



FOUNDATION FOR THE

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 2008

THE TREATY OF PARIS
ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1783
THE AMERICAN COLONIES AND GREAT
BRITAIN SIGNED THE TREATY ENDING
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND
FORMALLY RECOGNIZING THE UNITED
STATES AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION.

[SEE PAGE FIVE]

MISSION AND VISION

It is the mission of the Foundation for the National Archives to create public awareness of the importance of the National Archives as a cultural resource in the American democracy – a place where historians, seekers of justice, and private citizens can find evidence on which truth is based.

The Foundation was created to support the Archivist of the United States in developing programs, technology, projects, and materials that will introduce and interpret the Archives' holdings to the American people and to people around the world. The purpose of the Foundation is to educate, enrich, and inspire a deeper appreciation of our country's heritage through the collected evidence of its history.

Within the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, as well as its many regional archives, records centers, and Presidential libraries and museums, and in outreach to the American public through traveling exhibitions and national media, the Foundation's goal is to assist in presenting the historical records that:

1. Reveal the ideals and values of the nation's Founders,
2. Point to the meaning of the records and accomplishments of previous generations, and
3. Establish the significance of these records as proof that individual citizenship not only matters, but is vital to our lives.

It is the vision of the Foundation for the National Archives that this creative effort, enhanced with 21st Century methods, will produce a greater understanding of the American journey – where our nation has been and how it can be best guided in the future. In this public/private partnership, the role of the Foundation is to generate financial and creative support from individuals and corporations to provide this extensive outreach, which has not been mandated by Congress.

The Foundation for the National Archives, a 501(c)(3) organization, is directed by men and women from the private sector who are dedicated to the institution that holds and preserves the records of the United States of America. The National Archives is guardian of the nation's most important and treasured documents. At the heart of its holdings are the Charters of Freedom: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. These documents exist as the cornerstone of our society.

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FRONT COVER: TREATY OF PARIS
DETAIL; PAGE ONE BACKGROUND:
TREATY OF PARIS DETAIL; BACK
COVER: CLIFFORD BERRYMAN,
"DEMOCRATIC NEW YEARS EVE
CHEER" DETAIL, 1931

In the Name of the most Holy & undivided Trinity.

It having pleased the divine Pro



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Students view documents in the National Archives' Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom.

ector of the Holy Roman Empire, &c.
and of the United States of America
to forget all past Misunderstandings and
Differences that have unhappily inter
ted the good Correspondence and Friend
which they mutually wish to restore;
to establish such a beneficial and safe
tory Intercourse between the two
upon the Ground of reciprocal Advan
and mutual Convenience as may p



COURTING FREEDOM

2008 SUCCESSES



During my six-year tenure as President of the Foundation, my fellow Board members and I have been honored to celebrate with the National Archives the openings of the William G. McGowan Theater, the *Public Vaults* exhibition, the Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery, and the Boe-

ing Learning Center. We were thrilled when the Foundation surpassed its initial \$22.5 million fundraising goal to complete the *National Archives Experience*.

But I was most gratified in 2008 when my ongoing passion to extend the *National Archives Experience* “beyond the granite” was finally realized with the launch of the not only successful, but award-winning, *Digital Vaults* website. This interactive on-line exhibit, accessed at www.digitalvaults.org, allows visitors from around the nation and around the globe to create their own collections, games, posters, and movies based on the primary documents housed in the National Archives.

We owe ongoing thanks to many private donors like you. Your support allows us to bring new speakers and audiences to the National Archives Building for quality programs, and those programs now reach a much larger audience on line.

The Foundation continues to support exhibitions in the O'Brien Gallery and at venues around the country. But now these exhibitions also have a home on-line.

As I retire as President of the Foundation, I thank you for a wonderful and productive six years and congratulate you on the accomplishments of 2008.

I know that under incoming President Ken Lore's leadership, we will continue in 2009 to tell the story of America through the important documents found in the National Archives, with innovative and interactive educational and on-line initiatives. I hope all of you will continue to support us on this journey.

Tom Wheeler

President, Foundation for the National Archives



As the National Archives prepares to celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2009, we are proud to continue our partnership with the Foundation for the National Archives.

Since 2003, the result of this partnership—the *National Archives Experience*—has drawn millions of researchers, families, and tourists who have peered into the stacks of the Archives, studied its treasured documents, and discovered the story of America.

As the nation's record keeper, the National Archives preserves and provides access to the records of our Government—from the Declaration of Independence, to census records, to the service records of the men and women in our military.

In 2008, our work included launching the initial operating capability of the Electronic Records Archives, a system designed to preserve and provide long-term access to electronic government records. We decreased the backlog of records awaiting processing. We added the much-praised *Digital Vaults* website to our education outreach programs, and we digitized and placed on line millions of records.

As we continue our work, we appreciate the vital support that the Foundation and private donors like you bring to the National Archives. This support is key to increasing awareness of the role the Archives plays in our democracy.

We especially thank Tom Wheeler, the Foundation's President of the Board for the past six years. His leadership set a high standard of quality for our new public spaces, which teach our visitors about the depth and diversity of our vast collection of extraordinary records—a collection that Tom often refers to as “the spirit of America.” We are grateful for Tom's years of leadership, and his many invaluable contributions.

Next year, the Archives will welcome a new Archivist of the United States and the Foundation will welcome a new Board President. We look forward to continuing our important work together in 2009, and appreciate your ongoing support.

Adrienne C. Thomas

Acting Archivist of the United States

NATIONAL ARCHIVES EXPERIENCE CAMPAIGN DONORS

The following supporters have been influential in helping to launch the *National Archives Experience* including: the renovation of the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom and the creation of the Public Vaults, William G. McGowan Theater, Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery, the Boeing Learning Center, and the Digital Vaults, a centerpiece of the *National Archives Experience* online.

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AMERICAN CONVERSATIONS

The Foundation was honored to welcome new audiences to the National Archives in 2008 as Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein hosted the *American Conversations* series at the William G. McGowan Theater.

Early in the year, the series included the Archivist's conversations with former First Lady Barbara Bush, Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard University, and, in May, broadcast journalist, best-selling author, and Foundation Board Member Cokie Roberts and her mother, Congresswoman Lindy Boggs.

In the fall, the Foundation invited supporters and guests to receptions where they could meet award-winning novelist E.L. Doctorow, political commentators E.J. Dionne of *The Washington Post*, David Brooks of *The New York Times* and *The Newshour with Jim Lehrer*, and Rice University Professor Douglas Brinkley, all of whom participated in the *American Conversations* series.

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* denotes in-kind donation
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**TREATY OF PARIS
 EXHIBITION**

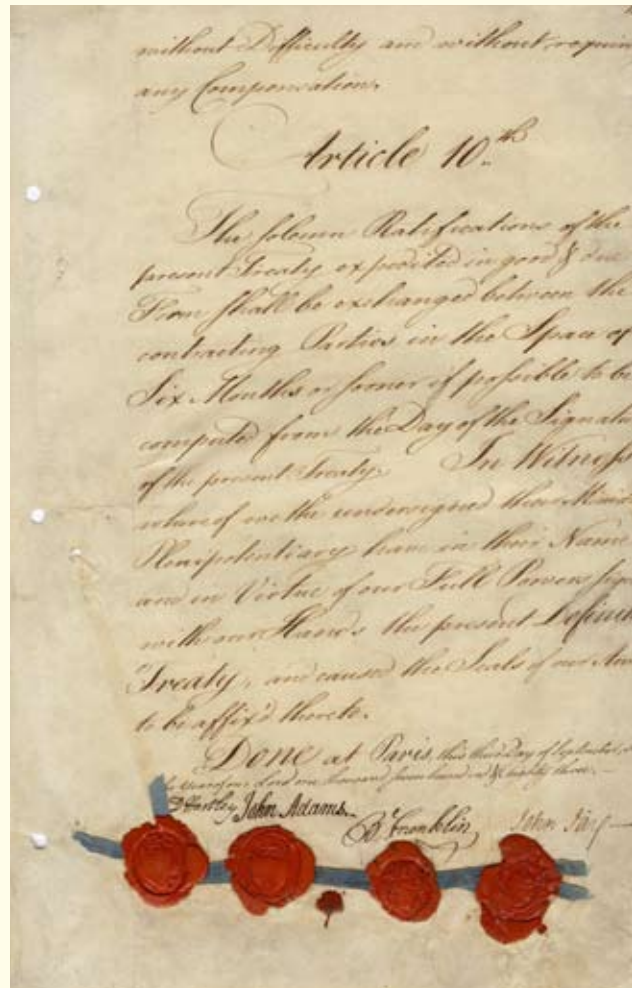
The Foundation, working with the National Archives and its counterpart in Canada, was proud to present the exhibition 1783: Subject or Citizen?

Commemorating the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris, the exhibition on display in the Archives' Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery from October 2008 through January 2009 revealed the untold story of the treaty that ended the American Revolution and redrew the map of North America.

The exhibition marked the first time the National Archives has collaborated with the Library and Archives Canada on an international exhibition and incorporated 60 archival treasures from the vaults of the U.S. and Canadian archives, including the rarely displayed 1783 Treaty of Paris. The multi-media exhibit included audio interactives as well as 18th Century maps, books, paintings, and letters telling the story of individuals living during a time of unprecedented change.

The Foundation, through its partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and The Charles Guggenheim Center for the Documentary Film, also made possible the screening of several Oscar-nominated and Oscar-winning films produced by the National Film Board of Canada.

The Foundation thanks the law firm DLA Piper for its marketing sponsorship to celebrate the opening of *1783: Subject or Citizen?*



FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2008 with Summarized Financial Information for 2007

EXHIBIT A

Assets	2008	2007
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,607,879	\$ 635,027
Accounts receivable	20,520	100,000
Pledges receivable, net allowance for doubtful accounts	1,228,545	1,490,422
Inventory	437,468	399,982
Prepaid expenses	26,059	—
Total current assets	3,320,471	2,625,431
Fixed assets		
Equipment	58,583	52,707
Less: accumulated depreciation	(53,686)	(52,707)
Total net fixed assets	4,897	—
Noncurrent assets		
Long-term pledges receivable, net allowance for doubtful accounts	1,984,942	2,969,590
Total assets	\$5,310,310	\$5,595,021
Liabilities and net assets		
Current liabilities		
National Archives Trust Fund Board	\$ —	\$ 99,285
Accounts payable	47,463	—
Accrued salaries and benefits	55,777	45,854
Deferred membership	10,218	210,000
Total current liabilities	113,458	355,139
Net assets		
Unrestricted	1,842,849	1,427,254
Temporarily restricted	3,354,003	3,812,628
Total net assets	5,196,852	5,239,882
Total liabilities and net assets	\$5,310,310	\$5,595,021

EXHIBIT B

Support and revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily restricted	2008 total	2007 total
Support				
Contributions and grants	\$ 562,806	\$ 175,437	\$ 738,243	\$5,475,926
In-kind contributions	259,694	—	259,694	251,086
Membership dues	508,866	—	508,866	377,650
Net assets released from donor restrictions	634,062	(634,062)	—	—
Total support	1,965,428	(458,625)	1,506,803	6,104,662
Revenue				
Archives Shop revenue, net of costs of goods sold of \$1,200,297 and \$1,111,470 for 2008 and 2007, respectively	1,756,707	—	1,756,707	1,595,709
Interest income	35,312	—	35,312	55,800
Exhibition revenue	294,980	—	294,980	300,000
Royalties	—	—	—	35,184
Miscellaneous	401	—	401	20,026
Total revenue	2,087,400	—	2,087,400	2,006,719
Total support and revenue	\$4,052,828	\$ (458,625)	\$3,594,203	\$8,111,381
Expenses				
Program services				
National Archives Experience	\$ 458,672	\$ —	\$ 458,672	\$2,582,851
Museum Activities	398,063	—	398,063	—
Theater Programs	259,495	—	259,495	11,565
Education	49,473	—	49,473	—
Publications	153,025	—	153,025	218,348
Exhibitions	679,314	—	679,314	—
Archives Shop	723,161	—	723,161	167,263
Total program services	2,721,203	—	2,721,203	2,980,027
Supporting services				
General and Administrative	543,990	—	543,990	1,336,146
Fundraising	372,040	—	372,040	626,033
Total supporting services	916,030	—	916,030	1,962,179
Total expenses	\$3,637,233	—	\$3,637,233	\$4,942,206
Change in net assets	415,595	(458,625)	(43,030)	3,169,175
Net assets at beginning of year	1,427,254	3,812,628	5,239,882	2,070,707
Net assets at end of year	\$1,842,849	\$3,354,003	\$5,196,852	\$5,239,882

FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES 2008 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

Thanks to the generosity of these corporations, major donors, individual members, and foundations, the Foundation is able to support the crucial programming costs for the *National Archives Experience's* diverse needs and the Foundation's operating expenses.

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Marvin Weissberg and Judith Morris
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John and Diana Zentay

RECORDS OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AND GALA

Each fall, the Foundation hosts a black-tie Gala in the Rotunda Galleries of the National Archives Building to honor those whose life's work has helped raise awareness of the importance of using primary documents available at the National Archives.

In 2008, the Foundation was pleased to bestow its Fifth Annual Records of Achievement Award on Civil War historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author James McPherson. McPherson and his family joined distinguished guests from Washington's civic and cultural communities, Foundation supporters, and historians and dignitaries from across the country on September 16 for an elegant dinner at the National Archives, just steps from the Charters of Freedom.

The Foundation's premier annual event was hosted by Foundation President Tom Wheeler, serving his last year as head of the Foundation. Special guests included Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein and Gala Chairs Pat and Donna Butler.

The annual event was made possible thanks to the generosity of The Boeing Company.



Top: Records of Achievement awardee James McPherson and wife Patricia (left) celebrate at the Gala with Foundation President Tom Wheeler, Mary Foerster of The Boeing Company, Foundation Executive Director Thora Colot, and Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein. Above: Incoming Foundation President Ken Lore enjoys the Gala with his wife, Patricia.

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* denotes Honorary Members

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RUNNING FOR OFFICE

In February, the Foundation was pleased to partner with the National Archives to present the exhibition *Running For Office: Candidates, Campaigns, and the Cartoons of Clifford Berryman*.

The exhibit, which ran in the National Archives' Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery through August to

coincide with the 2008 presidential campaign season, featured 44 original pen-and-ink drawings by Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Clifford K. Berryman. The exhibit cartoons, which appeared on the front page of Washington newspapers from 1898 through 1948, are housed with the historical records of Congress in the National Archives' Center for Legislative Archives.



The Foundation also produced a companion exhibition catalogue, titled *Running For Office*, as well as T-shirts, mugs, and other related products for sale in the Archives Shop.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Each summer, the Foundation is pleased to partner with the National Archives to present an Independence Day celebration filled with patriotic music, a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence, and free family activities that have become an annual favorite for thousands of July 4th visitors to the National Archives.

This year the celebration began with the Foundation's Promise of America breakfast, during which 15-year-old Kerry Martenis of Southgate, Michigan, read her award-winning patriotic essay in the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom.

With NBC4 News anchor Jim Handly serving as master of ceremonies, the daylong festivities included the presentation of colors by the Continental Color Guard and a performance by the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard) Fife and Drum Corps. Washington attorney Riley Temple, a longtime supporter of the culture and arts communities as well as a member of the Foundation's board, joined historical reenactors Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and Ned Hector to read the Declaration of Independence on the steps of the historic National Archives Building.

Family activities followed, including opportunities to "sign" the Declaration of Independence, make campaign buttons and bumper stickers, use a quill pen, wear a tri-corner hat or get a patriotic National Archives temporary tattoo. Visitors also explored full-size facsimiles of historical documents and learned how to use the new on-line exhibit, the *Digital Vaults*, to make movies and posters.

The Foundation thanks John Hancock Financial Services, which served as the event sponsor for the fourth year and held the national essay contest.

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THE DIGITAL VAULTS

The Foundation was proud to support the launch of the *Digital Vaults*, an interactive on-line exhibit that goes beyond the walls of the National Archives Building to reach a national and international audience in cyberspace.

The exhibit, at www.digitalvaults.org, allows visitors to create their own collections, games, posters, and movies by choosing from 1,200 documents, photographs, posters, artifacts, sound recordings, and moving images from the National Archives.

The website was named one of *Time* magazine's "50 Best Websites 2008" and won "Site of the Day" Awards from Adobe and Favorite Web Site Awards. The site also was recognized by *Communication Arts* and *HOW* magazine and was nominated in the 12th Annual Webby Awards, the "Oscars of the Internet."

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THE BOEING LEARNING CENTER

The Foundation was proud to support the creation of the Boeing Learning Center and its ongoing programs, which were numerous in 2008.

The National Archives education team conducted 54 workshops for 1,723 educators and students in the ReSource Room. More than 2,000 teachers and students participated in 79 Constitution in Action labs, and nearly 3,000 more participated in over 100 videoconferences throughout the year. In addition, the Boeing Learning Center greeted nearly 14,000 visitors representing all 50 states and more than four dozen countries, providing them with information about the Archives and inviting them to participate in "Archival Adventure" games.

The Foundation was pleased to provide scholarships to 55 teachers from 11 states who were able to take part in the Archives' highly-acclaimed eight-day *Primarily Teaching Institute* during the summer. *Primarily Teaching* was designed to give teachers from around the country access to the National Archives' resources and to demonstrate how these materials can be used in the classroom. Topics explored in 2008 include the Civil Rights movement, westward expansion, Japanese-American internment, and the process for minting currency.

In July, the Learning Center team collaborated with colleagues at the Smithsonian American Art Museum to present a three-day institute called "Teaching With Documents and Works of Art: An Integrated Approach."

The Foundation thanks Texas Instruments, which helped provide scholarships to *Primarily Teaching* participants, as well as The Boeing Company, for its ongoing support.

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GUGGENHEIM'S LEGACY CONTINUES

The late Charles Guggenheim, a four-time Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker who served as president of the Foundation in its early years, was passionate about promoting the National Archives and its treasure of billions of primary documents. Charles led the Foundation's effort to raise funds, design, and build the William G. McGowan Theater, a state-of-the-art facility that has become a premier venue for film screenings, author lectures and panel discussions at the National Archives. In his honor, the Foundation also worked with the National Archives and Guggenheim Productions, Inc., to create The Charles Guggenheim Center for the Documentary Film.

This year, the Center featured a special 40th anniversary screening of Charles Guggenheim's Academy Award-winning film *Robert Kennedy Remembered*, a tribute to the late attorney general first shown at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

The Center also hosted a daylong film festival, *For a Better America: The New Deal on Film*, featuring 13 U.S. government-produced Depression-era films from the vast motion picture holdings of the National Archives.

In February, through its partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Center was honored to present the Academy Award nominees for documentary feature, documentary short film, live-action short film, and animated short film – all free to the public for the fourth year in a row.



TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Following Foundation President Tom Wheeler's directive to take the National Archives "beyond the granite" walls of its flagship Washington, DC building to reach a much larger audience, the Foundation helped the National Archives take exhibitions originally premiering in the Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery on the road.

Eyewitness: American Originals from the National Archives, featuring original accounts of watershed events in American history, was shown at The Ford Museum of the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan, The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin, Texas, and the Durham Museum in Omaha, Nebraska.

The Way We Worked: Photographs from the National Archives, focusing on the history of labor in America, also continued its tour with exhibitions at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center in Staten Island, New York, the Historical Society of Long Beach in Long Beach, California, Amherst Museum in Amherst, New York, and the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Also touring in 2008 was *School House to White House: The Education of the Presidents*, showcasing report cards, letters, photographs, and memorabilia telling the stories of U.S. presidents growing up. It made stops at the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, and the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas.

The national tour of *Eyewitness* was sponsored by The Boeing Company.



2008 marked a giant leap “beyond the granite” as the Foundation’s efforts focused on expanding the *National Archives Experience’s* audience base through global internet access.

Welcoming more than a million visitors to the National Archives Building in Washington, DC,

the Foundation and the National Archives continued to support a host of diverse public programs in the William G. McGowan Theater, including an “American Conversation” with former First Lady Barbara Bush. We are proud that we can now provide these programs on-line as well. Schools, families, and worldwide audiences are now able to view our most popular programs at www.archives.gov/nae/news/featured-programs/.

The high point of our year was the launch of the *Digital Vaults* website. The new on-line interactive allows national and international audiences to explore the depth and diversity of the National Archives’ holdings, as well as discover unusual historic links as they play games or create movies or posters. The website has been recognized by *Time* magazine as one of the “50 Best Websites 2008.”

The work continued in Washington, DC, as well! We were pleased to work with the Archives to launch exhibitions in the Lawrence F. O’Brien Gallery, including *Running for Office: Candidates, Campaigns, and the Cartoons of Clifford Berryman*, and *1783: Subject or Citizen?* marking the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris.

In order to increase the *National Archives Experience’s* visibility among the growing number of attractions available to museum-goers visiting Washington, DC, the Foundation partnered with cultural institutions including the Washington Convention and Tourism Corporation, the Cultural Alliance, and the Penn Quarter Neighborhood.

The Foundation also hired the expert services of Smith Gifford to conduct a study with staff and visitors, to garner the emotional responses to the Archives and its holdings, and to update the *National Archives Experience’s* branding. The resulting “ASK THE QUESTION” advertising campaign has placed ads on city buses and bus stops and in metro stations, as well as in the print media.

The Foundation further developed its relationship with Federal workers nationwide by participating for the first time in the Combined Federal Campaign, the world’s largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign. Introducing the Foundation and its mission to this group was an important accomplishment of 2008.

After six years of service and friendship to the Board and staff of the Foundation, Tom Wheeler will be retiring as President of the Board in 2009, though we know he will continue to play a vital role on our Board. We thank him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Foundation and the Archives, and we welcome our next President, Ken Lore, a longtime Board member whose dedication to our mission and passion for the Archives will serve us well in the years to come.

The Foundation appreciates the dedication of its Board members, its talented staff and our wonderful partners at the National Archives. And we are grateful to supporters like you who understand the importance of citizens in a democracy to have access to the records of their Government. Thank you!

Thora Colot
Executive Director



To promote the Archives’ 2008 July 4th festivities, the Foundation launched its new advertising campaign “Ask the Question,” placing ads in bus shelters and metro stations.

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ARCHIVES SHOP JOINS 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Archives Shop experienced a successful year, surpassing its budgetary goals despite periods of decreased attendance and a challenging economic climate. Contributing factors include solid staff performance, improvements in general operations, a more diverse and mission-related merchandise selection, as well as enthusiastic and supportive visitors.

Reproductions of the Charters of Freedom, as well as other cherished American documents, continued to be the shop's best-sellers, accounting for more than 28 percent of sales. In addition, exciting new products were developed for exhibitions, the Archives' 75th anniversary, and to further represent the total "Archives Experience."

The shop supported more than 30 book and author events throughout the year, continued its work to increase the awareness and selection of retail web offerings and increased efforts to promote Foundation membership. It also began promoting itself within the Archives through a "Shop Talk" feature highlighting new products in the monthly *Staff Bulletin*, and through the Archives' internal web site. The Foundation welcomed Chris DerDerian, a new Director of Retail Operations, and a new Merchandise Manager, Julie Kemen, who is responsible for all merchandise purchasing and the development of new products exclusive to the shop.





“ R U N N I N G F O R O F F I C E ”

“DEMOCRATIC NEW YEARS EVE CHEER,”

DECEMBER 31, 1931. A NUMBER OF DEATHS AND DEPARTURES LEFT VACANCIES IN HOUSE SEATS HELD BY REPUBLICANS. RESULTS FROM SPECIAL ELECTIONS SHIFTED CONTROL TO THE DEMOCRATS. THE DEMOCRATIC DONKEY, CHEERED BY HIS PARTY’S NEW POWER, CONSOLES THE DEFEATED REPUBLICAN ELEPHANT AS THE OLD YEAR SETS OVER THE HORIZON.

————— [SEE PAGE NINE] —————

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