



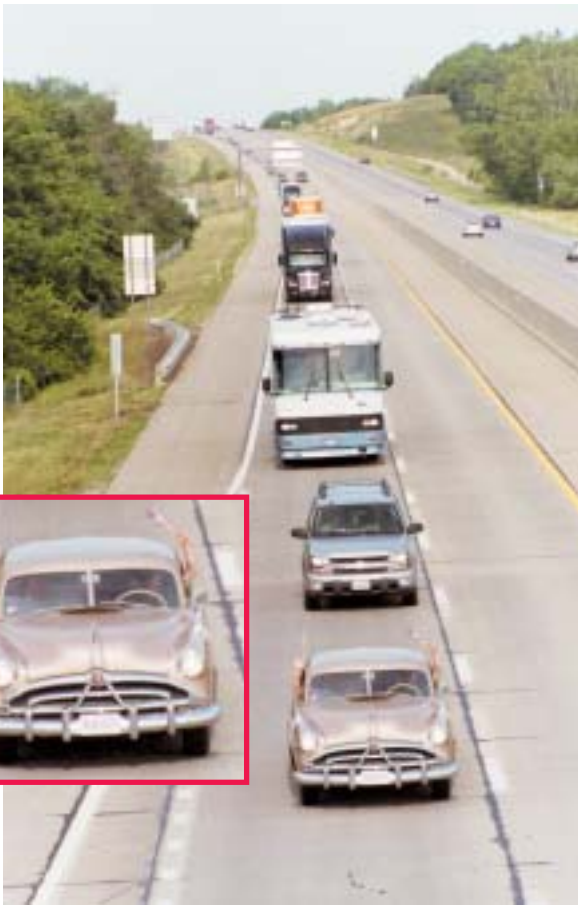
Overview

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50th Anniversary of the Interstate Highway System

An historic Transcontinental Convoy was on the move again. This time, however, the going was much faster and easier. In 1919, a young Lt. Colonel named Dwight D. Eisenhower participated in a 62-day cross country journey - from Washington DC to San Francisco - with the U.S. Army to demonstrate the need for better roads in America. In the summer of 2006, Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, Ike's great-grandson, made the same journey in a mere fraction of that time.

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A 1951 Hudson leads the convoy on Interstate 70 west of Abilene. President Eisenhower's great-grandson, Merrill Eisenhower Atwater and driver Dan McNichol, author of "The Roads that Built America" wave to the photographer on the overpass bridge.



Approximately 25 vintage cars were on display at the Eisenhower Center during anniversary festivities.



Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, center, prepares to greet the crowd from the front steps of the Eisenhower Family Home upon the convoy's arrival to the Eisenhower Center. On Eisenhower's right is Dan Holt, director of the Eisenhower Center. Dan McNichol is on Eisenhower's left.



L-R - Interstate discussion panel participants, Dan McNichol, author of "The Roads that Built America;" Mike Lackey, former Assistant Secretary, State Transportation Engineer; Constance Achterburg, attorney for the original interstate construction; Jim Brewer, Engineering Manager, Kansas Department of Transportation; and Mary Turkington, Chairperson, Kansas Turnpike Authority.

50th Anniversary continued

The occasion was the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate Highway System. After his experience on the 1919 convoy, Eisenhower's long time dream for the United States had been a system of good roads to improve commerce and promote the national defense. As President, he signed the Federal-Aid Highway Bill of 1956, which made this a reality. We now have the Dwight D. Eisenhower Interstate Highway System to speed travelers and commerce across the country.

The 50th Anniversary Interstate Highway Commemoration was celebrated at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene on June 21-22 with an old-fashioned ice cream social, an antique car show, a city

band concert and speeches by modern convoy participants from the front steps of the Eisenhower Family Home.

How have times changed since the original 1919 convoy? The distance traveled was the same - 3,251 grueling miles. Dwight Eisenhower kept a detailed diary of his journey in 1919. Eighty-seven years later, Great-grandson Merrill Eisenhower Atwater kept a blog!

"Lincoln Highway Commemorative Medal" presented to modern day convoy participants



The convoy departs Abilene during early morning hours of June 22 headed on I-70 to the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, where they made several laps around the track before continuing their journey toward Washington, D.C.

From the Foundation President

This issue of *Overview* highlights two important developments for the Eisenhower Foundation. The first is the hiring of an associate education coordinator for the Five Star Leaders Program. With this new staff, we are now a step closer in our mission to make this outstanding leadership program available to every school district in the state of Kansas. Dwight D. Eisenhower's leadership lessons are as relevant and important today as they were in June 1944 or during his presidency.

Another article in this issue informs readers of generous financial bequests the Eisenhower Foundation has recently received from donors. These were very timely gifts to the Foundation, as federal government funding of the Eisenhower Library and Museum is facing major constraints. Increasingly, it is up to the Foundation to provide the resources to insure the continuation of vital programs at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene, whether they are educational programs, new museum exhibits, or popular public events. A bequest to the Eisenhower Foundation is an outstanding way to make a truly lasting contribution to society by helping preserve and promote the important legacy of our thirty-fourth president. Please do not hesitate to contact Foundation Executive Director Mack Teasley or me for further information.

I hope you enjoy *Overview*.



Eisenhower Foundation
President, Stewart Etherington

Making a Lasting Contribution by Planned Giving

Americans are truly a generous people. Whether supporting our churches, alma maters, favorite charities, or responding to natural disasters like hurricane Katrina, we are donating in record amounts. And it is not simply by putting coins in the kettle or dropping a check in the mail. According to *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, one in four Americans now plans to make charitable gifts in their wills or other type of estate planning. Many average Americans are accumulating considerable wealth over their lifetimes and in addition to providing for their families, they wish to make a lasting contribution to society.

The Eisenhower Foundation has been the beneficiary of this new trend in planned giving. This past year, the Foundation received two sizeable bequests from the estates of individuals with strong ties to Abilene and a fondness for their famous native son



Richard Lowry

Dwight D. Eisenhower. The Richard Lowry Estate and Anna Irene Dobson Estate both left generous donations to support the Eisenhower Foundation in its efforts to promote the legacy of the 34th President of the United States.

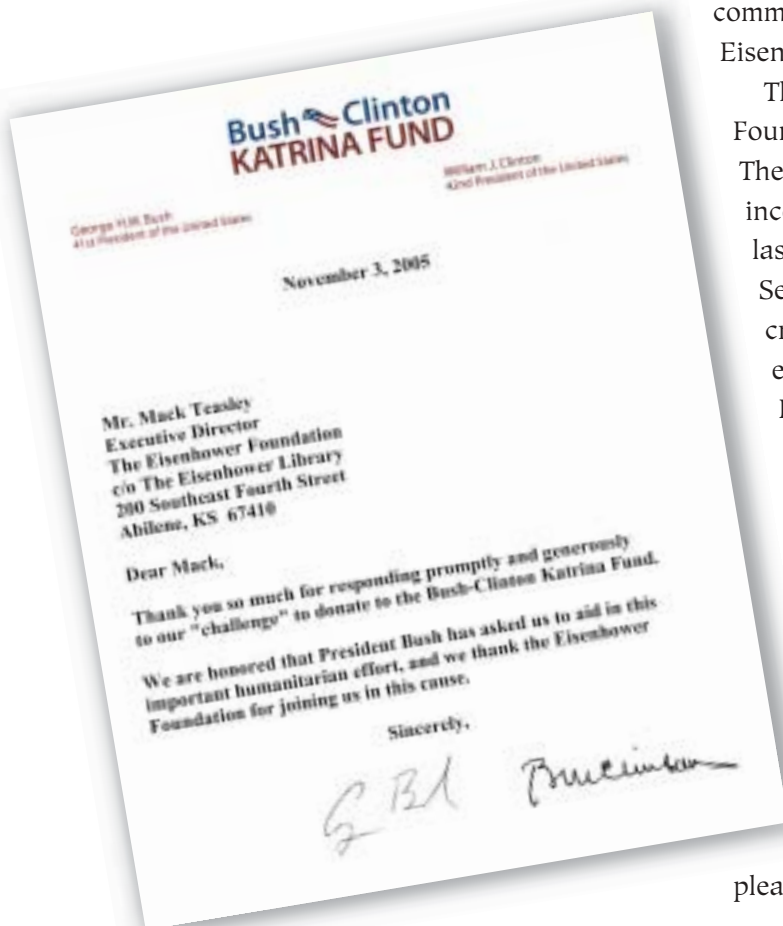
Richard Lowry was born in 1925 and graduated from Abilene High School. He began his career with United Utilities in Abilene and eventually moved to Kansas City,

but he always considered Abilene his home and wanted to do something lasting for the community. Anna Irene Dobson was born in 1909 in Solomon, Kansas, and also worked with United Utilities as the long-time personal secretary for company president C. A. "Skip" Scupin. Ms. Dobson also desired to make a lasting contribution to her



Anna Irene Dobson

community and accomplished that with her gift to the Eisenhower Foundation.



These recent bequests to the Eisenhower Foundation are already having an impact. The Eisenhower Center's education office is using the income from these proceeds to publish and distribute the last installment in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Curriculum Series to every school in the state of Kansas. This critically acclaimed teaching unit is used for character education in our school system. According to Eisenhower Foundation President Stewart Etherington, "Because of the foresight and generosity of donors such as Richard Lowry and Anna Irene Dobson, the Eisenhower Legacy will continue for future generations."

The Eisenhower curriculum series is only the very first result of these gifts. There will be many more programs, museum exhibits, and educational materials in the future as Richard Lowry and Anna Irene Dobson continue to give back to the community through their generosity.

For more information about planned giving, please contact the Eisenhower Foundation.

IKE Was My Boss, Too

Frances Smith Johnson was an eyewitness to history during World War II as part of the secretarial staff for Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower. She worked along side Nana Rae, Sue Sarafian, Margaret Chick and Kay Summersby. In an intriguing evening forum at the Eisenhower Library recently, Ms. Johnson reminisced to the audience



Elinor Haas (left), who began her volunteer association with the Eisenhower Center in 1990 during the Eisenhower Centennial celebration, leads "A Conversation with Fran Smith Johnson" on stage during the program, "Ike Was My Boss, Too!"

about her time on General Ike's staff and the adventures of a young WAC in Germany at the end of World War II. While visiting the Library,

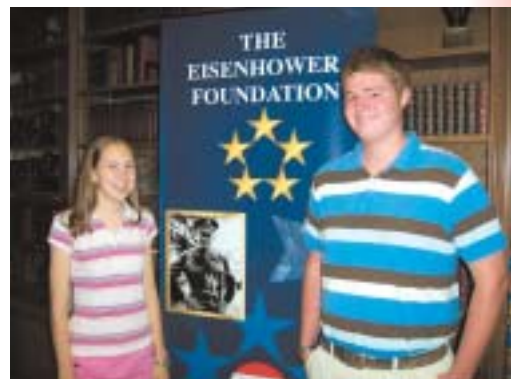


Frances Smith Johnson driving an Army jeep in 1944

Ms. Johnson also donated her wartime photographs and letters to the archives. Frances Smith Johnson was born in New York and worked for McGraw-Hill Publishing Company before joining the Women's Army Corps in September 1944. Ms. Johnson now lives in Gainesville, Georgia with her husband John Hunt.

Eisenhower Foundation Scholarship Winners

Eisenhower Foundation Scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors Rachel Berry and Amos Christner at the Abilene High School commencement ceremony in May 2006. Dwight D. Eisenhower was a graduate of Abilene High School and the Foundation scholarship is awarded to the young man and woman recognized by the high school faculty as best demonstrating the traits of respect, responsibility, and a sincere concern for the well being of others.



Herbert Brownell Lecture Series

Dr. David Nichols, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dean of the Faculty Emeritus at Southwestern College, was guest speaker February 21, 2006 for the annual Herbert Brownell Lecture Series. Nichols discussed the role of President Eisenhower and Attorney General Herbert Brownell, in the ongoing civil rights struggles in the United States fifty years ago. Brownell (1906-1996), served as the U.S. Attorney General under President Eisenhower from 1953-57, and was most noteworthy in his support of civil rights in the Brown v

Board of Education of Topeka Supreme Court case. The lecture series continues his legacy of staunch support for civil rights issues in America.



Sheri Graefe is the association education coordinator for the FIVE STAR LEADERS PROGRAM at the Eisenhower Library. This new position in the education office was made possible by a recent grant from the Annenberg Foundation. Sheri has extensive experience teaching at both the secondary school and college level, in addition to curriculum development. She received a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Kansas State University in 2004.

*Sheri Graefe,
Associate Education Coordinator*

Five Star Leaders

The command briefing room is filled with high suspense. A large, color map of England and the Normandy coast of France is the backdrop. Top Secret documents are strewn across the conference table. “Okay, we’ll go.” With these historic words, the student portraying General Dwight D. Eisenhower has just given the order for the D-Day landing of June 6, 1944, thus completing the leadership lessons embodied in the FIVE STAR LEADERS PROGRAM at the Eisenhower Library in Abilene.

The tension is real. The young “Supreme Commander” sitting at the head of the conference table has just been briefed by the “experts”—other students playing the role of senior military commanders, intelligence officers, weather officers, political figures, French Resistance fighters, etc. Each student has studied the real historical figure they are portraying and brought forth the personality and idiosyncrasies of that character. It is as if for a few hours they have traveled back in time.

THE FIVE STAR LEADERS PROGRAM receives rave reviews from teachers and students alike. It is a six module, hands-on learning experience that teaches leadership and decision-making to students in grades 8



While playing the role of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, a student announces “Okay, we will go,” referring to the June 6, 1944 D-Day landing on Normandy Beach.



Dr. Graefe assists students portraying “senior military commanders” during a recent FIVE STAR LEADERS exercise.

through 12. Through the use of facsimile classified documents and role playing, students recreate an important event and learn not only about history, but about themselves. The leadership lessons and decision-making skills are something they take with them when they leave the Eisenhower Center.

Next for the education staff at the Eisenhower Library is development of another leadership module; this time based on the momentous decision by President Eisenhower to send federal troops to enforce the racial integration of Little Rock School in October 1957.

The leadership legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower continues.

Recipients of Abilene Travel Grants – Spring 2006

Joana R. Carlson, Florida State University, “*Horizontal Relations and U.S. Response to Social Revolutions in China and Cuba*”

Richard M. Filipink, State University of New York at Fredonia, “*An American Lion in Winter: The Post-Presidential Impact of Dwight D. Eisenhower on American Foreign Policy*”

Daniel P. Franklin, Georgia State University, “*Pitiful Giants: Presidents in Their Final Terms*”

Max P. Friedman, Florida State University, “*Anti-Americanism in Western Europe and Latin America during the Civil War*”

Chad H. Parker, Indiana University, “*Constructing ARAMCO Constructing America: The Arabian American Oil Company and the Promotion of American Modernization during the Postwar Diplomacy in the Third World*”

Jason C. Parker, West Virginia University, “*The Contest: Hearts, Minds, and the History of the U.S. Public Diplomacy in the Third World*”

Geoffrey C. Roberts, University College, Cork, Ireland, “*When the Cold War Could Have Ended: The Soviet Peace Campaign, 1953-1955*”

Kenneth Weisbrode, Harvard University, “*EUR and American Diplomacy, 1909-1989*”



Matthew W. Duane of Brown University and Stefan Lunze of the Free University Berlin, shown in the Eisenhower Library research room, were recipients of the Eisenhower Foundation Travel Grants.

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Mark Your Calendar

Former Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard Myers, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), will be the featured speaker at the Eisenhower Foundation’s Annual Dinner on October 13, 2006 at the Eisenhower Library.

The Eisenhower Foundation
Abilene, KS 67410

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