



The John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series

*The Honorable
John Paul
Hammerschmidt
Member of Congress
1967 - 1993*

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt represented the Third District of Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives for 13 terms during the administrations of six presidents. By profession a lumberman, builder, and building supplies businessman for 20 years before seeking public office, he is a native of Harrison, where he continues to reside.

Since retiring from Congress, he has continued to be involved in many civic activities as a private citizen, chairing the Northwest Arkansas Council, the March of Dimes Arkansas Citizen of the Year Dinner, and the Governor's Citizens Council on Highways and Transportation. He served on the President's Task Force to Improve Health

Care for our Nation's Veterans, the Congressional Medal of Honor Commission, and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. Senior board chairman of First Federal Bank of Arkansas, he is a former board member of three other Arkansas-based corporations (Dillard's, Southwestern Energy, and American Freightways).

During his years in Congress, John Paul Hammerschmidt became well known for his attention to individual constituent service and communication; his high voting and attendance records at Congressional sessions during the business week, plus routine working weekends in Arkansas; and his legislative expertise in highway, airway, and water infrastructure and veteran's matters. Arkansas highways, airports, water supply and distribution systems, and veteran's hospitals - and their users - will continue to benefit from his diligent stewardship long into the future. Among his many accomplishments in public office, Congressman Hammerschmidt was the author and initiating sponsor of the Public Law preserving the Buffalo River as a free-flowing stream, adding it to the National Park System in 1972.

A combat pilot in World War II, Hammerschmidt flew 217 missions with the Third Combat Cargo Group in the China-Burma-India theatre. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, three Battle Stars, the China War Memorial Medal (by the Republic of China), and the Meritorious Service Award. He retired from the Air Force reserve as a major. He has been awarded highest honors by eight national veterans' service organizations.

The JPH Lecture Series

Funded by private gifts to the North Arkansas College Foundation, the John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series sponsors national experts and people with extraordinary life experiences to speak about topics of interest to the people of northern Arkansas. Congressman Hammerschmidt has an office at Northark, and many of his photographs, awards, and other memorabilia are on display in the building that bears his name.

Legendary Entertainer Larry Gatlin To Appear Nov. 14 In JPH Lecture Series



The 24th presentation in the John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series may be the most memorable of all. Singer, songwriter and Broadway star Larry Gatlin will speak Monday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. in the L.E. “Gene” Durand Center on North Arkansas College’s Center Campus.

Of the 42 songs Gatlin charted between 1973 and 1990, including 17 top 10 hits and the Grammy-winning “Broken Lady,” he single-handedly wrote every one, an achievement unmatched by any other artist in popular music. His smash “All The Gold In California” stands as a country crossover classic.

“We heard Larry Gatlin speak at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development’s International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence in Austin last summer,” said Dr. Jim Stockton, Northark’s vice president for institutional advancement. “He has a real love for education and, especially, the work being done in community colleges. He’s going to talk about his life, bring his guitar, and sing a few songs. It should be a great event!”

Gatlin also will do a creative writing workshop for Northark students earlier the same day. The John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture is open to the public free of charge.

Larry Gatlin and The Gatlin Brothers (Steve and Rudy) are starring in a Christmas show in November and December at The Mansion Theatre in Branson with Debby Boone.

Among his many accomplishments, Gatlin starred on Broadway in “The Will Rogers Follies” and wrote a book called *All the Gold in California*. He also is a frequent contributor to Fox News and FoxNews.com

As a presenter in the series, Gatlin follows astronaut and cosmonaut Dr. Jerry Linenger, Sherpa mountain guide Jamling Tenzing Norgay, CIA officers Tony and Jonna Mendez, internationally syndicated columnist Gwynne Dyer, former North Vietnam prisoner of war Colonel Edward L. Hubbard, 1972 Olympic 800-meter-run champion Dave Wottle, FDNY Chief Richard “Pitch” Picciotto, Harrison native and music therapy specialist Dr. Frederick (Ted) Tims, Savant Syndrome expert Dr. Darold Treffert, retired Wal-Mart senior vice-chairman Don Soderquist, “Homeless to Harvard” heroine Liz Murray, Navy Commander (retired) Scott Waddle of the USS Greeneville, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* staff writer and Iraq war correspondent Amy Schlesing, animator/filmmaker Gary Goldman, former college and pro football great Keith Jackson, Clinton School of Public Service Dean James L. “Skip” Rutherford, *Horns, Hogs, & Nixon Coming: Texas vs. Arkansas in Dixie’s Last Stand* author Terry Frei, award-winning journalist Juan Williams of “Fox News Sunday,” pollster John Zogby, wilderness photographer Tim Ernst, Ozarks historian Dr. Brooks Blevins, “Cowboy Ethics” founder James P. Owen, and television anchor and author of *Look Again...Because You Can*, Neile Jones-Batie.