EMC Commissioner Visits
Tapestry Artist in LA
Last week, tapestry artist Tomas Osinski (center) hosted Eisenhower Memorial Commissioner Susan Banes Harris (right) and her husband Larry Harris (left) for a tour of the tapestry fabrication process taking place in a warehouse in Los Angeles, California.

Osinski, an artist, architect, and industrial engineer, is the innovation behind the unique woven stainless steel tapestry. Serving as a backdrop for the memorial, the tapestry depicts a line drawing of the Normandy coastline in peacetime, honoring the peace Eisenhower won as Supreme Commander and then preserved as Commander in Chief.

Stay tuned for a forthcoming special edition of General'ly Speaking to explore the design and fabrication of this one-of-a-kind work of art.

Salute to Ike's Supporters

This week the Commission is pleased to announce receipt of a donation from Vulcan Materials Company Foundation at the General of the Army giving level. This gift honors the company's expansion and success as a major supplier of aggregates following the Eisenhower administration's implementation of the Interstate Highway System in 1956.

We extend our deepest appreciation to all of our donors for their generous contributions in support of Ike's memorial. Donations from our supporters make it possible for us to move ever closer to completing construction of the National Eisenhower Memorial in the heart of our nation's capital.

Donate now at Pay.Gov to make an online contribution and join the many patriotic Americans, multi-national corporations, foreign nations, and elementary school students in honoring this great American, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

All donors are prominently recognized on our Virtual Donor Wall.
With Professor Lou

Earlier this month, EMC had the pleasure of partnering with the University Club of Washington DC to host an event featuring the senior editor of the Eisenhower Papers, Professor Louis Galambos. Professor Lou, a long-time advisor and friend of the Commission’s, discussed his most recent book, Eisenhower: Becoming the Leader of the Free World. The presentation was an exploration of the shifts in Eisenhower's identity and reputation over his lifetime and offered insight into how Ike developed his distinctive leadership skills.

We are thankful to the University Club for providing such a lovely venue, to Professor Lou for a fascinating presentation, and to all who attended.

Ike's Timeless Legacy

When we think of Ike and infrastructure, the Interstate Highway System is the most likely to come to mind. However, the St. Lawrence Seaway, a joint effort with Canada, is another one of the most important public works projects in American history. Signed into law on May 13, 1954, and "softly" opened on April 25, 1959, the Seaway lets ocean traffic travel from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean.

Upon completion, the Seaway revolutionized the trade and industry of the region, providing it with a new avenue in which to progress and expand. The Seaway's formal opening for international use was marked by President Eisenhower's and Queen Elizabeth II's ceremonial voyage aboard HMY Britannia on June 26, 1959. In response to the Seaway's opening, the Director of the Port of Milwaukee stated, “The St. Lawrence Seaway will be the greatest single development of this century in its effects on Milwaukee's future growth and prosperity.”
President Eisenhower points out features of the St. Lawrence Seaway to Queen Elizabeth as the two heads of state sail on the Seaway aboard the royal yacht Britannia, June 1959 (Image courtesy of the Associated Press)

On May 1, 1958, President Eisenhower proclaimed the first Law Day—a day of national dedication to the principle of government under the rule of law.

"The rule of law does more than insure freedom from high-handed action of rulers. It insures justice between man and man—however humble the one and however powerful the other."

- President Eisenhower, Statement for Law Day, April 30, 1958

Test Your Ike'spertise

In 1953, following a twelve-year suspension due to World War II and then White House renovations, President Eisenhower reinstated what long-standing White House tradition first established in 1878 under the administration of President Rutherford B. Hayes?
A) White House Garden Tour  
B) National Christmas Tree Lighting  
C) Thanksgiving Turkey Pardoning  
D) Easter Egg Roll  

(See answer below)

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John Shlaes (1942 - 2015)  
Jill Sommers
Trivia Answer: D) Easter Egg Roll

President Eisenhower greets the crowd who have come for the Easter Egg Roll on the South Lawn of the White House, April 2, 1956, Washington, DC
(Image courtesy of the U.S. National Archives)

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