

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Women in Politics: Career Stories” Study Group

with Fellow Jennifer Schmidt, meets from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

at the Dole Institute, Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2007

Jo Ann Davidson, *co-chairwoman of the Republican National Committee*

Thursday, Oct. 25, 2007 3-5 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. at the Institute

Third Parties in Two Party America

afternoon seminar & evening program

Bill Kurtis, *moderating evening program*

Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2007 7:30 p.m. at the Institute

An Evening with the “Prince of Darkness”

Robert D. Novak, *syndicated columnist & author*

Book signing will follow lecture

Monday, Nov. 5, 2007 7:30 p.m. at the Institute

Captain James Wise, *retired Navy Captain & author*

Book signing will follow lecture

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007 7:30 p.m. at the Institute

General William B. Caldwell, *Fort Leavenworth*

“Presidential Politics From the Inside” Study Group

with Fellow Jerry Austin, meets from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

at the Dole Institute on the following Tuesdays:

Oct. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11

This week Jerry welcomes:

Jules Witcover, *author, syndicated columnist, & political reporter*

All events are free and open to the public.

Tonight’s event is being taped by KTWU Public Television and will be broadcast as part of the Dole Institute and KTWU’s series “Minds that Matter” on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 7:00 p.m.

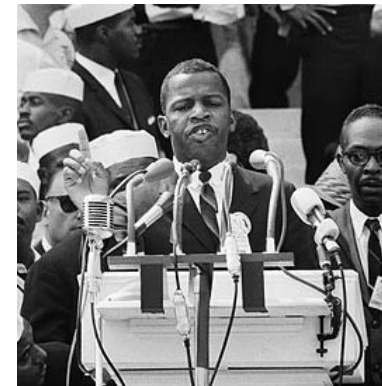


*The Dole Institute
is pleased to present*

Dole Leadership Prize

Honoree

JOHN R. LEWIS



U.S. Congressman, D-GA
Legendary Civil Rights Activist

Book signing to follow

7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 21, 2007
Lied Center of Kansas



Often called "one of the most courageous persons the Civil Rights Movement ever produced," John Lewis has dedicated his life to protecting human rights, securing civil liberties, and building what he calls "The Beloved Community" in America. His dedication to the highest ethical standards and moral principles has won him the admiration of many of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle in the United States Congress.



Congressman John R. Lewis

Lewis was born the son of sharecroppers on February 21, 1940, outside of Troy, Alabama. He grew up on his family's farm and attended segregated public schools in Pike County, Alabama. As a young boy, he was inspired by the activism surrounding the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the words of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., which he heard on radio broadcasts.

As a student at Fisk University, Lewis organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1961, he volunteered to participate in the Freedom Rides, which challenged segregation at interstate bus terminals across the South. Lewis risked his life on those Rides many times by simply sitting in seats reserved for white patrons. He was also beaten severely by angry mobs and arrested by police for challenging the injustice of Jim Crow segregation in the South.

During the height of the Movement, from 1963 to 1966, Lewis was named Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which he helped form. SNCC was largely responsible for organizing student activism in the Movement, including sit-ins and other activities.

While still a young man, Lewis became a nationally recognized leader. By 1963, he was dubbed one of the Big Six leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. (The others were Whitney Young, A. Phillip Randolph, Martin Luther King Jr., James Farmer and Roy Wilkins). At the age of 23, he was an architect of and a keynote speaker at the historic March on Washington in August 1963.

In 1964, Lewis coordinated SNCC efforts to organize voter registration drives and community action programs during the Mississippi Freedom Summer. The following year, Lewis helped spearhead one of the most seminal moments of the Civil Rights Movement. Hosea Williams, another notable Civil Rights leader, and Lewis led over 600 peaceful, orderly protestors across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965. They intended to march from Selma to Montgomery to demonstrate the need for voting rights in the state.

The marchers were attacked by Alabama state troopers in a brutal confrontation that became known as "Bloody Sunday." News broadcasts and photographs revealing the senseless cruelty of the segregated South helped hasten the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Despite more than 40 arrests, physical attacks and serious injuries, Lewis remained a devoted advocate of the philosophy of nonviolence. After leaving SNCC in 1966, he continued his commitment to the Civil Rights Movement as Associate Director of the Field Foundation and his participation in the Southern Regional Council's voter registration programs. Lewis went on to become the Director of the Voter Education Project (VEP). Under his leadership, the VEP transformed the nation's political climate by adding nearly four million minorities to the voter rolls.



Lewis helped lead Bloody Sunday March

In 1977, Lewis was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to direct more than 250,000 volunteers of ACTION, the federal volunteer agency.

In 1981, Lewis was elected to the Atlanta City Council. While serving on the Council, he was an advocate for ethics in government and neighborhood preservation. He was elected to Congress in November 1986 and has served as U.S. Representative of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District since then. That District includes the entire city of Atlanta, Georgia and parts of Fulton, DeKalb and Clayton counties. He is Senior Chief Deputy Whip for the Democratic Party in leadership in the House, a member of the House Ways & Means Committee, a member of its Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, and Chairman of its Subcommittee on Oversight.

Lewis's autobiography, *Walk with the Wind*, was published in 1998. In 2006, two other books were written about his life: *Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement*, by Ann Bausum and *John Lewis in the Lead*, by Jim Haskins and Kathleen Benson, with illustrations by famous Georgia artist, Bennie Andrews. John Lewis has also been featured in many books about the civil rights movement, including *The Children* by David Halberstam and the Taylor Branch's trilogy.



Lewis with Martin Luther King Jr.

Lewis lives in Atlanta, Georgia and is married to Lillian Miles. They have one son, John Miles.