



The Key West

Harry S. Truman



2010 Foundation Report



(Bradford Kress/ Little White House Collection)

The president vacationing in Key West on March 14, 1947

MISSION

The two-fold mission of

The Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation, Inc.

is the preservation and restoration of the Harry S. Truman Little White House State Heritage Landmark and the accumulation and dissemination of the history of the American presidency with emphasis on those presidents who have enjoyed Key West and the Florida Keys.

The Harry S. Truman Little White House is a living museum, not frozen in time.

While it is imperative to maintain focus on the important use of the building during President Truman's visits and use from 1946 through 1952, it is a site of continuing historic events and visits by world leaders and these too must be commemorated and recognized, especially in light of President Truman's role as the father of modern statesmanship.

C-SPAN and The Little White House

A number of our programs have been archived and are available online for your viewing at www.C-Spanvideo.org
Please Search "Truman Legacy Symposium"



Foreign and Military Policy of the Truman Era
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 16, 2009



Congress in the Truman Era
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 16, 2009



Truman and Domestic Policy
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 16, 2009



President Truman and Congress
Broadcast on C-SPAN May 16, 2009



President Truman and General MacArthur
Broadcast on C-SPAN3 May 14, 2010



Legacy of President Truman and Japan
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 15, 2010



Legacy of President Truman and China
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 15, 2010



Legacy of President Truman and Korea
Broadcast on C-SPAN 3 May 15, 2010

The National Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference was held June 21-24, 2010 at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Our director, Bob Wolz, was a presenter at the opening general session entitled "Presidents and Diversity: A 21st Century Perspective"

It is available at
www.Millercenter.org/academic/pslconference

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

First, thank you for all you have done; I am sincerely grateful for each of you. You have made a difference.

2010 continued to be a year of economic challenges. The national news has been filled with doom and gloom as state parks faced closure and many historic sites have suffered from neglect and limited hours for visitation. These are difficult times for many museums! Yet, thanks to you, we have continued to grow and to fulfill our two-fold mission. We are fortunate to be located in a tourist destination, to have been spared any tropical storms this year, and especially to have you as a loyal friend and supporter.

We are energized and inspired by all of you who have stepped up in these difficult times to support our programs and the restoration of the house and gardens. Your continued gifts and memberships made a difference. Your donations are a vote of confidence that the Little White House is important to you, to our community and to our nation.

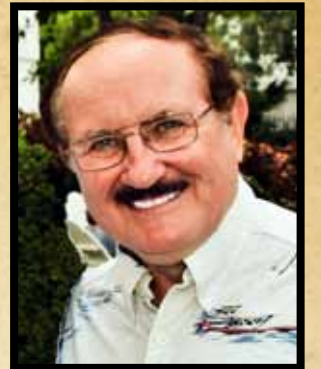
As you read through this report, we have focused on some of these programs and projects. The Boy Scouts celebrated their centennial by planting a tree in our botanical gardens. Bess Truman was remembered in a special 125th birthday commemoration and exhibit. The Truman Presidential Library continued to be our partner in the Truman Legacy Symposia. 2010 marked the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War and C-Span covered our events to honor the 54,000 Americans who died in that conflict.

Harry's Girls, our devoted auxiliary, selected several artifacts that needed conservation and had two loveseats and a sofa restored and re-upholstered in original fabrics. They also hosted our annual membership holiday party and baked thousands of cookies and pastries for all to enjoy.

As we completed the year, the state of Florida issued our new 250 page Land Management Plan to chart our course into the future. We have been directed to become greener, with cisterns to redistribute rain water and photo electric cells to save energy, and most importantly is the recommendation that we expand the museum and our programs. With the state and federal government eliminating many grant funding opportunities, these good works can only be accomplished with your help. Please accept this opportunity to renew your commitment for the future of the Little White House.

Sincerely,

Bob Wolz
Executive Director



HARRY S. TRUMAN LITTLE WHITE HOUSE *Pictorial Timeline*



1890

May 28, 1890 Quarters A & B
The Commander and Paymaster's housing completed.

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Robert Wolz is a non voting director of both the Board of Directors and the National Advisory Council.

The museum admissions and museum store provide an operating budget for the Little White House.

This operating budget provides for all staff salaries; less than 3% of The Key West Harry S Truman Foundation's income is used for administration.

The Harry S. Truman Little White House State Heritage Landmark is owned by the Internal Improvement Trust and the governor and cabinet of the state of Florida. No state or federal administrative funding is received. Your gifts, grants, donations and membership pay for educational outreach, preservation and restoration of the house and gardens.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Bess Truman turns 125



Bess at age 4 1/2



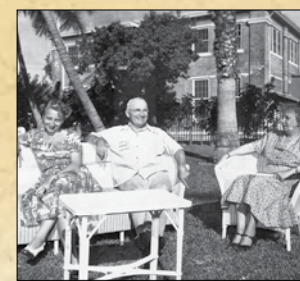
At 31, photo Harry carried in WWI



Bess & Margaret go to the opera 1950



Wedding Day, June 28, 1919



Harry and Bess in Key West



In retirement



On February 13, 2010, the Little White House celebrated Virginia Wallace (Bess) Truman's 125th birthday. Highlights included a special exhibit of photographs of Bess through the years. Some are reproduced here for your enjoyment. We enjoyed a special visit from Bess and Harry Truman (portrayed by Tom and Debbie Rothstein Lavender) to cut and serve an extra special birthday cake to 300 delighted visitors.

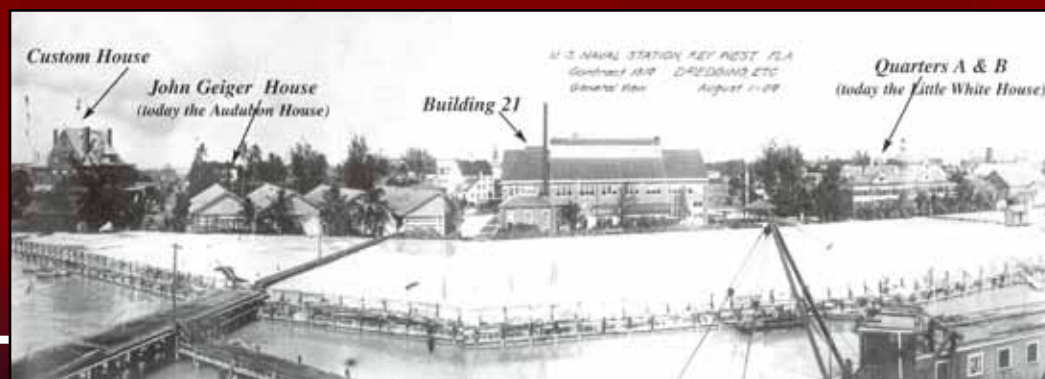
Although the weather was cold and Bess was serving cake outdoors on the porch, every tour gathered and sang "Happy Birthday" to Bess. In life, Harry Truman said Key West was his second favorite place on earth, only surpassed by his hometown of Independence, Missouri. Even now, the citizens and visitors are still Wild About Harry, and Bess.



1944 at the DNC Convention



Swearing in April 12, 1945



1909

August 1, 1909 Deepening the harbor and filling the area in front of Quarters A & B.



1912

December 12, 1912 President William Howard Taft visited the Naval Station on route to inspect the Panama Canal.



1918

March 1918, Thomas Edison resided at Quarters A & B while donating his services to the Navy.



President Hoover in Europe.

EDUCATIONAL

Herbert Hoover and Harry Truman...

A Bipartisan partnership that saved the world.

Within a month of taking office, President Harry S. Truman wrote to former President Herbert Hoover asking that the next time he was in Washington to please stop by the White House. Hoover had left the White House 12 years earlier on March 3, 1933 unloved by Republicans or Democrats. Within 24 hours of receiving the letter Hoover was in the Oval Office. Truman, the consummate historian, knew of the massive relief efforts Hoover had led in World War I saving millions from starvation. President Harry Truman, a Democrat, was reaching across the aisle for the first time in history and asking former President Hoover, a Republican, for help. Would he be willing and able to go to Europe to solve the threat of starvation again? At age 70, Hoover immediately left for Europe on board the presidential plane. Much of his fact finding mission was incorporated into what is called the Marshall Plan.



President Truman and Hoover.

Both Truman and Hoover were partisans for their parties. Yet in working together they were able to be close friends. Personal letters between them reveal a respect for each other. In the 1948 presidential campaign, Truman would publicly attack Republicans warning, "We don't want any more Hoovervilles". Hoover, supporting Dewey, would publicly deride Truman's stands. In private, the men would call to apologize to each other...it was simply politics. Truman would later name Hoover to restructure the Executive branch of government.

When Herbert Hoover died in 1964, the first person notified of the death after immediate family was Harry Truman.

Foundation members and the public were enchanted to learn this story and many more from Margaret Hoover (great grand-daughter of Herbert Hoover and FOX News personality) and Clifton Truman Daniel, eldest grandson of Harry Truman. John Avlon of CNN News (Margaret Hoover's husband) joined the panel to discuss bi-partisanship: how it worked under President Truman and how centrists are needed today in this age of hyper-partisanship of the far left and the far right.



John Avlon, Margaret Hoover and Clifton Truman Daniel participate in a panel discussion at the Little White House.



Museum director Bob Wolz, introduces the panel to the crowd gathered at the Little White House.

OUTREACH

The Annual Truman Legacy Symposium

Japan, China and the Two Koreas



Panelists Dr. Chen Jian, Clifton Truman Daniel (President Truman's grandson), and Mrs. and Dr. Xiaobing Li.

Since 2003, the Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation and Harry S. Truman Presidential Library have partnered to create the Truman Legacy Symposia. Every symposium, because of the original research presented by our speakers, has revealed some new facet of history unknown before the conference. This year's symposium on Japan, China and the two Koreas was enlightening. All the sessions are available online at www.C-Spanvideo.org Search under "Truman Legacy Symposium".

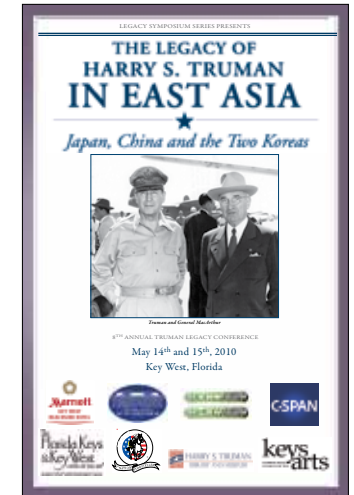
In June 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. Truman selected his military governor of Japan, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, to lead the Allied UN Forces. MacArthur had a near god-like status in Japan. He had drafted the Japanese post-war constitution. Almost from the start, Gen. MacArthur was in conflict with the US Department of Defense and Department of State. In October 1950, President Truman met with the General at Wake Island and secured MacArthur's pledge to allow Washington to set the official policy. In March 1951, Truman, while in Key West, informed the General of the US plan to attempt a settlement. MacArthur's statement to the press corps was in direct conflict with Truman's plan. Gen. MacArthur planned to invade China. This action led to the firing of MacArthur as allied commander.

The Japanese people were stunned. Their first reaction was an outpouring of support for MacArthur with plans for honorary Japanese citizenship, buildings and a museum to be named in his honor. Then the similarities between their 1930s warlords and MacArthur began to be realized. The Japanese parliament re-wrote their constitution to include a separation of powers between the military and civilian governments. Truman staffer Dr. Ken Hechler's presentation at the Friday night opening session revealed an eye witness account of The Truman-MacArthur confrontation.

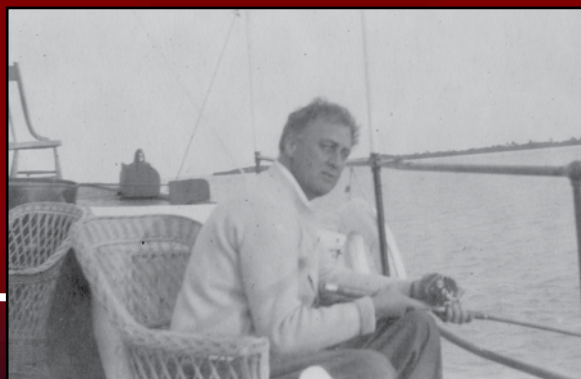
While China and North Korea had a mutual defense pact, North Korean officials were in discussion about a possible invasion of the south with Stalin in Russia and did not include Mao Zedong. With the invasion, China became a reluctant participant in the early stages of the war.

The controversy of prisoner exchange was revealed. North Korean and Chinese prisoners were often tattooed to prevent their returning home. Under Confucianism, one's body belonged to their ancestors or family and a tattoo was considered unclean. Thus by tattooing a prisoner, a break occurred with their ancestral past and they would no longer be accepted as a family member. Of course, these are just a few highlights of our six plus hours of video available to you.

The 2011 conference held in May focused on Civil Liberties and Truman.



Program Cover.



1923

March 6, 1923 Franklin Roosevelt found the Florida Keys warm and recuperative for his paralysis.



1926

March 22, 1926 Franklin Roosevelt admired a 500 pound goliath grouper caught by his son Elliott.



1946

November 22, 1946 The President and staff competed in a fishing tournament. The President had first catch - a 6 pound grouper.



The job of the president never ends. It follows him wherever he goes...even to Key West, Florida.

HARRY'S GIRLS

... Our Dedicated Auxiliary



Beginning in 2003 with our first Truman Legacy Symposium, a dedicated group of ladies and gentlemen organized to serve as goodwill ambassadors for the Little White House. They served as the perfect hosts to our scholars and VIP guests. For the last five years, as the restoration gained momentum, Harry's Girls expanded their voluntary mission to host our annual membership holiday party, to decorate the house for the holidays and to select artifacts to be conserved.

In March 2010, they greeted Margaret Hoover, Clifton Daniel and John Avlon at our first Presidential Families Program. They did it again with our Symposium scholars in May.

In October 2010, they selected the blue living room sofa and the two green striped loveseats from the foyers to be restored and reupholstered in fabrics matching the 1949 specifications of Haygood Lassiter, the decorator for the Little White House. These have been safely returned to their original positions.

We know that President Truman never celebrated Christmas at the Little White House. In fact, the closest he got was leaving on December 20, 1949. For this reason, the Little White House Museum was never decorated for the holidays. However, with a revision of our mission statement a few years ago, we decided to honor the many base commanders who had celebrated the holidays at the Little White House over the past century.

Using our extensive collection of 1940 ornaments and decorations, Harry's Girls created two Christmas trees; in the living room and poker porch, and decorations throughout the house. Then on December 19th they hosted our annual Members Only Holiday Party. With a thousand homemade cookies and pastries, Edith Amsterdam's eggnog and Elena Spottswood's cranberry punch and a selection of fine wines we welcomed the holiday season with more than 400 well wishers. The Naval, Coast Guard and JIATF officers provided a visual reminder of the Little White House's deep military roots to 1890. Your Foundation is deeply indebted to this corps of volunteers.



President & Mrs Truman portrayed by Tom and Debbie Lavender meet Foundation President and Mrs. Ed Swift.



Little White House Staffers Nancy, Suellen and Marta welcome guests to the holiday party.



Some of the well-wishers attending the membership holiday party.



Auxiliary members and friends decking the halls of the Little White House.



Auxiliary President Jane and musician Gordy Michael at the party.



Auxiliary members Terri, Edith and Kitty sharing holiday cheer.

Restoration
Focused on
Interior Furniture



Two green loveseats and this blue sofa were selected by Harry's Girls Auxiliary to be re-upholstered in the original fabrics. Additional pieces are waiting funding to be restored.



November 21, 1946 President Truman participated in a 450 foot submarine drive on a captured German sub U2513.



March 1948, Secretary of Defense James Forrester and the Joint Chiefs agree to the Key West Accords that created the protocols of the Department of Defense.

1948



November 28, 1949 President and Mrs. Truman arrived for the seventh working vacation in Key West.



November 29, 1949 The President began most vacation days with a brisk walk.

1949



April, 1949 General Dwight Eisenhower hammered out working agreements between military to implement the Key West Accords.

DONORS

The Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation gratefully acknowledges these donors who made gifts to the Little White House over the period January 1 to December 31, 2010. These contributions made it possible for us to carry out our two fold mission of preservation and education and included gifts of cash, contributed services and gifts in-kind.

Without your generous support, we could not have the success we have achieved. -Thank you.

We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Bob Wolz at (305) 294-9911 or bwolz@trumanlittlewhitehouse.com with any corrections.

\$25,000 to \$20,000

Monroe County Tourist Development Council

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Harry S. Truman Library

\$14,999 to \$5,000

See Magazine - Jason A. Wolz

\$4,999 to \$1,000

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Alan Montgomery
Linda Shanker
Michael Weaver

1951



November 26, 1951 Staff relaxing at Truman Beach. Ken Hechler is holding the life saving ring.

1952

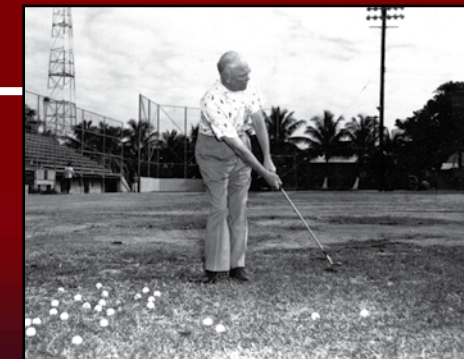


March 9, 1952 Military brass flew to the Little White House to discuss Korean War strategies.

1956



December 30, 1955 President Eisenhower left the Little White House followed by Dr. Milton Eisenhower, and Dr. Howard Snyder his physician.

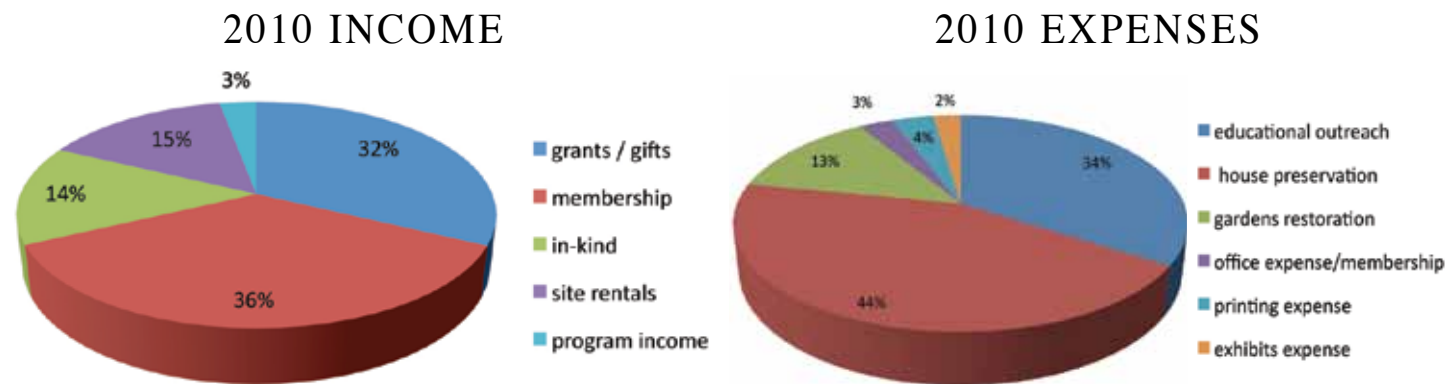


January 6, 1956 President Eisenhower strengthened his heart with a few golf shots.



January 8, 1956 President Dwight Eisenhower released his State of the Union address.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Total Income and expenses of your foundation was \$117,600.00

These two pie charts are provided to give you, our members, a snapshot of where the Foundation money came from and how it was spent. 15% of our income was earned through site rentals for weddings and corporate dinners, 36% from your memberships, 32% from grants from Monroe County Tourist Development Council, the Truman Presidential Library and from private / family foundations, 14% from in-kind services and donations. Only 3% is received from admissions to our lectures, symposia, etc. These are priced to allow the greatest public participation.

On the expense side, we are mission driven; 44% of expenses related to preservation of the house and artifacts, 34% went to educational expenses of creating the presidential families and symposia series, 13% in maintaining the botanical gardens, 4% in printing expenses, 2% in new exhibits and 3% in membership services.

The operation of the Little White House is totally funded through admissions and museum store profits.

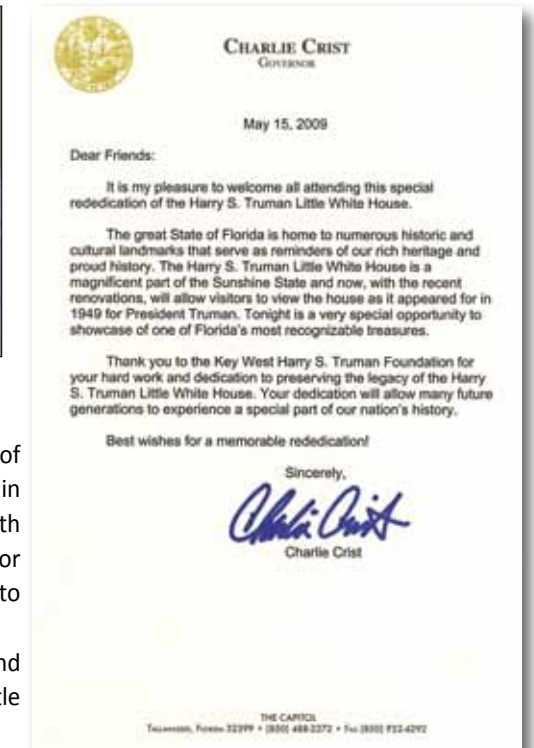
GOVERNOR CHARLIE CRIST VISITS



Florida Governor Charlie Crist and his wife are greeted by Little White House Director Bob Wolz.



Charlie Crist and legendary football coach Don Shula.



In May 2009, Governor Charlie Crist issued a proclamation during the rededication of the Little White House. In March 2010, The Crist for Senate Committee held a fundraiser in Key West and Governor and Mrs. Crist were able to tour the Little White House along with a handful of South Florida celebrities. The Little White House is owned by the Governor of Florida and the cabinet and is held in trust for our citizens. We are always pleased to showcase this most important political site in Florida

The Little White House is strictly bi-partisan in welcoming both Republican and Democratic politicians to our property. The Crist for Senate Committee rented the Little White House for the event.

Boy Scouts Celebrate 100 Years

Buccaneer District / Monroe County Boys Scouts and Leaders celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America by planting a Jacaranda Tree (Jacaranda Mimosifolia) in the Little White House gardens. A bronze plaque has been added to mark this historic commemoration held on February 11, 2010. Thanks to the Scouts for this living gift that helps complete the restoration of our botanical gardens. The Key West Harry S Truman Foundation has sponsored BSA Venturing Crew 1776 in the past. Many youth groups, like the Boy Scouts, regularly visit the Little White House to gain an appreciation for the history of our country.



1961



March 26, 1961 President John F Kennedy and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan held a one day summit at the Little White House. A luncheon held at the Little White House with private conversation between these two world leaders.



1962



November 26, 1962 With the successful conclusion of the Cuban Missile Crisis, President John F Kennedy inspected our missile defenses in Key West.



DONATIONS

AMERICAN FLAG



Recently, Board member Thomas Vetter donated a new 48 star flag to the President's office at the Little White House. While the 50 star flag was correct as the Admiral's Colors, it was clearly post 1960 when Hawaii was added as our 50th state.

CONVENTION CENTER



In 1947, John Spottswood, owner of the only Key West radio station, arranged for the President to hear Margaret's first radio concert with the Detroit Symphony. The Truman - Spottswood friendship that began with the President and John Spottswood has continued to the present time. For the last four years, the Spottswood Family has donated the use of the conference center at Marriott Beachside Resort for our annual Truman Legacy Symposium. Corporate sponsorships and donated services help us fulfill our mission. If you are a local business willing to help, please call us.

ADVERTISING



Special thanks to See Magazine South Florida for their generous donation of six month's advertising in the Miami metro area. This \$10,000 gift allowed us access to a major South Florida market.

SILVER PIECES



In 1974, with the closing of the Submarine Base, John and Joan Bernreuter purchased a number of items of the Admiral's silver-plated serving pieces. Recently Bob & Iris Bernreuter and Lee & Barbara Winitzer donated eleven pieces their parents had purchased to our collection and these will be re-plated and accessioned to our collection. They will join other pieces of silver in the President's dining room. We are always grateful to caring individuals who donate objects that were once used by the President.

ACCOMODATIONS



The Curry Mansion, home of Florida's first millionaire, generously donated accommodations to John Avlon and Margaret Hoover for our First Presidential Families program.

GET INVOLVED

The work of the Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation is far from over. Your continued support and membership is needed and required.

We have made huge strides over the last five years. The paint was matched, the wallpapers re-printed and installed, and, one by one, artifacts are being conserved and furniture re-upholstered. The President's House is coming alive. We can almost expect the president to soon arrive and we remind you all current and past presidents do have a standing invitation to use the house as do the Departments of Defense and State.

If it seems we are asking for money, we are! Congress has recently killed Bill Clinton's Save America's Treasures and George W. Bush's Preserve America Programs. It is so sad our politicians put so little value on our heritage; once it's gone, it is lost forever. We have many projects that need funding. So how can you help?

It can be as easy as renewing your membership AND asking a friend, relative, fellow business person to join as well.

Each of us has different talents and we need all of them. Caring for a 120 year old frame structure in the tropics requires constant attention. Roofs still leak, the carpet needs to be replaced and plants need to be replanted in the gardens. We need a new botanical garden brochure that identifies the plants.

Our new state Land Management Plan outlines far-reaching goals.

1. We want to continue to restore the rooms as they appeared in March 1949. This includes restoring the first and second exhibit rooms and the introductory video room back to staff bedrooms, removing the museum store from our wrap around first floor porch, locating the correct fabrics for draperies in the Vice President's suite and staff bedrooms, and the poker porch fabric must be re-printed and installed.
2. Certain objects are iconic to this house and high on our list of desirables. Can you help us find the pair of 18" white fighting roosters for the dining room? A pair of milk glass urn shaped lamps by Warren Kessler? A fireplace screen and andirons for the third fireplace in the first exhibit room? A 16" floor globe circa 1948? A 24" ship model of the Bonhomme Richard?
3. Thinking bigger? The whole house needs new carpeting. Seven rooms are around \$5,000 each.
4. The gardens need lighting. Solar panels would help cut our \$35,000 annual electric bill and make us greener in the process.
5. And, of course, we hope to have a new visitor / educational center with numerous naming opportunities.

Six degrees of separation are really less than that. You probably know someone already that can make a difference.



Donors contributing \$100 or more will receive our Donor Recognition Pin suitable for wear on suit or blouse. This pin combines our national colors with the inaugural eagle used in 1948 created in antique gold. Please wear it proudly knowing you have helped protect and preserve a national treasure used by seven American presidents...The Little White House.



The restoration of the Little White House is in its final stages, but our current exhibition space limits our ability to interpret the military history of Key West, its strategic role in the Cold War and the emergence of the modern presidency. The proposed Key West Presidential Center will provide opportunities for students of all ages to benefit from greatly expanded exhibits, an auditorium, classrooms and research facilities. The center will also house our offices and larger museum store.

1972



April 13, 1972 King Hussein I of Jordan visited with Base Commander RADM John Maurer.

1996



December 31, 1996 President & Mrs. Jimmy Carter hosted a New Year's Eve family gathering at the Little White House.

2001



April 3, 2001 Secretary of State Colin Powell opened treaty negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

2005



January 25, 2005 President and Mrs. Bill Clinton spent a relaxing weekend in Key West.

Harry S. Truman Little White House SHL
The Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation, Inc.
111 Front Street
Key West, Florida 33040



UPCOMING CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

December 18, 2011 – Members Only Holiday Party

Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation Members Only Holiday Party is hosted by our auxiliary, Harry's Girls, at the Little White House. Come get in the spirit, enjoy a bit of holiday cheer and see the house decorated as it was in World War II.

January 7, 2012 – Bob Graham

Florida Governor Bob Graham (later, U.S. Senator) took the necessary steps to keep the Little White House in the public sector back in 1986. He has always had a love for the Little White House and will speak, as a fundraiser.

January 23 & 24, 2012 – The Living Room Series

The Harry S. Truman Little White House is pleased to announce its latest event "Sentimental Journey, The Songs of the Truman Era" a benefit for the museum. Singer and pianist Bobby Nesbitt will perform with singer Carmen Rodriguez.

February 24 & 25, 2012 – Presidential Families

In its third year, we continue the tradition of our presidential families weekend. This year, presidential relatives will share stories of their famous mothers and grandmothers as the First Ladies of the land.

February 28 & 29, 2012 – The Living Room Series

The second in the series, Bobby and Carmen are back, performing the hit songs of 1945-1952, the years of Truman's Presidency. The event will take place in the living room of the Little White House.

March 19 & 20, 2012 – The Living Room Series

It's Bobby and Carmen's final concert and they will be taking the audiences on a musical journey of the tumultuous times of the Truman era, performing well known songs from Broadway, Hollywood and the Hit Parade.

May 18 & 19, 2012 – Truman Legacy Symposium

Celebrating 10 years of the Truman Legacy Symposium, in 2012 we will investigate Harry Truman's legacy in the field of Foreign Aid. Senator Roy Blunt from Missouri has signed on as one of our keynote speakers. A 20% discount is available for our foundation members.

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