The original documents are located in Box 72, folder “We, The People - A Bicentennial Fair” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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We, the People
A BICENTENNIAL FAIR
We, the People
A BICENTENNIAL FAIR
390 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
Our organization would like to be involved with "We, the People" Fair activities:

- [ ] to sponsor*
- [ ] to exhibit
- [ ] to participate in workshops, panel discussions, seminars or critical issues
- [ ] to provide or locate entertainment
- [ ] to help staff the Fair
- [ ] to publicize the Fair in our community and through our program activities
- [ ] Our organization would like more information or would like to further discuss our participation with a member of your staff

* Sponsors are required to send a formal letter to that effect

(Please print)
Name of Contact: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Address: __________________________________________ Zip Code: _______________________
Name of Organization: __________________________________________
THIS KIT CONTAINS:

- Statement of Purpose
- The Volunteer Revolution
- "We, the People"
- Location of "We, the People" Fair
- Map of the Fairgrounds
- Model of the Fairgrounds
- Fairground Activities - What's Planned?
- People Involved
  - Design Team
  - Volunteer Organizations
  - Government Agencies
  - Businesses
- Board of Directors
- Profile of Paul Sonnabend
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"We, the People" will emphasize the role of the volunteer in America, and will:

• Educate the public to the opportunities of volunteerism, with particular emphasis on broad exposure of the thousands of smaller volunteer organizations throughout the country

• Stimulate information and idea-exchange among volunteer organizations

• Create a plan of action to address the specific concerns of the voluntary sector

• Convene the voluntary sector to discuss the participation of volunteers in solving the social and human problems of America's third century

• Recognize the value of volunteer service throughout history

• Strengthen the volunteer ideals and lead to a rededication of individual initiative

• Create a new wave of optimism and activism in America

• Get Americans involved -- with the hope that they will participate more fully in their local communities
More than 68 million men and women in America think it's time for another revolution - a revolution that can make a great difference to the future of our country.

They've heard the cynics say, "this country can't survive the effects of inflation"; "can't cope with the energy crisis"; "isn't capable of producing great leaders". Yet 68 million Americans - the volunteers of this country - say the cynics are wrong.

These are the volunteers behind a "revolution to overthrow apathy", to reassert the unique power Americans generated in 1776, and to emphasize the best in our country.

We are a great nation. We became a great nation through individual effort, and the action of volunteers. Volunteers signed the Declaration of Independence; a volunteer fired the "shot heard round the world"; Paul Revere rode as a volunteer. That was our beginning.

Today, volunteer efforts touch every aspect of American life...from civil rights, political campaigns, and public T.V. to disaster relief, tutoring, and scouting. The scope is infinite, but the goal is constant: to give something of oneself to another.

These Americans have something to celebrate. Two hundred years ago, volunteers sparked a successful revolution which changed the complexion of the world. Today, volunteers are trying to change the attitude of a nation.

With this goal in mind, the volunteer sector of our country conceived a three month Fair called "We, the People", a Bicentennial Celebration to be held in Washington, D.C. from April - June of 1976.
Similar in concept to the World Fairs in Montreal, New York, and Kyoto, the Fairgrounds for "We, the People", situated on 25 acres of land between the Potomac River and the Tidal Basin, will be housed in specially designed tension structures.

The structures will provide approximately 150,000 square feet of space for volunteer groups to explain their programs and document their accomplishments. Major central theme exhibits, complemented by individual displays, will spread the message of both large and small, community-based organizations. A limited number of grants will be available to help small organizations unable to participate without aid.

Education, recruitment, and information exchange will be central to the Fair, all in an atmosphere of excitement and enjoyment - a soft sell approach to volunteerism. Panel discussions and workshops will be conducted on such topics as "How to best use volunteers", "How to raise funds", and "How to relate to government". All workshops and panel discussions will be open to the fairgoers.

The Fair hopes to examine and confront the critical issues facing this country - not only to encourage volunteers to explore these issues, but also to determine how citizens might best help resolve them.

The Fair also hopes to strengthen the volunteer spirit and encourage broader participation - especially in smaller organizations - by demonstrating the effectiveness and the rewards of voluntary service.

Over 25 of the nation's largest volunteer-coordinating organizations have endorsed "We, the People" to lend support in achieving these important goals. Several thousand additional volunteer agencies have been contacted and are being invited to participate in both planning and exhibiting.
Paul Sonnabend, "We, the People" Chairman of the Board, asserts that volunteer organizations will learn much about themselves through this Fair.

"Agencies can communicate their message to the public and, at the same time, determine their objectives for the future. They can learn how to utilize their manpower and how to work with government to achieve their goals."

Sonnabend, President of Sonesta International Hotels, and a long time volunteer, believes that the Fair will benefit many diverse segments of society by helping to identify volunteer opportunities and by linking individuals with appropriate programs.

"We, the People" is even enlisting the aid of a leading computer company to establish a national volunteer "Hot Line" right on the Fairgrounds. Any interested individual could fill out a card and immediately receive the name and address of volunteer programs looking for assistance in his/her own neighborhood.

The revolutionary spirit and the spirit of volunteerism encompass similar elements of free will, free choice and dedication.

"We, the People" -- a Volunteer Celebration -- hopes to free Americans from oppressive apathy and propel them into rewarding, exciting voluntary action in 1976 and for years to follow.

- It's time to recognize the unique contributions volunteers make to our country.

- It's time to stimulate a greater appreciation and awareness of the value of voluntary service.

- It's time to help us rediscover the basic values upon which this country was founded.

- It's time for another revolution.
SPONSORING AGENCIES OF "WE, THE PEOPLE" AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel 30
American National Red Cross 36,400,000
American Social Health Association
American Councils of the Arts 600 Agencies
Association of Junior Leagues of America 109,000
Boy Scouts of America 6,500,000
Camp Fire Girls, Inc. 600,000
Goodwill Industries of America, Inc.
Involvement Corps
National Assembly of National Voluntary Health and Social Welfare Organizations, Inc. 39 Agencies
National Center for Voluntary Action 150,000
National Council for Homemaker-Home Health Aide Services
National Council of Jewish Women 100,000
National Council on Crime and Delinquency 60,000
National Easter Seal Society 1450 Agencies
National Health Council 72 Agencies
National Multiple Sclerosis Society 182,000
National School Volunteer Program 750,000
National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc.
National Society of the Volunteers of America
Partners of the Americas 43 Agencies
Planned Parenthood 190 Agencies
Project Concern 360
United Seamen's Service 120
United Way of America 1300 Agencies
VIGOR (Volunteers in Government of Responsibility) 250
VIP (Volunteers in Probation) 30,000
Women in Community Service 225 Agencies

TOTAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS: Approximately 44,836,760 people

TOTAL AGENCY MEMBERSHIPS: Approximately 3,919 Groups
We, the People
A BICENTENNIAL FAIR

390 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
617 266-7707

1785 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202 797-7800 EXT 45

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HONORARY CHAIRMAN
MRS. GERALD R. FORD

HONORARY VICE CHAIRMEN

MRS. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
Volunteer

GEORGES ROMNEY
Chairman of the Board
National Center for Voluntary Action

MRS. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
President
The Martin Luther King Center for Social Change

FRANK STANTON
National Chairman
American Red Cross

ROY WILKINS
Executive Director
N.A.A.C.P.

BOARD MEMBERS

PAUL SONNABEND, CHAIRMAN
President
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation

VERNON R. ALDEN
Chairman of the Board
The Boston Company

WILLIAM ARAMONY
National Executive Director
United Way of America

SARAH S. AUSTIN
Vice President
The National Urban Coalition

JOYCE BLACK
President
Day Care Council of New York, Inc.

LAWRENCE B. BOLLING
President
L.B. Bolling and Sons Box Company

JOSEPH BLATCHFORD
Former Director
Peace Corps

BETTY BUMPERS
Consultant

RENA P. BUTTON
Executive Director
National Council of Jewish Women

JERRY J. CAMPANA
Project Manager
"We, the People"

RUTH CLUSEN
President
League of Women Voters

ELLSWORTH CULVER
Executive Director
Involvement Corps

SARAH DAVIS
President
National School Volunteer Program, Inc.

SUSAN A. DAVIS
National Self-Help Resource Center
RUTH W. DEEN
Director
Afro-American Music Opportunities Association, Inc.

HENRY DIAMOND
Partner
Ruckelshaus, Beveridge, Fairbanks & Diamond

WARREN DUNN
Executive Director -
Washington "We, the People"

GOVERNOR DANIEL J. EVANS
State of Washington

BAYARD EWING
Chairman
Coalition for the Public Good

LESTER FISHER
Partner
Fisher Brothers

WILLIAM C. FOSTER
Partner
Patton, Boggs and Blow

DAVID L. GAMBLE
President
David L. Gamble Company

JOHN GARDNER
Chairman
Common Cause

WILLARD GARVEY
President
Garvey International

EARL GRAVES
President
Earl Graves Publishers

ROBERT GRAY
Executive Vice President
Hill & Knowlton

DOLORES KENDRICK
Vice President
United Way of the National Capitol Area

ROBERT HILL, Ph.D.
Executive Director
National Center for Voluntary Action

VERNON JORDAN
Executive Director
National Urban League, Inc.

HONORABLE EDWARD M. KENNEDY
United States Senator

MARY ANN LAWSON
President
Association of Volunteer Bureaus, Inc.

JUDGE KEITH J. LEENHOUTS
Director V.I.P.

CHARLES LIPTON
Chairman of the Board
Ruder and Finn

JAMES P. LOW
Executive Vice President
American Society of Association Executives

IRMA MANN
Executive Director -
"We, the People"

CHARLES MARRAN
President and Chairman of the Board
Spencer Companies

HONORABLE RICHARD OTTINGER
Congressman

LEO PERLIS
Director of Community Services
AFL-CIO

MARY D. POOLE
President
Association of Junior Leagues

ANNE RICHARDSON
Member, Board of Directors
National Center for Voluntary Action

ELIOT RICHARDSON
Ambassador
Court of St. James

LENOIRE ROMNEY
Member, Board of Directors
National Center for Voluntary Action

MORRIS B. ROTMAN
Chairman of the Board
Harsh, Rotman and Druck

JILL RUCKELSHAUS
Director of National Affairs
National Center for Voluntary Action

HAROLD J. RUSSELL
Chairman
President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

CATHERINE SAMUELS
Project Director
Women's Action Alliance

JESSIE SARGENT
Consultant

JOHN SCHWARTZ
President
American Association of Fund Raising Counsel

ROGER SONNABEND
Chairman of the Board
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation

RICHARD STAKES
President
Washington Star Station Group

MARY ANN STEWART
Advisory Council VIP

MARGERY STICHER
Volunteer Director VIGOR

W. CLEMENT STONE
Chairman
Combined Insurance Company of America

ELLEN STRAUS
Chairwoman
Call for Action

WILLIAM SULLIVAN
President
Metropolitan Petroleum Company

DIANA VREELAND
Special Consultant for Exhibitions
Metropolitan Museum

GERRIDEE WHEELER
President
National Association for Mental Health

MARGARET BUSH WILSON
Chairman
N.A.A.C.P.
"WE, THE PEOPLE"

WHAT IS IT?
A Bicentennial Fair to focus on America's 68 million volunteers; held on a 25-acre site in the West Potomac Park in Washington, D.C.

WHEN'S IT HAPPENING?
Spring of 1976 - April, May and June

WHAT'S IT FOR?
To provide an educational forum where volunteer organizations in America can tell their story, recruit new volunteers and exchange information.

WHO'S INVOLVED?
Volunteer organizations are planning the exhibits.
Business and government are contributing materials and expertise.
Architects, site planners, exhibit designers and engineering firms are creating the environment, designing the structures and coordinating volunteer exhibits.

WHO'S INVITED?
All volunteer organizations are invited to participate, and are given free space to do so.
The country's volunteers are invited to visit the exhibits and participate in Fair activities.
And everyone can come enjoy exhibits, forums, workshops, panel discussions, multi-media presentations, entertainment, and celebrities. With the many options of volunteerism displayed at "We, the People", Fairgoers will be challenged to become more involved.
"We, the People" is located on 25 acres of land in the West Potomac Park of Washington, D.C. The land, donated by the National Capital Park Service, is easily accessible by car, bus, or boat, and is on the regular "Tourmobile" route.

Tourists arriving at National Airport will be only 6 or 7 minutes from the Fairgrounds and will have an impressive view of the site from the air.

Once on the grounds, visitors can view the Capital, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials. During the three month Fair, paddle boats are planned to cross the Tidal Basin, bringing tourists from the Washington Monument and the Jefferson Memorial.

The famous Japanese cherry trees, which border the Fairgrounds, add a spectacle of color to this magnificent site, a fitting setting for this Bicentennial Celebration.
Photograph courtesy of Nick Wheeler
FAIRGROUND ACTIVITIES

On the Fairgrounds, Exhibit Row, the Outside Activity Area and the Community Center will cover all aspects of volunteerism. Each will provide a unique forum of participation by volunteer organizations. In order to explore the wide range of volunteer opportunities, the following exhibit centers are suggested:

- **EXHIBIT ROW**
  - CENTER OF EXPERIENCE FOR OLDER AMERICANS
  - CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
  - CHILD CARE CENTER
  - COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER
  - CORPORATE INVOLVEMENT CENTER
  - CULTURAL CENTER
  - EDUCATION CENTER

- **OUTSIDE ACTIVITY AREA**
  - AQUATIC CENTER

- **COMMUNITY CENTER**
  - CENTER FOR MUSIC, ART AND DANCE
    - Demonstrations of volunteer groups in action
  - INFORMATION AND REFERRAL CENTER
    - Volunteer "Hot Line"
    - The Americorps "Umbrella" Agencies
  - VOLUNTEER CELEBRITY CENTER

- **ENVIRONMENT CENTER**
  - Nature and Animal Conservation

- **GOVERNMENT CENTER**
  - HEALTH CENTER

- **IDEA CENTER**
  - Behavior and Motivation

- **INTERNATIONAL CENTER**
  - LEGAL RIGHTS CENTER

- **WOMEN'S CENTER**
  - YOUTH CENTER

- **CENTER FIELD**
  - Athletic Programs

- **MEDIA CENTER**
  - Press
  - Radio
  - Television
  - Staff

- **THEME THEATRE**
  - Multi-Media Presentation on the History of Volunteerism
COMMUNITY CENTER

The largest tension structure on the Fairgrounds will be the COMMUNITY CENTER -- an area for education and entertainment. The following features will be part of the Center activities:

MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION

A multi-media presentation of volunteerism in a spectacle of sights and sounds glorifying the unique role of volunteers in American history and our nation's future.

CRITICAL ISSUES

Open forums of discussion on the critical issues facing America today. Prominent thinkers like John Gardner, Henry Kissinger, George Romney, John Kenneth Galbraith and Marshall McLuhan will be invited to discuss issues like "How to Change Attitudes", "How to Motivate a Nation", or "Volunteerism: The Equality of Opportunity".

VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE

A convening of the volunteer sector to discuss the role of volunteers in solving the social and human problems of America's third century. This convocation will stem from many local conferences reflecting grassroots thinking on the critical issues facing this country. An area for idea exchange on practical solutions to organizational problems. Workshops, panel discussions and annual meetings for volunteer organizations participating in the Fair.

ENTERTAINMENT

A calendar of nightly entertainment by volunteer organizations. Civic orchestras, high school bands and cultural groups specializing in music, dance and theatre will be invited to perform.

CELEBRITIES

Celebrities, associated with volunteer causes, will appear to entertain and speak to visitors about volunteering. Radio and television specials will emanate from the Fairgrounds, volunteers will be honored in the Celebrity Hall of Fame, and special awards will be presented.

HOT LINE

The Hot Line Computer System will be a dramatic feature of the Fair. One of the country's largest computer companies is working on coordinating the project. Volunteers will fill out a card expressing their area of interest and geographical location. Potential volunteers and those organizations needing volunteers will be brought together.
PEOPLE INVOLVED

DESIGN TEAM

Some of the country’s foremost architects, site planners, exhibit designers and engineering firms will work as a team to develop the fairgrounds.

Birdair Structures, Inc. - Fabricators

Designs, manufactures and installs air-supported and light-weight structures. Responsible for the U.S. Pavilion at the Spokane Fair and several pavilions at the New York World’s Fair.

Caudill Rowlett Scott - Architectural Site Planners

Architectural, planning and engineering firm dealing with building design. Responsible for the student activity center at Santa Clara University.

Concept Industries - Signage, Exhibit Planners, Concept, Design, Graphics


Dudley and Giordano - Project Management

Manages real estate development projects in the United States and abroad. Also analyzes projects for bonding institutions throughout the United States.

Geiger Berger Associates - Structural Engineers

Consultants for structural and mechanical engineering, specializing in fabricated structures, tension structures and air-supported structures. Responsible for structures at Santa Clara University, the U.S. Pavilion in Osaka, Japan and the Interama in Florida.
H.D.O. Productions - Fabricators/Rental
Rents and equips colorful party and exhibit tents.
Responsible for the annual Festival of American Folk
Life of the Smithsonian Institute.

Hans Krieks Associates (New York) Inc. - Design
Space planners and interior designers. Responsible
for national headquarters of Mercedes Benz of North
America, Inc. Hans Krieks is Director of Masterclass,
a New York design school.

Holcombe Industries - Fabricators
Designs and fabricates tension-structures. Responsible
for the fabrication of tension-structures for Expo '70
in Osaka, Japan with Taiyo Kogyo, Ltd.

Malcolm Grear Designers, Inc. - Signage, Exhibit Planners,
Concept, Design Graphics
Deals with two and three dimensional designs from
printed material to environmental concepts.

Pope, Evans and Robbins - Site Engineers
Designs and manages construction of industrial and
public utility plants.

The Architects Collaborative, Inc. - Architectural Site
Planners
Largest architectural firm in New England specializing
in planning, landscape, interior design and architecture.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Government agencies will offer both expertise and
services to the Fair.

ACTION
American Revolutionary Bicentennial Administration
Museum of History and Technology, Smithsonian Institute
National Park Service, National Capital Parks
Washington, D.C. Bicentennial Commission
Volunteer organizations nationwide are supporting the Fair concept by providing their insights to the Design Team, encouraging other volunteer organizations to participate and publicizing the event.

- American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel
- American National Red Cross
- American Social Health Association
- Associated Councils of the Arts
- Association of Junior Leagues, Inc.
- Boy Scouts of America
- Campfire Girls, Inc.
- Involvement Corps
- National Assembly of National Voluntary Health and Social Welfare Organizations, Inc.
- National Center for Voluntary Action
- National Council for Homemaker-Home Health Aide Services, Inc.
- National Council of Jewish Women
- National Council on Crime and Delinquency
- National Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults
- National Health Council, Inc.
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- National School Volunteer Program
- National Society of the Volunteers of America
- Partners of the Americas, Inc.
- Project Concern
- United Seamen's Service
- United Way of America
- VIGOR (Volunteers in Government Service of Responsibility)
- VIP (Volunteers in Probation)
- WICS (Women in Community Service)
BUSINESSES

Many businesses are contributing services, materials, funds and expertise to the Fair. Some companies view "We, the People" as their commitment to the nation's Bicentennial.

Allied Chemical
New York, New York

Birdair Structures, Inc.
Buffalo, New York

Blair, Inc.
Bailey's Cross Roads, Virginia

Burlington Industries, Inc.
New York, New York

Caudill Rowlett Scott
New York, New York

Carter, Rice, Storrs and Bement, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Concept Industries
Framingham, Massachusetts

Daniels Printing Co.
Everett, Massachusetts

FMC Corporation
New York, New York

Fred Stone Reprographics
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Geiger Berger Associates
New York, New York

General Cinema Corp.
Boston, Massachusetts

Graphic Arts Finishers
Charlestown, Massachusetts

Hans Krieks Associates
New York, New York

H.D.O. Productions
Rockville, Maryland
Holcombe Industries
Redwood City, California

Kenyon Piece Dye Works, Inc.
Kenyon, Rhode Island

Malcolm Grear Designers, Inc.
Providence, Rhode Island

M & T Chemical, Inc.
Rahway, New Jersey

M. Hoffman & Co., Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

M. Brown and Company
Boston, Massachusetts

Pope, Evans and Robbins
New York, New York

Publicity, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Rapid American Corporation
New York, New York

Recording & Statistical Company
Dorchester, Massachusetts

Regal Lithograph Company, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Ruder and Finn
New York, New York

Seaboard Allied Milling Corp.
Newton, Massachusetts

Sonesta International Hotels Corporation
Boston, Massachusetts

Spencer Companies, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Sullivan Bros., Printers
Lowell, Massachusetts

The Architects Collaborative, Inc.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

The Hub Offset Company
Boston, Massachusetts
April, 1975

It is expected that many corporations will contribute goods and services which will substantially reduce the costs of the Fair.

**FAIR GROUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Site Development</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Utilities</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demolition/Site Restoration</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architectural and Structural</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical</td>
<td>450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxes and Insurance (approx. 12%)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td>2,250,000</td>
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**ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative (before Fair)</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and Promotion</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Costs during Fair</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Development</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL**                                     | 3,250,000|
I believe, baby, Bicentennial has been returned to its rightful father.
No trouble.
MEMORANDUM FOR: ROBERT T. HARTMANN
FROM: ROY L. ASH
SUBJECT: We the People -- A Bicentennial Project

Paul Sonnabend came in to see me on the above project, and I told him I would refer it to you. Sonnabend's idea is that the Fair would be a cooperative effort between the Government and the private sector, and he's hoping that someone will help him in obtaining government funds for the project from various agencies. Apparently, he's already had considerable discussion of the idea with Roy Morton.
6 December 1974

Mr. Roy Ash
Director
Office of Management and Budget
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ash:

I do want you to know how much I appreciate the time given to me on Tuesday to discuss my proposal, WE, THE PEOPLE with you. I hope that some of my enthusiasm can be shared because I truly believe that this can be the most memorable event to take place in the United States during the Bicentennial Year and that there can be a long-term legacy from this project which could cause some meaningful change in our country in the future.

You indicated that you would bring this to the attention of Mr. Robert Hartmann with the hope that he might become interested and help in obtaining government funds from various agencies. As I indicated to you, this Fair should be a cooperative effort between government and the private sector and, therefore, if I could raise about one million dollars in government funds I believe that I could certainly raise the other two million from foundations, individuals, and businesses.

Enclosed are two additional copies of our proposal for your use.

Once again, thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Sonnabend

Enclosures
Mr. Marsh --

Brooke's office called with the following # for Paul Sonnabend:

(617) 536-2700.

"We the People"

donna
April 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:     JACK MARSH
FROM:               RUSS ROURKE

Paul Sonnabend is down to the final straw. Ted Marrs has been extremely helpful in exhausting all possible approaches for the We, the People project.

The last straw is "will you contact John D. Rockefeller III in an effort to put John D. and Sonnabend together for the purpose of convincing John D.'s U.S.A. 200 to provide the necessary funding for the We, the People project."

If you are not willing to do this, or if John S. rejects the proposal, Sonnabend will reluctantly scratch their entire project.

Please advise.
Aug

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Paul Amsden

Murray — no legal
motivation — no as
policy matter, 1st as
impossible —

Spent time of 04:30
also — no deal

Amsden said there
was going to strike, project
Ted said wait — trying to raise money
from Foundations — no
disc
Red crayon

July 23, 1914

Mr. Roosevelt,

As you stated Saturday, I don't think we are interested in

of my line, well

USA 2009 We the

People together - Paul

had approached.
MEMORANDUM FOR:  JACK MARSH
FROM:          RUSS ROURKE

Paul Sonnabend is down to the final straw. Ted Marrs has been extremely helpful in exhausting all possible approaches for the We, the People project.

The last straw is "will you contact John D. Rockefeller III in an effort to put John D. and Sonnabend together for the purpose of convincing John D.'s U.S.A. 200 to provide the necessary funding for the We, the People project."

If you are not willing to do this, or if John D. rejects the proposal, Sonnabend will reluctantly scratch their entire project.

Please advise.
November 17, 1975

Dear Mr. Sonnabend:

Many thanks for your recent letter concerning Ruth Abrams.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of the materials relating to Mrs. Abrams to the General Counsel here at the White House, Phil Buchen, for his review and information. I am sure he will find them most interesting.

Thank you again for taking the time to bring this qualified individual to our attention.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counselor to the President

Mr. Paul Sonnabend
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation
390 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Stein DL/d1
14 November 1975

The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counselor to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Marsh:

I am sure you will recall our pleasant visit during our discussions about We, the People, our Bicentennial Fair project.

I hope you will not think it presumptuous for me to bring to your attention, a woman from Massachusetts who, I believe, would be an outstanding candidate for Associate Justice of The Supreme Court. As well as being a brilliant legal mind, Ruth Abrams, being a woman and Jewish, would bring balance to the Court.

The enclosed clippings will tell you something of her background. She is at present a Justice on our Superior Court and is generally spoken of as a strong possibility for the Massachusetts Supreme Court in the near future.

With best wishes,

Paul Sonnabend

Enclosures
CANDIDATES

The following biographical information on candidates has been furnished by the Associated Harvard Alumni and is based on material provided by the candidates. The order of listing of candidates herein was determined by lot.


RUTH J. ABRAMS, A.B. '53, LL.B. '56, of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Assistant Justice, Superior Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Special Counsel, Supreme Judicial Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1971-72); Assistant Attorney General, Chief Trial Section (Criminal) (1968-71); Assistant District Attorney, Middlesex County (1954-69). Member: American Trial Judges Association; American Bar Association Committee on Judicial Administration, and Criminal Law: Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Executive Committee, Criminal Rules Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Governor's Committee on Aboard and Neglected Children; American Bar Foundation. Editor of the Handbook for Law Enforcement Officers for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and miscellaneous law enforcement bulletins. Former Corresponding Class Secretary, Class of 1953.


Analysis
Judge Abrams: A Woman of Destiny

By STEVEN E. ENRIGHT
Enterprise Staff

Probably more people know that Judges come just before Ruth in the Old Testament than know that the only female Superior Court Judge is named Ruth. But unlike some of her colleagues who believe they are de- ceived directly from the Disciples (if not higher) a lack of recognition doesn’t bother Judge Ruth I. Abrams.

Judge Abrams, who is currently sitting in the Plymouth Superior Court session at Brockton, certainly wouldn’t stand out in a crowd. When she removes her black robe, she joins more as a middle-brow English teacher than a 45-year-old justice.

They have learned

In fact, she has taught lessons to several lawyers who made the mistake of not preparing fully for a case before her. Two young attorneys, in particular, will not forget that off the top of her head she cited cases that they should have researched.

Judge Abrams is able to do this to that she is the former chief of the appellate section of Attorney General Robert Quinn’s office and was, before being appointed to the bench, counsel to the high court, she has shown great characteristically

This knowledge of the law and her native intelligence have impressed all who have come to know her since she was appointed to the bench by Gov. Francis Sargent last fall. But in this her second month of sitting (she was at Barnstable Superior Court last month), it is her fairness, common sense and compassion which seem destined to bring her recognition unimpeded by prior appointments — and possibly mak— justice in the Commonwealth.

“There’s never been a woman on the SJC (Mass. Supreme Court), but don’t tell that she doesn’t make it,” said a female state representative who has known her for several years. “They don’t come any sharper than Ruth.”

Nor do they come any more dedicated, Judge Abrams has usually at the courthouse at least two hours before the session begins at 10 a.m. She uses this time to review what has already come before her and what will soon come before her.

Won’t Wear Off

Although it might be expected that any newly-appoint- ed judge would show this sort of dedication, it is someth- ing that often wears off. It’s safe to bet, however, that it won’t with Judge Abrams, because she has shown this type of dedication since childhood.

An associate of hers who was in the attorney general’s office said, “She worked seven days a week as a secretary. She practically lived in the office.”

Persons who knew her before this — when she was an assistant D.A. under Middlesex District Attorney John Dorey and, before that, in private practice — have characterized her as always having been a driving, driving-both-sides-of-the-street kind of person.

Since ascending the bench, she has shown great patience toward lawyers, defendants and witnesses. When a lawyer displays improperly, she gently reprimands him, usually with a smile, and always with the intention of saving him embarrassment.

Witnesses are less revered in Judge Abrams’ courtroom. She humorously tells them at one if they appear uncomfortable and, in this particular case, her is more of an asset than a hindrance because she does not present an overwhelming appearance. Most people who testify in criminal cases are scared of the whole thing and especially the judge.

The defendant receives the full benefit of Judge Abrams’ qualities. Every Superior Court justice is very much concerned about defendants’ rights and each tries to make sure the defendants are constitutionally protected right down the line.

Judge Abrams adds a few flourishes to this, how- ever. While many judges are former assistant dist- rict attorneys or assistant attorneys general, they don’t often advise defendants. This fact, Judge Abrams makes sure that every defendant who changes his plea to guilty and then leaves himself solely to her judgment, knows that she has been on the “other” side.

When a defendant does change his plea, she thoroughly quizzes him to make sure his plea of guilt is voluntary. While every judge does this, most don’t go to the lengths that she does to make sure the defendant knows what he’s doing.

She is probably exercising with the number of conference she has with defense counselors and prosecu- tors, but she probably feels it better to have too many of these conferences than too few. When she is hearing a trial, incidentally, she will never see one attorney at a time. Both have to be present along with her clerk.

Although she can talk at length about matters of law, she is reluctant to speak about herself, which, again, is unlike many of her colleagues. When she offers her impressive credentials, she almost makes it sound as if she is reciting her shopping list.

The daughter of the late, well-known Boston attor- ney Samuel Abrams, Judge Abrams was born and raised in Newton. She attended Radcliffe College and Harvard Law School before entering her father’s firm of Abrams and Abrams in 1938.

She was engaged in private practice until 1961 — shortly after her father died — when she was appoint- ed to the Middlesex District Attorney’s staff. She remained there until 1966 when she was named as an assistant attorney general.

In 1966, Robert Quinn’s office, she was made chief of the Appellate section and remained there until December, 1971, when she was made counsel to the Mass. Supreme Court.

As counsel to the high court, she would condense the many appeal cases that came before them as to the specific matters of law to be considered. Then last fall, she was named by Gov. Sargent to one of the vacancies in the Superior Court. And with it she became the only woman Superior Court judge.
Who will be next Massachusetts Chief Justice?

DAVID FARRELL

ARMS

TAURIS

and make recommendations to Gov.

Dukakis.)

Judge Abrams has made a most
favorable impression on Chief Justice
Walter McLaughlin, Supreme Court
Chief John E. Powers and other lead-
ers of the Massachusetts bench and
bar with whom he has had dealings.

If the governor elects to promote
one of the six current justices of the
Superior Court to chief justice, he
will have no dearth of applicants. All
of the justices are interested.

But Justice Paul C. Reardon and
Edward F. Hemmey are the leading
candidates and appear to be most
likely to wind up on the Judicial
Nominating Commission selection
list. Justice Reardon is the only
member of the court who was not ap-pointed
by former Gov. Francis Sargent.

Because of his past association with Justice Hemmey, Attorney
Raymond J. Keeney Jr., chairman of
the nominating commission, has dis-
qualified himself from the delibera-
tions, which are being handled by At-
torney Julia Kaufman, vice chair-
person of the screening committee. She
plans to notify the six justices that
all of them will be considered for
Tauro's post unless they notify the
JNC to the contrary.

The other justices of the high
court probably would get behind ei-
ther Reardon or Hemmey for the
chief justice post. The departing chief
is known to favor Hemmey as his
successor, but this will have little,
it any, bearing on Gov. Dukakis's deci-
dion.

Relations between Chief Justice
Tauro and Justice Reardon have been
a little cool since Tauro got the nom-
ination from Sargent for the top position
on the court five years ago. Reardon,
who served as legal counsel for the
late Gov. Christian A. Herter two
decades ago, just missed being named
chief justice himself.

Reardon was given every indica-
tion he would be named, but lost out
when Sargent decided to toss the
Volpe wing of the Republican party
during his 1970 campaign for the gov-
ernorship.

The Volpe crowd was restless and
giving signs that it would all out the
governor's contest. Sargent, who was
running hard for a full term, wanted
to take no chances and decided to by-
pass Reardon and give the post va-
rated by former Chief Justice Ray-
mond S. Wilkins to Tauro. Tauro him-
self wasn't pushing for the post, but
the Volpe organization was putting it
on Sargent to elevate him to Wil-
kin's post.

Justice Reardon's narrow miss in
1970 also will have no influence on
Dukakis's selection of a successor to
Tauro.

What will have plenty of weight
with the governor is Reardon's out-
standing record, first as chief justice
of the Massachusetts Superior Court
from 1955 to 1962, and more recently
his 25-year service as a justice of the
Supreme Court.

The Court for Justice Tauro is
his excellent reputation in national
and international legal circles. He has
been a leader in the International
Law Institute and the American Bar
Association. The jurisprudence has
been in law and its evolution in Lon-
don and many other foreign cities.

Reardon will not be 70 until De-

ember 1973, at which time he too
will be forced to retire. Thus Gov.
Dukakis would be in a position to
name a new chief justice of the high
court during the first year of his second
term, if he appoints Reardon and then
nominates Tauro.

The irony of the Heilbroner appoint-
ment, if it occurs, is that he would
steal the judge who succeeded him
as chief justice of the Superior Court
in 1962.

Chief Justice Tauro was named to
head the Superior Court by former
Gov. Volpe, who promoted Reardon to
the Supreme Court to fill the vacancy
caused by the resignation of the late
Chief Justice Harold F. Williams.

Tauro will be stepping down with
the knowledge that he is departing at
the peak of his judicial career. He es-
tablished an outstanding record on
the Massachusetts bench.

It is unfortunate that efforts to in-
clude Chief Justice Tauro on the list
of over-70 judges who will be used as
recall judges in the various courts of
the Commonwealth during the next
two years have failed. Legislators for
the recall of judges being forced to
retire from courts other than the SJC
is expected to be approved during the
current legislative session.

Only a strain in relations between
Gov. John F. Connolly and Chief Judge Tauro caused Conte's legisla-
tive committee on the judiciary to ex-
clude the SJC from the recall legis-
lation. However, Chairman Conte says
he will go along with inclusion of the
high court if an amendment to that
aspect is adopted by the House. An
amendment to allow Tauro to contin-
ue as a justice-emeritus of the SJC
will be offered on the House floor
when the recall bill is debated later
this session.

Leaders of the bar are hopeful that
the governor's Judicial Nominating
Commission will expunge its deliber-
ations on Tauro's successor.

The commission has been in
preparing the recall cases for two open-
ings on the hard-pressed and greatly
overworked Superior Court, which is
bumping far behind in adjudicating
cases.
May 24, 1975

Dear Mr. Sonnabend:

I have your letter together with the attached copy of your "We, the People" newsletter.

I deeply regret our inability to provide the measure of assistance required by you to carry out your program.

I recognize fully the sincerity of purpose and true spirit of patriotism that prompted your volunteer efforts.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Paul Sonnabend
Office of the President
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation
390 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02115
JOMich
May 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: BILL WALKER
FROM: JACK MARSH

Bill, Paul Sonnabend is a high-powered individual, who has a sincere desire to make a voluntary contribution of time and effort to the United States. He should be kept in mind for a possible part-time appointment to a Board, Commission or one of our many "crash programs voluntary efforts." Thanks.

JOM:RAR:cb
Mr. John O. Marsh
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.
April 30, 1975

Mr. John O. Marsh
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Marsh:

It is with deep regret that we have canceled "We, the People", our Bicentennial Fair. It seemed impossible to properly complete the entire project without any government help in the form of a registration fee or site preparation. I can well understand your inability to help solve these problems, and I do want you to know that I very much appreciate your willingness to listen to our story and be as helpful as possible.

What is particularly disturbing to me is that I think we really could have made a significant contribution to what I consider the most serious problem in America today - the setting of new goals and targets for the country that will reunite a bitter, frustrated and divided citizenry. The Bicentennial is an outstanding opportunity to renew the American spirit and I hope ways can be found to accomplish this.

In any case, I once again thank you for listening to our story. I am deeply committed to the future of our country. If you ever have ways you feel I could make a contribution, please feel free to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Sonnabend
"We, the People" must be canceled. That was the opinion of the Directors at an emergency Board Meeting which took place Friday, April 18th. Although we had received substantial contributions in goods, services and money, it seemed unrealistic to try and raise the additional funding required within the time constraints. This difficult decision is not only disappointing to myself and the staff, but to the volunteer organizations, the cooperating businesses and the hundreds of volunteers actively participating in the project.

What went wrong? There is no question that the deteriorating economic situation was a major factor...unfortunately, many people who had made commitments to help found they were unable to do so for a variety of reasons...their help, in many cases, was crucial to the success of this project.

Most frustrating is that our architectural and program plans were moving ahead with great success. Our staff was operating effectively, working with over 400 volunteer organizations to create a successful celebration.

If enthusiasm, energy and hard work were the determining factors in producing "We, the People", there would be little need for me to write this disturbing Newsletter. Our ultimate objective of renewing the American spirit and applauding the efforts of volunteers deserves to be substantiated. Hopefully the Bicentennial Year will, in a general way, accomplish this; for volunteers often dare to try the seemingly impossible.

A word of thanks must go to our supporters whose help and encouragement propelled this project...and sincere appreciation and thanks to Irma Mann and Warren Dunn, our Co-Directors, who accomplished all that was asked of them. They had assembled a devoted and hard-working staff that proved they had the capabilities to make "We, the People" a success.

And lastly, a personal note, if I may...no one is more disappointed than I about the turn of events that caused us to cancel "We, the People". Like so many others, I worked as hard as I possibly could to make this dream come true. To my many friends - both old and new - I'll never be able to thank you enough for your encouragement and confidence...for those who feel that I let them down, I can only express my profound sorrow...
MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

I spoke with Paul Sonnabend this afternoon, advising him of the "facts of life" with regard to the proposed meeting with the President. I was very frank with Sonnabend, and gave him a very candid run-down on the entire matter. He appreciated our frankness, and requested that the proposed meeting with the President be scrubbed.

He hastily added that he was enthusiastic about assisting the President in any area wherein his services might prove helpful...has only to request his volunteer assistance.

cc: CLeppert
    WRustand
    TMarrs
MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE
SUBJECT: TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH PAUL SONNABEND

Jack, FYI, after a lengthy and emotional discussion concerning the merits of the "We the People" project, Sonnabend asked whether you thought there was any real value in the proposed meeting with Tip O'Neill and the President. He has already sent out notices concerning the project, but "still can't believe that this Administration can't find $700,000 for a great program that will get this country moving again".

Tip O'Neill's staff has advised Sonnabend that the meeting with the President has been set for May 12. Sonnabend had planned to leave on a business trip to Europe on May 11, but will gladly reschedule his trip if a meeting with the President presents any prospect of affirmative action on his project.

A call to Warren Rustand indicates that the May 12 meeting information from Tip O'Neill's staff to Paul Sonnabend was "bum dope". Warren has no idea how Tip O'Neill's staff got that impression, and indicated that his staffing memo re the Sonnabend schedule proposal is still a viable inquiry.
MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Jack, please note attached schedule proposal re Tip O'Neill/ Sonnabend ("We the People").

As indicated on Page 2 of the attached briefing paper, Sonnabend intends to discuss "site preparation money" with the President. As you know, Ted Marrs did an exhaustive review of all federal funding assistance possibilities... without success.

Further, the attached Washington Post article would appear to indicate that the final chapter on this project has been written.

I don't really see any valid purpose for this meeting, unless you see some wisdom in requiring the President to go through this exercise for Tip O'Neill's benefit. As a suggestion, you might want to have Ted Marrs (either directly or through Charlie Leppert) advise Tip of the exhaustive inquiries already made by you and Ted in this matter.

c: TMarrs
CLeppert
By Margot Hornblower
Washington Post Staff Writer

A $4 million Bicentennial fair to honor the accomplishments of the nation's volunteers has been canceled because its sponsors were unable to raise enough money for it.

The cancellation of the fair, which was to open at West Potomac Park next March, marks one of the first large Bicentennial projects to become a casualty of the country's economic difficulties.

Paul Sonnabend, a Boston businessman who heads "We, the People," the nonprofit group organizing the fair, said he had hoped to raise money from government agencies and corporations.

"The project was ready to go. The architects' and engineers' plans were finished," he said yesterday in a telephone interview. "But the lack of government support and the economic conditions made it not worthwhile to take a gamble."

"It's a very difficult time to raise money. We had hoped the economy would get better, but there was no improvement."

The fair, which was announced with some fanfare last month, would have housed such organizations as the United Way of America, the American Red Cross, the NAACP and Common Cause.

Besides exhibits from volunteer groups, the fair would have housed a 1,000-seat auditorium for forums and speeches on voluntarism and nightly entertainment by musical and cultural groups.
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH
      TED MARRS

FROM: WARREN RUSTAND

SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal for a Meeting with
         Cong. Tip O'Neill and Mr. Paul Sonnabend,
         Chairman of the Board of "We, the People."

I would appreciate having your comments and recommendation
on the attached.

DATE: Week of May 5, 1975

PURPOSE: To give Rep. O'Neill the opportunity to introduce to the President, Mr. Paul Sonnabend, Chairman of the Board of "We, the People", a volunteer organization sponsoring a Bicentennial Fair to be held in West Potomac Park, April - June 1976.

FORMAT: The Oval Office (15 minutes)
The President
Mr. Paul Sonnabend
Charles Leppert, Jr. (staff)

CABINET PARTICIPATION: Secretary Rogers B. Morton (Interior)

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points

PRESS COVERAGE: None - White House Photographer

STAFF: Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: 1. "We, the People" was established by the volunteer sector of the country, which conceived a three month Fair, a Bicentennial celebration to be held in Washington, D. C. from April - June of 1976.
2. The Fair is to be located on a 25-acre site in West Potomac Park; the land was donated by the National Park Service. More than 25 of the Nation's largest volunteer-coordinating organizations have endorsed this proposal and are planning the exhibits; business and government are contributing materials and expertise; architects, site planners, exhibit designers and engineering firms are creating the environment, designing structures and coordinating volunteer exhibits.

3. The Fair will provide an educational forum where volunteer organizations in America can tell their story, recruit new volunteers and exchange information. All volunteer organizations are invited to participate, and are given free space to do so.

4. Mrs. Ford is the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors of "We, the People."

5. Mr. Sonnabend, a close friend of Rep. O'Neill, would like to discuss with the President, the site preparation money. Although most of the financing has been raised from private sources, Mr. Sonnabend has discussed the money matter with Department of Interior Secretary Morton.
MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Paul Sonnabend is down to the final straw. Ted Marrs has been extremely helpful in exhausting all possible approaches for the We, the People project.

The last straw is "will you contact John D. Rockefeller III in an effort to put John D. and Sonnabend together for the purpose of convincing John D.'s U.S.A. 200 to provide the necessary funding for the We, the People project."

If you are not willing to do this, or if John D. rejects the proposal, Sonnabend will reluctantly scratch their entire project.

Please advise.
Rend —
"We, the People" —
Tish O’Neill —
12 May —
Question is, is
this any value in
such a meeting —
Send out notice cancelling it.

But really wants to get up him if President.

Book from Nat's Dept.