

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



January 4, 1995

Marianne Curan  
Producer  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Marianne:

Many, many thanks for an outstanding performance! I'm still being congratulated on my choice of entertainment and on how well the skit was personalized for AIA. Our Board just loved the whole dang thing. And I will forever appreciate the fact that I was working with professionals who showed up early, had their tape already cued, and didn't complain about waiting an eternity in the fire stairwell. This is starting to sound like a corny report card, but you were a joy to work with and I hope we can do it again sometime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kade" or "Katharine", written in a cursive style.

Katharine Macey  
Director  
Meeting Planning



# AMERICAN CORPORATE COUNSEL ASSOCIATION

1225 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. • Suite 302 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 296-4522 • Fax (202) 331-7454

February 2, 1990

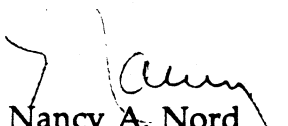
Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
2206 Cathedral Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008


Dear John:

Our thanks go out to you and your troupe for your riotous performance at our Association's Annual Meeting. We had never tried comedy entertainment before with our members, but the response to GNP was enthusiastic. We appreciate the time you spent to create a program that would amuse our members and include our audience. Due to the positive remarks of our members, I am sure that we will have occasion to work together again soon.

Good luck with your endeavors; Washington is certainly doing its part by contributing plenty of free material for you to work with! If GNP ever needs a recommendation, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy A. Nord  
Executive Director

  
Susan J. Hackett  
Director of Programs and Publications

---

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November 22, 1999

John Simmons  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

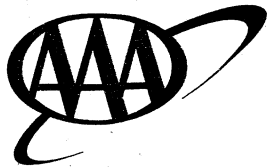
Dear John:

Thank you for performing for the Strategic Operations year-end meeting. The preparation time you spent with me really paid off as you could tell from the reaction you received from my teammates. Your Al Gore impersonation was "dead on" accurate. The meeting participants all commented on how you not only resemble Al Gore but actually sound like him. I believe any meeting in Washington, DC is incomplete without a Town Hall from Al Gore.

Thanks again for participating in our meeting!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mel L. Feld", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.



Washington Office  
1440 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202/942-2050  
FAX 202/783-4798

June 8, 2000

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John,

I wanted to reiterate my thanks to you and your crew for the wonderful performance in San Antonio earlier this week.

Our conference attendees thought the show was terrific!

I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Hayes  
Managing Director  
AAA Public Relations

# ACADEMY OF AMCP

## MANAGED CARE PHARMACY

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Alexandria, VA  
(800) TAP-AMCP

November 15, 1995

John Simmons  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John:

On behalf of the members and staff of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, I want to thank you for a most entertaining performance at our annual educational conference in Washington, D.C. last week. We appreciate the obvious time and attention you gave to incorporating timely political figures and some special "pharmacy humor" into your performance.

I would recommend to any group planning a conference in Washington that they consider GNP for a special addition to their events. As you advised, a seated audience is a must for your show.

Best wishes to each of you and the staff of GNP productions.

Sincerely,



Mary R. Prunchak  
Director of Education

# asim



american society of internal medicine

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Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting  
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October 6-9, 1994

**REPRESENTING**

Internists and  
All Subspecialists  
of Internal Medicine

October 27, 1993

Christine Thompson  
Gross National Productions, Inc.  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Christine:

Hats off to you and your staff for hosting the hilarious Scandal Tour during the American Society of Internal Medicine's 37th Annual Meeting!

From those who attended the tour, I heard rave reviews on how entertaining and enjoyable it was. You all did a great job of exciting the crowd so early in the morning!

Thanks again, Christine, for your assistance. I enjoyed working with you. Congratulations on a successful tour and best of luck!

Sincerely,



Melinda Klein  
Director, Convention/Meeting Services

# *A*utomotive *P*arts *R*ebuilders *A*ssociation

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June 10, 1993

Ms. Christine Thompson  
Associate Producer  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

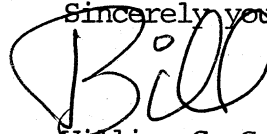
Dear Christine:

What a FUN EVENING we had with your Scandals Tour! Our Board of Directors thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

The tour was very well organized. I know everyone saw a little of Washington, D.C. they didn't EXPECT TO SEE!!

If we ever have another meeting in D.C., we'll look you up for another tour.

Sincerely yours,



William C. Gager  
President

P.S. Thanks for the complimentary passes for our staff. I know they'll appreciate this opportunity!

*P.P.S.-Say "Hi" to Rita for me!*



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4401 Fair Lakes Court, Suite 210, Fairfax, Virginia 22033  
Phone: (703) 968-2772 FAX: 703-968-2878



# Beck Center

for the Cultural Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue  
Lakewood, OH 44107  
(216) 521-2540

October 26, 1994

Ms. Marianne Curan  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Marianne:

What a show!

Everyone of our guests enjoyed meeting Hilliary and Bill along with the other characters in the various skits. Our benefit was a huge success and we thank you for being a very critical part of that success.

Please find enclosed a check in the amount of \$1,096.82 for travel and accomodations expenses under Invoice 100894.

Again, many thanks. If I'm ever in Washington, I will look forward to taking you up on your offer to see the show. Thank YOU!

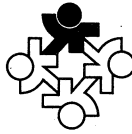
Sincerely yours,



Linda J. N. Prosak  
Director of Development

Enclosure: Check #5452





Child Life Council

30 June 1997

Mr. John Simmons  
Producer  
Gross National Product  
1602 South Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John and Company:

Many, many thanks to you and the troupe of Gross National Product for helping to make a very memorable and extremely entertaining social event. The performance was very funny and the participants from the Child Life Council Conference that attended the performance truly enjoyed the skits, the impersonation of "Bill," and most of all the personalized attention given to them. The Social Event was named "A Capital Evening" and the show highlighted the true flavor of Washington. The GNP certainly showed our guests what a hoot politics can be.

I must also thank you for working with us, and providing a very personalized touch despite the fact that other people were in the audience. Many of the people from the conference loved meeting "Bill" and were laughing and making references to the show long into the night.

Thank you again for making our event a grand success.

Sincerely,

Judith S. Ross  
Social Chair  
Child Life Council Conference

# DEMOCRATIC ★ NATIONAL ★ COMMITTEE

Donald L. Fowler  
*National Chair*

March 21, 1995

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions, Inc.  
1602 South Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John,

On behalf of the Democratic National Committee, I would like to thank you and everyone at Gross National Product for performing your show "A Newt World Order" on Saturday evening for the DNC's Saxophone Club. I especially appreciate your help in planning this event and your support as a Vice Chair of the Club. Your leadership was essential to the success of this evening.

The Saxophone Club is a critical component of the DNC's efforts to promote the work of the President and Vice President. I appreciate your continued support and thank you again for your contributions. With warmest regards,

Sincerely,



Donald L. Fowler  
National Chairman

Democratic Party Headquarters • 430 South Capitol Street, S.E. • Washington, D.C. 20003  
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## THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAR

October 17, 1996

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear John:

This is to thank you and the rest of the GNP team for a tremendous program at our Mid-Atlantic Bar Conference. Both the Scandal Tour and your "dinner-theater" performance were funny, witty and totally enjoyable. I also appreciated your involving our participants. It was a fun-filled evening for all of us.

Also, I must thank you personally for your extraordinary patience in working with us through the maize of logistical nightmares which our evening presented. You were always helpful, constructive and even cheerful!

Again, my sincere thanks for making our event a grand success.  
Best of luck on the 19th!

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Mazzaferri

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November 25, 1991

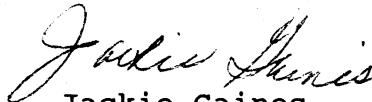
Gross National Product  
c/o Chris Cahill  
Slapstix Comedy Club  
34 Market Place #260  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen:

I would like to extend a personal thank-you for your wonderful performance at COMEDY CARE '91. You were truly a crowd pleaser! People are still talking about the show and how funny it was. The success of this event hinged on each performance. And, you were great!

Health Care for the Homeless would also like to acknowledge the fact that you performed free of charge. It is through the commitment of dedicated persons like yourself that we can make a difference in the lives of the most destitute of Maryland's citizens living in poverty...our homeless.

Sincerely,

  
Jackie Gaines  
Executive Director

JG/jh

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Harman Management

August 19, 1996

Mr. John Q. Simmons  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear John:

Thank you for the wonderful performance! Everyone is still calling to thank me for the show: I know I haven't laughed that hard in quite a while. Your production offered more than just political look-alikes: the well-written skits, toe-tapping musical numbers, and hilarious improvisations all showcased the considerable talents of your cast.

John, you went beyond the call of duty from the beginning with our V.I.P. customer evening. Your flexibility was evident in the fact that even though your group was leaving early the next morning for San Diego, you held the late evening show for us.

Unfamiliar as I was with the D.C. area and with planning events in general, you made my job easy and made me (and my organization) *look like stars*. I would recommend your troupe highly!

Thanks again,



Elizabeth Vida



McCORMICK & COMPANY, INC. 211 SCHILLING CIRCLE, HUNT VALLEY, MD 21031, USA, (301) 527-6000 FAX (301) 527-6005

McCORMICK/SCHILLING  
DIVISION

October 1, 1990

Rick London  
SCANDAL TOURS  
1727 Q Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Rick,

Just a note to thank you and the Gross National Product Comedy Troupe for a wonderful evening aboard the SCANDAL TOURS bus. Everyone had a great time!

It was very enjoyable working with you and your staff. I hope we can plan more such affairs in the future.

Regards,

Camille Appel  
McCormick/Schilling Division

CA/vjp  
Enclosure



Management **Options**, Inc.

1620 I Street, NW • Suite 615 • Washington, DC 20006

TEL 202.293.6880

FAX 202.463.8498

September 26, 1997

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

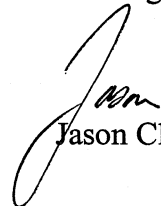
Dear John:

Thanks to *Scandal Tours*, my company is now under a tremendous amount of pressure to come up with an event for next year that will equal the success of our recent *Scandal Tour*. After listening to the reviews of those who took the *Tour*, we will be hard pressed to find anything as entertaining.

The group had a fantastic trip. They spent the last day of the conference reliving their favorite lines and personalities. Be thankful you didn't have to witness the massacre of your material. It goes without saying that my favorite was 'Rita Genrette.' Even 'Captain Hazelwood's' navigating was a hit with the group, and they were very impressed with your group's improvisational skills.

Thank you and very much for a fantastic evening. It is my pleasure to recommend GNP Productions to our friends and associates. I also look forward to seeing you at the Bayou.

Best regards,



Jason Clawson



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

November 13, 1997

Mr. Jim Keppler  
Keppler Associates Inc.  
4350 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 700  
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Mr. Keppler:

I wanted to emphasize our delight with the performance of Gross National Product at our October 21, 1997, meeting at the Bethesda Marriott. John Simmons and his troupe truly were amazing. I was especially pleased at the way they used the audience and tailored their performance to our membership. It was a truly outstanding show, and we will certainly strongly consider having them as our entertainment again.

Thank you and your employees for the suggestion. Your company gave us great service and we are pleased with the results.

Best regards,

  
Anne Bolen

Enclosures

*John  
Thanks for the  
great work!  
Jim*



# NAGC

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATORS

December 13, 1990

Mr. John Simmons  
The Gross National Product  
c/o Cellar Door Talent  
329 South Patrick Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Simmons:

On behalf of the NAGC Program Planning Committee and Executive Board, thank you for participating last week at our annual conference.

Our attendees enjoyed your performance and we ask that you extend our gratitude to everyone in the Gross National Product.

We appreciate your taking time from a busy schedule to be a part of our annual conference.

Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season.

Sincerely,



Marci Hilt  
Vice President for Programs

*We really appreciated the way  
to personalized your appearance before our  
group & the way your troop  
interacted with the audience. A truly  
great performance by a talented  
group.*



November 19, 1996

Mr. John Simmons  
%GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD .  
Southbury, CT 06488

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Please accept my sincere thanks for a super Parents and Families Weekend presentation on October 26 here at Penn State Altoona. Your satirical interpretation of our country's candidates and our overall political system were both entertaining and enlightening. It was a pleasure to be able to host each of the members of GNP and I hope that your stay with us was as enjoyable for you. My best wishes to you and again thank you for providing the students and their families with the opportunity to experience the comedy and stinging wit of Gross National Product.

Sincerely,

L. Jay Burlingame  
Associate Director, Student Affairs

cc: David P. Shields Jr. Director, Student Affairs  
Jamie Tell, IMG Speakers ✓



March 31, 1994

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear John:

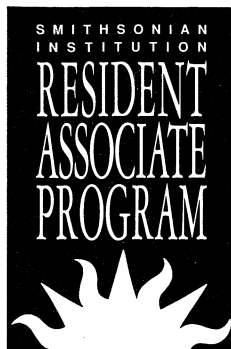
Thanks so much for providing the services of "Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton" and "George Bush" on behalf of Pepsi for the Dairy Mart trade show. The actors were very well received and provided the necessary levity during the show.

I hope on my next visit to Washington, DC to see the full troupe first hand. Once again, thanks for making the show a memorable and successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Walsh".

Harry Walsh  
Marketing Manager



October 17, 1991

John Simmons  
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT  
2206 Cathedral Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear John:

On behalf of the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program as well as personally I want to thank you for a wonderfully funny evening in Baird Auditorium last week. The SRO audience of some 600 knee-slappers were captivated by your multi-talented troupe. Devotees of political satire are abundant in this city, but even so you should be gratified that so many turned up at your performance at the Smithsonian.

Please extend my personal thanks to the entire cast, and courage! as you make your way through the latest list of Capitol Hill fiascos..(we all need a lot of help to be able to laugh at the most recent glitch in the process up there).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Penelope P. Dann". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Penelope P. Dann  
Senior Program Coordinator  
Performing Arts

# NewsEdge

March 5, 2001

John Simmons  
GNP  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(202) 783-7212  
FAX (301) 587-4688  
e mail: gapinc@earthlink.net  
www.gapcomedy.com

John,

Fantastic! I wanted to thank you and your great cast for pulling off what many in my company believed was impossible.

You carefully orchestrated the faux campaign convention for NewsEdge Corporation. Every detail was reviewed. Everyone had his or her part scripted and rehearsed. All the NewsEdge nominators, and your team included had nomination speeches in order. Cokie Roberts was panning the conventioners, and Strom Thurmond was an excellent moderator. The campaign song was written and emailed. Everything was good to go. Bill Clinton researched our business and was ready to sign up for the *meta-grabber*. We even had the bee suit backstage for our CFO and our nomination speech ready for our president, who had, as he put it when describing Buzz, "great intestinal."

This was a great plan waiting to happen... and boy, did it happen. Everyone got in the spirit. Each nominator presented and the buzz was truly in the air. Your seemingly impromptu but well thought out translation for Japan's "I'm alone out here, would someone please call me!" speech had people in tears. The cheeks on our Director in Amsterdam were sore from laughing!

Truly your team is to be commended for creating a flexible forum by which our organization was able to get in what is known at NewsEdge as the best team-building event ever! Our VP of Marketing ran up to me afterwards and acclaimed over the buzz of the evening.

*Rog, I didn't think you could pull it off, but you did! This is better than the Karaoke night we had three years ago. Where did you find these guys?*

But that was not all! Your team proceeded to take it further and pull us into an interactive comedy show with audience participation from our folks. I'll always remember "Tim O", one of our sales guys from New York, dancing on stage with your Actress. What a pair they made!

Anyway, great job. I would recommend you guys with no reservations to anyone who wants to have their team engage with one another in a kickoff event and have a great time.

Thanks again, John and your team!



Roger Hurd  
Director of Global Sales Operations  
NewsEdge Corporation

Roger.Hurd@NewsEdge.com  
312-961-5132



July 20, 1998

John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John:

On behalf of The Smithsonian Associates, I thank you and Gross National Product (and Kenneth Starr, Janet Reno, Monica Lewinsky, Bill & Hillary Clinton, etc.) for yet another fabulous show here at the Smithsonian. I've received some feedback from our audience, all of which has been terrific. GNP is truly a gifted group of actors, and I look forward to hosting you again.

It was my first time seeing the group in performance, and I'm sure it won't be the last. I agree that it's a good idea to present GNP on an annual basis. Certainly between elections, scandals and rumors of war, there's plenty material for you to work with!

I'm sure Penne would agree that we've got to do this again, and soon. But next time, you'll definitely need to negotiate a little harder if you want the Hope Diamond. Best of luck to you as you continue with your San Francisco stint, and we'll see you soon.

Sincerely,

Ayo Ngozi-Brown  
Performing Arts and Humanities

**The Smithsonian Associates**

1100 Jefferson Dr. S.W. • Room 3077, MRC 701 • Washington, D.C. 20560  
<http://www.si.edu/tsa>



Hanley-Wood, Inc.

Mr. John Q. Simmons  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

May 7, 1996

Dear Mr. President(s):

I hate to be upstaged and hate even more admitting to it, but the fact is that your cameo appearances as Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton stole the show at our annual meeting. The impersonations in and of themselves would probably have been enough, but having the scripting tie to the theme of our meeting made your roles that much better.

Thank you for contributing enormously to the success of one of the most important meetings in Hanley-Wood's 20-year history.

Best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F. Anton' or similar, written over a horizontal line.

~~Frank Anton~~  
President

cc: Mike Hanley  
Mike Wood  
Lisa Baker  
Bruce Tobin  
Noreen Welle

Xerox Realty Corporation  
Routes 7 & 659  
P.O. Box 2000  
Leesburg, Virginia 22075  
(703) 729-8000

September 25, 1990

**XEROX**

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP  
2206 Cathedral Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear John:

On behalf of all of us at Xerox Realty Corporation I want to thank you and your entire troupe for turning our otherwise mundane luncheon into a spectacular and memorable afternoon.

Much to my surprise, as it is completely unc customary, I have received thank you notes from brokers and others who attended our luncheon. All reference their appreciation for the "comic relief" - a testimony to your troupe's talents and success.

I look forward to working with you in the future. Until then, I send our thanks and appreciation.

With best wishes,

XEROX REALTY CORPORATION



Cate Magennis  
Director of Development

CAM/phl



virgin atlantic



July 8, 1996

Ms. Marianne Curran  
Scandal Tours  
8908 Dorrington Avenue  
West Hollywood, CA 90048

Dear Marianne:

On behalf of Virgin Atlantic Airways and our Washington DC Inaugural guests, please accept our thanks for everything you did to make our Scandal Tour on Thursday, June 27th so successful. Our guests had a wonderful time and enjoyed the tour. It was a welcome break from the traditional sightseeing stops we had lined up for them.

Please also extend our thanks to all of the actors and actresses -- they were a great hit.

We welcome the opportunity to work with you again in the future.

Kind regards,

Lisa McDonald



November 30, 2000

John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John:

On behalf of the National Tour Association, I just wanted to express my thanks for your performance at our Issues Luncheon in Salt Lake City. The event was our largest ever and we've gotten great feedback from the audience.

It was a great day and you and your comrades deserve major kudos. The Government Relations committee meets in January and I'm sure we'll be hearing your name mentioned in conjunction with future events.

Best of luck to you. Something tells me you'll be having a lot of Florida performances in your future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Grayson", is written over a horizontal line.

Matt Grayson  
Director, Government Relations



# P R E N T I C E H A L L

---

## TRADE DIVISION

November 27, 1989

**Maureen Kelly**  
Director of Publicity

Bill Kitchen  
Cellar Door  
329 S. Patrick St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Bill,

This note is a bit belated, but I did want you to know how much we enjoyed having Gross National Product perform at Prentice Hall's American Booksellers Association Convention dinner in May.

The guests at our dinner party were agents, authors, booksellers and publishing folks from around the country, and we were delighted that they responded so positively (actually uproariously) to the antics of the GNP group. They especially seemed to get a kick out of the pieces with audience involvement. The actors, writing, sets and pacing were all top-drawer professional, and we couldn't have asked for a better time.

Thanks for your help in putting together a fantastic program.

Best regards,

  
Maureen Kelly



**Housing Assistance Council**

1025 Vermont Ave., NW, Suite 606, Washington, DC 20005, Tel.: 202-842-8600, Fax: 202-347-3441, E-mail: [HAC@ruralhome.org](mailto:HAC@ruralhome.org)

**Web site: [www.ruralhome.org](http://www.ruralhome.org)**

January 9, 2001

Mr. John Simmons  
Gross National Product  
8391 Beverly Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Dear Mr. Simmons:

On behalf of the staff and board of the Housing Assistance Council (HAC), I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and Gross National Product for performing at the National Rural Housing Awards Banquet on Friday, December 8, as a part of *Strengthening Our Communities: National Rural Housing Conference 2000*.

Your performance lent an intellectual irreverence to the event that both engaged participants and supplied a much needed release. Your use of contemporary issues, especially those relating to housing, was greatly appreciated. Many participants commented very positively, both on the event as a whole, and your performance in particular. Thank you for helping to make the event a success. Please accept our best wishes for you and Gross National Product in the new year.

Sincerely,

Moises Loza  
Executive Director

**Building  
Rural  
Communities**

*Celebrating  
30 Years  
1971-2001*

**Southeast Office**

615 Peachtree St., NE  
Suite 1130  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
Tel.: 404-892-4824  
Fax: 404-892-1204  
[Southeast@ruralhome.org](mailto:Southeast@ruralhome.org)

**Western Office**

131 Camino Alto  
Suite D  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
Tel.: 415-381-1706  
Fax: 415-381-0801  
[Western@ruralhome.org](mailto:Western@ruralhome.org)

**Southwest Office**

3939 San Pedro, NE  
Suite C-7  
Albuquerque, NM 87110  
Tel.: 505-883-1003  
Fax: 505-883-1005  
[Southwest@ruralhome.org](mailto:Southwest@ruralhome.org)

**Midwest Office**

10920 Ambassador Drive  
Suite 220  
Kansas City, MO 64153  
Tel.: 816-880-0400  
Fax: 816-880-0500  
[Midwest@ruralhome.org](mailto:Midwest@ruralhome.org)

# WALKER OF LIVES CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

*The cost of these Natural Products  
In grateful recognition of generous and outstanding*

*service to the March of Dimes.*

*One hope. One dream. One purpose.*

*To prevent birth defects.*



---

# Williams & Wilkins

---

A WAVERLY COMPANY

Marianne Curan  
Producer  
GNP Productions, Inc.  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring  
MD 20910

August 19, 1994

Dear Marianne,

On behalf of the Waverly Sales force, I want to thank you and the rest of "The Clintons" for a funny and most enjoyable evening. The show was great and our people enjoyed the customized portion that Bob Heck and John Simmons were able to keep alive throughout the entire show. Having our CEO and several other executives on the hot seat as part of Bill Clinton's town meeting was a lot of fun for everyone.

I hope to see your show again and I will give you a call this fall, if we are able to get to Washington one evening. On the small world aspect, the keyboard player that performed the night of our show knows our company well. His wife Ashley Pound works for us in our Journal Division. Whoever said it is a small world is certainly correct.

Marianne, it was a pleasure working with you and again many thanks for the PERFECT end to our summer sales meeting.

Sincerely,

Will Passano  
Vice President



# National Confectioners' Logistics Council, Inc.

"Promoting Interchange Of Ideas Concerning Confectionery Logistics"

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

### CHAIRMAN

**JOHN P. GAINOR**  
WARNER-LAMBERT COMPANY  
MORRIS PLAINS, NJ  
(201) 540-4509

### VICE CHAIRMAN

**JAMES J. BIZUB**  
PEPPERIDGE FARM, INC.  
NORWALK, CT

### TREASURER

**CHARLES G. SLABINAK**  
STORCK, U.S.A.  
CHICAGO, IL

### SECRETARY

**FRED FOSS**  
WM. WRIGLEY, JR. COMPANY  
CHICAGO, IL

## DIRECTORS

### 1992

**JOSEPH C. KELLY**  
JACOBS SUCHARD, INC.  
CHICAGO, IL

**RONALD E. LEEPER**  
R.M. PALMER COMPANY  
WEST READING, PA

**LIBERATO PETRAGLIA**  
PERUGINA CHOCOLATES &  
CONFECTIONS, INC.  
TETERBORO, NJ

### 1993

**CHARLES ARENDS**  
LEAF, INC.  
CHICAGO, IL

**JAMES GRAP**  
HERSHEY CHOCOLATE U.S.A.  
HERSHEY, PA

**CAROL O'LAUGHLIN**  
SUNMARK, INC.  
ST. LOUIS, MO

### 1994

**MIKE GALLOWAY**  
CONFECTIONARY CONSOLIDATORS, INC.  
CLARK, NJ

**LLOYD C. STOCKMAN**  
AMERICAN CANDY MFG. CO., INC.  
SELMA, AL

**WILLIAM J. SULLIVAN**  
WHITMAN'S CHOCOLATE DIV./PET, INC.  
PHILADELPHIA, PA

## COUNSEL

**GERALD K. GIMMEL**  
GIMMEL, WEIMAN, SAVITZ & KRONTHAL, P.A.  
GAITHERSBURG, MD  
(301) 840-8565

September 5, 1991

Mr. John Simmons  
Actor-In-Chief  
GNP Productions  
2206 Cathedral Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

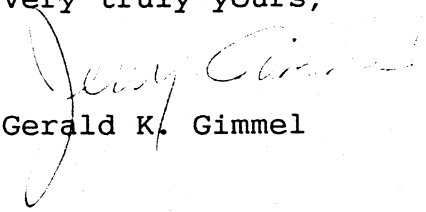
Dear John:

Your performance at our recent NCLC Conference was outstanding. From the entrance with the secret service men to involving our chairman and one of the best known attendees in the arm wrestling match to resolve the issues of state, the audience loved it all. Your performance was "the topic" the rest of the afternoon and evening.

We especially found that the lighthearted touch was a good way to close our two-day program. There had been a number of heavy issues discussed and having the "Prez" explain transportation policy to us was a great close.

On behalf of the National Confectioners' Logistics Council, thank you for a very professional, humorous and enjoyable closing address as President Bush.

Very truly yours,

  
Gerald K. Gimmel

GKG:clk

5 November 1996

Mr. John Simmons  
GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

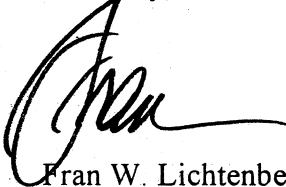
Dear John,

The Society of the Plastics Industry - Polyurethane Division's - Polyurethanes Expo '96 was a JACKPOT success.

The Opening session was well-received and you did a great job in stirring excitement and amusement in our attendees. Christine, Pamela, Kevin, David and Bob were all great to work with.

We wish you much success in your endeavors and will give you high recommendations. A copy of the opening session video is forthcoming.

Sincerely,



Fran W. Lichtenberg  
Executive Director



Fun Yun Lee  
Coordinator, Meetings & Conferences





Rodney J. MacAlister  
Washington Representative

Conoco Inc.  
Suite 900  
1701 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Tel: (202) 728-3625  
Fax: (202) 728-3649

April 20, 1995

Ms. Marianne Curan  
Producer  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD. 20910

Dear Marianne,

I'm not sure if it was Diane Feinstein's frown, or Gennifer Flowers' tongue, or Larry King's guests, or the President's answers that I remember most fondly from the night y'all entertained our Texas oil company lawyers... I just can't decide. Of course, if I was genetically related to any of my guests, I would offer a family answer to that question. Maybe I'll just have to see the show again to figure it out.

Your D'Amato sketch was especially timely. My company had been called as a witness to testify before his committee only the week before your show. We should have rehearsed our V.P. in front of you guys instead of our lawyers! It's a good thing I saw your show after the hearing, or I'd have had a hard time keeping a straight face during the real thing.

And I have to compliment you directly, Marianne. I wish I could have seen you on the stage as well, but you've already got the idea I liked the material you've written. And, I feel like I made a friend just in dealing with you over the phone. You're great! Some day we'll have to meet up and talk about Montreux festivals and other tidbits of common interest. Till then, I hope you and your colleagues will continue to **Dole** out **Billions of Hilarious Chuckles** to **Phil the Newt** world with.

Very appreciatively,

Rodney J. MacAlister

NORTHERN VIRGINIA  
**HOTLINE**  
703-527-4077

April 20, 1994

Marianne Curan, Producer  
Gross National Product  
1602 S. Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Marianne:

On behalf of all of us---the Board of Directors, volunteers and staff---I want to thank each of you with "GNP" for helping make our evening the special success that it was. The audience obviously enjoyed the performance greatly! I am still hearing very positive reviews from board members and volunteers. My only regret is that I was unable to catch much of the performance---which is the nature of my work with special events. I'll use that as my excuse, when I do take you up on your kind offer to be your guest seeing the show in the future.

Please extend our thanks to everyone there---especially to John for his unflagging flexibility, patience, kindness, as we all had to deal with the difficulties that came about as a result of misinformation to all of us on the part of the arrangements folks at the facility. In spite of it all, and with such understanding and support on your parts, everything went beautifully. Considering the many events occurring that weekend---from many other winter-ice-delayed events to the Olympic Skating Team being in town---we were fortunate to almost fill the theater. We appreciated your special support in that regard.

I hope that all went well in Europe---we'll be watching the papers for any news on that front. I want to extend my personal thanks for your many patient responses to anything I requested in terms of information. Have a great summer---and tell Bob I'm warning any unsuspecting, innocent women about what they can expect from him, if on a Scandal Tour where he hosts.

Best to you all,



Marilyn Harris





December 24, 1991

John Simmons  
Gross National Product  
2206 Cathedral Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear John,

On behalf of the management and merchants of Tysons Corner Center, thanks for the wonderfully entertaining show you put together for our annual merchants meeting. I was very impressed that your troupe was able to tailor the material to our theme without losing anything in the process.

We especially enjoyed the improvs. This is **such** a fun way to get the audience involved in the whole program. We had so many favorable comments from our merchants after this event... several store managers and district managers said it was the best annual meeting that they'd ever been to, for any mall.

Again, thanks for making the Tysons Corner Center 1991 Annual Meeting such a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Withers".

Debbie Withers, CMD  
Marketing Director  
Tysons Corner Center

P.O. Box 3237  
McLean, VA 22103

1961 Chain Bridge Rd.  
Suite 105  
McLean, VA 22102

(703) 893-9400  
FAX (703) 847-3089

U.S. Investors  
Services, Inc.  
The Lebedorff Group  
of Companies



April 17, 1991

Mr. John Simmons  
Director  
Gross National Product  
2206 Cathedral Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear John:

On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to thank you for a stellar performance at the Nutrition Screening Initiative conference. Your depiction of President Bush was both precise and humorous - clearly everyone enjoyed the routine!

Thanks especially for taking the time to become familiar with our program, staff and interests unique to our group. It all worked!

Please give our best to Mary Ann. Tell her she's got a very funny husband.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Mitchell".

David Mitchell



Council for  
Electronic  
Revenue  
Communication  
Advancement

Headquarters  
401 N. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
312/644-6610  
FAX 312/321-6869

Washington D.C. Office  
1200 19th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

October 9, 1996

John Simmons  
Gross National Product  
1602 South Springwood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear John:

On behalf of the Council for Electronic Revenue Communication Advancement (CERCA), thanks for a great performance of the Clinton-Dole debate. I watched the real thing last Sunday and I must admit, I was bitterly disappointed. Your ability to take the current headlines and make them into humorous exchanges made the debate amusing for all attendees. Beyond that, your ability to customize the debate to the crowd using the conference materials, particularly on short notice, really personalized the performance for our active members.

Thanks again for your help and also for accommodating CERCA's budget. We didn't have the money or the crowd to support your full performance, but the interim steps of a Clinton town hall or a Clinton-Dole debate were perfect for our crowd. You can be sure that as CERCA or other groups that I work with come into town, I will consider using GNP in a private setting or taking our groups out to your performances again. It was a real pleasure for everyone involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Lear". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent.

Jeffrey A. Lear  
V.P./Communications

JAL/klj



November 19, 1996

Mr. John Simmons  
%GNP Productions  
1602 S. Springwood Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD .  
Southbury, CT 06488

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Please accept my sincere thanks for a super Parents and Families Weekend presentation on October 26 here at Penn State Altoona. Your satirical interpretation of our country's candidates and our overall political system were both entertaining and enlightening. It was a pleasure to be able to host each of the members of GNP and I hope that your stay with us was as enjoyable for you. My best wishes to you and again thank you for providing the students and their families with the opportunity to experience the comedy and stinging wit of Gross National Product.

Sincerely,

L. Jay Burlingame  
Associate Director, Student Affairs

cc: David P. Shields Jr. Director, Student Affairs  
Jamie Tell, IMG Speakers ✓

## JOHN SIMMONS

### Confounder of Our Country

John Simmons, son of a National Security Agency member, grew up in the midst of the spy community in Washington, D.C., during the Cold War. Is it any wonder he always wanted to be a comic? It was life as normal, as far as he knew, to live on remote electronic listening posts, to "pop in and out of Washington every once in awhile," to attend a different school and make new friends every two years. That didn't bother him at all. "It was fun, and it helped me prepare for this wacky life style."

But before beginning this wacky life style, he attended the University of North Carolina and then spent a year abroad at the University of Kent in Canterbury. He studied theatre and history (not theatre history, he emphasizes), then ended up dropping the theatre and graduating in history and journalism. "I like history more than anything. I think that may be why I make fun of the news. The kind of stupidity that's going on now has just been repeated through centuries; it's nothing new."

The idea of becoming involved in comedy goes back to Simmons' very early years; he never really wanted to do anything else. "I wanted to have a comedy group, but it didn't seem right. It didn't seem like it was attainable, for some reason. There's no career path for comedy, is there? You don't go to Slapstick University. Comedy was a real fringe area when I was growing up; stand-up comedy wasn't especially popular then. And improv comedy today is still considered a stepchild to stand-up."

In 1980, following the year abroad, he got a job as a reporter for Commerce Clearing House, a "really boring" law publications company, and formed GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT (under another name) for excitement and fun. "I lived this kind of Clark Kent existence. But it was a really great cover. I could go in, look at the wire, and if nothing was going on I'd just go home and go to bed. It did give me access to press conferences at the White House and lots of government agencies, but to translate what really goes on at that bureaucratic level is impossible. It's so inside the Beltway that you can't really make fun of it, so you go after what's in the news."

GNP was the first comedy group in Washington, D.C. "There was no venue for comedy then; we played in rock clubs." They did a lot of revues, performed in all the clubs in D.C. and Baltimore, and developed a loyal following. In 1982, while continuing in D.C., they started performing in clubs all over New York. Then Simmons put GNP on hiatus for a two-year interval, 1984-86, when he came to Los Angeles to check it out. His stay in L.A. included engagements at the Cast Theatre, the Comedy Store, and as understudy to John Roarke in the Odyssey's RAP MASTER RONNIE. Obviously, the satirical and political theme of his comedy continued regardless of location. Upon returning to Washington, he revived GNP with a new cast and their popularity resumed. The 80-seat space eventually proved to be too small, and in 1988 they moved to their present 300-seat venue at the Bayou, the largest night club in Washington. Also in 1988, GNP inaugurated their famous Scandal Tours, an irreverent bus tour of the notorious scandal spots in D.C.

What explains the transition from a patriotic, NSA-oriented young boy to someone who looks at the political and social world with such a cynical eye? "Washingtonians are pretty cynical people; it's the political people and the people who work for them who are usually serious. I'm the product of a very cynical age. When I was in high school, Watergate was coming out. The people that I associated with were the sons and daughters of reporters and that ilk, so we had a good time during Watergate. When you live in Washington and see this parade of out-of-towners every four years, you make fun of them. Some of them are real dorks, many of them are there because of political-favor appointments, and they always roll in with this sense of greatness. People in Washington are up on what's happening and they *want* to make fun. So we started to make fun of Congress and the Executive Branch."

Just as Simmons grew up with Watergate, GNP grew up with Reagan, their favorite target for several years. But "we make fun of liberals, too. It depends on who's in power." The ability to adapt to a constantly changing world keeps GNP's revues up to the minute in content. For example: "The L.A. situation can't be ignored. Right now, right here, the entire focus of a political debate has shifted. We're in the center of what's going on. It's a tragedy, just like the Contra thing, but somehow it's government with their pants down, and they look foolish."

Government with its pants down—that's what keeps our nation's GNP soaring.

# Fodor's Choice

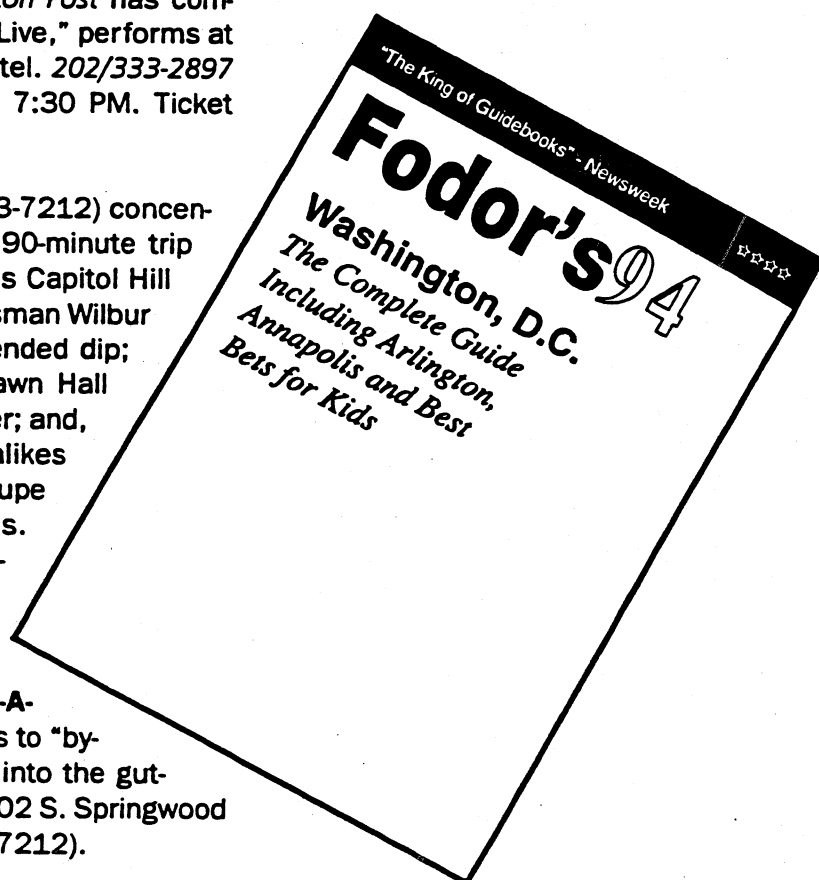
No two people will agree on what makes a perfect vacation, but it's fun and helpful to know what others think. We hope you'll have a chance to experience some of Fodor's Choices yourself while visiting Washington. For detailed information about each entry, refer to the appropriate sections (given in parentheses) within this guidebook.

## Nightlife

Blues Alley  
Comedy Cafe  
Gross National Product  
The Dubliner

**Gross National Product.** After years of spoofing Republican administrations with such shows as *Phantom of the White House* and *Man without a Contra*, this irreverent comedy troupe is aiming its barbs at the Democrats. Its inaugural show was dubbed *Clintoons*. GNP, which the *Washington Post* has compared to the original cast of "Saturday Night Live," performs at the Bayou in Georgetown. 3135 K St. N.W. tel. 202/333-2897 (Bayou) or 202/783-7212 (GNP). Show Sat. 7:30 PM. Ticket charge. Reservations suggested. MC, V.

The outrageous **Scandal Tours** (tel. 202/783-7212) concentrate on Washington's seamier side with a 90-minute trip past such scandalous locales as Gary Hart's Capitol Hill town house; the Tidal Basin, where Congressman Wilbur Mills and stripper Fanne Fox took an unintended dip; the Old Executive Office Building, where Fawn Hall and Ollie North shredded documents together; and, of course, the Watergate. Costumed look-alikes from the Gross National Product comedy troupe ride on the bus and dramatize the scandals. Tours leave the Washington Hilton and Towers on Saturday at 1. The cost is \$27 per person, and reservations are required. For those who want to wade through the scum at their own pace, there is **Scandal Tour In-A-Box**, a 75-minute cassette tape that promises to "bypass the monuments and take you straight into the gutter" (\$12.95 in bookstores or from GNP at 1602 S. Springwood Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20910, tel. 202/783-7212).





# THE TOP ATTRACTIONS

**THE BAYOU, 3135 K St. NW, under the Whitehurst Freeway near Wisconsin Ave. Tel. 333-2897.**

This lively nightclub, located on the Georgetown waterfront, features a mixed bag of live musical entertainment—mostly progressive, reggae, and alternative sounds. Performers are up-and-coming national groups, with occasional big names playing the club for old time's sake. Show times vary.

Every Saturday night at 7:30pm (doors open at 6:30pm), a very funny comedy group called **Gross National Product** takes the stage. Their satirical show targets the foibles and frailties of the current administration—its pundits, policymakers, and hangers-on. Part of the show includes a mock town meeting in which the audience bombards "President Clinton" with irreverent questions on topics ranging from the nanny fiascos to the "First Brother." This ever-changing show (today's scandal is tomorrow's skit) is so popular that advance reservations are required (call 783-7212).

The Bayou is a funky, cavelike club, with exposed brick and stone walls and seating on two levels. Sandwiches and pizza are available during the show. Drinks average \$3; most food items are \$5 or less. No one under 18 is admitted.

**Admission:** \$5–\$17, \$15 for Gross National Product.

## SCANDAL TOURS

You've seen the Smithsonian and the Lincoln Memorial. Now it's time to bypass the monuments and head right into the gutter. Scandal Tours, the creation of a brilliantly talented D.C. political-comedy group called Gross National Product, is a guided bus tour of Washington's sleaziest sites. ABC News anchor Peter Jennings called it "a worm's-eye view of Washington."

Highlights include visits to the Old Executive Office Building, where Ollie North and Fawn Hall shredded their way into history; the Tidal Basin, where former Congressman Wilbur Mills and "Argentine firecracker" Fannie Fox cavorted in the moonlight (she fell into the water, he got in hot water); the Capitol steps, scene of a night of passion for John and Rita Jenrette (Congressman Jenrette was later entrapped by Abscam and, still later, caught shoplifting in a department store); the Vista Hotel, where former mayor Marion Barry still claims "bitch set me up"; Watergate (of course); and Gary Hart's town house, from which he emerged with Donna Rice one morning to find himself at the evening of his political career. Tour participants are greeted by a GNP troupe member in the guise of a political figure (perhaps "Nancy Reagan" in signature red dress), while other GNP actors aboard the bus portray Clinton, Gennifer Flowers, Sen. Bob Packwood, and other players in the forefront of the political arena. Historical figures are not spared—the company even has some dish on George Washington! "The great thing is the constant source of material," says GNP creator John Simmons. "You have power, money, and sex all along the Potomac. It's an unbeatable product—bad things happening to people it's hard to feel sorry for."

The 90-minute tours depart every Saturday at 1pm from the Transportation and Sightseeing Desk on the Terrace level of the Washington Hilton. Reservations are required. The cost is \$27 per person. Or you can buy "Scandal Tour In-A-Box" for \$12.95 and take the tour yourself by car. To order or make tour reservations, call 301/587-4291. *Note:* you can also see GNP perform Saturday night at the Bayou in Georgetown (details in Chapter 9).

