

# THE LAFF SOCIETY

For the men and women engaged in Life After the Ford Foundation

WINTER 2003

NO. 35

## The LAFing Parade

For someone past 90, **Reuben Frodin** (88 E. Wheelock St.,

Hanover NH 03755)

continues to break records as a world traveler.

"Not

Tasmania this time," he writes, "but 1,000 plus miles in Scotland and England; 800 plus in Sweden." Mischievously, he suggests a new role for the FF—taking over "nation-building (whatever that is) in Iraq from Halliburton and Co."

Reuben, incidentally, came down from Hanover to attend the LAFF reunion.

**Brent Ashabranner** and his wife, Martha, now live in Williamsburg VA (15 Spring West, 23188-1626) where he devotes his time to writing books for children and young adults. He worked for the Foundation in the Philippines and Indonesia between 1972 and 1980 after tours with the U.S. foreign aid program (Ethiopia) and the Peace Corps (director in Nigeria and India).

**Jane Dunne**, formerly of the accounting staff, is now director of finance of the New York Hall of Science, having left the Metropolitan Museum. (jdunne@nyscience.org)

**Joy Carol**, author, spiritual director, and counselor, has written a soon-to-be-published book, *Journeys of Courage*, (Sorin Books, PO Box 428, Notre Dame, IN 46556), a

## Reunion Draws Near Record



The LAFF Society held its fourth reunion on Friday, October 10, attracting a near record crowd. Allowing for a small error of "no shows," attendance was just under 130, compared with the 140 who came to the first such event in 1993. Although most hailed from in and around New York, New England, and Washington, there was a substantial sprinkling from such places as California, Minnesota, Cleveland, and Florida. A special guest was **Mary Bundy**, widow of **McGeorge Bundy**, Foundation president from 1967-79.

The setting was the battle-flag draped mess hall of the ornate, castle-like Seventh Regiment Armory at 67th and Park Avenue in New York, an architectural and military landmark completed in 1881 as a home for New York's famous Seventh Regiment, the largest volunteer militia unit in the country during the 19th century. Dinner was served buffet style, music was provided by the Schuyler Woodwind Quintet and no one attempted to shut down the bar. It was a great place to meet, although the loud speaker system could stand improvement.

**Pat Corrigan**, who along with **Mary Camper-Titsingh** were the event's principal organizers, said the Armory was about the only suitable place in New

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collection of real-life accounts of communities that have undertaken healing processes after experiencing difficult or violent situations. They range from people affected by the losses of 9/11, to the survivors of trauma in Northern Ireland, to people affected by addictions and poverty. Joy, who underwent successful brain surgery several years ago, leads retreats and workshops in spirituality, health, prayer, death, and dying at medical schools, churches, and other settings. (159 W. 123 St Apt 13H, NYC 10027)

We're always pleased to welcome new members, especially alumni from the 1980s and 1990s from whom we don't often hear. One such is **Marie Nunes**, now affiliated with Oxfam America in Boston, whose president is **Raymond C. Offenheiser**, also an

alumnus. Marie's email address is [mnunes@oxfamamerica.org](mailto:mnunes@oxfamamerica.org).

Another new member: **Evelyn Hendricks** (1862 E. 31st St. Brooklyn 11234), who retired 1998 after serving as executive secretary to the director of administrative services. She previously was secretary in personnel services, working with **Bill Gormbley**.

A brief note from **Ann Lesch** (1326 Spruce St. Philadelphia 19107): "I'm off to Beirut—Fulbright to teach at Lebanese American University this fall."

We occasionally hear from former staff who reach far back into the Foundation's history. **Doris Bebb** (1661 Pine Street #32, San Francisco 94109) who left the Foundation in 1958, sent in several years of dues

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### The LAFF Society

c/o Mary Camper-Titsingh  
531 Main Street, Apt. #1110  
New York, NY 10044

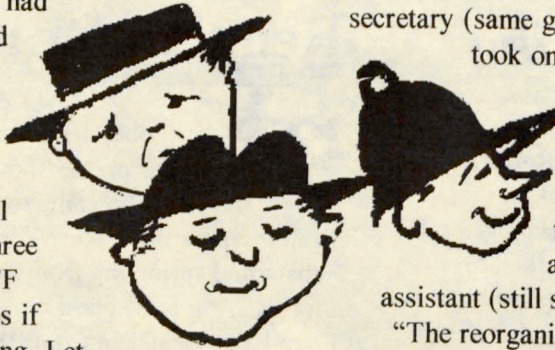
President, Emmett Carson  
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Christine Vincent

Editor, Robert Tolles  
Graphic Designer, Ruth Neumann

## How Many Hats?

**Marcia Bikales** (155 E. 38th St Apt 8A, NYC 10016) challenges **Will Hertz's** claim in the last newsletter that he has had more varied Foundation assignments than any other staffer. Will wagered three years' LAFF Society dues if proven wrong. Let the reader decide. Marcia writes:



"While a purist would say I held only five positions over my 39 years at the Foundation, what a myriad of permutations lie therein.

"I started on September 17, 1962 as a secretary in the South & Southeast Asia Program (later Asia & the Pacific). I was working for **David Pfanner**, an assistant program officer. At the time, if you worked for a full program officer you were called a senior secretary, but I think the grade and pay scale were the same. I found out that I made a splendid \$5 a week more than a senior secretary who started the same day, although she was working for a program officer—one Willard Hertz, I believe. Soon I was assigned to work for **Bill Gamble**, the just-returned rep from the recently closed Burma office. Thus I became a senior secretary. Bill Gamble was replaced by **Bill Rudlin**, another returned rep, and David Pfanner was promoted to program officer, but somewhere along the line, the title senior secretary was mothballed to return another day and I was again a secretary.

"In the spring of 1969 I finally got that promotion. I went to work

for **Lou Winnick**, who was then POIC of Urban & Metropolitan Development, as administrative secretary. Lou soon became deputy VP of National Affairs along with his UMD assignment and the title admin secretary went the way of the dinosaur and I became executive secretary (same grade). In that job I took on more and more

assignments, writing DAGs and grant and reject summaries for the trustees. This led to a change of title to administrative

assistant (still same grade).

"The reorganization of the Foundation under **Frank Thomas** brought the end of National Affairs, although Lou remained deputy VP and I was still admin assistant. However, because of a lack of staff in several of the new programs, I became DAG and occasional RGA writer to much of the Foundation. I habitually put my name on all grant requests, and the secretary's office just as regularly took it off, except in one case. Somewhere there lurks in the archives an RGA with my name on it—this at a time when I wasn't allowed to check out a file in my own name. I also represented FF at meetings of a committee for the redevelopment of 42nd Street.

"Early 1986 brought Lou's retirement and my transfer to International Affairs as executive secretary (once more) to scholar-in-residence **Brian Urquhart**. This was supposed to be a one-to-two year assignment that lasted ten years. I did all the usual secretarial stuff, along with fielding a multitude of media contacts whenever a world crisis was in Sir Brian's area of expertise. This included being told unofficially by Norwegian broadcasting that he had won the Nobel Peace Prize, only to find out it had been snatched from him in the last 24 hours before announcement. I not only typed

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and inquired about **Jim Ivy** with whom she worked in ECA (predecessor of USAID) in Taiwan in 1950 and in 1954 at Ford. He then joined the Asia Foundation, returning to Ford in the 1960s. Jim's name came up in another context—at the reunion on Oct. 10 in New York—when **Delwin Roy**, a former colleague, paid tribute to him as someone who "epitomized the real character of the Ford Foundation." The last address we have for Ivy is 301 White Oak Dr. Apt 97, Santa Rosa CA 954098.

### Lost



Mail sent to the following has been returned:  
John F. Hilliard,  
Charlotte Larrabee,  
Lillian Yarzeit.



the manuscripts for his several books but I was unofficial Americanizer of Britishisms. I carried out several editorial, writing, and research assignments, and I also used my scant knowledge of Italian to make travel arrangements for him.

“Sir Brian’s retirement at the end of 1995 coincided with another reorganization under **Susan Berresford**. I was given a temporary assignment as acting supervising secretary in the Asian and Middle East program working with **Tim Bork** (by this time secretaries were working “with” not “for”). It was a hectic and exciting nine months; my only regret was that the Foundation did not see fit to send me to the trustees meeting in Africa.

“My next and last position (but not the title and grade) was in Education, Knowledge & Religion as senior secretary (where have I heard that before?) working with **Janice Petrovich**, deputy director, where once again my writing skills were put to use. That was a great job, made even better when after a year Janice was promoted to director. It took a little longer for the powers that be to decide on new titles and grades for support staff but eventually I became administrative coordinator, at the same grade I was administrative secretary, executive secretary, administrative assistant, and supervising secretary. During that time I also served on the Good Neighbor Committee and finally got to make my own grants—to the Asia Society, the New York Public Library, and NYU Hospital, among others. And there I remained until my retirement on September 17, 2001—39 years to the day since my start.”

Marcia, who now gives her occupation as unpublished novelist (mystery genre), adds that if the above recital does not outdo Hertz, she nominates **Barry Gaberman** for the title.

## Arnold Named AUC President

**David Arnold**, former Foundation program officer for governance and public policy and later representative in India before becoming executive vice president of the Institute for International Education, has been named president of the American University in Cairo. He succeeds John Gerhart, also a Foundation alumnus, who died July 17 after serving three years in that post (see page 6 for a report on a memorial service for Gerhart).

AUC is a private, 5,000-student, English medium liberal arts college founded in 1919 by Americans devoted to education and service in the Middle East. Students come from 70 countries, 85 per cent from Egypt.

Arnold becomes 10th president of that institution. He was described by Paul B. Hannon, chairman of the Board of Trustees, as “a seasoned executive with exceptional international experience, deep affinity for AUC’s education mission, and a passion for excellence.”

A native Midwesterner, Arnold received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. He began his public service career in 1975 as a program budget analyst with the Michigan Department of Labor. In 1977 he joined the National Governors’ Association in Washington DC, where he handled international relations in the areas of employment, housing, and economic development. He later served as executive director of the Coalition of Northeastern Governors.

Joining Ford in 1984, he had major responsibility for administering a still-active program of awards highlighting innovations in state and local government. From 1991 to 1997, he

worked in New Delhi as Ford’s representative for India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

As AUC’s new head, Arnold will be responsible for raising funds and overseeing construction of a new \$300 million campus on a 260-acre site on the outskirts of Cairo. The campus is designed to accommodate 5,500 full-time students, in addition to 1,500 faculty and staff.

Arnold’s wife, Sherry, is an early childhood educator, most recently serving on the faculty of the United Nations International School and before that at the American Embassy School in New Delhi. The Arnolds have three grown daughters and recently became first-time grandparents.

## Newly Minted Psychologist

**Carolee Iltis**, formerly of the public education and communications staff who is now a licensed clinical psychologist in Dutchess County NY. She completed her doctoral studies at Antioch New England Graduate School in Keene NH, commuting two days a week while working part-time for the Foundation.

“I’m happy to report that I graduated in May 2002 with my Psy.D.,” passing her dissertation orals the previous October. “The title of my dissertation is ‘Adult Dominicans in Therapy: Psychotherapists’ Perceptions of Cultural Treatment Issues’ (available through UMI). It is a qualitative exploration of issues a clinician should know to work with people from the Dominican Republic. I became interested in the topic because my first patient was Dominican (during a part-time externship in Washington Heights.)

“I did my one-year pre-doctoral internship in an in-patient hospital in



Poughkeepsie and an outpatient clinic in Carmel. I did therapy with adults, ran groups, and did evaluations. For the last several years, I have worked with pre-schoolers and their families in a Head Start program. I have done play therapy, consultations, and psychological evaluations of 3-5 year olds to determine their eligibility for special education services. Most

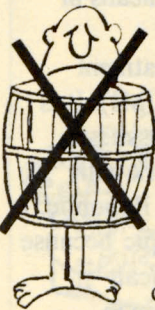


recently I have started doing forensic evaluations for Astor Family Court Evaluation Services. I also continue to do crisis hotline work and evaluations for psychiatric hospital admissions in Putnam County.”

She adds that she hopes to start a private practice. “Through all this, I have learned that I loved living in the Hudson Valley. I love the flora and fauna of the country (no herons or bald eagles on 14th Street). In sum, life continues to be a wonderful mix of rewarding activities and new challenges.” (112 Chelsea Cay, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590, email [ciltis@aol.com](mailto:ciltis@aol.com))

## Solvent at Last?

Reporting on LAFF’s finances at the reunion (see page 1), Secretary-Treasurer **Mary Camper-Titsingh** said that the organization was in pretty good shape—for the moment. A year ago the checkbook balance was \$1,633.78; currently it is \$3,314.18, thanks in part to the sending of constant dunning notices and the reunion itself, which produced a surplus. She cautioned against complacency, however; that three plus grand must cover three newsletters which run about \$1,000 each.



In a previous issue, the management threatened to terminate, by a fixed date, the subscriptions of 184 LAFFers (out of some 500 on the mailing list) who are delinquent in their dues. In its wisdom, the management has now offered a reprieve—but only for a few months. The deadline is now Jan. 1, 2004.

Dues are modest—only \$7.50 a year. To find out if you’re current, check the address label. The year for which payment was last received is indicated after your name. Many members find it convenient to send in several years of dues. For an extra \$3.50, you can also get a copy of the recently updated LAFF Society Directory. Checks made out to the LAFF Society should be sent to Mary Camper-Titsingh at 531 Main Street, apt. #1110, New York, NY 1044.

## More on ‘Ping’ Ferry

**Richard Magat** reviewed a biography of the late “Ping” Ferry (*Ferrytale: The Career of W. H. “Ping” Ferry* by James Ward, Stanford University Press, Palo Alto CA 94304-1124) in the July/August issue of *Foundation News and Commentary*. As **Frank Sutton** has written in these pages before, “Ping” Ferry was an important and somewhat controversial figure in the early history of the Foundation. The son of a Detroit automobile executive, he came to the attention of the young Henry Ford II in 1946 through the public relations firm of Earl Newsom and Company, hired by Ford to help transform the family’s small foundation into the goliath soon to be enriched by bequests from the estates of Henry Senior and his son, Edsel. Along with Newsom and another colleague, Ferry helped re-write the public version of the

Foundation’s far-reaching 1950 statement of program goals.

Ferry was not inhibited in supporting unpopular causes. He advised the Foundation’s board to spin off several mini-foundations, one of which was the Fund for the Republic (the “wholly disowned subsidiary”), which was to spawn all sorts of trouble during the McCarthy era. Ferry parted ways with Newsom and Ford to become vice president of the fund under Robert Maynard Hutchins. Ferry later had a falling out with Hutchins and was fired. Magat notes that Ferry spent his final years helping his second wife, the wealthy widow Carol Bernstein, for whom he divorced his wife of 30 years, spend out the funds of the DJB Foundation, set up by her ex-husband. Beneficiaries ranged from black farming communities, to anti-apartheid groups in South Africa, to Vietnam draft resisters.

## Reunion Draws Near Record

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York that he could find which would charge less than \$100 per head. The ticket price was \$65 and LAFF even made a profit on the deal. (see col.1).

The evening’s principal speakers were **Frank Sutton**, who performed his traditional role of memorializing those colleagues who have passed on since the last reunion (see page 6), and **Emmett D. Carson**, president of the Minneapolis Foundation who worked at Ford in the 1990s and who took over the LAFF presidency last year.

Introduced by **Richard Magat** as “a national voice for thoughtful consideration of the place of foundations and philanthropy in the social and economic scene,” Carson paid tribute to those who have



volunteered their and talent to keep the organization afloat for the past 12 years.

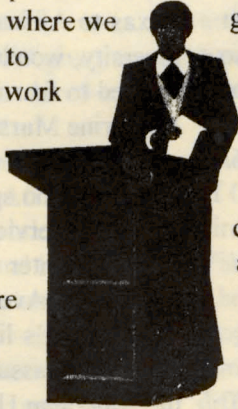
Answering the rhetorical question of "Why are we here?," Carson said: "We share a common experience working at an institution where we had an opportunity to try to change the world and to work with remarkable people. We valued that experience so much so that years after it's over we relish the opportunity to find out how people are doing and how they are continuing their roles as social change agents engaged in making the world a better place."

Carson mentioned that he had stopped by the Foundation that afternoon to meet briefly with **Susan Berresford**, the Foundation's current president. "She wanted me to tell you how much she appreciated the existence of this organization and how proud she is that we come together—that our group is a testament to the kind of special experience we had."

At the same time, Carson offered a caution. "If all we do, as important as it is, is read off the names of our friends and colleagues who are no longer here, we won't last very long. It says we're always looking back at what used to be.

"As I look about the room, I see people who have the talent, energy, and experience for today. Many of you are experts in all kinds of fields and have insight into the current challenges facing our communities. We have a vehicle that not only helps us to remember the past but also to recreate the experience that made the Ford Foundation so special."

Carson's sentiment about defining a new role for LAFF was echoed in spontaneous comments from around the room. **Basil Whiting**, formerly of



the National Affairs staff, urged the group to think about being more than "a memory society of the Bundy era. If all we do is celebrate that wonderful era, then our hair will grow grayer and our list of people who have gone will grow longer. We need to think about whether there is in the history and nature of the Ford Foundation a role for an organization of people who have been part of that history, who can continue to exchange, contribute, and be more than just a memory."

Elaborating on this theme, **Sheila Gordon**, who helped recruit staff for the Foundation, said that "I saw wonderful people come into the Foundation and then saw them leave and have no more connection with the Foundation." She added that she was thrilled that Emmett had received expressions of support on his visit to the Foundation. "We need to ensure that our experience there continues to enrich each of us and in turn enriches the Foundation."

**Rusty Stahl**, one of LAFF's youngest members and founder of Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy, a professional development network for newcomers to philanthropy, issued an invitation to LAFF members to serve as mentors to young practitioners. "We have chapters across the country of people who are thirsty for meaningful professional development and an understanding of the foundation sector."

## The Word from Siesta Key

Sending greetings from Siesta Key, Florida, **Jim Bausch** (International/Population, Asia & Pacific) brings us up to date with both short and long versions of his post-Ford activities.

We'll go for the long one, since, like Walter Burns of *Front Page* fame, we're always screaming for copy:

"Five years ago, I retired as CEO of the National Charities Information Bureau, and my wife, Janet (also of International/Population), and I moved full-time to Siesta Key, a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico off Sarasota. Sarasota's cultural and charitable scene has kept us out of trouble most of the time.

"Both of us have taken a score of courses that we've long thought about. Janet is busy mostly in the arts where she is an active painter and sculptor, as well as on the tennis court. I served as an advisor to the Venice Foundation in establishing the Kids Foundation, run by and for teenagers, and to the Community Foundation of Sarasota.

"I've just completed service as a trustee and corporate secretary of Selby Botanical Gardens, and have turned my attention to the Senior Academy of the University of South Florida, where I'm now board chair. The academy has 425 members, and pre-registrations for this year are running 84 per cent ahead of last year. The fall term offers 23 new courses that span literature, computers, opera, history, psychotherapy, finance, photography, writing courses, current events, and Sarasota art.

A more recent assignment is serving a co-chair of FORUM 2004, "a new organization seeking to present the truth about important national issues as we approach next year's election. Paul Duke, moderator of Washington Week in Review for 20 years, is our honorary chair." For more info, [www.forum2004america.org](http://www.forum2004america.org).

Jim came north to be at the LAFF reunion, to attend his high school reunion (Jersey City), and to visit with granddaughter, daughter, and son-in-law who live in Greenwich. He and



Janet recommend the match-making services of **Bud Harkavy**, who nearly 34 years ago "brought us together when we worked in his office and sent us to a Foundation conference in Italy." (4865 Featherbed Lane, Siesta Key 34242)

## Remembrance Time

At the LAFF reunion in October at the Seventh Regiment Armory, **Frank Sutton** noted that some 28 colleagues had passed away in the three years since the group last met.\* The list, gleaned from the newsletter, probably was not complete, Sutton noted, prompting several people to mention several other names of deceased colleagues. Sutton summarized briefly the careers of the departed, and read a translation of a 3rd century B. C. poem by a librarian in Alexandria which conveys "the sense of friendship and enjoyment we had of working together and being together." (copies are available on request)

**Verne Atwater**, a former vice president at the Foundation, took the podium after the reading and praised "Sutton for the remarkable job he's done recording in the newsletter the backgrounds and achievements of people who have passed away." Sutton, along with **Lou Winnick**, have been the newsletter's most regular contributors of remembrances of departed colleagues.

\*In the order of their passing: Harrison Parker, David Hunter, Julie Bell Dundore, Mary Stoyhal, Joan Hall, Marjorie Martus, Wilma Pascoe, John English, Roberta Lynch, Ralph Cummings, Thomas Robinson, Paul Renza, Ralph Harbison, Agnes Ascioffa, Rose Scotto, Frances Veals, William Diaz, Glenn Watts, Leonard Mead, Alvin Johnson, Joseph Slater, Harold Howe II, John Doran, Howard Dressner, Wilbert LeMelle, John Scott Everton, Thomas Wyman, John Gerhart. Also listed were three wives- Sibby, Doc Howe's wife; Peg, Pat Corrigan's wife; and Jackie, Frank

## Errata

We are grateful to Sheila Nelson of the Foundation's Human Resources office for pointing out several errors in the LAFF Society 2003 Directory. Most have to do with listing as current members who are deceased. Those so listed (and their dates of death); Elinor Barber (2/2/99), Whitman Bassow (2/24/99), Patricia Goebel D'Alton (8/26/98), Howard Dressner (12/30/02), Christopher Edley (5/5/03), John English (3/27/01), John Gerhart (7/15/03), Wilbert LeMelle (1/11/03), Theresa Phillips (8/24/93), and Geraldine Radovich (8/24/98).

A few errors also cropped up in spelling of names—Sanda (not Sandra) Balaban, Seamus O'Cleireacain (not O'Cleiracain), Jeffrey Oison (not Jeffry), Richard Robarts (not Roberts), and Bernard Wasow (not Wasaw). We also got Joan Carroll's address wrong (perhaps due to a recent move). It is 204 N. Balliet St., Frackville PA 17931.

## In Memoriam

### JOHN GERHART -

#### "THE WORLD WAS HIS STAGE"

World traveler, agricultural specialist, gifted raconteur, dedicated Africanist, world-class bird watcher—these were among the descriptives applied to the life and career of John Gerhart, long-term Foundation international staffer who died at age 59 on July 17 in Manhattan.

The *Times* in its obituary said Gerhart was an expert on African agriculture and indeed he was, spending a good part of his Foundation career promoting rural development in that part of the world. At Princeton he wrote his dissertation on why corn

Sutton's wife. Also mentioned were Chris Edley, Janet McNeely, Anne Reisen, and Arthur Trottenberg.

farmers in Africa did or did not adopt the new agricultural technologies that had raised farm production in Asia and other parts of the world. But Gerhart was distinguished in other arenas as well. "The world was his stage from Texas to Africa and he reveled in its diversity, wonders, and quirks. He seemed to fear nothing in life," said Katherine Marshall, a Princeton classmate, one of more than a dozen eulogists who spoke at an overflow memorial service in September at the Church Center of the United Nations on Second Avenue.

Gerhart's life was cut short a few years after assuming the presidency of the American University in Cairo. It was the only paying job he held outside the Foundation, a career that spanned 29 years from training associate and agricultural program officer in Nairobi, to assistant representative in Botswana, to representative in Cairo and in South Africa, to deputy vice president for developing countries overseeing 16 of the Foundation's field offices.

In a "How I Got to the Ford Foundation" item he wrote for this newsletter 18 months before his death, Gerhart recalled an interview he had in Princeton with the late **Jack Robin**, who was recruiting for a training associate in rural development in the Nairobi office, which he then headed. To Gerhart's surprise, Robin never asked him about his career interests or the rural development work he had done as an intern in East Africa. "Instead we talked about wildlife in East Africa, my passion for bird watching, his storied collection of bird books, the finding of the Congo Peacock after a 30-year search, and other non job-related subjects including our joint interest in the poet Vachel Lindsay, whom Robin could quote at length."

As they parted on the steps of the Nassau Inn, Gerhart recalled, Robin



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without even a “you’re hired” told him to go to New York and ask **Bill Gormbley** (head of personnel) about salary. When he told Gormbley that he was paid essentially nothing as a summer intern at the Kenyan Ministry of Finance and Development, Gormbley said “Good, we’ll give you 10 percent more.” He was hired—at somewhat more than that.

Presiding at the service was Rev. James Tucker, a former African missionary who was chaplain at St. Stephen’s Episcopal School in Austin, Texas, where John was a student. He said that both he and Gerhart shared a love of Africa, its struggle for freedom, its entry into the new as it clung to the old, its flora and fauna. Gerhart was brought up in nearby Abilene, the son of the rector of the Church of the Heavenly Rest (Episcopal).

Regarding his attachment to Africa, Michael Chege, a Kenyan and former Foundation colleague, said that Gerhart “made a name for himself in the 1970s as a hard-working advisor to government with a particular bias toward policies that addressed the needs of the poorest of the poor, particularly in agriculture.

“My generation of African intellectuals in East Africa will forever be indebted to this man for his intelligence, his magnanimity of spirit, for his love of and dedication to the region. In a way he was one of us.”

**Susan Berresford**, Foundation president, said she came to know Gerhart through Gail, his wife, a grade-school chum who went on to become an outstanding scholar and an Africanist in her own right (her book *Black Consciousness Movement* is considered a basic text on South African politics). “I knew that John was exceptional too, with his soft Abilene twang, his infectious enthusiasm, and his taste for life’s vivid experiences and also his

profound knowledge of the African continent. He had a special capacity for nurturing friendships across great distances of time and geography.

“I particularly admired John for the way he stretched our imaginations and our time frames, always urging us to invest long-term and in the most creative people and programs.”

Robert Paxton, a Harvard classmate and a life-long birding friend of Gerhart’s, attributed his interest in birds to a visit they made to Lake Victoria in Tanzania where he spotted a brilliantly colored species of kingfisher. It was an ideal pastime for him since it took him to many difficult and even dangerous places. “He was always relating his birds to the landscape, to human communities, and economies of the countries he visited. The most joyous times in his life were when he was on a birding expedition.”

The American Birding Association at one time ranked him the top amateur birder for the continent of Africa.

Of his work in South Africa, **David Bonbright**, also a former Foundation colleague, said that Gerhart developed grants that helped post-apartheid South Africa “build strong democratic institutions, a new constitution, and the infrastructure for a vibrant, independent civil society... John’s faith in South Africans in finding their way to a civil and democratic society steadied everyone that came in contact with him.”

**Alison Bernstein**, Foundation vice president, said Gerhart was known throughout the Foundation for hiring smart, dynamic women, mentioning the names of more than a half dozen women careers he helped advance. “I came to believe that John was a deep feminist, unquestionably certain of women’s equality with men and committed to advancing their roles

and contributions to society. There was something loveable about John, which had a special appeal to women.”

Speaking of Gerhart’s brief tenure at AUC before illness forced him to resign, former Ambassador Frank Wisner, AUC trustee, said that he brought to Cairo a purpose, a dedication, and a generosity of spirit rarely seen. His major task there was to complete the planning and raise money for the construction of a new \$300 million campus on the outskirts of Cairo. Wisner described the new campus “a motor force for change in a troubled region, a beacon of American principles, an institution where what we hold true in our new world would find common ground with the time-honored verities of Egyptian civilization.”

Tom Bartlett, former AUC president who co-chaired the selection committee that chose Gerhart for the presidency, said of him that “in my 33 years as a president or chancellor of higher education, I have never seen a person make so rapid and positive an impact on a university community. He was in the best sense the ultimate cheerleader.”

Memorial services were also held for Gerhart in Cairo and Johannesburg. Interment took place in a memorial garden overlooking the St. Stephen’s campus. In 2001 Princeton’s graduate faculties named him one of their hundred most notable alumni of the 20th century. In recognition of his contributions to higher education in Egypt, President Mubarak awarded him the country’s First Class Decoration for Arts and Sciences.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two children, Katherine and Nathaniel. Contributions in his memory may be made to the American University in Cairo/Gerhart Fund, 420 Fifth Ave., 3rd floor, New York, NY 10018.



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### SUZANNE FOLDES

**Suzanne M. Foldes**, a survivor of World War II concentration camps who worked for the Foundation in payroll from 1968 until retirement in 1983, died Sept. 9 at her Leisure World home in Silver Spring MD.

According to an obituary that appeared in the *Washington Post*, Mrs. Foldes was born in Miskolc, Hungary. Both her mother and her first husband died in Nazi exterminations camps in Hungary. She was imprisoned at Auschwitz and Mauthausen and later worked as a forced laborer at the IG Farben Munitions Works.

After the war, her father's haberdashery in Hungary was seized by the Communist authorities. With her second husband, Andrew Foldes, and their son, Paul, Mrs. Foldes escaped Hungary on foot during the 1956 uprising. After a period in a

refugee camp, she arrived in New York in 1957, becoming a citizen in 1963. She is survived by her son, Paul Foldes, 15101 Interlachen Dr., Apt. 1-107, Silver Spring 20906.

### JANET MCNEELY

**Janet McNeely**, who spent 30 years with the Foundation first as a secretary to **Clarence Faust** of the Fund for the Advancement of Education and later as assistant to **Bud Harkavy** of the Population program, died at home in Tudor City on Aug. 25. Retiring in 1981, she became executive secretary to Donna Shalala, who at the time was president of Hunter College.

### ANNE REISEN

Word has also been received of the death of **M(atilde) Anne Reisen** on Aug. 22. She began as a payroll clerk in what was then known as the

general services office on July 23, 1951, later becoming supervisor of the payroll unit in the comptroller's office, a position she held until retirement on Jan. 1, 1991.

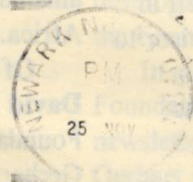
### QUIGG NEWTON

**James Quigg Newton Jr.**, who was known as the reform "boy mayor" of Denver when he came from obscurity in 1947 to defeat the entrenched Stapleton machine, died on Apr. 4 at age 91 in Denver Health Medical Center.

Newton left the mayor's office in 1955 after an unsuccessful run for the Democratic nomination for the U. S. Senate and spent a year at the Ford Foundation when Rowan Gaither was president. He then went on to become president of the University of Colorado at Boulder, the head of the Commonwealth Fund in New York and the Kaiser Foundation in California.

## THE LAFF SOCIETY

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