

# TRU

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**COVER:** 2015 marks 70 years since Truman's ascension to the presidency and the end of WWII. A wide array of events and exhibits will commemorate the anniversary.

# Whistle Stop



“Make no little plan. Make the biggest one you can think of and spend the rest of your life carrying it out.”

*Harry Truman*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

Last October, my family and I toured the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. Flanked by the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial, this magnificent memorial honors the 16 million who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, the more than 400,000 who died, and everyone who actively supported the war effort from the home front. Inscribed in granite are the words of President Harry S. Truman, originally delivered in his first presidential address to Congress 70 years ago, on April 16, 1945.

**“Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.”**

Standing on the National Mall with my young daughters, I was keenly aware of our responsibility to honor and learn from those who witnessed this history firsthand. The word *history* literally means *to inquire*. What better place to start than with those who lived through the greatest conflict of the 20th century? Too soon, we won't have that opportunity. The Veterans Administration tells us that we are losing 492 WWII veterans each day, and, along with them, the wisdom and insights gained only through great sacrifice.

This year, we deepen our commitment to history – to inquiry. Throughout 2015, the Truman Library Institute and Harry S. Truman Library and Museum will commemorate the 70th anniversary of WWII through new museum exhibits and community programs featuring leading historians as well as members of the “greatest generation.” Community education sessions in The White House Decision Center will invite museum visitors to experience a 1945 West Wing simulation where participants decide how to end the war with Japan. And, just around the corner, our V-E Day commemoration will provide a meaningful opportunity to recognize those “heroic men and valiant women.”

Together, these exhibits and events – including World War II Weekends, White Glove Wednesdays and Victory Day Celebrations – offer unprecedented access to the archives and collections at the Truman Library. The enclosed WWII-70 Member Event Planner provides complete details.

We are grateful to The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. for providing lead underwriting for WWII-70 events. Other major contributors include the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation; J.E. Dunn Construction; Armed Forces Bank; Harry Portman Charitable Trust, UMB Bank, n.a., Trustee; Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Jack L. Capps, USA, Retired; Daisy and John MacDonald; Mary Ellen and Jim Ascher; Katie and Clyde Wendel.

The coming months promise to be memorable and meaningful. Please stay in touch, join us for these special events, and help us honor President Truman's commitment: “America will never forget their sacrifices.”

#### Alex Burden

Executive Director | **Truman Library Institute**

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TRU is published for friends and members of the Truman Library Institute, the nonprofit partner of the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, one of 13 presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration.



**“The coming months promise to be memorable and meaningful. Please stay in touch, join us for these special events, and help us honor Truman's commitment: ‘America will never forget their sacrifices.’”**




### Stay Connected

 The Truman Library Institute

 [twitter.com/TrumanLibrary](https://twitter.com/TrumanLibrary)

 Truman Library Institute (YouTube)

 Subscribe to our special events e-newsletter at [TrumanLibraryInstitute.org](mailto:TrumanLibraryInstitute.org)

# NEWS BRIEFS



## Institute Receives \$1 Million Grant

The Truman Library Institute has been awarded a \$1 million, three-year grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, enabling us to further advance our efforts to increase community engagement through world-class museum exhibits, powerful community events and nationally acclaimed education programs. In awarding the major grant, the Kauffman Foundation recognized the Truman Library as an anchor institution in the Greater Kansas City area – one that is vital to Kansas City's identity and growth and plays a critical role in enriching our community. Over the life of the three-year grant, we anticipate that the direct beneficiaries of this project will include more than 105,000 students and teachers, more than 25,000 public program participants, and an estimated quarter-million museum visitors.



## The WHDC – 70,000 Strong

On March 20, The White House Decision Center hit a new milestone when it welcomed the 70,000th program participant. This rigorous academic program received a welcome endorsement during former Secretary of State Albright's visit last November (see page 15): we learned that applicants to the U.S. State Department are asked to demonstrate the very competencies that are developed and challenged in The WHDC. The education programs at the Truman Library don't have to be this rigorous – or this inspiring. But Harry Truman knew what we all know: the kids walking the halls of today's middle schools will one day be walking the halls of Congress. We're committed to growing the next great generation of leaders. Learn more at [TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WHDC](http://TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WHDC).



## World War II Tour of Germany

Join friends of the Truman Library on a World War II History Tour of Germany from September 3-12, 2015. Begin with historic sites in Munich and Hitler's Eagle's Nest, then hear the tragic story of the Holocaust at Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial. Explore the medieval city of Nuremberg before traveling to Dresden, where you will marvel at cultural treasures such as the Frauenkirche and Zwinger Palace. The coach continues to the Elbe, where the American and Russian forces met. In Berlin, sites include the Berlin Wall remnants and Checkpoint Charlie. Your trip concludes in Potsdam with a tour of Cecilienhof, site of the conference between Stalin, Churchill and Truman. For complete details, please contact Donna Denslow at 816.268.8239 or [donna.denslow@nara.gov](mailto:donna.denslow@nara.gov).





## TRU HISTORY

# Oath of Office

## The Inauguration of Harry Truman as 33<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States

Just after five o'clock on April 12, 1945, Vice President Harry Truman received an urgent summons from the White House. When he arrived, Mrs. Roosevelt told him, "The President is dead." Stunned, Truman responded, "Is there anything I can do for you?" Mrs. Roosevelt replied, "Is there anything we can do for you? For you are the one in trouble now."

At 7:09 that evening, just as Harry S. Truman was sworn in as the 33<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States, White House photographer Abbie Rowe recorded the moment as viewed by the public gathered outside. The next day, Truman told reporters on Capitol Hill,

*"Boys, if you ever pray, pray for me now. I don't know if you fellows ever had a load of hay fall on you, but when they told me yesterday what had happened, I felt like the moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on me."*





# TILL WE MEET AGAIN.★

## The Greatest Generation in War and Peace

BY KEVIN MURPHY

An all-new exhibition takes America back to the tumultuous year of 1945 to share the epic struggle of world leaders and everyday men and women who found the strength and courage to accomplish the extraordinary.

Through news reels, fireside chats, and personal letters and diary entries, *Till We Meet Again* offers visitors a you-are-there experience, while iconic artifacts and documents highlight the major events of 1945, including President Roosevelt's death, Truman's unexpected rise to the presidency, the Allied victory in Europe, and the ultimate surrender of Japan.

Spread over 3,000 square feet, the exhibition tells the story of the final days on the battlefield, the peace-making process and how America tried to find its bearing as soldiers returned home to an uncertain future. In the middle of it all a new and untested President Truman made decisions that would set the course of world history.

"On one hand, it's a broad-based exhibition about everyone dealing with the war experience as soldiers or doing their bit at home in the defense industry," Truman Library curator Clay Bauske said. "On the other, it's very intimate and personal, with individual stories."

Many of the artifacts in the exhibition have rarely if ever been on display. At any given time, only one or two percent of the Truman Library's collection of artifacts is on display, Bauske said. Special exhibitions provide a venue for some of those items to be seen.

One artifact – which hasn't been displayed for more than 20 years – is a prayer book and spoon an American soldier had in his pocket when shot by a German sniper while in a foxhole.

"The bullet went through and he was still wounded but those two pieces probably kept him from being killed," Bauske said.

A unique artifact from the Pacific conflict is a green safety plug that was used to keep the atomic bomb from detonating accidentally before it could be dropped on Nagasaki, Japan. An electronics officer removed the plug before arming the bomb and he donated it to the Truman Library, Bauske said.

Earlier, when the atomic bomb got its final test, President Truman was at the Potsdam Conference in Germany to negotiate the terms for the end of the war with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Joseph Stalin.

"He has these very interesting diary entries where he had mentioned to Joseph Stalin that he had a new weapon," Bauske said.

Many other diary entries by Truman and personal letters to his wife, Bess, document the final months and days before the war's end.

Two historic documents will be on limited display during the run of the show. From April 20 through May 18, the original German

*Continued on next page*

### ON SPECIAL EXHIBIT

**April 4, 2015 – January 3, 2016**

**Included with Museum admission. MEMBERS FREE**





### Germany Surrenders

After German General Alfred Jodl used it to sign the surrender of German military forces in May 1945, Supreme Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower gave this historic gold pen set to President Truman.



### Hitler's Manifesto

An exceptionally rare edition of Adolf Hitler's political manifesto *Mein Kampf* – commonly called the “Gauleiter” edition – was limited to perhaps fifty copies, all of which were intended as gifts to be presented to Gauleiters and Reichsleiters, the two top governmental administrative positions.



### Mission Complete

The second atomic bomb, “Fat Man,” was dropped on the Japanese Empire on August 9, 1945. This green safety plug was used to help guard against premature detonation; the handwritten tag was signed by the plane's bomb commander and electronics test officer upon the completion of the mission.



### Blood-Stained Soil

Containing the blood-stained soil from the Battle of the Bulge, the Bastogne Urn was hand-carried by American and Belgium soldiers to the Melsbroeck Airfield in Brussels and later received by President Truman on July 10, 1946.

## I hope friends of Truman's library and legacy will take the rare opportunity to experience this history as never before.”

surrender document will be on view. Later, in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of V-J Day, Emperor Hirohito's surrender rescript to Japanese troops will make a historic visit to the Truman Library. Both are part of the National Archives collection.

The last section of the exhibition, entitled “America in a New World,” shares the challenges Truman faced as soldiers returned home and the nation returned to a peace-time economy.

The founding of the United Nations also is explored in the exhibition. Truman did not want the U.S. to retreat from the world stage as it did after WWI, Bauske said.

“Truman was very adamant that the United States remained a world leader and he had a forceful belief in the United Nations,” Bauske said.

The exhibition includes interactive and multi-media presentations to immerse visitors in the war-time period by showing newsreels, archival footage and clips from Hollywood movies about the war.

Some of the hundreds of documents and artifacts in the exhibition include:

- A map of Japan and the Pacific region that Presidents Roosevelt and Truman used in the White House map room
- The first American flags to fly above Berlin after the defeat of Germany and above Tripoli after the capture of North Africa in 1943
- A portrait of President Truman by an Austrian prisoner of war
- Correspondence between Truman and foreign leaders, including Winston Churchill
- Personal correspondence of Herman Goering, German Reichsminister of Aviation
- A signed Adolph Hitler edition of *Mein Kampf* that he gave to one of his deputies

“Presidential libraries house some of the most important, amazing and moving artifacts from our nation's history,” said Alex Burden, executive director of the Truman Library Institute. “The Institute is thrilled to provide funding for this exhibition and to share this history with our members and museum visitors. This is America's story, and America's collection. I hope friends of Truman's library and legacy will take the rare opportunity to experience this history as never before.”

*Kevin Murphy is a freelance journalist and writer. He was a reporter for The Kansas City Star for 20 years, including four years in Washington, D.C., covering politics and government.*





# SEE THE SURRENDER★

## German Surrender Document Makes a Special Visit to the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum

On Exhibit April 20 - May 18, 2015

Included with Museum admission. MEMBERS FREE.

### Symbols of Democracy

Following Nazi Germany's official surrender to the Allied Forces in Reims, France, President Harry S. Truman issued a proclamation announcing that the war in Europe had ended.

Soon after, Archivist of the United States Solon Buck and President Truman decided that the German surrender documents should be shared with the American people as symbols of democracy and freedom. Less than a month later, on June 6 – the one year anniversary of D-Day – the National Archives held a ceremony in the Rotunda to open an exhibit of the surrender documents.

In attendance was U.S. Army General Anthony McAuliffe. McAuliffe was the acting division commander of the 101st Airborne Division troops, who had defended Bastogne, Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge just six months before. It was there that he famously replied "Nuts!" to German demands that the U.S. force surrender to Germany.

During the unveiling ceremony, which was broadcast by radio, McAuliffe remarked that the documents were a testament that "the American soldier, bound to a just cause, and backed by the labor and industry of America, can and will overcome any evil force on earth no matter how strong, or how long in power."

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of V-E Day, the original German Surrender Document will be on display at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum from April 20 - May 18, 2015.

*A version of this article first appeared as part of the National Archives blog series "Pieces of History."*

## "A SOLEMN BUT GLORIOUS HOUR."

HARRY S. TRUMAN

### ARCHIVES HIGHLIGHT

The instrument of Germany's unconditional surrender was signed on May 7, 1945, at General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims by General Alfred Jodl, Chief of Staff of the German Army. When announcing Germany's surrender to the American people, President Harry Truman declared, "This is a solemn but glorious hour. I only wish that Franklin D. Roosevelt had lived to witness this day."

### PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S MESSAGE

to the American people announcing Germany's unconditional surrender.



Audio



Transcript



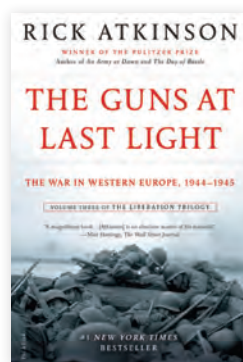
# FIVE MINUTES WITH RICK ATKINSON

BY KEVIN MURPHY

The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Liberation Trilogy* is a featured guest at the upcoming annual fundraising dinner, Wild About Harry. We spoke with him about his view on the end of World War II, 70 years on.

**TRU:** Many books have been written about WWII. How did you tell the story of the war uniquely in your trilogy?

**RA:** I think Amazon lists something like 60,000 hardcover titles on World War II, but I started with the presumption that the greatest events in human history are bottomless, as are the greatest personalities. I lived in Berlin for several years in the mid-1990s, and I had a small epiphany about the liberation of Europe during World War II; my insight was that it actually started in Africa, with the Anglo-American invasion of Algeria and Morocco in November 1942, and then moved north across the Mediterranean to the invasion of Sicily in July 1943 and mainland Italy that September before eventually playing out in Normandy and Northwest Europe. I believed that if I



could tell that tale as one story – with many of the same personalities running through the story from beginning to end – that I could make the familiar seem new.

**TRU:** What is there about WWII that engaged your interest so fully, and why does it still fascinate people 70 years later?

**RA:** I was born in Munich in 1952 to an American Army lieutenant stationed in Salzburg as part of the occupation. It has always been personal to me. The war is the greatest catastrophe in human history: 60 million dead. The heartbreak, the heroism, the venality, the clear sense of righteousness versus evil all make for drama beyond the capacity of any novelist to invent.



**TRU:** There are 17 tons of records on WWII just for the U.S. Army alone. How did you go about looking for and finding what interested you most?

**RA:** Over the 15 years I invested in the trilogy, I learned my way around many archives, including huge repositories like the U.S. and British National Archives, and smaller holdings for individual units or at various universities. I owe a huge debt to several dozen librarians and archivists who not only helped me find specific things I was looking for but also suggested looking at records I didn't know existed. The mystery of the next unopened archival box is something that animates historians like me.

**TRU:** How could the war have turned out differently for the United States? Is there a reasonable scenario where we could have lost the war in Europe?

**RA:** The single most important factor in the Allied victory was having the Soviet Union on our side. The Red Army, almost by a factor of ten, did most of the dying and killing in fighting the Third Reich. Had the Russians not entered the war in June 1941, or had they made a separate peace subsequently, the war could have lasted much longer, with many more Anglo-American and concentration camp deaths, and a likelihood of the atomic bomb being used in Europe.

**TRU:** After 14 years of research, how did your view of General Dwight Eisenhower evolve, and what is your final assessment of him and his leadership?



**RICK ATKINSON** is the author of *The Liberation Trilogy*, three volumes of best-selling books that chronicle the events of WWII in Europe. Atkinson, a Pulitzer Prize winner, published the final volume, *The Guns at Last Light: The War in Western Europe, 1944-1945*, in 2013. The earlier volumes were *An Army at Dawn* (2002) about the war in North Africa and *The Day of Battle* (2007), which describes the war in Sicily and Italy.

**RA:** He was never a gifted field marshal. He lacked the gifts of a great captain on the battlefield. But that wasn't really his job. His task was to hold together a disparate, fractious coalition against all the centrifugal forces that beset every alliance. He was chairman of the board – that's the phrase he used – and he was quite brilliant at it. My admiration for Eisenhower has only grown as I've spent year after year in his company, even as I recognize his shortcomings.

**TRU:** Harry Truman became president less than a month before the German surrender. What role did he play in that process in such a short time frame?

**RA:** Truman, of course, was about as unprepared as a man could possibly be to become commander-in-chief on April 12, 1945. He'd been a player in the Senate but had little knowledge of the military and diplomatic intricacies of a war being waged on six continents. Much of the heavy lifting involved in the demand for unconditional surrender and the partition of Germany had been settled before Roosevelt died. The final act of the military campaign in Europe was going to play out regardless of who was in the Oval Office. Truman would have plenty of heavy lifting ahead of him with the Potsdam Conference, the atomic bomb decision, and countless postwar issues.

*Kevin Murphy is a freelance writer and the author of several historical books. He was a reporter for The Kansas City Star for 20 years, including four years in Washington, D.C., where he covered politics and government.*

## WILD! ABOUT HARRY

**THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015**  
**Marriott-Muehlebach Hotel**  
**Kansas City, Missouri**

16th Annual Fundraising Dinner Benefiting the Legacy and Library of Harry S. Truman

### FEATURING

**Rick Atkinson**  
 Author of *The Liberation Trilogy*

**Henry Bloch, Bill Dunn, Sr., Ed Matheny**  
 WWII Honorees

**U.S. Senator Bob Dole**  
 Truman Legacy of Leadership Honoree

**Jean & Tom McDonnell:** Honorary Chairs  
**Bob Dunn & Bill Dunn, Sr.:** Event Co-Chairs

### TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Sponsorship Packages offering VIP access start at just \$1000

### RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY

[TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WILD](http://TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WILD)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more, please contact Kim Rausch, director of development, at 816.268.8237 or [kim.rausch@nara.gov](mailto:kim.rausch@nara.gov)

# IWO JIMA

## DIGITAL ARCHIVES

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# Marching to Victory

70 years ago, World War II ended under President Truman's decisive leadership. Now, follow key events from the war's final months with the Truman Library Institute's series, "Marching to Victory: WWII Highlights from the Truman Library's Archives and Collections." The blog series opens the vaults at Truman's presidential library to share eyewitness accounts and historic artifacts related to major conflicts and monumental victories – from the Battle of the Bulge to the unconditional surrender of Japan.



# IN MINIATURE

## A Small Testament to Tremendous Courage

BY WILL HICKOX

In February and March 1945, U.S. Marines and sailors fought a brutal battle with Japanese troops on a tiny island south of Japan. In the course of securing Iwo Jima—which the U.S. high command desired as a staging point for an invasion of the Home Islands—more than 26,000 Americans were killed or wounded, and the Japanese garrison of 22,000 was nearly wiped out.



For Americans, one iconic image of Iwo Jima predominates: Joe Rosenthal's photograph of troops raising the American flag over Mount Suribachi on February 23. The photograph later served as the model for the Marine Corps War Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. To this day, many millions of people recognize the photograph and the monument as symbols of the American cause in World War II and the heroism of U.S. Marines.

Far fewer, however, know that the Truman Library's remarkable collection of artifacts includes the Memorial in miniature. In February 1945, Austrian-born artist Felix de Weldon was serving in the U.S. Navy as an official painter of battle scenes. De Weldon's commanding officer showed him the photograph of the flag-raising on Iwo Jima.

"I was so deeply impressed by its significance, its meaning," de Weldon remembered, "that I imagined that it would arouse the imagination of the American people to show the forward drive, the unison of action, the will to sacrifice, the relentless determination of these young men. Everything was embodied in that picture."

De Weldon immediately made a wax model of the scene, and the following April de Weldon presented President Truman with a plaster cast of the model. De Weldon replicated the model on a much grander scale when he sculpted the Marine Corps War Memorial, which was dedicated in 1954. The plaster cast stayed in Truman's White House office for his entire administration.

Today, the cast model of the flag-raising that Felix de Weldon presented to President Truman can be viewed at the Truman Library and Museum. It serves as a small testament to the tremendous courage of the Americans who fought at Iwo Jima.

*Will Hickox is a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. He has written for The New York Times and contributed to several digital history projects.*



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(The Truman Library Institute).

## MORE MARCHING TO VICTORY

Did you miss these popular posts? Find them online at [TrumanLibraryInstitute.org](http://TrumanLibraryInstitute.org).

### THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

JANUARY 25, 1945



### THE YALTA CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 1945



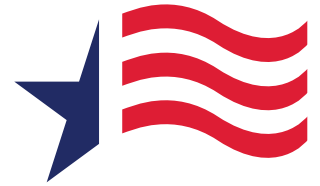
### THE BOMBING OF DRESDEN

FEBRUARY 13-15, 1945



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# TRU EVENTS AND EXHIBITS



01★

## Beyond the Gowns

### Edith Kermit Roosevelt: Creating the Modern First Lady

Featuring Lewis L. Gould

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Truman Forum, Kansas City Public Library – Plaza Branch, 4800 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri

Few first ladies have enjoyed a better reputation among historians than Edith Kermit Roosevelt. Aristocratic and sophisticated, tasteful and discreet, she managed the White House with a sure hand. Her admirers say that she never slipped in carrying out her duties as hostess, mother, and adviser to her husband. Lewis L. Gould's path-breaking research, however, presents a more complex and interesting figure than the somewhat secularized saint Edith Roosevelt has become in the literature on first ladies. Gould looks beneath the surface of her life to examine the intricate legacy of her tenure as first lady from 1901 to 1909. A 6 p.m. wine reception precedes this free public program.

02★

## Signature Event

### WILD ABOUT HARRY!

Thursday, April 23, 2015 | Marriott-Muehlebach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri

Featuring Rick Atkinson, author of *The Liberation Trilogy*

The Honorable Bob Dole, 2015 Truman Legacy of Leadership Honoree

Henry Bloch, Bill Dunn, Sr., and Ed Matheny, Jr., WWII Honorees

Join us for the 16th annual **Wild About Harry!** Enjoy a sparkling social hour, elegant dinner, and USO-style entertainment commemorating the 70th anniversary of Truman's presidency and the end of World War II. Hosted in the ballroom of the historic Muehlebach Hotel, **Wild About Harry** annually attracts nearly 700 of Greater Kansas City's civic and corporate leaders in support of America's best presidential library and its nationally recognized education and outreach programs. For tickets or information on sponsor benefits, please contact Kim Rausch at 816.268.8237 or [kim.rausch@nara.gov](mailto:kim.rausch@nara.gov), or visit [TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WILD](http://TrumanLibraryInstitute.org/WILD).



#### MORE EVENTS AND EXHIBITS ONLINE:

Subscribe to Truman eNews for complete details on public programs, Members-only events, exhibition openings and more. **Snap the QR code to sign-up or visit [TrumanLibraryInstitute.org](http://TrumanLibraryInstitute.org).**



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**03★****V-E Day Commemoration****President's Wreath Laying Ceremony and Keynote Address**

Friday, May 8, 2015 | Harry S. Truman Library and Museum

Join us for the 70th anniversary of V-E Day – also Harry S. Truman's 131st birthday. We'll honor President Truman's legacy and the Allied victory with a Veterans Appreciation Ceremony, Presidential Wreath Laying Ceremony with Maj. Gen. Karen LeDoux, and a keynote address by WWII Brig. Gen. Bob LeBlanc. In addition, Museum visitors will have the extraordinarily rare opportunity to view the original German Surrender Document.

**MEMBERS ONLY:** Attend the President's Wreath Laying Ceremony and private brunch reception as our VIP guests. RSVP by May 1 to Kim Rausch at 816.268.8237 or [kim.rausch@nara.gov](mailto:kim.rausch@nara.gov).

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**04★****WWII-70 Programs and Events****A Commemoration 70 Years in the Making**

During 2015, the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum and the Truman Library Institute will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II while honoring President Truman's leadership during those final and crucial chapters of the conflict. From World War II Weekends to White Glove Wednesdays to an all new exhibition, WWII-70 offers unprecedented access to the archives and collections at America's best presidential museum. There has never been a better time to enjoy your Member benefits at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum.

**LEARN MORE:** For complete details, please review the WWII-70 Member Event Planner, provided as a supplement to this issue of TRU Magazine.

**CREATE YOUR OWN EVENT:**

Enjoy a private tour and reception at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum or invite one of our knowledgeable speakers to provide a customized presentation for an upcoming gathering or meeting. To create your own event, please contact us at [TrumanLibraryInstitute@gmail.com](mailto:TrumanLibraryInstitute@gmail.com).

# Member Benefits ★

## HONORARY FELLOWS

### ANNUAL BENEFITS INCLUDE:

**FREE** admission at all of the Presidential Libraries of the National Archives

**DISCOUNTS** on Museum Store purchases at the Truman Library

**MEMBERS-ONLY** events and exhibition openings

**PLUS** these additional benefits, determined by membership level:

#### TEACHER \$25

1 membership card  
Free and unlimited admission for 1 to the Truman Library  
Priority Booking in The White House Decision Center

#### BASIC \$35-\$49

1 membership card  
Free and unlimited admission for 2 to the Truman Library

#### FAMILY \$50-\$119

2 membership cards  
Free and unlimited admission for 4 to the Truman Library  
DVD of Harry S. Truman by award-winning filmmaker Charles Guggenheim (one time gift for new and upgrading members)

#### ASSOCIATE \$120-\$249

All Family benefits, plus a special gift from the Truman Library Institute

#### DIPLOMAT \$250-\$499

All Associate benefits, plus recognition on the Annual Donor Honor Roll in Museum Lobby

#### AMBASSADOR \$500-\$999

All Diplomat benefits, plus a private tour of The White House Decision Center

## BUCK STOPS HERE SOCIETY

**ALL** Honorary Fellow membership benefits

**EXCLUSIVE** travel opportunities

**VIP** events and receptions

**PLUS** these additional benefits, determined by membership level:

#### PRESIDENTIAL AIDE \$1,000 - \$2,999

Private docent-led tour of Museum

#### WEST WING COUNCIL \$3,000-\$4,999

Private behind-the-scenes tour of the Truman Library  
10 Truman Library admission passes for distribution  
Complimentary corporate team-building/leadership session in The White House Decision Center (WHDC)

#### CABINET MEMBER \$5,000-\$9,999

20 Truman Library admission passes for distribution  
Reserved seating at the annual Bennett Forum  
Private behind-the-scenes tour of the Truman Library  
Complimentary session in The WHDC

## YOUR FREE GIFT ★

Renew or join at the Associate Level or higher and receive an exclusive, limited-edition insulated grocery tote. This eco-friendly bag is generously sized and features reinforced handles, thermo-insulated lining and a zippered top.



## NEW! AUTOMATIC MONTHLY DONATIONS ★

Increase your impact with an automated monthly membership gift. Now, online giving offers the opportunity to fulfill your membership pledge in small monthly amounts that can be set for automatic payment.



## MEMBERSHIPS MAKE GREAT GIFTS ★

Share the gift of membership while helping preserve and advance the legacy of America's 33rd president. Your gift recipient will receive a gracious acknowledgment of your thoughtfulness, will receive recognition in TRU Magazine, and will enjoy all the benefits of membership. It's a gift that gives all year long.



## 3 EASY WAYS ★

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## TRU EDUCATION

## Former Secretary of State Meets Students

“I have never been asked a better set of questions on so many different issues...and you have asked them in a very smart way.”

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT



On December 4, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visited the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum for the opening of her museum exhibition, *Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection*, which was on display from November 30, 2014 through February 22, 2015.

The highlight of her visit, however, wasn't the press tour, private reception or public program and book signing that followed. The most profound, inspiring moments occurred during two 90-minute student programs with America's first female secretary of state. The back-to-back programs on December 4 featured students from the Independence (MO) School District.

The 450 high school government students – all seniors – posed questions that covered a

wide range of topics, from women in leadership to current policies in Syria and Israel. Woven throughout the conversation was the former cabinet member's advice to the next generation of leaders: work hard, practice being heard, and get a great education. To the young women in the auditorium, Albright urged a commitment to excellence. There's room for mediocre men, she said, but almost no room for mediocre women at the top.

Before inviting students to the stage for photos, Secretary Albright praised the students, saying: “I have never – and I mean this – been asked a better set of questions that cover so many different issues...and you have asked them in a very smart way. Congratulations to you.”

**Program:** “Conversation on Diplomacy,” hosted by the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum

**Guest:** Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright

**Participants:** 450 seniors from the Independence (MO) School District



## Moyers Shares Tale Of Two Presidents, Tells Audience “History Takes Time”

In November, **Bill Moyers** made an unprecedented encore appearance at the Truman Library Institute’s **Howard and Virginia Bennett Forum on the Presidency** for a revealing discussion on Lyndon Baines Johnson and Harry S. Truman.

The legendary journalist and former LBJ adviser rarely speaks about his close association with LBJ, and the November 1 event was Moyers’ only public appearance in a year commemorating the 50th anniversaries of LBJ’s 1964 presidential campaign, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the launch of Johnson’s 1964 Great Society legislation – all water-

shed moments in American history that Moyers, as LBJ’s special assistant and then press secretary, saw firsthand.

“History takes a long time,” Moyers told the live audience of more than 800, referring to the America’s path to civil rights. “To move the wheel requires many shoulders, great courage from some and great sacrifice from many. Our greatest leaders do not wheel history as much as they know how to marshal their experience and public support to respond when events converge with a momentum of their own.”

Of Truman and Johnson, Moyers said both “had something you don’t necessarily get in a refined education. Truman was as...uncomplicated as a Missouri mule” but possessed

“political instincts that were greatly underestimated. As for LBJ, he may not have read books, but he read people, and he wanted to find out two things: what you most wanted and what you most feared.”

If what you “most wanted” was more from Bill Moyers, we’re happy to announce that this exceptional evening, which included a conversation with former U.S. Senator **Bob Kerrey**, will have a sequel of sorts. Bill Moyers closed his remarks with the comment, “That’s half the speech.” And the rest? He has expressed his wish to work with the Institute on the most appropriate means of sharing the rest of the message. History – and sharing its lessons – does indeed “take time.”

**Signature Event:** The Howard & Virginia Bennett Forum on the Presidency

**Special Guests:** Legendary journalist and former LBJ adviser Bill Moyers appeared with special guest U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey

**Audience:** More than 800 attended this signature event on November 1, 2014 in Kansas City, Missouri



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October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014

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**TRUism # 52**

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HARRY S. TRUMAN



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## A WORD FROM HARRY

April 16, 1945

In his first address to Congress, four days after the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt, President Truman honors the memory of FDR and vows not only to lead the nation to victory against the Axis powers but also to unite the world against tyranny for a lasting peace. Excerpts follow.

Only yesterday, we laid to rest the mortal remains of our beloved President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. At a time like this, words are inadequate. The most eloquent tribute would be a reverent silence.

Yet, in this decisive hour, when world events are moving so rapidly, our silence might be misunderstood and might give comfort to our enemies... So much blood has already been shed for the ideals which we cherish, and for which Franklin Delano Roosevelt lived and died, that we dare not permit even a momentary pause in the hard fight for victory.

Today, the entire world is looking to America for enlightened leadership to peace and progress. Such a leadership requires vision, courage and tolerance. It can be provided only by a united nation deeply devoted to the highest ideals.

Our forefathers came to our rugged shores in search of religious tolerance, political freedom and economic opportunity. For those fundamental rights, they risked their lives. We well know today that such rights can be preserved only by constant vigilance, the eternal price of liberty!

To build a foundation of enduring peace we must not only work in harmony with our friends abroad, but we must have the united support of our own people.

Only with your help can I hope to complete one of the greatest tasks ever assigned to a public servant. With Divine guidance, and your help, we will find the new passage to a far better world, a kindly and friendly world, with just and lasting peace.

With confidence, I am depending upon all of you.

To destroy greedy tyrants with dreams of world domination, we cannot continue in successive generations to sacrifice our finest youth.

In the name of human decency and civilization, a more rational method of deciding national differences must and will be found!

The President delivered his address to Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives chamber. The message was broadcast to the nation by all major radio networks. Snap the QR code to read the full speech or listen to the audio archive at [TrumanLibrary.org](http://TrumanLibrary.org).

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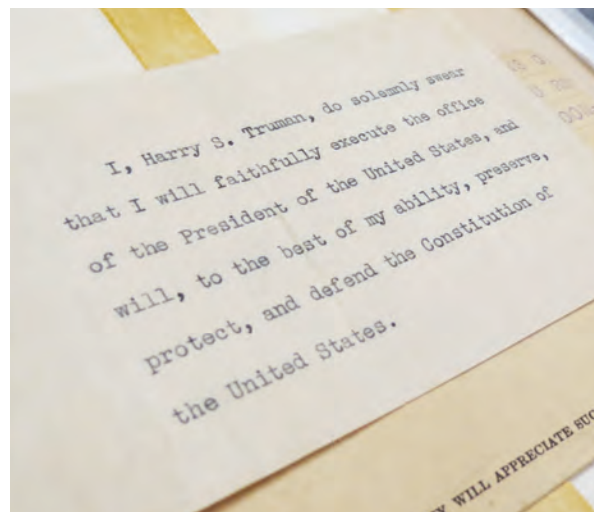
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### TRUism # 39

“[I] will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

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