



**FMC**

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION  
OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

**United States Association of Former Members of Congress**  
1401 K Street NW, Suite 503  
Washington, DC 20005

202.222.0972 tel | 202.222.0977 fax

[www.usafmc.org](http://www.usafmc.org)

Dear Colleague,

As President and Vice President of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, we are proud to share with you the progress, expansion, and accomplishments the Association has achieved over the past several years, as well as our plans for continued success. Originally, FMC was founded as an alumni association for those who left Congress. Very quickly, the organization took on a new purpose after the founding Members realized the Association's tremendous potential based on its unique composition – a bipartisan group of former Members of the House and Senate who possess years of political experience handling our country's most complex challenges.



*Hon. Dennis Hertel, President of the Association; Hon. Constance A. "Connie" Morella, Vice President of the Association*



Given our Members' congressional expertise and desire to serve the public, and adding to that private donations, membership dues, and grants from foundations and organizations, the U.S. Association of Formers Members of Congress has been able to continuously expand its programming and improve its established initiatives. The Association has created numerous programs, such as Congress to Campus, seminars on foreign policy, international initiatives (including three Congressional Study Groups), and democracy strengthening projects. FMC continues to organize and manage these highly-regarded programs, as well as develop fresh endeavors, including increased collaboration with like-minded institutions abroad.

For instance, one of the most exciting new projects of FMC is its participation in international election monitoring and democracy building. Following our members' experience monitoring the Ukrainian elections in 2004, the Association joined with the Association of Former Members of the European Parliament and the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians to form the International Election Monitors Institute (IEMI). In March 2010, the IEMI was one of only two organizations with U.S. observers monitoring the elections in Iraq.

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress also demonstrates this commitment to strengthening democracy via its domestic programs. Through the Congress to Campus Program, the Association has sent bipartisan teams of Former Members to almost 300 campuses all over the United States. During these visits, former Members hold one-on-one discussions and lectures, and have educated more than 150,000 college and secondary school students about the crucial role of Congress. Other events within the United States include foreign policy seminars, holding dialogues and conferences with international leaders and legislators in the nation's capital, and social events for Association members.

In this letter, we've only briefly mentioned a few of the numerous accomplishments of the Association and its impressive membership. This brochure provides further insight into each of our areas of interest. The United States Association of Former Members of Congress is a vibrant and active organization committed to enhancing public understanding and respect for the work of the U.S. Congress while encouraging democracy abroad, and we welcome your ideas about how to strengthen our unique Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Hertel".

Hon. Dennis Hertel  
*House of Representatives (D-MI), 1981-93*  
President, FMC, 2010-2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Connie Morella".

Hon. Constance A. "Connie" Morella  
*House of Representatives (R-MD), 1987-03*  
Vice-President, FMC, 2010-2012



# OUR HISTORY. OUR PURPOSE.

## OUR ORGANIZATION

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC) is a dues-paying organization that limits its membership to former Members of the House and the Senate. It was founded in 1970, chartered by Congress in 1983, and currently has almost 600 members. It receives no funding from the U.S. Congress, but rather finances its activities and programs via membership dues, project-specific grants, individual and corporate contributions, and an annual fundraising dinner.

## INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Association conducts numerous international initiatives focusing on both former and current Members of Congress. Over the past several years, the Association has expanded its programs significantly to better utilize the unique experience and knowledge of its members. In 2010 alone, the Association organized the Conference on Bipartisanship, monitored elections in Iraq, and as part of the Congressional Study Group on Germany, hosted a trip to three German cities bringing Civil Rights leader and current Member of Congress John Lewis (D-GA) together with Civil Rights leaders of the former East Germany.

“Some years ago the former Minority Leader and close friend, John Rhodes, asked me to become actively involved in the Former Members. I had been a member for a while, but really did not have much time to devote to an organization that I believed was primarily social. John suggested that there was leadership in the Association that was eager to change the organization to one where the incredible knowledge and abilities of Members of Congress could be put back into this country, especially to help young people. I became involved, and had the privilege of being the first two-term President of the Association. The leadership over the years has been outstanding. I am pleased, but not surprised, at what the Association now does. I love the Congress to Campus program. A chance to visit with young Americans on an informal basis rejuvenates the spirit. I also have had the privilege to teach overseas, work with developing legislatures, and become part of an election monitoring process that resulted in Ukraine becoming a democracy.

I know that I never will be able to do as much as I did when I was a Member of Congress. However, the opportunity to put back on a continuing basis, and be associated with the outstanding former Members of the House and Senate, is a unique opportunity and one that I cherish.”

-Hon. Lou Frey, Jr.  
House of Representatives (R-FL), 1969-79  
President, FMC, 1996-98



A diverse six person team – featuring several former Members of Congress – monitored the 2010 Iraqi elections. This mission was a product of the 2004 creation, in conjunction with the Association of Former Members of the European Parliament and the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, of the International Election Monitors Institute (IEMI). IEMI trains former legislators from the United States, Canada, and the European Union as election monitors and sends international teams of observers overseas several times a year. The Association has also partnered with IFES in a successful proposal to USAID for a five-year democracy building grant. In addition, the Association is engaged in the House Democracy Partnership, an undertaking by the U.S. House of Representatives to strengthen democratic institutions by assisting parliaments in emerging democracies.

## DOMESTIC OPPORTUNITIES

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress also oversees numerous domestic programs aimed at communicating to the public the vital role of a deliberative legislative branch. The Association sends bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress to college and high school campuses across the country. Almost 30 colleges and universities participated in the Congress to Campus program during the 2009/2010 academic year. The Association also publishes former Members’ articles and books, most notably *Inside the House – Former Members Reveal how Congress Really Works*, a textbook which numerous political science departments at major universities use. Due to the great success of this publication, the Association collaborated with the Lou Frey Institute for Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida to produce a second volume of the book, *Political Rules of the Road*, in which former Representatives, Senators, and two Presidents share their lessons learned about Congress, politics, and life.

## AWARDS & DIALOGUE

Additionally, the Association recognizes the outstanding achievements of former Members of Congress by bestowing on worthy honorees the Statesmanship Award and the Distinguished Service Award. Furthermore, the Association oversees three legislative liaison programs establishing an avenue of dialogue involving current Members of the U.S. Congress and their colleagues in the parliaments of Germany, Turkey, and Japan.

## ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

FMC also offers its membership participation in events akin to alumni-association programs: annual meetings in Washington, D.C. and other parts of the country; numerous opportunities to travel abroad with other former Members; an annual golf tournament; an electronic and paper newsletter and membership directory; an interactive website with Member news and updates, such as recent publications by former Members of Congress; etc.

The following brochure describes in more detail the many activities of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress.

Please also visit our website at [www.USAFMC.org](http://www.USAFMC.org) for updated reports on all Association activities.

# Former Members of Congress

# D Programs.

Harnessing the unique expertise of its membership, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has created programs to educate about the role of Congress, assist the Congress in its international relations, and support emerging democracies abroad.

“The Association of Former Members of Congress provided a vital public service in sending a delegation to observe the Ukrainian elections in 2004. I’m grateful for their efforts in this and many other areas – and I’m proud to be a member of such a distinguished, civic-minded organization.”

*-Vice President Richard B. “Dick” Cheney  
Former Vice President of the United States  
House of Representatives (R-WY), 1979-89*

## ELECTION MONITORING

International election observation has become a recognized and highly valued aspect of the democratic process because of its crucial role to the development of a working democracy. And so, in 2004, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress expanded its goals to a new project with its election monitoring programs in Ukraine and Cameroon. Over the course of six months, more than fifty former Members of Congress and former Members of the European Parliament participated in delegations to these two nations. After monitoring the elections of these countries, delegation participants composed nonbiased, independent reports on the election-related issues at hand. Many of the delegation members continue their commitment to this valued program after returning from their overseas experience. In fact, the Association returned to Ukraine in 2006 to monitor the parliamentary elections and to Iraq in 2010 to monitor that country’s regional and federal parliamentary elections.

In its continuous effort to help this cause, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has collaborated with similar organizations – the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and the Association of Former Members of European Parliament – to create the International Election Monitors Institute. This entity:

- › Organizes and oversees election monitoring missions
- › Trains former government representatives in election monitoring standards and regulations of the United Nations Code of Conduct for Election Observers
- › Educates the monitoring delegation about the political system, parties, and democratic history of the country they are preparing to observe
- › Employs delegation members to engage in post election follow-up observation missions in the emerging democratic countries as they seek to implement recommendations made by the international election observer community

To implement IEMI missions, FMC has collaborated with like-minded organizations such as IFES, NDI, IRI, and, most recently, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). OSCE is the world’s largest regional security organization with 55 participating nations in Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and North America.



*Citizens working at a polling station during Iraq’s 2010 elections and casting votes in Ukraine’s historic 2004 presidential election. Association Members were actively involved in the monitoring of both of these elections. During a 2006 Congress to Campus UK program visit, former Members Tom Downey (D-NY) and Lou Frey (R-FL) speak to a group of students.*

In addition, FMC works with the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) of United States House of Representatives to conduct legislative strengthening projects in emerging democracies across the globe. Via their HDP work, former Members offer peer-to-peer interaction with legislators of emerging democracies and engage in panels and presentations on subjects such as *The Committee System* or *Working as part of the Opposition Party*. Recent missions have included workshops and meetings in countries such as Kenya, Poland, and the Republic of Georgia.

## CONGRESS TO CAMPUS PROGRAM

The Association established the Congress to Campus Program as a way for former Members to educate and interact with college students (and, to a lesser extent, high school students) about the U.S. legislative branch. Because of the time and dedication of FMC members, the Congress to Campus program is able to reach out to students throughout the United States and worldwide. The organization sends a bipartisan delegation of at least two former Members to college and university campuses across the United States. Once on campus, they facilitate a discussion on the importance of the role of Congress and encourage young citizens to become involved in the political process and consider public service. During the two day program, former Members lead and participate in political science and civics classes, hold meetings with students and faculty, and conduct interviews with media on and off campuses. Association members have visited over 250 campuses worldwide.

The Congress to Campus program has also operated at colleges and universities in China, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and Germany. In light of the popularity of this program, former Members also speak to high schools and civic organizations, as well as attend community forums. While students and citizens alike benefit from these discussions about former Members’ experiences, the former Members themselves learn about the interests and concerns of the next generation of leaders.

To administer the program, the Association collaborates with the Stennis Center for Public Service and other like-minded partners. These invaluable alliances have allowed the program to expand considerably in recent years, with an average of about 30 visits a year.

“As Members of Congress, our colleagues worked toward the common good in service to the American people. The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress provides them with the tools and opportunity to continue that dedicated service after their tenure in Congress. The Association’s commitment to educating today’s young people about the role of Congress in our democracy is instrumental in creating the next generation of leaders.”

*-Hon. Nancy Pelosi  
Former Speaker of the House of Representatives  
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1987-present*

## THE CIVICS CONNECTION

Many of today’s students lack both knowledge about and enthusiasm for our system of government. In addition, civic education is no longer a priority in America’s classrooms. In light of this, and in cooperation with the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida and the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, FMC presents *The Civics Connection*, a series of webcasts designed to frame lessons about our democracy in a way that is fresh, engaging, and relevant to high school aged teens.

Broadcast live to high school civics classes across the country, *The Civics Connection* features a studio audience of students visiting Washington. These students have the opportunity of asking their questions directly to the bipartisan duo of former Members of Congress. Topics in the past have included the War Powers Act, the role of new media in politics, and the experience of African-American Members of Congress.

*Seminars hosted by the Congressional Study Group on Germany through the years. From its start in 1983, the Study Group has been critical in fostering the transatlantic relationship and creating avenues of discussion between American and German legislators.*



One of the most influential facets of The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is its trio of Congressional Study Groups, which bring together current Members of Congress with their peers abroad. The Association serves as the Secretariat for three Congressional Study Groups focusing on: Germany, Turkey, and Japan. By sharing their expertise, current legislators involved in the Congressional Study Groups help create an ongoing, global dialogue between the United States Congress and the parliaments of other countries. These programs have become a successful outlet for political world leaders to come together on various issues via informational seminars and roundtable discussions.

### CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **GERMANY**

While the program has progressed tremendously since its beginnings in 1983, the Congressional Study Group on Germany (CSGG) has been consistent in its goals: to facilitate an open dialogue, to improve communication, and to encourage better understanding between Members of Congress and Members of the German Bundestag. In order to achieve these objectives, the Study Group has sponsored hundreds of events to strengthen transatlantic ties. Since 1983 and its official inauguration in 1987, representatives of Germany and the U.S. have met for almost 30 Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminars where American and German delegations come together to discuss issues of mutual concern. Each year, the location of the Seminar alternates between Germany and the United States. In addition to the Annual Seminar, the Study Group has organized other events, such as a trilateral conference on renewable energy; the “Bundestag-to-Battleground” project in which members of the German Bundestag get a first-hand look at U.S. Congressional elections in a swing state; study tours to Germany for senior Congressional staff; and speaking tours featuring such high caliber Members of Congress as civil rights champion Representative John Lewis (D-GA).

The Congressional Study Group on Germany is the largest and most active organization that links Members of Congress to legislators of another country, and it is the flagship international program of FMC. The Study Group is a bipartisan organization involving approximately one-third of the Members of the U.S. Congress. Since its inception, the Congressional Study Group on Germany has been a forum for lawmakers from Germany and the United States to communicate on critical issues. Due to the Study Group’s continuous, open dialogue, policy-makers on both sides of the Atlantic can examine major challenges and issues affecting the United States and Germany, the European Union, and multilateral organizations like NATO, then brainstorm and formulate solutions cooperatively. Through roundtable discussions, high-level meetings, and forums with distinguished specialists and experts, the Association’s Annual Seminars and other Study Group events have helped tremendously in strengthening the transatlantic ties that bind Germany and the United States. Supported by the German Marshall Fund of the United States, as well as a global conglomerate of corporate supporters, the Congressional Study Group on Germany has built a credible and respected reputation as a resource on politics in Germany and its security and trade relations with the United States.



“The Congressional Study Group on Germany does important work. In my view, the relationship between Germany and the United States remains very significant to both countries. I am very proud that my Administration presided over the tearing down of the Berlin Wall and helped to bring about unification of Germany. These were historic events in which the U.S. played a supportive role, and it is important that we continue to be active in strengthening the American-German relationship.”

*-President George H. W. Bush  
Former President of the United States  
House of Representatives (R-TX), 1967-71*

## CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **TURKEY**

In 2005, FMC initiated the Congressional Study Group on Turkey (CSGT), which enables Members of the U.S. Congress and Members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly – along with other high-level officials in the U.S. and Turkish governments – to discuss critical issues concerning the bilateral relationship between Turkey and the United States. The Study Group has two main programming pillars: events on Capitol Hill that promote the sustained study and analysis of policy in U.S.-Turkish relations, and the Annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar, which allows current and former Members of Congress to meet Turkish government officials and legislators for frank discussions on issues ranging from security and trade to social policy. The Seminar alternates locations between the United States and Turkey. During the years that CSGT hosts the Seminar in Turkey, delegation participants meet with high level officials such as the Turkish President, Prime Minister, and Minister of Foreign Affairs. By traveling to Turkey, Members of Congress have the chance to fully focus on issues concerning the relationship between Turkey and the United States while experiencing direct contact with various high-level stakeholders. Spending a week in Turkey allows legislators to take full advantage of the Seminar and cultural experiences to better understand the complex politics of Turkey. Alternately, when the Seminar takes place in the United States, the Turkish parliamentarians have the opportunity to meet with high-level U.S. government officials, as well as their peers in the U.S. Congress. The Congressional Study Group on Turkey is funded by the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV) and the German Marshall Fund of the United States. Additional funding is received from a group of corporate sponsors.

“The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has provided a unique and critical forum for current and former Members to engage in timely diplomatic affairs. Its Study Group on Turkey has been particularly valuable in enhancing our nations’ bilateral relations as we both work to promote security and democratic governance in the region. In doing so, the Association adds yet another dimension to the U.S.-Turkish strategic partnership.”

*-His Excellency Nabi Sensoy  
Ambassador of Turkey to the United States*



*Former Member Robert Wexler (D-FL) talks with a Turkish official; former Member Jack Buechner (R-MO) and Ambassador-at-Large Daniel Benjamin, share a meal with American and Turkish officials during the 2010 U.S.-Turkey Seminar. This seminar encourages a constructive dialogue based on mutual understanding.*



## CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **JAPAN**

In 1993, with the cooperation of the East-West Center in Hawaii, the Association founded the Congressional Study Group on Japan (CSGJ), which focuses on developing a Congressional forum for the sustained study of the major issues affecting the U.S.-Japan relationship and to increase opportunities for Members of Congress to meet with their counterparts in the Japanese Diet for frank discussions on key subjects of mutual concern. Study Group areas of focus include: U.S. and Japanese roles in the Asia-Pacific region; bilateral trade and economic relations; and East Asian security issues in the post-9/11 world. The Study Group on Japan was created to be an unofficial and informal bipartisan group that engages in analysis and serves as a vital resource to decision makers, but does not advocate a position on policy issues.

The Congressional Study Group on Japan also examines the effects from recent changes in the political and economic environments in Japan and the United States on each country’s bilateral and multilateral relations. In a series of roundtable discussions, meetings and events held throughout the year with U.S. and Japanese government officials and nongovernmental experts, the Study Group is able to address these issues through its in-depth programs. Past speakers for events include Ambassadors, former Japanese Prime Ministers, Japanese Foreign Ministers, State Department officials, and others.



In addition, the Study Group hosts luncheon briefings for Congressional staff to keep them abreast on the issues. These briefings bring experts from think tanks and news media to discuss pertinent issues and answer any questions the staff might have as they work on the Asia policy for their office. In the past, the Association has also sponsored a Japanese Congressional Fellows Program that has brought staff members from the Japanese Diet and the policy research divisions of the Japanese political parties to serve in U.S. Congressional offices and committees for 60-day periods. The program has been funded by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission and the Center for Global Partnership.



*Former Members meet with Japanese Diet Members and other government officials, for example Hon. Kuniko Inoguchi, Minister of State for Gender Equality and Social Affairs, during her visit to DC in 2006 (above). The Congressional Study Group on Japan has become even more critical in recent years due to the increasing importance of the U.S.-Japanese relationship, especially in the areas of economic and international security policy.*

“Japan-U.S. relations are facing many challenges today. In order to cope with them, leadership from Congress continues to be indispensable. The Congressional Study Group on Japan has helped U.S. Congress Members to deepen their understanding of our bilateral relations as well as situations in Asia-Pacific. We regard its work very highly. We hope to enhance our cooperation even further in the coming years.”

*-His Excellency Ichiro Fujisaki  
Ambassador of Japan to the United States*

In the spring of 1989, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress began a series of programs to assist the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe. FMC hosted a two-day program in which a delegation of eight representatives from Hungarian democratic opposition groups visited Capitol Hill to observe the November 1989 elections. Then, in 1990, at the recommendation from the U.S. Department of State, the Association sent a delegation of former Members to Hungary to observe that country's parliamentary elections.

## PROGRAMS TO ASSIST EMERGING DEMOCRACIES

In 1991, several programs to assist emerging democracies continued to focus on Hungary, but also expanded to countries including the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland. Through funding from the U.S. Information Agency and several private sources, including the Soros Foundation, the Atlantic Research and Publications, Inc., and the Ford Foundation, the Association was able to help the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, and Hungary strengthen their democratic institutions in several ways. First, the Association sent bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress, with either a Congressional or country expert, to each country to conduct workshops during which they provided instruction about legislative and other democracy-related issues. These teams also made public appearances to discuss the American political process, such as separation of powers and bipartisan cooperation in a representative democracy. In turn, the Association brought delegations of Members of Parliament from each country to the United States for two weeks in order to observe the workings of Congressional district offices. During the visits, the delegations met with various government officials, Members of Congress and their staff, personnel of Congressional support service organizations, and other distinguished individuals. Lastly, the Association arranged for a Congressional Fellow to live in Hungary for two years so that he could assist with legislative training for senior staff and elected officials. Furthermore, he provided Hungarian politicians and government officials with advice and information about implementing an effective working relationship between the Executive Branch of the government and the Parliament, its committees, and party caucuses of the governing coalition as well as the opposition.

These programs expanded yet again in March 1994 to include not only the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, but also those of the former Soviet Union. With a grant from Pew Charitable Trusts, the Association was able to send one Congressional Fellow to Slovakia and another to Ukraine to provide technical assistance to the Members and staff of Parliaments in the specified countries. Other support from various organizations, such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Eurasia Foundation, the Rule of Law Program, and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, enabled the Congressional Fellow in Slovakia to stay until 1996 and a Congressional Fellow to remain in Ukraine until 2000.

## MIDDLE EAST LEGISLATIVE FELLOWS PROGRAM

In the spring of 2009, the Association partnered with Legacy International, a Virginia-based NGO with 30 years of experience in citizen exchange programs, for the Legislative Fellows Program (LFP). Initiated by the Department of State and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the LFP hosted 20 young professionals from Kuwait and Oman for a month long fellowship in Washington, D.C. Each Gulf State visitor is hosted by a Congressional office.

The Legislative Fellows Program is designed to promote a positive relationship between the United States and the Gulf States, as well as to explore styles of good governance. The Fellows – candidates with strong leadership skills who are pursuing careers in government or public service – have the opportunity to gain practical experience and direct interaction with the U.S. government and its officials. Many of the fellows are responsible for drafting policy in their respective countries.

The FMC pairs each fellow with a former Member during their stay. Former Members mentor the visiting Fellows through one-on-one meetings, roundtable discussions, and by attending Program discussions and events. The former Member mentor program provides a great experience to the fellows as well as their respective mentors: while fellows learn more about the Congressional system and politics in the United States, former Members learn about the political systems in Oman and Kuwait.

In an exciting extension to the LFP, at the conclusion of the fall 2010 Program, former Members Scott Klug (R-WI) and Larry LaRocco (D-ID) will lead a delegation of U.S. officials to the Middle East to conduct workshops and gain first hand experience of the region. The goal of this program is to seek a better understanding between cultures and establish an avenue of dialogue between nations. LFP is an unprecedented opportunity to augment a constructive political and cultural discourse between the U.S. and the Middle East.

## STUDY MISSION TO CUBA

Funded by the Ford Foundation in 1996, the Association sent current and former Members of Congress to Cuba on a study mission in order to assess the country's political and economic situation and analyze the effectiveness of U.S. policies toward Cuba. After the mission, the delegation composed a detailed briefing report of the country, which was then distributed to the media, Congress, and executive branch. Delegation participants conducted two follow-up visits to Cuba in January of 1999 and May/June of 2000 in order to facilitate another report to Congress and the media about the progress of the country.

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

In the late 1970s, with primary funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and supplemental funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Association conducted an oral history project to document the history of the United States Congress by preserving the papers and spoken recollections of former Members of Congress. More than a hundred members were taped and transcribed for this project and are now available to the public in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The Congressional Legacies Project and the Office of the Historian of the House of Representatives have taken over this enormous effort and are still conducting these historical recollections. Along with this effort to preserve America's past, the Association is an active participant in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project, which documents the experiences of those who served in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf Wars.

*Association Members pose after attending meetings with Ukrainian government officials in 2004. During their time in country, the delegation members met with groups from all levels of Ukrainian society in order to observe the campaign and presidential election; Supporters of Viktor Yushchenko, the eventual winner of the election, march as part of the election's 'Orange Revolution'; Jim Slattery (D-KS) and Anthony Simpson, a former Member of the European Parliament, during the election observation mission to Iraq.*



# Seminars.

“It is becoming increasingly accepted by the international aid community that democracy building assistance is most effectively delivered multi-laterally.

Further, who are better equipped to observe election practices and offer suggestions for post-election activities to further strengthen an emerging democracy than former Members? They have lived the experience. What a wonderful way to place their knowledge, skills, and experience at the service of democracy worldwide.”

-Douglas C. Rowland  
Chair, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

Members of Congress and Japanese Diet Members discuss policy during the East-West Seminar in Honolulu.



## LIFE AFTER CONGRESS

Following congressional elections, the Association organizes a “Life After Congress” seminar during which former Members of Congress now working in the public and private sectors share insights with retiring Members about the transition from public service into the private sector. Also, congressional support personnel detail the services available to former Members of Congress. The event mirrors a professional exit interview, giving Members of Congress and their spouse the opportunity to ask about this new chapter in their lives.

## FOREIGN POLICY SEMINARS

To date, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has arranged almost 100 foreign policy seminars in over a dozen countries involving more than 2,000 participants, including current and former Members of Congress, Members of various Parliaments, government leaders, academics, and business representatives, to discuss critical issues affecting this nation and the world. For example, in cooperation with the embassy of France, the Association established the Former Members Committee on France which brings former Members of Congress together with current legislators from the French National Assembly. Via this entity, a dialogue focusing on the U.S.-French relationship was established and a network of personal contacts is being fostered. Another example of the success of these seminars is the past cooperation with the Scandinavian Seminar College, where the Association has held a series of conferences involving current and former Members of Congress and of the Scandinavian Parliaments. These conferences focused on economic issues as well as security concerns. The Foreign Policy Seminars have taken place at various locations:

- › The Johnson Foundation Conference Center, Racine, Wisconsin
- › The Aspen Institute, Berlin, Germany
- › The Konrad Adenauer Foundation’s Conference Center, Cadenabbia, Italy
- › The East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
- › The Gerald R. Ford Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- › The Fredrich Ebert Foundation’s Conference Centers, Bad Muenstereifel & Freudenberg, Germany
- › The Fredrich Naumann Foundation’s Conference Centers, Konigswinter & Konstanz, Germany
- › The Hanns Seidel Foundation’s Conference Centers, Kreuth & Staffelstein, Germany

## INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATIVE & DEMOCRACY TRAINING

In collaboration with U.S. government agencies, private foundations, and other organizations, the Association fosters the involvement of its members in legislative training, democracy building, and election-observation activities throughout the world. A data bank of Association members’ interests and areas of expertise is maintained to facilitate matching members with specific requests for assistance. Sponsored under the American Participants Program of the U.S. Department of State in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and Latin America, the Association has sent former Members of Congress across the globe to lecture on their area of expertise or interest.

In 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives invited the Association to participate in the House Democracy Partnership. The purpose of the project is to train newly elected legislators in emerging democracies about in-depth legislative issues and concerns. Headed by Representative David Dreier (R-CA) and Representative David Price (D-NC), the Commission has provided Association members several opportunities to share their experiences and knowledge within the U.S. and beyond its borders by participating in panel presentations and conducting seminars on issues ranging from the establishment of a viable committee system to the effectiveness of an opposition party.

## EVENTS ON CAPITOL HILL

The Association has arranged more than 500 special events at the U.S. Capitol to provide opportunities for lawmakers to discuss issues of critical concern with distinguished international delegations from almost 100 countries and the European Parliament. FMC, with a two-year grant from the Ford Foundation, established an informal liaison office in order to facilitate various programs at the nation’s capitol with international and congressional leaders. This program continues with grants from the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, and various corporations.



“The Association started as a conduit to keep former Members in touch with each other and create social activities. In the past few years, it has evolved into a substantive and productive means of engaging its membership in democracy building and legislative strengthening missions worldwide. I am very pleased to have served as an honorary chairman of this fine organization and I believe that the future holds exciting and significant prospects for the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress.”

-Vice President Walter Mondale  
Former Vice President of the United States  
Senate (D-MN), 1964-76

Association Members Dick Nichols (R-KS), Peter Kyros (D-ME), and Jack Buechner (R-MO), attend a welcoming reception during the Association’s Annual Spring Meeting.

# Publications & Awards.

“From its earliest days, the Association has enabled former Members of Congress to continue their public service by sharing their experience and insights with concerned citizens across the country. The Association’s programs, conducted on a bipartisan basis, have helped to make the political and legislative process come alive, particularly for college students and other young Americans on whose interest and involvement our future so much depends.”

-Hon. Matt McHugh  
House of Representatives (D-NY), 1975-93  
President, USAFMC, 1998-2000

## Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works

In March 2001, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress collected essays from its membership and then published them as *Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works*, edited by former Member of Congress Lou Frey, Jr. and Professor and Chairman of the Political Science Department at Colgate University, Michael T. Hayes. This book contains 44 chapters, authored by 35 different former Members, a congressional spouse, and two congressional staff and covers subjects such as “Challenges That Speakers Face” by former Speaker Jim Wright and “How Congress Used to Work” by former Senator and Congressman Eugene McCarthy.

## Political Rules of the Road: Representatives, Senators, and Presidents Share Their Rules for Success in Congress, Politics, and Life

*Inside the House* was so successful that FMC again joined with the Lou Frey Institute for Politics and Government to produce a second volume, *Political Rules of the Road: Representatives, Senators, and Presidents Share Their Rules for Success in Congress, Politics, and Life*, edited by the Hon. Lou Frey, Jr. and Aubrey Jewett, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Central Florida. This unique book, published in 2009, is a collection of over 500 political rules by almost 200 former Members of Congress, including several presidents. The authors explain the rules that guided them during their political lives, and then offer anecdotes about how they best applied.

## The President, The Congress, and Foreign Policy

In 1986, at the suggestion of President Gerald R. Ford, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress conducted and published a comprehensive study, titled *The President, The Congress, and Foreign Policy*, as a joint project with the Atlantic Council of the United States (ACUS). Composed by former Senator and Secretary of State, Edward Muskie, Kenneth Rush from ACUS and scholar Kenneth Thompson, this book still is referenced today as a tool for understanding the inside perspective of U.S. foreign policy.

Association and congressional staff delegations take a moment to pose for photos in between meetings in Germany and Ukraine.



## The U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag

Funded by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, the German Ministry of Technology and Research, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the U.S. Information Agency, the Association published a comparative study: *The U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag* in 1983. Offered in English and German, the in-depth analysis gives the reader a comprehensive perspective on the transatlantic ties between the United States and Germany before the end of the Cold War.

## The Japanese Diet and the U.S. Congress

In partnership with the Japanese Center for International Exchange, in 1983, the Association published a comparative study by scholars nationally recognized for previous work on legislatures of both countries, titled *The Japanese Diet and the U.S. Congress*. This comprehensive report focuses on the relationship between the United States Congress and the Japanese Diet and is offered in both English and Japanese.



Association Members and Statesmanship Award recipients Lee Hamilton (D-IN) and Bob Dole (R-KS) participate in USAFMC events while serving in Congress.

## AWARDS PRESENTED

Each year, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is proud to recognize two of its members for exceptional achievement before, during, or after their service in Congress. Early in the year the Association presents its Statesmanship Award during a gala dinner in Washington, D.C. The evening serves to highlight the extraordinary service to country of a former or current Member of Congress. Past recipients include Ray LaHood, John McCain, John Conyers, Nancy Pelosi, Dan Glickman, Lee Hamilton, Lynn Martin, Norm Mineta, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, the Greatest Generation (represented by Bob Dole, Sam Gibbons, John Glenn, George McGovern and Bob Michel), John Breaux, and Chris Cox. During its Annual Spring Meeting, the Association bestows the Distinguished Service Award to honor an outstanding congressional career. To date, the following former Members of Congress have been acknowledged by their peers via this award: Gerald Ford, John McCormack, Lewis Deschler, Sam Ervin, Nelson Rockefeller, George Mahon, Clare Booth Luce, Edmund Muskie, Hugh Scott, Richard Bolling, Jacob Javits, J. William Fulbright, Walter Judd, Thomas “Tip” O’Neal, John J. Rhodes, Edward Boland, Edward Derwinski, Lindy Boggs, Dick Cheney, Abner Mikva, Clarence Brown, Al Gore, Bob Michel, Bill Richardson, Nancy Kassenbaum Baker and Howard Baker, Jim Wright, James Ford, Jack Kemp, Tom Foley, Bill Archer, Sam Nunn, Dan Coats, Matt McHugh, Bill Gray, Lou Frey, and George Mitchell.

“The Association of Former Members provides a great forum for Members to continue the work, friendship, discussion, and service that made our experience in the Congress the greatest of our lives.”

-Hon. Leon E. Panetta  
Former White House Chief of Staff  
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1977-93

# Social Events.

“The Association offers numerous important and substantive projects involving both former and current Members of Congress. I have been a participant in several Association-sponsored programs and am very enthusiastic about the important role the Association plays not only among its members, but also throughout the world. I am confident that USAFMC will continue to fulfill its influential position both in the United States and abroad through its wide variety of programs ranging from the Congressional Study Groups to international election monitoring.”

-Hon. Norm Mineta  
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation  
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1975-95

*A series of presentations are held at the Association's Annual Spring Meeting; Former Members meet the House Historian during a luncheon; Members of "The Greatest Generation" are honored at the 2004 Statesmanship Award Dinner; Senator John McCain (R-AZ) and FMC Immediate Past President John J. Rhodes (R-AZ) at the 2009 Statesmanship Award Dinner; Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA) and Minority Leader Bob Michel (R-IL) following their panel at the 2010 Conference on Bipartisanship.*



## REGIONAL FALL MEETING

The regional fall meeting, which usually convenes annually, provides former Members the opportunity to convene outside of Washington. Recent locations include the following:

- › New Orleans
- › Kansas City
- › Puerto Rico
- › Philadelphia
- › Boston
- › Colonial Williamsburg
- › San Francisco
- › Miami
- › Ottawa
- › Mexico City
- › Minneapolis
- › The Bermuda Islands
- › Salt Lake City
- › Charleston
- › Phoenix
- › Palm Springs
- › San Diego
- › Austin
- › Atlanta

## ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The Annual Spring Meeting is the Association's most important and popular means of bringing together its members. This three-day event in the Nation's Capital gives the opportunity for former Members to discuss the Association's past and future programs. Along with receptions, luncheons, banquets, and a board meeting, former Members attend several presentations and panel discussions on current issues, international affairs, and political climate. The meeting also includes a press panel discussion featuring commentators such as in the past Charlie Cook, Cokie Roberts, Chris Matthews and many other journalists from NPR, CNN, ABC News, *The Hill*, *Roll Call*, MSNBC, and the *Wall Street Journal*. As stipulated in the Association's charter, during the Spring Meeting, the Association presents its annual report to Congress to outline its work during the past year. The Association's Auxiliary also holds a luncheon during this event. In addition, an annual business meeting is held where the membership elects the Association officers and Board of Directors. The highlight of the Annual Spring Meeting is when the Association honors one of its own with the Distinguished Service Award. This moving ceremony takes place in the Chamber of the House of Representatives.

## ANNUAL STATESMANSHIP AWARD DINNER

For over ten years, the Association has held the Annual Statesmanship Award Dinner, a fundraising event to benefit future programs and projects initiated and conducted by FMC. Proceeds from this event support the many public service programs created and implemented by the Association. The dinner is FMC's sole fundraising event and helps defray the costs of the many programs administered by the Association (and financed partially via membership dues and foundation grants). In addition to raising funds for the Association, the evening is a wonderful opportunity for the Association's membership to come together in a gala dinner setting. The evening includes two highlights: first, silent and live auctions of congressional memorabilia, and, secondly, the presentation of the Association's Statesmanship Award to a former or current Member of Congress in recognition for his or her exemplary public service.

## STUDY TOURS

The Association conducts Study Tours to various parts of the world. At their own expense, former Members and their guests have visited nations and regions such as Ireland, Eastern Europe, Vietnam, Chile, Australia, France, the United Kingdom, China, New Zealand, the former Soviet Union, and the Middle East. During these visits, the Association organizes meetings with high-ranking U.S. Embassy and foreign government officials to discuss issues pertaining to the relationship between the United States and the visited country.

## CONGRESSIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

For about 40 years, the annual Congressional Golf Tournament has been held to give current and former Members of Congress the opportunity to interact with fellow colleagues in an informal atmosphere. Divided by party affiliation, two teams, headed by the present co-chairmen in Congress, compete for the first place trophy. Because of the relaxed environment, the Golf Tournament is one of FMC's most popular social events, and is an outstanding means of fostering bipartisanship in a very informal setting. For the past three years, however, the golf tournament has taken on a much more important mission: raising funds for severely wounded veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. As a fundraiser for the Wounded Warriors Project, the Congressional Golf Tournament has been able to contribute to the rehabilitation of America's youngest generation of heroes in uniform.

“One of the highlights of my professional life was when I was honored by the Association in their annual dinner in the spring of 1996. It was a wonderful evening, being surrounded by former colleagues in Congress who I had served with.”

-Hon. Dan Glickman  
Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture  
House of Representatives (D-KS), 1977-95

# Member Contact.

“The European Parliament Former Members Association is delighted to formalise its excellent working relationship with the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress via the International Election Monitors Institute. For several years, we have had great success partnering European former legislators with their American counterparts in election monitoring missions. Creating the Institute was a natural progression of this very productive cooperation. Former Parliamentarians can play an invaluable role in strengthening the democratic process worldwide. I look forward to further developing this valuable and meaningful collaboration across the Atlantic into the future.”

-Hon. José-María Gil Robles  
President, European Parliament  
Former Members Association

## NEWSLETTER

Three times a year, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress publishes electronic newsletters that inform members and donors about the various programs and progress the Association has made recently. The newsletters brief the Association's members about important FMC projects, such as election monitoring missions or the Congress to Campus project. It also updates members about future plans for the Association, its members and other similar events.

## DIRECTORY

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has a secure, members-only online directory. The online directory is updated on a weekly basis and provides Association members' contact information and data on congressional service for FMC members. This can be accessed from any Internet-connected computer, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Association President Dennis Hertel (D-MI) speaks during a Conference on Bipartisanship panel; Former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel speaks during the 2010 Annual Dinner; Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood poses with Dr. Klaus Scharioth, German Ambassador to the United States, and Margaret Heckler (R-MA).



## OUR WEBSITE: [www.usafmc.org](http://www.usafmc.org)

The Association's website is an invaluable resource for its members and for the general public. Here one can find in-depth descriptions of all Association programs and events, updated reports and transcripts following FMC-sponsored conferences and meetings, the password-protected electronic directory and links to helpful sites such as the Library of Congress' biography tool for all current and former Members of Congress. In addition, Members can find our latest newsletters, can order prints of pictures taken during Association events, and can contact Association staff with any questions or comments they may have.

## OTHER FORMER MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

The Association strives to establish productive and cooperative relationships with former parliamentary organizations world-wide. Especially strong ties have been formed with our sister organizations in Canada and Brussels (European Union Parliament). The goal is to create a global network of former legislators who can be instrumental in shaping foreign policy and affecting positively the relations between the peoples of the United States and other countries. One important result of this cooperative network has been the creation of the International Election Monitors Institute involving former Members from Canada, the E.U., and the United States.

“When I joined the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in 1973, few imagined how much the Association would expand and evolve. No one could have conceived during the Cold War, for instance, that the Association would one day send its members to observe elections in a free Ukraine. The Association's commitment to the historic advance of freedom abroad and to educating young people at home are demonstrations of how the Association ensures that public service can continue well after its members leave Congress. I salute you for your achievements and contributions to our country.”

-Hon. Donald Rumsfeld  
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense  
House of Representatives (R-IL), 1963-69

# Conclusion.

The United States Association of Former Members of Congress started as an alumni association for former Members of Congress to continue contact with their fellow colleagues. Over the years, its members, board of directors, and officers recognized the great potential and expertise inherent to its unique membership. Therefore, the purpose and goals of the Association changed and it evolved into a well-respected, internationally known institution devoted to furthering democratic ideals worldwide. The Association gives former Members an opportunity to continue their public service nationally and internationally. Through donors, grants, and the members' dedication and hard work, FMC has substantially expanded its goals and programming, and will continue to do so.

With events or programs such as monitoring elections to Congressional Study Groups, FMC has sent its members to all corners of the globe. These opportunities have furthered its progress as an internationally respected organization by creating and arranging for its members to participate in open dialogues, roundtable discussions, research, and other means of exchanging views and ideas. Global initiatives mentioned throughout this brochure allow former Members of Congress to extend their public service beyond U.S. borders and effectively use their past experiences and expertise to assist other countries.

Along with its international programs, FMC takes great pride in the success of its Congress to Campus Program, connecting bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress with university and high school students across the country. In addition, FMC holds events throughout the year for legislators to meet with one another for both formal and social affairs. It maintains its role as an alumni association by arranging annual events like the Congressional Golf Tournament, Annual Fall and Spring meetings, and the Statesmanship Award Dinner, along with the quarterly newsletters, class notes, and a published directory.

The success of the programs outlined in this brochure is only possible due to the commitment of the Association's membership, board, officers, and staff. Additionally, funders, public, and private organizations, as well as corporate or private beneficiaries, have banded together to help achieve the Association's goals. Because of these donors and the dedication of its members, the Association continues to flourish as an advocate for the ideals of representative democracy and the importance of a strong and deliberative legislative branch both in the United States and abroad.

If you are interested in participating in the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress as a fellow member or as a donor, please contact FMC via phone at 202.222.0972 or via e-mail at [admin@usafmc.org](mailto:admin@usafmc.org). The Association is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization and donations to it are tax-deductible. FMC appreciates any donations given and looks forward to working with you on the success and expansion of its programs.