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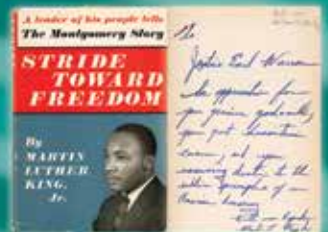
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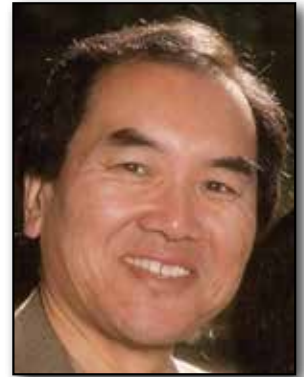


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FROM THE APIC PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays to everyone in the APIC family. Also, welcome to the 2022 Winter issue of *The Keynoter*.

APIC First Lady Tina Jung and I recently completed an “APIC Fall Road Trip” with stops in Pasadena, CA; Chicago, IL; and Canton, OH. The change of seasons usually signals a healthy serving of shows throughout the country. I am pleased to report that the hobby continues to be strong with large crowds at all three events. It was wonderful seeing old friends and meeting new members of the APIC. Many thanks to the respective show promoters Bob Banwart (Pasadena), Barb Zaczek (Chicago) and Jack Dixey (Canton) for jobs well done.



One of the themes of this issue of *The Keynoter* is political concerts. Enjoy the story from Tony Lee, and other stories here. I have a special interest in this topic, too, since Barack Obama, one of my collecting specialties, often enlisted the aid of music and entertainment figures, such as Bruce Springsteen and the Red-Hot Chili Peppers, for campaign events in 2008 and 2012. A variety of buttons and paper items to celebrate those events were produced and are sought after.

In this season of giving thanks, the APIC is grateful to the businesses and individuals who advertise in the pages of *The Keynoter*. This publication is a great vehicle to advertise your products to the membership and for collectors to reach out to their colleagues in search of special wants.

The ad rate schedule is shown below and if you commit to purchasing ads for a full year (four consecutive issues), you will receive a 15 percent discount. For further information about buying an ad in *The Keynoter*, please contact Darla Gonzalez at askdarlag@gmail.com.

Happy reading and stay safe.

Cary Jung, President, APIC

Keynoter Advertising Rates	
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EDITOR'S MESSAGE



Where would we be without our APIC spouses?

That thought occurred to me while attending a recent show. For years I've watched APIC spouses put up with our collecting quirks and

tag along to shows. Pat Evans, Jane Lee, Tom Zaczek and many others have sat for hours at admission tables. Tina Jung, Charles Gonzalez, Nancy Anderson and scores of others have worked at APIC National registration desks. Cathy Hosner, Jonell Hake, Nancy Dunn and many others have sat at dealer tables helping to sell items.

I know I am grateful for my own wife, Becky, who has helped me run the South Florida show for more than 30 years, manned my tables and created advertising for the shows. In the past two years, she has worked as Technical Adviser/Photo Editor for *The Keynoter*. She has also written many articles for the publication, all as a volunteer who isn't even a political collector. With the permission of APIC President Cary Jung, she will now carry the title of Keynoter Associate Editor, more in line with her varied unpaid duties!

Join me in thanking all the APIC spouses for their contributions to our organization. It would be difficult to carry on our events without them.

Features

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FRONT COVER-- This McCarthy poster from 1968 is quite graphic, but just one of many concert items shown in this issue.

NEXT ISSUE-- Theodore Roosevelt Goes West

SUBMISSIONS-- This is your publication. Please feel free to share your ideas, suggestions, illustrations and stories. The Keynoter is delighted to share pictures of interesting political Americana with its readers. When submitting an illustration, send it as an .eps, or .jpg file to TRbuttons@aol.com. Illustrations should be in color and submitted in digital format with at least 300 dpi resolution (preferably higher). Files must be created at 100% of actual size or larger (smaller risks losing clarity). Digital electronic images should be saved to a minimum of 300 dpi as TIF, JPEG or EPS files, preferably in Adobe Photoshop.

If you don't have access to a scanner or high-resolution digital camera, you can take your items to graphic service bureaus, such as Kinko's, and have them scanned in the specification mentioned above. You can then send the file by e-mail or on a CD or DVD.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As you can tell by my APIC number, I have been a member for a long time. I'm writing about the new (Fall 2022) Keynoter issue.

While reading your article, *Collecting the Mistakes of Others*, I noticed that your name was misspelled [sic] "Peeling." At first I thought that this was sloppy editing, but then I realized that the misspelling [sic] was a joke because of the topic of the article!

However, I do have another question. For the life of me, I can't figure out why the Hayes/Butler/Grant trade card on page 26 is reproduced twice. The pictures appear to be exactly the same. Can you explain this to me? Thank you.

-Bruce Colton, APIC 5526

PS: I may be one of the few to express this opinion, but I miss the more "historical articles" that used to appear in the Keynoter!

Editor's note: Bruce, sadly, perfection escapes me. When I see the final proofs from our designer, I tend to focus on the text and not the photos. I'll try to do better in the future.

Continued page 35.

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Membership Information: Applications may be obtained by writing to the Director of Member Services at: APIC, Darla Gonzalez, Member Services, PO Box 262 Chandler, AZ 85244.

Apic Newsletter and Calendar of Events: Harvey Goldberg, Editor, PO Box 922, Clark NJ 07066. email: heg1@verizon.net

American Political Items Conservators is the educational division of the American Political Items Collectors Inc., a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. APIC seeks to encourage and support the study and preservation of original materials issuing from and relating to political campaigns of the United States of America and to bring its members fuller appreciation and deeper understanding of the candidates and issues that form our political heritage.

Politics, Causes and Concerts: Raising Awareness Through Music

By Tony Lee, APIC 7245

Throughout the turbulent 1960s, politicians eager to reach young voters enlisted the help of popular rock, folk, country and soul musicians to spread the word through marches, sit-ins and concerts. Those efforts have continued to this day as musical events supporting Joe Biden and Donald Trump were widespread during the most recent presidential election. The posters, flyers, buttons, tickets, bumper stickers and T-shirts created for these political and cause events have become a collecting sub-specialty for APIC members who are naturally attracted to music.

To be sure, concerts offered in support of political candidates were around for many decades before the 1960s, with church choirs, barbershop quartets and family singing groups offering tunes on the stump (the movie *O Brother Where Art Thou* offers a great re-creation of that practice and was modeled on the campaigns of W. Lee “Pappy” O’Daniel and Roy Acuff, both accomplished musicians who ran for state and federal office in the 1930s and ‘40s). But the effort to attach musical groups with politicians really got rolling when the most pressing topics of the day, such as advocating for Civil Rights and ending the Vietnam War, aligned with the messaging of both liberal candidates and musicians.

Bobby Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, Hubert Humphrey and other 1960s Democratic politicians, including those at the state and local level, found musicians willing to support their campaigns and help attract younger voters. And when the 26th amendment, which lowered the voting age to 18 from 21, was passed in July 1971, candidates nationally started searching for ways to get those new young voters to the polls, and music was a popular attraction. In 1972, concerts by James Taylor, Carole King, Barbara Streisand, Simon & Garfunkel, Peter, Paul & Mary, Chicago and others on behalf of George McGovern were held throughout the country. Posters, flyers and other promotional items, typically featuring the designs of local artists, were created and distributed for free or for a small donation.

It wasn’t long before conservative politicians saw the value of serenading their supporters with music more attuned to their values. For example, such artists as the New Christy Minstrels, Up With People, The Coasters and Gary “U.S.”



Bonds were regularly enlisted during the Nixon campaigns of 1968 and 1972 to entertain at rallies. Politically motivated concerts continued into the late 1970s and beyond. Tapping his Southern roots, Jimmy Carter invited the Allman Brothers, Jimmy Buffett and other Southern musicians to literally sing his praises, and they were happy to oblige. It wasn't long before other progressive artists took to stages in support of both candidates and political causes.

In fact, supporters of various causes tended to leverage musicians and musical groups more often than politicians did during this period as they worked to attract supporters to rallies and protest marches. Whether it was a student sit-in against college policies, a march to support marijuana legalization, a rally against nuclear power or an abortion-rights gathering, musicians were asked to appear – often at no charge – and many did, especially when solo artists and band members agreed with the policies being supported. Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Graham Nash and others played concerts across the country in the 1970s in support of the anti-nuclear movement, and the Grateful Dead, Pete Seeger and others played to raise money and awareness for marijuana legal reforms.

Attracting young voters to support a campaign or a ballot measure proved to be an effective strategy for getting out the vote. From Bill and Hillary Clinton to both the father and son Bush campaigns to Barack Obama, musicians were signed on to help show the candidate's "hipness" and willingness to appeal to new voters. Obama was particularly interested in reaching a younger audience, especially voters of color who hadn't been made to feel included in political campaigns in the past. The Obama team scheduled concert rallies on college campuses nationwide in both 2008 and 2012 featuring such artists as Bruce Springsteen, Jay-Z, the Allman Brothers, the Grateful Dead, Bon Jovi and others. And in 2016, Hillary Clinton held many fundraising concerts in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

McCarthy At Fenway!
July 25th 8:30 p.m.
 with:
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mc carthy at fenway
JULY 25, 1968 at 8:30
 GENERAL ADMISSION

Like any celebrity endorsement, convincing musicians to support a campaign continued to be effective in the most recent presidential races. Donald Trump rallies included live performances from such artists as Lynyrd Skynyrd, Ted Nugent, Kid Rock and Jason Aldean, while Joe Biden rounded up a wide range of artists to perform in support of his candidacy, including Cher, Elton John, Katy Perry, the Foo Fighters, Bon Jovi and others.


And like Pappy O'Daniel and Roy Acuff before them, musicians often were lured into the political arena through the years, including Sonny Bono, Clay Aiken, John Hall, Kinky Friedman, Martha Reeves and Kanye West. The posters and flyers from their campaigns often feature instruments, musical notes and even live performances.

Like all ephemera, few of the artifacts from political concerts were made to last, though their designs have evolved. Instead of seeking local artists to create a look for the event, many of the posters for 21st century concerts are designed by professional illustrators and sold as part of the candidate's fundraising efforts, which means they likely will live on in the collections of APIC members for many years to come.



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Tom Watson and Kansas Populism

By John Hester, APIC 9068



In a jugate pin from the 1896 election, next to Democratic nominee William Jennings Bryan, is Thomas E. Watson, the Populist Party candidate for vice president. Watson peers out at the world at the young age of 39 years old, slight and somewhat fragile looking. But Watson was anything but fragile in temperament and commitment to his cause.

Born in Thomson, Ga., Watson grew to prominence as a young lawyer in the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union (Southern Alliance) and in 1890 was elected from the Georgia 10th District to the U.S. House of Representatives as an Alliance-Democrat. Prior to the House convening, a conference of 15 Alliance congressmen-elect met to decide whether they would caucus with the Democrats or form their

own caucus. Eight, all from the South, decided to stay with the Democrats and the others led by Watson and Jerry Simpson of Kansas, decided to form their own caucus.

On the day of the election of the Speaker of the House, Simpson placed Watson's name in nomination and he received eight votes. Watson knew it was a ceremonial act, but an important indicator of the growth of the Populist (People's) Party. As for Watson, the die was cast. The only answer was a People's Party. Many enemies were made back home in Georgia among the Bourbon Democratic leadership, and he would not be re-elected to Congress in 1892.

In 1896, the People's Party had opted to hold their national convention in St. Louis after the Republicans and Democrats had already met. There had been optimism among populists that their young party would be the final landing place for much of the Free Silver movement. But the Democrats after his stirring Cross of Gold speech, had nominated William Jennings Bryan. Much of the Populist leadership including James B. Weaver, the party's 1892 Presidential nominee, supported Bryan and fusion. The convention became a struggle between Populist Fusionists, who sought coalitions with primarily Democrats, and Populist Middle of the Roaders who wanted no part of fusion. Middle of the road meaning a faction of Populists that believed the future of the movement demanded the Party not veer toward Democrats or Republicans.

As the Convention opened, the Middle Roaders were poorly organized and many names were bandied about for nomination for President to include, among others, James "Cyclone" Davis of Texas, Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota and even Eugene Debs. No consensus could be reached, and it became evident that the Fusionists had the delegates to nominate Bryan.



Arthur Sewall of Maine had won the Democrat's vice president nomination as a compromise candidate who was more conservative and a New Englander. While he had endorsed Free Silver, he was a wealthy banker and railroad president and unacceptable to the middle-of-the-road faction.

U.S. Sen. Marion Butler of North Carolina, who had earlier been elected the temporary chairman of the convention, developed support for a nomination of Bryan for president and Watson for vice president to prevent a party split. Butler knew the power of Fusion as he had led a North Carolina Populist-Republican fusion that in 1894 elections resulted in Populist control of both the North Carolina House and Senate. Subsequently, Butler had been elected to the U.S. Senate.

Watson did not attend the 1896 National Populist Convention and adamantly opposed fusion, but sent word that he would accept the nomination to prevent a split. Watson won the nomination with the assumption that an agreement had been worked out that Bryan would drop Sewall and run with him. Such was not the case, and Bryan would largely ignore Watson during the campaign. To add insult to injury for Watson, Butler did not send official letters of notification of the nominations to Bryan and Watson until Sept. 14. In the interim between nomination and notification, the temperamental and confrontational Watson had come to feel humiliated and enraged at the Populist Fusionists. Before the notification letter arrived, he decided to make a Western Tour of states to support Bryan and gain support from Fusion Populists for a Bryan-Watson ticket. He found support in Texas, but not so much in Kansas.



As outlined in C. Vann Woodward's book *Tom Watson: Agrarian Rebel*, when Watson arrived at the Kansas Populist State Headquarters, he found outside a large banner flying with portraits of Bryan and Sewall. Watson met with John Breidenthal, Chairman

of the Kansas Populist Party and a National Populist Committeeman. Breidenthal, who had held leadership positions in both the Kansas Greenback Party and the Kansas Progressive Labor Party, would in 1900 narrowly lose the 1900 governor's race as a Populist. In 1892, Breidenthal as Chairman of the Kansas Populist Party, managed L. D. Lewelling's successful race for governor. Populists controlled the Kansas Senate, but both Populists and Republicans claimed control of the House. For a few days each group held separate sessions in what became known as the Kansas Legislative War. Eventually Republicans were declared winners of the House and Lewelling would lose the governor's race in 1894.

As events unfolded and Watson discussed the 1896 election with Breidenthal, it becomes clear that Breidenthal had cut a deal with Kansas Democrats to exchange Populist support for Bryan and Sewall in exchange for Democrats support for Populists in local races. Kansas Populists had previously successfully employed fusion and in 1896 wanted to reverse the loss of 1894 and win the Governor's race and help Kansas Populists across the ticket. Breidenthal pleads with Watson to not campaign and upset the deal. Watson campaigned on declaring "We are willing to fuse, but we are not willing to be swallowed."

The Populists had won Kansas's 10 electoral votes with their own candidate James B. Weaver in 1892, they fused with the Democrats to win Kansas in 1896 for Bryan and Sewall. Watson did not receive any Kansas electoral votes for vice president. With the Democrats not running a candidate, Populist John W. Leedy won the 1896 governor's race defeating an incumbent Republican.

But what about Jerry "Sockless" Simpson, who had placed Watson's name before the U.S. House for Speaker in 1891? Simpson, a Greenbacker, who ran unsuccessfully for the state legislature in 1886 and 1888 on the Kansas Union Party ticket, joined the Populist Party and ran for the U.S. House in 1890. He ran against Republican railroad attorney J.R. Hallowell, who in a speech Simpson described as a "Prince of Royal Blood... whose feet are encased in silk hosiery." Hallowell retorted that such is better than being sockless. Simpson embraced his new nickname and won the 1900 election. In 1894 Simpson lost to Chester Long, so in 1896 he again ran as a Fusion candidate, embracing Free Silver and Bryan, and won back his seat.



So Breidenthal's fusion gamble paid dividends in 1896, but the issue of fusion would continue to haunt Populists and other third party movements. Free Silver in 1896 had blurred party lines and overwhelmed differences between Democrats and Populists. Populism in the 1880s was born with the belief that neither Democrats nor Republicans represented the issues of forgotten farmers and rural people. In particular, Populism favored government control of railroads and business interests. Among some Populists, such as Mary Elizabeth Lease of Kansas, there was support for gender and racial equality. For the anti-fusion wing of Populism, there remained a strong distrust of Bourbon Democrats. Many such Populists had openly split with the Democratic Party and there was no return.

For the fusionist wing of the People's Party, 1896 offered the opportunity to bind together the economic interests of rural Democrats and Populists to win local elections. By the end of the decade, the People's Party of the 1890s was largely spent. Populism as a movement would, of course, live on in American politics and take many forms.

As for Thomas E. Watson, he was deeply embittered by his 1896 experience. Retreating to Georgia, he became a prolific writer, publishing many books and his *Tom Watson Magazine* and the *Weekly Jeffersonian*. Twice (1904, 1908), he would be the People's Party Presidential candidate, but the time for the party had passed. He remained influential in Georgia politics for years as officeholders would journey to his home at Hickory Hill for his endorsement. Surprisingly, in 1920, he defeated Hoke Smith and won the U. S. Senate seat as a Democrat.

As a young, rural candidate, Watson had endorsed the enfranchisement of African-American voters. Not that he believed in or supported integration or equality of the races, but that he saw an opportunity to bind the economic fate of Southern rural whites and African Americans together at the ballot box to empower rural Georgia. However, in the 20th Century, Watson's thinking, writing and positions went down the dark and despicable roads of white supremacy, anti-catholicism and anti-Semitism.

Perhaps his later life as a radical populist can best be illustrated by his use of his publication *The Jeffersonian* to put himself in the middle of Georgia's Leo Frank case. Frank was a Jewish factory superintendent who was convicted of a 1913 murder of a 13-year-old girl. After Gov. Slatton commuted Frank's death sentence and a mob lynched Frank, Watson devoted eight pages defending the lynching and those who had lynched him. His defense of the lynching was under the headline "THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS THE VOICE OF GOD."

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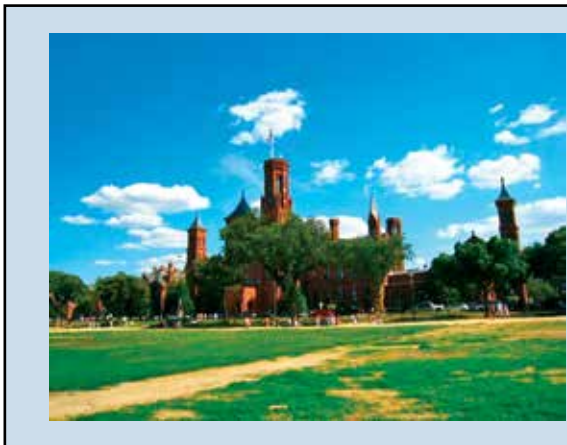


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APIC MEMBER PROFILE:

Matt Dole, APIC 16847

By Adam Gottlieb, APIC 4864

Matt Dole's connection with American history and campaign memorabilia is multifaceted. As a political communications consultant, he has a deep appreciation for past campaigns while focusing on elections in Ohio and beyond.

"Collecting political memorabilia gives me perspective about messaging and design. I usually help a longtime client design a button and I consider historic designs from which to pay homage," Dole said.

As a collector, he specializes in political items from Ohio. Dole collects candidates from president down to hyper-local campaigns. (He has a button promoting U.S. Rep. John Boehner for township trustee.) The scope of his collection is broad-based, including posters, buttons, ribbons, stickers, paper, as well as unique 3-D items. He has exhibited his Ohio-centric collections in the Licking County Library and the Ohio Statehouse. At 6 foot 8 inches, it's easy to say Dole is head and shoulders above lots of other Ohio collectors.

Dole, 43, lists President William Howard Taft and U.S. Sen. Robert Taft as the main attractions in his collection.

"I also enjoy collecting John Bricker, Jim Rhodes, John Sherman, and John Glenn. I also sneak outside Ohio to collect Harold Stassen and Margaret Chase Smith," Dole said.

He recently acquired a near-complete collection of 1877 Electoral Commission tickets that decided the





disputed 1876 election between Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel J. Tilden.

Like many APIC members, Dole enjoys picking up an obscure campaign item and researching the history behind it.

"I love history and the thrill of the hunt," he said. "I love finding an item I never knew existed. It happens all the time, so I often get that dopamine hit."

At 11 years old, Dole started paying attention to politics where he grew up in Vermont when incumbent Gov. Dick Snelling ran against Peter Welch.

"Later, I started volunteering in advance of 1996 New Hampshire primary and went door-to-door for Republican Sen. Bob Dole (a very distant relative) and started saving buttons and postcards. I managed to keep it in check until Columbus in 2012 -- and then all heck broke loose," Dole chuckled. The APIC National Convention in 2012 was Dole's introduction to the APIC.

Dole discovered the APIC after seeing promos about the Columbus National.

"I had accumulated political memorabilia from campaigns on which I worked and had a few buttons from my parents," (who both came from politically active families), Dole said.

He reached out to longtime APIC member and Ohio native Jack Dixey and met him at a local Civil War show so he would know someone attending the convention.

When asked if Jack Dixey is his mentor, Dole replied, "I hate to say nice things about Jack, but he's always guided me well, advised me, and gave me a very good piece of advice before the (Columbus) convention."

In discussing the future of the APIC, Dole addressed the importance of reaching young collectors.

"The APIC is doing an amazing job with younger collectors who come to local and regional shows. They are showered with free political goodies, meet seasoned collectors, and receive encouragement from members," Dole said.

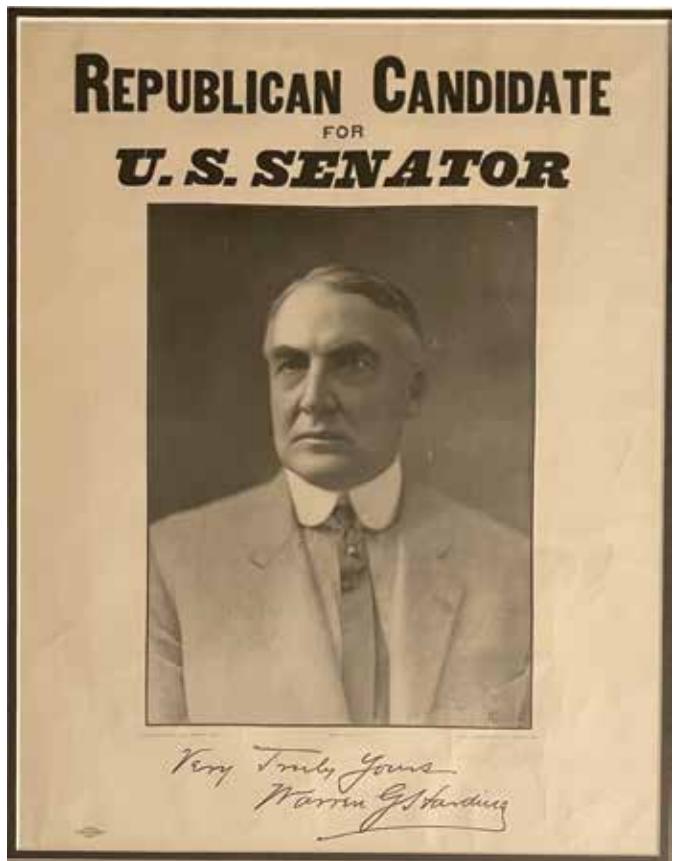
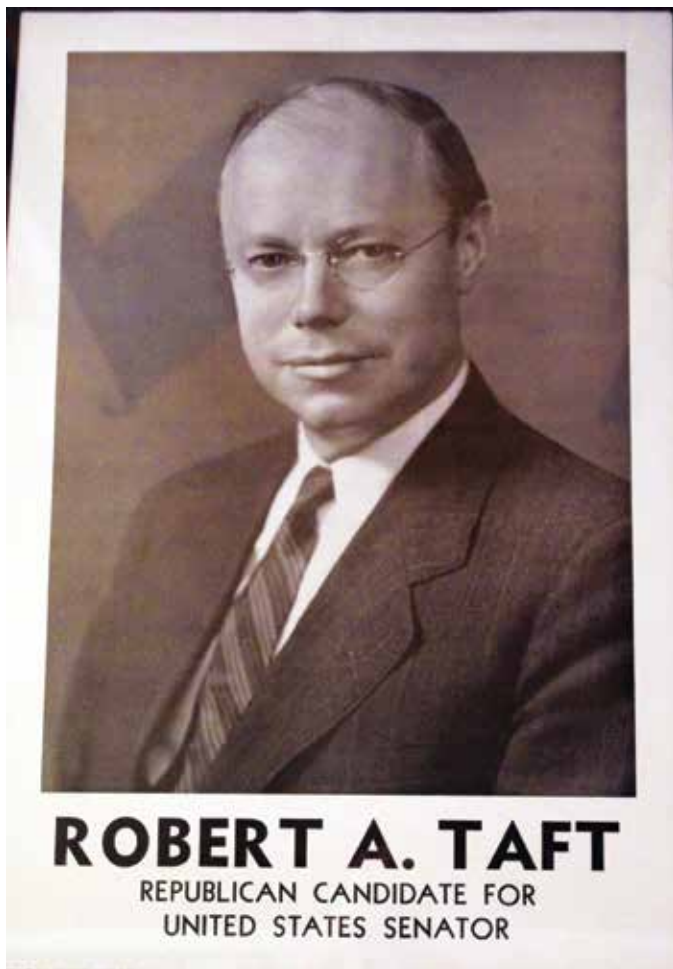
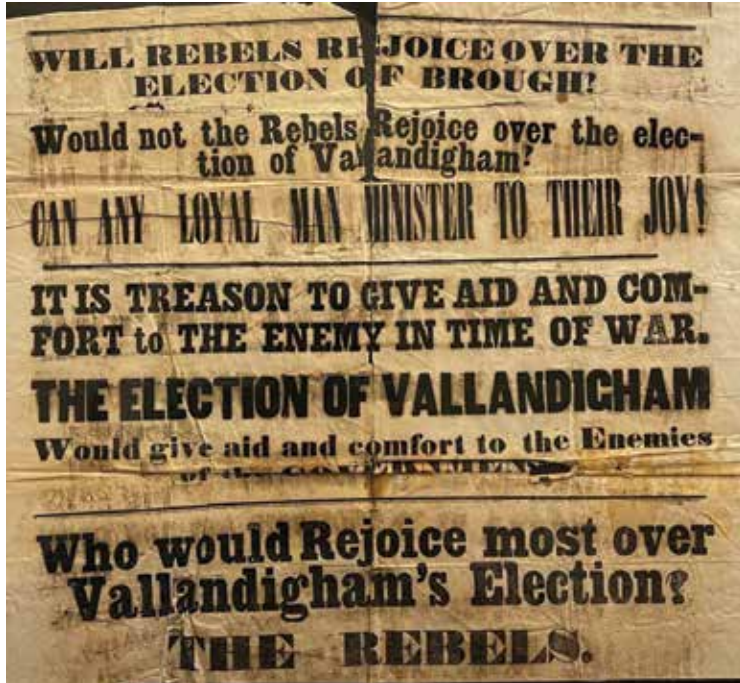
He said he believes in contacting educators and offering scholarships that history/social studies teachers could award as prizes for students that demonstrate potential.

"Additionally, I don't think the APIC has made maximum use of its nonprofit status, so there may be another opportunity to consider," Dole added.

As a campaign consultant, does Dole consider the political button dead in today's social media world?

"I think it has a place," he said. "Campaigns actively fund broadcast media first, but buttons can play an active role. I've helped local campaigns design and produce buttons and people love them. Every time we've produced buttons, we've had to reorder."





My Three Favorite Finds

By Becky Peeling, Keynoter Associate Editor

The year 1984 holds special memories for collector Dennis J. Palazzolo, APIC 6175. Three of his all-time favorite finds came from the Republican National Convention, which he attended as a guest of the Missouri Republican Party. Palazzolo had been an active volunteer for Republican candidates in St. Louis, where he worked on campaigns and currently lives.

“There was great excitement in the hall as everyone sensed a major victory come November,” Palazzolo recalls. “Lots of chasing and trading took place, with many great finds.”

Palazzolo remembers feeling anxious to attend the convention he describes as “the motherload of political buttons.” At the airport in St. Louis, Palazzolo struck up a conversation with a young man wearing a Reagan Bush '84 button. The man was the son of an Illinois delegate and had made a pin for each member of the Illinois delegation with extras for trading. The design is made up of two layers, an orange background (for the Fighting Illini) and a second layer of a cut-out, printed elephant.

Palazzolo traded an Alaska delegate pin for this second convention acquisition. While the pin curiously doesn't include the presidential candidate's name or year, he nevertheless loves the design.

However, Palazzolo considers the Michigan pin his all-time favorite. While scanning the halls for vendor material, Palazzolo remembers noticing a man wearing one of these circuit board pins.

“It was blinking like crazy and I had to find out about it,” he said.

The pin was designed and made by a Michigan delegate who was an electrical engineer. The circuit board is made of a sound sensor and colored LEDs. The louder the environmental noise, the more frequent the colored LEDs blink. He offered to sell one of his extras to Palazzolo, who received it by mail a few weeks after the convention. Some 37 years since that convention, Palazzolo often wonders if any others have circulated within the hobby.

While Palazzolo no longer considers himself an active collector as “I have everything I ever wanted to have,” he will pick up a handful of items for each campaign. The excitement of a political campaign, which sparked his entry into the hobby in 1964, keeps him connected. When his APIC membership expired some years back, he was able to renew and obtain his original member number through the effort of then-membership director Mark Evans.

Palazzolo today encourages new collectors through his involvement as treasurer of the Gateway to the West Chapter of APIC.

When asked about his collecting specialty, Palazzolo's immediate response is flashers, which began with an IKE piece that his grandfather gave him. His extensive flasher collection now includes presidential and local political as well as the Beatles.

Palazzolo highly recommends the APIC's Facebook pages for buying, selling and researching old and new items. “I get to connect with a lot of good people,” he said.



THE TRUTH BE TOLD

Charlie Weber's Buttons

By David Holcomb, APIC 5993

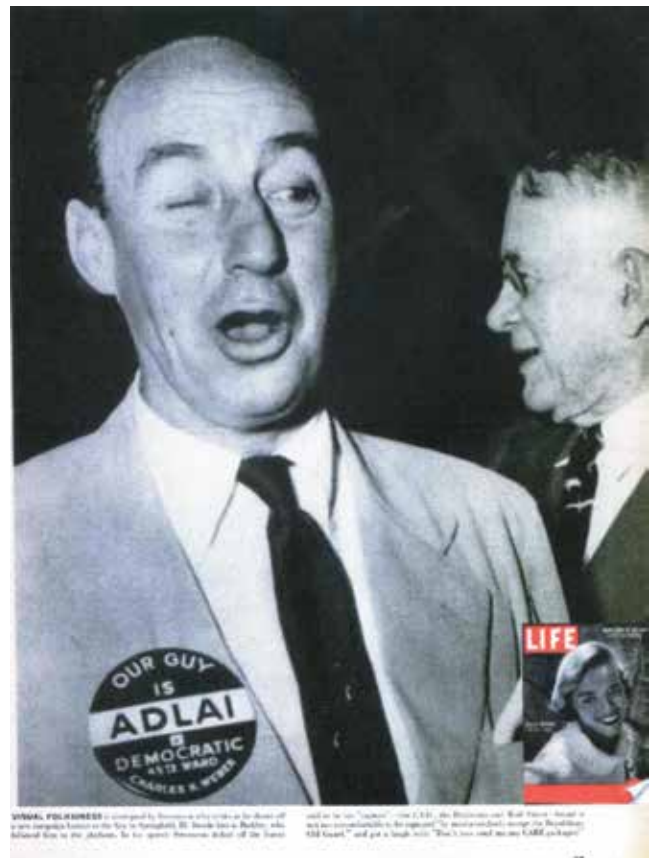
Charlie Weber, the maker of these four buttons shown here, was a very colorful and connected politician in Chicago. He sure knew how to promote himself.

One of Charlie's buttons appeared in the Aug. 25, 1952 issue of *Life Magazine*. After his button appeared in the magazine, he had to order more, and he was quite proud of the fact that it had appeared in the magazine. I am not sure the candidate was happy with the "visual folksiness" of the image as *Life Magazine* phrased it.

Charlie was the 45th Ward Democratic boss in Chicago for decades, as was his father before him. As ward committeeman, alderman and the local saloon and distillery keeper, he was well known throughout the predominantly German ward. He promised to keep the streets clean and that he did. Every Christmas he would throw a Christmas party for the garbage collectors in the ward, who he called his Knights of Cleanliness. He even bought his own street sweeper and paraded it through the ward.

Illinois Sen. Paul Simon, in his autobiography *P.S.*, wrote "The city still harbored a few of the old really vibrant characters when I started in Illinois politics. Charlie Weber had seats in both the City Council and Illinois House of Representatives. He would occasionally slip me a \$100 campaign contribution – in cash – and advise me, 'Kid, if you want to win the next election, buy yourself a street sweeper and go around cleaning things up.' He did not understand that what worked for him in a Chicago ward would be markedly unsuccessful in rural Illinois."

Weber would sponsor "Charlie Weber Kids' Day" each year at the Riverview Park, the local amusement park in Chicago, and it is said that he would walk around passing out silver dollars to the kids. Besides his saloon and distillery/distribution business, he had his hand in many other things in the ward. He was active in the real estate market and owned the local Mobil gas station. He was publisher of the *Independent* newspaper in the communities of Lake View, Gold Coast, and Northtown in Chicago, which had a circulation of 40,000. Though called the *Independent*, it was used as a fierce tool of the democratic party boss publisher.



VISUAL FOLKSINESS is conveyed by Weber in the photo as he talks off a campaign button on the City of Springfield, Ill. (Heads like in Reddy, who showed him to the jobbed. So he spent "because about of the time used as he was "hooked" from 1930, the Whitehouse) "Red" Weber found it was not uncomfortable in the picture." He never mind, except the "Reddy" "Red" Weber" and got a laugh with "Red," too and he was "LIFE" magazine.



Charlie and Paddy Bauler, the boss of the 43rd Ward, were the last of the saloonkeeper politicians. They had been friends since childhood and both set up saloons and distilleries at the end of Prohibition. Bauler is famous for his quote after Richard Daley became mayor of Chicago in 1955, “Chicago ain’t ready for reform.” David K. Fremon, writing in his 1988 book *Chicago Politics, Ward by Ward*, wrote in a section on Bauler, “Bauler took ten or twelve trips a year, many with his boyhood friend and fellow saloonkeeper-alderman, Charlie Weber. Bauler occasionally went to Weber and said, ‘Charlie, there’s nothing doing around here, so let’s fly to Paris for a few beers.’” Long time Chicago newsman Len O’Connor,

writing about the assassination of Anton Cermak, made the claim that the legend of Cermak’s last words being “I’m glad it was me instead of you” was totally fabricated by Charlie Weber and Bauler.

Charlie also had mob ties. At the end of Prohibition, Charlie and Gus Winkler set up together in the beer distribution business. Gus was a senior associate of Al Capone. Some say Charlie was just a front man to make the business look legitimate, but Charlie continued to own and operate the business even after Winkler was gunned down at the entrance to the Weber Beer Distributing Co. in 1933. It is suspected the killing was done on the orders of Frank Nitti, who was running the Capone operation while Capone was in prison on tax fraud. Charlie would deny knowing Winkler.

Charlie Weber was definitely part of the democratic machine in Chicago for close to 40 years. Working hard for FDR, Truman and Stevenson, but in 1960 Charlie, who was Catholic, broke with the Daley machine and did not support Kennedy. Len O’Conner in his book *Clout* reveals that Charlie learned from Murray Humphreys, a known Capone associate and mobster, that Kennedy had some skeletons in his closet and was not “our kind of people.”

Charlie never got to see if Kennedy was elected. On Aug. 16, 1960 Charlie returned home after attending a ward meeting and parked his Cadillac in the garage of his home. Both Charlie and his wife were found passed away in the home the next day. An autopsy simply revealed that they died from carbon monoxide poisoning. The case was made that the engine was left on by Charlie. Was it accidentally done or was it deliberately done by someone else? Speculation has surrounded this for many years. If it were a homicide, the murderer has never been caught.

Mayor Daley said at the memorial service in the city council chambers “Charlie never forgot his neighborhood. He was proud of his community. His feelings represented something in our city that we should have more of. He served his people well and he attempted to do what I hope all of us will do—he attempted to stay close to the people. Chicago has lost an outstanding and distinguished son. I will always remember him.”

Occasionally a thimble will show up with Charlie’s name on it or an issue of his *Independent* paper will surface. Charlie definitely left his mark on these classic four buttons and the streets of the 45th Ward.



Where It All Began

The WBS and Mass-Produced Political Items

By Glenn W. Soden, APIC 3107

What sparks us as collectors and researchers? In 1812, New York City Mayor DeWitt Clinton became the Federalist Party candidate for president against James Madison, Democratic-Republican (also known as the Jeffersonian Republicans). Clinton's candidacy revitalized the Federalist Party as well as memberships in Washington Benevolent Societies (WBS) to aid his campaign. That event ignited my interest, research, and collection when I discovered a WBS member certificate for my third great-grandfather, Jonathan Soden, who was born in 1776 and died in 1848.

New York City was the founding location for the Federalist Party's Washington Benevolent Societies, "instituted in the City of New York, on the 12th day of July 1808." This is proven by a copy of *Washington's Farewell Address to the People of the United States*, "published for the Washington Benevolent Society, New-York, printed by J. Seymour, at Washington's Head, No. 118 Pearl-street, 1808." The President of that first WBS was Isaac Sebring and Secretary was G. C. Verplanck.



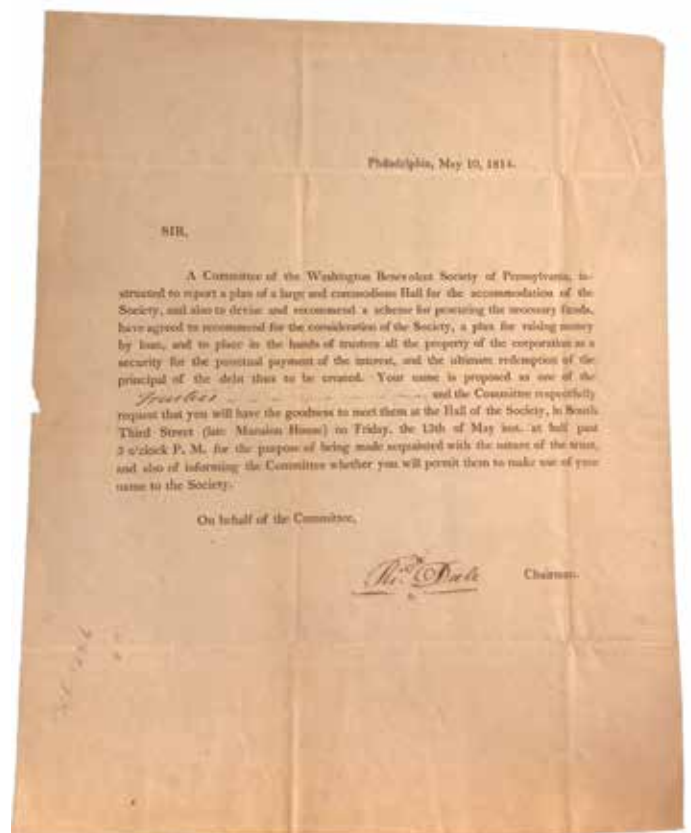
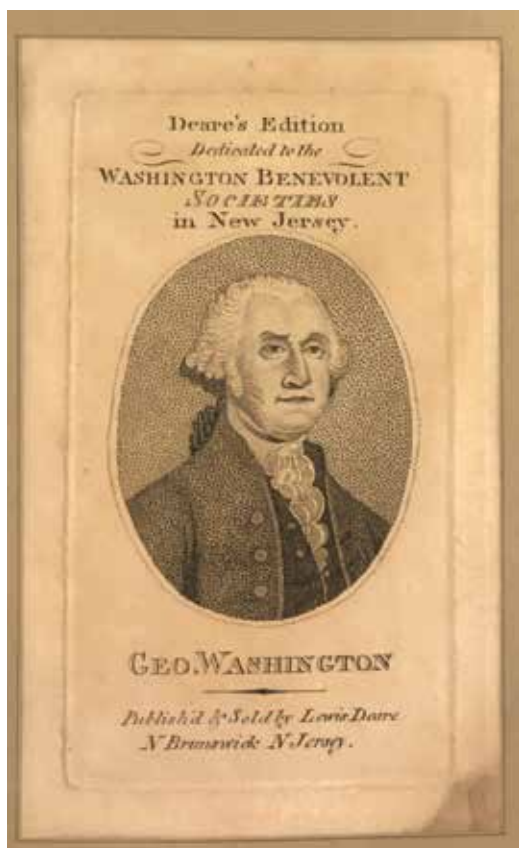
Individual members of the WBS received a local printer's copy of a book or pamphlet of "Washington's Farewell," also known as his "Valedictory Address," which included a portrait of George Washington and a certificate showing their date of membership, signed by the president and secretary of the local chapter. The example shown with this article is for N.J. U.S. Sen. Richard Stockton, son of a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Some chapters included a copy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights and/or the Constitution of the Society. The Maryland Society printed theirs separately.

The WBS introduced ribbon badges to be pinned to members' coats, especially during parades. The ribbons, some with state or chapter names, displayed a bust of George Washington with angels placing a wreath on his head together with the patriotic slogan "Pro Patria" ("For our Country").

George Washington considered ending his presidency after his first term in 1792. He remained for a second term in part because of concern regarding disputes between Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, who became a leader of the Federalist Party, and then Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, who became a leader of the Democratic-Republicans. Opposing views by those parties convinced Washington to remain in office, especially in line with foreign affairs and his neutrality during the French Revolution. Federalists sought to align with England and Democratic-Republicans with France. In that vein, Federalists positioned themselves as a peace party during the 1812 conflict with England.

George Washington's 1796 Farewell Address cautioned against political parties: "They serve to organize faction; to give it an artificial and extraordinary force; to put it in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of a party, often a small, but artful and enterprising minority of the community; and according to the alternate triumphs of different parties, to make the public administration the mirror of the ill-concerted and incongruous projects of faction, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans, digested by common councils and modified by mutual interests."





In an ironic twist, John Reich, an engraver from Germany who captured the attention of President Jefferson in 1801 to become Assistant Engraver at the U.S. Mint, is credited with designing a silver 1808 medal with fob for the WBS.

Despite Washington's caution, Federalists embraced his "Farewell Address," making it the centerpiece of WBS member recruitment, expanding to New England and middle Atlantic states, as well as Ohio. If the WBS expanded into southern states beyond Maryland, it has eluded me.

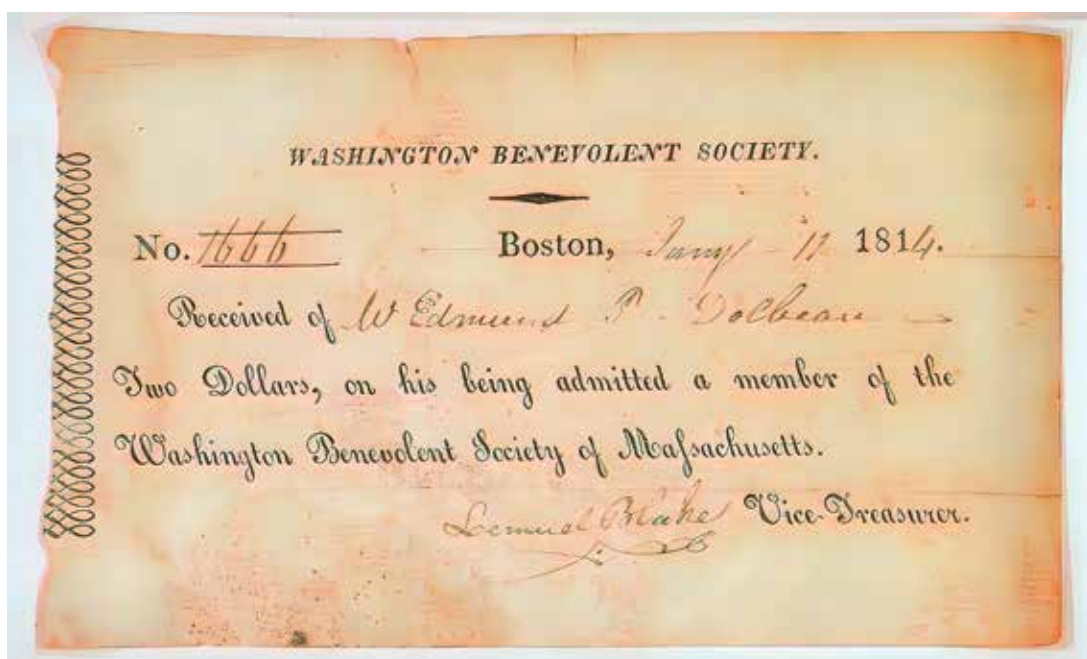
Prominent naval officer Richard Dale, Chairman of the Philadelphia WBS, solicited money and trustees there in an 1814 letter for a "large and commodious Hall for the accommodation of the Society," A find I continue to research is a Philadelphia 1805 Constitution of the Democratic Society of Friends of the People and their Circular Letter "Addressed to The Republicans of the State of Pennsylvania," perhaps successor of the earlier British Whig group of the same name and a precursor to the WBS.

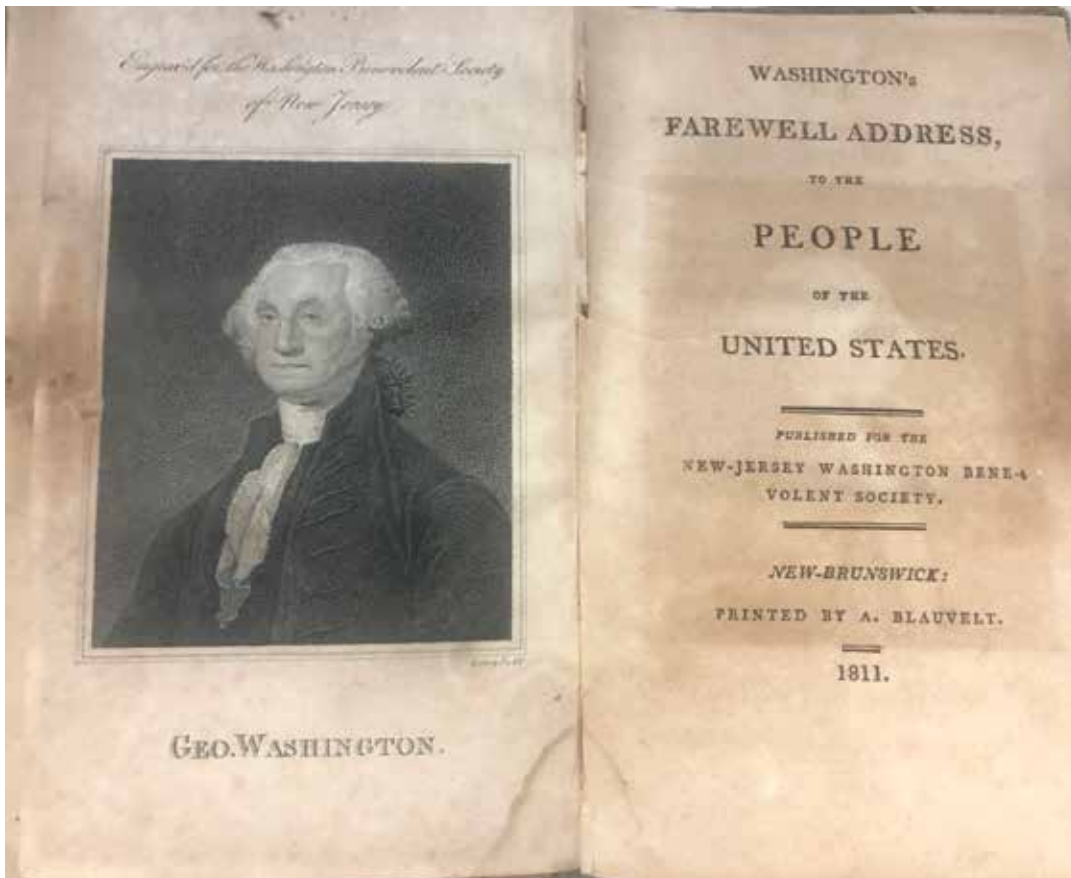
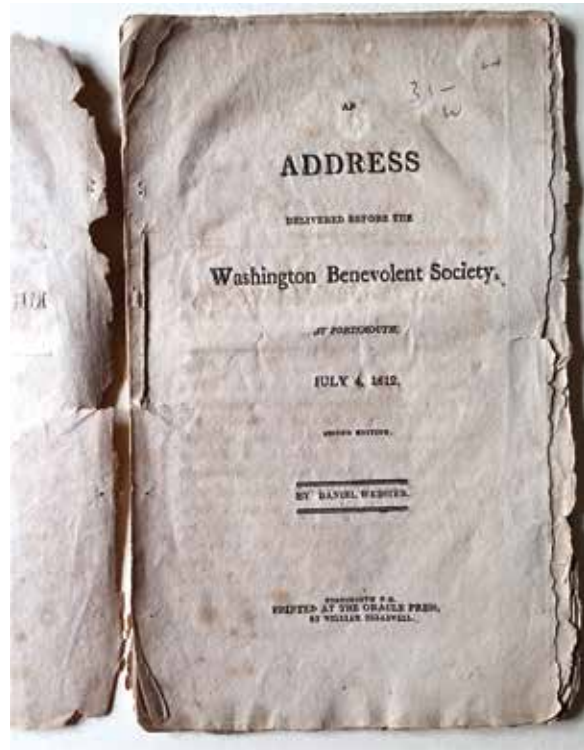
Federalists supported a strong central government, contending they were free of partisanship. They marched with banners in parades, wearing Pro Patria WBS ribbons, to the music of the *Washington Benevolent Society March*, and held meetings and encouraged members to vote.

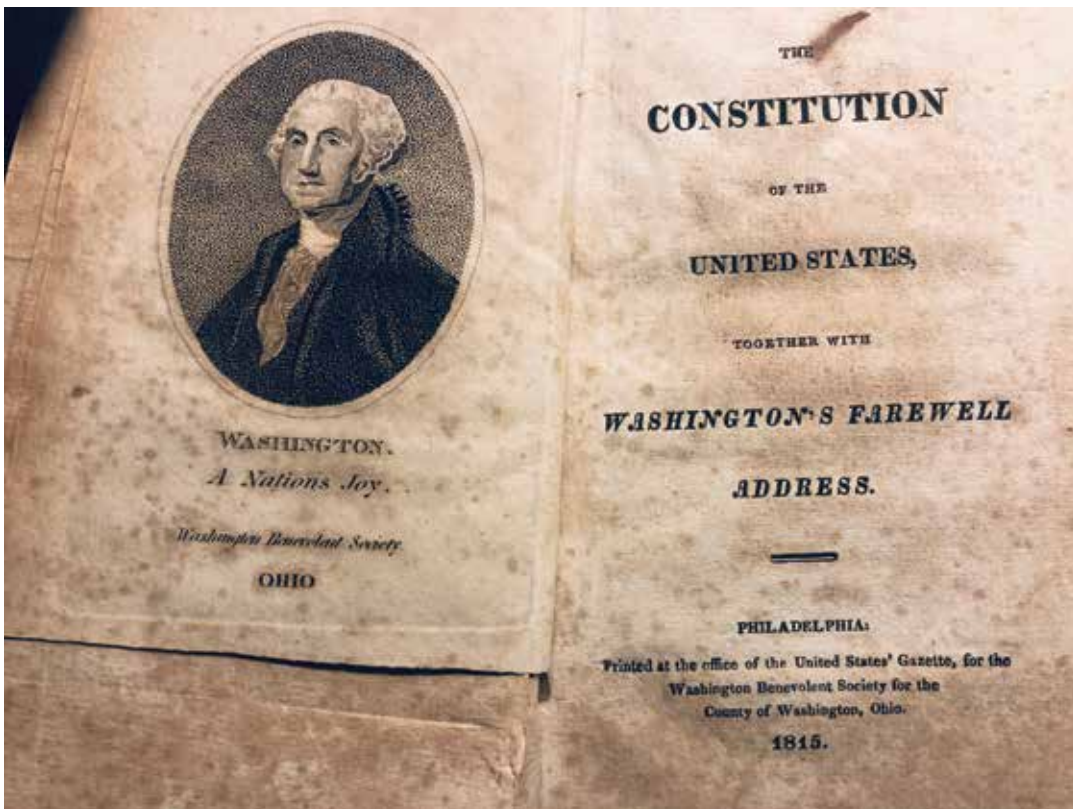
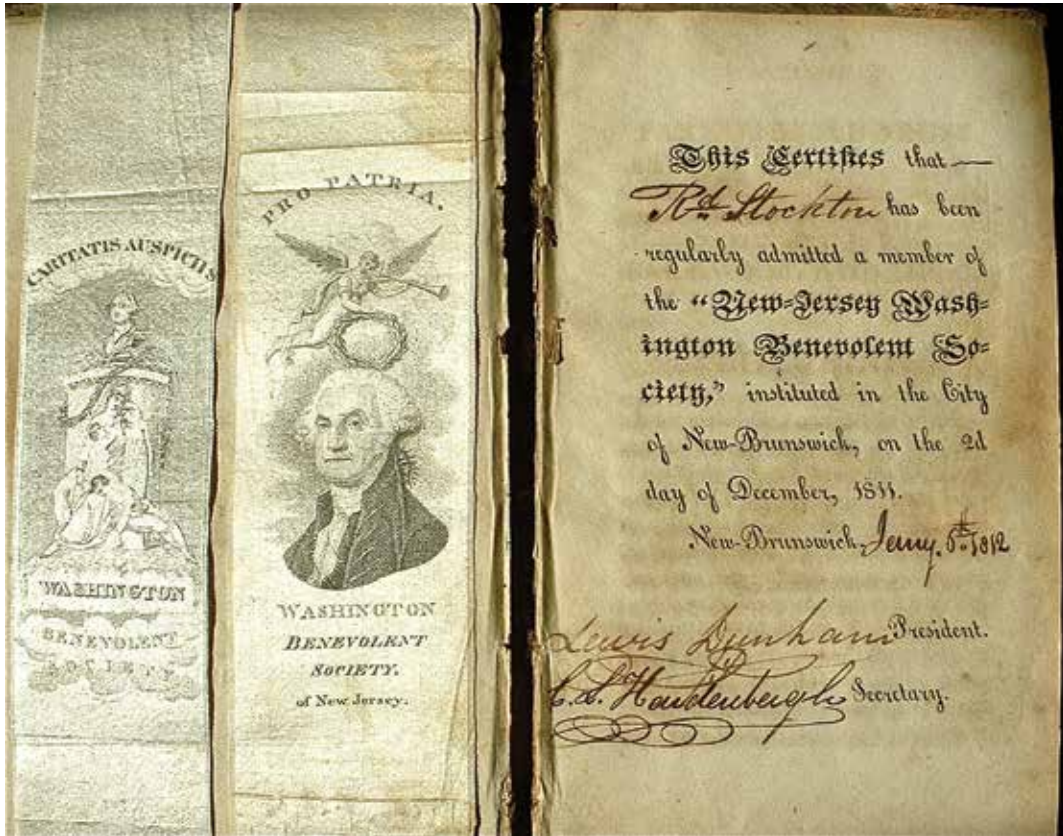
Each year celebrations by the WBS marking Washington's birthday were accompanied with addresses by dignitaries, such as Daniel Webster's, "An address delivered before the Washington Benevolent Society at Portsmouth, July 4, 1812," Portsmouth, NH, printed at the Oracle Press by William Treadwell.

The WBS helped pioneer election campaigns and the mass production of politically related member items in our country. For example, in New Jersey, "The promise of participation in the parade and receipt of the badge of the Society had been used as part of the Trenton Society's membership drive, for the Federalists were interested in gaining as many members as possible," according to Rudolph J. Pasler and Margaret C. Pasler in the book *The New Jersey Federalists*.

Years ago, I submitted my initial WBS research in a Wikipedia article. Supporting my long-held contention, Keith Melder, in the book *Hail to the Candidate Presidential Campaigns from Banners to Broadcasts*, Smithsonian Institution Press, acknowledged "Silk ribbons bearing Washington's portrait issued by the society are among the earliest mass-produced partisan objects in American political history."







CERTIFICATE.
 This Certifies, that *Jonathan Soden*
 has been regularly admitted a member
 of "The Washington Benevolent Society of Cranberry" in-
 stituted in the Town of Cranberry, on the nineteenth day of
 May, 1812. *New Jersey*
 Cranberry, 8th June 1812.
Amos M. Howell, President.
Wm. M. Mahaley Secretary.

This certifies that —
Henry Mack — has
 been regularly admitted a Member
 of the "Washington Benevolent
 Society," instituted in the City of
 New-York, on the 12th day of
 July, 1808.
 New-York, 5th Nov. 1808
Isaac Sebring President.
G. C. Verplanck Secretary.



A Rare Texas Governor Find

By David Quintin, APIC 2776

This newly discovered 7/8 inch St. Louis Button Co. cello turned up on Ebay recently. It is for Alexander Boynton, who ran in the 1938 general election for governor of Texas as a Republican against W. Lee O'Daniel. Texas was a strong Democratic state during this period and Boynton garnered only 10,940 votes against Democrat O'Daniel's 473,526.

Republican campaign items during this period are almost non-existent because of the dominance of the Democratic Party.



Dating Those Tyler, Texas buttons

By David Holcomb, APIC 5993

The Wilson Tyler Commercial College button is a wonderful piece.

It is a fun exercise to try to date a button that has an unknown issue date. What do we know about the Wilson button? A few things. It is found with the celluloid ribbons often attached.

The Wilson button is different than the Harding and Cox examples, being smaller at 5/8 inch instead of 7/8 inch. The union bug is not prominent on the Wilson example, as it is on the Cox and Harding examples. For some reason the period, which appears after Texas on the Harding and Cox pins, does not appear on the Wilson one.

The phrases that appear on the ribbons give a good indication as to the date range. "Win Your Independence" starts to appear in advertisements for the college in 1914. "Salary Raiser" starts to appear in advertisements in 1916. "2000 Enrollment" became a push at the school in 1913.

I found an advertisement in 1913 which included the following: "We have a

nice button with our 2000 slogan on it and will gladly mail one to anyone who will write us." Too bad there was not more of a description. Indeed, the enrollment goal was met in 1914 and proudly mentioned in their advertisements in 1914 and up to 1917.

In 1920, when the other two buttons were produced (little disagreement), the enrollment of the college was 4,000. My thoughts are that the Wilson is from the 1913-1916 time period and the school used the basic design again in 1920 to produce the Harding and Cox pins.



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BOOK REVIEW

“Making the Movement”

By Tom Peeling, APIC 9765

There’s no shortage of books on the Civil Rights movement, from those who led the fight, participated in the struggle or those who just watched from afar with interest. But David L. Crane, APIC 17009, has taken it a step beyond with his new book *Making the Movement, How Activists Fought for Civil Rights with Buttons, Flyers, Pins & Posters*, from Princeton Architectural Press, New York, September 2022.

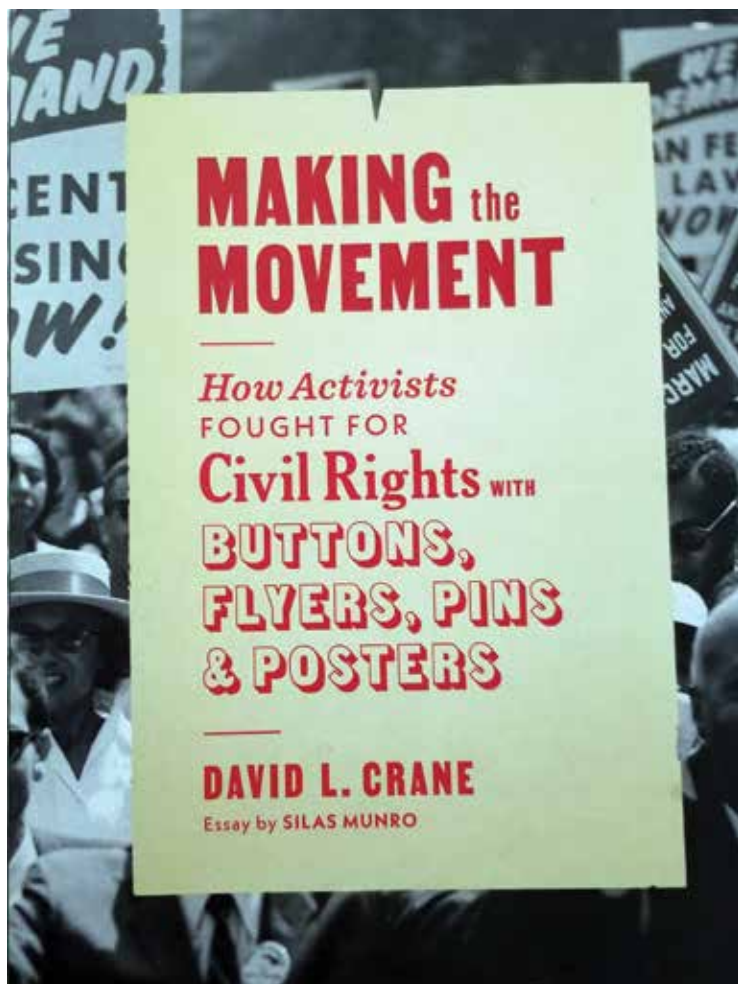
For those interested in history, the book provides a wonderful overview of the Civil Rights Movement from Emancipation in 1863 through the 1980s. But for those of us who are collectors, it shows us the material available for this subject, more than many of us knew was out there. But for all, it highlights how the ephemera of this issue was used to create interest, pass along information pre-internet and even raise money for important rallies and courtroom fights.

The book is divided into five chapters: Separate and Unequal (1863-1938), Finish the Fight (1939-1950), Segregation and Desegregation (1951-1959), Growing the Movement (1960-1965) and Visions of Freedom (1966-1980s). As noted in the book’s introduction, “These chapters, which represent five different eras, are designed to show that as the Civil Rights Movement’s objectives and tactics changed, the use of material culture remained a constant. These objects helped achieve the objectives of the Civil Rights Movement, and retrospectively the artifacts in *Making the Movement* help us understand that struggle in a deeper way.”

Each chapter is fully illustrated with color photos (when available) of the items that we, as APIC members, collect. Readers learn the importance of these items as they learn of the events themselves.

The book’s 7 ½ x 10 inch format makes it big enough to display the items in photos, but not too big to easily hold for reading. Its soft-cover, yet sturdy format also keeps the price affordable at \$29.95.

Even for those who aren’t collectors of Cause or Civil Rights material, it’s an interesting study of the issue and the artifacts created.





From page 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I found Bob Bostock's article from The Keynoter's Fall 2022 issue (My Time with Richard Nixon) to be an eye-opener. Imagine working closely with a former president of the United States to help him open his long-overdue presidential library. No wonder Bob is such an ardent collector of all things Nixon. And, with such astonishing on-the-job training, no wonder Bob went on to serve so nobly as the Homeland Security Assistant to the EPA Administrator during a crucial time in our nation's history (2001-2003), a point Bob modestly excludes from his excellent piece.

While Bob's article is a tough act to follow, I hope to see still more "origin stories" from our members. I am always interested to learn how others have joined our hobby.

Meantime, I hope Bob stops bidding up Nixon ephemera that I am also trying to collect!

Kipling Oren, APIC 17687

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Phenomenal Jugate
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Abraham Lincoln: 1860 Portrait
Campaign Sash/Hat Band.



John Hale: Pierced Tin
Campaign Lantern.



Abraham Lincoln:
White House China Dinner Plate.



Buchanan & Breckinridge: 1856
Campaign Glass Tumbler.



McKinley & Roosevelt: 1 1/4"
1900 Jugate Campaign Button.

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