



Pastimes and White House History NEW ISSUE *White House History Quarterly* Magazine

August 21, 2026 (Washington, D.C.) – Few subjects other than the historic White House could inspire the public to collect silver spoons, write postcards, preserve photographs, invent board games, build models, or embrace a teddy bear. [This issue of *White House History Quarterly*](#) focuses on the creative ways in which this shared affection for and curiosity about the White House and its inhabitants have been expressed through favorite pastimes—just for fun. The issue opens with a look back at twentieth-century pastimes. Baby boomers and their families will immediately recognize the Lincoln Logs and View-Master and perhaps even remember the wood-burning wonder pen featured in our opening photo essay.

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To request a review copy of *White House History Quarterly* #82 or to interview the contributors, contact press@whha.org.

Featured articles include:

- **PHILATELY AND THE WHITE HOUSE:** Philatelists **Lynn Batdorf** and **Rodney Juell** detail the evolution of presidential portraits and White House images on U.S. postage stamps. While President George Washington appeared in 1847 on one of the first stamps, the White House was not pictured until 1938.
- **NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S FINAL HOUR.** Whether picture postcards or personal snapshots, historic images are treasured featured of many White House collections. **Alison**

Haupt takes us to her great-grandmother's attic, where she recently discovered a set of photographs of President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy arriving Love Field in Dallas on November 22, 1963, shortly before the president was assassinated. Taken from a close vantage point, the beautifully preserved views are published for the first time in this issue of the *Quarterly*.

- **TEDDY ROOSEVELT'S BEAR:** Writing on the phenomenon and legacy of the teddy bear, **Rebecca Durgin Kerr** explains how a presidential encounter with a doomed young bear inspired cartoonist Clifford Berryman to bring the cub back to life in his illustrations. The stuffed toy bears manufactured by Ideal and Steiff soon became retail sensations. Forever part of White House History, the teddy bear has remained a childhood staple and a universal source of happiness and comfort for more than a century.
- **TRICIA NIXON INSPIRES A FIRST DAUGHTER PAPER DOLL:** **Cecelia Rose Eure** takes us to the Nixon White House, where a first daughter's public roles inspired the production of paper dolls.
- **CREATING A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY *White House Matching Game*:** The Association's director of graphic design, **Christina Hancock**, explains her process for creating a colorful and unique pictorial children's game to make learning White House History fun.
- **THE MAKING OF BRIEF THE CHIEF *An Online Game for Students*:** The Association's chief education officer, **Matthew R. Costello**, reveals how an online game, Brief the Chief, was created through a partnership with iCivics.
- **NATIONAL PASTIMES PROCLAIMED AND CELEBRATED:** Author **Keyawna Griffith** observes that at the White House no aspect of American culture is too small to celebrate. She delves into the role of the White House in establishing and observing the national days, weeks, months, and years created to recognize our shared history, culture, and, of course, our favorite pastimes.
- ***Politicards: Election-Year Playing Cards*:** Historian **Jessie Kratz** finds another Nixon-era pastime in the National Archives with *Politicards*, featuring caricatures of the president and his family. Kratz reminds us that President Richard Nixon enjoyed poker and was even known as a card shark while serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II.
- ***The People's House: A White House Experience for the Twenty-First Century*:** Managing Director **Luke Boorady** tells the story of the creation of a wholly new pastime for the twenty-first century. Free of charge and open seven days a week just a block from the White House, The People's House welcomes visitors from across the

country and around the world to enjoy White House history through immersive and state of the art technology.

- ***Presidents, Pedal to the Metal, and the Thrill of the Race*: Stewart D. McLaurin**, the Association's president, closes the issue with his reflections on the historic Washington, D.C. Grand Prix, which in August 2026 will follow a 1.7 mile route, circling the National Mall.

This 84-page issue of *White House History Quarterly* retails for \$12.95. To purchase a single issue, visit shop.whitehousehistory.org.

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About the White House Historical Association

Founded in 1961 by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy, the White House Historical Association is the nonprofit, nonpartisan organization entrusted with preserving and sharing the history of the White House. Supported entirely by private philanthropy and the sale of educational books and products, the Association reaches millions of students, teachers, and lifelong learners through research and scholarship initiatives, public programming, and the authoritative titles published by its independent press. Throughout each presidency, the Association works with the Offices of the First Lady and the White House Curator to acquire and preserve historic objects for the White House Fine and Decorative Arts Collection. The Association also operates The People's House: A White House Experience, a free, immersive, educational museum in Washington, D.C., which welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. To learn more about the White House Historical Association, please visit WhiteHouseHistory.org.

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