



THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

2010 NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- President’s Message2
- Congress to Campus Program4
- Civics Connection5
- People to People5
- “Political Rules of the Road” Panel at the National Archives6
- C-SPAN Panel6
- Election Monitoring in Iraq7
- Legislative Strengthening in Georgia.....8
- Annual Spring Meeting.....9
- Congressional Study Groups:
 - Congressional Study Group on Germany10
 - Study Tour to Germany with Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)11
 - Bundestag to Battleground: Pennsylvania.....11
 - Congressional Study Group on Japan12
 - Congressional Study Group on Turkey13
- Conference on Bipartisanship.....14
- Legislative Fellows.....15
- Former Congressmen Tour China.....16
- “A Tribute to Leadership”:
14th Annual Statesmanship Award Dinner.....17
- Class Notes18

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF

Dennis Hertel, *President*

Connie Morella, *Vice President*

Barbara Kennelly, *Treasurer*

Jim Kolbe, *Secretary*

John J. Rhodes, III, *Immediate Past President*

Peter M. Weichlein, *Executive Director*

Sudha David-Wilp, *International Programs Director*

Bryan Corder, *Legislative Programs Manager*

Esra Alemdar, *International Programs Officer*

Elizabeth Ardagna, *Member Services Officer*

DEAR COLLEAGUE:

Dear Colleague:

On behalf of myself, the Executive Board, and the staff of FMC, we hope you've had a successful and happy year. In this newsletter, you will find updates some of our own successes, including the projects FMC administered during 2010. Here, I wish to call your attention to a few special items – you can read about these and all our other meaningful work in more detail further on in this newsletter.

The Congress to Campus program continues to thrive at the Association. To date, the program 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 our democracy. I'd like to thank all of our members who went on a Congress to Campus visit, and would like to encourage everyone who hasn't been able to do so yet, to participate in the future.

FMC also continues to be involved in the Civics Connection, a series of webcasts filmed and broadcast live to high school civics classes across the country. These engaging shows feature two former Members (one Democrat and one Republican) who hold discussions with a live studio audience composed of high school students visiting our nation's capitol. Program topics are designed to spark the

interest of high school age students by incorporating issues they can relate to.

The Association has also worked hard to bring former Members together with each other and the public in constructive ways. In June 2010, FMC organized *Breaking the*

Stalemate, a conference on bipartisanship. Capping off three days of activities celebrating the annual meeting, the conference – hosted in the National Archives building in downtown Washington, D.C. – brought together over 40 former Members of Congress to focus on the current partisan divide, its influence on the political discourse in our country, and possible solutions toward a more productive dialogue.



Some of the 2010 highlights, such as the Conference on Bipartisanship (left) and the Statesmanship Award Dinner (right).

On the international front, we continue to expand and improve our programs and initiatives. For example, FMC continued to assist democracy across the globe by helping to monitor the 2010 elections in Iraq. The Congressional Study Group on Germany organized several exciting projects, including the 2010 Bundestag to Battleground program to Pennsylvania. FMC took a delegation of German Parliamentarians to Philadelphia and surrounding communities to learn about the American political process and the issues affecting voters.

We have now held our annual golf tournament for nearly 40 years. And for the third year in a row, the Association raised thousands of dollars on behalf of severely wounded veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. We are proud of this accomplishment, and appreciate all the former Members and sponsors who made this possible.

We appreciate your support as we continue to grow the Association's worthwhile work. I have very much enjoyed my first six months as President of the Association, and look forward to working with the Executive Committee and Board of Directors as we improve ongoing programming and implement new projects. The most important guidance regarding our Association's future is your input, and I would appreciate hearing from you at dhertel@livingstongroupdc.com with any comments you wish to share.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank Connie Morella for her great work as our Association's Vice President, Barbara Kennelly for serving as our Treasurer, and Jim Kolbe for his service as FMC Secretary. I'd also like to express my appreciation for Jay Rhodes, who served our organization so well as our most recent past President.

With best regards,



Dennis Hertel

P.S. Mark your calendar for the Statesmanship Award Dinner to be held on March 15, 2011. We hope you will also join us for the Annual Meeting and on one of our Study Tours.

CONTINUING PUBLIC
SERVICE IN THE
UNITED STATES
AND ABROAD

CONGRESS TO CAMPUS PROGRAM

The Congress to Campus Program remains an integral component of FMC's mission to improve public understanding of Congress as an institution, as well as representative democracy as a system of government. Now in its 34th year, the program works in conjunction with the Stennis Center for Public Service to address the many facets of civic education and also to combat cynicism among college students about their government. Additionally, the program aims to encourage public service as a career choice following graduation.



Former Member Sue Kelly (R-NY) speaks with cadets of the U.S. Naval Academy about the role of Congress in defense policy making during a Congress to Campus visit.

The Congress to Campus Program sends bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress to colleges, universities, and community colleges for two-and-a-half day stints. About thirty trips per year are made; most to schools in the United States, but also to some universities abroad. While on campus, Members conduct classes, hold community forums, meet informally with students and faculty, visit high schools and civic organizations, and participate in interviews and talk show appearances with local press and media. The visiting Members share their experiences in public service to bring life to the theory and practice of democracy, as well as to explain the complexities of Congress and Washington.

The program continued to expand its list of participating schools in 2010, visiting schools spanning from California to Massachusetts. The spring saw ten trips to schools, including a return to the Naval Academy for the first time since 2008. Due to the financial hardships that schools have endured in this economy, there were fewer domestic visits in the fall. However, the program continued to thrive internationally with two visits to Canada and to the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom program expanded to twice a year in 2008 and has maintained that frequency with overwhelming success. We are currently looking to use it as a model to expand the program to other countries including Germany, Korea, and Japan.

Although the program has been making progress – involving new schools and enhancing its reputation – it continues to rely on the same former Members to make it great. In 2011, we hope to both expand the list of visited schools and involve more former Members in the program. Even if your schedule does not allow you to go on a visit, there are still ways you can help Congress to Campus be more successful. For example, putting the program in touch with colleagues or friends from universities and colleges will help open doors and increase the number of visits each semester. You can also support the program through a financial contribution and by talking to other former Members about our need for new volunteers and additional schools.

We look forward to continuing to foster dialogue and cultivate relationships between former Members of Congress and our next generation of leaders as we bring Congress to life for college students. ❖



If you would like more information, please contact Bryan Corder at bcorder@usafmc.org.

THE CIVICS CONNECTION

In conjunction with the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida and the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC), the Civics Connection is a series of webcasts broadcast live to high school civics class throughout the country. The Civics Connection aims to engage former Members of Congress as teachers of the next generation of citizens, to connect outstanding high school teachers with former Members and other experts, and to deliver on-demand, broadcast-quality programs featuring former Members of Congress as instructors of basic civic education.

FMC cultivates this connection by organizing and facilitating webcast panel discussions with former Members of Congress and experts within the field on which the particular program focuses. The webcasts are taped in three sessions over the course of a semester, and each episode features a different pair of FMC members as well as a studio audience of high school students. The webcasts feature a main topic, which is broken down into three segments covering different facets of the larger topic.

For example, a September 2010 program of the Civic Connection was titled, "New Media in Today's Political Debate," featuring former Members Larry LaRocco (D-ID) and Mike Ferguson (R-NJ). First the panel discussed how the 24-hour news cycle has impacted Members of Congress, the legislative process, and campaigns. Next, the panelists covered how technological changes (such as the advent of Facebook and Twitter) have impacted the way Members of Congress and candidates communicate with voters.

Lastly, the panel focused on the increasing presence of opinion and partisanship in the media. Other 2010 webcasts discussed: "The Experience of African-American Lawmakers," "Our Bicameral Legislature: Do the Two Chambers Still Meet the Founding Fathers' Vision," "The War Powers Resolution in Action: Congress' Role in the Wars Against Iraq" (featuring Acting House Historian Fred Beuttler), and "The Midterm Elections: Transitioning Power from One Party to the Other."

The goal of this project is to create programming that inspires as well as educates. As the Civics Connection continues to grow, we look forward to further engaging former Members, experts, teachers, and students regarding the issues that will face our nation and our legislators in the years to come. We are pleased to participate in a project that fosters the spirit of public service in future generations. ❖



Former Members Bill Hudnut (R-IN) and Bob Carr (D-MI) pose with the webcast audience, as well as moderator and Acting House Historian Fred Beuttler.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

High caliber and globally recognized, the People to People program provides hands-on learning opportunities for students in elementary school, middle school, and high school. Such experiences expose students to new cultures and traditions, and also present the opportunity to meet with prestigious political leaders while serving as student ambassadors during their trips.

FMC works with People to People by facilitating former Members' participation and interaction with the students People to People brings to Washington. Through this ongoing partnership, we continue to demonstrate the importance of recognizing and fostering the abilities and interests of our nation's youth. ❖

“POLITICAL RULES OF THE ROAD” PANEL AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

On October 21st, the National Archives and the Association hosted a panel discussion on the “Political Rules of the Road,” moderated by Ken Rudin of NPR. Former Congressmen and FMC members David Bonior (D-MI), Bill Frenzel (R-MN), Lou Frey (R-FL), and Dan Glickman (D-KS) shared their personal experiences as Congressional candidates, incumbents, and alumni.

The audience was welcomed by David S. Ferreiro, Archivist of the United States. After thanking the Former Members of Congress and the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida for making the event possible, Mr. Ferreiro remarked there could be no better place for such a discussion than the National Archives, where the historical records of the U.S. Congress are kept.

Before introducing the panelists, Mr. Rudin set a lively tone for the evening by showcasing the four panelists’ original campaign pins: a small sampling of his collection of 700,000. Mr. Rudin’s passion for and knowledge about politics soon sparked a spirited discussion in which the panelists shared anecdotes, advice, and memories about their over 60 years of combined Congressional experience. At the end of the moderated discussion, the panel took questions from the audience.

Congressman Frenzel led the former Members in describing the Congress of his day as “kinder and gentler,” not subject to the divisive partisanship of today. Having never served in the majority party, Mr. Frenzel offered a unique perspective on how to “get things done,” even while serving in the minority. Congressman Frey added that in the more civil era of Congress, “There was always a chance to get something done,” because reaching across party lines was viewed as a necessity, rather than an affront to your party.

The cause of most of the negative changes in Congress and politics, said the panelists, was – and is – money. Compared to the \$140,000 “citizen campaigns” that these former Members ran, today’s campaigns have become extravagant, multi-million dollar affairs, with a cadre of professionals dedicating their careers to advertising, polling, and fundraising. As candidates need more money to campaign, they rely more heavily on the party mechanisms to raise funds, and therefore must adhere much more strictly to the party line.

In addition to comparing the current congressional atmosphere to that of the past, the panelists also discussed their personal experiences from serving in Congress. Topics of their comments included explanations of their legislative achievements and shortfalls; their personal lives as Representatives; and their initial inspirations for running for office. The former Members agreed that serving in Congress was the most rewarding experience of their lives. ❖

C-SPAN PANEL

In addition to the National Archives event, former Members David Bonior, Bill Frenzel, Lou Frey, and Dan Glickman also appeared live on C-SPAN3 (the program later re-aired on BookTV and C-SPAN1) for a similar panel discussion earlier in the day. The panel – hosted by C-SPAN’s Steve Scully – was part of an interactive distance class with students from the University of Denver, George Mason University, and Purdue University participating via remote access. They asked the former Members about politics in the past, present, and future.

The archived broadcast is available at:
<http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/296139-1>.

ELECTION MONITORING IN IRAQ

Former Member Jim Slattery (D-KS) originally wrote this as a blog for Kansas City's The Star.

On March 7, 2010, I observed the elections in Iraq as part of a six-person international team of election monitors organized by the International Election Monitors Institute (IEMI). The brave people of Iraq gave the world another inspirational example of their commitment to democracy.

More than 6,000 candidates from 86 political parties competed for 325 seats in the Council of Representatives, their national law making body. Meanwhile thousands of Iraqis participated as poll workers and election monitors.

Election Day in Baghdad began with a series of explosions designed to scare voters away from the polling stations. By noon 50 bombs had detonated in Baghdad killing more than 25 people. Despite the terrorist attacks, citizens courageously went to the polls to have their say about the future of Iraq. The forces of hate and fear lost on this day.

Early vote counts indicate that more than 60 percent of registered voters cast ballots. This is a remarkable turnout given the level of violence we witnessed in the capitol where more than 25 percent of the population lives.

Our team visited nearly 25 voting places on Election Day and was impressed with the election process we observed. Polling places were staffed by people who had been trained in voting policies and procedures.

Adequate supplies were present including ballots, pencils, instruction charts describing voting procedures, voting booths designed to insure the secrecy of balloting, and ink used to mark the index finger of voters to prevent fraud. Voters of all legal ages, religions, ethnic groups, and political affiliations actively participated regardless of threats to their personal safety.

Powerful Shia religious leaders like Ayatollah Sistani and Muqtada al-Sadr encouraged their followers to participate in the election. Leaders in the Sunni Community and Kurdish area also encouraged people to vote. This was a significant change from previous elections when some sects boycotted the election.

The security issue was clearly a top priority for all voters. I have monitored elections in other troubled countries including the Nicaraguan election in 1990, when the Communist leader, Daniel Ortega was defeated by Violetta Chamorro and the 2004 election in Ukraine when Viktor Yushchenko defeated Viktor Yanukovich during the "Orange Revolution."

But I have never monitored an election where personal security was so intense. My two-person team was accompanied by 16 heavily armed guards in five armored vehicles provided at the insistence of the U.S. Government.

The Iraqi officials with whom we visited were pleased that neutral international election monitors were present because they can provide legitimacy to the election process.

The Iraqis working the polls and those we visited in the counting centers appeared to be dedicated to insuring a fair election with an accurate count of the ballots secretly cast.

The intense political competition between the top three coalitions and the numerous smaller parties helped to insure transparency and honesty in the process because every voting place and counting center had poll watchers from competing parties.

continued ▶



Jim Slattery (D-KS) and Anthony Simpson, a former Member of the European Parliament, during the election observation mission to Iraq.

There were some typical irregularities like names not appearing on voter registration lists but we did not find anyone who believed the outcome of the election would be affected by fraud or mistakes in the polling places.

The major political parties appeared to have the money needed to buy TV time. In fact Iraqi observers thought the major parties had all the money they needed to effectively communicate their message on TV, radio, and in various print media. There was however serious concern about the money coming from other countries in the region including, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Syria, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates.

The next step in Iraq's march forward will be the difficult task of organizing a government from among the diverse parties and coalitions because it appears no one party or coalition received more than 40% of the vote. This may take several months of intense political infighting that could seriously undermine the people's confidence in their new government.

We hope the governing coalition can be settled in the next few weeks but we know this will be a real test of Iraqi political leadership.

Let there be no mistake. Iraq has a long way to go to develop a Western style democracy where the threat of death is not associated with active political participation. But we believe this election was a big step forward.

It will hopefully help persuade the people of Iraq that their complex, historic, religious, ethnic, and oil disputes can best be resolved at the ballot box and not with bullets.

Equally important we hope this election is another giant step toward that day when America's incredible military personnel can withdraw from this troubled land, that likes to think of itself as the "Cradle of Civilization," and leave the people of Iraq in the hands of a stable democracy. ❖

LEGISLATIVE STRENGTHENING IN GEORGIA

By FMC Member Martin Lancaster (D-NC)

Congressman David Price and Congressman David Dreier chair a democracy assistance program funded by USAID which in the past sent teams of current Members of Congress to emerging democracies on request to assist parliamentarians in dealing with policy issues confronting them. Because of the popularity of the program, they ran out of money and ran out of current Members willing to go. Therefore, the two Members requested additional money and authority to send teams of Former Members. In November, a team led by Former Member Martin Frost went to Kenya. In January, I led a team made up of Pete Geren, Joel Hefley, and Heather Wilson to the Republic of Georgia.

Having been invaded by Russia in August 2008 in support of two break-away territories and still having 10,000 Russian troops on their soil, Georgia is desperate to gain admission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Having been turned down once again last fall, their Parliament sought assistance from this program to assess ways to be successful on their next attempt. NATO officials told them that there were two big issues: effective civilian control of the military and an appropriate role for Parliament in the setting, funding and overseeing of defense policy. Our team was an incredibly congenial group, each member of which brought special gifts to the help address these issues: Pete is the immediate past Secretary of the Army and a Former Member of the Armed Services Committee (the personification of civilian control of the military); Joel was also a member of the Armed Services Committee, but more importantly, headed the North Atlantic Assembly at the time when several former Warsaw Pact countries acceded to NATO; Heather is an Air Force Academy graduate, a Rhodes Scholar, an active duty member of the NATO staff in Brussels, a member of the National Security Council (NSC) staff in the White House, and a Former Member of the Armed Services Committee; I was a Member of the Armed Services Committee and a regular lecturer at the George C. Marshall Center in Garmisch.

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

Ours was an intense, hard-working delegation meeting every day from breakfast through dinner with Parliamentarians (committee rank-and-file, and leaders, alongside minority party Members) and administration leaders (including the Minister of Defense and the President's liaison to the Parliament). All were eager "students" listening keenly to everything we suggested.

On Sunday before our meetings began on Monday morning, we visited the European Union monitoring team based in Gori, hard on the border of South Ossetia (one of the occupied territories). The team was headed by a Scandinavian and an Italian. We were thoroughly briefed on the tense situation and their mission. While in Gori we toured the birthplace and museum built in the 1950s to "honor" Josef Stalin. What a surreal experience that was! En route back to the capital, Tbilisi, we stopped at a refugee town which had been built with USAID assistance to permanently house ethnic Georgians whose homes have been destroyed by the Russian occupiers and the ethnic Russians who live there. Interestingly, a decision was made to deed the homes to the refugees with full title so that they can modify and eventually sell the homes if they choose to do so. The real challenge for these refugees is employment. Almost all of them were subsistence farmers with no skills to be offered in an urban setting.

Our delegation had wonderful support for our Ambassador and his team. They have been tremendous in their praise of the positive impact we had on the Georgian Parliament and its people. ❖

Thank you to our many Association members who traveled to Washington for our 40th Annual Meeting. We hope that many of you (and many more) will take the time to return to D.C. for the Association's 41st Annual Meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the First Lady's Luncheon, presumably late spring of 2011.

The highlights of the Association's 2010 reunion not only included its remarkable events, but the celebration of the incredible caliber of our members. We were honored to recognize former Member Bill Gray (D-PA) as the recipient of our Distinguished Service Award. Rep. Gray was selected unanimously by our Executive Committee based on both his impressive Congressional and post-Congressional career. He was the first African-American House Budget Committee Chair and the first African-American Majority Whip, and later led the United Negro College Fund. He also devoted much of his energy and talents to help the people of Haiti. We thank Rep. Bill Gray for his past and continued service.

The award ceremony was followed by a panel that reported on Iraq after the March elections. Additionally, we were privileged to be joined by a guest speaker, Ambassador Angelo Pangratis, Representative of the European Union to the United States. We also commemorated our current and former Members who have passed away since our last reunion at the 2nd Annual Memorial Breakfast, in which we thanked their families for their service.

Also for the second consecutive year, we combined the Annual Meeting with our Charitable Golf Tournament. This tournament made an invaluable contribution to our Association and to the unique and worthy charity it supported: the Wounded Warriors Project of Disabled Sports USA.



Former Members Jack Buechner (R-MO) and John J. Rhodes (R-AZ) chat with Angelo Pangratis, Representative of the EU to the U.S.

continued ▶

The charity uses sports such as golf, skiing, and scuba diving to aid in the rehabilitation process of severely wounded veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. These young men and women are an inspiration, and by sponsoring this tournament, we hope to show our thanks and increase our ability to help them as they recover from war. With just three tournaments, we raised almost \$200,000 on their behalf. This project has become one of the most important and rewarding activities of our Association, and we are thrilled to continue it in 2011.

2011 marks the 41st Anniversary of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. This spring, we warmly invite you and your guests to join us as we celebrate our many achievements over the years. If you have not joined the Association's Annual Meeting for some time, we urge you to do so for our 41st Anniversary. It will be an excellent opportunity for our membership to come together, relive many of the cherished moments of the past, learn about the numerous domestic and international programs of the Association, and share with us your thoughts and comments as we embark on our next year. We will provide more detailed information about this event as it approaches. ❖



Participants and veterans at the annual Charitable Golf Tournament; (above left) and Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO) and Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) at the 2010 Congress-Bundestag Seminar (above right).



CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON GERMANY

The Congressional Study Group on Germany (CSGG) had a very active year. In addition to special projects such as the Study Tour to Germany with Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and the Bundestag to Battleground program, the CSGG continued its traditional programming this year with the 27th Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar, the 2010 Senior Congressional Staff Study Tour to Germany, and the *Distinguished Visitors Program* on Capitol Hill. In light of the newly elected federal government in Germany, the Study Group focused its attention on how the two countries can work together to address pressing global challenges.

Throughout 2010, the CSGG hosted numerous high-level German and American government officials on Capitol Hill as part of its *Distinguished Visitors Program* for discussion meetings on crucial issues pertinent to U.S.-German bilateral relations. The Study Group's events on Capitol Hill this year included a discussion with the Honorable Rainer Bruederle, the German Federal Minister of Economy and Technology; a luncheon featuring Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX), Chairman and Founder of the Pro-Trade Caucus; and roundtable with Jochen Flasbarth, the President of the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA).

To observe the outcome of the German federal election and the state election in North Rhine-

Westphalia, the Congressional Study Group on Germany organized its 2010 Senior Congressional Staff Study Tour to Berlin and Cologne during Congress' 2010 Easter recess. The Study Tour brought together nine Chiefs of Staff from House offices to meet with government officials, representatives of academia, and think-tanks to discuss issues and challenges pertinent to the U.S.-German bilateral relationship. The trip gave participants the chance to hear about the foreign policy and domestic agendas of the new CDU/CSU-FDP government after the Grand Coalition. Additionally, the European Union's debt crisis was also a major topic during the Study Tour.

The Rhineland segment allowed U.S. Congressional staffers to learn about the mechanics of German elections and also provided a cultural backdrop spanning from the Gothic architecture of the Dom to the foundation of the Federal Republic of Germany with a visit to the home of Konrad Adenauer.

The CSGG's Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminars take place in Germany during U.S. non-election years and in the United States during an election year. The 27th Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar took place in May in St. Louis, MO, the home district of the Study Group's Chairman, Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO). The St. Louis Seminar was preceded with a short program in Washington, DC for the Bundestag delegation. The conference involved six German Bundestag Members and five Members of Congress, as well as government officials and business leaders from both Germany and the United States. Throughout the Seminar, the participants discussed matters of transatlantic concern, including the financial crisis, trade and investment relations, renewable sources of energy, and fostering a "green" economy.

The Congressional Study Group on Germany is generously funded by the German-Marshall Fund of the United States and the Study Group's Business Advisory Council. ❖

Study Tour to Germany with Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)

The Congressional Study Group on Germany organized a special study tour to Germany with Congressman John Lewis to share his personal struggle for freedom and democracy, ideas that resonate in Germany during the year marking the 20th anniversary of German Reunification. During this week-long trip, Congressman Lewis visited Berlin, Hamburg, and North Rhine-Westphalia and engaged in a series of exchanges with German students and politicians, as well as community and business leaders. Congressman Lewis' visit to Germany also coincided with the 46th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic trip to Berlin in September of 1964. Just as Dr. King was able to inspire the people of Berlin with stories of his struggle for freedom in the United States, Rep. Lewis provided valuable insight to the people of Germany and helped foster U.S.-German relations. ❖

Bundestag to Battleground: Pennsylvania

This year, the Congressional Study Group on Germany (CSGG) celebrated the success of its third "Bundestag-to-Battleground" election observation tour. The trip began in Washington, D.C. on Monday, October 18 and concluded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Friday, October 22, 2010. The Bundestag to Battleground program takes a multi-partisan delegation of German Parliamentarians to a bellwether state during an election year to learn about the American political process and the issues affecting voters.

This year's delegation featured MEP Reinhard Buetikofer (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), MdB Viola von Cramon-Taubadel (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen), and MdB Andrea Nahles (SDP). The delegation spent most of its time attending campaign events and meeting with candidates from the districts in and around Philadelphia, with the goal of gaining perspective into how the current Congressional races will affect U.S. domestic and foreign policy, how campaigns are run, and the more substantive issues, such as healthcare and the economy. In 2008 and 2006, CSGG took delegations on similar tours to Florida and Ohio to observe the Presidential and midterm Congressional elections process. ❖



Congressman John Lewis, a major figure in America's Civil Rights movement and current Deputy Whip in the U.S. House of Representatives, speaks during his speaking tour to Germany with the Congressional Study Group on Germany (top); The German delegation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (bottom).

12 CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON JAPAN

As 2010 reminded us, the Congressional Study Group on Japan serves a vital function in creating a forum to discuss trans-Pacific issues. August 2009 saw the advent of a new era in Japan with the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) routing the incumbent Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in its first electoral loss since 1955. With the onslaught of new Diet Members in Japan came the necessity of establishing fresh connections between the legislatures of the United States and Japan. The Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, recognizing this need, increased funding to the CSGJ to hold additional events on Capitol Hill.

The first event was held in March with Ambassador Bosworth, U.S. Special Envoy to North Korea, on the evolving situation in the Korean Peninsula. Former Speakers Tom Foley and Dennis Hastert gave remarks at this off-the-record Member luncheon. The focus was on U.S. – Japan relations in an increasingly volatile region. The luncheon was particularly timely because three days following the luncheon, a South Korean ship was reportedly sunk by a North Korean torpedo, resulting in forty-six casualties.

The following month, the CSGJ co-hosted a luncheon for visiting Diet Members with the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The Diet Members included former Prime Minister Taro Aso, Vice-Parliamentary Minister of Defense Nagashima Akihisa, and Shinjiro Koizumi, son of former Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, in addition to others. This luncheon provided Members the opportunity to discuss the situation with the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. The newly elected DPJ government took issue with the 2006 plan to move the base to Henoko, and the lack of personal connections between the governments was widely seen as a reason this became a major international issue. The CSGJ will continue to work on establishing constructive connections through its events on Capitol Hill.

In July, the Study Group switched gears and invited the U.S. Representative to Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Kurt Tong, to discuss trade relations and the upcoming APEC Summit in Yokohama, Japan. Since Hawaii will be hosting this Summit in 2011, the Representatives were eager to hear about the process of Track-II negotiations and meetings leading up to the Summit.



Former Speaker Dennis Hastert looks on as Ambassador Bosworth speaks (left); Former Prime Minister Taro Aso and former Vice Parliamentary Minister of Defense Akihisa Nagashima at a Congressional Study Group on Japan luncheon(right).

After the July Upper House elections in Japan, the Study Group invited Dr. Sheila Smith of the Council on Foreign Relations to brief congressional staff on the impact of the elections and the electoral defeat of the DPJ on U.S.-Japan relations.

To conclude this year's programming, the Study Group is working with the East-West

Center to host a luncheon for congressional staff on U.S.-Japan relations in 2011. The East-West Center will focus on the economic impact of trade with Japan in each congressional district while John's Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies professor Kent Calder will focus on security and cooperation moving forward.

The Study Group continues to work toward expanding its programming, creating opportunities for Members to speak with their Japanese counterparts, and providing forums for discussion on pertinent trans-Pacific issues. We are looking forward to a productive and successful 2011. ❖

CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON TURKEY

For decades, the United States and Turkey have worked diligently to address numerous international challenges and maintain a productive relationship. Though U.S.-Turkish relations have recently been exposed to various obstacles, this vital partnership has the potential to be strengthened in the future via cooperation on mutual interests, such as international security and trade. To foster bilateral relations and to improve dialogue between Turkish and American lawmakers, the Congressional Study Group on Turkey continues to host events on Capitol Hill through the *Distinguished Visitors Program* and held the 6th Annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar.

Throughout the year, the CSGT hosted speakers on Capitol Hill for discussion roundtables for Members of Congress, as well as senior Congressional staff.

Highlights among these events include a luncheon discussion with a delegation of Parliamentarians from the Turkish Grand National Assembly led by Chairman Murat Mercan of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and a roundtable with Ambassador Dan Benjamin, Coordinator for Counterterrorism at the U.S. State Department. In conjunction with the Congressional Study Group on Germany, the CSGT also hosted Ambassador Joao Vale de Almeida, the new head of the EU Delegation in Washington, D.C.

As 2010 was an election year, the CSGT held its 6th Annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar in Washington, D.C. At the end of September, the Study Group hosted five distinguished Members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly for a series of discussions with their counterparts in the U.S. Congress, as well as representatives of the think-tank and business communities. Participants examined current topics in U.S.-Turkish relations



including prospects for the Middle East, combating terrorism, and changes in Turkish foreign policy after the September Referendum. The participants also learned about the American political process and the issues affecting voters in 2010 U.S. midterm election. The CSGT plans to host the 7th Annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey next year.

Turkish parliamentary delegation with Hon. Robert Wexler (D-FL) during the 6th Annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar (left) and Ambassador Dan Benjamin, Coordinator for Counterterrorism at U.S. State Department with visiting Turkish parliamentarians during a Congressional Study Group on Turkey luncheon (right).

The Congressional Study Group on Turkey receives generous funding from the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV), and the Study Group's Business Advisory Council. ❖

14 CONFERENCE ON BIPARTISANSHIP

To cap off three days of activities celebrating the annual meeting, the Association co-hosted *Breaking the Stalemate*, a conference on bipartisanship, with the Bipartisan Policy Center and the National Archives. The conference – hosted in the National Archives building in downtown Washington, D.C. – brought together over 40 members of Congress to discuss not only problems with today’s toxically partisan political discourse, but strategies and solutions for a more cooperative future.

“[Bipartisanship] is never easy. It wasn’t easy ten years ago and it wasn’t easy one hundred years ago, but in critical moments in our nation’s history, our elected officials have found that courage and that ability to in fact maintain their principles, yet still work together for the national interest.”

–BPC President Jason Grumet

The conference began with remarks from the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero; Association President, Jay Rhodes; Bipartisan Policy Center President, Jason Grumet; and the then incoming Association President, Dennis Hertel. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) kicked off the panels with comments on the frustrations of poison partisanship and optimism about the future:



Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA) and Minority Leader Bob Michel (R-IL) following their panel at the 2010 Conference on Bipartisanship.

“Very often, people of different views aren’t going to enjoy every single moment of working together. There is going to be some conflict. But if both sides can look at the effort to find common ground as an effort to secure their principles, then I think it is an opportunity for some breakthroughs.”

–Senator Ron Wyden

The day then proceeded with three dynamic panels and an off-the-record luncheon designed to create a relaxed forum in which Members could freely discuss ways to foster bipartisanship and civility. The first panel, *Institutional Perspective: Partisanship and the Political Divide*, featured former Speaker Tom Foley, former Member Martin Frost, former Senator Trent Lott, former Minority Leader Bob Michel, and moderator Judy Woodruff of PBS. They discussed some possible reasons for the bitter partisanship so prevalent in modern politics, and the gridlock it has created in Congress:

“You are under pressure when you come to Washington. Stick with your party. It’s dangerous when you break ranks and really try to find a way to get some bipartisan things done.”

–Senator Trent Lott

Despite their comments on the inherent problems of strict partisanship, the panelists were hopeful that with good leadership and a renewed spirit of cooperation, Congress would, in time, again become a more civil and productive place.

Next came a media panel moderated by former Member Fred Grandy. The panel, *Sound Bite News: Political Discourse in the Age of Pundits, Cable TV and Twitter*, featured Charlie Cook of the Cook Political Report, Jill Lawrence of Politics Daily, Jonathan Karl of ABC News, and Stu Rothenberg of The Rothenberg Political Report. While the panel discussed the advantages of a more connected nation, they also commented on how more easily accessible news doesn’t necessarily mean better news—or a more well-informed public:

“We’re getting more information, we’re not necessarily getting more understanding”

–Congressman Fred Grandy

Panelists suggested that in a media atmosphere where news is entertainment and opinion is oftentimes mistaken as fact, the public needs to be much more cautious and discerning in choosing their news.

Changing Course: Examples and Solutions for Breaking the Stalemate in Washington was the conference's third and final panel. It consisted of Secretary Ray LaHood, Ohio State Senator Tom Sawyer, and former Members Amo Houghton and David Skaggs, and was moderated by former Member Dennis Hertel. The panelists discussed how incivility and poor communication in Congress was a reflection of Americans' fears in these difficult and changing times. However they expressed hope that eventually people would realize that it would be in America's best interest to find common ground:

“Some place along the line, there's going to be a snap and people are going to realize... that the middle road, the moderates, the people who've got their feet on the ground, are really going to be the people that are honest and that are going to be representing them.”

—Congressman Amo Houghton ❖

LEGISLATIVE FELLOWS PROGRAM

This year, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has introduced a new project to its programming. Through a partnership with Legacy International, a Virginia-based NGO with 30 years of experience in citizen exchange programs (initiated by the Department of State and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs), FMC hosted Congressional Fellows from Kuwait and Oman during the spring and again in the fall as part of the Legislative Fellows Program.

The purpose of the Legislative Fellows Program is to promote a positive relationship between the United States and the Gulf States while exploring principles of good governance. The fellows in the program have backgrounds and interests in law, politics, science, technology, education, media, civil society, public policy, in addition to many other areas. Many of the fellows are responsible for drafting policy in their respective countries.



Legislative Fellows Program participant Mashael Al Hajeri poses with her mentor, former Member Tom Downey (D-NY).

Via fellowships in Congressional offices, the Middle East fellows were given the opportunity to take a closer look at the U.S. policy-making process and the responsibilities of a Member of Congress. In order to help the fellows get a better idea of what the duties of a Congressman are, FMC paired each fellow with a former Member during their stay. The former Member mentor program provided an unforgettable experience to the fellows as well as their respective mentors.

Gulf Fellows learned a great deal about the U.S. legislative process, including how laws are written and introduced, how citizens and interest groups make their voices heard, and how to access information vital to the decision-making process. They also established many positive contacts and relationships, many of which are likely to promote lasting and constructive ties between the United States, Kuwait, and Oman.

We would like to thank former Members of Congress Scott Klug, Larry LaRocco, Jim Slattery, Phil English, Butler Derrick, Jr., Beverly Byron, Tom Downey, Jack Buechner, Martin Frost, Ronald Sarasin, and Barbara Kennelly for participating in this program. Their perspectives on the United States Legislative Branch, as well as life on and off the Hill, were extremely beneficial to the participating Fellows. ❖

FORMER CONGRESSMEN TOUR CHINA

A large former Member delegation earlier this year returned from a trip to China sponsored by the China-United States Foundation (CUSEF) and the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC). The delegation included Congressman Lou Frey, Jr. (R-FL), Congressman Jay Rhodes (R-AZ), Congressman Dennis Hertel (D-MI), Congressman Bill Zeliff (R-NH), and Congressman Sam Gejdenson (D-CT). In late March, the group traveled to Shanghai, Beijing, and Xi'an to meet with Chinese leaders in business, commerce, and academia and to discuss issues of mutual importance to the United States and China. Many of the meetings focused on China's evolving image in East Asia and its unique approach to diplomacy: particularly in dealing with Iran, Taiwan, and North Korea.

The delegation first met with Liu YouFa, Vice President of The China Institute for International Studies, to discuss these issues in detail. The China Institute for International Studies is one of three national think tanks in China, and though they claim to act independently, 70% of their funding comes from the government. The former Members group held frank discussions on North Korea, Iran, and Taiwan, but in the end, they were met with a steely devotion to "regional stability" and a preference for "quiet diplomacy" over the direct engagement strategy of the United States. Additionally, the delegation met with Deputy Governor Zhu Min of the Peoples Bank of China to discuss the current financial crisis and proposed plans for China to begin revaluing the Renminbi. Deputy Governor Zhu Min expressed concern over China's 1% birth rate growth and frankly discussed the possibility of relaxing the nation's 1-child policy, especially for those living in the rural areas.

After meetings with students at Qinghua University in Beijing and Vice Chairman Lu Yongxiang of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, the delegation began to notice a pattern in the responses to questions on the future of U.S-China relations. The Chinese seemed optimistic about its future interactions with the United States, but the relationship remains a tenuous one. The Chinese people are sensitive to any perceived intrusions in their domestic affairs by foreigners. President Obama's high profile meeting with the Dalai Lama and the continued sale of advanced weaponry to Taiwan have ingrained a deep mistrust of the United States in the Chinese leadership. This mistrust of U.S. actions was further echoed in meetings with students at the Xi'an International Studies University School of Tourism and Vice President Wu Song at Shanghai University. The delegation rounded out their agenda with meetings at the American Chamber of Commerce in China to discuss foreign investment and trade restrictions as well as a visit to Ministry of Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Cui Tiankai to discuss the global financial crisis. A second former Members delegation, composed of former Senators, is expected to travel to China by the end of the year. It is the Association's hope that this type of exchange will lead to a permanent project within FMC so that former and current Members have the opportunity to interact with Chinese decision-makers. ❖

"A TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP": 14th ANNUAL STATESMANSHIP AWARD DINNER

On March 15th, 2011, the Association will hold its 14th Annual Statesmanship Award Dinner. As in years past, the event will be held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel on 22nd Street in Washington, D.C. This year's honoree will be a group of former Members: Former Minority Leaders and Former Speakers of the House who demonstrated exemplary service during their time in leadership. To date, we have confirmed the Honorable Tom Foley, the Honorable Dennis Hastert, and the Honorable Bob Michel to participate in the evening's festivities and represent this outstanding group of public servants. In addition, the Association has issued an invitation to Dick Gephardt, Newt Gingrich, and Jim Wright. We hope that many Association members will be able to join us for this unique event. Please contact Executive Director Pete Weichlein at pweichlein@usafmc.org should you wish to purchase a ticket or know of a potential corporate table sponsor. The evening is our Association's sole fundraising event, and a successful dinner translates into a successful programming year for FMC.



Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood poses with Dr. Klaus Scharioth, German Ambassador to the United States, and Margaret Heckler (R-MA) during the 2010 Statesmanship Dinner (left); Former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel speaks during the 2010 dinner (right).

The Annual Dinner assembles former and current Members of Congress, prominent business and community leaders, representatives from the diplomatic corps, and many foundations and NGOs with which the Association has partnered with over the years. Tickets go on sale in January 2011. We hope you will be able to join us, and we will contact you as the event draws nearer. ❖



Tickets go on sale January 2011!
Contact Pete Weichlein at
pweichlein@usafmc.org
if you want to purchase a ticket
or know of a potential
corporate sponsor.

CLASS NOTES

87th Congress

Hon. Paul Findley (R-IL)

House of Representatives (1961-1982)

Former Member Paul Findley was first elected to the 87th Congress, serving from 1961 to 1983. His new e-mail is Findley1@Frontier.com (all other data is unchanged). Findley's memoir, *Speaking Out*, will be published in April by the Chicago Review Press, dba Lawrence Hill Books. He appreciates FMC.

91st Congress

Hon. James W. Symington (D-MO)

House of Representatives (1969-1977)

Former Member Jim Symington's former law firm, O'Connor & Hannan, has joined with a California firm, and is now known as Nossaman LLP (same address and phone number).

Additionally, last October, the American Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation – which Symington has chaired for some twenty years – placed a statue of Walt Whitman on the Moscow University campus, with Secretary Clinton presiding. It complements the one of Alexander Pushkin the Foundation erected at Washington University some ten years ago. Next February, the foundation will open an exhibit in Moscow featuring the lives, achievements, and fates of Abe Lincoln (the Emancipator) and Alexander II (the Liberator). On October 7 of this year, the Foundation hosted a Russian Embassy evening in honor of Michael Kaiser for his brilliant showcasing of the best of Russian opera, ballet, and drama.

92nd Congress

Hon. Romano L. Mazzoli (D-KY)

House of Representatives (1971-1995)

Former Member of Congress Romano Mazzoli is working with the University of Louisville to archive his official Congressional papers. Louisville made up a large part of the Third Congressional District which Congressman Mazzoli represented for 24 years.

94th Congress

Hon. William Brodhead (D-MI)

House of Representatives (1975-1982)

Former Member William Brodhead and his wife are retired and spending half of the year in Michigan, and the other half of the year at their condo on the island of Oahu. Their health is good. They are expecting to make their main home in the San Francisco Bay area in the near future. Both of their children live there, as well as their granddaughter. They were in Washington, D.C. in July 2010 for the reunion of the Democratic class of the 94th Congress. It was wonderful to see dear old friends and their spouses.

96th Congress

Hon. John Porter (R-IL)

House of Representatives (1980-2000)

Former Member John Porter joined the PBS Foundation board after completing his term as PBS Chair. He continues to participate on the boards of the Brookings Institution, the Foundation for NIH (as Acting Chairman), First Focus Campaign for Children, and Research American (as Chairman). His wife, Amy, retired from being Executive Director of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health after eight years of great success, and has become the CEO/Executive Director of the National Osteoporosis Foundation. Porter continues as a general partner in the recently merged firm of Hogan Lovells (formerly Hogan and Hartson in the U.S. and Lovells in Great Britain). Hogan Lovells has grown to 2,500 lawyers in 44 offices worldwide.

98th Congress

Hon. James Roy Rowland, Jr. (D-GA)

House of Representatives (1983-1994)

Former Member J. Rowland was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of Georgia Health Sciences University, a fifteen member board that governs the Medical College of Georgia's hospitals and clinics, Physicians Practice Group, and the Schools of Allied Science.

Hon. Lindsay Thomas (D-GA)

House of Representatives (1983-1992)

Former Member Lindsay Thomas of Georgia, a lifetime and active FMC member, has been elected to chair the board of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. The Foundation supports and unites the consensus of the over 300 members of the Congressional

Sportsmen's Caucus, the over 2,000 state legislators of the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, and the 29 State Chief Executives of the Governor's Sportsmen's Caucuses. Their mission is to protect the rights of America's hunters and fishermen and to support the enhancement of the natural resources that sustain our wildlife heritage.

Lindsay was the first Vice President serving under President Richard Shultz of Pennsylvania when the Caucus was formed in 1989. It is one of largest and most active bipartisan caucuses in the Congress. The Foundation e-mail address and website are CSF@sportsmenslink.org and www.sportsmenslink.org.

100th Congress

Hon. Martin Lancaster (D-NC)

House of Representatives (1987-1994)

In January, former Member Martin Lancaster led a team made up of Pete Geren (D-TX), Joel Hefley (R-CO), and Heather Wilson (R-NM) on a democracy strengthening mission to the Republic of Georgia. His was an intense, hard-working delegation that met every day from breakfast through dinner with Parliamentarians (committee rank-and-file, and leaders, alongside minority party Members) and administration leaders (including the Minister of Defense and the President's liaison to the Parliament). The trip was highly productive, and the team was praised for the positive impact it had on the Georgian Parliament and its people.

Hon. David Skaggs (D-CO) and

Hon. John Porter (R-IL)

House of Representatives (1987-1998) and (1980-2000)

Former Members John Porter and David Skaggs, after the "civility seminar" held at the National Archives in June (sponsored by the Association and the Bipartisan Policy Center), teamed up to draft a letter to all candidates (2,500 of them) for Congress in the midterm election. The letter drew 135 additional former Members as co-signers. It urged candidates who are elected to stop the excessive partisanship, find common ground, and work together on the serious problems facing our country. The initiative drew media attention from CNN, Fox News, Fox Business News, MSNBC, CSPAN, CBS Radio, NPR, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and numerous newspapers and blogs throughout the

country. Skaggs and Porter have also joined in an op-ed for the AARP newsletter to be published in December. Former Members Dan Glickman and Vic Fazio joined in several of the media appearances. Positive reactions led the former Congressmen to set up a "citizens' petition" for anyone who wants to endorse their effort. It's available at fmcforcommonground.org/citizenpetition.html.

101st Congress

Hon. Peter Smith (R-VT)

House of Representatives (1989-1990)

Former Member Peter Smith published his third book this year, *Harnessing America's Wasted Talent: A New Ecology of Learning* (Jossey-Bass, 2010).

103rd Congress

Hon. Robert Underwood (D-GU)

House of Representatives (1993-2002)

Former Member Robert Underwood is currently serving his third year as President of the University of Guam.

105th Congress

Hon. Rick Hill (R-MT)

House of Representatives (1997-2000)

Former Members Rick Hill will be running for Governor of Montana in 2012, which he announced in November.

Hon. Michael James Pappas (R-NJ)

House of Representatives (1997-1998)

In January 2010, former Member Pappas was nominated by outgoing Governor Jon Corzine and was later confirmed by the New Jersey State Senate to serve as a member of the Somerset County Board of Taxation.

Hon. Robert Schaffer (R-CO)

House of Representatives (1997-2002)

Former Member Bob Schaffer recently became principal of Liberty Common High School and Junior High School, one of the oldest and largest charter schools in Colorado. The school is located in Fort Collins, Colorado. Schaffer is also still serving as the Chairman of the Colorado State Board of Education, representing the same congressional district he represented in Congress (CO-4). He is also Chairman of the Leadership Program of the Rockies.

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress wishes you and your family a wonderful holiday season, and a happy and healthy 2011!

2011



The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress
1401 K Street, NW
Suite 503
Washington, DC 20005

CONTACT US

1401 K Street, NW
Suite 503
Washington, DC 20005

Telephone: (202) 222-0972
Fax: (202) 222-0977
www.usafmc.org
admin@usafmc.org

THANK YOU

The Association would like to thank their interns for their hard work and dedication and wishes them success in all of their endeavors. Spring 2010: Carole Muedder, Heather Niemetschek, John Roubil, and Rebecca Williamson. Summer 2010: Mona Abutaleb, Megha Hoon, Hidehiko Inoue, Michelle Lee, and Batyr Odeyev. Fall 2010: Ruthven Darragh, Jessica Kincaid, and Cooper Reves.

STAY IN TOUCH

When we seek former Members to travel abroad on democracy-strengthening missions – when we fill our Congress to Campus schedule – when we ask former Members to participate in legislative strengthening programs – when we have to share with the membership the passing of a former Member – all of this and more is usually achieved via e-mail. We hope our messages are arriving. If not, please contact Elizabeth Ardagna at eardagna@usafmc.org or (202) 507-4847.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

14th Annual Statesmanship Awards Dinner March 15, 2011
Annual Meeting Spring 2011
Annual Charitable Golf Tournament June 13, 2011
Fall Study Tour: Baltic Sea September 2011