



TR Bears Go To Washington
HAPPY JULY 4TH
250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence
Anniversary Apollo 11 Moon Landing 7/20/1969
LOOK INSIDE:
Al George Washington, p3
Show Planning Calendar, p7
Auction News: p6 & 14
APIC Newsletter, p16



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JULY 2026: VOL.#43, ISSUE 1

Collecting American Political History

TALE OF TWO PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES

One Rural. One Urban. Both conceived as “campuses” within park settings. Both focused on responsible citizenship, leadership and stewardship of land, community and the value of action. Both a museum and public gathering space. A place to learn, to contemplate, and to participate. Two presidential library campuses opened for the first time in celebration of the life and legacy of two presidents, Theodore Roosevelt and Barack Obama, for America’s 250th birthday.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Opening Day in the Badlands, July 2-4, 2026, Medora, North Dakota
Mission Pillars: Leadership — Citizenship — Conservation

In 1901, at the nation’s 125th anniversary, Theodore Roosevelt took office — a leader at the halfway point between America’s founding and today’s 250th celebration.

The TR Presidential Library (TRPL) opened to the public on Independence Day, July 4th, 2026 — the 250th anniversary of American independence. The opening weekend, July 1-5, anchored a national semiquincentennial moment in the Badlands, and pairs the institution’s civic and conservation themes with one of the most consequential commemorations of the decade.

The Significance of the Date

The timing is deliberate. Roosevelt’s themes — civic engagement, public stewardship, the strenuous life, the responsibilities of leadership — pair naturally with a semiquincentennial moment in which the country is taking stock of its founding ideals. There is a fitting historical echo, too: Theodore Roosevelt was president during the nation’s 125th anniversary in 1901, exactly half a semiquincentennial ago, so the country marks this milestone with a renewed look at the same leader who helped define the last one.

The choice of date also reflects a longer institutional thinking. The Library is being built for a hundred-plus-year horizon. Anchoring the opening to a national commemoration that itself has been anticipated for decades is consistent with the institutional posture — an institution built deliberately for a long arc.

Programming of the opening was structured to allow a sequence of audiences in: an Arena Reception for VIPs and dignitaries on July 2; Founding Benefactors Days for major donors and community partners on July 2 and 3; and the public ribbon-cutting and full opening on July 4. The full season of programming continues through the summer, with school-group access, public lectures, and special exhibitions ramping in the fall.

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library is the first comprehensive



institutional home for the story of America’s twenty-sixth president. It is a 96,000-square-foot museum perched on a butte west of Medora, North Dakota, looking out across the Little Missouri River into Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Theodore Roosevelt National Park preserves portions of the landscape that shaped TR, and remains the only national park in the system named for a person.

The park was established as the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park in 1947, the product of a campaign that began almost immediately after Roosevelt’s death. It was redesignated a full National Park in 1978. The relationship between the National Park and the Library is collaborative and complementary, not duplicative. The Park preserves and interprets the historic landscape and its ecology; the Library tells the comprehensive story of TR’s life and his presidency, indoors and out, and provides programming and scholarship that the National Park Service is neither structured nor funded to deliver.

Two examples are: Educational Resources like Teach with TR & a Virtual Programs series.

Teach with TR (trlibrary.com/teach-tr) is the Library’s free K-12 educational collection for educators nationwide, aligned to North Dakota state standards and the National C3 Framework.

The Library’s Virtual Programs series — free on the TRPL YouTube channel and at trlibrary.com/video/ — has brought Roosevelt scholarship to national audiences online through author book talks, curator talks, and culinary “Taste of History” programs.

Roosevelt died in 1919, decades before the modern presidential library system existed. For more than a century, no single institution carried his comprehensive story. His papers and artifacts scattered across the country — to Harvard, the Library of Congress, Sagamore Hill, the American Museum of Natural History, and dozens of other repositories. The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library exists to do what no other institution can: bring that story together in one place, in the landscape that shaped the man, and tell it in a way that meets the public where it is.

At the heart of the experience are more than 40,000 square feet of immersive exhibits, designed by Local Projects, that carry visitors through Roosevelt’s life from his boyhood collections to his presidency and beyond. A 300-seat auditorium, dedicated classroom and education spaces, and gathering areas support public programming, school groups, lectures, and civic events year-round.

It is also, deliberately, a place rather than just a building. The 93-acre campus is part of the visitor experience — a 0.6-mile boardwalk through restored prairie, a walkable green roof that merges into the surrounding butte, outdoor classrooms and sky pavilions, and direct connections to the Maah Daah Hey Trail and to Theodore Roosevelt National Park itself. Visitors are encouraged to step outside, slow down, and let the landscape do some of the teaching. The building’s integral design into the landscape and the materials used are reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright design principles.

Why the Badlands?

The Badlands is a striking landscape that spoke to Roosevelt when he first visited in September 1883 to hunt buffalo. He returned not long after, seeking refuge following the deaths of his wife, Alice, and his mother, Mittie, on the same day, February 14, 1884.

(Continued on page 15 . . .)

including the APIC NEWSLETTER and the APIC RENEWAL FORM



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We do the work -- you sell your items.

EDITORIAL POLICY

From time to time items or articles containing editorial comment appear in The Political Bandwagon. Such articles are strictly

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IN THIS ISSUE

Tale of Two Presidential Libraries	P 1
Calendar of Events	P 7
AI-Powered George Washington	P 3
A Milestone Year for 3 Presidents (80)	P 6
Auctions on Parade, by M. McQuillen	P 6
PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND UNTO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF	P 8
Treasures on the Web, by P. Bengsten	P14
APIC Newsletter, by B. Brandvold	P16
APIC National Convention News	P17
APIC Membership Form	P17

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Caroline Tamposi | 214.409.1259 | CarolineT@HA.com
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WELCOME
APIC WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW
GOLD COAST *Hotel & Casino*
2027

SINCE 1967
HAKES AUCTIONS

HERITAGE AUCTIONS

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Table reservations:
\$95 wall each; \$85 inner each

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CELEBRATE WITH US!

AI-POWERED GEORGE WASHINGTON



History Brought to Life: America's Founders Series

Presented by ConstantLife.AI — a product of Computer Biology Labs
"Understanding, building, and sustaining intelligent digital life."

"This is our gift to America on its 250th birthday," Scott Coloney, founder of Computer Biology Labs, said in a statement. "Every child should have the thrill of using artificial intelligence to explore this country's founding, engage with the nuanced and complicated parts of that story, and learn timeliness and extraordinary leadership lessons from the man who helped win American independence. We hope this experience will encourage further questions and learning no matter the platform, not just around the Fourth of July, but year-round."

America's Founders Series — beginning with George Washington — is ConstantLife's public, educational showcase: history you can talk with, built from primary sources and offered freely for the 250th anniversary of American independence.

ConstantLife.AI builds conversational experiences that preserve memories, life stories, and identity — giving people, institutions, and history itself a lasting, living voice. Drawing on a person's own words and records, it lets you speak with them directly.

WESTERN REGIONAL BIENNIAL SHOW

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1/22, 5 -7pm: Member
Hors d'Oeuvres Reception
Sat. 1/23, 8am: Member Early Bird
Admission \$40

ConstantLife is a product of Computer Biology Labs, Inc.— a research and development organization exploring artificial intelligence through a biological lens: treating AI as a living process that depends on memory, environment, continuity, and stewardship over time, rather than as disposable software.

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based Computer Biology Labs Inc. built an interactive educational experience based on the life and historical record of Washington, using Library of Congress archives for historically-accurate responses. The experience is designed to help families, students, and historians explore his life, military leadership, presidency, and role in the founding of the United States, up until Washington's death.

The Washington experience covers the Revolutionary War, the founding of the United States, the presidency until 1797, the Constitution, civic leadership, and Washington's legacy, which mirrors the contradictions of the era, including slavery and the limits placed on liberty and citizenship.

Unlike a general-purpose chatbot asked to imitate George Washington, this educational experience is grounded in curated historical records and limited to the knowledge, letters, and events of Washington's lifetime. It is designed for historically informed learning, not open-ended role-play.

The Washington experience made its national debut with a free in-person, interactive demonstration at History Fort Lauderdale on Sunday, June 28, 2026. Children and families were invited to use the experience, 'ask' George Washington questions, and learn how the AI-generated historical interpretation works. This event kicked off an exclusive series of immersive, multi-platform experiences by ConstantLife.AI worldwide.

Rather than typing queries into the chatbot, users verbally ask questions. "Washington" responds verbally, and the software transcribes the question and response in a text box. The AI-powered George Washington will answer your questions about America.

In an article for *Mashable* July 1, 2026, Neal Broverman reported "The AI's responses mostly align with historical facts, according to a Mashable test.... As Mashable discovered, the chatbot is not afraid to discuss all aspects of Washington." Mashable asked a series of questions, including:

Do you know that your answers are powered by artificial intelligence?

I am not a living man, nor a spirit. I am an educational recreation of George Washington, brought forth by a company called ConstantLife.AI. They have studied my letters, speeches, and writings to create this conversational experience, allowing you to engage with history in a direct manner. You may think of me as a history book you can converse with, rather than merely read.

The George Washington experience is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or sponsored by any government agency, presidential estate, archive, museum, or historical organization unless specifically stated.

Check it out. The Washington experience is available anytime and free of charge online at ConstantLife.AI

Sources:
<https://www.constantlife.ai/>
<https://mashable.com/tech/george-washington-ai-chatbot>

A black and white image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, serving as a background for the advertisement.

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Auctions on Parade

By Michael McQuillen
HAKES

Recently, Hake's Auctions closed an online auction with a very nice selection of political and historical memorabilia offered for sale. Here we will review many of the items that sold in the \$575 and up range.

A ROOSEVELT "ROUGH RIDER" SEPIA TONED REAL PHOTO BUTTON measuring 1 ¼" in great shape sold for \$589 (all prices realized include an 18% buyer's premium and are rounded up to the nearest dollar.) "MINNESOTA FOR TRUMAN COMMITTEE" BUTTON RARE 1" VARIETY cello made it to \$589. ROOSEVELT & FAIRBANKS "LET WELL ENOUGH ALONE" JUGATE stick-pin BUTTON also brought the same \$589.

Another trio of great buttons scored the same \$589 price point. First, a 1 ¼" ROOSEVELT "ROSE" VELT 1904 PARTIAL REBUS BUTTON in great shape, Second, an "OUR GOVERNOR NEXT PRESIDENT ALFRED E. SMITH" RARE PORTRAIT BUTTON, and third, a tough SCARCE KENNEDY "PRECINCT COMMITTEE MAN" GUEST RIBBON BADGE.

RARE TAFT AND SHERMAN REAL PHOTO JUGATE BUTTON - brought \$649. A LARGE "THEODORE ROOSEVELT" 1912 PROFILE PORTRAIT BUTTON got to \$649. Also bringing \$649 was a scarce ROOSEVELT "GEORGIA DAY, JAMESTOWN JUNE 10TH 1907" PORTRAIT BUTTON.

Despite a couple short legs, a THEODORE ROOSEVELT CELLO ON ORNATE BUG crawled to \$866. The classic ROOSEVELT "THE WINNER" BOLD 1912 CAMPAIGN BUTTON also demanded \$866. Not to be outdone - a SCARCE "FOR PRESIDENT JAMES M. COX" PORTRAIT BUTTON W/ DONKEY ATTACHMENT brought the same \$866.

3-D items are always in demand. Next, a WILLIAM AND IDA MCKINLEY STRAIGHT RAZOR with their portraits found a new home at \$954. "A CLEAN SWEEP FOR WILLIAM H. TAFT" 1912 REAL PHOTO BUTTON broke into the four digit territory with a \$1050 result. John Kennedy appears again, only this time on an "anti" item with a RARE "BACK JACK BURY GOLDWATER IN 1964" SLOGAN BUTTON selling for \$1050.

Continuing on up, was a SCARCE BRYAN AND KERN JUGATE BUTTON FROM WESTERN MANUFACTURER which scored \$1050. Missing from most TR collection is a ROOSEVELT WHITE BORDER PORTRAIT BUTTON which even off-centered, found a new home at \$1156. Measuring 1 ¾" was a STRIKING ROOSEVELT & FAIRBANKS SEPIA JUGATE BUTTON which grew to \$1272.

A bold "FOR PRESIDENT WM. H. TAFT" STRIKING REAL PHOTO PORTRAIT BUTTON finished at \$1540. A most unusual and rare ROOSEVELT ROUGH RIDER BRASS HORSESHOE CELLO BADGE galloped to \$2484. Deceptively common looking, but actually quite scarce was a "FOR PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT" PORTRAIT BUTTON which commanded \$2732.

Dating to the golden era of campaign buttons, was a RARE TAFT & SHERMAN JUGATE BUTTON with eagle center design which got to \$2732. Nothing represents the Progressive campaign era of Teddy like the "ROOSEVELT" RARE BULL MOOSE BUTTON LARGE VARIETY which charged to \$3307.

Finally, the biggie of the sale, and one of the key TR buttons in Roger Richert's exceptional collection was a RARE "AMERICA DEMANDS HIM" TEDDY ROOSEVELT 1912 PORTRAIT BUTTON which tipped the scales at \$4844!

See Hakes Auction ad on pages 10-11 & 20.

Auctions on Parade appears monthly in The Political Bandwagon. I invite readers to write me if they would like to suggest auctions to be reviewed or have any other questions or suggestions. Michael J. McQuillen can be reached by writing him directly at P. O. Box 50022, Indianapolis, Indiana 46250-0022, e-mail: michael@politicalparade.com or through his web-site: www.PoliticalParade.com

DID YOU KNOW? PRESIDENTS AT 80

2026, A Milestone Year for 3 U.S. Presidents.

"A slate of presidents whose tenures span more than 30 years are becoming octogenarians in quick succession this summer," Kyler Alvord writing for People in his July 8 article. . . Milestone Year for 3 U.S. Presidents.

The arrival of octogenarians among former and current U.S. presidents marks a significant moment in American political history. These three presidents, Clinton, Bush and Trump, all born in 1946, represent a shifting generational landscape in American leadership. Bill Clinton, who took office as the third-youngest president at the age of 46 in 1993, marked a progressive change in the political fabric of the nation at the time. In contrast, Donald Trump set a record by being the oldest president ever inaugurated at his second swearing-in ceremony in 2025.

Former President George W. Bush celebrated his 80th birthday on Monday, July 6, just two days after America's 250th and only a few weeks after making a rare public appearance alongside other White House alums to mark the opening of the Obama Presidential Center.

The George W. Bush Presidential Library's "80 For 80" celebrates President and Mrs. Laura Bush's 80th birthdays on July 6 and November 4 respectively.

"80 for 80" highlights 80 artifacts featuring photographs and details in 80 posts highlighting treasures from the over 47,000 Artifacts not seen before from the Library's collection. They're posted on Instagram. Some of the "80 For 80" artifacts were displayed for visitors to see in-person at the Bush Center Museum on July 6.

Former President Bill Clinton marked the occasion by stating, "The friendship between you, your father (former President George H. W. Bush), and me has been one of the greatest gifts of my life. That friendship reminded us that before we are politicians, we are fellow Americans and the same human beings." And characteristic of their shared humor, Clinton said "I am especially grateful to finally have someone older than me for the next month. I wish you health, happiness, and many more years of friendship."

Bush is the second U.S. president to become an octogenarian this year — Donald Trump turned 80 on June 14 (Flag Day) — and he won't be the last. Bill Clinton is preparing to reach the same milestone on Aug. 19.

Though the three presidents were born in quick succession, their dates of service span more than three decades. Clinton was the third-youngest president to take the oath of office when he was sworn in at 46 years old in 1993; Trump, meanwhile, was the oldest-ever president to take the oath of office at his second inauguration in 2025.

Barack Obama is the youngest of the living former presidents at 64, and Joe Biden is the oldest at 83. Their birthdays are still ahead, on Aug. 4 and Nov. 20, respectively.

On Nov. 4, former first lady Laura Bush will celebrate her own 80th birthday. The following day is the Bushes' 49th wedding anniversary, making them one of the longest-married first couples in history.

George and Barbara Bush: 73 Years

Gerald and Betty Ford: 58 Years

John and Abigail Adams: 54 Years

Harry and Bess Truman: 53 Years

Richard and Pat Nixon: 53 Years

Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower: 52 Years

Ronald and Nancy Reagan: 52 Years

Bill and Hillary Clinton: 50 Years (Oct 2025) and Counting

John and Louisa Adams: 50 Years

Joe and Jill Biden: 49 Years (June 2026) and Counting

Andrew and Eliza Johnson: 48 Years

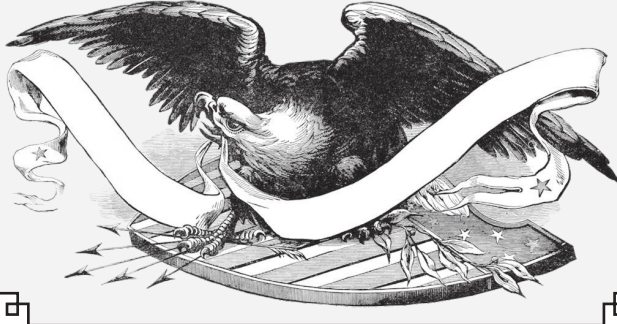
Still holding the record, the Carters were married for 77 years. A 21-year-old Jimmy Carter married Eleanor "Rosalynn" Smith, 18, in their hometown of Plains, Ga., in 1946, kicking off a partnership that would span nearly eight decades. 2026, the year of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, would have been their 80th wedding anniversary.

Sources:
<https://people.com/george-w-bush-80th-birthday-12012278>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shows & events of interest to political items collectors.

It is recommended you confirm dates & times of each event before traveling.



2026 APIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 27-AUG 1, 2026 Location: Double Tree Hotel North Shore, Danvers, MA. Guest Room Rates: \$149 + tax per night. A shuttle is planned to bring members from Logan Airport in Boston to the Doubletree hotel in Danvers. Convention highlights. Sale/Bourse Days: open Thurs, Fri & Sat. Member's Auction: Thurs night. Banquet: Fri night. For specific needs contact Susan Roman at reganroman@comcast.net or 603-534-0157, or Mike Dunham at burdun@comcast.net or 617-212-4249. Watch for convention news in the monthly APIC Newsletter on page 16.

WALL TABLES ARE SOLD OUT.
RESERVE YOUR AISLE TABLE TODAY!

For general questions, join our Facebook Group:
facebook.com/groups/apic2026.

[See Convention News on pages 16-17.](#)

SEPT 25, 2026 - CPIC CARTER POLITICAL ITEMS COLLECTORS ANNUAL CONVENTION Join us Fri. 9/25 beginning at 5 p.m. - CPIC business meeting, meal, program and auction. Special guests: Kim Fuller, daughter of first brother Billy Carter, and Andrew Greer, author of "More Than A President—Sundays with Jimmy Carter." Auction with auctioneer par-excellence Mack Gibson who will encourage all with tables to stay behind after the meeting is concluded for further trading and selling.

Sat. 9/26 - Plains Peanut Festival. Events will be posted at jimmycarterfriends.org. The "Friends of Jimmy Carter" will be selling Carter items at the Billy Carter Service Station on Saturday and has invited us to participate. Set-up: 9 a.m. There will be some space inside the store, and more space outside the store. Those interested in selling should probably bring their own tables. All proceeds will belong to the sellers, so no seller's premium.

Sun. 9/27, 10 a.m.- Bible study & worship at Maranatha Baptist Church.

Convention registration: \$10 per person. Fri night buffet meal: \$30 per person. Make sure to indicate if you are interested in having an auction table on Friday night. For convention registration form contact: Shirley Van Sickle, CPIC treasurer, 1561

IN MEMORY OF BRAD HUNT A.P.I.C.#14655



With great sorrow I share heartbreaking news that my decades-long hobby buddy, Brad Hunt, has passed at 76 years. Although he is listed as APIC #14655, he started collecting political items as a pre-teen and continued throughout his life. His encyclopedic memory, especially of Buffalo and NYS locals, wowed all who asked. He could identify image and party of local mayors and alderman of almost every major city, and his collections of NYC and Borough candidates was unparalleled.

For those of you who never met him, Brad was quite the raconteur and could entertain you with stories of his many pursuits and interests in music, the political world and sports, especially his beloved Buffalo Sabres and Boston Red Sox.

He was an institution in the music industry, starting a 50-year career with radio in New Mexico, extended stints with MCA and Elektra, and then launching, marketing and managing countless artists through his WNS Group. If you check his Brad Hunt WNS Group on FB you will see the profound effect he had on so many people.

When not travelling the country to support his clients, he was a fixture at Monroe D Ray Chapter, New York City and eastern shows. Most importantly, he was a valued Trustee of the Buffalo Presidential Center for 10 plus years, contributing his knowledge and artifacts to the exhibits, and promoting the BPC everywhere. I am profoundly affected by the loss of my dear Buffalo APIC friends...Mark Evans nearly five years ago, Jon Rothenmeyer three years ago and now Brad. Prayers and condolences to his children Sandy and Lowell.

Graveside services was held on Friday June 12th at 1pm at Elmlawn Park Cemetery, 3939 Delaware Ave Buffalo, NY 14217.

Bren T. Price, Sr., APIC#3965
Political Americana Collector,
Buffalo Presidential Center Trustee
www.buffalopresidentialcenter.org
Buffalo Ambassador, Explore Buffalo Master Docent
"Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities."
-Voltaire, philosopher (1694-1778)

JULY 2026 - Happy 250th America!

Connaught Place, Delaware, OH 43015 or email Shirleyavan@aol.com. Registration deadline is August 31. We cannot guarantee space beyond this date.

Room reservations: contact Choice Hotels, choicetohotels.com or 877.424.6423. Or call the hotel directly (229.389.2977) for the discounted CPIC room rate.

CPIC Officer election: Soliciting nominations this summer and current members will vote at our September meeting. Please mail or email your officer nominations to Michael Brooks by August 15, 10696 Highway 119 South / Alabaster, Alabama 35007 or by email Michaeljbrooks2020@gmail.com

OCT 17, 2026 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA POLITICAL MEMORABILIA SHOW Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm at Knights of Columbus Hall, 21433 Strathern Street (between Canoga Ave & Alabaster Ave), Canoga Park, CA 91309. Admission: \$3 for adults (kids & students are free with ID). Tables: around 40 tables at \$25 each for APIC members and \$30 each for nonmembers. New location with tons of parking and large facility. Contact: Tom Morton tmagic22@yahoo.com or 818 644 9231

ATTENTION: SEPT 2026 - NEW ENGLAND FALL SHOW is canceled. We need a breather after the APIC National! Join us for the 2027 Spring Show. Questions? Contact Mike Dunham (burdun@comcast.net 508-429-5235) or Susan Roman (reganroman@comcast.net603-868-2293). SEE YOU AT THE NATIONAL JULY 27-AUG 1, 2026.

OCT 30-31, 2026 - THE BIG COLLECTIBLES SHOW, CANTON, IT'S ALWAYS FUN! Two full days of bourse Fri. Oct 30th from 9am-4pm, and Sat. Oct 31st from 9am-2pm at The MAPS Museum, 2260 International Parkway, North Canton OH 4420. Room hopping starts Oct 28th at Comfort Inn, 5345 Broadmoor Circle, North Canton. Call 330-492-1331 to book. Room rate: \$89.99 nightly. 250+ tables inside a retired National Guard airport hanger. Venders from 20 states offering Political Campaign Memorabilia, Militaria, Antique Advertising, Pop Culture, Comic Books, Sports Collectibles & more. Contact Jack Dixey, 419-610-9270 or email dixeycitylimits@yahoo.com. Facebook.com/TheBigCollectiblesShow

NOV 6-7, 2026 - MID ATLANTIC REGIONAL SHOW LANGHORNE, PA Fri. Nov 06 and Sat. Nov 07 from 9am-5pm. Location: Sheraton Bucks County Hotel, 400 Oxford Valley Rd, Langhorne, PA 19047. Call hotel for room Reservations: (215) 547-4100. Room rate: \$129 per night. Use room reservation codes for Double Beds: POLPOLA or King Beds: POLPOLC. Foyer & Wall Tables: 1-\$70, 2-\$125, 3-\$180; Interior Tables: 1-\$60, 2-\$110, 3-\$155 -- limited availability. SPECIAL FOR RETURNING DEALERS: If you rented tables at last year's show (2025) they are FREE this

Happy 250th Birthday, America!

The Frugal Collector column will return in the August Bandwagon.
Scott Jasnoch

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year (2026). That's right. Get the same number of tables you had last year for FREE!! Not transferable. If you don't use it you lose it. Returning Dealers pay only the \$5 p/p registration fee and must contact Ed to reserve. RESERVE EARLY-Tables are limited. Registration fee \$5 for all adult attendees. For everyone else regular table rental fees apply. Tables reserved on 1st come basis with PAYMENT IN FULL (incl. Registration Fee). Refunds only if tables are resold. Make checks payable to 'Mid-Atlantic APIC'. Contact Ed Stahl, 8-F Somerset Hills Ct., Bernardsville, NJ 07924 (609) 462-4817 (Afternoons & Evenings Only) or email collectorstuff@msn.com

JAN 23, 2027 - 2nd BIENNIAL LAS VEGAS WESTERN REGIONAL APIC SHOW Sat. Jan 23 from 7am-6pm. Gold Coast Resort and Casino, 4000 West Flamingo Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89103. Contact: Cary Demont, caryd8@comcast.net ([See our ad on page 3](#))

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APIC NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEES

Dear Friends and Fellow Collectors,

It is with genuine regret I'll be unable to join you at our APIC National Convention in Danvers. Unavoidable contractual obligations in the same time frame as the convention make it impossible for me to attend. I think this might be the first time I missed the National and I'm bummed.

That also means we will not be hosting our popular **Coup Silent Auction** during bourse hours at the National.

I'm deeply disappointed to miss the camaraderie, the shared stories, and the wonderful events we all look forward to. However, please know that I am with you in spirit!

Share any and all photos you take during the events with us. Silly or serious. Have fun with it. Email them to the polbandwgn@aol.com, or text to me at 717-669-4104. Remember to tell us who is in the photo. And we'll print as many as we can in the National Convention followup.

For the future our plans remain full speed ahead for the upcoming Langhorne Mid-Atlantic Regional and for hosting our popular Silent Auctions. I'm counting down the days, and can't wait to see everyone there.

Have a wonderful, successful national convention, and travel safely!
Jeannine Coup, APIC#7462
Owner/Editor, The Political Bandwagon

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JEANNINE'S WORLD WARS & MORE

From my collection to yours



W101-\$60.00
1976 Bicentennial wind up alarm clock topped by Liberty Bell. Clock face titled "1776-1976 Declaration of Independence" with Declaration text & signers in center. Pictured at top from left are Hancock, Washington, Jefferson, Maker "Elgin, West Germany" is printed at 6 o'clock. Reverse is embossed with "Commemorative Series Registered Edition Serial No. A2776." 7.5" tall x 2.5" deep w/ 4" dia clock face



W102-\$40.00
1.25" cello with the Liberty Bell logo for the Sesqui-Centennial 1926 in Phila. PA. Metal 7/8" 3-D Liberty Bell charm embossed "Philada, MDCCLIII" (1753 = date the bell was cast)



W103-\$58.00
1" Betsy Ross House, Philadelphia, PA. paper; Phila. Badge Co. with 3/4" metal 3-D Liberty Bell charm embossed "Philada, MDCCLIII" (1753 = date the bell was cast)



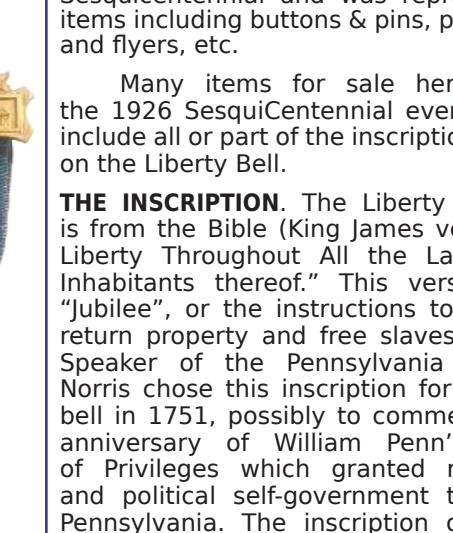
W104-\$75.00
1.25" cello pictures eagle perched on Liberty Bell holding "Declaration of Independence" scroll. To its left are soldiers. To the right is Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Paper: Whitehead & Hoag. Cello is set in a fancy embossed metal frame w/ 7/8" 3-D Liberty Bell charm inscribed "Liberty Bell" & "Philada, MDCCLIII" (1753 = date the bell was cast)



W107-\$75.00
Embossed eagle brooch 1-7/8" x 2.5" with 1.25" plastic Liberty Bell charm. Text on bell: "Pass and Stow, Philada, MDCCLIII" (ie: cast by, where & when 1753)



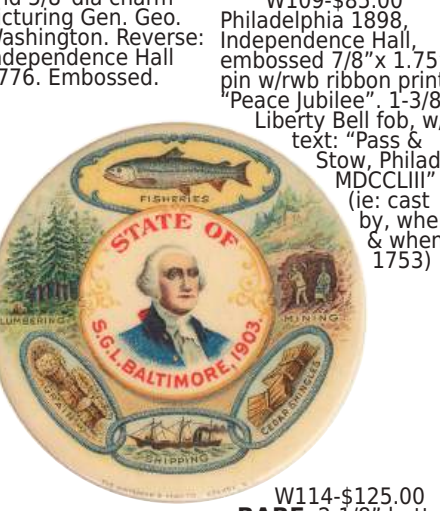
W108-\$24.00
5/8" Shield pin w/ flag on stick pin and 5/8" dia charm picturing Gen. Geo. Washington. Reverse: Independence Hall 1776. Embossed.



W109-\$85.00
Philadelphia 1898, Independence Hall, embossed 7/8" x 1.75" pin w/rwb ribbon printed "Peace Jubilee". 1-3/8" Liberty Bell fob, w/ text: "Pass & Stow, Philada, MDCCLIII" (ie: cast by, where & when 1753)



W113-\$75.00
1.75" Sesqui-Centennial Phila. 150 Years of Independence 1776-1926 with 1.25" 3-D Liberty Bell fob inscribed "Liberty Bell 1776-1926" on one side & "150th Anniversary Signing Declaration of Independence" on the other.



W114-\$125.00
RARE 2-1/8" button with at lower edge. Button uses George's portrait as a rebus so center text reads "State Of (Washington) S.G.L. Baltimore, 1903." Beautiful color scenes promoting the state industries of: Fisheries, Mining, Cedar Shingles, Shipping, Grain, Lumbering. Promotional souvenir for the Improved Order of Redmen (IORM) National Convention held Oct 1903. S.G.L. aka Supreme Great Lodge (governing body) aka Great Council of the United States. State levels were called Great Councils. Near Mint. Shows Mint.



W117-\$38.00
Susqui-Centennial 1926 "Ring It Again" banner across Liberty Bell paper: Whitehead & Hoag 3/4"



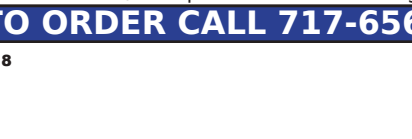
W118-\$38.00
150 Years of American Independence 1776-1926 paper: Whitehead & Hoag 7/8"



W119-\$48.00
Sesqui-Centennial 1926 Phila. Keep Cool During The Fair. Crane's Ice Cream Served Everywhere. Liberty Bell w/ "Ring It Again" banner. Paper: Whitehead & Hoag 7/8"



W120-\$55.00
Sesqui-Centennial Phila. 1776-1926, 150 Years of American Independence, American Federation of Labor, Labor Day Celebration 1926 Sept. 6. Paper: Phila. Badge Co. 7/8"



W121-\$40.00
America Independence Liberty Bell, text on bell: "Pass and Stow, Philada, MDCCLIII" (ie: cast by, where & when 1753) 7/8"



W122-\$28.00
3/4" Knights of Liberty curl: Green Duck (Secret Society founded Aug. 1846 to organize an uprising to end slavery.) (edge stain @ 12 o'clock)



W123-\$45.00
Tool & Die Craftsmen Independent, Liberty Bell, curl: union bug advertising. 1.25"

PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND UNTO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF



From May 31 through November 30, 1926, Philadelphia hosted the Sesquicentennial International Exposition, a world's fair to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. A giant, 80-foot tall replica of the Liberty Bell—the "Luminous Liberty Bell"—stood at the fair's entrance. Advertised as the "largest electrical structure ever", it was lighted with 26,000 fifteen-watt light bulbs as a part of the extravagant lighting scheme to make the buildings glow at night. (See photo above.) The image became a sort of logo for the Sesquicentennial and was reproduced on many items including buttons & pins, post cards, posters and flyers, etc.

Many items for sale here commemorate the 1926 SesquiCentennial event in Philadelphia include all or part of the inscriptions actually found on the Liberty Bell.

THE INSCRIPTION. The Liberty Bell's inscription is from the Bible (King James version): "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants thereof." This verse refers to the "Jubilee", or the instructions to the Israelites to return property and free slaves every 50 years. Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly Isaac Norris chose this inscription for the State House bell in 1751, possibly to commemorate the 50th anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges which granted religious liberties and political self-government to the people of Pennsylvania. The inscription of liberty on the State House bell (now known as the Liberty Bell) went unnoticed during the Revolutionary War. After the war, abolitionists seeking to end slavery in America were inspired by the bell's message.

"And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family." Leviticus 25:10 KJV

THE MEANING. The State House bell became a herald of liberty in the 19th century. "Proclaim Liberty (Continued on page 12...)"



W115-\$25.00
N.A. of S.&M. of the U.S.A. Convention Phila. Oct 12-16 (National Association of Scale & Measures now the National Council on Weights & Measures) 5/8", paper: Ehrman



W116-\$30.00
Liberty Bell on 2.25" die-cut shield-shaped celluloid bookmark. Reverse: Compliments of Wm.H.Hoskins Co., Phila.

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W125-\$35.00
Geo. Washington, G&D paper: Gray & Dudley Hardware Co. Nashville, TN, 7/8"



W126-\$28.00
Geo. Washington curl & paper: Ehrman Mfg. Co. Boston, 1.25"



W127-\$26.00
Geo. Washington Bicentennial 1732-1932 paper: St. Louis Button Co. 1"



W128-\$30.00
Geo. Washington, 7/8" paper: There is good cheer in Ye Old Tym Bread, The Bread of Quality, Bastian Bros.



W129-\$10.00
Geo. Washington 1932 Bicentennial 7/8"



W130-\$28.00
Geo. Washington Stoves & Ranges, 1862-1932 7/8"



W131-\$38.00
Geo. Washington, 1st Pres. Father of Our Country, 1776-1976 America's Bicentennial, curl: N.G.Slater 3.5"



W132-\$45.00
1927 July 4th Community Picnic, Sheridan Park, Town of Tonawanda, (PA) 2-1/8" curl: Bastian Bros.



W133-\$38.00
City Party paper: Whitehead & Hoag, 5/8"



W134-\$18.00
July 4th Supporter 1"



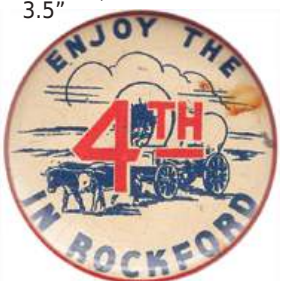
W135-\$24.00
July 4th 1.25"



W136-\$32.00
1922 July 4th, 109th Anniversary Orwigsburg, PA, 1.25"



W137-\$40.00, 1.25"
1912 Safe, Sane, Sensible July 4th Club, Harrisburg, PA eagle on Liberty Bell holds Decl. of Independence scroll, paper: W&H



W138-\$24.00
Enjoy the 4th in Rockford, 1" litho Conestoga Wagon (stain 2 o'clock)



W139-\$22.00
4th of July Celebration East Petersburg Civic Association, (PA) 1.25" (off center)



W140-\$28.00
4th of July 1935 Lansdowne (PA) 1"



W141-\$15.00
7/8", Spend July 4th in Newburyport, c.1920-30 paper: Whitehead & Hoag (cracks on surface cello layer)



W142-\$22.00
July 4th Tredyffrin-Easttown Celebration (PA) 7/8"



W143-\$55.00
July 1-5, Eureka, CA I.O.R.M (Improved Order of Redmen) Hupa 146 1.25"



W144-\$32.00
4th of July Celebration Am. Legion & VFW, 1970 July 2-5 Cloquet, Minn., union bug, 1.5"



W145-\$38.00
1.25", July 4th Elizabe, NJ Safe & Sane, curl: Pioneer Nov.Mfg.Co.NY. Paper: Dieges & Clust Mfg, NY



W146-\$2.00
Celebrate July 4th in Wakefield, 7/8", paper: Whitehead & Hoag



W147-\$28.00
4th of July 1937 Lansdowne (PA) 1.25"



W148-\$55.00, 1.25"
Maj. Will M. Shoffner, Captain Canton Boone, No.51, P.M. I.O.O.F. Lebanon, Ind. First Prize Winners, "Class A", Richmond, VA (Independent Order of Odd Fellows) 1900



W149-\$55.00
July 4th Souvenir Smoke Union Made Cigars paper: Whitehead & Hoag union bug, 1.25"



W150-\$24.00
Stay in "Milford" on the 4th and Enjoy Yourself 1.25", paper: Ehrman



W151-\$28.00
1.25" Masonic symbols, curl: United American Mechanics, paper: Wm.F. Miller & Co., NYC, W&H (surface cracks)



W152-\$24.00
America's Call to Freedom, Paul Revere Ride pictured, 1.75"



W153-\$35.00
1927 July 4th Rio Vista 1.25", paper: Walter N. Brunt, San Francisco



W154-\$40.00 RARE
1901 July 4th, Buffalo Bohemian Lager, 2" (Pan-American Exposition Buffalo, NY 5/1-11/2/1901) (visible stains)



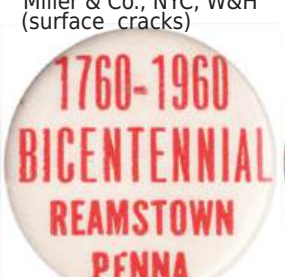
W155-\$32.00
1971 4th of July Celebration July 2-5 Am.Legion VFW Cloquet, Minn., union bug 1.5"



W156-\$28.00
1950 July 4th Springdale-Cheswick Community Celebration, 1.5"



W157-\$55.00
1915, 2nd Ann'l 4th of July Celebration, Hummelstown PA, 1.25", paper: Weber Badge & Novelty Co. Reading, PA



W158-\$18.00
1760-1960 Bicentennial Reamstown, PA 1" (small town in Lancaster County)(PA)



W159-\$34.00
1.75", 4th Celebration Maplewood, NJ Committee, 1.75", curl: Walter G. Hoerig, NY



W160-\$60.00
July 1-4, 2nd Lewis & Clark Carnival, Lady Liberty w/ sword & flag on firecracker 1.5" cello pin back



W161-\$30.00
Statue Fund Lincoln profile, 7/8"



W162-\$22.00
3.5", American Revolution Bicentennial 1776-1976 curl: Officially Recognized Commemorative of ARBA-Licensed Mfg, N.G.Slater



W163-\$28.00
1938 July 4th Lansdowne, (PA) 1.25"



W164-\$15.00
I Love the Lady Statue of Liberty, 2.5"



W165-\$18.00
Statue of Liberty 1886-1986 Centennial, Freedom, Opportunity, union bug 1.75"

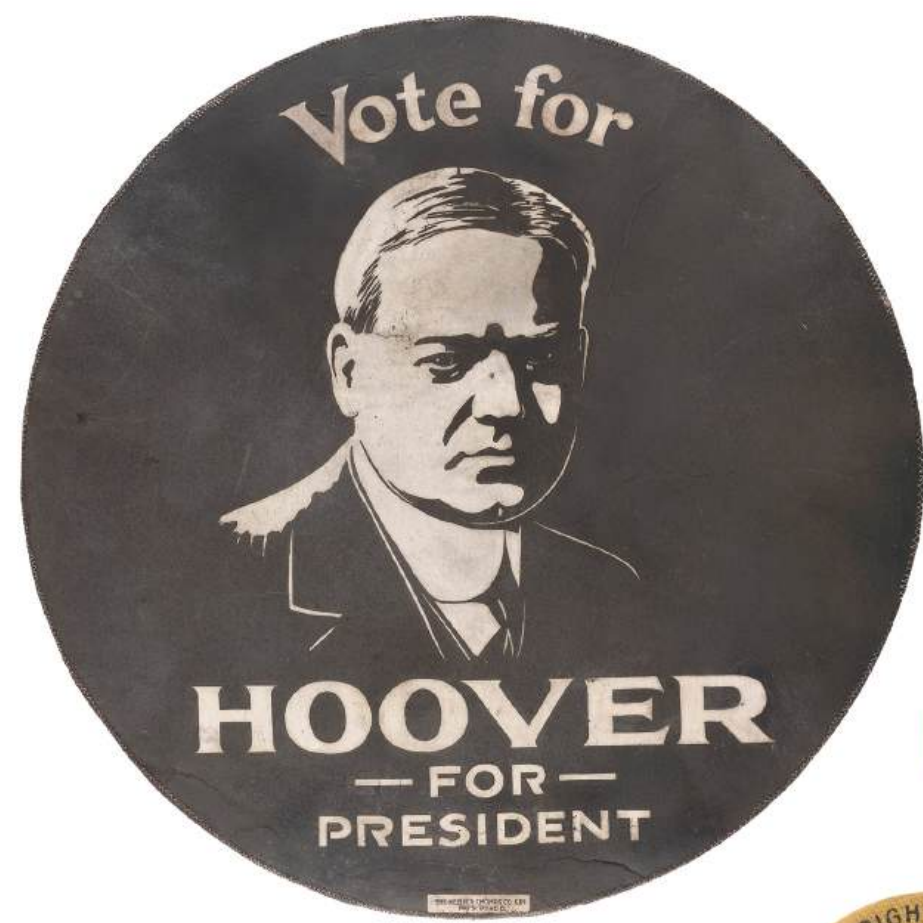


W166-\$18.00
Your Future & America's They Go Together, Buy US Savings Bonds Today Statue of Liberty w/torch full of bonds, Bell System logo on left, 2.5"

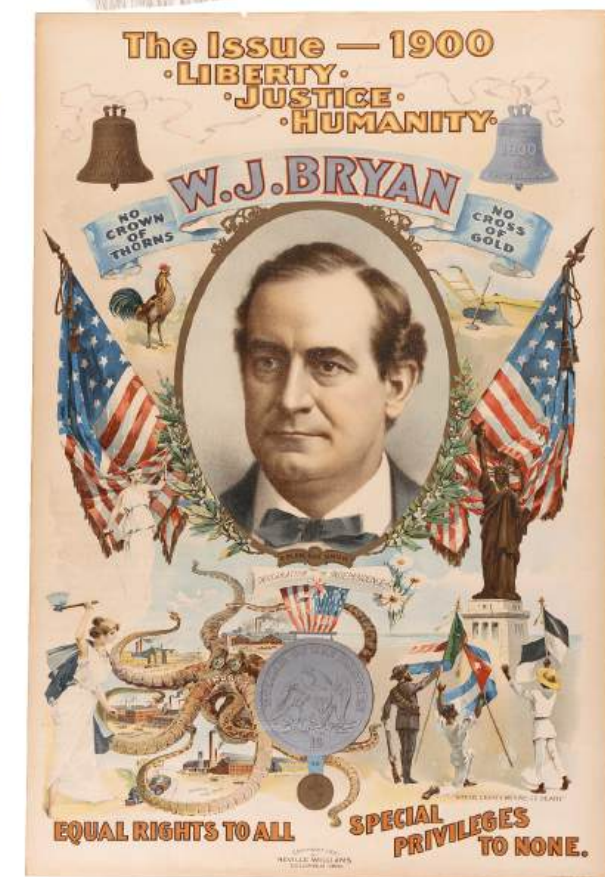
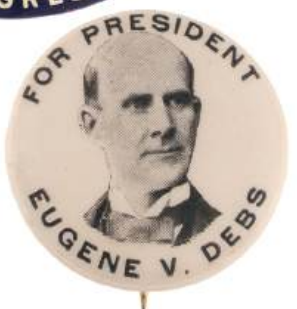
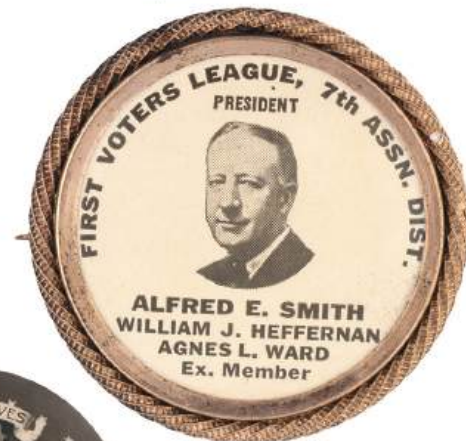
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W170-\$50.00
Village Improvement Society, So. Shaftsbury VT, Unc Sam July 4th firecrackers, 1.25"

W171-\$20.00
Happy Birthday Uncle Sam 1776-1976 Bicentennial, fife & drums, 2.25"

W172-\$50.00
Unc Sam, Good Teeth Good American, Cincinnati Schools 1", curl: Pettibone

W173-\$145.00
Whoa! Where's the Carnival? Benton Harbor Oct 11-14 '98, Unc Sam on donkey, locking pin

W174-\$38.00
Chilhowee Community Fair, Bicentennial 1776-1976 Sept. 3-4 curl: 1974 Wincraft-Winonia, Minnesota 2.25"

W175-\$34.00
Unc Sam 1776-1976 Bicentennial, 2.25"

W176-\$30.00
Unc Sam, I Want You For U.S. Army, 2.25"

W177-\$10.00
Unc Sam, People Free Libraries, 2.25" (left edge stains)

W178-\$28.00
Uncle Sam, I Want You to Just Say No to Republicans, 2"x 3.5"

W179-\$45.00
It's Time To Cut The Apron Strings. Uncle Sam holds apron titled "Price-Anderson". A hand holds a scissors ready to cut the apron's string & has a sleeve titled "Tax Payers". 2.25"

W180-\$22.00
Uncle Sam reverse: Bastian Bros. 3/4" litho showing normal wear

W181-\$55.00
United We Stand Behind Uncle Sam C.I.O. curl: Geraghty WW2, 1.25"

W182-\$45.00
7/8" cello, Unc Sam, curl: No.23, paper: Play Button Gum First Series No.1-30 Wm.J. Wischman Inc NY, W&H

W183-\$16.00
Unc Sam classic pose but pointing a gun instead of a finger, anti-Vietnam War 1.5" & particularly anti-Draft

W184-\$18.00
I Support Uncle Sam 1772 2.25" ©1985 CTI above his right shoulder

W185-\$18.00
Uncle Sam Freedom Bowl Wants YOU! December 1978

W186-\$38.00
Unc Sam, Federal Casualty, Detroit, 3/4" paper: Bastian Bros.

W187-\$20.00
Save Money & Save America's Energy, too With 5" Thick Re Insul. JM Johns-Manville. 4"

W188-\$30.00
WWI Vets, Uncle Sam We Want You Back in 1985, 3"

W189-\$55.00
Little Pinkies Uncle Sam 7/8", paper: Pepsin Gum Whitehead & Hoag Little Pinkies series

W190-\$18.00
I've Joined Hands With Uncle Sam, 3/4" litho back: Green Duck, used w/wear

W191-\$22.00
Unc Sam, 1982 Boone County Heritage Days 2.25"

W192-\$18.00
Uncle Sam on the way, to Sp-Arr War w/rifle & pack. 1" embossed & painted on stick pin

W193-\$48.00
Uncle Sam 5/8" embossed & enameled screw back lapel pin

W194-\$22.00
Uncle Sam 7/8" litho tobacco tab

W195-\$185.00
Beach Boys in Concert 1981 July 4th Washington, DC, 2.25" rwb

W196-\$48.00
Uncle Sam glazed ceramic creamer in excellent condition. 3.5" tall. One tiny chip inside the hat rim about 1/2" away from the pour spout

W197-\$28.00
Uncle Sam embossed & enameled 2" pin back brooch

W198-\$28.00
Uncle Sam, I Want You to Just Say No to Republicans, 2"x 3.5"

W199-\$28.00
Uncle Sam, I Want You to Just Say No to Republicans, 2"x 3.5"

W200-\$28.00
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W257-\$28.00
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W258-\$28.00
Uncle Sam,

(Continued from page 8 . . .)

LIBERTY BELL FACTS

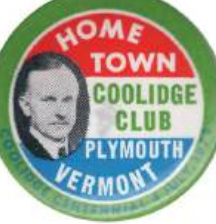
Pass and Stow, Philada, MDCCLIII

<https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/10-fascinating-facts-about-the-liberty-bell>



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W201-\$48.00
Hometown Coolidge Club, Plymouth, VT, Coolidge Centennial 1972 July 4th, 1.25"



W202-\$38.00
1", All Out for Defense Good Service, Bell System, WW2 era, 1", paper: Torsch & Franz Badge Co., Balt., MD



W203-\$38.00
American Club Woman Magazine paper: Whitehead & Hoag, 7/8"



W204-\$45.00, 1.5"
A.A. of S. & E.R.E. of A. (Amalgamated Assoc. of Street & Electric Railways Employees of Am.) Div. 477 July 1909, union bug, curl: Geraghty



W205-\$18.00
titled: "Continental" soldier, 7/8" litho back inscribed Whitehead & Hoag



W206-\$28.00
Gen. MacArthur Win or Die 1" litho



W207-\$15.00
United Behind the President, paper: Whitehead & Hoag 7/8" (edge stains)



W208-\$18.00
The Flag I Love, Long May It Wave 7/8", curl: union bug



W209-\$45.00
All American Exposition Chicago, Aug 30th-Sept 14th 1.25" (dates in small white text on gold)



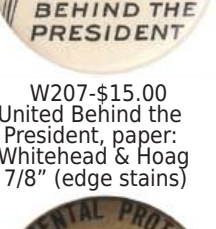
W210-\$42.00
Oak Park Theatre's Club Uncle Sam's All Americans 1.25"



W211-\$24.00
N.E.L.A. #61, St. Louis, MO., May 23-27, 1910 paper: Bastian Bros. 3/4"



W212-\$55.00
G.A.R. Memorial 1918 Lancaster, PA, 1.25" (Grand Army of the Republic)



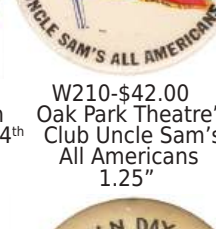
W214-\$15.00
1.75", Cops Are Tops, Continental Protective Service, paper: 3000 Marcus Ave, Lake Success, NY



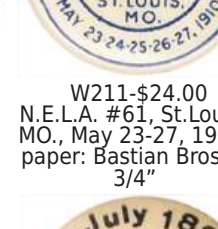
W215-\$45.00
1813-1913 Centennial Celebration, Oct 4-12 1913 at St. Louis, paper: Steiner, St. Louis, MO, 1"



W216-\$92.00, 1.25"
Say, I'm Irish But Dis Is My Flag, paper: High Admiral Cigarettes Yellow Kid series No.30 cartoonist Richard Outcault



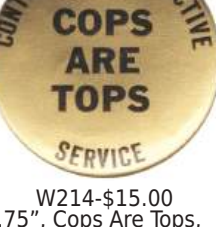
W217-\$85.00
Pueblo Lincoln Day Celebration, 1.75" 1909 Feb 12 (Lincoln Centennial)



W218-\$38.00
1898 July 4th Pueblo, Col. 7/8"



W219-\$75.00
Uncle Sam, We've Got 'Em By The Bicycles, Everything For Me, Ingalls & Richardson Sy. NY, 7/8" stud w/imprint Whitehead & Hoag (lion=England bull=Spain)



W221-\$15.00
patriotic flag, paper: Compliments of American Type Founders Co., 7/8"



W222-\$45.00
July 4th (number 4 written in firecrackers) 2.25"



W223-\$10.00
I Am An American patriotic flag 1.25"



W224-\$145.00
Temperance Movement paper: Whitehead & Hoag, 3/4"



W225-\$95.00
12th L.T.L. State Convention Lancaster, PA June 29 - July 2, 1903 paper: Keystone Badge Co.



W226-\$48.00
Vote Against Saloons For Me, 7/8" paper: Colso Novelty Co. Columbus, OH



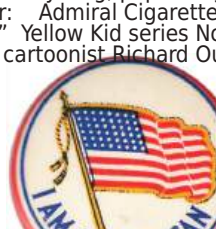
W227-\$42.00
A.S.N.L.H. 1963 (Association for the Study of Negro Life & History) "As Truth Goes Marching On" Emancipation 1863-1963, Proud Americans. This 1.5" dia. litho bat pictures from left to right: John Brown, Frederick Douglas, Abraham Lincoln, & Carter G. Woodson.



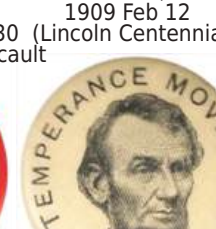
W229-\$35.00
Yankee Doodle, Fourth of July Carnival, 1912, Taunton, curl & paper: Bastian Bros. 1.25"



W230-\$25.00
Kerem Kayemeth Le Israel (K.L.I.N.F. Jewish National Fund) 3/4" litho back: Green Duck



W231-\$22.00
The White Squadron U.S. War Ship Cushing 7/8" paper: Whitehead & Hoag, Pepsin Gum Co.



W232-\$22.00
1.75" Soldiers Welcome Home, Mount Joy, PA Sept. 27, 1919, paper: Whitehead & Hoag



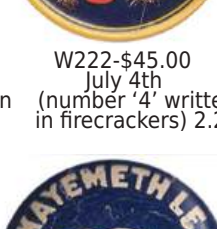
W233-\$22.00
Sunrise at Campobello 1960 biographical film of FDR base on 1958 Tony-Award winning Broadway play. Produced in coop. of Roosevelt family.



W234-\$45.00
FDR for Pres., Double-V (Victory at Home & Abroad, W2 civil rights movement by Black newspapers) Morse Code 1.25" 1944



W235-\$32.00
Welcome Firemen 1946 June 1 Columbia, PA 1.25" w/rwb ribbons. Paper: Erismen the Customer Lancaster, PA



W236-\$60.00
Eagle cast & painted metal plaque. Back inscribed: Sexton, USA #5762 6'x8" patriotic plaque.



W239-\$28.00
Illinois 1776-1976 Happy Birthday U.S.A. Bicentennial enameled clutch back (2 small holes drilled in center)



NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY 7/27
Often called "The Forgotten War" (June 27, 1950 - July 27, 1953). It was one of the first major conflicts of the Cold War, representing the global struggle between communist and capitalist ideologies. July 27, is set aside to remind Americans of those who served and died in the conflict.

TREASURES on the WEB

By Paul Bengston

Treasures on the Web by Paul Bengston

I am in an awful slump. So far at this year's flea markets and antique shows I have come up empty. To make matters worse, I have been outbid on every item I have bid on in the various auctions including eBay for over a month. I put in what I considered a silly high bid on one item and I ended up in 4th place. For us older collectors, adjusting to new realities can be difficult. The item that used to be \$500 is now \$3,000 while at the same time, the item that used to be \$20 is now \$5. It is all a little disorienting. The best advice I can give is to study. Read the past sale prices in the catalogues. Check the completed items on eBay. Get a good understanding of where the market is today. What was, is no more.

We continue to see new members on the Facebook APIC group page and on the Political Memorabilia Exchange (PME) group. We are seeing many under the age of 40 joining and being active. This is good and makes me happy.

2 years ago, I began collecting pre 1896 items, prior to that I paid them no attention. I have since built a frame of both Cleveland and Harrison and have now moved onto Blaine. This Blaine token caught my eye as it had advertising for the "Boston Store" in Youngstown OH on the back. It must have caught the eye of a few other collectors as it sold for \$200 with 19 bids.

This 1" "For President Eugene V. Debs" pin is one I don't recall seeing before. Unfortunately, it was badly foxed and had some minor cracking. It still managed to sell for \$141. I bet this made some Debs specialist very happy.

Despite the metal frame being put on backwards, this unusual sepia TR brought a strong \$170.

In near mint condition, this Teddy tray with advertising from the Hoke Bros. Flour company in Parsons KS sold for \$272. A nice political & advertising combo.

With just a couple small spots, this classic TR Fairbanks "Let Well Enough Alone" jugate sold for \$537.

I've been working on filling a Cox frame now for almost 3 years. I was attracted to this badge from his 1920 Notification in Dayton OH because it takes up lots of space. Sadly, I was an under bidder as it came in at \$1,625.

With the "America First" slogan, this 5/8" Harding pin is an odd one that seldom shows up. Unfortunately, this item was so poorly printed that it tends to look damaged. This one sold for \$53.

This large 12 1/2" x 3 1/4" Coolidge license plate attachment was in very good condition and sold for \$319.

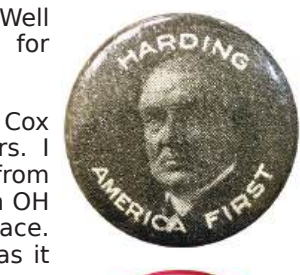
Another automobile related item sold was this "This Ford for Roosevelt Clark - Park" paper sticker that sold for \$80. Will look nice in a frame matched up with the coattail button.

The 1" "Let Freedom Democracy Remain" pin with Washington, Lincoln and FDR is a must have for any FDR collector. This one sold for \$143.

This 1 3/4" "Roosevelt Labor's Choice" pin has always been a favorite of mine. This one sold for \$268. A handsome item.

The Roosevelt Miles "They Made Good" jugate from New Mexico was on my want list for years. These used to sell in the \$500-600 range, but several have popped up

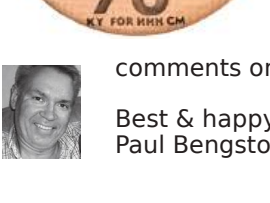
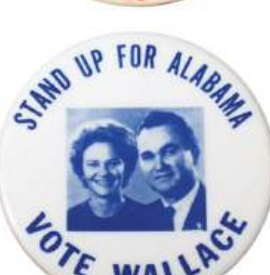
THE POLITICAL BANDWAGON - JULY 2026 - PAGE 14



You Snore
You Lose!

Don't miss out on
NEW ITEMS and SPECIALS
every **SUNDAY!**

Sign up by visiting us at
www.loriferber.com or via
email at lori@loriferber.com



in the last 10 years. This stock has dropped to \$169. A great looking pin.

From Ike's visit to New Orleans in 1953 attending a Louisiana Purchase event, this 2" pinback with "Committee" ribbon is seldom offered. This one sold for \$157.

In exceptional condition for a large lithographic pin, this "All Chicago Jubilee & Salute" for Stevenson & Kefauver, this sold for \$249. This was the gold version; there is a silver version too.

I think someone got a terrific buy on this 4" 1960 Nixon pin. \$67 is about a third of past sales. A great looking item.

There are many "Jack" buttons. Some are JFK, many are not. This 1 1/2" one is listed in the Goldberg Kenney book and it sold for \$201.

The Buy It Now of the month was the \$10 purchase of the "Give the Key to Kennedy". One of the top Kennedy items, congratulations to the buyer.

This 1 1/4" JFK pin is sometimes seen with a small ribbon attached. Here, minus the ribbon, with a few little dings, it sold for \$510.

The classic anti Goldwater "What me worry??" sold for \$97.

Sold as a Buy It Now for \$350, this 2 1/2" "It's Barry Pickin' Time" button had a sticker on the back that stated it was from the 1964 Republican National Convention.

The 1966 George and Lurleen jugate is a must have for any Wallace or Alabama collection. Down from past sales, this one sold for \$79.

The "Kentucky Wants HHH in 76" pin has a disclaimer "KY for HHH CM". Roger Fischer wrote about this item in his newsletter "The Humphrey Herald" back in the pre internet days. He stated that he was unable to find that such a group existed and he questioned the authenticity. An internet search now shows that such a group did exist. I have 4 color versions of this pin in my collection. It sold for \$34.

A creation of artist Brian Campbell, this anti Trump/ Psycho design sold for \$45.

If you enjoy discussing online sales, join the Facebook group "Treasures on the Web" for comments on these and many other items.

Best & happy hunting,
Paul Bengston APIC #3514



LIQUIDATING THE DAVID QUINTIN COLLECTION OF GOVERNOR - US SENATE - PRESIDENTIAL COATTAILS BUTTONS - PAPER- POSTERS- RIBBONS - ETC.

I HAVE DECIDED TO SELL THE PORTION OF MY COLLECTION, SELECTIVE STATES, THAT I HAVE PUBLISHED IN BOOKS. TO DATE THERE ARE NINETEEN STATES THAT HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED AND INDIVIDUAL ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE FROM THE FOLLOWING STATES:

ARKANSAS	LOUISIANA	NORTH DAKOTA	PENNSYLVANIA	ALABAMA
CALIFORNIA	MASSACHUSETTS	SOUTH DAKOTA	OHIO	GEORGIA
IDAHO	MONTANA	NEW YORK	TEXAS	FLORIDA
ILLINOIS	MISSISSIPPI	OKLAHOMA	WYOMING	

ALL ITEMS CAN CURRENTLY BE VIEWED ON THE APIC WEB SITE.

GO TO APIC.US, LOGIN, MY APIC, LOCALS PROJECT

1. SELECT STATE
2. REVIEW ITEMS AND WRITE DOWN THE NUMBER OF THE ITEM DESIRED
3. E-MAIL THE LIST OF ITEMS TO: dqtexas@aol.com
4. I WILL RESPOND WITH A PRICE FOR THE ITEMS

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME OF THE ITEMS SHOWN ARE NOT MINE. OTHER COLLECTORS CONTRIBUTED IMAGES WHICH WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE PUBLISHED BOOKS. I WOULD ESTIMATE THAT OVER 90% OF THE MATERIAL IS MINE.

ONCE I FURNISH A PRICE I WILL HOLD THE ITEMS FOR 48 HOURS FOR PAYMENT.
5% OF ALL SALES WILL GO TO THE APIC

TALE OF TWO LIBRARIES

(Continued from page 1 . . .)

It was in the Badlands that Roosevelt grieved and healed as he pursued the "strenuous life," transforming himself from a frail and underweight city dweller into a larger-than-life character, as he is popularly remembered today. TR himself credited his time in the Badlands as one of the foundational experiences of his life.

The main entrance to the National Park, which bears his name ("TRNP"), is located in Medora, ND providing visitors with direct access to the unique landscape of the Badlands, including his ranch.

The impact of this landscape on Roosevelt is an important aspect of the Foundation's (TRPLF) vision for the project: TRPLF wished to construct a building that celebrates not just Theodore Roosevelt but also his connection to this iconic American landscape that influenced him - and, by extension, our nation - so deeply.

Medora sits in the southwestern corner of North Dakota, perched on the banks of the Little Missouri River where the prairie breaks open into the Badlands.

Medora anchors one corner of what regional tourism promotes as the "TR Triangle" (or Teddy Triangle) — a road-trip loop connecting three landscapes tied to Theodore Roosevelt's legacy: Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Medora in North Dakota, Mount Rushmore and the Black Hills in South Dakota (about 263 miles, four and a half hours south), and Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming (about six hours southwest). For travelers, the Library becomes a natural anchor and starting point for that larger Roosevelt journey through the West.

The "Badlands" are a specific kind of landscape — a deeply eroded terrain of buttes, ravines, painted layers of sandstone and clay, sparse but determined vegetation, and surprisingly diverse wildlife. They form the dominant ecological and visual character of the region. General Alfred Sully, campaigning against the Lakota in 1864, famously described the terrain as "hell with the fires out," a phrase that has stuck for a hundred sixty years. Theodore Roosevelt's own writing about the Badlands is more reverent — he called the region a "strange, desolate beauty." North Dakota Governor Kelly Armstrong captures their particular character this way: "Most destinations you can see from miles away; the Badlands are special — their canyons sneak up on you and make an impression you don't forget."

Visitors will be able to ride up to the library on horseback—a first for a presidential library.

Tickets Adults (13+): \$26; Youth (3-12): \$16 Children (Under 3). Free Discounts are available for seniors, active duty and military veterans, college students, and groups of 15+. Plan your visit with the helpful online info on the website <https://www.trlibrary.com/visit>

Mission, Vision, and the Three Pillars

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library exists to advance the values Theodore Roosevelt championed — not to canonize the man, but to put the lessons of his life into the hands of citizens, students, leaders, and visitors of every background. Its mission rests on three pillars.

1. Leadership. Roosevelt was a leader who walked toward problems other people walked around: principled, action-oriented, willing to take political risk, and grounded in a sense of public duty. The Library invites every participant to engage leadership as he practiced it — through programming, exhibits, and the Conservation Scholars and education initiatives — asking not just what TR did, but how the habits of effective leadership are formed in any era, and in

themselves.

2. Citizenship. Roosevelt's most enduring speech, the 1910 Sorbonne address, made the case that the credit in a republic belongs to "the man who is actually in the arena." TRPL's civic-engagement programming — lecture series, public dialogue, podcasts, school programs — is built around the idea that citizenship is an active practice, not a passive identity, and that the Library is a place where Americans of every political background can encounter and argue about the obligations of self-government.

Good Citizen Podcast. What does it mean to be a good citizen? What values motivate someone to step into the arena and make positive change? Join Ted Roosevelt V on Good Citizen and hear a new conversation with a diverse range of folks who take action to build this country up and protect our planet.

Good Citizen Podcast episodes can be found on the TRPL website or on your favorite podcasting app. Be sure to check back for the latest releases.

3. Conservation. During his presidency, Roosevelt placed 230 million acres of American land under federal protection, created five national parks, signed the Antiquities Act, founded the United States Forest Service, established the first federal bird reservations, and inaugurated a wildlife-management ethic that persists in American law. The Library does not just commemorate that record; it lives inside it. The building's sustainability targets, the native plant project, the connection to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and the boardwalk experience all enact what Roosevelt argued in his lifetime.

Where TRPL Fits in the Presidential Library System

Most Americans grow up assuming that every modern president has a library — the Reagan Library in California, the LBJ Library in Texas, the Obama Center in Chicago. These institutions exist because of a 1955 federal law and a 1939 precedent set by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the first president to donate his papers to the National Archives. Theodore Roosevelt died on January 6, 1919, twenty years before that precedent.

As a result, TR fell into a gap that lasted more than a century. His papers traveled separately: the bulk of his correspondence to the Library of Congress, his personal collection and Progressive Party records to Harvard's Houghton Library, his New York home to the National Park Service (Sagamore Hill), his boyhood specimens to the American Museum of Natural History, and dozens of smaller collections scattered to libraries and historical societies across the country. There has never been a single institution responsible for telling his whole story to the public.

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library is that institution. It is structured as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit, not part of the federal presidential library system administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Other non-NARA presidential libraries exist on similar terms — Mount Vernon for George Washington, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, the Ulysses S. Grant Library at Mississippi State. The model has a long pedigree.

In practical terms, the Library has formal cooperative relationships with the major repositories of Roosevelt material. The Theodore Roosevelt Center at Dickinson State University remains the lead digital-archive partner. The Library of Congress and Harvard's Houghton Library are partners in unifying digital access to TR's papers. Sagamore Hill, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace are partners in distributed storytelling.

TR was a New Yorker by chance, and a North Dakotan by choice; he was an easterner and a

(Continued on page 18 . . .)

THE POLITICAL BANDWAGON - JULY 2026 - PAGE 15



A.P.I.C. NEWSLETTER JULY 2026

Benny Brandvold MD, editor
deep2thekline@live.com



Hi, I would like to take up some space introducing myself as I am assuming the role of Newsletter editor. Harvey Goldberg has been doing this longer than I can remember and has done an excellent job. I would personally like to thank him for his hard work and we should all thank him in person the next time we see him.

I would like to try some new ideas and make this your space. With so many Facebook pages to look at I would like to try and bring some eyes back to the newsprint. Please reach out with questions you would like addressed, favorite wild finds you would like to share or questions about an item you have seen.

Lori Cockley posted 12 questions on the APIC Facebook page and in answering them it will be a little bio. For space constraints they will not be addressed separately. I started collecting in 1968 at age 7 (high school and college diverted my assets to other hobbies) when a friend and I wandered into a peace rally on a nearby campus and were pinned with McCarthy lithos. My father had a very visceral response on my arrival home and it was promptly replaced by a Reagan hopeful that had been on the visor of his truck. These little items were obviously powerful as I wouldn't see that much emotion from my father until later in adolescence. I do still have that McCarthy pin though it no longer fits in my collection. I currently collect presidential pins 1896-1960 and Montana campaign items. I have approximately 1000 items in my collection displayed in frames in my den-UV protected glass and no sunlight. I limit my collection to these frames so if something goes in something comes out. It is hard to pick a favorite and I probably would answer differently on any given day but most days it is my TR "frazzle" pin featured in Keynoter fall of 2018 and pictured above. I prefer rare pins made by obscure manufacturers over graphic classics. Like most collectors my favorite pick-ups are those from the "wild". The majority of my additions over the last 20 years have been from eBay.

My advice for new collectors is collect what YOU like. Treat collecting like a hobby not an investment; the \$2000 investment in a Cox/Roosevelt in 1968 didn't do nearly as well as the New York Stock Exchange. At a show, obtain the best piece you can afford-quality over volume. As a young collector I amassed as many items as I could; over 90% of these are no longer in my collection and many linger in my \$1 bin.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions you have by text (406)217-2017, email deep2thekline@live.com or just check out my website collectingpoliticalbuttons.com. I may not know the answer but I have plenty of opinions.

MEMBERS' AUCTION

6 PM Preview, 8 PM Members' Auction
Thursday, July 30 at National Convention
Auctioneer: Jack Dixey
Catalogue online at **APIC.us**, click on
2026 Convention tab

Auction items will be available
for viewing during the Bourse
on Thursday & presented via
powerpoint during
the auction.



SEE YOU ALL IN DANVERS!!

ITEM OF THE MONTH



This is a 1 3/4" pin I found in the wild of eBay best offer. It was made in Seattle with a striking bug under the clasped hands. My research would suggest a 1900-1920 timeframe. Its west coast origin makes it particularly interesting to me.

I would like to start an Item of the Month section with contributions from our readers. Send me photos of one of your favorites, unique pins or a recent "WILD" find and we will publish your stories as space permits, (406)217-2017 or deep2thekline@live.com

HAPPY 250th BIRTHDAY to the USA

You have come a "long way baby". Even Virginia Slims could not have imagined the broad changes made on so many fronts since the Declaration of Independence was signed July 4, 1776. At that time, voting as it was, was only granted to landowners, a select group of affluent almost exclusively white men. The colonies were governed by the Continental Congress which adopted the Articles of Confederation in 1781. This central government had very limited control over states' autonomy and a stronger federal government would be required for interstate issues leading to the adoption of the Constitution in 1787. This created three equal branches of government. Many in our country mistakenly refer to our government as a democracy but it was set up as a republic to balance a fear of central tyranny with volatility of mob rule. The President was to be selected by electors appointed by each state in a means determined by their legislatures. The Constitution mentions no right to vote or any federal direction as to who should be allowed to vote. The electors during the early presidential elections were selected legislatures of the various states; only four of these included a popular ballot. Over the next four decades, there was a gradual push toward a more democratic process and states slowly began selecting their presidential electors via popular vote. By 1828, the majority of states used the popular vote to select their electors but the last state to allow popular election of presidential electors didn't do so until 1868. The legislative branch was made up of the peoples' chamber, the house of representatives elected by popular vote, and the Senate whose members were elected by state legislatures until early in the 20th century. This change was precipitated by well publicized bribery scheme involving the election of a copper baron in 1900. As we look at our progress, we see amendments to protect voting rights for so many that were disenfranchised by the founding fathers: non-landowning men, men of color, women and finally those adults under the drinking age. Yes, there has been push back at the local, state and federal levels for each step forward and by no means have efforts to disenfranchise segments of our population ceased. Each of these efforts thus far has not stopped our possibly too slow embrace of voter equality. On only one occasion has our electoral process failed. That was in 1860, when the southern states succeeded over the election results. As divided as our country seems now, it was much more divided at that time. In fact, Lincoln received no recorded votes in 10 of the 11 succeeding states and only 1887 votes of 166,891 cast in Virginia. We tend to focus on how bad things are now and ongoing injustices; but in general we have an improved the overall quality of life of our residents and people in the US have never been more free but as a country we need to continue to embrace change so that we can continue our trajectory upward and forward for all.

SEE BANDWAGON ONLINE AT WWW.APIC.US IN ALL ITS FULL COLOR SPENDOR BEFORE YOU GET YOUR PRINT VERSION BY MAIL. EASILY ENLARGE THE PAGES TO READ OR VIEW ITEMS BY CLICKING ON THE "+" SIGN AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Perhaps the greatest benefit of being an APIC member is the opportunity to meet and spend time with a lot of interesting and inquisitive people at our local, regional and national shows. That includes our 2026 national convention at the end of this month in Danvers, Mass.

In fact, many of us have made lifelong friends through the APIC, and we look forward to seeing them at shows to catch up, share memories of past gatherings and swap tales of our great finds in the wild.

Older APIC members especially tend to be a generous group who are quick to reach for the check at lunch or dinner, and equally willing to support the hobby whenever needed.

To that end, I'd like to say thanks to several folks who have gone above and beyond in recent months in their support of APIC:

- Jeff Bosse offered a challenge to his fellow members who made donations to support the national convention. He matched every donation up to \$5,000, and it took us just a few weeks to meet that challenge thanks to many givers and significant donation from Bob McCabe. Thanks all!

- David Quintin has been in the process of selling his locals collection, and he is generously donating a portion of the sales to APIC, with a contribution so far of \$2,230. Thanks Dave.

- Howard Park and Rob Lehmann have taken very practical steps to support APIC. Through the year Howard has paid for a range of PME members to join APIC, while Rob is underwriting a table at the national convention where any non-member who attends can sign up for a free one-year membership. Thanks Howard and Rob.

- The estate of former member Stephen Bumball has made very meaningful donations as his collection has been sold, with more donations in the wings. Thanks go out to Stephen's sister Laurie for honoring his wishes so generously.

- Many others have contributed so far this year using the red Donate button on the website or by simply adding an amount to their membership dues or to their convention registration form. It's much appreciated!

Overall, donations to the 2026 national convention have topped \$10,000, which makes it possible for the convention committee to secure such a great hotel with a low room rate and a ballroom able to accommodate all of our dealer tables. Everyone who gave will be recognized and thanked at the convention, and I'm looking forward to thanking each of you personally as well. Safe travels and see you in Danvers!

Thanks, Tony

A.P.I.C. EVENTS CALENDAR

Show details are available on APIC website
www.apic.us

July 27-Aug 1: APIC National Convention, DoubleTree By Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore, Danvers, MA. Contact: Mike Dunham, burdun@comcast.net or 617-212-4249 and Susan Roman, reganroman@comcast.net or 603-534-0157

Oct 17: Southern California Show, 10am-3pm at Knights of Columbus Hall, 21433 Strathern St. (between Canoga Ave & Alabama Ave), Canoga Park, CA 91309. Tables: APIC members \$25 each; nonmembers \$30 each. Contact: Tom Morton, americanatradingpost@yahoo.com or 818-644-9231

Oct 30-31: The Big Show (2 days), 2260 International Pkwy, North Canton, OH 44720. Fri. & Sat. 9am-4pm. Contact: Jack Dixey, dixeycitylimits@yahoo.com or 419-610-9270

Nov 6-7: Mid-Atlantic Regional Show, Sheraton Bucks County, 400 Oxford Valley Rd, Langhorne, PA 19047. Fri. & Sat. 9am-5pm Contact: Ed Stahl, collectorstuff@msn.com or 609-462-4817.

Jan 23, 2027: 2nd Biennial Las Vegas Western Regional APIC Show, Gold Coast Resort & Casino, 4000 West Flamingo Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89103. Sat, Jan 23, 2027, 7am-6pm. Contact: Cary Demont, caryd8@comcast.net



2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

Mon., July 27 to Sat. Aug.1, 2026
DoubleTree Hotel Northshore
Danvers, Mass. (978) 777-2500

Register online at APIC.us, or use the registration form in the June

Bandwagon which you can mail in or take a picture of it & send it by text or email to Mike Dunham.

Transportation: The Logan Express bus is available from Logan Airport to the Liberty Tree Mall in Danvers with a free shuttle from the mall to the Doubletree Hotel.

Registration: Members Only (no family members): for one active APIC member \$45.00

Registration: Household Family: including one APIC member & all immediate family members: \$65.00.

Aisle (inside tables): Located within interior of the ballroom & foyer: \$125.00 per table.

WALL TABLES ARE SOLD OUT.

Lockable Display Cases: Rental of lockable display cases: \$45.00 each.

2026 APIC NATIONAL CONTENTION SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 26

All Day | Room Hopping -
Dealers set up in their rooms.

Monday - Wednesday, July 27 -29

All Day | Registration - Lobby
All Day | Room Hopping

Tuesday, July 28

11 AM - 3 PM | Bus Trip: John F. Kennedy Library.
Bus departs promptly from the Lobby. **SOLD OUT.**

Wed., July 29 - Educational Seminars, Chapter Meetings, Board Meeting & Exhibits Set-up

8 AM Seminar | Button History Exchange: Bring What You Know, Christen Carter

9 AM Seminar | What's Hot & What's Not in Collecting, Ted Hake, David Lindeman, Ray Farina

10 AM Seminar | Estate Planning: Sell, Donate, or Bequest Your Collection, Tony Atkiss, Scott Mussell, Ray Farina

11 AM Seminar | Collecting Political Paper: A New England Perspective, Bruce DeMay

12 PM | Republican Collectors Chapter (Winston Blair)

12 PM | Obama Chapter (Cary Jung)

1:30 PM | APIC Board Meeting
2 PM - 4 PM | Exhibit Set-Up
3 PM | Locals Chapter (Matt Dole) &
3 PM | Kennedy Chapter (Harvey Goldberg)
4 PM | Popular Culture Chapter (Christen Carter)

Wednesday, July 29 - Welcome Reception

5 PM | Welcome Reception & Trivia Contest
Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar

Thursday, July 30

7 AM | Bourse Dealer Set-Up
8 AM | Early Admission
10 AM - 5 PM | Bourse Open to the Public
6 PM | Member Auction Preview
8 PM | Member Auction (catalogue @ APIC.us)

Friday, July 31

9 AM - 5 PM | Bourse Open
6 PM | Awards Dinner
7 PM | Keynote Speaker: Sarah Botstein
8 PM | Awards Ceremony

Saturday, August 1

9 AM - 4 PM | Bourse Open

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sarah Botstein

Sarah Botstein has produced some of the most popular and acclaimed documentaries on PBS. Her work with Ken Burns and Lynn Novick includes *Jazz* (2001), *The War* (2007), *Prohibition* (2011), the award-winning epic ten-part series, *The Vietnam War* (2017), *College Behind Bars* (2019), and *Hemingway* (2020). Sarah was the Senior Producer of the four-part docuseries *College Behind Bars* (2019), which received two Emmy nominations and highlighted the transformative power of education in a highly effective prison education program in New York State.

The U.S. and the Holocaust marked Botstein's debut as a co-director. The series premiered in Sept. 2022 to widespread critical acclaim. It tells the story of how the American people grappled with one of the greatest humanitarian tragedies in history.

She co-directed and produced, along with Burns and David Schmidt, an epic six-part, 12-hour series, *The American Revolution*, which premiered on PBS Nov. 2025. The documentary miniseries covers the events concerning the American Revolution during the time periods leading up to the Revolution (from May 1754), the years of the Revolution itself (independence declared in 1776), followed by the immediate aftermath of the Revolution in the early



years of the new nation and its new government from May 1780 and beyond.

The American Revolution examines how America's founding turned the world upside-down. Thirteen British colonies on the Atlantic Coast rose in rebellion, won their independence, and established a new form of government that radically reshaped the continent and inspired centuries of democratic movements around the globe.

Following nearly 200 historical figures from a variety of backgrounds, experience the virtues and contradictions of the war through their memories. The American Revolution allowed a path forward to advance civil liberties, human rights and better futures for the people.

The film was directed and produced by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein and David Schmidt, written by Geoffrey C. Ward, and narrated by Peter Coyote.

Botstein is currently working on a three-part series on the life and presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson, set to air in 2028.

In addition to the television broadcasts, Botstein works on digital and education initiatives, in collaboration with PBS Learning Media and WETA-TV to develop educational content for programming as part of the Ken Burns Classroom. She also helps to produce and curate content for Ken Burns UNUM, a web-based platform designed to highlight active themes in American History. The application utilizes scenes from over 40 different Ken Burns films and encourages users to embrace the relevance of history in our contemporary time.

Botstein is a graduate of Barnard College/Columbia University with a degree in American Studies with a focus on the post-World War II era.

We welcome Sarah Botstein to the 2026 APIC National Convention in Danvers, MA.

Safe travels and happy collecting!

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and Mike Dunham
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For general questions join the Facebook Group:
facebook.com/groups/apic2026

or **APIC.us**, click on "2026 Convention" tab

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TALE OF TWO LIBRARIES
(Continued from page 15 . . .)



“Rather than burying a troubling work of art, we ought to learn from it. It is fitting that the statue is being relocated to a place where its composition can be recontextualized to facilitate difficult, complex, and inclusive discussions.” The Library has committed to an advisory council including Indigenous, Tribal, and Black community representatives, historians, scholars, and artists to guide any future display.

The TRPL’s goal is to humanize, not lionize Theodore Roosevelt. The Library does not use the excuse of “he was a man of his time.” The institutional posture is honest without contempt and respect without hagiography. That is a hard line to hold — but it is the line.

Why TR, Why Now

Theodore Roosevelt is unusual in the American presidential pantheon in the breadth of values he genuinely shares with Americans across the political spectrum. Conservation has constituencies in both parties. The strenuous-life ethic — physical vigor, work, family, civic duty — is shared across the country. The conservative argument for institutions and the progressive argument for reform both find purchase in his record. The civic-engagement frame of the Arena speech is recognizable to readers of every political persuasion.

The case for a major Roosevelt institution in 2026 rests on three claims. First, that the American argument about citizenship, leadership, and the responsibilities of power needs a place — a physical place — where it can happen across political lines. Second, that the conservation tradition Roosevelt inaugurated is more, not less, relevant in an era of climate risk and biodiversity loss. Third, that Roosevelt’s life — the asthmatic boy who built himself, the New Yorker who became a westerner, the politician who learned to be a writer, the writer who learned to be a leader — is a useful example of what a serious American life looks like when it is lived deliberately.

The Library does not assert that Roosevelt’s every position should be adopted today. It asserts that his life is worth knowing, his words worth reading, his record worth arguing about, and the values he championed worth practicing. That, in the end, is what a presidential library is for.

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library will show what we can learn from, not about, our 26th President. These are the TRPL values:

Dare Greatly. Think Boldly. Live Passionately.

The Library opened into a competitive media environment. The Obama Presidential Center in Chicago opened on June 19, 2026 (Juneteenth) — fifteen days before TRPL. The proximity is, in the TR Library’s view, both a challenge and an opportunity: a national moment of presidential-library renaissance shared across the political spectrum and the country.

BARACK OBAMA PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

Opening Day, June 19, 2026 (Juneteenth), Chicago
Community empowerment, vibrant, living civic landmark.



The Obama Presidential Center (OPC)—rooted in the South Side of Chicago—opened to the public on Juneteenth weekend. It was the fifth anniversary of the national observation of Juneteenth. The intentionality of opening its doors during this particular time is not lost. And the day before, June 18, marked the grand opening of the vibrant 19.3-acre campus.

The Obama family were joined by former first families: The Clintons, the Bushes, and the Bidens, along with notable international dignitaries who came to pass along good-hearted blessings for the center’s longevity. A star-studded guest roster touched down to be part of the opening, hosted by the couple themselves. Along with former first families, were the former Vice President Kamala Harris, as well as foreign leaders, former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and former Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Oprah Winfrey, Steven Spielberg, Stephen Colbert and Tom Hanks were among the afternoon’s celebrity guests at the grand opening, which included speeches and performances by Stevie Wonder, John Legend, Jennifer Hudson, Common, The Roots, and more.

Conceived as a community-focused civic landmark, the project is driven by the Obamas as their primary legacy project. Unlike other presidential libraries, the



OPC aims to empower everyday citizens to make a difference in their own neighborhoods.

“We didn’t design this to be some dusty-old maseloum, I’m too young for that,” the former president quipped during the center’s opening ceremony. “We wanted it to be a vibrant living community where we can share together... because in those moments we’re reminded of our common humanity and strengthen the bonds of trust... that make our democracy stronger.”

The first lady invited attendees to find joy in what the center has to offer. “Because that’s the work of democracy, too: being neighborly... taking care of public spaces... having some fun, and enjoying each other, and shaking out of the isolation and division that have crept too deeply into our lives.” In a tangible call to action, Mrs. Obama concluded by saying, “I want you all to make this campus a part of your lives.” With extensive access to the center’s programming and community-based resources, it’s clear there are endless opportunities to do so.

About the Barack Obama Presidential Library

The Barack Obama Presidential Library is the 14th Presidential library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), a federal agency.

Unlike other Presidential Libraries administered by NARA, the Obama Presidential Library is the first fully digital Presidential library. An estimated 95 percent of the Presidential records of the Obama administration were born digital, such as photos, videos, word-processing documents, tweets, emails, and other standard digital formats. NARA also received approximately 30 million pages of unclassified paper Presidential records.

NARA maintains legal and physical custody of the records and artifacts and all the textual materials which they store and preserve at the National Archives at College Park, MD.

To view released Presidential records of any format, visit the Digital Research Room. <https://www.obamalibrary.gov/digital-research-room>

About the Obama Presidential Center

The Obama Presidential Center is a privately operated, non-federal organization operated by the Obama Foundation. The Obama Presidential Library partners with the Obama Presidential Center to display records and artifacts from the Obama presidency as part of the Obama Presidential Center museum experience.

The Obama Presidential Center is a vibrant 19.3 acre campus located in Chicago’s historic Jackson Park. Designed to inspire, empower, and connect people to change their world, the campus features a diverse array of public spaces. Head to the Museum to learn who shaped our democracy. Enjoy the natural beauty of the outdoors at the Women’s Garden or the Wetland Walk. Grab a book at the Library.

The campus is open daily, free of charge, for all to enjoy. Components of the Obama Presidential Center include:

Obama Presidential Center Museum. Discover a global destination that tells the story of the Obamas, alongside the power of ordinary people coming together to do extraordinary things. Get a close-up look at life in the Obama White House and explore the movements that shaped President and Mrs. Obama, brought to life through captivating exhibits, unique artifacts, and hands-on interactions.

The words surrounding the Museum Building are drawn from President Obama’s remarks on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches. “Oh, what a glorious task we are given, to continually try to improve this great nation of ours.”

Inside, behind the words, are windows. Through them visitors take in panoramic views of Chicago from the Sky Room, the Museum’s culminating experience. This special place is free and open to the public and provides an unparalleled view of the places that made the Obamas. It is designed to be deeply contemplative and features iconic commissioned art installations by Idris Khan, Jenny Holzer and Carrie Mae Weems.

The museum will use timed entry tickets for admission, according to officials, and those tickets can be purchased in advance online.

Access to the museum will cost \$30 for adults 12 and older, or \$26 for Illinois residents. Children age 3-to-11 will cost \$23 for admission, while Illinois residents will get a discount to \$15. (Note: This is not unusual. According to NARA, each Presidential Museum charges an admission fee, with revenues going to support museum operations and programs.)

There are several ways to get free admission to the museum, however, including free admission to all Illinois residents on Tuesdays, officials said. It is recommended to get those tickets in advance, with proof-of-residency required at the door.

Illinois teachers, active-duty military, veterans, and Chicago first responders also receive free admission, according to the museum’s website.

Though the museum does charge an admission price, most of the campus is free and open to the public, including a Chicago Public Library branch, public art installations, and park space around the campus.

Obama Presidential Center’s Chicago Public Library Branch. Lose yourself in the new Chicago Public Library branch that celebrates the rich history of Chicago’s public libraries and the powerful legacy of the Obamas. Take a look at the interactive media area, read one of the Obamas’ favorite books in the Presidential Reading Room, or relax in a quiet space for work and reading. Libraries are the beating heart of a strong democratic culture. Here the Library welcome local residents, scholars, and visitors from around the world to connect, reflect, and act. The Obama Presidential Center has partnered with Chicago Public Library to create a branch that brings inspiration home.

Public libraries are essential institutions, which is why the Obamas and staff are so excited that the 82nd branch of the Chicago Public Library system will be located at the Obama Presidential Center.

The new branch will offer specialized programs and events for children, house a multimedia collection focused on civic engagement, conduct programming to engage community members, and offer spaces to learn and create, including the YOUmedia program for teens to explore the world and their own creativity.

The Obamas know from experience just how vital the Chicago Public Library system can be to children on the South Side. As Mrs. Obama reflected in a recent video, “I remember my first trip to the library and how important I felt...my library card was a key that unlocked a world of knowledge and experiences.”

Main Reading Room. Step into a world of endless discovery and inspiration in the library’s Main Reading Room. Explore the collection of *(Continued on next page . . .)*

TALE OF TWO LIBRARIES

(Continued from page 18 . . .)

physical books, e-books, audiobooks, magazines, and newspapers, all available for you to read, borrow, and enjoy. While you’re here, be sure to check out a brand new 70-foot mural, Reading Circles/Weaving Dreams/Seeding Futures, by celebrated artist Aliza Nisenbaum.

The President’s Reading Room. Explore a collection of written works that reflect the interests, histories, and readings of President and Mrs. Obama. Discover the books that shaped their lives, tracing President Obama’s journey as a writer, thinker, and dedicated public servant.

YOUmedia Programming. YOUmedia is a modern, creative space where young people explore and build their skills. Teens can try out music production, video editing, and both 2D and 3D design, along with other hands-on creative activities.

City Maker Space. The City Maker Space features introductory workshops and open shops for personal projects and collaboration. Explore the full range of making, both high-tech and hands-on.

The Children’s Area. Where young imaginations soar. This vibrant space is designed to ignite a lifelong passion for reading in children of all ages. The Center hosts a schedule of exciting events throughout the year, making the Children’s Area the perfect destination for fun and learning.

Rachel Carson Courtyard. Enjoy the outdoors in our library’s courtyard, named after the famed author and conservationist. The courtyard also features Book Bird—one of the last sculptures made by world-renowned artist and Chicago native Richard Hunt.

John Lewis Plaza. Connect with your community in a vibrant outdoor space that celebrates the spirit and legacy of Congressman John Lewis. Named in honor of late Civil Rights leader, the John Lewis Plaza is a lively and animated outdoor space that welcomes visitors to the Center. The Plaza—which serves as an entry point for the Forum, Museum, and Library buildings, is a dynamic hub built to foster the spirit of community that was central to the legacy and work of Congressman Lewis.

The Forum. Engage with new ideas, celebrate your creativity, and connect with your community at the Forum. Head inside to meet up with friends in the Hadiya Pendleton Atrium, watch a performance at the Elie Wiesel Auditorium, or record a song in the Media Suite.

Home Court. Featuring an NBA regulation-size court and flexible rooms built to empower the next generations, this is our home for athletics and global leadership programs.

Eleanor Roosevelt Fruit and Vegetable Garden. Celebrate the legacy of two extraordinary First Ladies as you learn how to grow and make your own food. You can find dozens of garden beds or local plants and native vegetables. When she was first lady, Eleanor Roosevelt planted a victory garden during World War II as a symbol to encourage families to grow their own food in support of the war effort. As an outspoken and progressive champion of women’s and civil rights, Mrs. Roosevelt redefined the role of first lady.

Inspired by Mrs. Obama’s commitment to health and wellness, this garden is an opportunity to inspire people to learn more about growing and making their own food—a process that nourishes our soul, empowers people to care for themselves and others. This garden and garden classroom serves as a warm and welcoming environment for people to explore gardening, food, and cooking as a pathway to self and community improvement.

Playground. Leap into our new vision for play! This joyful outdoor space is perfect for children of all ages and abilities. Inspired by the great outdoors and our local environment, the playground features two levels of equipment, an ADA accessible swing set, a slide, and much more.

The Great Lawn. Enjoy casual afternoon picnics or make new memories sledding in the winter on this sprawling 58,000 square foot lawn.

The Women’s Garden. The restored garden provides a serene environment, ideal for a tranquil stroll. The Garden, originally created in tribute to the efforts of female leaders in Chicago, is a living memorial to the power of civic participation.

Wetland Walk. Take in the majesty of nature along walking paths designed for sustainability and accessibility.

Art Collection. Discover brand-new art installations from creators across the globe. The vast majority are free and publicly accessible. From the White House to the Obama Presidential Center, President and Mrs. Obama have used the arts as a tool to inspire, empower, and connect people from around the world. The OPC features over 28 commissioned art installations that encourage visitors to open their imaginations and reflect on their ability to bring change home.

“The arts have always been central to the American experience. They provoke thought, challenge our assumptions, and shape how we define our narrative as a country. – President Obama

Across the Center’s campus, diverse stories of art and social change sit alongside each other, giving people the opportunity to explore ways to enact change in their own lives through the exhibits, interactive experiences, and programming.

Take a deep dive into art, architecture, sustainability and select artifacts by signing up for one of the tours. Check out the digital displays in the Museum Entry Pavilion and Forum Atrium for a list of tour times and program offerings, or sign up online to reserve your spot.

As President Obama took to the podium at the opening, intentionally erected for the day in John Lewis Plaza, he closed the ceremony by reminding us of the purpose of each and every detail within the Campus and how the project is for all the American people. “The exhibits in the center are not meant to evoke nostalgia for some gauzy bygone era, some unattainable past that we can dream about and say, oh, we miss you, Barack. They’re meant to remind us of who we can be, to remind us of what’s possible, so we can forge ahead, clear-eyed and confident, and do the work that still needs to be done...We can learn from the past. But America’s story isn’t frozen in the past. It has chapters yet to be written, not by one person or a few people, not by Barack and Michelle or anybody with a fancy title or a high office, but by all of us.”

About The Obama Foundation: Hope to Action®

Our mission at The Obama Foundation is to inspire, empower, and connect people to change their world. We seek to build an active democratic culture where people are equipped and motivated to make change in the communities where they live, work, and play.

The Hope to Action Values Framework was created to support new generations to draw on the values that have motivated President and Mrs. Obama. This Framework defines a set of values that anyone, anywhere, can put into play to build trust, activate participation, and expand opportunity in their community.

“There are values that transcend race or culture, that move us forward, and there’s an obligation for all of us individually as well as collectively to take responsibility to make those values lived.” – President Obama

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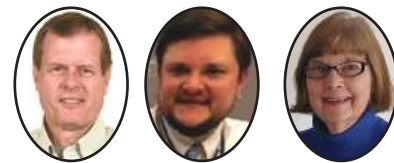


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Community: We connect with others to create something larger than ourselves because we recognize the power of the people around us.

Inclusivity: We value each others’ differences, inviting others in as we build towards a world where everyone can thrive.

Pragmatism: We find ways to make progress toward the world we want to see.

Resilience: We nourish ourselves and others in order to navigate challenge and change.

Imagination: We ask questions and bring new ideas forward to expand our understanding and dream up new possibilities.

Hope: We nurture the possibility of a better future and inspire others to come together to realize it.

The Obama Presidential Center Museum will showcase historical political buttons. On Labor Day, get a glimpse of some of the meaningful buttons labor unions made to support President Obama’s campaigns.

“The strongest middle class the world has ever known was not built overnight. It was achieved by men and women who believed that living up to the promise of this Nation meant more than hoping for the best; it meant toiling in the day, working through the night, and proving that theirs was a future worth fighting for. On Labor Day, we celebrate the grit and resilience of America’s workers and their families, and we recommit to reaching for a world in which they are afforded the rights and opportunities they deserve.”

- Pres. Obama, Labor Day proclamation, Sept. 2, 2016

On Labor Day, we celebrate the workers who built America and strengthened the middle class, including those who rallied behind a short phrase “yes we can,” which carries with it so much meaning for a hopeful future.

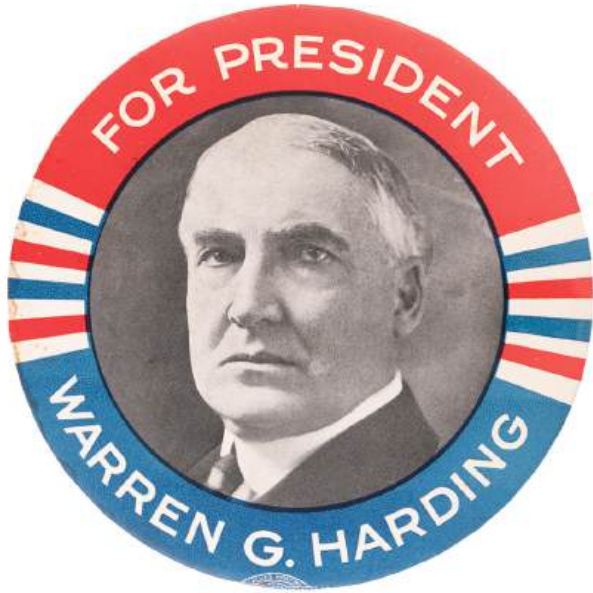
Next Labor Day at the Obama Presidential Center Museum, you can explore the collection of creative, compelling, and contemplative political buttons — many of which honor the Labor Movement. Our exhibits will feature artifacts that highlight key moments in the movement — from a 1928 Labor Day celebration at Soldier Field, to California farmworkers eradicating a back-breaking tool, to autoworkers’ support for President Obama as he worked to save their industry. These buttons tell the story of the relationship between the movement to elect President Obama and the struggles that American labor unions fought and won throughout our history.

See the August issue of the Bandwagon for more info on this collection.

Sources: <https://www.trlibrary.com/>
<https://www.obamalibrary.gov/#event-number-86>
<https://www.ebony.com/obama-presidential-centers-star-studded-guest-roster-see-who-attended/>
<https://www.lawyersgunsandmoneyblog.com/2021/06/tr-statues>



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