



IKE INSIGHT

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If you would prefer to receive Ike Insight electronically, please email us at info@eisenhowerfoundation.net

You Did It!

Dedication and Service

Thanks to your support, over \$29,000 has been raised in honor of Karl Weissenbach. This special fund will be used for programs, activities, and events at the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home in Abilene, Kansas.

After 40 years of working in the National Archives System, Karl Weissenbach retired from Director of the Eisenhower Presidential Library.

Just like Dwight D. Eisenhower, Karl rose from humble beginnings. He was born in Germany, and never knew his biological father. His mother and three siblings immigrated to the United States with an American soldier stepfather when Karl was eight. They settled in Georgia, but his mother died of cancer and his stepfather put the children up for adoption.

Karl and his siblings were adopted by a couple who later divorced, sending Karl into a boys' home. Karl said, "It was a nightmare, but I survived."

Karl was later taken in by a family who had a horse farm and cattle ranch. It was there he developed a love for horses and appreciation for hard work that drove him to be successful in school and then in a

long career with the National Archives System.

Karl began his work for the National Archives in 1979. After serving as the supervisory archivist of the research rooms in Washington, Karl moved to the Office of Presidential Libraries. There he worked on the Nixon Presidential Materials project from 1991 to 2005, where his main duty was processing the controversial Nixon White House tapes for public release.

During that time, Karl traveled to Abilene for a meeting and developed a fondness for the area. In 2006, he accepted the position of Deputy Director at the Eisenhower Presidential Library. Two years later, he was promoted to the office of the Director of the Eisenhower Presidential Library.

"I am a product of the American Dream," Karl said while recounting

his life. He said he has learned something new and gained even more respect for Dwight D. Eisenhower every day since coming to Abilene.

Donations to this fund recognize the service and dedication of Karl Weissenbach by supporting the Eisenhower Library. To make a contribution, please visit www.EisenhowerFoundation.net.

"I am the product of the American Dream."



IKE INSIGHT

Meredith's Memo

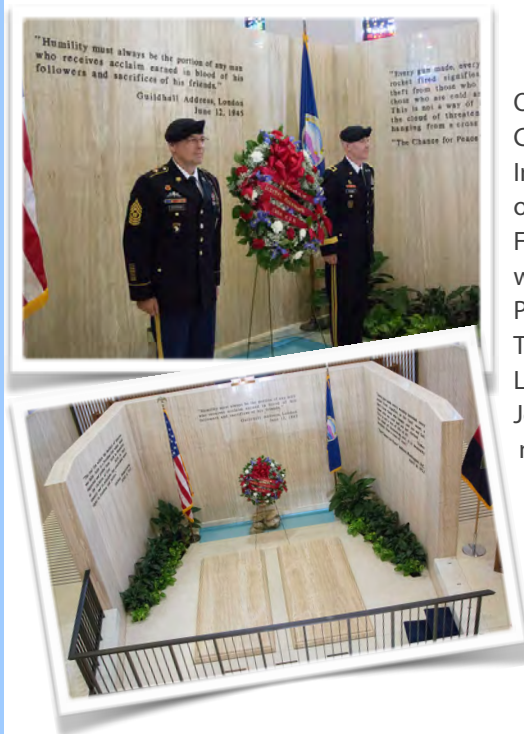
June 6th, the historic date of the D-Day landings, is always a time of honor and remembrance at the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home. This year was especially important as we said farewell to our Library Director, Karl Weissenbach. On Saturday, June 4th, upwards of 5,000 people attended the 5th Annual Symphony at Sunset D-Day Commemorative Concert, where Karl was honored for his many years of public service.

The Foundation Board of Directors established the Karl Weissenbach Program Fund to honor his accomplishments. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity and, I am happy to report that, to date, over \$29,000 has been donated to this fund. These dollars will be used to provide the programs, exhibits and events held annually at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum for which Karl has been a constant champion.

On behalf of the Foundation, thank you, Friends, for your generosity, and thank you, Karl, for your years of devotion to this world-class institution.

Meredith

Meredith Sleichter
Executive Director



Photos by J. Parker Roberts, 1st Inf. Div.
Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army

Special Recognition

Wreath-laying

On the occasion of the U.S. Army's 241st birthday, Command Sgt. Maj. Jonathan D. Stephens (left), 1st Infantry Division Artillery senior noncommissioned officer, and Brig. Gen. Patrick Frank, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley deputy commanding general, laid a wreath at the final resting place of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower in Abilene, Kansas. They were joined at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum by Lt. Col. (Chap.) Peter Johnson, the division's senior chaplain, and members of the Nebraska National Guard's 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade.

Buried with Ike in the Place of Meditation are wife Mamie, and first-born son, Doud Dwight. The quote displayed above the wreath is from Ike's Guildhall Address in London on June 12, 1945:

"Humility must always be the portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in blood of his followers and sacrifices of his friends."

Celebrating Our Heroes

Wendell DeMand Gugler

Shortly after graduating from Abilene, Kansas High School, Wendell DeMand Gugler was inducted into the Army on July 23, 1943. He spent his entire wartime service in Company E, and received a Combat Infantry Badge and two Battle Stars. Wendell shared his story on the Eisenhower World War II Honor Roll:

"In December, 1944, my [10th Mountain] Division was transferred to Virginia where we boarded ship bound for Naples, Italy. My unit boarded LCI craft for a shorter voyage to Leghorn. The Allied advance had been stalled by German troops who were entrenched in the Apennine Mountains. In the area to which the 10th Mountain was assigned, Mount Belvedere overlooked Highway 64, one of the primary highways between Florence and Bologna. German artillery on Mount Belvedere and a series of peaks named Riva Ridge blocked traffic on the highway. Four other divisions had been unable to dislodge the Germans. Using our mountain training, we took Belvedere on February 19, 1945, by sending a battalion of men from the 86th up to the 1500 foot Riva Ridge on ropes, surprising the Germans while other units made frontal assaults. We led the Allies through the remaining Apennines and through the PO Valley, ending in the Italian Alps."

We salute and celebrate Wendell DeMand Gugler's heroic service to our country!



IKEducation

Gettysburg College Students Explore Ike and Civil Rights





Blair Cox stepped into the shoes of Minnijean Brown, one of nine African-American students who desegregated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957. Cox, a sophomore in psychology at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, was playing the role of Brown in an experiential-learning program at the Eisenhower Library that explores President Eisenhower’s role in the civil rights struggle following the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1954 ruling that segregated public schools are unconstitutional.

The Gettysburg College students traveled to the Eisenhower Library to study Desegregation in Little Rock, a field trip enhancement program based on the reaction in Little Rock as the public schools implemented their desegregation plan to comply with the Supreme Court’s 1954 ruling in the Brown v. Board of Education case. The Supreme Court had found that segregated public schools were unconstitutional, but desegregation did not always go smoothly. Students explored primary sources and simulations that brought to life the key events leading up to President Eisenhower’s decision to call out federal troops to surround Central High School to ensure the safety of nine African-American students.

“This experience is to put them in the footsteps of those involved,” said Paul Miller, the Associate Director of the Garthwait Leadership Center at Gettysburg College. Miller participated alongside the students by assuming the role of Ike’s White House Press Secretary, James Hagerty.

Meredith Sleichter, Eisenhower Foundation executive director, says this program is just one way the Foundation reinforces President Eisenhower’s beliefs that, as he said, “Through such leadership every one of you, at your job, in your home, about your community, can be a builder of a better America and a better world.”



	REPORT CARD			YEARLY PROGRESS: 2013-2016
	2013-2014 Academic Year	2015-2015 Academic Year	2015-2016 Academic Year	TOTAL
 PARTICIPANTS SERVED	2,659 2,400 Students 259 Adults	4,286 3,841 Students 445 Adults	8,316 7,192 Students 1,124 Adults	15,261 13,433 Students 1,828 Adults
 PROGRAMS FACILITATED	204	285	382	878
 SCHOOL VISITS	46	60	124	230
 Dane G. Hansen TRANSPORTATION GRANTS	25	24	27	76

IKE INSIGHT

Spotlight Event

Symphony at Sunset Annual D-Day Commemoration Concert

The fifth Symphony at Sunset Annual D-Day Commemoration Concert was held Saturday, June 4th, on the grounds of the Eisenhower Presidential Library. This patriotic concert, held on the first Saturday in June, pays tribute to all veterans and has become a tradition for individuals and families in the area.

The Salina Symphony headlined the concert, which began at 8:30 p.m., just as the sun set behind the Library. This year's concert selections followed a space theme in commemoration of President Eisenhower's establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958. Symphony selections included "The Star Wars Suite" and "Star Trek into the Darkness."

Special guest Merrill Atwood Eisenhower, President Eisenhower's great-grandson, gave remarks prior to the Salina Symphony performance, followed by a special retirement presentation honoring Karl Weissenbach, Director, Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home, recognizing Karl's many years of service in the National Archives and Records Administration.

Warming up the crowd for the symphony performance was the 1st Infantry Division Band from Ft. Riley. The Army band's "space" music included "Magic Carpet Ride," "Aquarius," and "Space Oddity." 1st ID vocalists joined the Salina Symphony on "Fly Me to the Moon" and "When You Wish Upon a Star."

Activities for the whole family were offered before the concert. The Ft. Riley Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard performed mounted drills and precision horsemanship. Troopers and horses of this unit are outfitted in the uniforms, accoutrements and equipment of the Civil War period. Soldiers use the same training manuals as those used by Civil War cavalrymen.

A Pop-Up Museum was a new feature this year. "Just because an item from the past isn't in a museum doesn't mean it isn't a valuable piece of history," said Pam Sanfilippo, Education Specialist. "A Pop-Up Museum gives everyone the chance to share their keepsakes with others, creating lasting memories from a temporary (and fun!) experience," she added. People brought their World War II-related memorabilia and shared their stories.

The Arts Council of Dickinson County sponsored a tent providing an array of activities for kids of all ages, including the opportunity to create thank you cards to send to veterans. Several food vendors provided picnic options for families to dine on the Library grounds.



Our Partners

Eagle Communications – a Valued Partner

Eagle Communications is one of the Eisenhower Foundation's most valued partners. They provide in-kind marketing for the Eisenhower Library's events and programs. Eagle also produced the community access television series "Why Like Ike?," a program that is broadcast to more than 22,000 households.

Eagle owns and operates 28 radio stations in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska; and 59 cable systems in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. Since 2012, Eagle has been 100% employee-owned.

Robert E. "Bob" Schmidt is chairman and retired president and CEO of Eagle Communications in Hays, Kansas. His career in broadcasting has spanned over six decades and made a difference in the communities served. "Communication is the bond that holds communities together, something that Bob Schmidt has always keenly understood," said Steve Smethers, associate director of the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications at K-State. "Through his pioneering leadership in developing radio, television, cable TV, telephone and internet services, Bob has provided communication channels that have kept information and interpersonal communications flowing for thousands of people in the rural Midwestern states."

Bob Schmidt is a World War II veteran, a member of the Eisenhower Foundation's Regional Council and narrated the Foundation's capital campaign video.



Friends Events

You're Invited!

We hope you will join us in the Eisenhower Presidential Library Visitors Center Auditorium for these upcoming Friends Events:

"Presidents and the Constitution" Friday, September 16, 2016 | Noon

Generously sponsored by the William T. Kemper Foundation, this Brown Bag Luncheon will feature author and university professor Richard Damms who wrote the chapter on Dwight D. Eisenhower in the book, *The Presidents and the Constitution: a living history*. A light lunch will be provided.

President Eisenhower's Birthday Party Friday, October 14, 2016 | 3:30 p.m.

Happy Birthday, Mr. President! Enjoy Mamie's world-famous sugar cookies in celebration of Ike's 126th birthday! Cookies and punch will be served to commemorate this special day.

Miller Nichols Charitable Foundation Ike Lecture Series **Pulitzer Project in Kansas: "Voices of the People: Protest in Kansas" Town Hall** Sunday, November 6, 2016 | 5:30 p.m. Friends Reception | 7:00 p.m. Program

In partnership with the Kansas Humanities Council, this program will engage social activists, artists, and historians in explorations of the creative spirit of Kansas as they have practiced free speech. Join us before the program for dinner at the Friends Reception.

To RSVP for these events or for more information, please contact the Eisenhower Foundation at 785-263-6771 or info@eisenhowerfoundation.net.

Upcoming Events

August

6: Vintage Baseball Game at Ted Power Field, Eisenhower Park

September

16: "Presidents and the Constitution" Brown Bag*

17: Boy Scout workshop

October

14: Eisenhower's Birthday Party*

14: VFW Vigil

15: Presidential Wreath-Laying Ceremony

15: Eisenhower Legacy Gala

November

6: Kansas Town Hall*

11: Veterans Day Ceremony

12: Boy Scout workshop

24: Thanksgiving Day - All buildings are closed

December

4: Abilene Municipal Band Annual Holiday Concert

17: Boy Scout workshop

25: Christmas Day - All buildings are closed

*Friends Event

SUPPORT OUR CAUSE

We Appreciate Your Support

The important work done by the Eisenhower Foundation would not be possible without you, our generous donors. We've recently updated our online donation processing system! Check it out at www.EisenhowerFoundation.net. You can also make a contribution by calling our office at 785-263-6771 or by sending the below form to: P.O. Box 295, Abilene, KS 67410. We thank you for your support!

First & Last Name(s)

Email Address Preferred

Phone Number Preferred

Street Address Preferred

City

State & Zip

Enclosed is my check, made payable to the *Eisenhower Foundation* **OR** please charge my:
 Visa MasterCard Discover American Express \$ _____ **Amount**

Name on Card

Card Number

Authorized Signature

Expiration Date

Security Code

IKE INSIGHT

Did You Know?

I Like Ike Campaign Memorabilia

Six decades after Eisenhower's last campaign, "I Like Ike" remains one of the most identifiable political slogans in American history. "I Like Ike" appeared on all sorts of items: hats, skirts, gloves, neckties, cufflinks, pin-on buttons, rhinestone jewelry, plastic megaphones and packets of cigarettes.

Eisenhower's first major campaign appearance was in June 1952 in his hometown of Abilene. For that event Abilene went Hollywood, with spotlights tracing the night sky. A parade included a float featuring several Abilene residents dressed in severe high-button shirts and modest black bonnets, representing the first of the Eisenhower clan to arrive in 1878. "My Abilene visit," Ike later wrote, "was, for me, the beginning of a new kind of life."

The next month, on July 8th, Ike received the Republican nomination at the party's Chicago convention. "I know something of the solemn responsibilities of leading a crusade," he told the delegates. "I have led one."

In the November election, Eisenhower captured 442 of 531 electoral votes and just more than 55 percent of the popular vote. From the first major campaign event to the general election? Six months!

The 1952 Republican National Convention marked the beginning of live, nationally-televised political drama... millions of Americans tuned in to watch the first live broadcast of a presidential nominating convention.



Featured Artifact

Lt. Colonel Ralph Snyder's Uniforms Tell the Story

In 2012, Ralph Snyder, retired Lt. Colonel in the United States Air Force, donated several sets of his uniforms, dog tags, and documents to the Museum. While there are many uniforms in our collections, the group donated by Snyder is unique. These uniforms document the transition in uniform from the Army Air Forces to the United States Air Force.

Ralph Snyder was drafted into the U.S. Army in December, 1942. Snyder joined the Army Air Forces as an enlisted man, then was selected to attend Ground Officer Training School in New Haven, Connecticut. Snyder's World War II uniform included an "Ike-style" jacket with an 8th Air Corps patch on the left shoulder. Snyder flew B-24s, and later B-17s, out of England.

After the war, Snyder left the Army Air Corps and returned to civilian life. In the few short years between World War II and the Cold War, Snyder was drawn back into armed service, this time as an officer in the newly formed United States Air Force Reserves. A new service deserved a new uniform. With the creation of the USAF, the Army uniforms were phased out and a new blue service uniform was introduced. Snyder served in the USAF until retiring in 1965 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Lt. Col. Snyder passed away January 23, 20



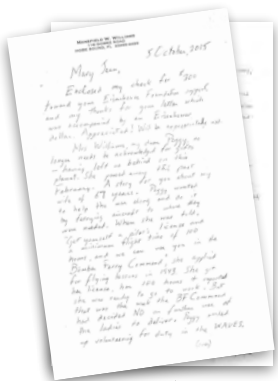
In the Mailbox

Mansfield "Smoky" and Margaret Williams

We continue to be humbled by the gifts we receive from across the United States. Often, donors include a brief note sharing their memories of Ike as their General or President. It is obvious that Americans still like Ike!

Recently, Mansfield "Smoky" Williams sent a letter to Mary Jean Eisenhower, Ike's granddaughter, recounting his own service, and that of his wife, Margaret "Peggy," during World War II and also his high regard for her grandfather.

This is just one example of the many letters and stories we receive, and they confirm the purpose behind our mission. The mission of the Eisenhower Foundation is to honor and champion the relevance today of the life and leadership of Dwight D. Eisenhower through compelling programs and events that celebrate his legacy. His vision of peace, prosperity and justice in the world offers this generation a timely and relevant example for character leadership.



Mary Jean,

...Mrs. Williams, my dear Peggy, no longer needs be acknowledged for gifts – having left us behind on this planet...A story for you about my wife of 67 years. Peggy wanted to help the war along and do it by ferrying aircraft to where they were needed. When she was told, "Get yourself a pilot's license and a minimum flight time of 100 hours, and we can use you in the Bomber Ferry Command," she applied for flying lessons in 1943. She got her license, her 100 hours and reported she was ready to go to work. But that was the week the BF Command had decided NO on further use of the ladies to deliver. Peggy ended up volunteering for duty in the WAVES.

...I graduated from Princeton in June, 1942, as a chemical engineer. Initially that meant I was deferred from military service as "essential to the war effort," helping make synthetic rubber. However, it seemed clear to me there were more directly needed tasks to be done. I volunteered for the Marine Corps and served as a platoon leader on Iwo Jima. In fact, it was the responsibility of Lt. Williams and what remained of his platoon to go through the final pocket on Iwo which enabled the Marine Corps to transfer the island to the Army. Task accomplished.

As a minor footnote to that, I will be making trip to Iwo for what corresponds to the 71st anniversary of that action...

Your grandfather is certainly a Great American for us all to remember!

Smoky Williams

Special Deliveries

World War II Army Nurse Coat

In 1995, the Fischer family sent the Eisenhower Presidential Library a collection of field gear, and other memorabilia, that belonged to their aunt, Captain Mary Fischer. Mary was an Army Nurse who served with the 95th Evacuation Hospital during World War II.

Recently, they came across another of Mary's World War II possessions, a trench coat, which they also donated to the Library. Judging from the condition, Mary likely wore this coat through most of her time in Germany, including when she participated in the evacuation of the POW camp at Dachau.

Thanks to the generosity of the Masterson family, Captain Mary Fischer's nurse coat will join the other items previously donated to the Library's World War II Participants Collection.

