



DRIVING WITH FDR: A CALENDRIAL BIOGRAPHY
BY STEFAN LONCE
www.DrivingWithFDR.com

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Stefan Lonce: 914-629-4580 • StefanLonce@DrivingWithFDR.com
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FDR LIBRARY TO HOST A “CALENDAR READING” ON JULY 27TH BY FDR BIOGRAPHER STEFAN LONCE AT ROOSEVELT READING FESTIVAL

HYDE PARK, NY: The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library will host a “Calendar Reading,” lead by FDR biographer Stefan Lonce, on July 27, 2013 at 2:00 PM, as part of the Roosevelt Reading Festival. “Calendar-Readers,” including FDR Library Director Lynn Bassanese and Frances Perkins Center Chairman Christopher Breiseth, will join Lonce in reading, aloud, the 4 page *MINIBOOK* at the beginning of Lonce’s 2014 *DRIVING WITH FDR BIOGRAPHICAL/COLLECTIBLE CALENDAR*, about the history and impact of the FDR Library. The FDR Library gift shop sells Lonce’s *DRIVING WITH FDR* calendars.

On 7-27-2013, the Calendar-Readers will all speak from the same podium, with the same camera positions, as the other speakers at the Roosevelt Reading Festival, which runs from 9 AM – 4 PM, at the FDR Library, at 4079 Albany Post Road in Hyde Park.

Last year, on 8-14-2012, at the FDR Library, Lonce lead the world’s first Calendar-Reading, of the 4 page *MINIBOOK* from his 2013 *DRIVING WITH FDR* calendar, *SOCIAL SECURITY & THE AMAZING ROOSEVELT/REAGAN CONNECTION*, which explains how FDR and his Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins, co-created Social Security in 1935, and how President Ronald Reagan saved and strengthened Social Security in 1983, when it was on the verge of going broke. Lonce, and his family, received Social Security survivors’ benefits after his father died.

“In 2012, I realized that a calendar is a book that hangs on the wall, with date information and art, and that I could self-publish my *DRIVING WITH FDR* calendars with 4 page *MINIBOOKS*, which I wrote in a conversational style, modeled after FDR’s Fireside Chats,” Lonce said. “The *MINIBOOK* in my 2012 *DRIVING WITH FDR* calendar begins on 8-10-1921, when Franklin D. Roosevelt was suddenly attacked by the polio virus, which paralyzed him from the waist down. However, although FDR could not walk after he was paralyzed by polio, he could drive...using hand controls he designed! Driving gave FDR confidence and hope, post-polio.”

FDR’s hand-controlled Ford is displayed at the FDR Library, which has been completely renovated and will re-open to the public on 6-30-2013. FDR also had a 1938 hand-controlled Ford, which is displayed at Roosevelt’s Little White House in Warm Springs, Georgia, where FDR founded a polio clinic in 1926, and where he learned to make it look as if he *could* walk.

Lonce is working on *DRIVING WITH FDR: A CALENDRIAL BIOGRAPHY*, which evolved from his FDR calendars. A “Calendrical Biography” – a term Lonce coined – focuses on the critical dates in the subject’s life and explains why they mattered; each chapter title is a date. Lonce’s calendars are lavishly illustrated with powerful photos of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, in cars; Lonce will include those powerful photos -- and others -- in his book, which he plans to publish in early 2014. Lonce’s web site is www.DrivingWithFDR.com; he can be reached by phone @ 914-629-4580.

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