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THE

KEYNOTER

THE AMERICAN POLITICAL ITEMS COLLECTORS



APIC New England National Convention

July 27-August 1, 2026



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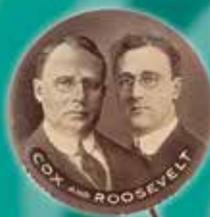
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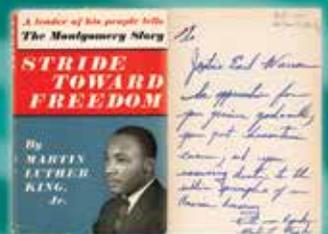
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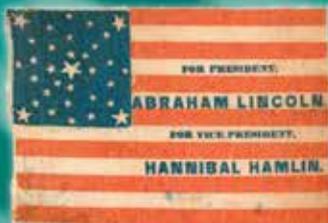
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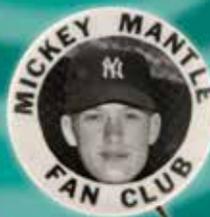
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FROM THE APIC PRESIDENT

This year marks our nation's 250th birthday, and I can think of no better way to celebrate it than to get together with friends and fellow collectors at the APIC's national convention in July in Danvers, MA.

Attendees will be surrounded by U.S. revolutionary history, from Boston Harbor and Bunker Hill to Lexington and Concord, all just a pony ride from the convention hotel (just ask Paul Revere). And not far south is the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, where a bus trip is being offered to members during our gathering.

What all of these locations have in common is filmmaker Ken Burns, a nearby resident who has made many amazing documentaries about U.S. history, including his most recent, *The American Revolution*. But Burns doesn't work alone. For the past 25 years, Ken has collaborated with co-director Sarah Botstein on such series as *The Vietnam War*, *Prohibition*, *The War*, *The U.S. and the Holocaust*, *Hemingway and Jazz*, in addition to *The American Revolution*. Sarah has received multiple Emmy nominations and, fortunately for APIC, she will be the keynote speaker at our awards dinner during the convention.

Many of the documentaries that Sarah has worked on feature political memorabilia to help tell the story, but her next project, a series on the life and presidency of Lyndon Johnson, will go deep into the politics of the 1960s. I encourage you to attend our national convention to hear Sarah share stories about her work both past and future. I'm sure it will be a memorable evening.

I also invite each of you to share your collecting passion with your communities in this year of our semiquincentennial (say that five times fast!). I've heard from several APIC members who are planning exhibits of memorabilia from their collections at local schools, libraries, American Legion and VFW halls. What a great way to introduce others to our hobby and perhaps awaken a collecting interest among them.

As the average age of our membership continues to rise, finding new ways to plant the collecting bug among younger prospective historians becomes critical. By displaying items from your collection, perhaps you can attract new members who will help to curate our collections for years to come, perhaps all the way to our nation's tercentenary.



Tony Lee, APIC President



EDITOR'S MESSAGE



When I retired eight years ago after 36 years in a daily newspaper newsroom – two years as a reporter and 34 years as an editor – I thought I had dealt with everything. But then this happened.

An article was recently submitted to me for use in the *Keynoter*. It was very well written and I thought it would be a great addition to a future *Keynoter*. Then I received a phone call from another APIC member. He was concerned that he had provided some information for the article in question and the writer had put a shared byline on the story. He didn't think he deserved that since he hadn't written any of it. He's a modest guy, but I understood his feelings.

Then came the kicker. He said that when the article was shown to him, he sent a few corrections to the author. She mentioned to him that the article was written by an Artificial Intelligence program called ChatGPT.

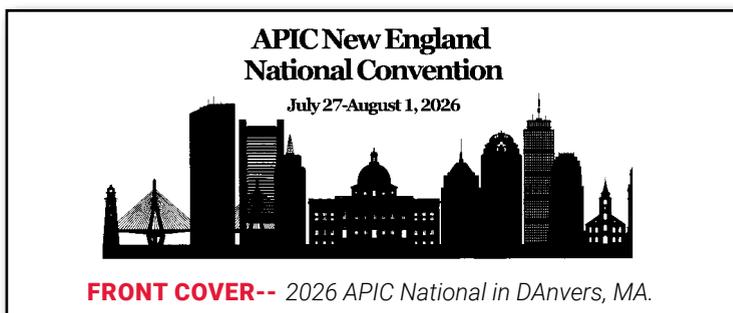
While AI might do a reasonable job writing, the fact that there were a few factual errors in the story caught by an APIC member is reason enough for me to reject the ChatGPT story.

For that reason, I will not be accepting articles for the *Keynoter* that are written using Artificial Intelligence. I trust APIC members will honor this rule. As a doublecheck, every article can be run through AI and it will note if it was created by AI.

Tom Peeling, Keynoter Editor

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NEXT ISSUE-- Isolationism and WWII.

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

First, I wanted to send a note to say how much I loved Greg Thompson's piece on LBJ and Vietnam in the Keynoter. I started collecting in 1966, so that era especially interests me. Great job!

Second, I saw that you wrote that the Kent State killings were in 1971, and I was about to come over to your houses and slug both of you. You need a deputy editor!

And third -- making fun of myself here for a second -- back in the day, I always thought the "Draft Johnson" buttons were put out by people who were upset LBJ dropped out of the race and wanted to "draft" him for the nomination. I never associated those buttons with the "Draft George Hamilton" buttons. That may be the stupidest thing I ever admitted to, but there you go.

Great job guys!

-Ken Rudin, APIC 20101

Editors note: Ken is right. The Kent State shootings happened in 1970, not 1971.

Continued page 38.

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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.

MY THREE FAVORITE FINDS

It's Not All as It Seems

By Becky Peeling, Keynoter Associate Editor

Never judge a book by its cover. That's a life lesson that Sean Solomon (APIC 11789), learned as a young collector and one that he has taken to heart.

Fresh out of college in the early 1990s, Solomon was browsing a country antique fair in upstate New York when an object in a small glass showcase caught his eye. Dressed like a student, he asked the seller for a closer look at the item. The vendor, hands on hips, looked Solomon up and down, then curtly replies "That's very expensive!" Rather reluctantly, the Lincoln ferrotype was handed over for inspection.

"The color drained out of her face when I took two bills from my wallet and set them down," Solomon recalls. The ferro, which he describes as one of the finest ever found, is still in his collection.

"As someone who has been in sales my entire career, I don't judge (people) by their looks," Solomon says.

He knows his way around antiques. Solomon's parents were active collectors, focused on antique clocks. He recalls that their collection filled every wall at home. While antique fairs and stores were good places to hunt for pinbacks, it was eBay where he spotted the George Washington piece. The photographs posted didn't show much detail, so Solomon arranged to meet the seller who lived two hours away.

He invited the woman he was dating to accompany him, figuring that a weekend drive in his old convertible would be appealing.

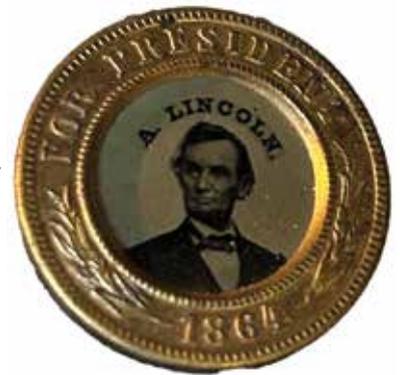
"You mean to go two hours (to see the item)?" the woman asked. But she came along anyway. And when the item was examined, declared in "perfect" condition and purchased, she exclaimed, "You paid HOW MUCH for that?"

Despite her initial skepticism, they kept dating. Recently, Trish and Sean Solomon celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

"She has grown to accept it (collecting)," Solomon says about his wife. "You have to be a special kind of person to understand the addiction (to collecting) – and she does." Back then, Solomon's APIC sponsor was Bren Price, who Trish often comments, "It's his fault that we have all this stuff."

The APIC figures prominently in Solomon's collecting story. He recalls meeting APIC member Bill Nolen at his first upstate New York show. His second show was the APIC National held in New Brunswick, NJ, in 1993.

The Solomons consider the Langhorne APIC event as their "hometown" show and regard many of the dealers as extended family.



Enduring History of Blaine's Club

By Matt Dole, APIC 16847

Political clubs were a primary engine of party politics in the 19th century. While official party committees handled nominations and governance, clubs mobilized the masses through social life, spectacle, and speeches. Many were transient, rising and falling with presidential candidates – the Harrison Club yielding to the McKinley Club, then the Roosevelt Club. Against that backdrop, the durability of Cincinnati's Young Men's Blaine Club, born of James G. Blaine's failed 1884 campaign, is striking.



The club was organized in 1884 to support Blaine, launching with 300 charter members and swelling by the hundreds during the canvass. Meetings were held at the Washington Platform Hall. Blaine already enjoyed deep Cincinnati ties. At the 1876 Republican convention, Hamilton County Republicans supported the nomination of Blaine over the opposition of Rutherford B. Hayes. Blaine was memorably nominated by Robert G. Ingersoll, who dubbed him the "Plumed Knight," likening any abandonment of Blaine to soldiers deserting their general in battle.

The club met weekly to hear speakers on the issues of the day. In September 1884, it formally opened the campaign with a grand display: members marched in uniform – white plug hats, white gloves, and canes – carrying banners emblazoned with slogans such as "Ohio will see Maine's 20,000 and go her 10,000 better." At least one of the top hats survives, pictured with this article. It was sold at online auction several years ago along with a photo of its owner in parade dress.

Early club finances were precarious. One anonymously donated, gold-corded banner was later returned after members learned it had come from a woman who operated "a house of doubtful reputation." The



club lost the banner, and Blaine lost the election, though he carried both Ohio and Hamilton County.

In October, Blaine visited Cincinnati during a campaign swing through Ohio, officially to attend the Cincinnati Industrial Exposition. His visit coincided with record October heat – 95 degrees – and a massive torchlight parade of 10,000 supporters. After 1 a.m., Blaine answered the Young Men's Blaine Club serenade, praising young men as the enduring strength of the Republican Party and charging them with its future destiny.

Unlike many campaign clubs, the Young Men's Blaine Club did not dissolve after defeat. It established a headquarters, which, at one location or another, survived well into the 20th Century.

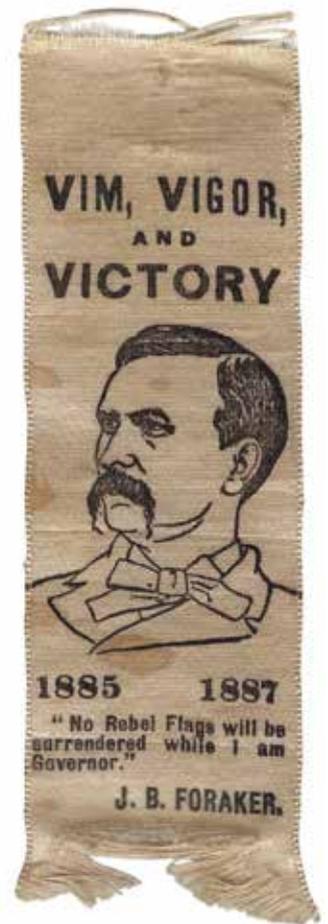
Their first was dedicated in 1885 by Judge Joseph Foraker as its featured speaker. Foraker, a Cincinnati native, had lost the governorship in 1883 but would win it in 1885 with the support of his hometown club. At the Republican State Convention in 1885, 37 of Hamilton County's 77 delegates were Young Men's Blaine Club members. Foraker adopted the club's motto - *Vim, Vigor, and Victory* - as his own rallying cry.

The club retained its name and allegiance to Blaine in anticipation of an 1888 rematch, reflecting both loyalty and local rivalry. Cincinnati hosted multiple Republican clubs. The more aristocratic Lincoln Club supported John Sherman and was accused of snubbing Foraker, mirroring national tensions between Republican factions. The Young Men's Blaine Club also became a proving ground for rising figures, including future Congressman Charles P. Taft, brother of William Howard Taft.

The club was not solely political. Newspapers reported billiard tournaments, parlor games, and a generous library, while a Blaine Glee Club provided music for rallies and serenades. At its height, the club claimed more than 3,000 members and could mobilize crowds of 10,000 or more.

As Blaine faded from prominence, the club remained loyal to Foraker through his three terms as governor and later as U.S. senator, then backed William McKinley once Foraker reconciled with him. After the turn of the century, the club's influence waned. Increasing opposition to political "bossism," and the association of the club with figures like Foraker and George B. "Boss" Cox, thinned its ranks.

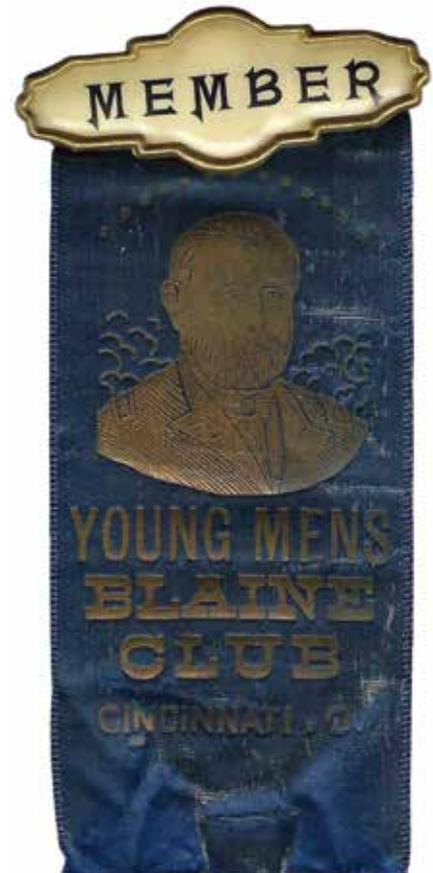
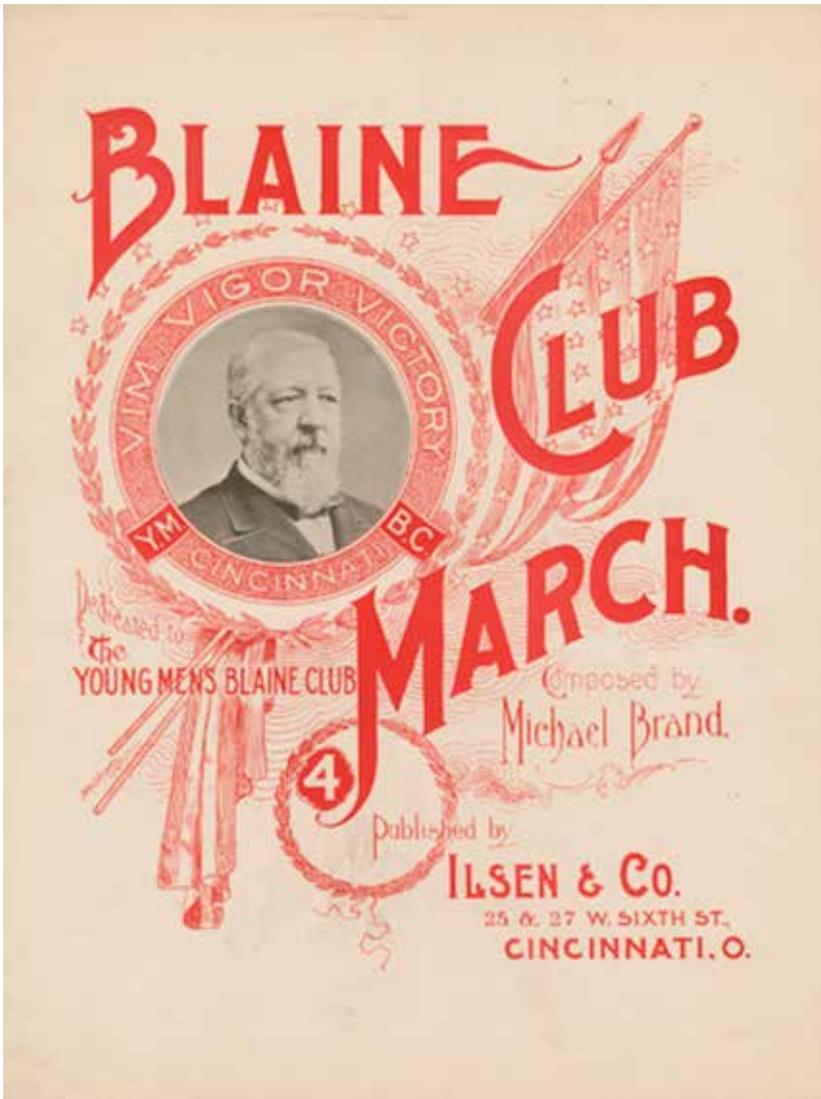
Even hometown candidate William Howard Taft's nomination for president failed to restore its former prominence. The club did appear at Taft's 1909 inauguration, sending 280 members and two bands. Taft hosted the Cincinnati delegation at a special White House reception. That same year, the club celebrated its silver jubilee, marking 25 years of activity.



Traditions lingered even as influence declined. Election returns were long reported from club headquarters on election night, a practice halted in 1918 due to a citywide ban on public gatherings during the influenza epidemic. In 1920, the club brought its first female delegation to Columbus -- 12 women in total -- prompting members to remark that women would need to show "more enthusiasm" before receiving similar invitations again.

By the late 1920s, the organization was a shadow of its former self. In February 1928, members voted to rename it the Republican Club of Hamilton County, ending 44 years of association with Blaine, and closing the chapter on one of the most enduring political clubs to emerge from a losing presidential campaign.

(Author's note: Much of the history preserved here is paraphrased from a club history authored by Ed Schor, a long-time Hamilton and statewide Ohio Republican Party leader.)



APIC National Comes to Boston Area

By Michael Dunham, APIC 7423 and Susan Roman, APIC 9579

As members of the New England APIC Chapter, we are honored and thrilled to be hosting the 2026 APIC National Convention in Danvers, MA, on Greater Boston's North Shore.

Our base of operations, treasure hunting and fun will be the DoubleTree by Hilton. The hotel is minutes off Route 95 with access to area restaurants and is about 25 miles north of Boston, and a 15-minute drive to the Salem Witch Museum and area beaches. Families will be delighted with the hotel's attached water park and indoor pool. The hotel has free on-site, self-serve parking.

We have planned five days of events at the convention, including a bus trip to the John F. Kennedy Library on Tuesday, July 28. Various seminars and collector chapter meetings as well as an APIC board meeting will be scheduled throughout the morning and afternoon on Wednesday. The room allocated for the exhibits will be open for the duration of the convention following set-up. We are planning to have a variety of regional and other exceptional material for the attendees to view, including Jim Kirk's exhibit on the first five presidents of the U.S. Wednesday evening will conclude with a welcome party.

Our members' auction on Thursday, coordinated and curated by APIC member Winston Blair, will provide a chance for our guest members to add quality items to their collections. Jack Dixey will handle the auctioneer duties.



Friday evening will be our awards banquet, featuring a buffet-style dinner with a New England-themed menu. Filmmaker and historian Sarah Botstein is our guest speaker. She has worked with Ken Burns on a number of projects, including the recent documentary on the American Revolution.

The bourse will run from Thursday through Saturday with more than 200 tables in the beautiful ballroom and its large foyer, and the show will be advertised to the public throughout the Greater Boston area. Guest attendees are welcome to bring items to auction during the three days. Collector hotel rooms will be open for room hopping earlier in the week.

The Logan Express Danvers bus runs out of Logan Airport with a stop at the Liberty Tree Mall in Danvers. The hotel offers frequent shuttle pickups and drop-offs to and from the mall.

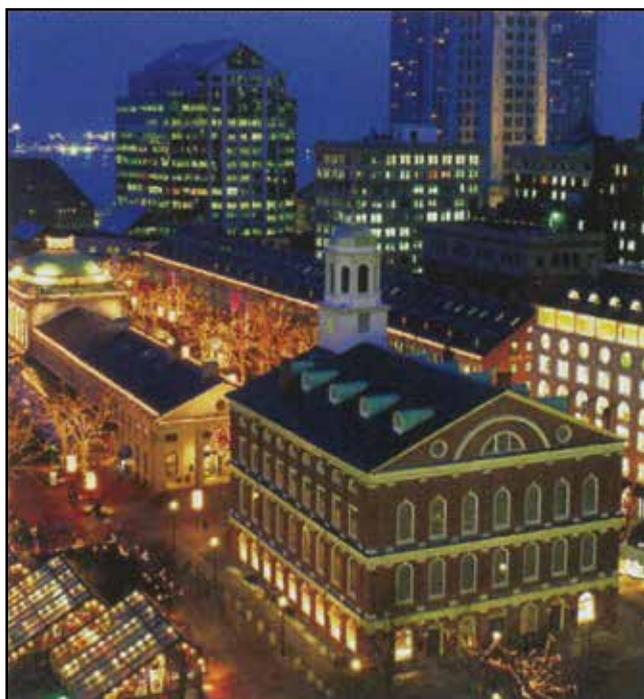
Boston is rich with history and is fairly easy to navigate. Some points of interest include the Freedom Trail, Faneuil Hall, USS Constitution at the Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston Public Library, Fenway Park that offers tours, and The Adams House in Quincy. All these points of interest are accessible by public transportation. There will be other events planned in Beantown in connection with the United States' 250th Anniversary. At some point during the summer Boston will be hosting the Tall Ships.

Going south from Danvers is Cape Cod, about 2 hours by car. To the north are beautiful beaches and coastal communities in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. There are professional theaters – Ogunquit Playhouse in Maine, Seacoast Repertory Theater and historic Music Hall in Portsmouth, NH, and North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, MA. And there's always antiquing.

Attending an APIC National Convention is an experience not to be missed. Members and guests have a chance to share stories about items that they found and discover treasures and meet knowledgeable dealers from across the country.

There hasn't been an APIC National in New England for 50 years. APIC held a Boston Convention at the historic Parker House in 1970 and in Hartford, CT, in 1976. We welcome the return to our region. We expect a large collector and dealer turnout and hope to sell out all our bourse tables in the ballroom.

Please consider attending the convention and take in some of the history and beauty Boston and the New England area have to offer. The discounted APIC guest room rate is offered to members from July 23 through Aug. 4.



Dear Sir

Annapolis Jan. 16. 1784.

L^t. Col^l. Franks being appointed to carry to Paris one of our copies of our ratification of the Definitive treaty, and being to depart in instant of his appointment, furnishes me a hasty opportunity of obtrude myself on your recollection. should this prove troublesome, you must take the blame, as having exposed yourself to my esteem by letting me - come acquainted with your merit.

Our transactions on this side the water must now have become uninteresting to the rest of the world. we are busy however among ourself endeavoring to get our new governments into regular & concerted motion.

Thomas Jefferson's "Birth of the Nation" letter, carried to Paris with the Treaty of Peace, by a Jewish patriot, January 16, 1784



"The rockets' red glare"
A British midshipman's log recording the bombardment of Fort Mchenry, September 1814



"We have met the enemy, and they are ours."
Oliver Hazard Perry's 1807 Naval commission, signed by Thomas Jefferson



The Plymouth Colony applies to the British Crown in 1690 for its first royal patent



An extremely rare Type 1 photo of Lou Gehrig, dated July 3, 1927, one of over 150 press photos to be offered

HOW HISTORY UNFOLDS ON PAPER: IMPORTANT AMERICANA FROM THE ERIC C. CAREN COLLECTION, PART X

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FDR's NRA, and Its Demise

By John Koster, APIC 1720

Strangely enough, the beautiful Great Depression-era law enforcement badge shown here can be considered directly associated with the demise of the legislative Act which empowered it.

Its face reads "NRA, Member Retail Kosher Meat Trade Code Authority, Inc." I assume it was issued by the federal government to an authorized National Recovery Administration code inspector.

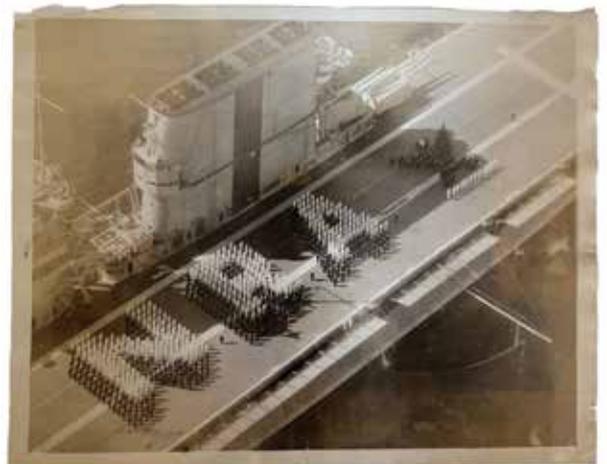
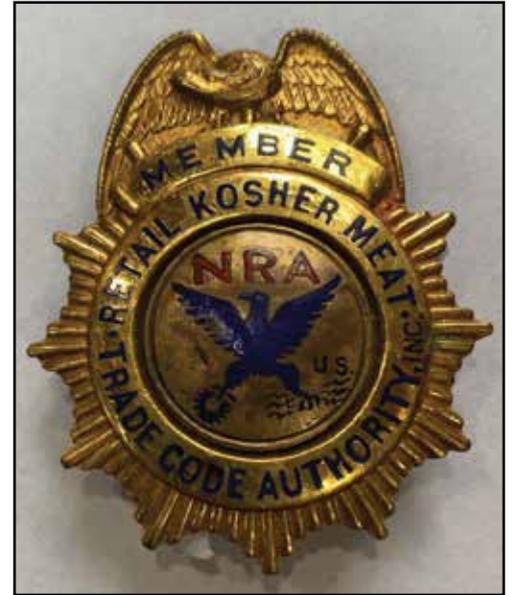
A major pillar of Franklin D. Roosevelt's first 100 days as president (referred to by historians as the "First New Deal"), the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 (NIRA) authorized the development of written descriptions for how American firms must conduct their various businesses, thereby putting an end to the "cut-throat competition" so detrimental to the national economy. It was to be implemented through codes designed to render fairness – the drafting of which to involve representatives of Commerce, Labor and the Government.

Consequently, the National Recovery Administration (NRA) agency was created to fashion codes crucial to implementation of the NIRA, with an ultimate aim of imposing order on the market through government-mandated cooperation between capital and workers. One such was the "Code of Fair Competition for the Live Poultry Industry of the Metropolitan Area In and About the City of New York."

The slaughterhouse trade in New York City had long been a rough and tumble sector. For every truckload of poultry, the "poultry trust" in operation during the years of about 1913-1919 is known to have extorted 10 dollars from merchants (equivalent to a modern-day purchasing power of over \$300).

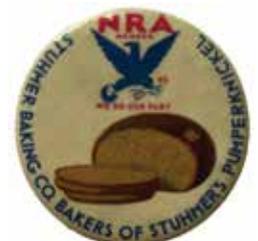
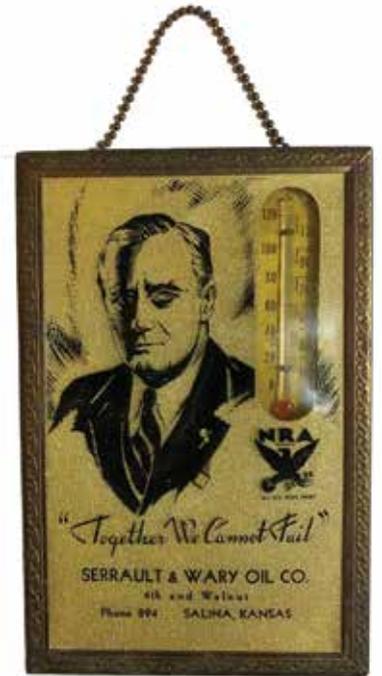
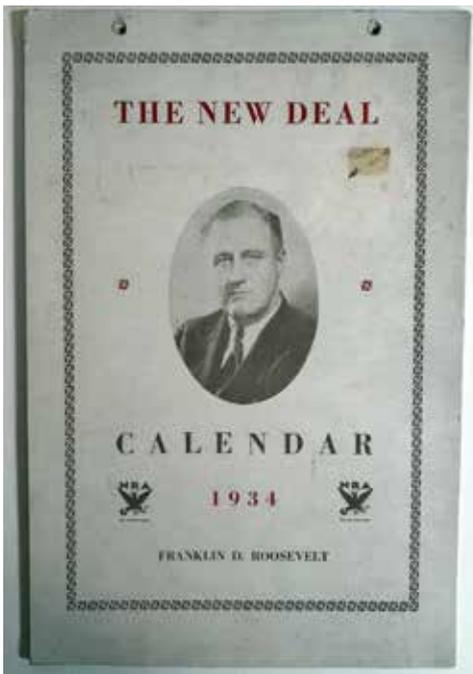
In late 1914, poultry dealer Barnet Baff was murdered by organized crime representing the trust. An investigation into his death uncovered corruption that led to the resignation of the Deputy Police Commissioner of New York City, Capt. John McClintock, and convictions of first-degree murder for Joseph Cohen, and of Abraham "Abie" Graff for manslaughter.

Twenty years later, the Schechter brothers were Brooklyn poultry middlemen who bought domestic fowl throughout the country and butchered them for sale to mainly retailers as certified kosher. During the summer of 1934, they were inspected by NRA Code enforcement crews and found to be in violation.



They were eventually indicted by a grand jury on 60 counts, including conducting a conspiracy to violate that code, threatening violence against agents and inspectors, for violating code rules about hours and pay and the selection of chickens, and knowingly selling a bird to a customer that was unfit for consumption (thus, "chislers" in the then-current idiom).

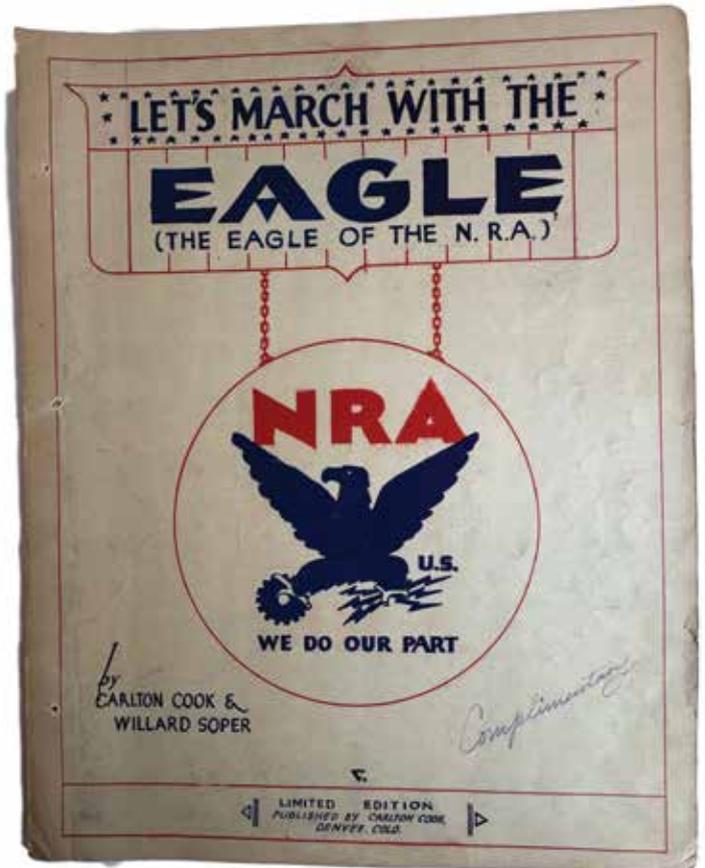
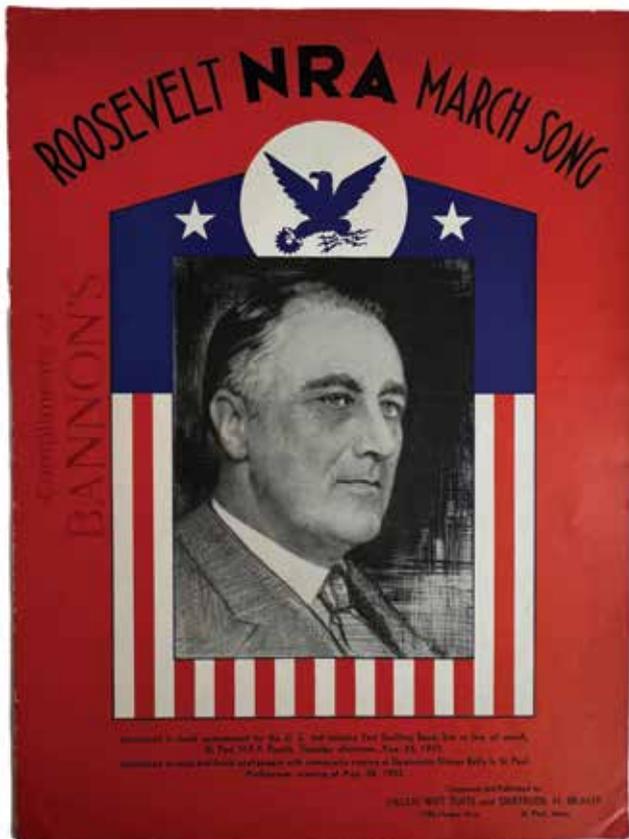
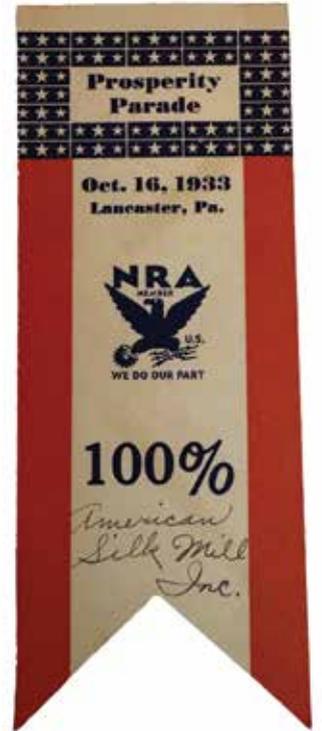
Found guilty by the lower courts and awarded jail time, the four brothers' attorney, Joseph Heller, appealed all the way to the Supreme Court. The case (*A.L.A. Schechter Poultry Corp. vs. United States*, 295 U.S. 495) served to invalidate the NIRA on Monday, May 27, 1935 via a rather narrow reading of the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution (to the effect that Congress had illegitimately delegated what amounted to law-making power). President Roosevelt's reaction to the court's verdict was to declare that they were taking the country back to "horse and buggy" thinking.



The NRA had been rapidly kicked off to tremendous fanfare, with huge support and involvement of the Depression-shocked general populace as well as the mercantile world. For example, gigantic parades, flags, posters and a postal stamp, plus a formidable variety of wearable political items were created.

With 4,500 staffers, the young agency was no small thing, into which substantial public money had been invested. It was financed from the coffers of the umbrella NIRA organization in conjunction with the similarly new Public Works Administration with a combined budget for 1934 of an astounding \$3.3 billion.

Even though the NRA enjoyed reasonably widespread popular approval, it was nevertheless required to shut down. The NRA was not perfect. Navigating truly uncharted waters of civic and fiscal policy, a plethora of complexities with regards to its management had arisen, resulting in the convening of a National Recovery Review Board, headed by none other than famous public interest lawyer Clarence Darrow. Its formal report that came out in May 1934 found issue with Big Business' domination of the codes, effectively oppressing small enterprise.



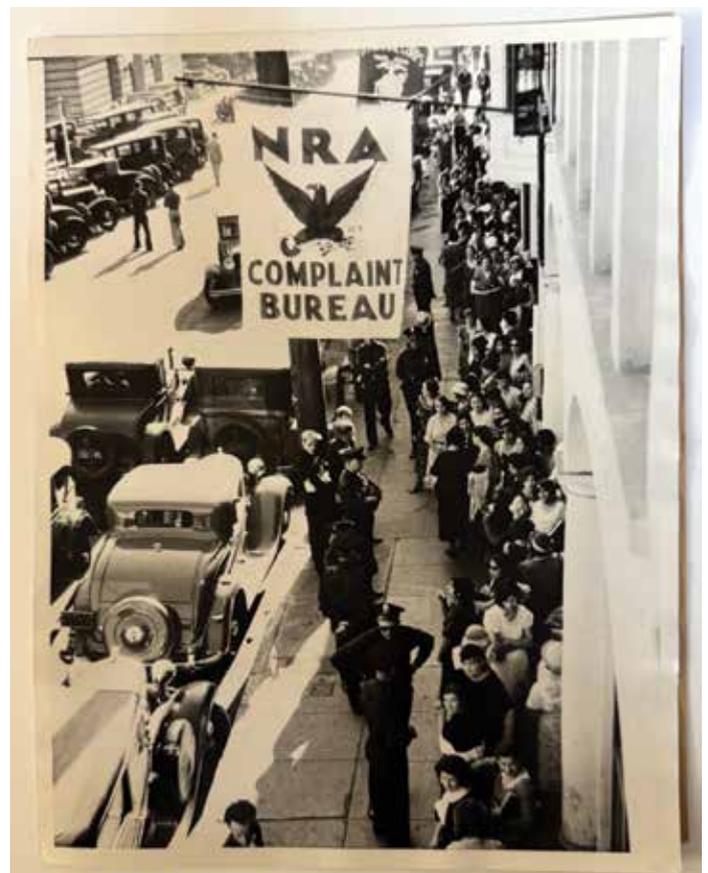
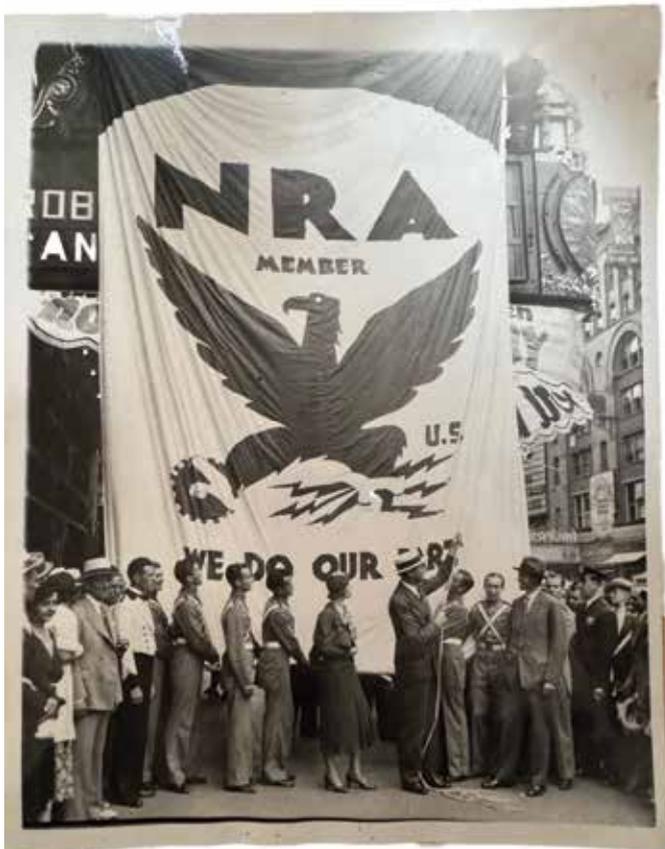
The Supreme Court, presided over by Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, had struck down several of the administration's progressive interests unanimously (handing down three such decisions on that "Black Monday"), followed in January 1936 by its axing of Vice President Henry Wallace's Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 (the AAA). The bench came to be derisively referred to as "those nine old men." The entirety of the situation prompted FDR to seek to increase the number of seats on the Supreme Court via his Judicial Procedures Reform Bill of 1937, in which effort he failed.

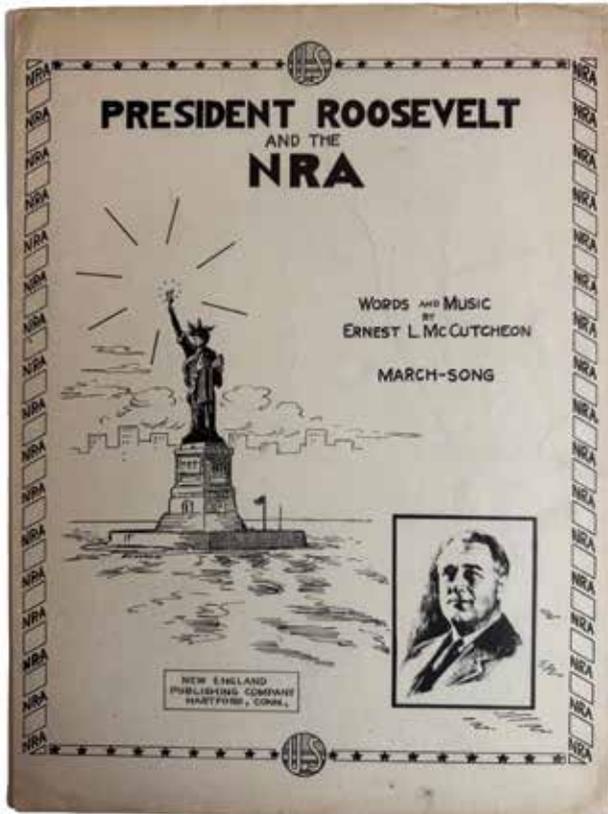
President Thomas Jefferson in a letter to Abigail Adams, Sept. 11, 1804:

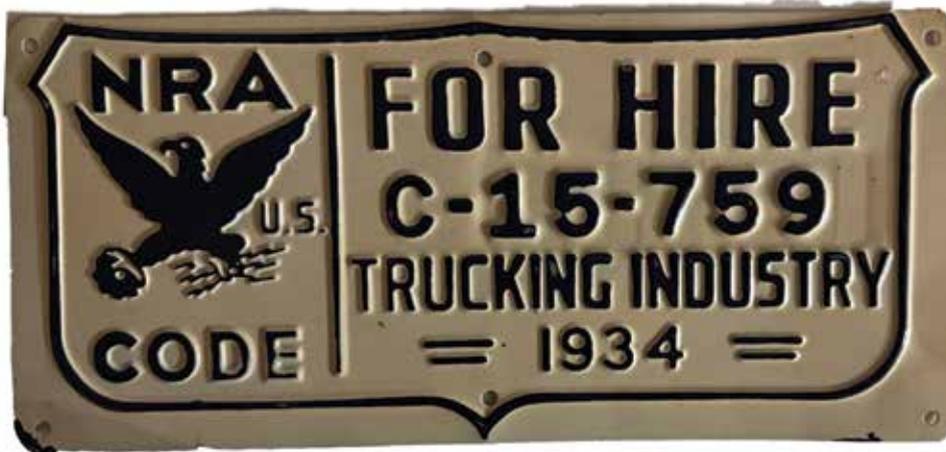
"Nothing in the Constitution has given them (federal judges) the right to decide for the Executive, more than to the Executive to decide for them. . . . The opinion which gives to the judges the right to decide what laws are constitutional and what not, not only for themselves, in their own sphere of action, but for the Legislature and Executive also in their spheres, would make the Judiciary a despotic branch.

From Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address:

"...The candid citizen must confess that if the policy of the government, upon vital questions, affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the instant they are made, in ordinary litigation between parties, in personal actions, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having, to that extent, practically resigned their government into the hands of that eminent tribunal."





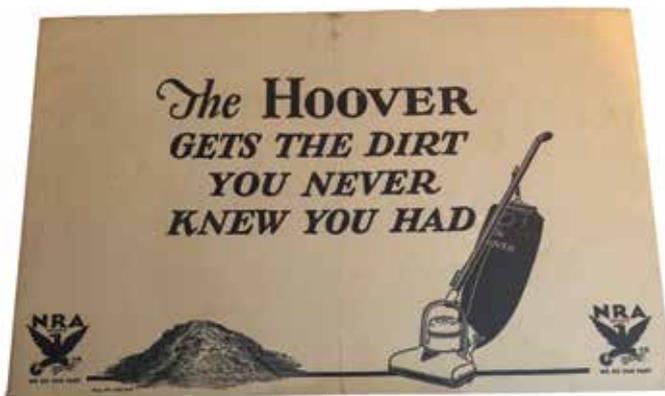


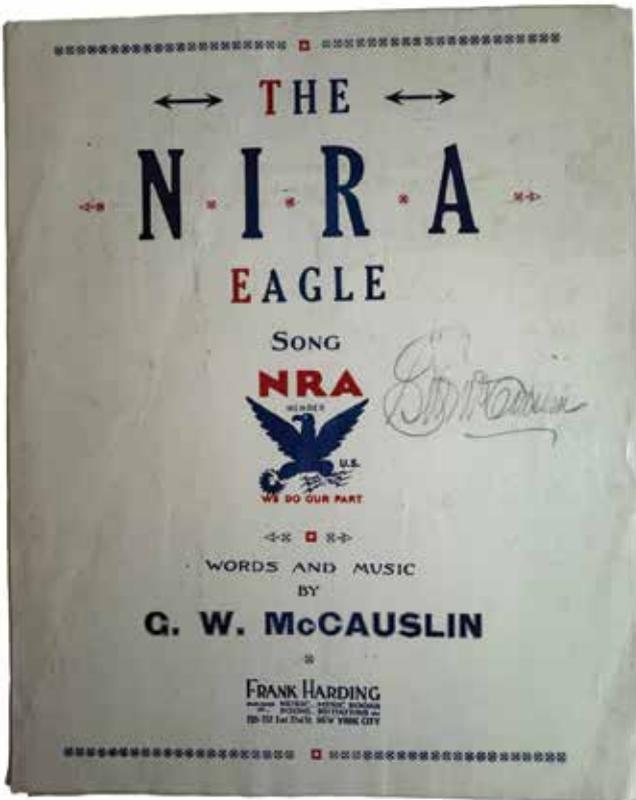
CHISELERS

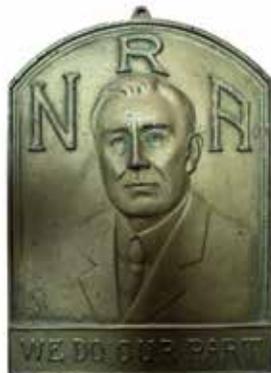
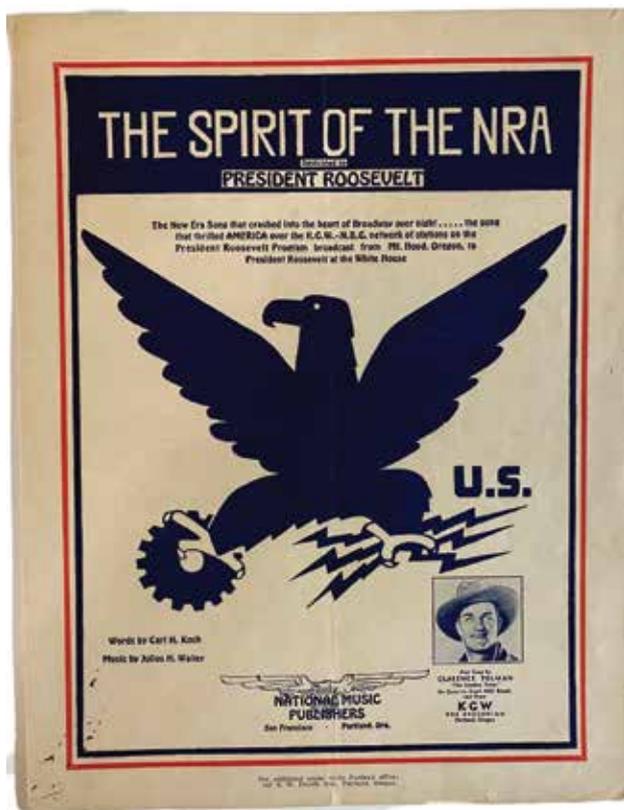
Are doomed under NRA Codes. They are leeches sapping the life blood of the trucking industry. You can help to stamp them out.

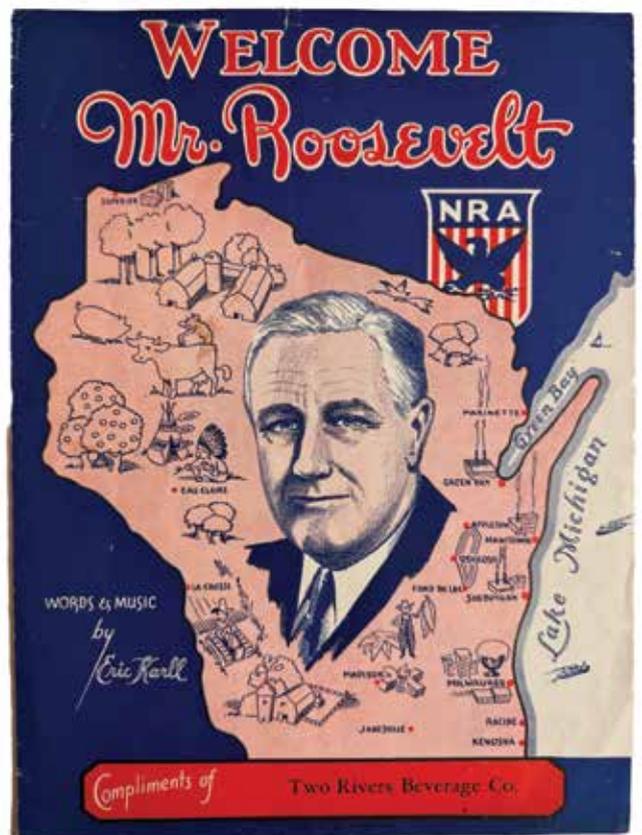
See that every operator you know registers and abides by the Code— This is a duty you owe yourself and your industry.

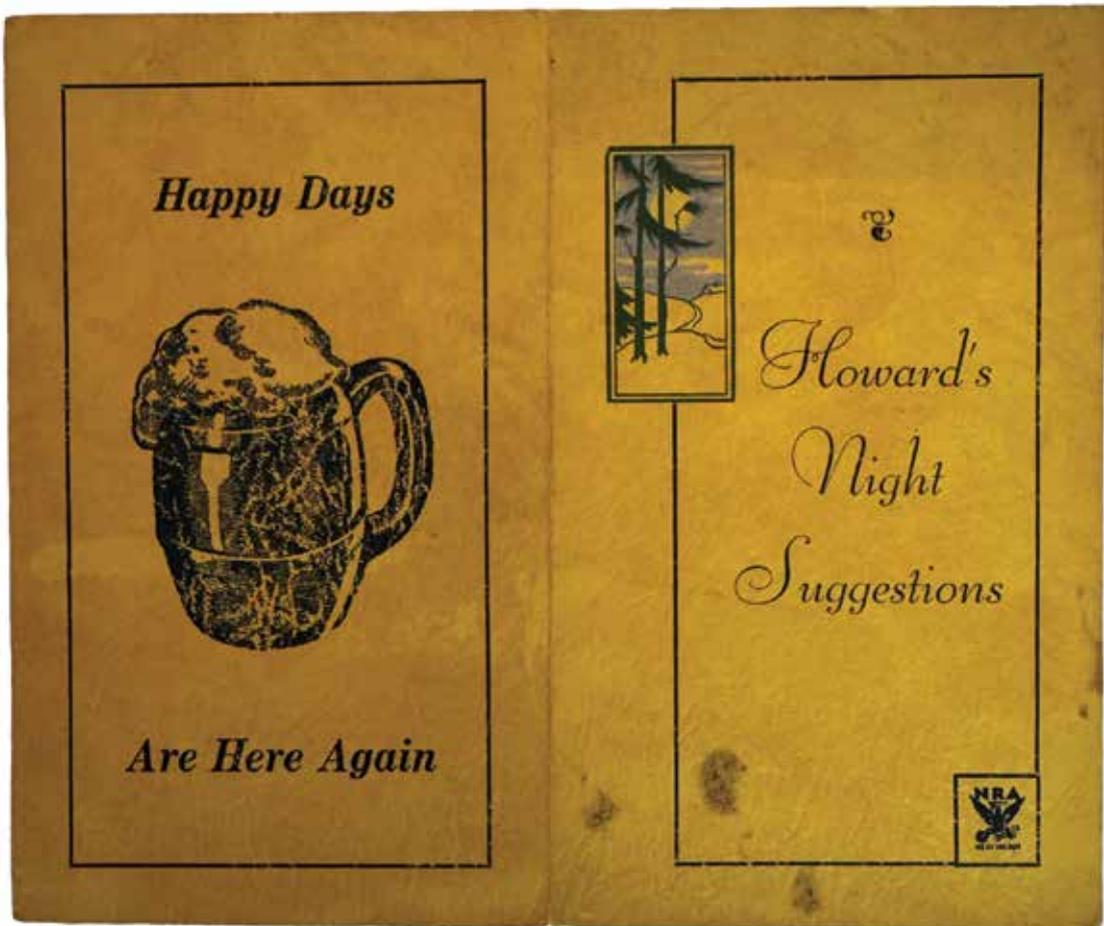
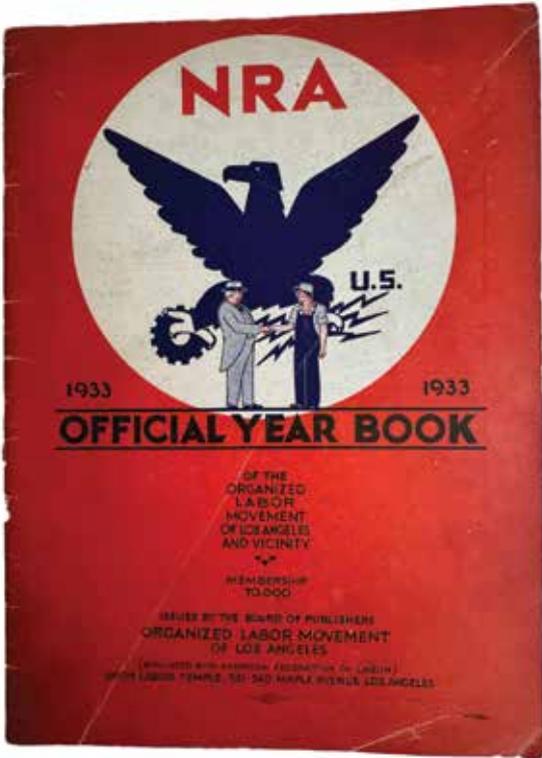
Idaho State Code Authority for the Trucking Industry











POLITICAL POP CULTURE

The Presidents in Books

By Wes Berger, APIC 9697

I read frequently. So when asked to write about my ten favorite political books, it was an easy task. I read mostly non-fiction now. I have read each of the books twice that I mention. Here they are, in descending order.

No. 10: *The Unexpected President, Life and Times of Chester A. Arthur*, Scott Greenberger

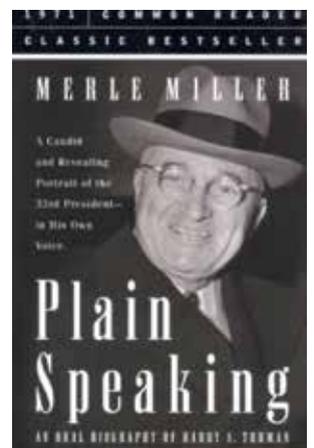
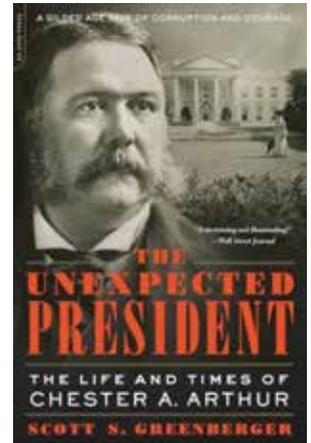
I expected not to like President Arthur because of his Roscoe Conkling connection, but as a president, he's portrayed as a humble, likeable servant. I had pictured him as a Gangs of New York figure, but Greenberger's portrayal of him as an advocate for Civil Rights, blacks and Indians was surprising. That wasn't always so. Arthur used his Civil War commission to enrich himself and his family. But that changed when Garfield died. It's an easy read.

No. 9: *Plain Speaking*, Merle Miller

It was my first presidential read and a very revealing title as I read it in the 1970s. Written in the early 1960s, it's an oral history book in which President Truman curses frequently and reminds one of a favorite uncle. There are no regrets about the atomic bomb, no apologies about his dislike of Richard Nixon (a shifty-eyed goddamn liar), Douglas MacArthur (dumb son of a bitch), John Kennedy as the son of Joseph Kennedy (as big a crook as we have in this country). If you dislike political correctness and politicians who debate about the definition of "is," you will love this book.

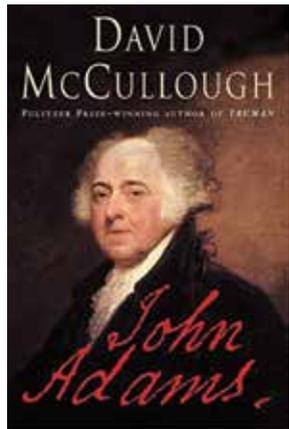
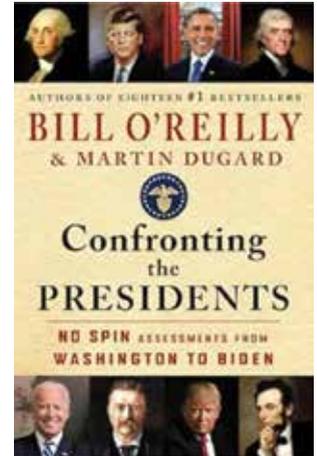
No. 8: *One Summer America 1927*, Bill Bryson

Bryson's style is humorous and flowing, with just a tinge of sarcasm. I included this book because of its very frank portrayal of Herbert Hoover. This book encompasses all my loves of early baseball (Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs in 1927), early aviation (Lindbergh's flight to Europe), and, of course, Herbert Hoover. When the Mississippi River floods came in 1927, Hoover had a Sophie's Choice to make and he didn't hesitate. He chose to open the dams, flooding and destroying the homes and property of local farmers, all of whom were poor. It was an interesting choice since he in fact had saved Belgium from starvation. It also addresses Hoover's choice never to be photographed with blacks or the poor. By 1927, he had only an allegiance to his contributors.



No. 7: *Confronting the Presidents, Bill O'Reilly*

O'Reilly's style is so easy. The best of his books: unrelated factoids such as "Dolly Madison an incessant snuff user." Until I read this book, I had forgotten that James Monroe was unopposed in 1820 and William Henry Harrison gave us the terms "keep the ball rolling" and "booze." Was Zachary Taylor murdered? Following Lincoln's death, Mary Todd Lincoln went out and bought 300 pairs of gloves. Rutherford B. Hayes founded Ohio State University. Woodrow Wilson, an avowed racist with no work ethic, begged to be the Democratic candidate in 1908. (By the way, I don't read books based on the author's political persuasion. I also read Rachel Maddow's Bag Man.)

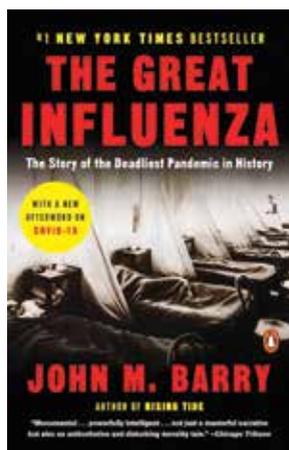
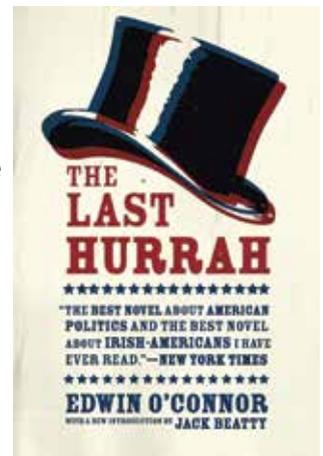


No. 6 *Adams, David McCullough*

"Thomas Jefferson survives." I really didn't know much about John Adams besides this, his last words. The book is filled with detailed insights. It was interesting that he started each day wading naked in the Potomac. Maybe that's McCullough's strength, portraying presidents as different from perceptions. I always pictured John Adams as one of the disciples, principled and rather unlikeable. But Abigail and McCullough saw something else. In real life he founded the U.S. Navy, with Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence, and of course, defended the British soldier in the Amistad affair. I was once told by another collector that there is more memorabilia for John Adams in England than in the US. It's a compelling book.

No. 5: *The Last Hurrah, Edwin O'Connor*

This is the only fiction book on my list. I read it in 1968 and it so affected me that I changed my college major to history and political science. Frank Skeffington is a 1956 version of Boston strongman James Curley. The story is told through the eyes of his nephew, who begins to see the failures in his uncle's political regime. To a naive college sophomore, this book was eye opening. It has back-room deals, political threats and election-night drama. It comes as close as any book detailing the real world of politics.

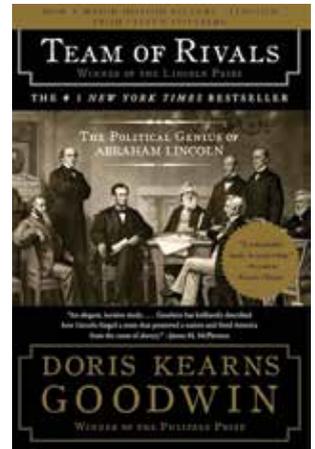


No. 4: *The Great Influenza, John Barry*

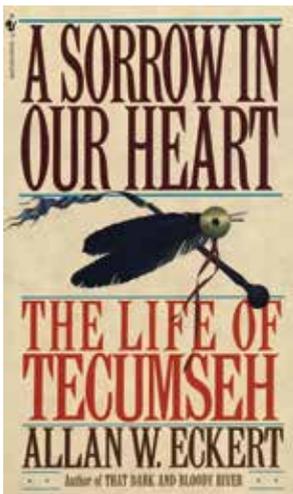
This is the story of the deadliest pandemic in history until COVID. Although it bogs down in scientific terminology, this book told me much about Woodrow Wilson. The influenza began in the geographic center of the country in Kansas, and spread through the rallies which Wilson and our political leaders encouraged. Even after the discovery of the virus, the president encouraged mass gatherings to display patriotism and support of the war. As thousands were dying in 1918, soldiers boarded huge American ships in close quarters on their way to Europe. This was when whole areas were shut down and travel forbidden. George W. Bush and Barack Obama were so moved by this book that they had plans drawn up for pandemic response.

No. 3: *Team of Rivals, Doris Kearns Goodwin*

This book would be No. 1 on many lists. It details the hostile interaction of Lincoln's cabinet and his effort to control them (and the poor guy had Mary Todd Lincoln's peculiarities to deal with also.) This was a time that three failed candidates for the presidency all had influential positions in a cabinet – Seward, Bates and Chase. In the spirit of *The Last Hurrah*, this book addresses the decision making that led to some of the greatest failures and successes of the military. It does not detail Lincoln's childhood or upbringing as others did, but it displays Lincoln's gift as a counselor and behavioral analyst.



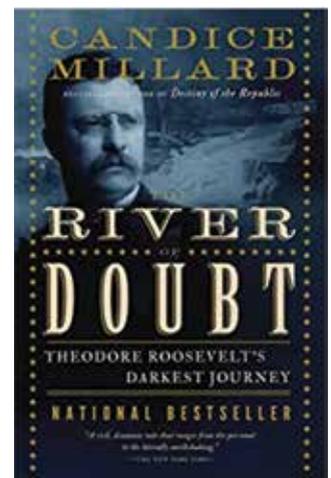
No. 2: *Sorrow in Our Heart, Allan Eckert*



This comes close to being No. 1 for me. When I suggested this to the Keynoter editor, he hesitated. It is American history before our presidents. This book details Tecumseh's effort to band all the North American tribes into one people, covering more than 1,000 miles to build a confederacy, by canoe. Along the way, there are many presidential references such as Washington, "his peace overtures were meaningless," and Harrison, who Tecumseh prophesied that he would become president, and fell into trances at the mention of his name for he knew Harrison would lead to his demise. There is much of Harrison, but the content of the book is really the first political alliance in a burgeoning country.

No. 1: *River of Doubt, Candice Millard*

People forget that looking ahead to 1920, Theodore Roosevelt was assumed to be the Republican candidate for president. But his disastrous trip on an Amazon tributary in 1913-14 left him with lingering health issues that plagued him until his death in 1919. The book is fascinating and chronicles his trip along the river. The jungle growth was so thick that it provided no wildlife, resulting in starvation. It is a story of a rugged individualist who finally found an enemy he couldn't conquer. It's a character study of Roosevelt and the people who surrounded him.



I love reading. My grandson, who attends school in Ohio, was given a choice:

Read a book or watch a condensed AI synopsis and film. I fear this is happening all over our country.

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POLITICAL POP CULTURE

Politics in the Movies

By Michael Hatchett, APIC 18087

Nearly everyone knows and loves *The Candidate*. Your copy of *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* is worn out from re-watches. And *Nixon* has been seen more times than, well, a “Nixon Now!” button.

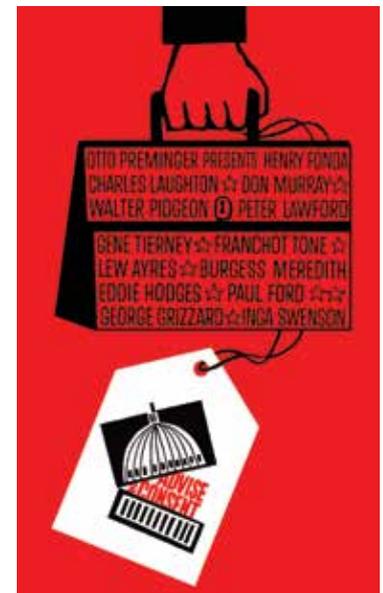
From melodrama, to comedy, and even a Cold War thriller, most of these overlooked films listed here might not have been minted and certified classics, but they will provide some solid entertainment when you’re looking for your next political movie fix.

No. 1: *The Farmer’s Daughter* (1947)

What if Mr. Smith was Mrs. Smith, and instead of going to Washington, she went to a fictionalized version of Minneapolis? Loretta Young stars as the eponymous daughter, Katie Holstrom, a hardworking young woman who makes her way from the farm to the big city, ultimately finding work for rich Congressman Glenn Morley (Joseph Cotton) and his politically influential mother. After the strong-willed Katie publicly confronts a neighboring congressional candidate aligned with the Morleys, Katie finds herself nominated by the other party while simultaneously falling for Glenn. Though partisan labels are eschewed, Katie’s stances and background closely align with the DFL/NPL of the time, while the Morleys are clearly meant to represent Dewey-style Republicans. Young deservedly won the 1947 Academy Award for Best Actress for her role.

No. 2: *Advise & Consent* (1962)

This film version of the 1959 best seller by Allen Drury focuses on controversial Secretary of State nominee Robert Leffingwell (Henry Fonda). Not as well remembered as contemporaries “*The Manchurian Candidate*” and “*Seven Days in May*,” this Otto Preminger helmed melodrama nonetheless provides plenty of intrigue among senators played by, among others, Charles Laughton (in his final film role), Walter Pidgeon, Peter Lawford, and in a brief role, a young Betty White. Preminger offered roles to former Vice-President Richard Nixon and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., both of whom turned him down. He nonetheless managed to recruit 87-year-old former Arizona Sen. Henry Ashurst as an oft-sleeping senator who must be awakened to cast his vote throughout the movie – always a terse, “Opposed sir, opposed!”



No. 3: *The Seduction of Joe Tynan* (1979)

Alan Alda was arguably at the height of his fame when he chose to write and star in this low-key offering as a U.S. Senator from New York walking a tightrope between his family and political ambitions. Amid a contentious Supreme Court confirmation process, a new aide (Meryl Streep) comes into Tynan's life, complicating both his career and his marriage. Despite good performances from both Streep and Alda, the real standouts here are Melvyn Douglas (husband of real-life congresswoman Helen Douglas) and Rip Torn, as a colorful pair of Tynan's Southern senate colleagues.

No. 4: *First Monday in October* (1981)

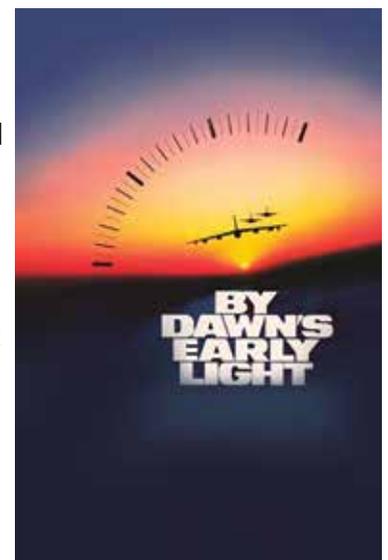
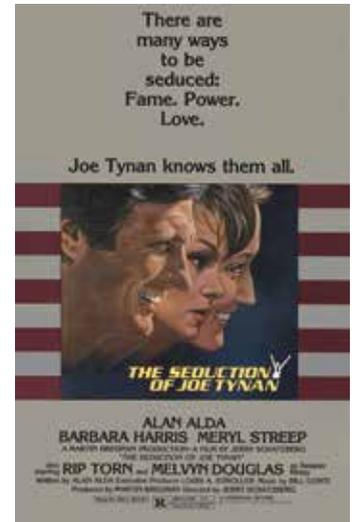


Years before the West Wing's final season foreshadowed the 2008 presidential election, there was this breezy dramedy, which presciently asks: what would happen if a conservative president appointed the first female Supreme Court justice? Jill Clayburgh stars as Ruth Loomis, a no-nonsense westerner, who immediately clashes with her long-tenured liberal colleague, Walter Matthau doing his best William O. Douglas impression. The two eventually team up to investigate a case of corporate espionage connected to Loomis' past. Based on a 1978 play, the film was rushed into release when President Reagan nominated Sandra Day O'Connor as the first woman to serve on the high court in July 1981.

No. 5: *By Dawn's Early Light* (1990):

Among the last of the Cold War political thrillers, this HBO original film is best described as an even grimmer version of the already downbeat *Failsafe*. After a terrorist attack in Turkey sparks an accidental nuclear conflict between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A., the unnamed U.S. president (Martin Landau), blinded and injured in first exchange, struggles to regain control of the situation and end the war before even more of the nation is destroyed. Complicating his efforts is the surviving Secretary of the Interior (Darren McGavin) bent on all-out warfare and sworn in as successor president by military personnel who assume Landau to be dead. Great performances by

the two leads as well as Powers Boothe, James Earl Jones, Rebecca De Mornay and Peter MacNicol as military officers caught between the dueling presidents make this a great, tense watch.



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POLITICAL POP CULTURE

Presidents on the Record

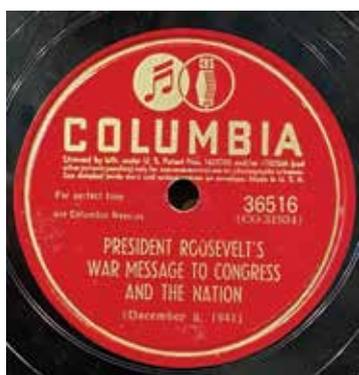
By Leon Smith, APIC 16937

The search for political records is just as much fun as the search for many other political items. Records of all types, whether it be 78 rpm (revolutions per minute), 33 1/3 rpm or 45 rpm, can be found at garage sales, thrift stores, estate sales, antique stores and most importantly, independent record stores.

Independent record stores generally have a section called Spoken Word, which can contain historic speeches, commemorative and theatrical recordings. They also might have a Comedy section, which includes examples for such presidents as Richard Nixon, Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter, to name a few. Many comedy albums have excellent album cover graphics, can be very funny and surprisingly reflect political topics from their time period.

78 RPM Records

One of my \$1 flea market finds was William Jennings Bryan reciting the 23rd Psalm on a 78 rpm record. This record was most likely recorded after his runs for the presidency, sometime in the 1920's. This record has many pops but no scratches and is a good example of his skills as an orator. Original religious recordings of William Jennings Bryan can still be found.



Another 78 rpm that is not as scarce as one would think is President Roosevelt's War Message to Congress and the Nation, dated Dec. 8, 1941. This was a thrift store find for me, and it still plays very well. It is still available for about \$20.

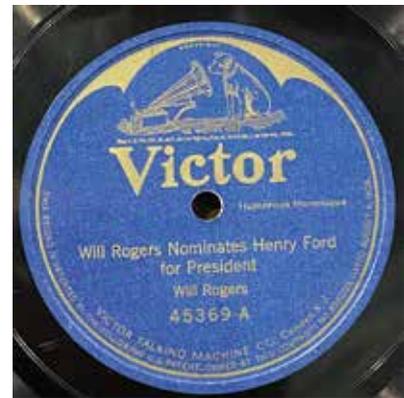
When considering a record purchase in an auction, the quality of the recording is known before purchasing and it usually costs more if in excellent condition. Such was the case when I bought the 78 rpm Will Rogers Nominates Henry Ford for President. About ten years ago I paid \$15. Now it can sell for about \$9 but might be difficult to find.

Famous blues singer Champion Jack Dupree recordings such as FDR Blues moves

record collecting into another category. Older 78 rpm Blues records are sought after and there is a market for them. Normally their cost is more because of the demand. Although I was able to get this for \$23 in good condition, now, if it can be found, it can cost \$60 or more.

Hillbilly-style recordings (before bluegrass) are also sought after. The 78 rpm recordings of the song McKinley by blind singer Riley Puckett and Whitehouse Blues by Charlie Poole with his North Carolina Ramblers are difficult to find.





Both of these songs are the same song just with different titles. The lyrics tell the story of the McKinley assassination. It is still a very popular song in bluegrass music. I bought both of these records in an auction for \$15 each.

33 1/3 LP Records

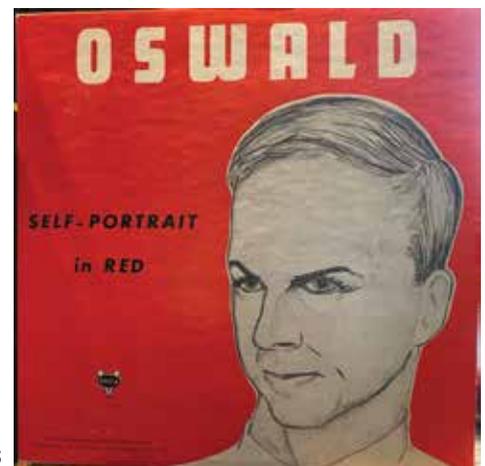
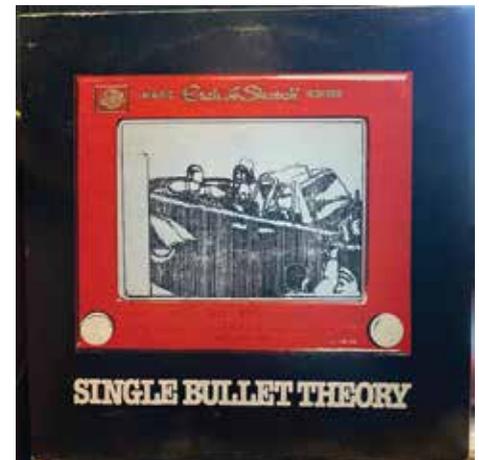
Long Play records (LP) are what we are probably most familiar with. Their speed is 33 1/3 rpm and they became popular in the 1940s. LP cover graphics are a drastic improvement. The LP cover graphic of *Single Bullet Theory* is an Etch-A-Sketch drawing of the JFK assassination. This rare rock-style music LP is on record label Artifact Records, located in Richmond, VA, and is dated 1977. After hours of thumbing through records at my local independent record store called Birdland Music, I found this LP. *Single Bullet Theory* is not a well known band but my guess is the album graphics alone made the price \$25.

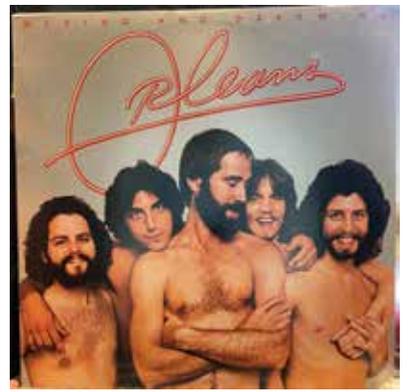
The LP *Oswald, Self Portrait In Red* has a somewhat intimidating cover. It is a scarce LP and the cost can be as high as \$100.

LBJ Musical Portrait by artist Ted Browne is an unusual LP. All songs are written by Mr. Browne and the lyrics are about Lyndon Johnson. The back cover has a short bio about Mr. Browne, a short LBJ bio and the song listing. One other interesting fact is that bass player Bill Lee is filmmaker Spike Lee's father.

Many LP records are not expensive and can bring a smile to your face as well as be informative. The 1972 popular rock band Orleans' lead singer and guitarist is John Hall. Hall is a democrat who served as a representative for New York's 19th congressional district from 2007-2011. They created quite a stir with their LP cover of *Waking and Dreaming*. Their albums are readily available.

The punk rock band The Bollock Brothers from London had lead singer Jimmy Lyndon, who is a brother to Johnny Rotten of Sex Pistols fame. They were not a fan of Ronald Reagan.





Similar to The Beatles Sargent Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band LP cover is Lyndon Johnson's Lonely Hearts Club Band. The Johnson comedy album cover has many political faces. The body below each face is a uniformed band member posing with their instrument. Approximately 25 or more faces range from Richard Nixon, Barry Goldwater, Ted and Robert Kennedy, Gen. Charles DeGaulle, Lady Bird Johnson, Everett Dirksen, Hubert Humphrey, Adolf Hitler, Ronald Reagan and more. This is a common LP selling for about \$5 and is a neat picture of politicians from this era.

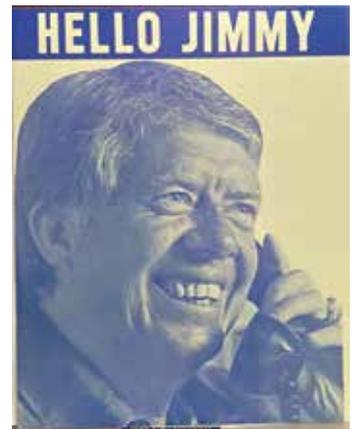
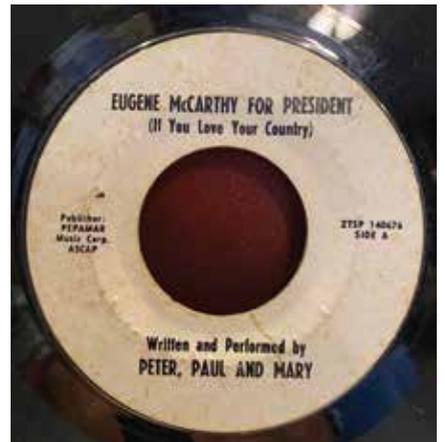
45 RPM Records

Forty-five rpm records are plentiful, mainly because of the number of juke boxes that existed. One highly collectable 45 is High Hopes with Jack Kennedy, which can be found but sometimes costs up to \$100 or more.

A scarce political 45 rpm is Eugene McCarthy for President by legendary folk group Peter, Paul and Mary, dated 1968. My copy was found in a thrift store in Georgia for a couple of dollars.

Photo cover 45s are very desirable. I Have a Dream by Martin Luther King Jr. is somewhat scarce despite being one of his most famous speeches. Singer Lisa Raggio released George McGovern Campaign Song on WPDQ record label, which sounds as if this was some sort of a local recording. It might be somewhat rare, but I have seen it on eBay for \$75.

I am also a member of Carter Political Items Collectors (CPIC) and attended CPIC conventions in Plains, GA. Photo cover Goober Man of Plains, Georgia was bought for \$5 while room hopping during the convention from a woman who was a Carter Campaign Leader. Another photo cover, Hello Jimmy, was bought at the CPIC convention



auction for \$20. These two 45 rpm records might be pretty scarce but can be found in the Georgia area.

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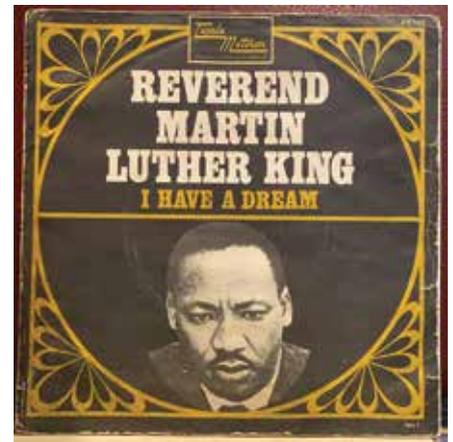
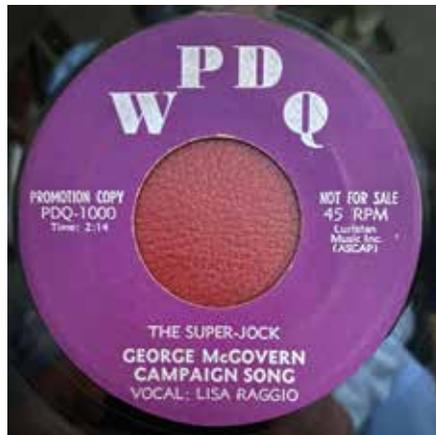
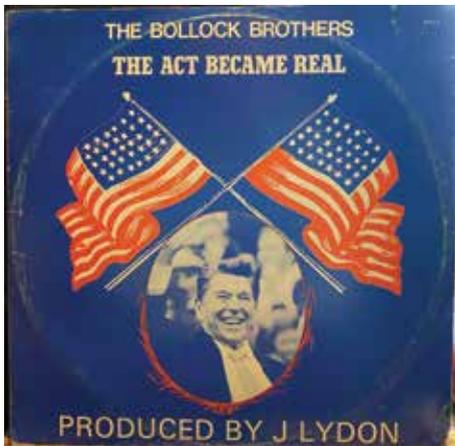
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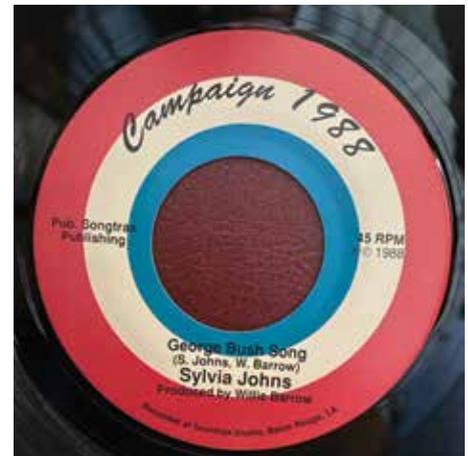
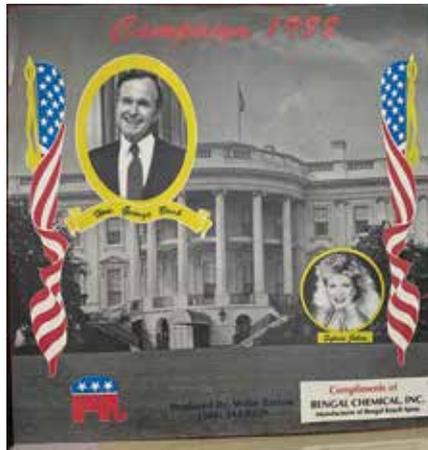
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If you have questions, please contact APIC President Tony Lee or tonylee08560@gmail.com or call him at 609-310-0817. Thank you!



Lastly, the 45 rpm picture cover Campaign 1988 by Sylvia Johns released on record label Bengal Chemical, Inc., manufacturer of Bengal Roach Spray, is difficult to find. I bought my record from a dealer for \$20.

Although eBay is a popular online shopping site, I find most of my information from Discogs.com. Now, you can add records to your already oversized collection!



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Remembering Tom Slater

By Tom Peeling, APIC 9765

For anyone who has collected political items in the past forty years or so, you probably have heard of Tom Slater. In fact, many of you met Tom at shows.

"Tom was truly an APIC icon who changed the way many of us think about collecting," said Tony Lee, APIC president.

Tom passed away Feb. 16 in Indianapolis, IN.

Many will recall one of those Tom Slater changes when he put out the first full-color political collecting catalog with The Political Gallery. Leafing through those catalogs was like visiting a museum to many.

Ray Farina (APIC 7347) met Tom in the mid-1980s at the Meridan, CT, show.

"Tom would walk in with his unmistakable, beat up brown attache case," Farina said.

Farina remembered Tom once buying a whole group of things from his table. While he was struggling with a calculator to add it all up, Tom said: "According to my calculation, my total is this."

"I don't know how he did it," Farina said about Tom's mathematical acumen.

Tom ran his Provenance Auction, then later The Political Gallery as part of Slater's Americana. But many remember him for his years at Heritage Auctions. That's where Farina knew him best. Tom hired him to be consignment director in 2021. Despite not thinking he could afford to leave his structural design engineering job to take that position, Tom talked him into it.

"He could cajole and sell you the Brooklyn Bridge," Farina said.

David Yount (APIC 6913) recalled when Tom returned to collecting after being out for a few years.

"When Tom got back into the hobby with the establishment of The Political Gallery, it created an excitement like the Beatles getting the band back together again," Yount said. "He has a steel trap memory and a keen intellect – he was proud to be a Yale man. He knew who had what, and who collected what, and he endeavored to put the information to work.

Cary Demont (APIC 5982) concurs.

"Tom had an almost encyclopedic memory of everyone's collection, and understood marketing like very few," he said. "He had an uncanny understanding and vision of how a certain item in one's collection would fit in with his upcoming auction, and he had an amazing ability to convince the collector to part with their treasures. This was because we trusted him and understood that he would work extremely hard to get us the very best prices for our 'children.'"

Demont considered Tom one of his closest friends.

"With everything considered, it was his ability to build relationships and make great friends that set him apart," Demont said. "He had that spark, that light of a personality that truly shined when you spoke with him."



The Truth Be Told

Irritating the Boys in Blue

By David Holcomb, APIC 5993

In the late nineteenth and early part of the twentieth century, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was a fraternal organization and a powerful force for the Boys in Blue. Its five-pointed star badge, suspended from a flag ribbon and topped with a proud American eagle, represented the service and sacrifice of Union soldiers in the Civil War. To wear the badge was to proudly show the veteran's honor and pride in having served his country.

In the 1888 and 1892 campaigns, button manufacturers produced a badge that was a very close facsimile to the GAR badge, intentionally crafted to resemble the official insignia. The center portion of the star was removed and portraits of the candidates added, along with exchanging the flag ribbon with what we see today as just a red, white and blue ribbon. To the veterans it was not just a red, white and blue ribbon, it was the ribbon of the GAR Relief Corps badge or the Sons of Veterans badge (Relief Corps. was red, white and blue; Sons of Veterans was blue, white and red).

In 1888 there was widespread reaction to the badges from state organizations of the GAR. Condemnation and lawsuits were threatened. The Department Commander of the Ohio GAR issued General Orders No. 6, publicly condemning the imitation badges as "an attempt to prostitute the G.A.R." Newspapers reprinted the order in full. The order stated that wearing such badges could mislead observers into thinking the wearer was a veteran. It went on to say that Ohio State law made it a misdemeanor to wear the GAR badge, or even one closely resembling it, if one was not a veteran. It encouraged local post commanders to warn their members, publish notices in their local papers, and prevent veterans from accidentally endorsing the imitation items.



Four years later, during the 1892 presidential campaign, the controversy resurfaced. New campaign badges again featuring the GAR-style star, eagle, and ribbon appeared in circulation. At that time, John Palmer, National Commander-in-Chief of the GAR, issued a national order condemning the imitation badge and urged every veteran to “take the thing off his breast” if anyone attempted to pin it on him.

Newspapers across the U.S. reported the renewed uproar and the response was just as sharp. To GAR leaders, the imitation was not flattery. It was an insult. Many articles from partisan press focused on the Cleveland variety as Cleveland had avoided service by paying a substitute, which was legal but a controversial practice.

What we know of the badges today is that when J. Doyle DeWitt produced his book *A Century of Campaign Buttons* he only included the single picture versions, BH 1888-29 and CC 1888-18. He also showed similar pieces, BH 1888-30 and CC 1888-19, which was only the 5-pointed star piece of the badge with a pin added. It is tempting to wonder whether the star-only style was produced in response to GAR objections, as it was less reminiscent of the official medal. There are very similar star-only pieces for McKinley and Bryan, probably from the 1896 campaign. Another observation that I have made is that all the press descriptions of the campaign piece in 1888 were of jugates and in 1892 they were of just the single candidate. When Ed Sullivan updated the work in *American Political Badges and Medalets 1789-1892*, he added the jugates as BH 1888-29a and CC 1888-18a.

In trying to appeal to the Boys in Blue, the button manufacturers made a mistake in thinking the campaign badge would be a success. They soon found out that the insignia meant much more to those who were allowed to wear it. The GAR emblem was not just decorative, but a symbol of honor not to be borrowed lightly.



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Continued from page 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I much enjoyed the article and buttons about Chicago mayors (in the Winter 2025 Keynoter). But a correction -- Mayor Cermak was not shot while "sitting in a Miami Beach saloon." He was shot at an outdoor event in Miami's Bayfront Park as he was shaking hands with President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, the assassin's intended target.

-Ed Epstein, APIC 7271

Editor's note: Yes, he was.

As a long-time member of APIC, I long enjoyed reading the (formerly) scholarly articles in the Keynoter. While I understand your logic in converting to more "collector-oriented" articles, this allows some bizarre inaccuracies to get published.

One such instance appears in the "Collecting Chicago Mayors" article by Eric Orner in the Winter 2026 issue.

The references to the attempted assassination of Franklin Roosevelt by Giuseppe Zangara in Miami in 1933 are almost totally incorrect.

Roosevelt spoke to a crowd gathered at a Miami park from his open automobile. He never exited the vehicle, let alone wandered into a saloon. When he finished speaking, a few people – including Mayor Cermak, who had been on the bandstand – came over to his car to greet him. After a few minutes, the mayor walked away.

At that point, Zangara, who was about 35 feet away, began shooting. Though Roosevelt was unscathed, five other people – including the mayor who was on the running board of a nearby auto – were hit. Zangara was wrestled to the ground by police and bystanders. Upon learning that the mayor had been shot, Roosevelt had him brought to his car and taken to a nearby hospital.

Roosevelt spoke with Mayor Cermak at the hospital where he allegedly said, "I'm glad it was me instead of you... The country needs you." Roosevelt supposedly replied, "And the country needs men like you, Tony." Mayor Cermak died nineteen days later. (He was the only fatality.)

Many historians question the accuracy of this conversation – though the words, "I'm glad it was me, not you," appear at Cermak's gravesite.

-Bruce Colton, APIC 5526

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APIC MEMBER PROFILE:**SUSAN ROMAN, APIC 9579)****By Adam Gottlieb, APIC 4864**

"Come home to the affirmation that we have a dream. Come home to the conviction that we can move our country forward. Come home to the belief that we can seek a newer world. And let us be joyful in the homecoming." - George McGovern

George McGovern wasn't talking about the APIC's biennial gathering, but it's likely APIC National Convention Co-chair Susan Roman is embracing the former senator's quote as an aspirational sign to attend the convention in Danvers, MA.

Since 1972 marked Susan's first vote in a presidential election, she favors material from the South Dakota senator.

"I was the local chairperson of Students for McGovern in college and cast my first vote for George," she said. "So much of McGovern campaign material is grassroots dealing with significant issues such as the war in Vietnam, peace, the draft, women's rights, free speech, Civil Rights, of course, the 18-year-old vote. I love the McGovern buttons with 1970s artwork – peace signs, suns, smiley faces, and rainbows."

She calls the 3-inch "Come Home America" button with a jet plane and dove, "Robin McGovern," "Concert" pin, "Honest McGovernment," and 1968's "George McGovern is the real Eugene McCarthy" as some of her favorites.

She began collecting political memorabilia in elementary or junior high school when her uncle gave her Remco LBJ and Goldwater dashboard dolls and several campaign buttons.

"He also gifted me a pack of "I Like Ike" cigarettes. Fearing that I might decide to smoke them, my parents put them away," Roman said. "I never did and still have them."

Since New Hampshire is the "first in the nation" primary, she has met presidential candidates who came through her hometown of Claremont.

"I remember Nelson Rockefeller signing my autograph book and giving me a nice Cross pen," Roman said.

"I became aware of APIC when I was in law school and bought one of Ted Hake's books," she said.

Roman attended the University of New Hampshire, earning her BA in Political Science and later earning her JD from Stetson University College of Law in Florida.



Out of college, Roman began working at a New Hampshire public television station on a nightly program, "The State We're In." When the Ford administration reduced financing for public broadcasting, she left to work as a radio reporter and then as a night-time talk show host. Not wanting to work six days a week, Roman went to law school.

"Little did I know I would be working seven days in my small legal practice. I worked my way up to be an attorney with a title company, and eventually as a title underwriter with two title insurance companies. I'm officially retired, but still do some real estate work," Roman said.

Through the years, she has volunteered with political campaigns but was hired as the New Hampshire Operations Director for the Bernie Sanders' 2016 and 2020 presidential campaigns.

Roman collects presidential primary candidates, including all those individuals who show up in person at the State House and pay the \$1,000 filing fee, and New Hampshire locals (Governor, Senate, and Congress), McGovern, Sanders, flashers, vote items, cause (peace/anti-war, women's rights) and items with interesting graphics including advertising pieces with 1950s and 1960s artwork.

Roman joined the APIC in 1987.

"The first person to reach out to me after joining was Steve Moore, who wanted to talk about New Hampshire locals," she said. "When I went to my first APIC show in Massachusetts, I met Bob McCarthy who taught me a great deal about the hobby and became a true mentor."

Later, Roman would meet Bruce DeMay and Marc Galbraith, Barry Mushlin, Dan Schofield, Ed Sullivan, Peter Scanlan, and John "Dr. Vote" Olsen.

"I became friends with Mark Evans and we bonded over the fact we were both chairs of Students for McGovern at our respective colleges. When Mark changed his collecting specialties, I ended up with his McGovern collection," Roman said.

Roman said her greatest find 'in the wild' was a 1915 suffrage button "Souvenir of Sarah's Suffrage Victory Campaign Fund Help Cut the Fetters," found in a box of miscellaneous material. The button was used as a fundraiser for the suffrage movement, referencing Sarah G. Bagley, a pioneering Massachusetts female labor reformer.

"I don't notice much of a difference being a woman in this mostly male hobby," she said. "I've never felt any discrimination from members. If someone made me uncomfortable, everyone else was experiencing the same thing. I was fortunate to meet and learn from Ronnie Lapinsky-Sax and Melyssa Fratkin."

Roman has exhibited her collection at local libraries and the University of New Hampshire. Recently, she displayed a large portion of her collection at the Portsmouth (NH) Athenaeum for a 10-month exhibit titled, "First 100 Years of New Hampshire First in Nation Primary 1920-2020." She's working on another exhibit on "New Hampshire Women Trailblazers" also at the Athenaeum. Both New Hampshire U.S. senators served as governors and then in the Senate.



“They were the first in the U.S. to have that unique distinction,” added Roman.

Susan and her husband, Chris Regan, have been married 40 years and have two daughters, Caitlin and Bridget. Bridget, at three months old, attended the 1993 National in East Brunswick, NJ, which was also the first convention for Roman and her husband. Caitlin accompanied Roman to the 2021 National in Nashville.

So, what can members expect from this year’s national convention?

“The plan is for three days of bourse activity (buying and selling from dealers), room hopping, a members’ auction, chapter meetings, seminars, and noted producer/filmmaker and historian Sarah Botstein as the guest speaker at Friday’s awards banquet,” Roman said. “The APIC hasn’t had a national convention in the Boston area since 1970, and we’re especially pleased to be presenting it in the Cradle of Liberty during the 250th celebration of the country’s founding. We hope to connect attendees with historical sites as well local theaters, shopping, antiques, or spending time on the beach.”

It’s a certainty Susan Roman is committed to ensuring this year’s convention will be a warm and joyful homecoming for the APIC family and fans of collecting political memorabilia.



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The Local Review

By David Quintin, APIC 2776

This edition of The Local Review covers items from seven states. They were produced from 1899 until 1928.

I have noticed a drop in the amount of uncommon early material available for sale on Ebay as well as the various auctions. This is an indication of the scarcity of early governor and U.S. Senate material. This holds true for not only buttons, but ephemera as well. I have discovered much of the very rare items exist in quantities of five or less. This can be a challenge in trying to assemble a state collection with the reality that these items are truly rare.

ARIZONA – G.W.P. Hunt, governor

How many political buttons have you seen that are dated? This 1 ¼-inch cello is an unusual size for a western campaign button of this period. Not many have turned up through the years, affirming its scarcity. Arizona became a state in 1912 with George Hunt winning the first gubernatorial election in 1911. He went on to win an additional six elections with the last in 1930.



MISSOURI – Theodore Roosevelt, president; Cyrus P. Walbridge, governor

Sligo is a small, unincorporated community in Missouri. Walbridge, a Republican, ran in 1904 hoping for a coattail win with this 1 ¾-inch cello jugate. He lost, but TR went on to win.



KENTUCKY – John Young Brown, governor

Brown won the governor's office in 1891 and ran again in 1899, losing to William Goebel by an act of the state legislature. This 1 ¼-inch cello made by Whitehead and Hoag is unusual for its graphics of the period. Notice a rooster in the center, which was a symbol of the Democratic Party at this time.

CONNECTICUT – Dennis A. Blakeslee, governor

Blakeslee was the lieutenant governor of Connecticut from 1911 to 1913. This 7/8-inch J. Sutta manufactured cello is probably from the 1912 campaign.



WEST VIRGINIA – Dr. H.D. Hatfield, governor

This uncommon 7/8-inch, 1912 primary cello was from the winning campaign of Hatfield. He later served as U.S Senator from 1929 to 1935.

**WYOMING – Charles Winter, U.S. Senate; Vincent M. Carter, U.S. Congress**

A cello most people would overlook is this 1928 name button for two Wyoming federal candidates. This 7/8-inch St. Louis cello button is for Carter who won, and Winter, a former U.S. Congressman, losing to John B. Kendrick, a popular Democrat. It's the only example I have seen.

**TEXAS – Leopold Morris, governor**

This pin is a 7/8-inch Whitehead and Hoag celluloid. Morris was a one-term Texas House of Representatives member from 1913 to 1915. This is from a 1914 quest for governor that was aborted before the primary. It's the only known example.



Oklahoma's First War Hero

By Lon Ellis, APIC 2881

This 1 5/8-inch diameter pin shows an image of Rough Rider Roy Victor Cashion. He was a member of the first graduating class of Hennessey High School in the Oklahoma Territory in 1897. Cashion had a strong passion and belief in the freedom of the Cuban people. He gave his senior oratory on the subject "Cuba Libre," which is Spanish for "Freedom for Cuba."

A year later, on May 1, 1898, he rode horseback to Guthrie, OK, and enlisted into military service. He became part of Troop D of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, better known as "Roosevelt's Rough Riders." Mustered into service as a private, he was deployed from Tampa, FL, to the southern coast of Cuba with the army under General Shafter.

During the famous charge up San Juan Hill on July 1, 1898, Cashion was killed by a gunshot to the head delivered from the rifle of a Spanish sharpshooter. Cashion is believed to be the first Oklahoman to give his life for his country on foreign soil. The day he died, Cashion was buried by his comrades where he fell on the battlefield. The markings of his grave were lost for a time, but during a visit later by his father, his burial site was found. The remains of Cashion were removed and reinterred in Oklahoma.

The Roy Cashion Memorial statue was built near Hennessey, OK, in honor of Cashion. This status is thought to be the first outdoor statue erected in Oklahoma. In 1900, the small town of Cashion in southeastern Kingfisher County was named in his honor.



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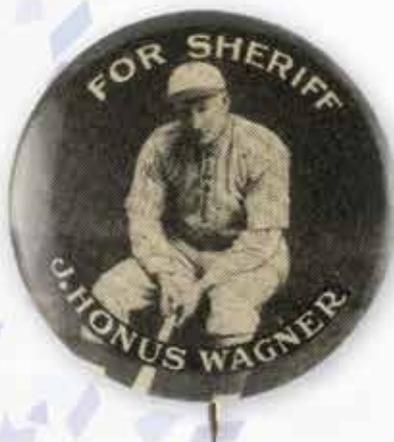
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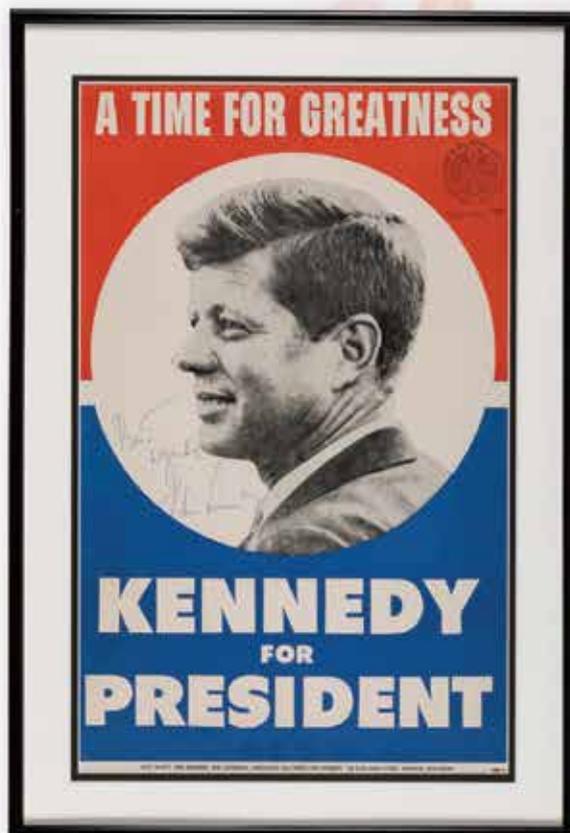
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