



CELEBRATING

*America's
Spirit*

TOGETHER

THE 54TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL
OFFICIAL PROGRAM







MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Those of us who have been privileged to be involved with the inauguration of the 43rd president of the United States have sought to bring the ceremony and festivities to as many Americans as possible and reach out to all through “Celebrating America’s Spirit Together.”

Together we are witnessing the orderly transfer of power in the grand and glorious tradition that began on April 30, 1789, when George Washington first took the solemn oath of office as president.

This inaugural is a time for a renewal of the American spirit and a time to look forward with hope to the promise and challenge of the future.

On behalf of the many people involved in the inauguration of George W. Bush and Richard B. Cheney, we wish to join in the spirit of the new administration in reaching out to all Americans to reflect their hopes and dreams in forging the events for the new century.



Mercer and Gabrielle Reynolds, Bill and Kathy DeWitt

We believe this is an opportunity to showcase the great heritage of our nation and to make the events surrounding the swearing-in of our new president and vice president a time for all Americans to join together and participate in our nation’s grandest and oldest celebration. We are celebrating the diversity of all our people and our shared devotion to the American spirit.

On our behalf we wish to thank all, particularly the many volunteers, who tirelessly worked to make this inauguration a success, and we humbly express our appreciation for having the honor of representing the 54th Presidential Inaugural Committee for our new president in this new century in true American spirit.

Mercer and Gabrielle Reynolds
Co-chairs

Bill and Kathy DeWitt
Co-chairs

“Let us, then, fellow-citizens, unite with one heart and one mind. Let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things.”

First Inaugural Address of Thomas Jefferson



Jake McGuire



Gray Hawn

George W. Bush



“When I put my hand on the Bible, I will swear to not only uphold the laws of our land, I will swear to uphold the honor and dignity of the office to which I have been elected, so help me God.”

*George W. Bush
Acceptance Speech, Republican National Convention
August 3, 2000*



At Yale (1964-1968), where he played baseball and rugby.



Bush family in Midland, Texas, 1956.



As a pilot in the Texas Air National Guard (1968-1973).

by Vic Gold

“In Midland, where I grew up, the town motto was ‘the sky is the limit,’ and we believed it. There was a restless energy, a basic conviction that with hard work anybody can succeed, and everybody deserved a chance.” – George W. Bush, Acceptance Speech, Republican National Convention, August 3, 2000

With Texas deep in his heart, America’s 43rd president is an optimistic man of faith and family.

Recall his words the night he took the reins in Philadelphia and embraced his party’s challenge to lead. He spoke first of family and friends. Of his wife, Laura, the new first lady, and their daughters, Barbara and Jenna. Of his mother, who graced the White House with her presence in the not-too-distant past. And, of course, “my Dad, the most decent man I have ever known, the last president of a great generation.”

And then he spoke of Texas, his early learning ground, the root soil of his values and vision. And of his friend Tom Lea, the El Paso artist who writes of living “on the east side of the mountain . . . the sunrise side, the side to see the day that is coming, not the day that is gone.”



The proud father with twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna, who were named for their grandmothers.



David Woo ©

“I believe the presidency – the final point of decision in the American government – was made for great purposes. It is the office of Lincoln’s conscience and Teddy Roosevelt’s energy and Harry Truman’s integrity and Ronald Reagan’s optimism.”

*George W. Bush
Acceptance Speech, Republican National Convention
August 3, 2000*

And then of home, of west Texas and Midland, a place with a sense of community as strong as its sense of promise; where neighbors help when help is needed; where dry wells and sandstorms keep you humble; where churches teach that every soul is equal, in value as in need.

“This background leaves more than an accent,” said George W. Bush the night he accepted his party’s nomination. “It leaves an outlook.”

Call it, if you will, the Lone Star vision that marked our new president’s years as governor of the second-largest state in the nation. Years of growth, of progress, of reform. Years that saw the man from Midland lead with a sense of community that brought Texans – Republicans, Democrats, Independents alike – together as one to improve public schools for Texas youth, expand opportunity for Texas workers and businesses, to raise the quality of life for all.

Growth, progress, reform. And George W. Bush did it, as he does all things, by reaching out to touch the lives of those he served, spreading his message of compassionate conservatism across the Lone Star state, traveling to towns and crossroads that had never before seen a governor.

All part, as he wrote in his life story, of a charge to keep. A charge that took him to Austin and will now, with the same Lone Star vision, take him to Washington.

“We had spirited disagreements, and in the end we found constructive consensus. It is an experience I will always carry with me, an example I will always follow.”
– George W. Bush, speaking in the chamber of the Texas House of Representatives, December 13, 2000

“We will extend the promise of prosperity to every forgotten corner of this country,” said the Republican nominee for president that August night in Philadelphia. “To every man and woman, a chance to succeed. To every child, a chance to learn. And to every family, a chance to live with dignity and hope.”

The heartland creed, coming to Washington. “A restless energy, a conviction that with hard work anybody can succeed, and everybody deserves a chance.”

January 20, 2001. Welcome to the era of George W. Bush, our 43rd president: For Americans, in this first decade of the 21st century, the sky’s the limit.

★ Victor Gold, author of the four official profiles, is national correspondent for Washingtonian magazine. He has served on the staffs of two Republican vice presidents and was co-author of former President George Bush’s 1987 autobiography, “Looking Forward.”



Charles Ommamny



David Woo ©

Second inauguration as governor of Texas, 1999.



Hillsman S. Jackson/SJU

Laura W. Bush



Warm, effervescent, a woman of keen mind and quick wit, a self-reliant daughter of the west Texas plains who, in the words of one friend, serves as “an oasis of calm, her husband’s anchor” when things grow hectic.

The people who know America's new first lady best – her family and lifelong friends – know a warm, effervescent woman of keen mind and quick wit, a self-reliant daughter of the west Texas plains who, in the words of one friend, serves as “an oasis of calm, her husband's anchor” when things grow hectic.

Laura is a good listener. Friends admire her loyalty and her commitment to her family. She is an articulate speaker with a reassuring style. Delegates at last year's Republican convention in Philadelphia heard the then-first lady of Texas speak movingly of family values, the importance of parents' involvement in their children's lives, and the crisis in America's educational system.

“Outside of family, education is the center of her life,” says a friend from her college years at Southern Methodist University. “For Laura, teaching kids wasn't so much a job as a calling.”

It was a calling that first came to young Laura when she was a precocious only child growing up in Midland, in the heart of west Texas oil country, during the 1950s. Her father, Harold Welch, who died in 1995, was a home builder, while her mother, Jenna, kept the books and taught Sunday school.

George W. Bush, the oldest child of George and Barbara Bush, lived only a half-mile away, but the future president and first lady did not meet until 1977, and then only after mutual friends in Midland pressed the issue. Laura, with a bachelor's degree in education from SMU and a master's in library science from the University of Texas, was a public school librarian in Austin, while George worked as an oilman in Midland. They were both 31 years old at the time and, to all appearances, had widely differing styles and tastes.

But as George W. Bush tells the story in his autobiography, “A Charge to Keep,” what he saw that early summer night in 1977 was a young woman



Campaigning together for Congress, 1978.



Charles Ommanney



Charles Ommamey

“gorgeous, good-humored, quick to laugh, down-to-earth and very smart.” For her part, as Laura told a recent interviewer, she was swept off her feet by a young man with a charismatic personality and great sense of humor: “He made me laugh a lot,” she said in an October *Good Housekeeping* interview. “He still does.”

Three months later they were married, and in 1981 George W. and Laura Bush became the proud parents of twin girls, Jenna and Barbara. Named after their grandmothers, the twins left home for college last September, Jenna attending the University of Texas, Barbara traveling east to follow in the footsteps of her father at Yale.



Charles Ommamey

The next four years will be busy ones for Jenna and Barbara’s mother, if her recent years in Austin are any guide. As first lady of Texas she helped launch the annual Texas Book Festival, which raised \$900,000 for the Lone Star state’s public libraries, and was deeply involved in the efforts to fund education programs for pre-school children. All signs are that, in Washington as in Austin, Laura Bush will stay loyal to her calling.

From former first lady Barbara Bush, she has an idea of what the White House will bring. “Watching her I’ve learned a lot,” says Laura of Barbara Bush. “She’s always herself, always natural. That’s why people love her.”

Indeed, Americans love a natural. And in Laura Bush we have one.



Charles Ommann



Richard B. Cheney



“Dick Cheney has served our country as chief of staff to a president, served in the United States Congress, and as secretary of defense. He is a man of integrity who is respected by Republicans and Democrats alike ... I am proud to call him my friend, and honored to call him my running mate.”

*George W. Bush
July 25, 2000*

Unflappable. It's the word that emerges time and again when Dick Cheney's name comes up among people he's worked with – former colleagues in the Ford White House, on Capitol Hill, at the Pentagon. Or old friends from Wyoming, where the 46th vice president came of age learning the virtues of a hunter's calm and a fisherman's patience.

The “boy from Casper,” as Richard Cooper wrote in the Los Angeles Times, grew up with a heartland “passion for hunting and fishing, camping, playing ball; in short, he enjoyed life with the inventive but contented appetite of a Tom Sawyer.”

Tom Sawyer? Maybe that explains the man from Casper. A man of *gravitas* with a quick and easy



Charles Ommannemy

wit; a conservative who'll take a road less traveled; a political realist who sees his country and the world around him not in terms of leaden problems but golden opportunities.

And all – unflappably. Cool, collected, with never a raised voice or uneven hand. Marlin Fitzwater, then-White House press secretary, tells of Dick Cheney's mode under pressure when he served as secretary of defense during the long days and nights of the Gulf War crisis.

“It was a case of nine of us meeting almost every day from August to January,” recalls Fitzwater. “Dick was the most honest broker of ideas I'd ever seen in a Cabinet officer. He had a quick grasp of every situation and could see a course of action, as well as the pressures brought to bear on that course of action. Not only was he open to ideas but he'd hear them all out.”

Call it the Honest Broker Way. You listen, weigh each idea put forward, dissect, then decide. Not that Dick Cheney lacks for ideas of his own. Far from it. All he



David Kennerly

As secretary of defense, he directed two of the largest military campaigns in recent history, Operation Just Cause in Panama and Operation Desert Storm.



David Kennerly

lacks, says a longtime friend, is the “towering ego” that shuts out ideas and blurs good judgment. It’s a gift, adds this friend, of a man who’s mastered not only the art of listening but of disagreeing without being disagreeable. It’s the gift, one of substance more than style, that earned him the trust and confidence of three American presidents.

And more. It’s a gift that carries into Dick Cheney’s private life, where no decision affecting all – including the decision to re-enter the arena as George W. Bush’s running mate – goes without a free-and-fair exchange with wife, Lynne, and their two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. For Dick Cheney, first and foremost, is a family man, rooted in the values of America’s heartland.

A throwback, really, though not – whatever his Twain-like passion for the great outdoors – to the 19th century. Rather, to a world in the not-too-

distant past, where the essence of leadership was to listen and weigh, not rush to the mini-cams for an evening news sound bite.

One old-timer on the Washington scene – a retired reporter who covered the White House in the 1950s – sees our new vice president as a man out of his time. “Ike,” he says, “would have loved Dick Cheney. Too bad he wasn’t around back then.”

Not so. Ike could have used Dick Cheney, all right. But as America moves into the first decade of the 21st century, we, and the president he serves, need the unflappable man from Casper and the gift he brings.



David Kennerly

Lynne V. Cheney



Fastidious in her work, tireless in her pursuit of excellence – and more. Add to those virtues of the workplace a saving wit; the all-too-rare ability to keep even strongly felt convictions in perspective; to find humor, even at one’s own expense, in the heat of political discourse.

Asked on the campaign trail how she feels about being “the center of attention,” Lynne Cheney shakes her head, laughs, and reminds a reporter, “I was a baton twirler!”



David Kennerly

Indeed she was. The bright, vivacious baton twirler for Natrona County High School in Casper, Wyoming. But more: not only a baton twirler, she was also front-and-center as Natrona High’s homecoming queen, dating the co-captain of the football team, Dick Cheney, a Big Man On Campus who also happened to be president of the senior class.

Dick Cheney and Lynne Vincent. From high school prom dates in the heartland of America to vice president and second lady in the nation’s capital. Quite a story – an All-American story fit for prime-time screening.

But wait. There’s one small problem. What will the writer assigned to the screenplay do when he gets to the part where the vivacious baton twirler grows up to earn her Ph.D. in 19th century British literature? Writing her doctoral thesis, no less, on the influence of Immanuel Kant’s philosophy on the poetry of Matthew Arnold.

Then there’s the part, a few pages later, where our young heroine becomes not simply the wife of Congressman, then Secretary of Defense, then Vice President Dick Cheney, but a writer and speaker in her own right. A leader, in fact, in the field of education reform, as well as the author of articles on multiculturalism and phonics. Even a book, “Telling the Truth,” on the impact of deconstructionism on Western values.

“Lynne is a writer with clear vision and strong convictions,” says Jack Limpert, her editor at *Washingtonian* until she went on to chair the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1986. “Hardworking and focused,” adds

Limpert. “You always knew she could back up anything she’d written, that she’d done whatever it took to get it right.”

Fastidious in her work, tireless in her pursuit of excellence – and more. Add to those virtues of the workplace a saving wit; the all-too-rare ability to keep even strongly felt convictions in perspective; to find humor, even at one’s own expense, in the heat of political discourse.

The baton twirler and the BMOC. Natrona County’s pride. They’ll celebrate their 37th anniversary this year. Two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. Three granddaughters, Kate, Elizabeth and Grace. And blessings to spare.

To repeat, it’s quite a story. Title it *America’s Second Family*.



David Kennerly

With daughters, Mary and Elizabeth.



David Kennerly

The Cheneys with their granddaughters, Grace, Kate and Elizabeth.



David Kennerly

THE INAUGURATION OF
GEORGE W. BUSH AND RICHARD B. CHENEY

JANUARY 18-21, 2001

Thursday, January 18

4:30 p.m.

INAUGURAL OPENING CELEBRATION
Lincoln Memorial

Friday, January 19

10:00 a.m.

LAURA BUSH CELEBRATES
AMERICA'S AUTHORS
DAR Constitution Hall

2:00 p.m.

THE VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT
SALUTES AMERICA'S VETERANS
Washington Convention Center Hall C

4:00 p.m.

CONCERT CELEBRATING AMERICA'S YOUTH
MCI Center

5:30 p.m.

WYOMING STATE SOCIETY EVENT
Chamber of Commerce Building Hall of Flags

8:00 p.m.

TEXAS BLACK TIE AND BOOTS
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

Saturday, January 20

PRIVATE CHURCH SERVICE
St. John's Church

11:35 a.m.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY
U.S. Capitol

1:00 p.m.

LUNCHEON
Statuary Hall, U.S. Capitol

2:15 p.m.

INAUGURAL PARADE

7:00 p.m.

INAUGURAL BALLS
Ronald Reagan Building

Union Station

D.C. Armory



INAUGURAL BALLS (CONTINUED)

Washington Convention Center (Ohio)

*Washington Convention Center
(Texas and Wyoming)*

*National Building Museum (Pension
Building)*

Washington Hilton

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

Sunday, January 21

8:30 a.m.

NATIONAL PRAYER SERVICE

Washington National Cathedral

WHITE HOUSE OPEN HOUSE

THE POWER, THE BURDEN AND THE GLORY

by F.C. Duke Zeller



The office that was created with great forethought in 1789 by the founders of a new nation and configured by thinkers of vision has evolved over two centuries into the most prestigious and respected post in the world. The presidency of the United States is today the greatest position of unprecedented power and incomparable burden on behalf of all the people of this great nation.

Each president has viewed the office and his service differently. Upon leaving office Theodore Roosevelt wrote: "Although the Presidency has been very wearing . . . I have thoroughly enjoyed it, for it is fine to feel one's hand guiding great machinery." On the other extreme, a beleaguered Harry Truman remarked: "There is no exaltation in the office of the President of the United States – sorrow is the proper word."

Sometimes frustrated by the power and burden of the office, presidents have weighed in with comments that often underscored their sense of futility. The job is "not fit for a gentleman," said

Buchanan. "A crown of thorns" is how John Quincy Adams described his position



Commemorative buttons made for George Washington's first inauguration.



An 1801 hand-painted inaugural banner proclaimed: "T. Jefferson, President of the United States of America/John Adams is no more."

of authority, and, of course, Jefferson summed up the presidency most memorably – "a splendid misery."

Yet every presidency begins in a spirit of rebirth and renewal – a unity that marks a coming together and a recommitment to the principles long established by our forefathers. The

inauguration is an exaltation of the basic tenets of our republic to enlighten the people and elevate the nation through leadership. It is a symbol of the power and the burden that is the heritage and challenge of the American presidency.

It is a time of joy, majesty, solemnity and coming together. The inauguration of a new president is the exemplary event that unifies people of political differences and at once recognizes a new beginning without interruption. Every four years the people of our nation join together to witness the pageantry, to renew our faith in the republic and to participate in the transfer of power.

Facing a divided nation, Lincoln best summed up the orderly transfer of power on the eve of his inauguration in 1861: "Almost all men in this country and in any country where freedom of thought is tolerated, citizens attach themselves to political parties. It is but ordinary charity to attribute the fact that in so attaching himself to the party which his judgment prefers, the citizen



1897 McKinley inaugural program.



A 1,400-pound cheese was centered on a White House carpet for Jackson's memorable Inaugural open house (New York Public Library).

believes he thereby promotes the best interests of the whole country, and when an election is passed, it is altogether befitting a free people that, until the next election, they should be as one people.”

With a simple oath of 35 words, that has remained unchanged since Washington first spoke them, the symbolism of the transfer of power and the continuity of governing are recognized by all Americans. And with the deeding of authority comes renewed hope, aspirations and goals. That orderly form and coming together of differences, which is uniquely American in heritage, is worthy of celebratory recognition every four years by all citizens.

Some presidents have seen Inauguration Day as a somber and sober commencement of the hardest job in the world, while others have reveled and gloried in the pomp and circumstance of the festivity.

After repeating the oath of office that first time in 1789, Washington, in a simple American-made brown suit of tails, is said to have kissed the Bible, adding unexpectedly, “So help me God.” At the first celebration ball, however, he relished in minueting with the best of New York society ladies.

On the glorious morning of his installation, Madison commented to Dolley, “I’d much rather be in bed sleeping.” That night, however, he dutifully escorted the new first lady to the inaugural ball and protectively moved her from place to place as the two ostrich feathers extending

★Memorabilia courtesy of the National American History Museum, Smithsonian Institution.



Inaugural memorabilia, clockwise from top right: Abraham Lincoln inaugural ball program; William McKinley inaugural ball ticket; John F. Kennedy inaugural ball ticket; Franklin D. Roosevelt inaugural ticket; Richard M. Nixon inaugural ball ticket; Harry S. Truman inaugural ball ticket; Ulysses S. Grant inaugural reception ticket.

from her Parisian turban threatened to ignite or snuff out the flames of every candle in the Long Hotel ballroom.

Perhaps the most memorable inaugural of all was Andrew Jackson's in 1829. Since "Old Hickory's" beloved wife, Rachel, had died just a month before, it was decided improper to stage an inaugural ball. Instead, Jackson felt an open-house reception in the White House more appropriate and befitting his style. Crowds of thousands engulfed the mansion and overran the East Room. Food that had been carefully laid out on tables was thrown on the elegant floors and papered walls. Throughout the packed house drunken men fought, little children cried for lost parents, and ladies fainted. There was such a press to shake Jackson's hand that he found himself trapped, almost suffocating, against the wall. A group of supporters formed a cordon around the new president and helped him escape through a side door. Mounting his horse, Jackson went back to Gadsby's Tavern and spent his first night in office there alone.

The crowds were as wild and eager for William Henry Harrison's inauguration in 1841, and "Old Tippecanoe" was determined to give them their money's worth. He gave the longest inaugural address on record (8,441 words) and, after an exhausting day of activities, danced with the wives of prominent Whigs at three balls until the wee hours of the morning. Tired and chilled, the new president came down with pneumonia within 24 hours and died exactly one month to the day of his inauguration.

Abraham Lincoln took his second oath of office under the just-completed dome of the Capitol, as the Civil War was drawing to a close. The inauguration under the dome was planned to symbolically bind together a weary nation. At the inaugural ball that evening, a guest who was appearing at Ford's Theatre was presented to the Lincolns. His name was John Wilkes Booth.



Lincoln's second inauguration.



Dance card from William McKinley's Inaugural Ball.

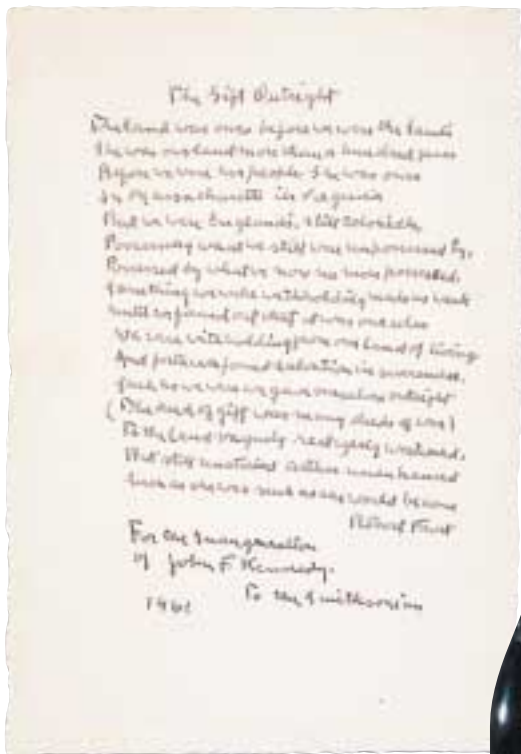


President Ulysses S. Grant's second inaugural is most remembered for its weather, minus four degrees with winds up to 40 miles per hour. The ball that evening was probably the most disastrous in history. It took place in

a beautifully erected temporary building on Judiciary Square. Unfortunately, nobody thought of installing a heating system, forcing guests to dance in their wraps and coats. The elaborate feast prepared for thousands froze solid, and musicians, too cold to play their instruments, opted to watch silently as thousands of canaries brought in to serenade guests froze to death on their ceiling perches and fell onto the horrified dancers.

The evening before Teddy Roosevelt's inauguration, Secretary of State John Hay presented the president-elect with a gift he would cherish as long as he lived. He gave him a ring containing a lock of hair cut from Lincoln's head on the night of his assassination. The ring was handsomely engraved with the initials of both presidents and was accompanied by a handwritten note from Hay that read, "Please wear this tomorrow. You are one of the men who most thoroughly understands and appreciates Lincoln." Roosevelt later said the ring offered inspiration and encouraged him in everything he did as president.

When Dwight D. Eisenhower became the first general in 70 years to be elected president, he also became the first to suspend the traditional formal black topper in favor of a less formal Homburg hat, more to his liking. In another first, 1952 became the first televised inaugural, although the unassuming Ike later recounted that he and Mamie were not



The handwritten copy of Robert Frost's "The Gift Outright," recited by the poet at the 1961 inaugural ceremony with the champagne bottle President and Mrs. Kennedy used at the ball that evening.





Ornate carriage that carried Ulysses S. Grant to his 1869 inauguration.



comfortable eating their inaugural luncheon in the Old Supreme Court Chamber as millions of Americans watched live on TV.

While inaugurations are often a spectacle for millions, they are a genuine catharsis for the American people, as well. In a sense, it is an act of healing after the inevitable division of a political campaign. The inaugural pageantry reiterates that, although one side did not win, the new leader is going to do everything within his power to unite the nation behind him. The inauguration is our most visible affirmation of the faith that American people have in their tenets and institutions.

It is befitting the American inaugural tradition that, at the conclusion of the festivities, George W. Bush, the 43rd president of the United States, will retire to his new home and the home of the nation – the White House. The most historic building in the country, which is this year celebrating its 200th anniversary, will welcome him with a blessing engraved on one of its mantels: “I Pray Heaven To Bestow The Best of Blessings On This House And All that shall hereafter Inhabit it. May none but Honest and Wise Men ever rule under This Roof. November 1800.”

★F.C. Duke Zeller is an author and inaugural historian who has served five Republican presidents and three U.S. senators.



Commemorative Richard Nixon inaugural scarf.

NEW BEGINNINGS

by Kate O'Beirne



The new president's walk down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House begins a journey with unforeseen challenges and crises. The awesome responsibilities and relentless demands of the presidency have taken the measure of many great men – generals, diplomats, senators and governors. Now, George W. Bush has come from Sam Houston's house to the White House to assume the most powerful office in the world, brimming with a Texas-sized confidence, tempered by a deliberate humility born of faith.

The metaphor for America's greatness in much of the world is embodied in the word "Texas," with her natural grandeur, frontier grit and big-hearted generosity. President George W. Bush is a son of Texas, where being plain spoken is a virtue, pretension can be spotted a mile away, and a man is only as good as his word. He brings to the presidency compassion for the less fortunate and courage in his public commitments.

The splendid men and women President Bush has called upon to serve with him demonstrate a willingness to share history's stage, and a prudent appreciation of the enormity of the task ahead. Yet, ultimately, the burdens of this great office will rest squarely on his shoulders. There is no certain preparation for this undertaking. But George Bush's natural grace and tested virtues are equal to the endeavor.

Inaugurations represent milestones in our common journey as well as promising new beginnings. At the dawn of the third century of the republic, our newest president will be sustained in the challenges ahead by the hopes and prayers of all Americans.

★Kate O'Beirne is the Washington editor of the National Review.

54TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL COMMITTEE

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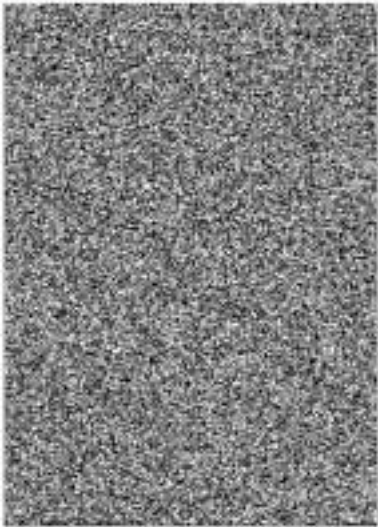
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Jake McGuire

*I Pray Heaven To Bestow
The Best of Blessings on
This House
And All that shall hereafter Inhabit it
May none but Honest and Wise Men ever rule
under This Roof.*

November 1800
From John Adams as engraved on the mantel
in the State Dining Room



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