



**Special Edition**

**Washington Trip—March 11th-13th, 2007**

Some of us hadn't slept at all, some of us had only had an hour or two of sleep, and some of us had slept for hours; but all of us were on the bus and ready to go to Washington at 6 am on Sunday morning. Some of us had been there before, and some of us were going for the first time, but that didn't matter either cause this time we were going together. The Caldwell County Career Center High School students were going to the nation's capital.

We like to get as much bang for the buck as possible, so we went to Washington by way of Charlottesville, Virginia. Thomas Jefferson lived there in a big house he designed called Monticello. Monticello means little mountain, but it didn't seem so little when we were walking back up the hill from the family cemetery. Most of us liked ole TJ's house. He had some cool beds. He wanted to save space, so he put his beds in walls and alcoves.

The first thing we saw in Washington was the embassies. It would have helped to know the flags of all the countries. There were so many flags we could never have known them all anyway. We found out that each embassy is a little piece of that country sitting right there in the USA. The bus driver took us to the White House where we all lined up in the dark and had a picture taken. A few of us yelled "Hello" to George W., but he must not have been home cause he didn't holler back.

We stayed in College Park, Maryland at a pretty cool hotel that served a free breakfast. Some of the guys and a few girls played a few pranks, but not many and nobody got too mad either night. The hotel sure was fun though. We probably got to know each other better those two nights than we had all year.

For two days we toured Washington. We saw all the monuments and memorials. It seems like everyone had a different favorite. A few of our group had lost relatives and friends in Vietnam and were able to find the names on the wall. They made rub-offs of the names to take home.

The museums were cool too. The construction students were happy to find a building museum. We saw construction materials and techniques of the future. At the Natural History Museum we saw the Hope Diamond, but the favorite museum for most of the group was the Air and Space Museum. Planes hang from the ceiling. Rockets and space vehicles are all over the place. If a person wants to, he can crawl in a simulator and fly a jet. It's not free though.

We went to the Capitol for a tour. The security there is tight. We found out that steel toed boots will set off a metal detector. There is a place in the building where a person can hear everything that is said in the room, even a whisper. John Quincy Adams discovered it and used it to listen in on his colleagues.

We had a great time in Washington, and we can't wait to go somewhere else. The Career Center High School believes in hands on education and travel. It was a good trip for all of us, but we were glad to be home too.

**On Our Way!**

We were on our way on Sunday, March 11th at 6:00 a.m. A special thank you to Charles Sprinkle with Educational Travel Adventures for a wonderful ride! Our tour guide was Mr. Charles Laney—a retired Caldwell County educator.

Educational Travel Adventures planned an excellent trip for us. We began at Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson. Then, we proceeded to Washington and visited: Ford's Theatre, the Peterson House, Air and Space Museum, Natural History Museum, the Green House Museum, World War II Memorial, Korean Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Imo Jima Memorial, Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, Washington Monument, National Cathedral, Embassy Row, Arlington Cemetery, the White House, and the Capitol Building.





CCHS students at the Ford Theatre observing the Presidential box where Lincoln was assassinated.

Kalib H.: "Arlington was the most amazing thing. We got to see the changing of the guard. A silence came over the group. It was very emotional."

Zachary F.: "The duty of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown is to pace 21 steps and pause for 21 seconds in honor of our nation's dead."



Max B.: "The building museum was very interesting to me, because I understood how and why the materials were used. These new types of houses are supposed to be quite energy efficient and save the owner money. The builders will use recycled materials."

Billy M.: "We explored the Green House and learned how green technology saves energy. This was awesome; the counter tops in the house were made out of recycled paper."

Ashley Ingle: "There are 4,000 stars at the World War II monument. Each star represents 100,000 soldiers who died during the war."

Danyell R.: "My favorite part of the museums was the room with Mr. Rodger's sweater, Prince's guitar, Ali's boxing gloves, and Ray Charles' sunglasses."

## Washington Moments— Through the Eyes of CCHS Students

For many CCHS students, this was their first time in Washington. Mr. Grayson Beane, English Instructor at CCHS, captured the students' reflections of the trip. Some of these are shared below.

Cody V.: "Ford's Theatre was an awesome place to visit. I didn't know much about the death of Lincoln until we visited the theatre. I didn't know that John Wilkes Booth jumped off the balcony and broke his ankle after he shot Lincoln."



Torie B.: "We saw the Korean and the Vietnam memorials at night. They were so pretty. Washington is pretty at night."

Lacey B.: "FDR's memorial was really cool. I took a picture of me sitting with FDR."

Allison R.: "The Vietnam Memorial was special to me. I have a cousin whose name is on the wall. I was able to locate his name and take a picture to show my family."

Mitch M.: "The Vietnam Memorial was my favorite thing on the trip. It was really something to see the names of all those soldiers who died for their country."

Chris A.: "We visited the FDR Memorial. FDR is not one of my favorite Presidents but his memorial was one of my favorite memories of the trip. It was right on the Potomac River, and the sun was glistening off the water."

Robert C.: "Directly in front of the Iwo Jima Memorial is the Washington Monument which rises 500 ft. into the sky. The flashing red light near the top resembles an eye watching over the city."

Allan D.: "After dinner we went to the Lincoln Memorial. I didn't know that place was so big! I had to climb a bunch of steps to get up to where Lincoln sits, and when I got there he is like a giant."

Photos compliments of Chris A. and Clifton S.