



For Immediate Release

RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE EXHIBIT OPENS AT W. R. POAGE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

Politics past comes to the forefront again as Baylor University's W. R. Poage Legislative Library opens their Race for the White House exhibit.

The exhibit highlights historical presidential elections and features campaign materials from many of the elections. Items featured come from many of America's well-known presidents such as, Roosevelt, Kennedy, Johnson and Reagan. There are also items from many presidential hopefuls such as, William Jennings Bryan, Thomas Dewey, Adlai Stevenson and Barry Goldwater.

The items on display will show how the different candidates used colors, slogans and themes to rally their supporters. The materials vary from items as common as posters and bumper stickers to the stranger ones such as, a gold button in the shape of a bug for President William McKinley and Russian nesting dolls with images of the Bush and Clinton families.

The exhibit will run from September – November 2012 in the W. R. Poage Exhibit Gall of the Poage Library. The materials featured in the exhibit came to the library from several donors. The bulk is from Dr. Bob Platt who has been a collector of political materials since the 1930s. The Poage Library was able to acquire the materials from Dr. Platt through a generous donation from the John and JD Dowdy Foundation. The materials from Platt now make up the Platt Dowdy Presidential Campaign Collection in the library.

The W.R. Poage Legislative Library was opened in 1979. The library is home to Baylor University's collection of political materials. It houses the papers of 12 of the congressmen that have served McLennan County, as well as the papers of former Lt. Governor Bob Bullock. The W. R. Poage Library is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The exhibit will be open for Baylor Homecoming on Saturday, Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information or to arrange a group tour, contact Mary Goolsby at 254-710-3540 or Mary_Goolsby@baylor.edu.

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