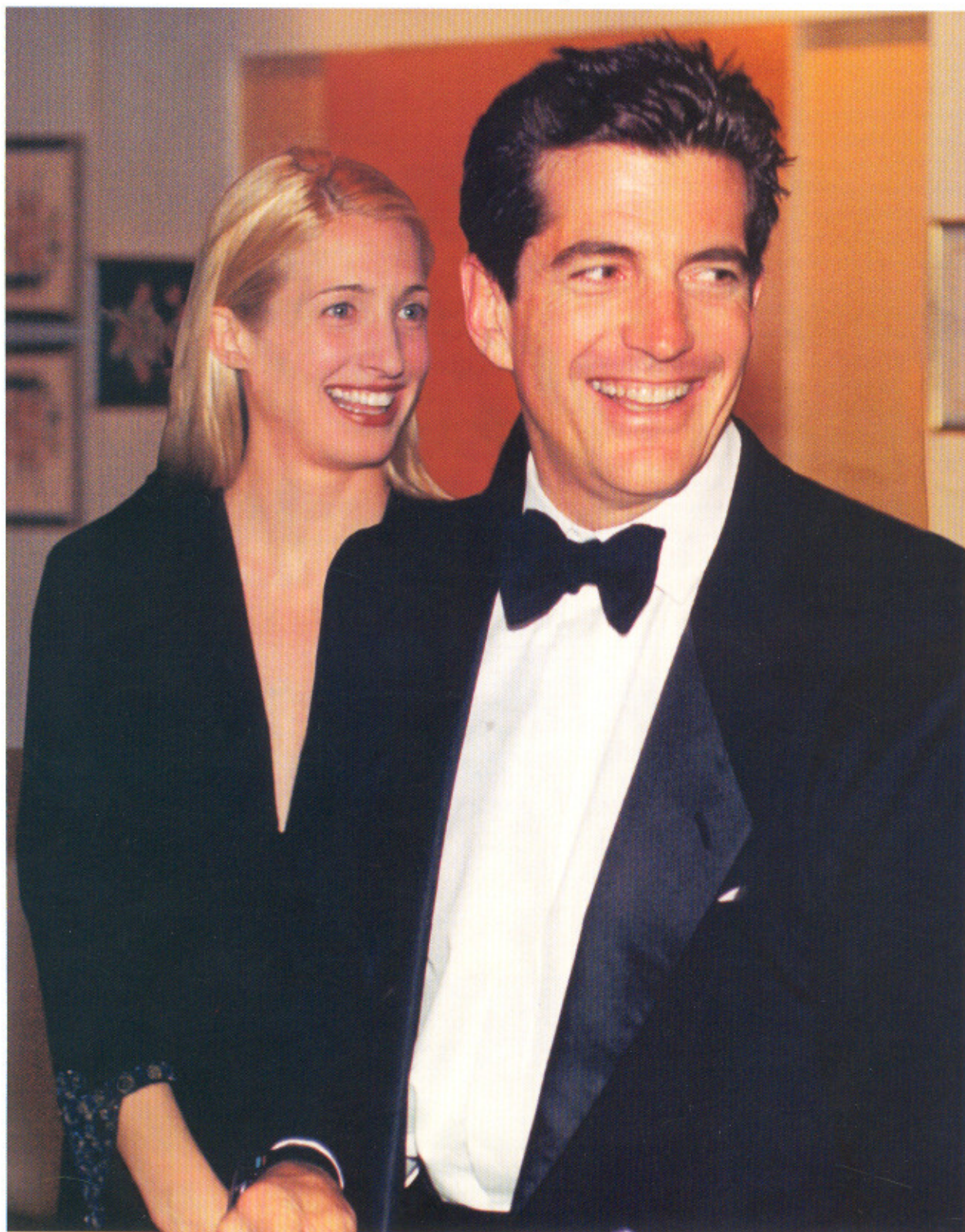


THE JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation



John F. Kennedy, Jr., November 25, 1960 - July 16, 1999
Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, January 7, 1966 - July 16, 1999

John F. Kennedy, Jr., his wife, Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, and her sister, Lauren Bessette, died on July 16 in a plane crash off Martha's Vineyard.

Books of condolences, placed in the lobby of the John F. Kennedy Library, drew thousands of members of the public who expressed sympathy with the Kennedy family.

John F. Kennedy, Jr. was an active and engaged member of the Board of the Kennedy Library Foundation. He served as Vice Chairman of the Board and as a permanent member of its Profile in Courage Award Committee. He and his sister, Caroline Kennedy, played key roles in creating the Award, which is given annually to an elected official who has withstood great opposition to follow a course of action that serves truth and justice.

John and Carolyn Kennedy last visited the Library on May 23 and 24 to take part in the annual May Dinner and the presentation of the 1999 Profile in Courage Award to Senators John McCain and Russell Feingold.

The John F. Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Fund

Many of the thousands of condolence messages received by the Library have included donations made in memory of John F. Kennedy, Jr.

With the approval of the Kennedy family, a group of John's friends are supplementing these donations with their own funds in order to endow the Profile in Courage Award program, which meant so much to him.

The Profile in Courage Award is presented annually to an elected official who has withstood strong opposition from constituents, powerful interest groups or adversaries to follow what they believe is the right course of action. The award is named for President

John F. Kennedy's 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Profiles in Courage*, which recounts the stories of eight U.S. Senators who risked their careers to fight for their beliefs. The recipient receives a stipend of \$25,000 and a silver lantern representing a beacon of hope. The Award was created by the Kennedy Library Foundation in 1989 and is presented on or near May 29 in celebration of President Kennedy's birthday.

Those wishing to contribute to this memorial may send their gifts to the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Fund in care of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Columbia Point, Boston, MA 02125.



A happy occasion in October 1993 when the new museum was dedicated. President Clinton, among many other special guests, participated in the opening ceremony. During the search for John Kennedy's plane, President Clinton said: "For more than 40 years now, the Kennedy family has inspired Americans to public service, strengthened our faith in the future, and moved our nation forward. Through it all they have suffered much, and given more."

Eulogy Delivered By Senator Edward M. Kennedy

Thank you, President and Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea, for being here today. You've shown extraordinary kindness throughout the course of this week.

Once, when they asked John what he would do if he went into politics and was elected president, he said: "I guess the first thing is call up Uncle Teddy and gloat." I loved that. It was so like his father.

From the first day of his life, John seemed to belong not only to our family, but to the American family.

The whole world knew his name before he did.

A famous photograph showed John racing across the lawn as his father landed in the White House helicopter and swept up John in his arms. When my brother saw that photo, he exclaimed, "Every mother in the United States is saying, 'Isn't it wonderful to see that love between a son and his father, the way that John races to be with his father.' Little do they know — that son would have raced right by his father to get to that helicopter."

But John was so much more than those long ago images emblazoned in our minds. He was a boy who grew into a man with a zest for life and a love of adventure. He was a piper who brought us all along. He was blessed with a father and mother who never thought anything mattered more than their children.

When they left the White House, Jackie's soft and gentle voice and unbreakable strength of spirit guided him surely and securely to the future. He had a legacy, and he learned to treasure it. He was part of a legend, and he learned to live with it. Above all, Jackie gave him a place to be himself, to grow up, to laugh and cry, to dream and strive on his own.

John learned that lesson well. He had amazing grace. He accepted

who he was, but he cared more about what he could and should become. He saw things that could be lost in the glare of the spotlight. And he could laugh at the absurdity of too much pomp and circumstance.

He loved to travel across this city by subway, bicycle and roller blade. He lived as if he were unrecognizable — although he was known by everyone he encountered. He always introduced himself, rather than take anything for granted. He drove his own car and flew his own plane, which is how he wanted it. He was the king of his domain.

He thought politics should be an integral part of our popular culture, and that popular culture should be an integral part of politics. He transformed that belief into the creation of *George*. John shaped and honed a fresh, often irreverent journal. His new political magazine attracted a new generation, many of whom had never read about politics before.

John also brought to *George* a wit that was quick and sure. The premier issue of *George* caused a stir with a cover photograph of Cindy Crawford dressed as George Washington with a bare belly button. The "Reliable Source" in *The Washington Post* printed a mock cover of *George* showing not Cindy Crawford, but me dressed as George Washington, with my belly button exposed. I suggested to John that perhaps I should have been the model for the first cover of his magazine. Without missing a beat, John told me that he stood by his original editorial decision.

John brought this same playful wit to other aspects of his life. He campaigned for me during my 1994 election and always caused a stir when he arrived in Massachusetts. Before one of his trips to Boston, John told the campaign he was bringing along a companion, but would need only one hotel room.

Interested, but discreet, a senior campaign worker picked John up at the airport and prepared to handle any media barrage that might accompany John's arrival with his mystery companion. John landed with the companion alright — an enormous German Shepherd dog named Sam he had just rescued from the pound.

He loved to talk about the expression on the campaign worker's face and the reaction of the clerk at the Charles Hotel when John and Sam checked in.

I think now not only of these wonderful adventures, but of the kind of person John was. He was the son who quietly gave extraordinary time and ideas to the Institute of Politics at Harvard that bears his father's name. He brought to the Institute his distinctive insight that politics could have a broader appeal, that it was not just about elections, but about the larger forces that shape our whole society.

John was also the son who was once protected by his mother. He went on to become her pride — and then her protector in her final days. He was the Kennedy who loved us all, but who especially cherished his sister Caroline, celebrated her brilliance, and took strength and joy from their lifelong mutual admiration society.

And for a thousand days, he was a husband who adored the wife who became his perfect soul-mate. John's father taught us all to reach for the moon and the stars. John did that in all he did — and he found his shining star when he married Carolyn Bessette.

How often our family will think of the two of them, cuddling affectionately on a boat — surrounded by family, aunts, uncles, Caroline and Ed and their children, Rose, Tatiana, and Jack, Kennedy cousins,

continued on next page



The Kennedy family in 1963.

Eulogy Delivered By Senator Edward M. Kennedy

continued from previous page

Radziwill cousins, Shriver cousins, Smith cousins, Lawford cousins — as we sailed Nantucket Sound.

Then we would come home, and before dinner, on the lawn where his father had played, John would lead a spirited game of touch football. And his beautiful young wife, the new pride of the Kennedys, would cheer for John's team and delight her nieces and nephews with her somersaults.

We loved Carolyn. She and her sister Lauren were young extraordinary women of high accomplishment — and their own limitless possibilities. We mourn their loss and honor their lives. The Bessette and Freeman families will always be part of ours.

John was a serious man who brightened our lives with his smile and his grace. He was a son of privilege who founded a program called "Reaching Up," to train better care-givers for the mentally disabled. He joined Wall Street executives on the Robin Hood Foundation to help the city's impoverished children. And he did it all so quietly, without ever calling attention to himself.

John was one of Jackie's two mira-

cles. He was still becoming the person he would be, and doing it by the beat of his own drummer. He had only just begun. There was in him a great promise of things to come.

The Irish Ambassador recited a poem to John's father and mother soon after John was born. I can hear it again now, at this different and difficult moment:

We wish to the new child
A heart that can be beguiled
By a flower
That the wind lifts
As it passes.
If the storms break for him
May the trees shake for him
Their blossoms down.
In the night that he is troubled,
May a friend wake for him,
So that his time be doubled,
And at the end of all loving
and love,
May the Man above
Give him a crown.

We thank the millions who have rained blossoms down on John's memory. He and his bride have

gone to be with his mother and father, where there will never be an end to love. He was lost on that troubled night — but we will always wake for him, so that his time, which was not doubled, but cut in half, will live forever in our memory, and in our beguiled and broken hearts.

We dared to think, in that other Irish phrase, that this John Kennedy would live to comb grey hair, with his beloved Carolyn by his side. But like his father, he had every gift but length of years.

We who have loved him from the day he was born, and watched the remarkable man he became, now bid him farewell. God bless you, John and Carolyn. We love you, and we always will.

John's tragic loss leaves an immeasurable void in the hearts and lives of his friends on the Board and staffs of the John F. Kennedy Library and Foundation. He carried his father's name with pride, grace and dignity. As the Foundation's Vice Chairman, he gave generously of his time, talent, ideas and resources to help make the Kennedy Library the educational center of public service envisioned by his mother. His thoughtful and forceful views as a member of the Profile in Courage Award Committee were evidence of his commitment to his father's inspiration and legacy. We extend our deepest sympathy to Caroline Kennedy, Ed, their children, and to all members of the Bessette and Kennedy families, and we assure them of our prayers for their strength and for the peace of their loved ones lost.

-Paul G. Kirk, Jr.
Board Chairman of the
John F. Kennedy
Library Foundation

Two Senators Win Profile In Courage Award For Efforts To Reform Campaign Financing

A senatorial "odd couple" from opposite sides of the aisle are the winners of the 1999 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

Senator John McCain, a conservative Arizona Republican, and Senator Russell Feingold, a liberal Democrat from Wisconsin, received the Award for their persistent crusade to curb their respective party's fundraising excesses and pass legislation that ends the widely abused process by which election campaigns are financed.

Caroline Kennedy, President of the Kennedy Library Foundation, praised both men because they scorned "the extraordinary pressures of partisan politics and special interests and stood up for what they felt was best for the country."

She presented McCain and Feingold each with the Profile in Courage Award's sterling silver lantern, emblematic of a beacon of hope, and a joint check for \$25,000. Both men asked that the money be donated to charity.

Kennedy said, "In a time when politics and government have been marked by incivility and partisanship, these senators distinguished themselves by their political courage and by their vision of what was right for the country."

Kennedy spoke at a ceremony held at the Library on May 24, which marked the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Award, established by the Kennedy Library Foundation to honor an elected official who has battled strong opposition to pursue truth and justice. The prize is named for President Kennedy's 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Profiles in Courage*, and is presented each year on or near May 29, the President's birthday.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy said his two Senate colleagues were "in a sense the odd couple — but they are making common cause for true

reform. And in doing so, they are bringing us a giant step closer to the ideal of clean elections, and a democracy that fully and fairly reflects the will of a free people."

McCain and Feingold first began drafting reform legislation in 1994 and reintroduced their bill this past January. McCain, a Republican presidential hopeful for the coming election, has encountered strong opposition from his own party leadership. Feingold narrowly won reelection in

"I am a conservative, and I believe it is a very healthy thing for Americans to refrain from expecting too much from their government."

He said he was "genuinely moved by this award, and humbled by the high ideal it is intended to honor."

Feingold came to the ceremony with "my own original 35-cent copy of *Profiles in Courage* that I read as a young teenager. Its influence was not simply to make me want to be a senator. Rather, this thin little book spoke volumes about what kind of a senator it is worthwhile to be."

He said his own decision to limit political contributions to his cam-



Senators John McCain and Russell Feingold, recipients of the 1999 Profile in Courage Award, Senator Edward Kennedy, Caroline Kennedy, and John F. Kennedy, Jr. Behind them (left to right) are Vicki Kennedy, Cindy McCain and Mary Feingold.

1998 after he refused all "soft money" contributions and even some hard money offers from the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Despite defeat of their bill thus far, both remain determined to pursue changing the election finance process.

McCain, in receiving the Profile in Courage Award, said he was motivated by two important factors: "One should be the common concern of all public officials — our honor. The other, which I seldom have occasion to talk about with my friends, Senators Kennedy and Feingold, is the progress of conservative political reforms.

paign in 1998 was simply based on his own deeply held beliefs.

"But this was not an attempt at political suicide," Feingold said. "I honestly believed that if I limited my spending, the people of Wisconsin would see what was happening and would take control. And they did."

Winners of the Profile in Courage Award are selected by an 11-member committee, chaired by John Seigenthaler, Chairman of the Freedom Forum at the First Amendment Center, Vanderbilt University.

Kennedy Library Foundation's May Dinner A Triumph



Wayne Budd, a new Foundation Board Member, and Group President, New England for Bell Atlantic, and his daughter, Kim, with Senators Edward Kennedy and John McCain at the reception prior to the Foundation's annual dinner.

The May Dinner has once again been an artistic and financial triumph. A black-tie audience of nearly 500 persons filled the Stephen Smith Center for the Kennedy Library Foundation's most important social and fund-raising event.

Following the reception and dinner, guests were treated to a sparkling musical performance by Leonard Slatkin, a pianist and the conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra, and Linda Hohenfeld, a soprano vocalist and the wife of Mr. Slatkin.

Gerard F. Doherty and Patrick J. Purcell, co-chairmen of the dinner, issued the following message of appreciation to the guests and contributors:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Kennedy Library Foundation, and the Kennedy family, we wish to thank all of the individuals and corporations who generously contributed to the Eleventh Annual May Dinner.

The evening was spectacular, raising over \$590,000 for the Library, surpassing our goal of \$550,000. The generosity of table sponsors is especially crucial to the prosperity of the dinner.

The dinner helps the Library maintain and expand our educational programs and exhibits that serve a diverse audience of men, women and children of all ages.

Thanks again to the following contributors for helping the Kennedy Library Foundation. To learn more about the annual dinner and the Kennedy Library Foundation, please call (617) 929-1262.

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Linda Hobenfeld, a soprano vocalist, and Leonard Slatkin, the conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra, performed at the Foundation's Eleventh Annual May Dinner.

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Maryland High School Senior Captures Library Essay Prize

Maridith Ramsey's inspirational account of her grandfather's struggle against political corruption has won this year's Profile in Courage Essay Contest, a national competition for high school students.

Ramsey's essay took the \$3,000 first prize by beating out over 1,600 students from 46 states. A senior at Arundel Senior High School in Gambrills, Maryland, Ramsey received her award at a May 24 ceremony at the Kennedy Library. She plans to enroll this fall in pre-law at the University of South Carolina.

This is the first year that the Profile in Courage Essay Contest, established in 1995 and sponsored by BankBoston and the Kennedy Library Foundation, was open to students across the country. The award is given for the best essay about an elected official who has made his or her decision based on principle, for the good of the community and against opposition.

Ramsey's entry told the story of her grandfather, Virgil Hensley Ramsey, a lawyer in Washington County, Arkansas who ran for election in the State House of Representatives in 1930. He worked diligently to eliminate a widespread political spoils system, was defeated for reelection and spent the rest of his life fighting to end election fraud and corruption.

An excerpt from Ramsey's essay follows:

It is hard for me to believe that one of the people I have come to admire the most is someone I never had a chance to meet. I've always considered my "heroes" to be the people around me who have directly affected my everyday life. However, I have come to learn that this man, this incredible man, and men like him who believed so strongly in and fought so hard for the values that made America great have greatly influenced my life.



Maridith Ramsey, the winner of the 1999 essay contest, with John Selgenthaler, Chairman of the Profile in Courage Award Committee.

He was born on March 20, 1902 in the rural community of Sulphur Springs, Arkansas. His parents were farmers and storekeepers who worked hard, prayed often and tried to instill in him the meaning of right and wrong. As a young man he attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas and obtained a teaching certificate. He then taught school in rural communities in Washington County, Arkansas and saved his money so that he might one day attend law school. He ultimately obtained a law degree from the Cumberland University School of Law in Lebanon, Tennessee in 1929. After graduation from law school he returned to Fayetteville, Arkansas and opened his law practice.

Almost immediately upon his return home from law school he committed his life to fighting corruption in local government. At that time, the County Sheriff and his deputies operated as a band of thugs and provided protection to those corrupt officials who would "play ball." One of the problems at the time was that the Sheriff and his

deputies were not paid a salary, but kept a percentage of fines, bail monies and confiscated property. These hoodlums routinely seized the property of others and often viciously beat and otherwise abused those they had arrested. The wives of men in jail who had no money to pay their husbands' bail were forced to have sex with the Sheriff and his deputies in the rooms above the jail in return for their men's freedom. A car theft ring and similar criminal activities produced additional income to this gang of thieves.

Appalled at this situation, he would become the driving force in what was to become known as the Good Government League. His first step was to run for the Arkansas House of Representatives in the 1930 election. As a State Representative, he was instrumental in enacting laws to eliminate the spoils system of compensating public officeholders and replaced it with paid salaries for local officials. This eliminated at least one incentive for the Sheriff and others to wrongfully

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New Exhibit Features Museum Treasures

This is the raw material of romance and history, the kind of documents and personal memorabilia that help us understand the Kennedy administration and its role in our national epic."

Frank Rigg's eyes sparkle and his voice becomes a mixture of excitement and awe. Rigg and his staff are in the middle of organizing an exhibit that opens this October to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1979 dedication of the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

"This is all of our best stuff," he says. "The exhibit is a celebration of the depth and importance of our collections and many of the items will be shown to the public for the first time." Rigg, curator of the Museum, holds up Jacqueline Kennedy's engagement ring. With his left hand, he carefully picks up President Kennedy's personal coffee mug. On a table are the President's hand-written Inaugural Address notes, a top secret intelligence briefing book, and correspondence between Kennedy and Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Another table holds a series of gifts to President and Mrs. Kennedy — a marble replica of Michaelangelo's *Pieta* from Pope Paul VI, a gown of gold and silk made from fabric presented to Mrs. Kennedy by King Saud of Saudi Arabia, a carved ivory model of an ancient Egyptian funer-

al barge, the gift of Egypt's President, Gamel Abdel Nasser.

"My personal favorite is a poignant reminder of the President's trip to Ireland," says Rigg. "The night before his return to the United States he had been moved by a poem recited by Mrs. DeValera, wife of the Irish president, and quickly scribbled it down. In one of our videos, you can see him reading the poem as part of his farewell address. We have the video and that scrap of paper, which someone saved, and somehow was passed on to us, and is now part of this exhibit."

One section of the exhibit involves materials from what Rigg calls "the sometimes neglected early part of the story of the President's family." On display will be John and Robert Kennedy's christening gown and materials from the Fitzgeralds, including the Fitzgerald family Bible on which Kennedy took his oath of office as President. The *Treasures of the Kennedy Library* goes on display on October 9, 1999 and will be open through Spring 2000. More information on the exhibition is available on the Kennedy Library's website at <http://www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/>



A Moroccan Gold Jeweled Purse from King Hassan II, a gift to Jacqueline Kennedy in 1963.



A ruby and diamond brooch President Kennedy personally selected and purchased for his wife days before his inauguration.

'Tis it is the Shannon's brightly glancing stream,
Brightly gleaming, silent in the morning beam,
Oh, the sight entrancing,
Thus returns from travels long,
Years of exile, years of pain,
To see old Shannon's face again,
O'er the waters dancing.

*Text of a poem
President Kennedy
scribbled down the
night before his
departure from
Ireland.*

President Kennedy Discusses "The Magic of Politics"

John F. Kennedy liked to prepare for an important meeting or interview by using a tape recorder to outline his thoughts. This helped him to clarify and focus his comments.

In this second selection from tapes, recorded during his campaign against Richard M. Nixon in 1960 and released last November, Kennedy recalls an offer he found easy to refuse, an early debate with then Congressman Nixon, and the magic of taking part in the political struggle. The transcript picks up as he recalls the early start he got in his first campaign for Congress in 1946.

My chief opponents, the mayor of Cambridge and Mayor Curley's secretary, followed the old practice of not starting until about two months before the election. By then I was ahead of them. In 1952, I worked a year and a half ahead of the November election, a year and a half before Senator (Henry Cabot) Lodge did. I believe most aspirants for public office start much too late. When you think of the money Coca-Cola and Lucky Strike put into advertising day after day, even though they have well-known brand names, you can realize how difficult it is to become an identifiable political figure. The idea that people can get to know you in two or three months is wholly wrong. Most of us do not follow politics and politicians. We become interested only about election time. For the politician to make a dent in the consciousness of the great majority of the people is a long and laborious job, particularly in a primary when you don't have the party label to help you. Once I did start I worked really hard trying to get the support of the non-professionals who are



President Kennedy on the telephone in the Oval Office.

much more ready to commit themselves early than the traditional politicians. The principle for winning a ward fight or a congressional fight really is the same as winning a presidential fight, and the most important ingredient is a willingness to submit yourself to a long, long, long labor.

Halfway through that campaign, the mayor of Cambridge offered me a job as his secretary if I withdrew and he won. I refused. Finally after a tough fight I won with a generous margin. The first thing I did in Congress was become the junior Democrat on a labor committee. At the time we were considering the

Taft-Hartley bill. I was against it, and one day in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, I debated the bill with a junior Republican on the committee who was for it—his name was Richard Nixon. And here we are debating 14 years later.

Why does a politician continually raise his sights, and leave a job that represented complete satisfaction at one time, for a higher position? Part of the reason lies in the normal desire to move ahead—the motion, the motivation that moves the world, that helps move the world. Perhaps a more important part lies in the recognition that a greater opportunity to determine the direction in

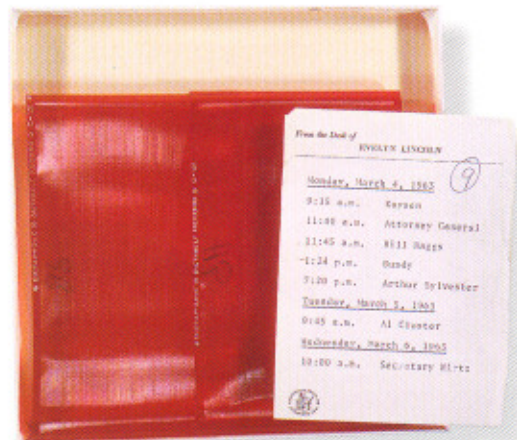
which the nation will go lies in higher office. The scope and power are bigger. When I was in the House, I was especially interested in my district, in Boston, in the future of navigation for example, of Boston Harbor. I still am. But in the House you were one of 435 members. You have to be there many, many years before you get to the hub of influence, or even have to do much, or have an opportunity to play any role on substantive matters. After I had been in the House for six years, I made up my mind that there was greater opportunity to function in the United States Senate.

In the same way, during my years in the Senate I've come to understand that the presidency is the ultimate source of action. The Senate is not. It may have been in 1840, but it isn't today. Take the labor bill, for instance. In 1958, I had worked for two years on that bill. President Eisenhower made one 15-minute speech which had a decisive effect on the House; Two years versus one 15-minute speech. I worked two years on a proposal to send an economic mission to India, the State Department opposed it, and it was defeated in conference. I worked for a year on a bill to change the Battle Act to allow greater economic trading with countries behind the Iron Curtain, such as Poland. The President withdrew his support on the day of the vote. Period. We were defeated by one vote.

All of the things that you become interested in doing, the President can do and the Senate cannot, particularly in the area of foreign policy it is the President who controls and who can effect results. We play—on the vital issues of national security, defense and foreign policy—a secondary role in the United States

Senate. The President, all public officials, today face serious and sophisticated problems unheard of in the 19th Century where political leaders dealt for several generations with the problems of the development of the West, slavery, tariffs and the currency. Today, politics has become infinitely complicated: one day we deal with the labor law, the next with significant matters of foreign policy, the following day with fiscal and monetary policy, the next day with the problems of which weapons should we put emphasis on. With the new complexity and intensity of political problems, I think the politics and politicians have changed. The "hail fellow, well met" extrovert is passing from the political scene.

A good many of the politicians I know in the Senate are quiet and thoughtful men, certainly not extroverts. A successful politician today must communicate, must have and communicate a sense of intelligence and integrity, and he must be willing to work. Money helps, of course. It is desirable for anyone to have financial security in whatever they do, but it is certainly not an essential for success. That fact is that people with private resources who've succeeded in politics are comparatively rare. Most of them do not go into politics and for some who have money (it) has been a hazard. In any case, this is not the decisive question; I think history has demonstrated this clearly. Franklin Roosevelt had some personal resources; Lincoln did not. They were both successful political lead-



Two of the dictabelts used by President Kennedy and a list of several taped conversations kept by the President's secretary, Evelyn Lincoln.

ers and great presidents.

In looking back I would say that I've never regretted my choice of profession, even though I cannot know what the future will bring. I hope all Americans, men and women, regardless of what may be their chosen profession, will consider giving some of their life to the field of politics. Winston Churchill once said democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the other systems that have been tried. It is certainly the most demanding; it requires more of us all than any other system. Particularly in these days where the watch fires of the enemy camp burn bright, I think all of us must be willing to give ourselves, some of ourselves, to this most exacting discipline of self-government. The magic of politics is not the panoply of office. The magic of politics is participating on all levels of national life in an affirmative way, of determining, of playing a small role in determining whether freedom will not only endure, whether in Mr. Faulkner's words, freedom will not only endure, but also prevail.



Congressman Patrick Kennedy welcomes Italian Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema to the Kennedy Library.

Italian Prime Minister Hosted As Distinguished Foreign Visitor

Italian Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema toured the Library and Museum March 4 as part of the Kennedy Library Foundation's Distinguished Foreign Visitors Program.

D'Alema is a 50-year-old former Communist who now heads the new "Democrats of the Left," the center-left majority party that he helped found. The former journalist has been a member of the Italian Parliament since 1987. He came to the Library as part of his first official tour of the United States since taking office last October.

D'Alema was the guest of Congressman Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) and the Kennedy Library Foundation at a luncheon held at the Library during which the Italian leader was presented with a bronze

bust of President Kennedy.

Upon his arrival at the Library, the prime minister learned that a military court had just acquitted a U.S. Marine pilot of all charges in the deaths of 20 people killed when his jet sheared lift cables over an Italian ski resort. Setting aside his prepared remarks, the prime minister spoke his first words in reaction to the verdict to media covering the event and then to the two hundred Italian-American guests in attendance.

The Distinguished Foreign Visitors Program was created by the Foundation to help build international cooperation and understanding and to provide a forum for world leaders to meet with the public during their visits to the United States.

Essay Prize continued

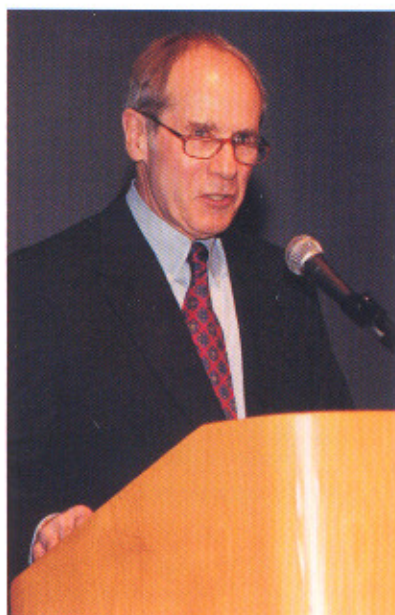
confiscate property. Later, he was also able to require that the Sheriff of Washington County and his family live in the quarters above the jail. His thinking was that even these men would not behave badly as they did if they knew that the Sheriff's wife and family resided on the premises and could hear what was going on inside the jail.

During this period of 20 some years that the Good Government League, and later, the Washington County Democratic Party operated under his leadership, he and his supporters accomplished dramatic results in generally cleaning up the abuses of power by locally elected officials.

Unfortunately, he had also made many bitter enemies who would incessantly attack him at every turn. However, he refused to compromise his principles despite repeated physical threats, character assassination and efforts to ruin his law practice. He died in 1965 from cancer, debt ridden and disappointed that the public seemed totally unaware that a battle had ever been waged on their behalf and that they seemingly had no interest in continuing the fight for good government.

The man whose life I have just sketched was my Grandfather, Virgil Hensley Ramsey. His "Profile in Courage" is based on family stories, old newspaper clippings and a summary written by a professor at the University of Arkansas about the Good Government League. Some say he was a 20th century Don Quixote "tilting at windmills" and fighting against impossible odds. To be sure, he paid dearly for his activities, but in doing so he demonstrated a quiet courage under fire. He did not flinch from doing what he firmly believed was right even at the risk of his political, physical and economic well-being. Virgil Hensley Ramsey should be numbered among those who helped make America strong.

John Stewart's Retirement Closes 33 Years of Devotion and Excellence



John Stewart at the podium during his retirement party in March.

Admiration, sadness, affection, good humor and the kind of glow that surrounds extraordinary achievement all came together March 20 as John F. Stewart retired after 33 years with the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, the last 20 spent creating an education program that is the envy of the nation's museum and cultural community.

More than 330 friends and colleagues packed the Library's Stephen Smith Center to pay tribute to Stewart and his wife Lucia and their three sons and grandchild.

There were speeches and toasts and a ten-minute video that reached back 30 years to show Stewart at Waltham, the Library's first home. There was no shortage of misty eyes and recollections of conferences, seminars, meetings, and symposia that examined substantive issues and ideas.

"It is the end of an era, an incredibly productive era," said Charles U. Daly, executive director of the Kennedy Library Foundation. "John

Stewart was the creator and the dynamic force behind the Library's education program, extending to many thousands of young men and women the reach of the Library and the ideals of President Kennedy."

Paul Kirk, chairman of the Library Foundation's Board, said "John has made political education the lifeblood of our mission and the cause of his distinguished career. His programs provided a look back, a look ahead, scrutinizing and analyzing critical political choices, and their historical impact."

Brad Gerratt, director of the Library, recounted the extraordinary influence Stewart had on the "tourists, students, and teachers who visit our museum; graduate students, historians, journalists and others who make use of our research facilities; and school groups, teachers and the general public."

He said that, "through his love for this place and the ideals that it represents, John's guidance and inspiration has been important in defining the Library's overall vision, purpose and character."

Stewart joined the Library in 1966 as director of the oral history project, then based in Washington, D.C. Over the next three years, he conducted more than 100 interviews and supervised a staff of writers and editors. He was appointed acting director of the Library in 1969, then in Waltham, and two years later was named chief archivist.

In 1974, Stewart assumed responsibility for working with I.M. Pei, the architect, to coordinate the design and planning for the present Library building, which was dedicated in 1979.

Stewart was then named the first director of education and during the next 20 years established a series of some 350 educational, public and community programs that increasingly attracted a broad range of audiences from the Greater Boston area and beyond. He also served for two years as acting director of the Library, starting in 1986 with the retirement of Dan H. Fenn, Jr., the Library's first director.

Tom Putnam, New Director of Education

Tom Putnam is the Library's new director of education. A graduate of Bowdoin College and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, Putnam's interests bridge the fields of education and government.

He has won a number of awards including a Harry S. Truman Scholarship, a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship to study education reform in Quebec, Canada and a Fulbright Fellowship to examine issues in Senegal, West Africa. Putnam has served as an intern to Senator Joseph Biden, a high

school social studies teacher, and a Director of an Upward Bound program at the Northfield Mount Hermon School assisting low income students from Springfield and Holyoke to be the first in their families to go to college.

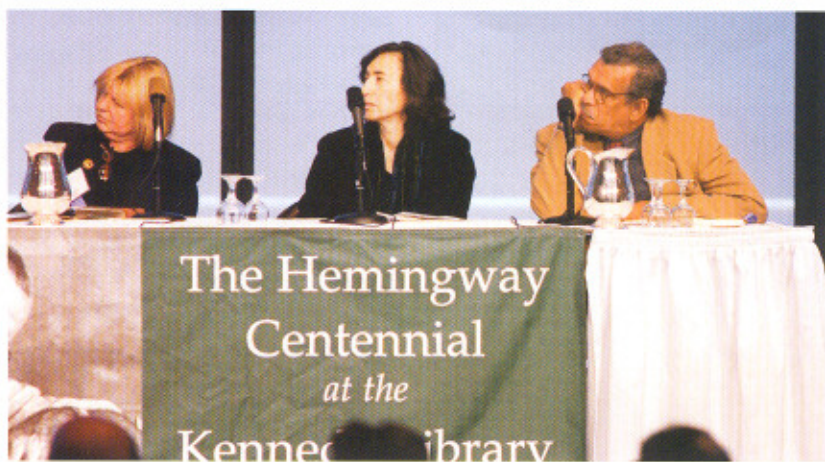
Between 1996 and 1999, Putnam was president of the New England Educational Opportunity Association and worked closely with Senator Edward M. Kennedy's office to increase the levels of financial aid and academic support to assist low income college students in their quest to graduate from college.

Two-Day Hemingway Conference Examines Writing As A Craft

A Kennedy Library conference has helped to refocus attention on Ernest Hemingway's skill as a writer rather than his notoriety as a celebrity, according to Stephen Plotkin, who organized the two-day celebration of the novelist's 100th birthday anniversary.

"The conference went a long way toward creating a more realistic assessment of Hemingway," said Plotkin, curator of the Library's Hemingway Collection. "People concentrated on his work as a writer, as a literary craftsman, and not on his somewhat dubious fame as a celebrity. That's a welcome change to the many people who believe Hemingway was one of America's most important and inspirational writers."

The April 10-11 conference, made possible in substantial part through a gift by the Houghton Mifflin Company, drew more than 500 writers, scholars, critics and "aficionados" to a series of meetings, keynote speeches and panel discussions. Four Nobel Laureates and other distinguished literary figures took part.



Susan Cheever, Francine Prose, and Derek Walcott participate in a session during the Library's Hemingway conference in April.

Discussions are underway to explore the possibility of publishing some or all of the conference proceedings.

The Kennedy Library, through the initiative of the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, was chosen in the early 1970s as the repository of Hemingway's manuscripts, correspondence and memorabilia. The archive contains over 90 percent of the novelist's papers and since 1980 the Collection has had its own special room in the Kennedy Library.

As part of the conference, two important annual literary awards were announced. Rosina Lippi won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, which is presented for a distinguished first book of fiction, for *Homestead*.

The Winship/PEN New England Award was presented to Donald Hall for *Without*. The Winship/PEN prize is given for a book by a New England author or with a New England topic or setting.

Fall Program Focuses On Hoover's Long Career

Herbert Hoover was an American original whose long and eminently productive career in public service was blighted by his failure, as President, to deal effectively with the Depression.

"He was an enormously successful person," noted Sheldon M. Stern, historian at the Kennedy Library. "His humanitarian work in World War I was nothing short of amazing, so he came into the presidency in 1928 as 'The Great Humanitarian' and the 'Great Engineer' who was going to do wonders for the country." Stern is organizing a one-day conference at the Library on September 13 that will bring together scholars, teachers, and students to take a new and searching look at Hoover's career. The conference, *Herbert Hoover: Examining the Evidence*, is the second in a series the Library is conducting on the American presidency in the 20th Century. A conference

on Franklin D. Roosevelt is planned for next year. Stern said there has been some reevaluation of Hoover in recent years, but the consensus is that his one-term presidency was a failure. "But the presidency was actually a small part of his life," noted Stern. "He remained active after the White House and, in fact, Harry Truman, his good friend, asked him to head the Hoover Commission, which completely reorganized and modernized the government after World War II."

The Hoover conference is funded by the Kennedy Library Foundation and is co-sponsored by Boston College; Boston Public Library; Boston Stanford Association; Boston University American and New England Studies Program; Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation; Forbes Library and Museum; Herbert Hoover Library; and Massachusetts Historical Society.

Connell Honored As Irishman Of The Year

William F. Connell, a legendary figure in Boston, has been named the 1999 Irishman of the Year by the Friends of the Kennedy Library.

He was honored at a reception and dinner March 12 that drew over 350 of his friends and admirers to the Kennedy Library. Connell plays an important role in a variety of community and cultural organizations, and serves on the boards of Boston College, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Museum of Science, the Boston Public Library Foundation and the Kennedy Library Foundation.

"Bill Connell is a rare individual who, in his quiet way, has helped

so many people during his life," said Don Dowd, president of the Friends of the Kennedy Library. "We of Irish descent are proud to honor him as our Irishman of the Year. His commitment to education, the arts and community service is testimony to President Kennedy's conviction that one person can truly make a difference."

The Irishman/Irishwoman of the Year Award was established by the Friends in 1986 to honor individuals who make important contributions to the community.

Connell is chairman and chief executive of Connell Limited Partnership and has built an exceptional career as entrepreneur, busi-



Irishman of the Year, Bill Connell, greets a fellow Foundation Board Member, Jack Fallon, at the Friends of the Kennedy Library's annual St. Patrick's Day celebration.

nessman and philanthropist. He and his wife Margot have six children and five grandchildren.

Gift Annuities: Income For The Donor, Support For The Kennedy Library Foundation

The recent success of the stock market has encouraged many of the Kennedy Library Foundation's donors to make gifts of appreciated securities. These direct gifts are vital to the Library and can offer significant tax advantages for donors because they can avoid capital gains taxes. Such gifts entitle the donor to an income tax deduction for the current value of the asset (assuming a gift of long-term capital gain assets), even though the donor's cost basis may be much less.

There are some prospective contributors who do not want to give up the annual income generated by an asset that they may use to make a gift. One possibility to explore is the charitable gift annuity. A charitable gift annuity can help the donor make a meaningful gift to the Kennedy Library Foundation now, while providing immediate tax savings and dependable income during the donor's lifetime.

Here's a current example: In April of this year, a donor, age 72, made a cash gift of \$20,000 establishing a charitable gift annuity. The donor is eligible to receive an income tax deduction in the year of the gift, in this case the immediate deduction is \$8,122. The Library Foundation, working with the donor and using American Council on Gift Annuities guidelines, establishes an annuity rate by the donor's age. The Library then pays the donor an annual fixed income for the donor's lifetime.

Using the April 1999 IRS annuity rate of 6.4%, this donor will receive payments of \$1,540 annually paid at the end of each calendar quarter from the Library for the rest of his life. For the first 14 years, he will be taxed only on \$721 of ordinary income, approximately 45% of each annuity payment will be tax free.

If the same donor had made a gift of IBM stock held for more than one year having a tax cost of \$5,000 and

a fair market value of \$20,000 on the date of the gift, he would receive the same \$1,540 each year as an annuity payment and would be entitled to the income tax deduction of \$8,122. \$721 would again be taxed as ordinary income; however, \$614 would, in addition, be taxed as long term capital gain income tax each year. \$205 is tax free for the first 14 years.

You should always seek the advice of your own legal counsel when making a planned gift.

If you are interested in exploring this or other types of planned gifts, please contact Kim Dietel (617) 929-1262 in the development office of the Kennedy Library Foundation.

Boston Edison Funds New Lights At The Library

Thanks to the Boston Edison Company, the exterior lights are on every night at the Kennedy Library.

"And they look wonderful," said Brad Gerratt, director of the Library. "We are extremely grateful for the support of Boston Edison, both for their gift to our fund-raising campaign and for the company's willingness to seek additional in-kind donations for the fixtures used in the project."

The new lights were in place in time for the annual dinner May 24. They have been installed at four locations: on the lawn in back of the building, on the roof over the front lobby, on the roof over the main corridor of the Smith Center, and at the Victura, President Kennedy's sailboat which is placed on the lawn adjacent to the sea wall.



The Library "lights up," thanks to a generous grant from Boston Edison.

**The Library and Foundation are now accessible on the World Wide Web.
Our address is: <http://www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/>**

Museum Hours

Daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving,
Christmas, and New Year's Day

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