **Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum**

As generations of Americans that have no personal memory of the Roosevelt Era emerge, it is more critical than ever that the lives and legacies of Franklin and Eleanor

Roosevelt be preserved and presented to new generations. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum stands ready to serve as a visible and valuable resource for children and families, educators and students, and an international audience seeking to understand the past to make a better tomorrow. With a newly renovated building and new permanent museum exhibits the Library seeks to honor President Roosevelt's vision in dedicating his Library to the American people. The Roosevelt Library is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit [www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu).

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