

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation

Montana Prosecutor Wins Profile In Courage Award For Battling Antigoovernment Terrorists

Nickolas C. Murnion, a gritty, self-effacing lawman, has been named the ninth winner of the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for his "passionate defense" of democracy against a private militia-style hate group.

Murnion received the \$25,000 prize and a silver lantern, emblematic of a beacon of hope, from members of the Kennedy family at a Kennedy Library ceremony on May 29, the late President's birthday.

The previous evening, the 44-year-old county attorney from eastern Montana's sparsely settled Garfield County got a warm ovation at the Library's annual black-tie dinner.

Murnion's epic five-year struggle with the Freemen, a small group of extremists who specialize in harassing public officials, reads like a menacing, updated script for a classic Hollywood saga of the Old West.

It is a tale of courage and determination by a small group of beleaguered local lawmen, death threats to Murnion and his family, a \$1 million bounty, an 81-day siege at a lonely mountain ranch, and tense courtroom dramas that thus far have ended with victory for the good guys.

The Freemen talk of lynch mobs, boast of ideological ties to radical militia and white supremacist groups, and reject the sovereignty of the U.S. government. Their catalogue of grievances includes charges that the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies are engaged in a plot to turn the United States into part of a one-world government under the United Nations.

Caroline Kennedy, president of the Kennedy Library Foundation and



Nickolas C. Murnion receives the 1998 Profile in Courage Award from Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Caroline Kennedy, Patricia Kennedy Laufford and John F. Kennedy, Jr.

a member of the panel that picked him, praised Murnion for his "passionate defense of our democratic system of government" despite extremist threats to him and his neighbors.

She added, "My father most admired those politicians who had the courage to make decisions of conscience without regard for the consequences."

Murnion had said earlier that he was surprised and a bit overwhelmed when he got the telephone call about the award.

"Is this THE Caroline Kennedy?" he said he asked the caller. "I was almost more honored to talk to her. She said I'd won the Profile in Courage Award and I said I didn't know I was even nominated!"

Murnion spoke movingly of the help he got from other law enforcement officials and friends and neighbors, especially the 85 citizens who formed a volunteer posse to help

the county's tiny law enforcement agencies during the early days of the confrontation with the Freemen.

The Profile in Courage Award, established by the Foundation in 1989, is presented annually to an elected official who has made a decision based on principle despite opposition from local constituents, special interest groups or adversaries. The award is named for President 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 winner is selected by a 13-member committee headed by John Seigenthaler, chairman of the Freedom Forum at the First Amendment Center, Vanderbilt University.

Murnion has been county attorney, a part-time position, since 1979, and is currently seeking reelection for a sixth term. When not serving in

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

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Profile In Courage Award

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his elected post, Murnion practices law. He lives in the very small town of Jordan with his wife LeAnn and their two children, Erin, 11, and Trevor, 7. Garfield County has a population of just under 1,500 and is dotted by widely separated farms and ranches.

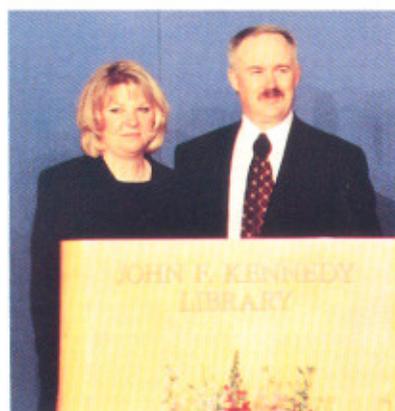
Murnion first encountered the Freemen in 1993 when they demanded that he file fraud charges against the Farmers Home Administration, a federal agency. When he refused, the Freemen filed a lien against him, demanding \$500 million in minted silver as redress for his alleged failure to uphold the Constitution.

A year later, some two dozen Freemen seized the County Court House and before being evicted set up what they called the "Supreme Court of Garfield County/Comitatus." The Freemen subsequently used the local post office bulletin board to announce a \$1 million bounty

offered for the "arrest and conviction" of Murnion and other officials involved in a property foreclosure case. The Freemen threatened that those convicted in their court would be hanged from a bridge outside of Jordan.

Murnion, recognizing the dangers inherent in the Freemen's tactics and the threat they presented to constitutional governance, began prosecuting members of the group for such crimes as solicitation of kidnapping, impersonating a public official and "criminal syndicalism," a charge taken from a state statute that makes it a felony to belong to a group that promotes violence or terrorism.

Murnion won three key cases, but several of those convicted fled and eventually set up an armed stronghold at "Justus Township," a 930-acre ranch 30 miles outside of Jordan, and made it clear that any attempt to arrest them would result in violence.



1998 Profile in Courage Award winner Nickolas C. Murnion with his wife LeAnn

In March 1996, more than a year after Garfield County officials had asked for U.S. assistance, the Federal Bureau of Investigation moved in to arrest two of the Freemen leaders. An 81-day siege of "Justus Township" followed. Five members of the Freemen were convicted this March of a series of charges, including armed robbery and possession of firearms, and thirteen others have been indicted.

BankBoston: This Museum Is On Us

Not once. But twice. BankBoston has given the Kennedy Library Foundation a twin commitment that involves a \$45,000 gift to sponsor the 1998 Profile in Courage Essay Contest and selection of the Library as one of nine participants in an innovative plan to build private support for Boston's museums.

Under the rubric **BankBoston Museums On Us**, visitors to the Library and the eight other participating museums were admitted free during the month of May if they showed a BankBoston ATM or debit card. The bank committed \$525,000 in sponsorship and marketing support for the nine institutions participating in the program.

Chad Gifford, BankBoston chairman and CEO, said the bank wanted

to "send a message to both the general public and the business community that our museums are invaluable resources that need continued support."

The Profile in Courage Essay Contest was created by the Foundation four years ago. It has

become a major feature and attracts over 500 high school students who prepare a composition of up to 1,000 words on an aspect of political courage. They compete for a certificate and a \$2,000 scholarship. *(Please see article on the 1998 winner on page 10.)*

Ellis Paul Performs July 5

Ellis Paul, a Boston singer and songwriter with a large national following, will present a free concert at the Kennedy Library at 2 pm on July 5. The concert is part of Boston's annual Harborfest celebration. Paul, who

records for Rounder/Philo, has won seven Boston Music Awards, the Acoustic Underground Competition and the prestigious Kerrville "New Folk Award." Please call 617-929-4523 for information.

President Clinton Helps Foundation Kickoff \$10 Million Campaign

The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, with a wonderful assist from President Bill Clinton, has publicly launched its \$10 million fund raising campaign with an elegant reconstruction of the legendary evening in 1961 when cellist Pablo Casals performed in the East Wing of the White House.

Foundation Chairman Paul G. Kirk, Jr., told guests at the black-tie event that over \$6 million already had been given or pledged to help the Library and Museum strengthen its education and community outreach programs.

The dinner itself brought in just over \$1 million and as the Foundation's *Newsletter* went to press the campaign total had reached \$8,582,635. The \$25,000 per couple dinner attracted contributions from individuals and 35 corporations, including \$50,000 leadership commitments from Raytheon and BankBoston.

"I want to pay special tribute to President Kennedy's family and many members of our Board of Directors," Kirk said. "They've stepped forward at a critical time."

He added, "This campaign is aimed at enhancing the Library's ability to extend President Kennedy's vision of the importance of public service and the inherent strength of our democratic system. We've been helped in our campaign because when we talk about inspiration and idealism, it's real."

Jill Ker Conway, a member of the Board and chair of the fund raising drive, said, "The strength of the Library's intellectual mission and its community outreach effort will help us attract commitments from donors who believe in the value of aggressively encouraging a deeper involvement in democracy and the political process."

The dinner, held at Washington's Organization of American States

Building, attracted a guest list of 130, including the President, Senator and Mrs. Edward Kennedy, Caroline Kennedy and her husband Edwin Schlossberg, cabinet officers, and members of both Houses of Congress.

Yo-Yo Ma, the cellist whom many compare to Casals, closed out the evening with a performance that

"We are all grateful for the extraordinary generosity of all those women and men who have supported the Library. But we have a long way to go and we will need everyone to think carefully about his or her own role." - Jill Ker Conway

ranged from Mendelssohn to traditional Celtic folk songs.

Clinton said the Library is "a national treasure" and recalled that he was inspired to seek a political career "because President Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and their generation, made me admire and believe in public service..."

"I hope the children of this age will find a way to believe in America the way President Kennedy helped me to believe in America, and to believe that the political process leaves the ultimate power in the people and gives its elected representatives a precious chance just to bring out the good and stand against the bad. It is the eternal human obligation. He made it seem fun and noble and good. The least we can do is to keep the torch burning."

The Washington Post noted that the President "received a warm and extended standing ovation" from the audience.

Senator Kennedy praised him as a superb "friend of the Kennedy Library, a wonderful friend to our family, and a great President of the United States."



Celebrated cellist Pablo Casals performing at the legendary White House state dinner honoring Governor Luis Muñoz Marín of Puerto Rico, November 1961

The Heart Of The Struggle

The current civil rights exhibit in the Museum marks a new effort by staff to link archival material more closely to the education and community outreach programming.

"The documents we have on display take you right to the heart of that most difficult time during the civil rights period," said Frank Rigg, Museum curator. "You read the actual telegrams and letters the President was receiving and you can feel the passion, the tension and the difficulty of that moment.

"This is tied directly to the civil rights symposium and the various related events that have taken place this spring. It also gives people a chance to see the real depth of the material that we have in the Archives."

Rigg said the Library plans to expand this approach next year when materials from its Hemingway Collection will be put on display in connection with the series of events that are planned around the centennial of the birth of Ernest Hemingway.

Among the documents on exhibit now are a telegram from Martin Luther King, Jr., to President Kennedy which said:

"Dear Mr. Kennedy. Am gravely disturbed by rash of inhuman developments across the south...I regret to inform you that I have learned from authentic sources that Negroes are arming themselves in many quarters where this reign of terror is alive. I will continue to urge my people to be nonviolent in the face

of bitterest opposition but I fear my counsel will fall on deaf ears if the federal government does not take action. If Negroes are tempted to retaliatory violence we shall see a dark night of rioting all over the south..."

And one from James Farmer, national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, warned the President that the "tactics of Birmingham police appear to be aimed at intentionally provoking wide scale violence. There can be no truce with police brutality and police lawlessness such as we witness in Birmingham. Even if guns of Alabama succeed in quelling nonviolent struggle in Birmingham it will rise up again in place after place..."

Five Boston Firms Honored

Five firms have been presented with Black & White Boston Business Profile Awards at a formal dinner that followed the Kennedy Library's civil rights symposium.

The awards were given to compa-

nies whose presence in Boston has contributed to social and economic stability. The recipients were Corcoran Jennison Cos.; Filene's Basement; Inner-City Software; Stull & Lee; and the Waldwin Group.

This was the seventh annual Black

& White dinner at the Library. Among the approximately 450 guests were Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino; Diddy Cullinane, president of Black & White Boston Coming Together and a member of the Kennedy Library Foundation Board; and Caroline Kennedy, president of the Kennedy Library Foundation.



From left: Boston Business Profile Award winners Sam Gerson and Ken Granderson with award chairmen Wayne Budd and John Hamill and Black & White Boston President Diddy Cullinane

President's Day

Over 3,500 visitors filled the Library and Museum February 16 to take advantage of the annual free admission policy on President's Day.

"We gave our young visitors an insider's look at the power and importance of democracy and the American presidency," said Brad Gerratt, director of the Library. "President's Day is in many cases a school holiday, and we had a very lively and appreciative audience."

In addition to free admission, the Library offered a 20 percent discount on all books and merchandise in the Museum Store.

President's Day is a national holiday commemorating George Washington's birthday and the lives of all the presidents. The Kennedy Library is one of ten presidential libraries and the only one in New England.

Facing A Moral Crisis In Trying To Win Equality

The two documents are searing reminders of the nation's pervasive moral crisis during the civil rights battles of the 1960s.

One is a heart-wrenching letter, sent to the White House in June 1961 by a young boy in New York, that can be examined by visitors to a new exhibit in the Museum of the Kennedy Library. Not even the youthful spelling errors can blunt the urgent, eloquent directness:

"Dear President Kennedy
"My father is in a big prison. He is a freedom rider, not a criminal. I can't get in touch with my father any more. My mother is worried. He waen't eating for 20 days now. Please get him out of prison."

The second document is burned into the mind of James Hood, one of ten men and women who took part April 29 in a special Library symposium, *Facing a Moral Crisis--The Struggle for Civil Rights in 1963*.

Scrawled on a napkin, it told Hood that he could not be admitted to the then all-white University of Alabama because, "As a Negro student you don't have the intelligence to challenge a scholar."

Hood said the rejection made him more determined than ever. He applied and eventually became the first of two black students to be admitted to the university in 1963.

The symposium, which drew an audience of 500, commemorated the 35th anniversary of the events of 1963, one of the most tumultuous years in the nation's history. It was a year that included the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.'s imprisonment in Birmingham, the Mississippi freedom rides, the assassination of Medgar Evers, and Dr. King's "I Have A Dream" speech at the March on Washington.

The Boston Globe, in an editorial the day of the symposium, said, "On the centennial of the Emancipation

Proclamation that year, in kitchens, courtrooms, churches, and--famously--in the streets, the call for equality rang and rang until President Kennedy addressed the nation on live television in June to propose a national civil rights act. 'Those who do nothing are inviting shame as well as violence,' he declared. 'Those who act boldly are recognizing right as well as reality.'"

Several key figures in the civil rights movement and high-level members of the Kennedy administration came to the Library for the symposium. The list included Myrlie Evers-Williams, the widow of Medgar Evers; Dorothy Cotton, who served as education director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Prathia Hall, then a member of the staff of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; Burke Marshall, assistant attorney general in charge of civil rights; Theodore Sorensen, a key adviser to President Kennedy; Anthony Lewis, then a *New York Times* reporter who received a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the civil rights movement; Nicholas Katzenbach, deputy attorney general; Eddie Williams, an official in the State Department during the Kennedy administration; James Hood, one of two African Americans admitted in 1963 to the University of Alabama; and Elaine Jones (moderator), president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The symposium was the centerpiece of a series of related events that were planned over the previous 12 months by a nine-person committee chaired by Mary Reed, a member of the Kennedy Library Foundation Board.

Twelve films, taken from materials in the Library's Audiovisual Archives, were presented between January 19 and February 22. Screened free of charge, the films included rarely seen television footage of some of the

most dramatic events of 1963. During Black History Month, the Library put on a special children's program celebrating black history and culture. Presented during school vacation week from February 16-20, the program showcased some of the country's most noted storytellers, singers, musicians, artists and dancers.

The Kennedy Library Public Forum Series devoted six presentations during March and April to such programs as *The Impact of Television on the Civil Rights Movement*; *Boston's Black Community and the Struggle for Civil Rights*; and an evening with Taylor Branch, the Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer of Dr. King.

Brad Gerratt, director of the Library, said the goal of the programs was to give visitors a chance to study the civil rights movement with the wealth of first-hand materials in the Library's collections.

He added: "Our hope is that people will use the symposium and the other events to search creatively for understanding and for an appreciation of the steps we must all take to complete the courageous efforts of 1963."

Win/Win: Helping Yourself And The Library

Are you doing everything you can to cut your tax bill? Did you know that you can give the Kennedy Library Foundation a gift of appreciated stock or property and the IRS will allow you to deduct the full fair market value?

If you want to help the Library and the Museum, call Kim Deitel at 617-436-9986 (Ext. 15) to discuss the advantages of making a gift of property or stock that has gone up in value.

May Dinner's Tenth Anniversary A Triumph

The May Dinner celebrated its tenth anniversary by taking a nostalgic look back at a prophecy that came true.

A black-tie audience of over 450 sat hushed as the voice of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, recorded in the mid-1960s, recalled her husband's dream for what would become the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

"He visualized it as a vital center of education and exchange and thought," she said, while recent photographs of the Library and its programs were screened during a four-minute video presentation.

She said the Library would be "the best memorial of all, the one which would have pleased him most, for it will be an institution which enlists young Americans and young people everywhere in the understanding and practice of democratic political life and service."

The growth of the Library, the role it plays as a center of discussion here in the United States, and to which world leaders come regularly, is a testimony to the enduring vitality of Mrs. Onassis's words.

The Dinner's results seemed to add an exclamation point. The \$580,000 provided by the guests will help underwrite the Foundation's support of the Library's education and community service programs.

"This was a remarkable year in terms of funds raised and the continued flow of new supporters who are committing to the Library," said Gerard F. Doherty, who co-chaired the Dinner with fellow Board member Jill Ker Conway.



Senator Edward M. Kennedy introduces the 1998 Profile in Courage Award winner Nickolas C. Murnion to guests at the annual May Dinner.

"Seven of the sponsors of full tables—that's a \$10,000 commitment—have been with us every year since the beginning, and this year we attracted more than 50 guests who came for the first time.

"Now we have to get ready for next year."

The Kennedy Library Foundation wishes to express its appreciation to the following individuals, corporations and foundations for their generous support.

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The Irishman Of The Year

The Friends of the Kennedy Library threw an affectionate, fun-filled party March 8 to honor Edward T. Martin as the 1998 Irishman of the Year.

Over 300 guests, including Senator and Mrs. Edward M. Kennedy and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, turned out for a roasting and toasting that culminated with a slide show that riotously chronicled Martin's rise to fame and fortune.

Paul G. Kirk, Jr., chairman of the Library Foundation's Board, extolled his long-time friend as "a man with

uncanny street smarts and uncommon kindness, a genuinely good human being whose solid values are ground in his religious faith, his love of family and in the roots of his Irish heritage."

Don Dowd, president of the Friends of the Kennedy Library, called Martin "an unsung hero who has made a significant contribution both to his community and the nation."

Martin, a member of the Foundation Board and a long-time aide to Senator Kennedy, began his

career as a reporter and subsequently rose to become editor of *The Boston Herald Traveler*. He is currently senior vice president in charge of human resources and public relations for R.M. Bradley.

The Irishman/Irishwoman of the Year Award was created in 1986 by the Friends of the Kennedy Library as a tribute to those of Irish heritage who made important contributions to their community. The Friends is a nonprofit organization established to support the Kennedy Library's programs and activities.

Irish Prime Minister Honored As A Distinguished Foreign Visitor

Bertie Ahern, the Prime Minister of Ireland, visited the Kennedy Library as part of the Distinguished Foreign Visitors Program. The program was created for the Kennedy Library Foundation by Board members John and Diddy Cullinane to build international cooperation and understanding and to promote discussion by providing a forum for world leaders to meet with and speak to the American public. Ahern spoke December 15, 1997 before 350 guests at a dinner in his honor at the Stephen Smith Center.

A brief excerpt from his remarks follows:

The current Northern Ireland peace process is the most concerted, sustained, calculated and determined effort since Irish independence to recast the legacy of our history and establish a stable, just and lasting settlement amongst all the people within the island of Ireland.

We cannot change history, but we can change its future course. That is the fundamental and profound insight that drives this peace process... There is a widespread realization that we do not need to be condemned to a future of mutual suspicion, hostility and endless, futile cycles of violence.

We do not have to bow in defeat and resignation to the nay-sayers who say that the problem of Northern Ireland is a fatal and insoluble problem. They used to say that about the Iron Curtain, apartheid and the Middle East conflict.



Irish Prime Minister Ahern (left) with Christine Sullivan Daly and Kennedy Library Foundation Director Charles U. Daly

We are the inheritors of the past, but we are also the trustees of the future. We, this current generation, can grasp control of our destiny and create here and now the conditions for a lasting peace.

David F. Powers

He was a newsboy who helped put John F. Kennedy on the road to the White House, a man of a thousand-and-one wonderful, perceptive stories who energized the Kennedy Library with a deep, passionate sense of history and service to democracy.

David F. Powers died March 27 at Symmes Medical Center in Arlington, MA. He was 85.

Caroline Kennedy, president of the Kennedy Library Foundation, remembered Powers as "a loyal and devoted friend whom my mother and father adored. His love of life and laughter was infectious...I will always be grateful for his personal kindness and for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Kennedy Library."

Paul G. Kirk, Jr., chairman of the Foundation Board, said, "He brightened John Kennedy's presidency and, as its curator, he brightened his Library and Museum." Charles U. Daly, executive director of the Foundation, said his friend and colleague "gave everything and asked nothing in return."

Powers was an unemployed U.S. Air Force veteran when John F. Kennedy came to the working-class neighborhood of Charlestown looking for help on the evening of January 21, 1946 in his first run for Congress. Powers signed on enthusiastically as a campaign worker and helped Kennedy capture the 11th Congressional District seat. He played an increasing role in subsequent campaigns and when President Kennedy moved into the White House he named Dave Powers as his special assistant.

On April 25, 1962, President Kennedy gave Powers a silver mug for his birthday, with an inscription that read: "There are three things which are real: God, Human Folly and Laughter. The first two are beyond our comprehension, so we



David Powers in one of his favorite settings, a Kennedy rocker

must do what we can with the third."

Powers once said he remembered the President as "the greatest man I ever met, and the best friend I ever had."

Powers resigned his White House post in January 1965 to become curator of the John F. Kennedy Library and, at the request of Robert F. Kennedy, assembled the early collection of Kennedy memorabilia that became the core of the Library's permanent exhibition. In 1972 Powers and Ken O'Donnell co-authored *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, a personal look at President Kennedy's life.

David F. Powers was born April 25, 1912 in Charlestown, the son of John and Catherine Green Powers, both of whom had been born in County Cork, Ireland. His father died when he was two, and at ten, Powers went to work as a newsboy to help support his mother. He served in the Air Force from 1942 to 1945 in the China-Burma-India theater.

Powers is survived by his wife Jo and two daughters, Mary Jo and Diane, his son John David and three grandchildren. His family requested that memorial contributions be sent to the Kennedy Library Foundation.

New York Student Captures BankBoston-Sponsored Essay Prize

A New York high school student who didn't speak a word of English when he came to America ten years ago has won the 1998 Profile in Courage Essay Award.

Hani Sarji received the award and a \$2,000 scholarship that goes with it by beating out over 500 students from the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

His winning essay portrayed Sal Albanese, a Brooklyn councilman and 1987 New York mayoral candidate, whose political career was cut short after he ignored intense criticism to back legislation to protect homosexuals from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.

"Councilman Albanese put his career on the line because he believed in human rights," wrote the senior from Xavier High School in Manhattan. "He believed in some-

thing...and helped make New York more American by protecting the rights of citizens to choose their sexual orientation. It is a shame that Albanese is almost forgotten today."

The essay contest, sponsored by the Kennedy Library Foundation and BankBoston, requires a student to submit a composition of up to 1,000 words on an aspect of political courage.

Ira Jackson, executive vice president of BankBoston, and other bank executives took part in the May 29 ceremony at which John Seigenthaler, chairman of the Profile in Courage Award Committee, presented a certificate and check to Sarji.

Sarji is a high school senior, a National Honor Society member and is active in drama, choir and Xavier's tutoring program.

"One particularly interesting thing about this young man," said



Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Caroline Kennedy and John F. Kennedy, Jr., congratulate Hani Sarji on winning the Profile in Courage Essay contest.

Seigenthaler, "is that Hani and his family moved to the United States when he was only seven. At the time he spoke only Arabic--and today he is here as the recipient of first prize in an important essay contest."

Sarji's essay is scheduled to appear in the next issue of the *Newsletter*.

Boston Edison Lights Up The Library

An imaginative Boston Edison gift will shortly turn the John F. Kennedy Library into a highly visible nighttime beacon for all those arriving at Logan Airport.

The \$100,000 project consists of upgrading the approach lighting to the Library and new exterior facade lighting. Boston Edison has agreed to cover \$20,000 of the cost with a grant from the Boston Edison Foundation, and to cover approximately \$30,000 in labor costs.

Boston Edison will also seek to obtain up to \$50,000 in fixtures and materials from the suppliers chosen for the project.

Thomas J. May, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Boston Edison, said, "We're very pleased to be able to help the

Library develop a dramatic new way to present itself to the public."

Brad Gerratt, director of the Library, said, "Finding a way, within our resources, to light the facade of this wonderful I.M. Pei building has been a dream of our staff and the Board of Directors for a long time. We are extremely grateful to Boston Edison for making possible a project that will have a profound effect on this institution."

Jill Ker Conway, chair of the Development Committee, said, "Tom May and Boston Edison have made a vital contribution to our campaign, and that will have an important effect on the future of the Library to carry out its mission."

Increasing Access To Classified Files

Quietly and efficiently, and with a touch of congeniality, a CIA task force slipped out of the Library one brisk afternoon in March with over 220,000 copied pages of "hard core" classified documents.

Its mission: to get the documents back to Washington for declassification review by intelligence and military agencies so that they can be released to the public.

"This was a helpful, good-natured group of CIA contractors who scanned about a quarter of our classified documents onto compact discs," said Stephanie Fawcett, the Library's senior foreign policy archivist. "They worked closely and appreciatively with our staff."

"Now we are eagerly awaiting the review by the various agencies. This is sometimes quite difficult. The CIA, for one, has assured us that they will move quickly."

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Hemingway/PEN Award Ceremony Fills Smith Center

Novelist Anita Shreve doesn't deal real estate, but her creative approach, sketched out to a Kennedy Library audience, sounds like a literary version of the old adage about what to look for in a piece of property: location, location, location.

"For me, a novel begins with a place," explained Shreve to the annual PEN awards ceremony April 5 in the Kennedy Library's Stephen E. Smith Center.

She said the sight of the fog-shrouded, looming Isles of Shoals off the New Hampshire coast inspired her to write *The Weight of Water*, a novel that won the 1998 L.L. Winship/PEN New England Award, which is given annually for a book by a New England author or with a New England topic or setting.

The second event of the afternoon ceremony was the 1998 Ernest Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, a national prize given for a first book of fiction, which was presented to Charlotte Bacon by Patrick Hemingway, the author's son. Ms. Bacon, an English teacher at Miss Porter's School in Farmington, CT, won for her collection of short stories, *A Private State*.

Megan Desnoyers, archivist at the Library, noted that the awards ceremony was a remarkable collaborative effort of the Kennedy Library and Foundation, PEN New England, *The Boston Globe*, the Hemingway Foundation and Society and the Friends of the Hemingway Collection at the Kennedy Library.

"As many of you know," she told the standing room audience of approximately 600, "due to the efforts of Mary Hemingway and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, the Ernest Hemingway Collection is housed here in the Hemingway room. We are honored with the Hemingway family's trust in giving us this national treasure, and we encourage you to come work with the collection and see the newly redecorated Hemingway Room."

Keynote speaker Arthur Miller, the eminent playwright, charmed the audience with reminiscences of his service as president of PEN/International during the height of the Cold War. Miller said he was asked to run PEN, which stands for poets, essayists and novelists, during the 1960s because he had "credibility on both sides" of the Iron Curtain. He said he tried to get the Soviet

Writers Union to join PEN, but gave up when he realized its goal was to get "government control of writers into the West, rather than the other way around."

"I look forward to an America which will reward achievement in the arts as we reward achievement in business or statecraft. I look forward to an America which will steadily raise the standards of artistic accomplishment and which will steadily enlarge cultural opportunities for all our citizens."

President John F. Kennedy
October 1963

Presentation of the Hemingway Foundation/PEN and the Winship/PEN New England awards is a major event on the Library's annual spring calendar. The Hemingway Foundation/PEN prize was founded in 1976 by the late Mary Hemingway, the writer's widow, to honor Hemingway and to draw attention to first books of fiction.

The Archives of the Kennedy Library contains the Ernest Hemingway Collection, which includes 95 percent of the novelist's manuscripts and correspondence. The Kennedy Library and Foundation sponsor an active and growing Friends organization that supports the collection through the purchase and preservation of materials, raising funds and by holding public events, including the annual award ceremony.

The 1999 PEN awards will be presented as part of a series of special events, including a symposium featuring several Nobel laureates, to celebrate the centennial of Hemingway's birth.

Further information on the centennial celebration will be carried in the next issue of the *Newsletter*.



Norman Mailer presents Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis with a gift at the 1990 Hemingway Conference.

Gillette Gives \$100,000 For Education

The Gillette Company has made a \$100,000 gift in support of the Kennedy Library Foundation's educational programs.

"This is a very important gift for our fund raising campaign and for our ability to reach Boston's needy teenagers," said Paul G. Kirk, Jr., chairman of the Foundation. "The Gillette Company's commitment will help us strengthen those programs that focus on the value of participating in public life and the ways in which young people can work to

improve their own community."

Jim Furlong, director of civic affairs at the Gillette Company, said the gift will be paid in four annual installments as part of the Foundation's \$10 million fund raising campaign.

Gillette, one of the world's most famous names in consumer products, is headquartered in Boston. For the past seven years, it has selected the Kennedy Library as the site for its annual stockholders meeting.

Classified Files

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Fawcett said approximately 750,000 document pages, as well as audio tapes, are still classified. She added, "This means that a great deal has to be done before April 2000 to satisfy President Clinton's Executive Order for declassification review of documents that are more than 25 years old."

The scanning project was completed March 25, ten days ahead of schedule. "Hard core" classified documents are those that were sent to the President's office by intelligence or military agencies.

Summer Calendar

Family Nights

Every Wednesday through September 2, the Museum will be open until 8 pm. Children 17 and under admitted free

Harborfest '98 Sunday, July 5 at 2 pm

Singer/Songwriter Ellis Paul will give a free concert.

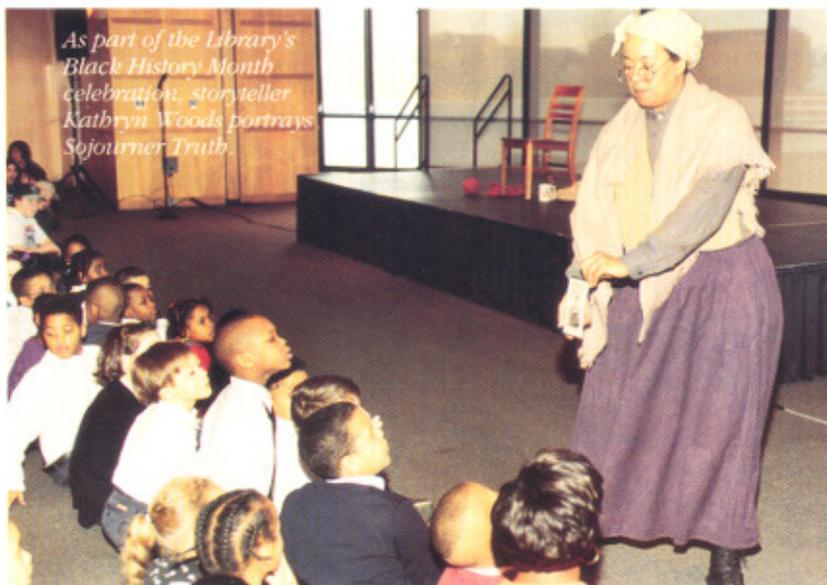
Symposium on Calvin Coolidge July 30-31

A two-day meeting at the Library will bring together scholars and historians to discuss the ideals and policies of the 30th President of the United States.

Museum Hours

Daily, 9 am to 5 pm
Through Sept. 2 open Wednesday evenings until 8 pm
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day

The John F. Kennedy Library Newsletter is published by the Kennedy Library Foundation. Tax deductible donations and bequests may be made to the Kennedy Library Foundation, Boston, MA 02125



The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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