



Overview

VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 1 • SUMMER 2010

MORE THAN VICTORY IN WAR: SECURING THE LONG PEACE

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates looked out across the crowd gathered in front of the Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene and said *“Victory in Europe during World War II would not have been possible without Ike’s strategic vision, diplomatic savvy and remarkable skill at managing the personalities of his top generals.”* The occasion was the 65th anniversary of V-E Day. But Gates praised Eisenhower even more for what he described as the President’s effort in securing “The Long Peace” that followed.

Eisenhower believed that any nation could only be as militarily strong as it was economically dynamic and fiscally sound. He was concerned about the U.S. turning into a muscle-bound, garrison state – militarily strong, but economically stagnant and strategically insolvent. *“We must not destroy from within what we are trying to defend from without.”*

As President, Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered his former colleagues in the Pentagon to cut down “to a Spartan basis.” Under Eisenhower real choices in defense spending were made, priorities were set, and limits enforced. According to Ike, *“I say the patriot today is the fellow who can do the job with less money.”*

Secretary Gates chose the anniversary of one of General Eisenhower’s greatest achievements and the site of his boyhood home, burial site, and presidential library and museum to inform the nation that



Eisenhower-type change is needed today more than ever in Washington. In a fitting tribute, Gates said

“We need to make hard choices – choices that will displease powerful people both inside the Pentagon and out... It is a task, in the final analysis, to defend the security, prosperity, and freedom of the American people in this complex and dangerous new century.... it is a mission worthy of the son of Kansas who led our forces to victory 65 years ago, and whose legacy continues to sustain and protect us today.”



EISENHOWER AND THE RIGHTEOUS

The place was the Ohrdruf, a sub-camp of Buchenwald. The date was April 12, 1945. Generals Eisenhower, Bradley, and Patton visited a recently liberated concentration camp to witness the horror first-hand. In a letter to General George C. Marshall three days later, Eisenhower documented for posterity why he had made the visit to the camp and what he had seen. History has shown Ike's decision to document the atrocities of World War II was prescient.



General Eisenhower at Ohrdruf concentration camp - April 1945

The things I saw beggar description.... The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty and bestiality were...overpowering...I made the visit deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future there develops a tendency to charge the allegations merely to "propaganda." [Dwight D. Eisenhower, April 14, 1945]

In April 2010, on the 65th Anniversary of General Eisenhower's visit to the Ohrdruf camp, the Eisenhower Presidential Museum opened a special exhibit on this unique and lesser know facet of Ike's historic legacy during World War II. Entitled "*Eisenhower and the Righteous Cause: The Liberation of Europe*," the new exhibit is part of a seven-month program that will include not only the exhibit, but lectures, a film series, many public programs, and a teachers workshop.

The *Eisenhower and the Righteous Cause* exhibit was opened by guest speaker Sara Bloomfield, director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC. In solemn remarks, Ms. Bloomfield lamented that many in the younger generations know little about the Holocaust and about the remarkable debt of gratitude we owe World War II military veterans.



Sara Bloomfield

The life we have today we owe to them. The future of freedom itself was at stake...We open this important exhibit and recognize that the soldiers served many roles – liberators, warriors, jurors, protectors, and one final important role – witnesses... Their courage and witness was where the cause of the Holocaust remembrance began.

Nine months after the end of the war in Europe, General Eisenhower returned to Washington and was now serving as Army Chief of Staff. He had not forgotten his eyewitness to man's inhumanity to his fellow man at Ohrdruf. Eisenhower said "*I see no hope for the world except through education.*"

Eisenhower would be reassured to know his museum in Abilene is doing its part to educate future generations about the lessons of the holocaust experience.

Eisenhower and the Righteous Cause runs through December 31st, 2010. More information about the exhibit and other programs is available at <http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/index.html>

**Eisenhower and the Righteous Cause:
The Liberation of Europe**

May 24 to
Dec. 31, 2010

**Dwight D. Eisenhower
Presidential Library & Museum**

EISENHOWER AND THE RIGHTEOUS CAUSE

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ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL FIRST



Add one more honor to Dwight D. Eisenhower's long list of accomplishments. Ike is the only President of the United States to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. In St. Augustine, Florida, this past November, Eisenhower joined a handful of other golfing luminaries as part of the hall of fame Class of 2009.

At the induction ceremony, golfing legend Arnold Palmer spoke of his warm, personal friendship with the President and of having seen firsthand Ike's passion for the game and the impact he had on its broadening appeal worldwide. Palmer said:

One would be hard pressed to find any single person who did more to popularize the game of golf, not only in the United States but throughout the world, than President Eisenhower. His visibility, coupled with his passion for the game, were the inspiration for literally millions of people picking up the game for the first time. Those involved in golf today owe him a great debt of gratitude.

Sports historians do indeed credit Eisenhower with motivating millions of golfers over the age of 40 to try golf for the first time. According to Don Van Natta, Jr., author of *First Off the Tee*, when Ike took office in 1953, 3.2 million Americans played golf and by 1961 that number had doubled.

Merrill Atwater knows his great grandfather would have been humbled and honored to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. Atwater said Eisenhower's personal interest in the game was evident throughout his life and is demonstrated by "the many family stories shared through the generations."

In 1968, Ike achieved every golfer's dream when he scored a hole in one at age 77.



L to R: Merrill Atwater, Eisenhower's great-grandson; Arnold Palmer; Stewart Etherington, President, Eisenhower Foundation at induction ceremony



Arnold Palmer and President Eisenhower - 1960



World Golf Hall of Fame is St. Augustine, FL



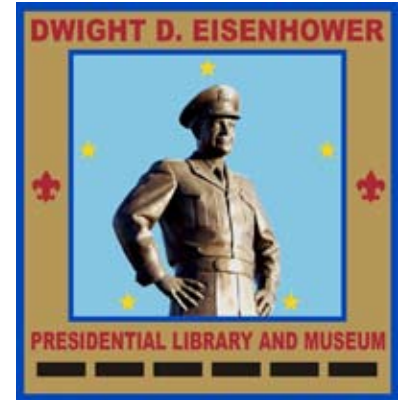
Boy Scouts of America “Eisenhower Patch” for Leadership

The Eisenhower Library and Boy Scouts of America (BSA) recently announced the development of a joint program to teach the value of civic knowledge and engagement and to encourage scouts to be actively involved in the democratic process. Participating scouts will earn the new “Eisenhower Patch” for their uniform.



It is anticipated that many scouts will take advantage of this opportunity as BSA Camp Brown is located just two miles south of the Eisenhower Presidential Library. In addition, hundreds of scouts and their leaders pass by Abilene on Interstate-70 each summer on their way to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

The scout leadership program and the Eisenhower Patch were underwritten by a generous gift from the Jeffcoat Memorial Foundation of Abilene, KS.



HONOR A WORLD WAR II VETERAN by submitting his or her name, a wartime era photograph, and brief wartime biographical information to the Eisenhower foundation for inclusion on the Honor Roll kiosk located in the Eisenhower Museum. Visit our on-line WW II HONOR ROLL for more information about how to recognize the service of a veteran. www.dwightdeisenhower.com/kiosk/

EISENHOWER PEACEMAKER COIN

Eisenhower believed strongly that one of his most important achievements as President was the signing of the Korean armistice on July 27, 1953. Although the war was not formally ended, a truce was reached that has held to this day.

On the 57th anniversary of that armistice, the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Foundation will be honoring members of the military who have served in Korea with a specially minted *Eisenhower Peacemaker Coin*. The coins will be presented during a 3:00 p.m. ceremony at the Eisenhower Library in Abilene on July 24th, 2010. All veterans who served in the Republic of Korea as a member of the U.S. armed forces between June 25, 1950, and the present are eligible to receive the Eisenhower Coin.

Please call the Eisenhower Library at 800-RING IKE for more information or visit the following website link www.eisenhower.archives.gov/Eisenhower_Peacemaker_Coin_Form.pdf



Keeping Wartime Memories Alive



Above: Joe Todd in Operation Desert Storm

Right: WWII Veteran Henry Powell, left, with Joe Todd



"These everyday American veterans of World War II are all heroes to me" says Joe Todd of Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Todd is a retired Oklahoma Historical Society historian and army veteran of both the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm. He also served as the director of the 45th Infantry Division Museum in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Todd, like many of us, is concerned that memories of World War II are slipping away with the passing of wartime veterans of that generation. He decided to do something about it. He purchased a video camera and, since his retirement several years ago, Joe has taped interviews with hundreds of World War II veterans and home front workers. He asks them to share their background and their individual stories in their own words.

Joe Todd's project is not the only World War II oral history program around, nor is it the most famous. But when asked why he is duplicating the work done by the well-known Library of Congress World War II

Veterans project, Joe Todd said simply, *"I started*

doing my interviews in 1999. The Library of Congress program didn't begin until over a year later."

Todd's videotaped interviews have been donated to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene. These personal accounts provide a unique window on the history of World War II and complement the Eisenhower Library's more formal manuscript archives. Todd's contribution to history will live on for future generations.

But there is more. Todd, through his personal generosity, is now funding a paid student internship at the Eisenhower Library. *The Joe Todd World War II Heritage Internship* is dedicated to preserving the important audiovisual and manuscript records of World War II veterans in the holdings of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, including those unique interviews conducted by Todd himself.



Amy Cantone, a graduate student from Kansas State University, is the Joe Todd Intern for 2010. Cantone will work on cataloging the over 700 interviews with WWII veterans.



Meredith Sleichter

NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Meredith Sleichter joined the Eisenhower Foundation staff on January 1st as the foundation's Executive Assistant. She brings a wealth of experience to this new position. Meredith has previously served as director of public relations for the Abilene Memorial Hospital, executive director of the Abilene Quality of Life Coalition, as a parent educator with the local school district's "Parents as Teachers" program, and most recently a three-year stint as program director for the Community Foundation of Dickinson County.

According to Foundation executive director Mack Teasley, *"Meredith is already making a difference for the Eisenhower Foundation. She not only brings great experience to her role as executive assistant, she is full of enthusiasm and good ideas. We are very fortunate to have someone of her abilities working with us to preserve the Eisenhower Legacy."*

Meredith Sleichter is originally from Hoyt, KS and holds a degree in Human Ecology and Mass Communications from Kansas State University. Meredith and husband Jeff Sleichter have two children and live in rural Abilene.



EISENHOWER MEMORIAL



L to R: Mack Teasley, Executive Director of the Eisenhower Foundation; Karl Weissenbach, Director Eisenhower Library; Mr. Gehry; Stewart Etherington, President of the Eisenhower Foundation

Eisenhower Library and Foundation leaders recently met the architect for the future Eisenhower Memorial in Washington DC. The world-renowned Frank O. Gehry of Los Angeles was selected to design the memorial. The selected design will be located on a four-acre site at the base of Capitol Hill. From a central location featuring a grove of oak trees, visitors will move to different parts of the memorial, where themes from Eisenhower's life will be presented. The selected design concept includes columns along the north and south edges of the site, paying homage to the memorial traditions of the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials. Large memorial tapestries of woven stainless steel mesh supported on the colonnade of limestone depict images of Eisenhower's life, amplifying the setting and creating an ideal background for the memorial experience.

“The approach to the design was to create a cohesive and important civic space and urban monument in the heart of the capital region that provides a quiet and contemplative space for learning about the vast accomplishments of President Eisenhower. He was a masterful but modest leader. My aim was to capture that spirit with the design.” — Frank Gehry



Artist rendering of the future Eisenhower Memorial in Washington D.C.



Recipients of Abilene Research Travel Grants - Spring 2010



Mark Shanahan and Pamela Parry

Each year the Eisenhower Foundation awards 15-20 travel grants to researchers wishing to study the historic holdings at the Eisenhower Library in Abilene. The Foundation's aim is to encourage new academic scholarship on the life and times of Dwight D. Eisenhower to help record his legacy for posterity.

Joonbum Bae; UCLA, Los Angeles, California
"The Realist Critique of U.S.-China Policy during the 1950's: A Re-assessment"

Joshua Farrington; University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
"Forgotten Republicans: Black Voters, Southern Strategies and the Party of Lincoln, 1948-1968"

Dr. Andrew Johns; Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
"In the Eye of the Storm: John Sherman Cooper and the Cold War, 1946-1976"

Edward Miller; Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts
"The Crossroads of Conservatism: Dallas and the origins of American Conservatism"

Rachel Moran; Penn State, University Park, Pennsylvania
"Bread and Butter Politics: Federal Policy on Fitness and Figure, 1880-1969"

Pamela Parry; Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee
"Rechiseling Mount Rushmore: Eisenhower's use of Public Relations as Political Strategy"

Dr. Milada Polisenska; Anglo-American University, Prague, Czechoslovakia
"Diplomatic Relations between Czechoslovakia and the United States, 1918-1968"

Mark Shanahan; Brunel University, United Kingdom
"Missiles Without Warheads - An Investigation into the US Media's Influence on U.S. Space Policy during the US/Soviet Cold War Space Race"

Dr. Timothy Smith; Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida
"Private Volunteer Service, Foreign Assistance and U.S. Foreign Policy"

Dr. Jeremy Teigen; Ramapo College, Mahwah, New Jersey
"Tippecanoe and Hanoi Hiltons Too: Why Military Veteran Candidates Run"

Weston Ullrich; London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom
"American Foreign Policy toward Soviet Regime Change and De-Stalinization, 1953-1957"

EISENHOWER FOUNDATION *Scholarships*

The 2010 Eisenhower Foundation Scholarships were awarded to Abilene High School graduates Alexander Campbell and Haylee Steffen at commencement ceremonies on May 15th.

Dwight D. Eisenhower was a 1909 graduate of Abilene High School and the Eisenhower Foundation scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00 are awarded each year 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.

Campbell will attend Purdue University and Steffen will attend Colorado Christian University.



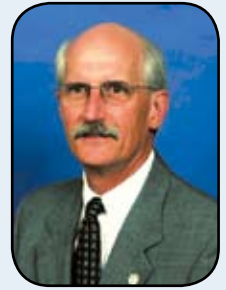
Alexander Campbell and Haylee Steffen
Eisenhower Foundation Scholarship Winners for 2010



FROM THE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Thank you! Your reading the *OVERVIEW* newsletter means you are important to us, whether as a *Friend of the Eisenhower Foundation* member, as a contributor to our many programs and events, or as a person interested in the Eisenhower era. We appreciate your interest and your relationship with the Foundation.

You can tell by this issue of our newsletter that the Foundation has been very active in promoting the Eisenhower Legacy. The number of programs at the Eisenhower Presidential Library has increased markedly and attendance at these events continues to grow. Requests by scholars for Eisenhower Foundation research travel grants are up, as are research visits to the presidential library. The newly opened Righteous Cause exhibit is well attended. President Eisenhower and his era are still very relevant today and continue to draw attention. Ike was even the first President to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame this past fall. We are now preparing for next January's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Ike's famous farewell address to the nation.



The Eisenhower Foundation will have a major focus this year on increasing its endowment and program funds. This will enable us to guarantee quality programming in the future and to move toward much needed gallery renovation in the Eisenhower Museum. I am excited to have dedicated executive board members working to attain these goals and showing enthusiasm and interest in this endeavor.

The Eisenhower Foundation is extremely pleased to welcome Meredith Sleichter as Executive Assistant in the foundation office. She is a pleasure to work with and brings great skills to the position. Together with Mack, the Foundation staff and board will continue to move forward in our important work.

I am pleased to serve as President of the Eisenhower Foundation. We look forward to working with the Eisenhower Presidential Library staff on programs and events promoting the life and times of President Eisenhower and his legacy of public service. Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Stewart Etherington
Eisenhower Foundation President

LEAVING A LEGACY

Remembering the Eisenhower Foundation in your estate plan

If you decide to include the Eisenhower Foundation in your will, life insurance or other form of charitable gift, you may wish to use this official language:

"I give and bequeath to the Eisenhower Foundation, Abilene, Kansas, Federal Identification Number 48-0634284, a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Kansas, the sum of \$ _____ or percentage of _____ % to be used according to the memo of understanding on file with said organization or for the general purpose of the Foundation."

If the Eisenhower Foundation is included in your estate planning, please let us know. We will be pleased to designate your contribution as you wish to help promote the important legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The Eisenhower Foundation
Abilene, KS 67410

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Overview is an occasional publication of the Eisenhower Foundation, a public, non-profit corporation supported entirely by public contributors and bequests.

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