

DODONA Dispatch



Official Newsletter of the
THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL
INTERNATIONAL CENTER
Inspiring Leadership

Inspiring Leadership, Safely

The Marshall Center Presses on During Global Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all aspects of life over the past year, and the George C. Marshall International Center is no exception. To chart a course through challenging times, the board and staff looked to the example of General Marshall to ensure decisions today would meet the "Marshall test."

In this case, that has meant putting the health and safety of everyone first, while continuing to fulfill our commitments to preserve Dodona Manor and advance principled leadership to new audiences. The end result is that the Marshall Center has operated at a high level throughout the pandemic – and it has done so safely.

With protocols in place, the Marshall Center was able to hold two major, in-person events safely outdoors. The July 4th celebration of FDR's Four Freedoms and the Veterans Day commemoration were well-attended and stirring gatherings, held against the backdrop of a nation besieged by COVID. Only the Marshall Center's Innovation Award ceremony was

postponed due to safety precautions, to September 2021.

Because they had been indoor events, we moved two flagship member programs online. The Foreign Policy Book Club and Foreign Policy Forum have allowed hundreds of members and guests to hear from a range of luminaries, including Dr. Bruce Jentleson, an expert on policy and politics; former ambassadors Ed Gabriel and Barbara Bodine; and columnist Peter Beinart. Significantly, attendance has increased since going virtual.

Once safety protocols were developed and put in place, Dodona Manor was able to open its doors for visitors once again. Family groups only – masked and safely distanced – have been able to tour the house and grounds. Since reopening in June 2021, a total of 163 tours with 433 visitors have experienced Dodona.

Meanwhile, a group of volunteers was able to work separately to continue to cultivate General Marshall's garden.

As a result, we donated 450 pounds of produce to Loudoun Hunger Relief in 2020 during a time of extreme need.

Given the relative quiet the pandemic created, the Marshall Center team took care of some other key tasks, including completing the collection archive by cataloging all the books in the library; tackling important maintenance projects; and developing and sharing an online video series ("Now & Then at Dodona Manor").

While we look forward to the next normal, over the past year the Marshall Center proved that we can and will deliver *Inspiring Leadership* under any and all conditions.

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Springing Forward

Happy spring from Dodona Manor! As challenging as the last year has been, the beauty and renewal of spring remind us of our many blessings and provide a sense of optimism and hope. As a native of Leesburg and Loudoun County, it is an honor to return “home” to the George C. Marshall International Center and promote the legacy of one of the greatest Americans of the 20th century.

General Marshall’s character-driven leadership and unwavering integrity continue to provide a model for current and aspiring leaders. His example of principled, selfless service is needed now more than ever. The Marshall Center’s motto of *Inspiring Leadership* reflects our commitment to develop visionary leaders at home and abroad using the lessons and legacy of George C. Marshall, Leesburg’s own architect of WWII victory and enabler of peace through the Marshall Plan. Thanks to his legacy, we are truly a local treasure with a global impact.

Recently, our dedicated Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan that will serve as our roadmap moving forward. The plan outlines specific initiatives to fulfill our mission and vision by authentically preserving Marshall’s historic home and gardens and taking our educational and leadership programming to new heights.

To advance General Marshall’s legacy by supporting the Strategic Plan and bringing it to life, we have put together a robust Development Plan to provide the necessary resources to meet our ambitious goals. We need your help to succeed. There are many ways to support the Marshall Center, including membership, donations, corporate partnerships, grants and legacy giving.

As a life-long student and teacher of leadership and history, I am excited for the future impact of the Marshall Center. I hope you will join us on the journey.

With thanks,

Ken Tyler
Vice President of Development

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Grace & Grit:

The Life and Leadership of Katherine Marshall

What does it take to live in military housing and abroad, to attend and host events with statesmen and diplomats, to balance the hopes and desires of a personal life with the duties and demands of a public one, and to persevere while suffering loss amid it all? It takes dignity and determination, self-control and courage, grace and grit—all of which Katherine Tupper Marshall had in abundance.

Katherine's resilience and tenacity sustained her through multiple life-changing transitions and prepared her for a role on the global stage as the wife of an Army general who oversaw victory in World War II and a senior diplomat who shaped the post-war world.

At almost every juncture—from college to career to marriage to motherhood to widowhood to marriage again—she responded to challenges with resiliency and moved forward with energy and optimism. Despite enduring tremendous personal loss, she carried on with poise and purpose.



Katherine and George Marshall

Although she may not have realized it at the time, her constancy through upheaval and uncertainty prepared her to be the companion and confidante of a man with a demanding and often unpredictable career path.

Katherine Boyce Tupper was born in 1882 in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. After earning an eclectic degree from Hollins College, Virginia in 1904, she went to New York City to study at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. In 1907, she moved to London, where she joined a traveling Shakespearean

company. The demands of such an active career took a toll on her health, and she returned to the States for her convalescence.

In 1911, she retired from the theater to marry Clifton Stevenson Brown, a successful lawyer in Baltimore. Their marriage produced three children: Molly, Clifton and Allen. In 1928, a disgruntled client shot and killed Brown, leaving Katherine a widowed mother of three. The following year, she met George C. Marshall in Columbus, Georgia. They were married in October 1930.

We believe that Katherine's supporting role in Marshall's life and her own public service efforts deserve more recognition. To that end, the Marshall Center has opened an exhibit to honor the life and work of Katherine Tupper Marshall, including never-before-seen archival photos and objects, informational panels, supporting educational programs and more. We hope to see you there!

Innovation Awards 2021

The George C. Marshall International Center will host its main fundraising event, **the Innovation Awards**, on **Friday, September 10, 2021 at the Army-Navy Club in Arlington, VA.**

This black-tie affair will honor leaders from the defense technology, digital

transformation and humanitarian services sectors, including leaders from the Veterans Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and Intelligent Waves. We will be joined by Google pioneer Dr. Vint Cerf and NFL Hall-of-Famer Darrell Green, among others.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. To learn more, please contact VP of Development Ken Tyler at kt Tyler@georgecmarshall.org.

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, September 10, 2021

VETERANS DAY

“If It Ain’t Raining, It Ain’t Training”

The forecast promised rain, but the George C. Marshall International Center had promised a Veterans Day commemoration. On a wet Wednesday morning in November, staff and volunteers reported for duty. As they say in the Army, “If it ain’t raining, it ain’t training.” The cameras were set, the chairs were placed, and the coffee was brewed. Guests sporting raincoats and umbrellas began arriving shortly after 10 a.m. It was time to start, rain or shine.



Rear Admiral Lynch

The festivities officially began with a welcome from the event’s master of ceremonies, followed by a presentation of the colors. Attendees remained standing for the pledge of allegiance and a moving performance of the national anthem.

After the Rev. W. Earl Mullins of St. James Episcopal Church offered an invocation, Thomas Greenspon, President Emeritus of the Marshall Center, extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests in

attendance: U.S. Representative Jennifer Wexton, Town of Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk, Chair-At-Large of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Phyllis Randall, Former Leesburg Mayor and Supervisor Kristen Umstattd, Rear Admiral Thomas Lynch (U.S. Navy, Ret.), Lt. Gen. Bruce Crawford (U.S. Army, Ret.), Rev. Mullins and Chairman of our Board of Directors Stephen Chapin rose for recognition and a round of applause.

Lt. Gen. Crawford, a U.S Army veteran and board member, ascended the

podium to introduce the event’s keynote speaker, Rear Admiral Lynch. After Lynch’s inspiring speech on civic service, Boykin invited members of the armed forces to stand when their service song was performed as part of the Armed Forces Medley.

Rev. Mullins returned to the podium to close the ceremony with a benediction, after which the Marine Corps League of Loudoun County, Detachment 1205, rose once again to retire the colors.

The commemoration concluded with a performance of “God Bless America,” followed by the closing remarks by Greenspon.

We are grateful to everyone who attended. The event’s success showed us how committed our staff, volunteers, distinguished guests and the citizens of Leesburg are to honor those who served our country in uniform. Thank you for your service!



Brightening the Holidays with History

MARSHALL PLAN TREE WALK

Dodona Manor's New Tradition

The European Recovery Program was a U.S. effort that supplied nearly \$13 billion to finance rebuilding the economic infrastructure in Europe in the wake of World War II. This program became known as the Marshall Plan because of George Marshall's role in recognizing its potential and persuading Congress and the American people of its importance. Nearly 75 years later, the 17 nations that participated in the program continue to enjoy the peace and prosperity it helped secure for them.

To celebrate the success of the Marshall Plan during the 2020 holiday season, the grounds of Dodona Manor featured trees decorated to represent each of the Marshall Plan nations. On a cold, rainy Friday morning in early December, volunteers arrived to decorate the 17 trees along the west brick walkway. The following Sunday evening, the Marshall Center hosted a small tree-lighting ceremony to formally kick off the inaugural Marshall Plan Tree Walk.

Board member Bill Stokes began by extending a warm welcome to the guests, including representatives from the embassies of France, Portugal and Luxembourg. After executive director Valérie Beaudoin recognized the event's sponsors, she invited Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk to lead the countdown. And after calling out 5, 4, 3, 2, 1...the trees were ablaze.

From that night until the end of December, the glow of the trees invited locals strolling the streets of downtown Leesburg to enjoy the lights and learn a little history along the way. We were delighted by the event's success, and we look forward to rekindling the tradition next year.

Support INSPIRING LEADERSHIP

Join us and support our work by becoming a member of the George C. Marshall International Center. Multiple levels of membership are available, so you can pick the one that's right for you. Each level comes with unique benefits and the knowledge that you are helping to share the lessons and legacy of General Marshall with the leaders of today and tomorrow.

Learn more at georgecmarshall.org/membership or contact VP of Development Ken Tyler at kytler@georgecmarshall.org.

Chang Liu Treasures Special Moments as a Docent

Chang Liu's most memorable tours as a Dodona Manor docent was when she met a World War II pilot who was more than 90 years old and in a wheelchair.

"He had toured Dodona Manor four times and wanted to do it again one last time," Chang recalled.

"He bought several copies of Rachel Thompson's book to give as gifts to his grandchildren. That was the first and only time I asked to take a picture with a guest."

The director of the Loudoun County Public Library since 2011, Chang was born and raised in China and grew up in Shenyang, a heavily industrial city in Liaoning Province in Northeastern China. She went to library school at Peking (Beijing) University and worked as a reference librarian in the National Library of China before moving to the United States. After earning a second master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan, Chang worked in the Ann Arbor Public Library,

the St. Louis Public Library, the Arlington County Public Library and the District of Columbia Public Library.

During the Chinese New Year holiday in 2015, her mother and two cousins visited from China. That's when she learned of Marshall's two extended stays in China, and she was intrigued by the Chinese artifacts in the house. She completed her docent training and shadowed experienced docents to learn from them.

"That was the beginning of my docent career," she said, **"and I consider being a Dodona Manor docent one of the most rewarding experiences in my life."**

Chang especially treasures the connections she's made with other docents.

"I always enjoy seeing the other docents and learning from them. Everyone is always warm, friendly, knowledgeable, considerate, insightful and inquisitive. I'm truly honored to be a member of this very special community."



Restoration

Like many museums, Dodona Manor closes its doors during the off-season in January and February. We may not have had any visitors during those weeks, but we had plenty of work to do. We undertook two major home-improvement projects to spruce up the place for its re-opening in March.

In January, we retouched the Haub Exhibit Room with a fresh coat of paint and a new carpet. In February, we hauled off our dining room table and sideboard to be refurbished. We're delighted with the results of both projects, and we can't wait for you to visit the house to see them for yourself.



July 4 at Dodona Manor *Celebrating and Preserving Freedom*

July 4, 1776 marks the day when America formally asserted those familiar inalienable rights: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Since that day, American history has been marked with various struggles or conflicts to preserve and extend those rights, but perhaps no period more than the 20th century. And without the steady leadership of George C. Marshall during this time, it's likely that these rights would have been unalterably changed if not lost altogether.

On July 4, 2021, we invite you to celebrate not only the freedom America enjoys, but also the freedom Marshall helped preserve. Join us on the grounds of Dodona Manor after the Town of Leesburg parade (shortly after 11 a.m.) to hear Marshall biographer David Roll explain how the general saved the world twice, first by reforming and equipping the U.S. Army to succeed in World War II, and then by maintaining the peace secured by World War II with the Marshall Plan. Complimentary refreshments to round off the celebration will be provided on the front porch of the house. This event is free and open to the public. We hope to see you there!

If you would like to partner with us as a sponsor to make this event a success, contact Ken Tyler, Vice President of Development at ktyler@georgecmarshall.org or 304-614-7888.

Monika Irchenhauser is Vice President, Human Resources, for REHAU, a German polymer manufacturing company with its American headquarters in Leesburg. Originally from Pfaffenhofen an der Ilm, a small rural town in Bavaria, just north of Munich, Germany, she is fluent in German, English, Italian and Spanish. Monika is a member of the Rotary Club of Leesburg and likes to stay active in her spare time with various sports such as soccer, running, cycling and hiking.

Why did you choose to join the Marshall Center Board?

"General Marshall had a huge positive impact with his Marshall Plan in Germany and Europe, and also with my family, which is confirmed by many stories told by my parents and relatives who grew up during WWII and the post-war era. Being on the Board is my way of giving back."

Why do you think Marshall's legacy is still relevant today?

"It is very relevant, especially when we look at what makes a successful leader who has a lasting positive impact. General Marshall showed true leadership, making thoughtful decisions, even though they may not have always been popular. He also did not take any shortcuts or look for short-term political or personal gain. Marshall did what he thought was right, and considered all ethical aspects. Every country, company and team needs leaders who live by this example."



**THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL
INTERNATIONAL CENTER**

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**Visit George C. Marshall's
Dodona Manor**

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Tours

Public tours are offered on the
hour and half-hour

Last tour starts at 3:30 p.m.

For weekday private tours,
please call 703.777.1301

Please remember The George C. Marshall International Center in your Estate Plans.

The George C. Marshall International Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

JOIN THE HARRISON HERITAGE CIRCLE
The Harrison Heritage Circle is an exclusive opportunity for those who wish to support the George C. Marshall International Center through a legacy gift. The Circle is named for B. Powell Harrison, the visionary Leesburg businessman who led the effort to rescue and restore the Marshall's beloved Dodona Manor home. There are many ways to create a lasting legacy, help us preserve Marshall's visionary leadership and pass it on to future generations. Learn more at georgecmarshall.org/planned-giving or contact VP of Development Ken Tyler at kytlier@georgecmarshall.org.

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