

## Drew Gilpin Faust Speaks on Civil War Book



Board member John Zentay, right, and wife Diana, left, visit with Adrienne Dominguez and Shannon Brigham-Hill.

Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard University, met with Society members and other special guests at a private cocktail-buffet reception prior to her book lecture on Wednesday, January 9, 2008. Following the reception, Faust delivered a talk on and signed copies of her recent highly acclaimed book, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*. Faust, a Virginia native who grew up visiting Civil War battlefields, became Harvard's first female president last year. Her book, which is a study of the American struggle to comprehend the meaning and treatment of death during the Civil War, has since become a best-seller on the *New York Times* nonfiction list as well as on Amazon.com.

A few weeks after her lecture, Faust again visited the Archives to consult on the Civil War exhibition that will open in 2010. ■

## Cokie Roberts Entertains With Stories About Historical Ladies



Broadcast journalist, best-selling author, and Foundation for the National Archives Society and Board member Cokie Roberts joined Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein for a May 7, 2008, American Conversation and book signing following the release of *Ladies of Liberty: The Women Who Shaped Our Nation*. Society members and other distinguished supporters began the evening with a private cocktail reception with Roberts in the Archivist's Reception Room. Guests were entertained by her stories of researching and writing what she called "the other half of history" – the tales of the determined and passionate women who helped shape a fledgling nation and laid the groundwork for a better society. Following the reception, Society members joined a full house in the William G. McGowan Theater to hear more from Roberts. The Archivist, who joked with Roberts throughout the program, ended by asking whether she would like to comment on the current presidential contest. As expected, the political commentator for ABC News and senior news analyst for National Public Radio responded with a huge smile and a firm "No!" ■

Butler vividly remembers the day Tom Wheeler introduced him to the Archives and the concept of the National Archives Experience, an ambitious educational initiative he believed could impact thousands of young people. Butler was "hooked." He not only joined the Foundation board, but also worked with friends from The Boeing Company to help ensure that the flagship of the NAE, the learning center, would have a secure future – thereby fostering, once again, key values of his family and childhood – learning and public service. ■

## 2008 Gala Co-Chairs

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a full-time volunteer and PTSA president in the Montgomery County, Maryland school system. She and Foundation board member Bitsey Folger worked together on a major project to raise funds to renovate the library for the J.O. Wilson Elementary School in Washington, DC.

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## Author and Historian James McPherson Earns Foundation's Highest Honor

Distinguished Civil War historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author James McPherson will be honored at the Foundation's annual black-tie Gala on September 16th as the recipient of the 2008 Records of Achievement Award.

The annual award recognizes an individual who has played a major role in increasing the public's understanding of the National Archives, our nation, and its history. Previous recipients, who are now honorary members of the Society, include historians John Hope Franklin and David McCullough, broadcast journalist Tom Brokaw, and C-SPAN Founder and Chief Executive Brian Lamb.

The Gala, made possible by the generous support of The Boeing Company, is an annual favorite of Society members who, along with other high-profile Washingtonians, historians, and dignitaries from across the country, are treated to an elegant seated dinner just steps from the Archives' Rotunda, where the Charters of Freedom are enshrined, and near the Magna Carta display.

This year's program will be hosted by Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein, Foundation President Tom Wheeler, Gala Chairs Patrick and Donna Butler, and Honorary Chair Jim



Albaugh. The evening will begin in the William G. McGowan Theater with the screening of a tribute film highlighting McPherson's career. The film, produced by the Foundation for the National Archives, includes personal interviews with McPherson's colleagues and friends.

McPherson, a Professor Emeritus at Princeton University, is best known for his book *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1989. The book, which has sold more than 600,000 copies, is credited with bridging the gap between scholars of history and the general public. His many other books include *The Struggle for Equality: Abolitionists and the Negro in*

*the Civil War and Reconstruction*, which won the Anisfield-Wolf Award in Race Relations, and *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*, which was awarded the Lincoln Prize. McPherson also served as a historical consultant on the 1993 motion picture *Gettysburg*, the 1990 public television documentary *The Civil War*, by Ken Burns, a Society and Board member, and the 2001 documentary *Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided*. ■

## Save the Date!

**Event:** Foundation for the National Archives Annual Gala and Records of Achievement Award Ceremony

**When:** Tuesday, September 16, 2008

**Where:** National Archives Building, Washington, DC

**Event:** Lincoln Bicentennial Symposium: "Lincoln and American Values"

**When:** Saturday, September 20, 2008

**Where:** William G. McGowan Theater

**Event:** Exhibit Preview and Reception: "1783: Subject or Citizen?"

**When:** Thursday, October 2, 2008

**Where:** Lawrence F. O'Brien Gallery

Please Contact Caneil McDonald, Manager of Special Events, at (202) 357-7361 or Caneil.McDonald@nara.gov with any questions or to RSVP to an event.

## Magna Carta Returns to National Archives

Society members and other prominent supporters joined lawmakers, members of the diplomatic corps, and cultural and civic leaders from around the Washington, DC, community for a private cocktail reception in the Rotunda Galleries on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, to celebrate the return of Magna Carta to the National Archives. The historic document had been displayed at the Archives for two decades while on loan from its previous owner, who sold it at auction last year.

The March event honored David M. Rubenstein, Magna Carta's current owner, whose generosity made possible once again the public display at the Archives of one of the most important documents in the history of democracy. Society members had the opportunity to view the 1297 Magna Carta and to mingle with dignitaries, including Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi and Chief Justice John Roberts.



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, center, and Archivist Allen Weinstein and wife, Adrienne Dominguez, right, welcome back Magna Carta, along with Foundation Board and Society members Gene Eidenberg and wife Anna Chavez, Ken Lore, and Marilyn Wood Hill.

Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein and Foundation for the National Archives President Tom Wheeler welcomed the guest of honor and assisted the philanthropist and the Chief Justice in a ceremonial unveiling of Magna Carta -- one of four originals still in existence and the only one on display in the United States.

The evening continued with a special tribute program in the William G. McGowan Theater featuring A.E. Dick Howard, who discussed

his book, *The Road from Runnymede: Magna Carta and Constitutionalism in America*.

As the foundation of English law, Magna Carta, "the Great Charter," was used by America's founding fathers to articulate individual rights and liberties when they wrote the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is now on public display, next to the Charters of Freedom, in the Archives' West Rotunda Gallery. ■

### Former First Lady Barbara Bush Reflects on Being Wife, Mother of Presidents



Foundation Board and Society member Patti Rosenfeld chats with Barbara Bush.

When Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein hosted an American Conversation, "Barbara Bush: Family and Friends in a Public Life," Society members were treated to prime seats in the William G. McGowan Theater. The public portion of the event on January 25, 2008, drew an audience of nearly 300, and featured a conversation between Mrs. Bush and the Archivist. The former First Lady spoke candidly about her time in the White House and since, offering her unique perspective as both wife and mother of Presidents. Mrs. Bush also joked about her husband's activities -- including a parachuting hobby -- since leaving the White House. She praised her daughter-in-law, First Lady Laura Bush, for reaching out to help women in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and the proud grandmother also confided that ten of Jenna Bush's friends were spending the night in the White House that night in advance of her wedding shower. "Family and friends and faith are the most important things in your life," Mrs. Bush said.

The former First Lady also delighted the audience by recounting humor-

## 2008 Gala Co-Chairs Patrick and Donna Butler

As a long-time journalist, Capitol Hill staffer, presidential speechwriter, and media executive, Patrick Butler has met numerous well-known figures. Some became clients, such as Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Henry Kissinger, and some became friends, such as Tennessee Senator Howard Baker and actor Cary Grant. Yet, Butler says his most significant meeting occurred on January 6, 1975, as he stepped out of an elevator at precisely 9 a.m. -- and met the woman he would marry.

Today, Pat Butler, senior vice president of The Washington Post Company, and Donna Butler, production coordinator of *Washington Parent* magazine, have been married thirty years, have three grown daughters, and lead active DC lives filled with professional and volunteer commitments. In September, this couple will bring distinction to one of those volunteer commitments by serving as chairs for the Gala evening at the National Archives, where Pat Butler has been a Foundation board member since 2002.

As a senior executive at the Post Company, Butler is responsible for public policy, new business development, community service, and special corporate projects. He also is president of Washington Post Company Productions, where he supervises non-fiction television programming for PBS and cable networks. (Butler and fellow Foundation board member Ken Burns are producing a documentary on the Medal of Honor for broadcast on PBS this fall.)

Butler grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in a family of



educators where he was surrounded by books and a love of learning. His father often said, "public service is our family business," and, by the time Pat Butler left home, he was well-grounded in this commitment.

While still in high school, Butler took his first job as a reporter for the *Chattanooga News-Free Press*. By age 19, following his sophomore year at the University of Tennessee, he

was covering politics and city hall for *The Chattanooga Post*. During this period, he got to know Senator Howard Baker who encouraged him to go to Washington, and, in 1969, still not yet 20, Butler found his way to the nation's capital. Within six years, he had worked for two members of Congress, and was at the White House writing speeches for President Ford.

Butler then went into the private sector for a few years in senior positions at Bristol-Myers and RCA, and ultimately established his own Washington communications consulting firm. He also served as special assistant to Senator Baker during Baker's tenure as Senate Majority Leader, presidential candidate, and White House chief of staff.

In 1985, Butler returned to news media as a Washington vice president of the Los Angeles-based Times Mirror Company, where he was a founder of what became the Pew Research Center. He left Times Mirror in 1991 to join the Washington Post Company, where, among other things, he chaired PCS Action, a consortium of companies that helped launch the digital wireless telecommunications industry. Meanwhile, he found time on weekends to earn a Master's degree in journalism and public affairs at American University, where he later taught graduate courses.

It is not surprising that Pat Butler's career has brought him honors and recognition. He was a member of the National Council on the Humanities, and is chairman of the Maryland Public Television Foundation and of the corporate advisory board of SOME (So Others Might Eat). He is a trustee of American University, Pew Research Center, and about a half-dozen other public service and education boards.

Despite his many heady career experiences, Butler shows no pride unless talking about his wife and daughters. His gala co-chair and life partner Donna, a New Jersey native who also attended American University and the Corcoran School of Art, worked as a professional photographer for Bachrach Studios in New York. For the greater part of her career, however, she was