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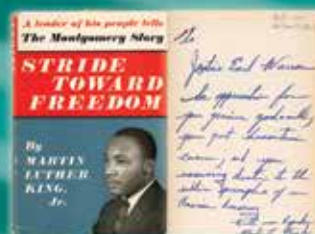
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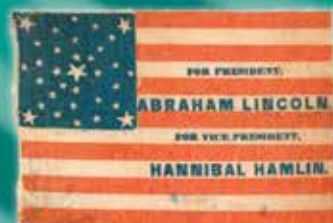
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FROM THE APIC PRESIDENT

When thinking about political collecting, little gives me as much joy as when I look at an item that captures the essence of a campaign and fits within the parameters of what I collect. Whether I'm seeing a pin, a poster or something entirely different for the first time -- or admiring an item already in my collection -- it's a pleasure to hold it in my hands and appreciate the reason it was created.

I'm sure this description is true for collectors of many different things, from baseball cards and coins to stamps and comic books. The difference, I believe, is that the items we collect reflect the history of our country and how we evolved as a nation through the years. The image of Teddy Roosevelt sitting on a horse in his Rough Rider uniform is iconic, as is the sepia photo of him sitting in the White House with Booker T. Washington across the table. Conversely, the caricature of a smiling peanut with Jimmy Carter's face is as memorable as a line drawing on a pinback of Richard Nixon with an elongated nose or Ronald Reagan wearing an oversized cowboy hat.

I believe that collecting political memorabilia is a very honorable pursuit. We all are curating items that were created to help candidates get elected to every office from mayor to the White House. Of course, there's nothing wrong with celebrating a great baseball player on a card or Superman in a book, but these items were created to be bought by collectors. Political items were created to elicit votes during an historical event and preserving them advances our recognition and understanding of how democracy has evolved.

In speaking with a young Dad recently who attended one of our shows, I was struck by a comment he made that was also mentioned during the surveys we conducted last Fall of non-APIC members. He said that he enjoyed collecting political Americana, but that his two young sons hadn't caught the bug yet. Instead, they sought out Pokemon cards with fun characters they enjoyed looking at and trading. The dad said he tried several times to show them pinback buttons and postcards with the images of past presidents, including those that reflected cartoon images of politicians, but they didn't resonate. His hope is that as they age, his kids will develop an appreciation for the items that he collects. But he also cites the example of his dad who collected stamps from throughout the world. While he tried to develop a passion for what his dad so greatly enjoyed, he just couldn't muster the interest. He says he only started collecting political items because his dad gave him a box of pins that had been set aside years ago and forgotten about. Seeing the buttons full of different slogans and photos attracted his interest and his political collecting bug was born.

To be sure, not everyone is cut out to be a collector of anything. But through a wide range of efforts, including sending political buttons for free to high school classrooms and offering free admission at our shows to teens and kids, hopefully we can spark an interest among a certain group of young collectors who will help ensure that the APIC continue long after all of us are gone.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tony Lee, APIC President

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



Surprisingly, not every former U.S. President has a presidential library. There are currently 16 presidential libraries. But hold on. A seventeenth one will be opening soon.

The Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library will open on July 4, 2026, also the 250th anniversary of the country itself. To those unfamiliar with the former president, it might come as a surprise that the New Yorker will have his presidential library in Medora, ND. Medora is the site of Roosevelt's cattle ranch where he retreated following the death of his first wife, Alice, in the 1880s. One of his two cabins is still there at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The other cabin is only a foundation today but it also can be visited nearby.

Becky and I have been fortunate enough to have visited Medora twice, most recently in 2021. It will be interesting to see how Medora handles an influx of even more tourists. It was estimated that only 100 folks live in the town in mid-winter, but is filled with thousands visiting the park and other local attractions in the summer.

A few dozen items from my collection will be loaned and on display at the museum. We look forward to a third visit once it has opened.

Tom Peeling, Keynoter Editor

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FRONT COVER-- Ethnic tickets in New York City

NEXT ISSUE-- LBJ and the war in Vietnam.

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MY THREE FAVORITE FINDS

Collecting the Kennedys

By Becky Peeling, Keynoter Associate Editor



The Kennedy brothers – Jack, Bobby and Ted – continue to be desired among political collectors many years after their deaths. Tyler Thorne (APIC 17585) of Kenosha, WI, is among the newer collectors fascinated by the Kennedys and whose memorabilia are included in his favorite finds.

One such item, the Congressional Inaugural Packet for JFK/LBJ is prized by Thorne who found it on eBay about 2010, when he began collecting while a college student at the University of Wisconsin campus in Kenosha. When he bought the item, he was unaware that the packet included a numbered gold ticket indicating that it once belonged to a guest seated on the President's Platform. Thorne's further research turned up the seating chart for the event. He is "pretty positive" that the ticket was held by LBJ's brother, Sam Houston Johnson.

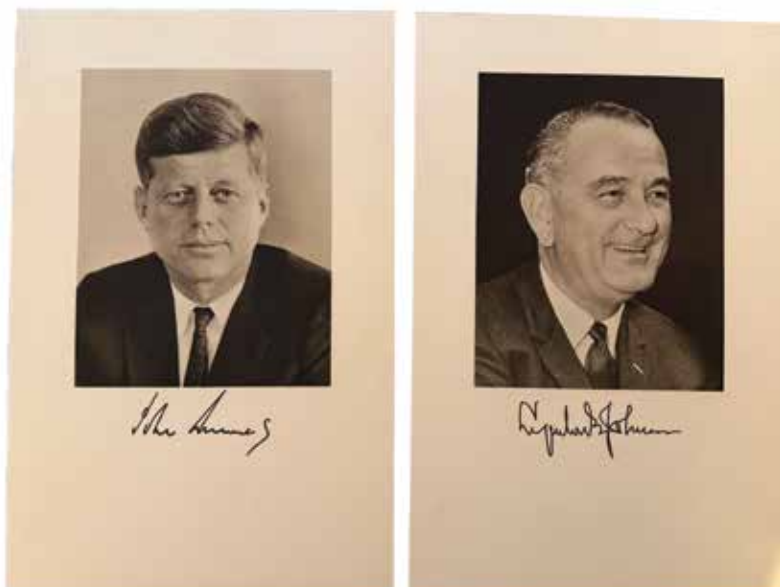


"When I first started collecting, I focused on (JFK) Inaugural items," says Thorne. "I have since branched out." He shares a love of history with his grandfather and the pair traveled to several historical sites. A trip to Washington, D.C., helped him decide to focus his collecting on Kennedys.

With few antique shops in his area, Thorne acquires most items from eBay, "especially paper stuff including brochures and flyers, which at first seemed undervalued but now the prices have picked up."

Another favorite item is the Bobby Kennedy "Return to Greatness" pin.

"I waited a long time (to get it)," Thorne recalled. "Among the '68 pins, I think it is the best one." He remembers talking about the pin with the late Charles Nau, an APIC member from Indiana and later Washington, DC, who was active in the RFK campaign.



Thorne said that getting items from other collectors whom “you know and respect” are a big part of making the hobby enjoyable.

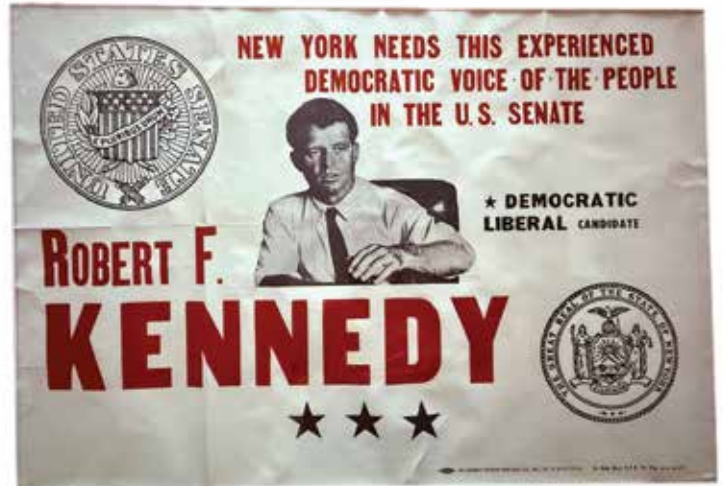
Some items are worth a bit of a wait, as illustrated by the story behind Thorne adding the 1964 Bobby Kennedy for Senate poster to his collection. He includes it among his favorite finds for its “bold, attention getting” design. Thorne found the item on a poster gallery website but didn’t buy it. He casually mentioned the item on the Kennedy collectors’ Facebook page when a fellow collector mentioned he had recently acquired it. Thorne expressed his interest in the poster if it would become available in the future.



A year or so later, Thorne inquired about the poster, learning that it had been folded and would need restoration to remove the creases. On the condition that Thorne could locate a certain poster this collector wanted, the poster’s owner, Garrett Meadows, indicated that a deal would be possible. Thorne was able to find the poster within a few days.

This whole conversation took place by text while at an anniversary dinner with his wife, Kelly. When his wife asked what was going on, he told her.

“She said to me ‘What are you waiting for, message him back!’ So I, as any good husband, did as my wife told me to!” he said. “Within the week I received an absolute beauty of an RFK senate poster: BIG and BOLD.



“I expected a charge for the poster, but it ended up being sent to me,” he said. “It paid to be patient.”

“That’s the thing about this hobby. There are a lot of cool people who go above and beyond (to encourage fellow collectors). Since I have been on the receiving end (of kindness), I try to pay it forward,” he said. “If I have something that I can send off to some other collector, it will make their day.”

Thorne looks forward to attending the APIC National Convention next year in Danvers, MA, so that he can visit many of the locations important to Kennedy history. He is unsure now whether his 5-year-old son, John Kennedy Thorne – who is called John-John – and his wife and daughter will come along.



Collector Greetings from Mr. Claus

By Hans Decker, APIC 9987

My Santa collection now numbers more than 2,500 pieces, so picking out ten favorites is not an easy task. More than half of the pieces I finally selected are paper or unusual celluloid items, as I feel this is an underappreciated area of the hobby in general. There are many beautiful vintage buttons in the collection, but some of the paper pieces are quite rare and have a special uniqueness about them.

Most of these pieces were bought from other collectors or at auction for close to top dollar. However, a couple of the great buttons were in the collection of my grandfather, a collector of pinbacks back in the 1940s. My grandfather, R. Doyne Halbritter, was listed as APIC member No. 10 on an old roster, apparently before members were renumbered.

After winning this first piece in an auction, this bookmark with Santa's head atop a shotgun shell immediately became a favorite. It is compliments of the Western Cartridge Co. of East Alton, IL. The Western Cartridge Co. was founded in 1898 to manufacture sporting rifle powder and shotgun shells for settlers of the Great Plains. Western also produced three billion rounds of ammunition for World War II.

This large, 15-inch high die-cut German piece from the 1890s by Rafael Tuck & Sons is a great item. It features a Victorian-looking Santa and child. It was made "By Special Appointment - Publishers to Her Majesty the Queen." It is in remarkable condition, with three tabs, each connected to the main design by two tiny and delicate paper "arms," all still intact.



The Santa button on this card is a very common “stock” design used for decades. It is rather scarce with the cloth body attached, but finding it on the original Philadelphia badge mailing card is nearly unheard of. In addition to providing prices for the button with and without the cloth body, the card gives a list of sales tips for the retailers as well.



Home Front collectors know that the effort to win WWII pervaded every aspect of American life. St. Nick seemed to stay pretty much neutral in the conflict, but here this stern-looking Santa is taking on all three of the Axis leaders and, of course, winning. This is a magazine ad for Interwoven Socks, a very popular brand in those years. Note that Santa has some “Interwovens” in his bag for delivery after he finishes with the Axis. This piece combines my two major collecting interests of Santa and World War II.



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This small (about 2.5 inch x 4 inches) celluloid card shows a nice, full-figure Santa on a snow-covered rooftop, but the really cool part is the circular text to the left, informing the reader that the Christmas greeting is from the International Hod Carriers Union. A hod carrier is a skilled worker who carries bricks and mortar to masons and bricklayers. The term “hod” originates from the three-sided tool enabling carriers to hoist and carry a number of bricks.



This might be the most bizarre piece in my collection – an 18 inch x 46 inch poster of the gorilla Gargantua and his “wife” Toto, wishing us a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus winter quarters in Sarasota, FL. Circus items distributed from the winter quarters are extremely rare.

I’ve always liked pieces put out by the various button manufacturers to promote their business. This 1.5-inch spinner top from the Green Duck company features highly unusual dual Santa heads on either side of the wooden center peg. I’ve never seen a button with such a design.



Santa buttons worn by store clerks at Christmastime always have been another favorite of mine. This 3.5-inch button is likely from the late 1950s or early 1960s. It has a slot where the clerk's name can be inserted. Very few buttons of this size were produced in this era and earlier.

The last two 1.25-inch buttons were in my grandfather's collection. These are very special to me.

Here Santa with white mittens is handing out presents to a line of WWI doughboys. The button has beautiful graphics and features Whitehead & Hoag back paper.



This example appears to be a sample button, as it has no imprint.

In addition to this color sample, I've also collected a black & white

sample and imprints with Fraser's, Grand Leader, and Strawbridge & Clothier (with both blue and gold lettering). Fraser's was a major department store in Utica, NY. The Grand Leader department store originated in Fort Wayne, IN. Strawbridge & Clothier, founded

by Quakers Justus Clayton Strawbridge and Isaac Hallowell Clothier, had stores in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, with the flagship store being in Philadelphia. All versions of this button are scarce to rare, with the samples especially so.

Finally, this button from 1931 shows an early version of Mickey Mouse in a Santa costume and bearing a sack of Christmas toys. The Philadelphia Badge back paper also reads "Licensed Distributors - Copyright W.E. Disney 1931." Only four different imprints are known for this button, and all are rare.



I hope this article provides some info on a few of the better Santa buttons (there are many, many others) and some of the more off-beat paper items as well. For the past five years, I've been compiling a database of Santa button images and the imprints associated with them. I'd love to hear from other collectors and see pictures of rare or unusual pieces in their collections.



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The 'Tickets to Ride' in New York City

By Ken Rudin, APIC 2010

Ethnicities and nationalities have become a political issue in the past few elections, but there was a time in New York City, a city of so many nationalities and ethnic groups, where the politics of the day embraced this diversity, especially during mayoral contests in the 1950s and '60s.

Not only were the campaigns reaching out to people of these groups, but coalitions were formed of candidates from these very ethnicities. Today, much of NYC is inhabited by Hispanics as well as African Americans. But "back in the day," mostly in the '50s and '60s, Jews, Italians and the Irish not only were a large part of the electorate, but were represented as candidates on what were called "tickets," in the primaries and the general elections. Back then, it was quite usual to see the tickets' top three posts – mayor, followed by city council president (a post that no longer exists) and comptroller – balanced with a candidate from each ethnic group. And the campaign buttons reflected that.

In 1945, Mayor Fiorello La Guardia, who dominated city politics during his three terms, decided to retire. To succeed the "Little Flower," the Democrats settled on William O'Dwyer, the Brooklyn district attorney, for mayor. Along with O'Dwyer, who was Irish, the balanced Democratic ticket included state Sen. Lazarus Joseph, a Jew from the Bronx, for

comptroller, and Vincent Impelliteri, an Italian from Manhattan, for president of the city council. The Republicans, backed by the Liberal Party, had their own balanced ticket: Jonah Goldstein, a Jewish judge from Manhattan, was the mayoral nominee; Joseph McGoldrick, a Brooklyn Irishman, had been city comptroller since he was elected with La Guardia in 1937 and was seeking a third term; and Nicholas Pette, an Italian and Municipal Court Judge from Queens, for city council president. After 12 years of the nominally Republican La Guardia, the entire Democratic ticket was victorious.

Meanwhile, the NYC coalition tickets began to spread like wildfire. When Mayor O'Dwyer found himself enmeshed in a police corruption scandal in 1950, he resigned his job and, to avoid having to appear before any inquiry, President Truman whisked him out of the country by appointing him ambassador to Mexico. Impelliteri succeeded to the mayoralty and won a special election that year, running as an independent against Democratic and Republican nominees. Tammany Hall quickly soured on Impy, and in 1953, rallied behind Robert Wagner Jr., the Manhattan borough president. Wagner, who was Irish, clobbered Impy in the primary, and brought along with him Lawrence Gerosa (Italian) for comptroller, and Abe Stark (Jewish) for city council president. All three were elected, then re-elected in 1957.





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Wagner switched alliances in 1961. After years of loyal servitude to Tammany Hall, he broke with Carmine DeSapio and the other “bosses” of New York, and his new ticket mates were Paul Screvane (Italian) for city council president and Abe Beame (Jewish) for comptroller.

The bosses, angered by what they saw as a betrayal, responded with a rival Democratic primary ticket comprised of state Comptroller Arthur Levitt (Jewish) for mayor, Thomas Mackell (Irish) for council president, and Joseph DiFede (Italian) for comptroller. The Wagner team won, and it won again in November – against a balanced Republican ticket comprised of state Atty. Gen. Louis Lefkowitz (Jewish, from Manhattan) for mayor, Bronx Congressman Paul Fino (Italian) for city council president, and Brooklyn’s John Gilhooly (Irish) for comptroller.



When Wagner surprised everyone by not seeking a fourth term in 1965,

his ticket mates both tried to succeed him.

Screvane’s ticket included Orin Lehman (Jewish) for comptroller; and Daniel Patrick Moynihan (Irish) for council president. Beame’s ticket, successful in the primary, included Frank O’Connor (Irish) for council president and Mario Procaccino

(Italian) for comptroller. O’Connor and Procaccino both won in November, but Beame lost the mayoralty to Republican John Lindsay, a WASP congressman whose unsuccessful ticket mates were Timothy Costello (Italian) for council president and Milton Mollen (Jewish) for comptroller.



Democrats, having lost control of city hall to the Republican Lindsay, were chomping at the bit in 1969. Two Democratic congressmen, Hugh Carey (Brooklyn Irish) and James Scheuer (Bronx Jew) declared their candidacies. Scheuer’s ticket included state Assemblyman Charlie Rangel, who was black, for council president, and Vincent Broderick (Irish and former city police commissioner) for comptroller. Carey’s ticket included Councilman Robert Low (Jewish, for council president) and Louis Laurino (Italian, for comptroller). But when it became clear Carey’s bid for mayor was going nowhere, he ended his candidacy and joined the ticket led by former Mayor Wagner, seeking a comeback, running for council president. Wagner’s balanced team also included Queens state Sen. Seymour Thaler (Jewish) for comptroller. Wagner had entered the race as the favorite, but he and his running mates all lost their primaries to Comptroller Procaccino for mayor, a comeback Abe Beame for comptroller, and Frank Smith (Irish) for city council president.



Not to be outdone, Republicans had their own balancing act. Mayor Lindsay's new ticket mates were Fioravante Perrotta (Italian) for council president and Sanford Garelik (Jewish) for comptroller. But the mayor had his own problems. A far more conservative GOP ticket was formed in opposition to Lindsay, starting off with John Marchi (Italian from Staten Island) for mayor, Assemblyman Robert Kelly (Irish from Brooklyn) for council president, and Assemblyman Joseph Kunzeman (Jewish from Queens) for comptroller. The one hiccup to this opposition slate was that members of the Conservative Party, who enthusiastically backed Marchi over Mayor Lindsay, wanted one of their own on the ticket. So Kunzeman was sacrificed for Vito Battista, a conservative activist who ended his own mayoral campaign and joined the Marchi team. The Marchi balance of Italian, Irish and Jewish was changed to two Italians and one Irish.

As it turned out, Marchi defeated Lindsay in the mayoral primary, but both of Lindsay's ticket mates won their primaries. Lindsay still managed to win re-election in November, however, running as an Independent as well as the nominee of the Liberal Party. Garelik, the Jewish Republican who ran with Lindsay, was elected as council president. The one Democrat who survived that year was Beame, returning as comptroller after a four-year absence; in 1973, with Lindsay retiring, he was elected mayor on his second attempt.

For the most part, candidates stopped running on tickets in the 1970s. Larger-than-life figures such as Ed Koch, Rudy Giuliani and Michael Bloomberg basically ran on their own, as did the other mayors. I don't know if the 1950s and '60s were the golden years for New York City politics. But it certainly was true for button collectors.



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APIC MEMBER PROFILE:**Diego Gonzalez, APIC 17828****By Adam Gottlieb, APIC 4864**

For some collectors, memorabilia is an assortment of red, white, and blue celluloid campaign artifacts from yesteryear. For others, their political collection represents a personal philosophy.

Collecting political items is personal for Sacramento resident Diego Gonzalez. The new president of the Northern California chapter of APIC, Gonzalez is passionate when discussing his growing collection.

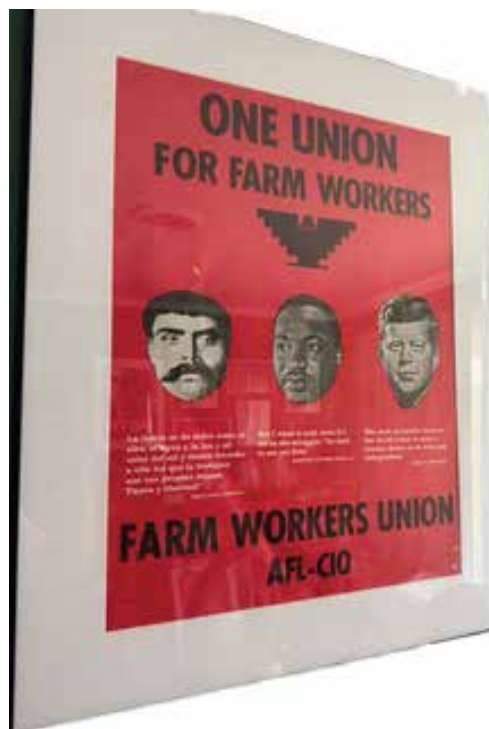
"As a kid, the first button I remember receiving was a yellow "Deport Wilson" button – an anti- (California Governor Pete) Wilson item my mom brought home from a protest in San Diego. That moment stuck with me. Collecting cause-related material has always been deeply personal because it reflects the struggles and movements that shaped my community," Gonzalez said.

"I'm drawn to the rise of Mexican American political power in California and the growing influence of Spanish-speaking voters nationwide – and I'm proud to preserve items through our hobby. Collecting isn't just about preserving history – it's about honoring lived experiences. I often think how elders in my community view pieces I've collected. Many of them lived through the struggles these buttons and posters represent – fighting for Civil Rights, facing racism, and demanding to be seen," Gonzalez said.

Growing up in Southern California, Gonzalez had a small collection of buttons, some acquired at state Democratic Party conventions. While in college, he bought a common JFK pin found in an Old Sacramento antique store.

"I definitely overpaid – it was \$20! But I was excited to own a piece of history, and I displayed it in my dorm room," he adds. It wasn't until 2016 when he found California locals at the Alameda antique fair that his fledgling collection took off.

Gonzalez, 38, is a fan of collecting early Latino legislators, and material from the career of (California Assembly Speaker and San Francisco Mayor) Willie Brown. He also collects early Spanish language political items and United Farm Workers (UFW).





"California – especially the Sacramento area – is full of political junkies, many of whom are already collectors. Growing APIC in Northern California starts with embracing the region's political diversity, history, and deep civic engagement. Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area are filled with political enthusiasts – many of whom collect without knowing about APIC. Additionally, I'd like to highlight the value of APIC membership and creating more opportunities for West Coast collectors to engage with the broader APIC community," he said.

"Increasing visibility at events (local antique fairs, flea markets, and relevant civic anniversaries) can introduce the organization to new audiences. To strengthen APIC's presence, we need more large-scale APIC events on the West Coast and expanded outreach throughout California. Hosting shows, regional meetups, and educational panels in Sacramento, Los Angeles, and San Francisco would make APIC more accessible and visible to a broader audience," Gonzalez said.

To increase the APIC's visibility and provide a public service, Gonzalez suggests creating a new online tool connecting historical societies, museums, universities, and research institutions with active APIC members to identify and loan historical items for exhibits. The *"Collector Finder Tool"* could open up APIC collections for enhanced visibility and educational purposes.

"The tangible pieces of history we possess can connect the public to political movements, campaigns, and important causes that shaped communities, while also promoting APIC as a trusted source for historical authenticity and interpretation," he said.

"The greatest strength of APIC is its national network of collectors – a true brain trust for political history," he said. "If you're searching for a rare item or need an answer to a niche question, chances are someone in the APIC community has the knowledge to help. I'm impressed by APIC's willingness to modernize and adapt. Expanding efforts to grow membership and diversify its demographics would further enrich the organization. I especially enjoy meeting younger members and collectors of color whose collections reflect lived political experiences. Their perspectives are vital to keeping the hobby relevant and inclusive for future generations.

"Overall, the camaraderie among APIC members creates real connections with those who share a passion for political history. I feel collecting helps ensure that future generations won't forget the political struggles. It gives voice to the people and movements that challenged injustice -- and reminds us that the fight isn't over. I'm driven to preserve political history for future generations and uncover stories that continue to inspire, educate, and sometimes complicate our understanding of the past," he said.

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Tom Peeling
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THE TRUTH BE TOLD

Dewey's Last Pinback

By David Holcomb, APIC 5993

This campaign button is considered one of the last designed for Thomas Dewey. Hundreds of different campaign button designs were produced for Dewey during his 17-year political career. This one is from the 1954 New York gubernatorial race in which Dewey did not appear on the ballot.

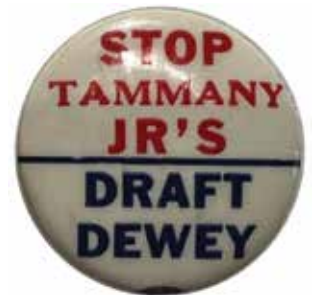
In 1954, there was a groundswell of support and a desire by New York Republicans to nominate Dewey for a fourth term as governor. Most pundits and polls showed that Dewey could win easily against either third term Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., who represented the Upper West Side of Manhattan, or New York City Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Both were early favorites among the Democrats. Roosevelt and Wagner were both politicians from New York City, and both would have had Tammany's support had they received the Democratic nomination.

Early in 1954, Dewey had decided not to seek re-election. During the course of the election year Republicans wished for and tried to change Dewey's mind about not running. This campaign button represents that effort and it appeared in June of 1954. The Republicans ended up nominating Irving Ives.

By September, Wagner was no longer seeking the Democratic nomination for governor but FDR, Jr., was actively seeking the nomination. W. Averall Harriman had entered contention for the nomination and the Tammany forces ended up behind Harriman and not Roosevelt. The race for the Democratic nomination came down to a bitter fight between Roosevelt and Harriman. Harriman won the Democratic nomination after Roosevelt conceded and asked that it be made unanimous saying, "let bygones be bygones."

After receiving the Democratic nomination, Harriman went on to win the governorship in the general election, defeating Ives by just 11,125 votes out of 5,110,351 votes cast, or less than .22 percent of the vote. It was the closest gubernatorial election in New York since 1850.

In a twist of fate, all three individuals represented on this campaign button, Dewey, FDR, Jr., and Wagner, ended up not on the general ballot in November 1954.



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Whatever Happened to Alton B. Parker?

By Brad Nahrstadt, APIC 10858

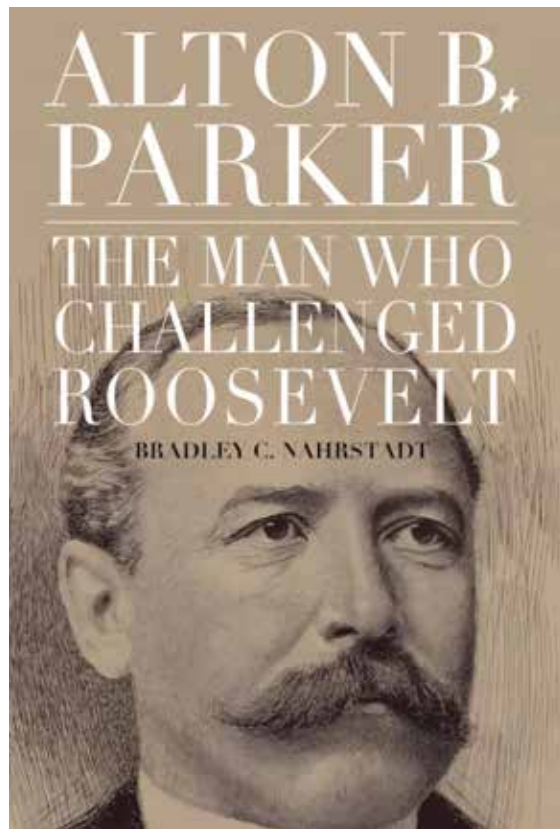
Folks who collect political buttons know that Alton B. Parker was the 1904 Democratic nominee for president. They also know that he lost to Theodore Roosevelt in a landslide. What most people don't know is what happened to Parker after he went down to ignominious defeat in November of 1904.

Parker resigned his position as the Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, the one job he truly loved, in order to run for president. When the dust settled after the election, Parker announced to his wife, "Now I am going to New York to make some money." And he did just that, remaining in active practice for twenty-one years, at first with Edward Hatch and William Sheehan and later in the firms of Parker Marshall & Randall, and Parker, Marshall, Miller, Auchincloss & Randall.

Parker was one of the busiest lawyers in New York City. He served as counsel for New York Mayor George B. McClellan, Jr. in a dispute with William Randolph Hearst over the New York mayoralty election (McClellan won). He served as the personal attorney for Samuel Gompers and often represented the American Federation of Labor. He represented Gompers, the AFL and several other corporate clients before the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1913, he served as the lead trial counsel in the impeachment of New York Gov. William Sulzer. Parker convinced the Court of Impeachment to find Sulzer guilty on three of the charges leveled against him, making Sulzer the only New York governor to ever be removed from office through impeachment. One of the last cases Parker handled as a practicing attorney involved a dispute concerning the estate of Jay Gould who, at the time of his death, left an estate valued at \$82 million (the equivalent of \$2.3 billion in today's dollars). Parker represented one of Gould's sons, Edwin Gould, and defended him against claims that he and the other executors of the estate had mismanaged the estate, leading to losses in excess of \$70 million. In the end, Parker's defense of Edwin Gould was unsuccessful.

In addition to his legal work, Parker was very involved in a number of bar organizations. He served as the president of the American Bar Association from 1906 to 1908. He helped found the New York County Lawyers' Association and served as the group's president from 1909 to 1912. He served as the president of the New York State Bar Association from 1913-1914.

Despite his overwhelming loss in 1904, Parker remained active in Democratic politics. In April 1908 he served as the permanent chairman of the New York State Democratic Convention. Three months later he attended the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colo., as a delegate-at-large for New York. In 1912, he served as the temporary chairman of the Democratic National Convention.



In 1916 he watched as Woodrow Wilson and Thomas Marshall were renominated at the Democratic National Convention in St. Louis, MO. He supported James Cox for president in 1920 and John Davis for president in 1924.

In 1919, Parker became president of the National Civic Federation, an alliance of labor, business and political leaders that had been founded to promote moderate progressive reforms and sought to resolve disputes between industry and organized labor. After the First World War, the organization turned its energies to fighting a perceived threat from communists, socialists and radicals. Parker, as president of the Federation, also supported immigration restrictions and deportation of alleged radicals.

Parker had a long fascination with the country's first president. In his later years, he served as the chancellor of the Sulgrave Institution, a group dedicated to the study and preservation of the ancestral home of George Washington. He served as the president of the National Civic Federation and chancellor of the Sulgrave Institution until his death on May 10, 1926.

Alton B. Parker was a man of high integrity. He was honest, sincere and ambitious, but he lacked conceit or pretense. In the aftermath of his presidential campaign he worked hard at his profession, mentored and counseled dozens of lawyers, worked to preserve the history of one of our foremost Founding Fathers and sought to protect his country from the evils of war and social unrest.

Editor's note: APIC member Brad Nahrstadt has written the first full-length biography of Alton B. Parker, entitled: *Alton Parker: The Man Who Challenged Roosevelt*, which can be bought from Amazon for \$81.29 for the hardcover and \$30.97 for the paperback. It can also be purchased from SUNY Press, www.sunypress.edu, for \$99 for the hardcover and \$34.95 for the paperback.

Win the War for Freedom

Lon Ellis, APIC 2881

According to a San Pedro, Calif., newspaper report from Sept. 3, 1918, San Pedro had a huge Labor Day celebration, highlighted by a big parade that included many floats. The very first float in the long parade was sponsored by the Central Labor Council and was patriotic in nature.

The float was topped with a big sign "Win The War For Freedom" with children seated below the sign along with a soldier and sailor "on guard." The parade also included a huge float named "San Pedro" accompanied by thousands of shipyard workers that was several blocks long. This float was fully rigged with cabins, lifeboats, and real smoke pouring out of the stack.

Other groups participated in the parade as well, including various unions of the shipbuilding industry, fishing and canning industry, and the International Longshoremen's Association.



The Local Review

By David Quintin, APIC 2776

This edition of The Local Review will cover four items that recently were offered on eBay. Even though there has been a decline in the amount of scarce material listed on there, uncommon and rare material continues to show up as evidenced by these four items.

I have never seen three of these items, and the fourth, the TR-La Follette jugate, is rarely offered.

Wisconsin – Teddy Roosevelt-Robert LaFollette:

A jugate many collectors might not be aware of is this 1904 large head TR-La Follette 7/8 inch cello jugate. Shown are the two versions with the large head

being quite scarce. La Follette, a Republican, was running on TR's coattails in 1904 for re-election for a third term. He won.

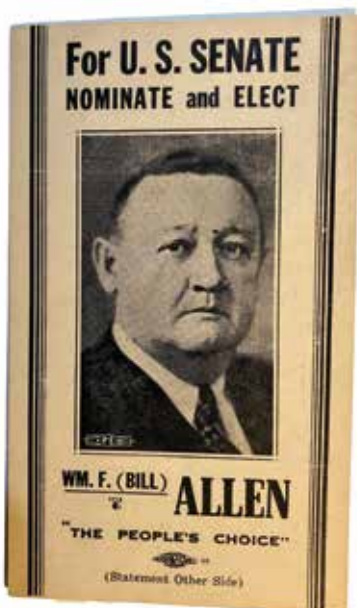


New York – Robert F. Wagner:

This is possibly from his first race for the U.S. Senate in 1926 as the wording denotes "For U.S. Senate." Wagner went on to also win in 1932, 1938 and 1944. It is a very bold 2 inch cello mirror manufactured by Bastian Bros. Co. of Rochester, NY.

Delaware – William F. "Bill" Allen:

This is a scarce card with wording on both sides from the 1940 U.S. Senate race. Allen formed a third party, the so-called Liberal Democratic Party, after losing the Democratic nomination to James M. Tunnell. Allen received only 2,547 votes.



Nevada – Tasker L. Oddie, John A. Fulton and H.E. Steward:

Early Nevada campaign material is quite scarce as is this 1938, possibly one of a kind, paper broadside. It measures 8 inches by 17 inches and promotes three Republican candidates, all of which were defeated in the 1938 general election.



Enjoying Another Great Collection

By Tom Peeling, APIC 9765

When my wife and I were in New Jersey for the political collectibles show in February, I shot a lot of photos of some of my favorite and more unusual items in the collection of Tony Lee, APIC President. While his collection of media and political media items is massive, he'll happily admit he is a generalist collector overall.

His collection spans George Washington until the present day. It's massive, and on our annual visit to see Tony and his gracious wife, Jane, at the Lee & B as he calls it, I always find new things that I don't recall seeing before. The same was true this time.

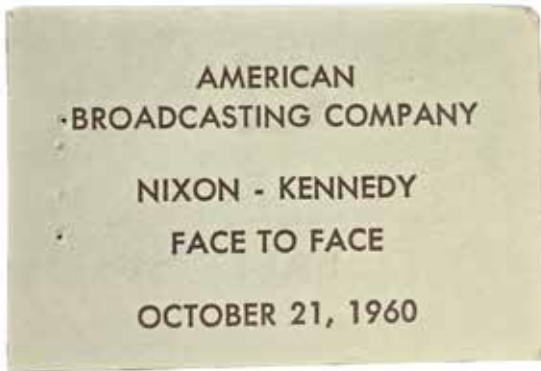
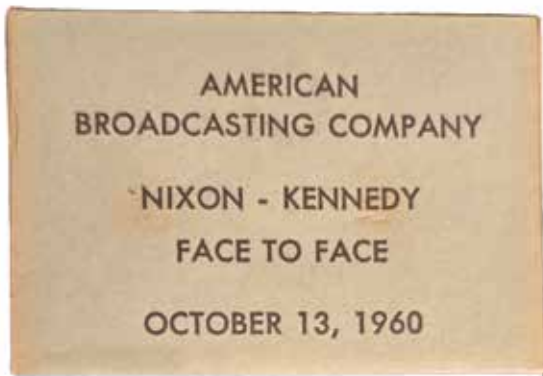
I always enjoy seeing the collections of others. I'm never disappointed in the depth of our hobby and what collectors have managed to acquire through the years. And the stories are always great that go along with the items.

When I recently asked Tony if he minded if I did a photo feature on his collection in the Keynoter, he was reluctant at first. As APIC President he felt he already gets his name and face in the hobby publications enough. But with a little pleading, he relented.

I hope you enjoy looking at some of the items in another great collection of political items. I know I always do.









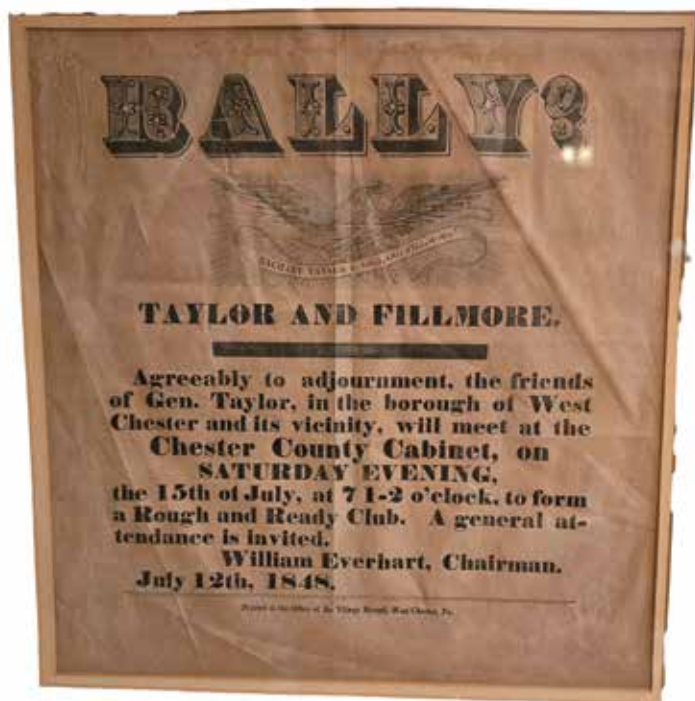


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ATTN: GRADUATE LEVEL STUDENTS

The American Political Items Collectors (APIC) sponsor one 6-week summer internship at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Served in the Political History Department of the Smithsonian's Museum of American History under the supervision of the Curator. The internship is open to graduate level students. History or political science majors are desired and overall good character is required. A dormitory room at George Washington University (or the equivalent) and a weekly stipend are also provided.

In 1826, British scientist James Smithson drew up his last will and testament, naming his nephew as beneficiary. Smithson stipulated that, should the nephew die without heirs (as he would six years later in 1835), the estate should go "to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." The U.S. government was soon notified of this extraordinary bequest, and President A. Jackson announced it to Congress, which accepted the legacy bequeathed to the nation and pledged the faith of the U.S. to the charitable trust July 1, 1836. After eight years of sometimes heated debate, an Act of Congress signed by President Polk Aug. 10, 1846, established the Smithsonian Institution as a trust to be administered by a Board of Regents and a Secretary of the Smithsonian. Since its founding, the Smithsonian has become the world's largest museum, education and research complex, with 19 museums, the National Zoo and nine research facilities.



The Remarkable Dawes Family

By Matt Dole, APIC 16847

You might call it the first example of door-to-door campaigning – Paul Revere riding through the countryside warning, “The British are coming.” Revere got the credit thanks to poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, but others were riding that night, too, including William Dawes. Dawes would serve as a Quartermaster during the Revolution, earning the ire of British prisoners who complained to Parliament that Dawes gave them meager rations and supplies.

The Dawes family would, from that moment, serve in the upper heights of the American government for the next 150 years. During the Civil War, Williams’ great-grandson, Rufus, served with courage as a member of the Iron Brigade that fought with vigor at Seminary Ridge and Culp’s Hill during the Battle of Gettysburg. The brigade suffered terrible losses before, during, and after Gettysburg but remained steadfast whenever called upon.

After the war, Rufus returned to Ohio. He was a maternal descendant of Manasseh Cutler, who helped found the first permanent settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains, Marietta, which became the heart of the Northwest Territory. At Marietta, Rufus entered the lumber business. In 1880, Rufus was elected as a Republican to Congress but lost his reelection campaign, mainly due to his opposition to the Chinese Exclusion Act. Rufus remained active in community activities and was nominated as a candidate for Ohio Governor in 1889, coming in third among eleven on the first convention ballot before Governor Foraker was re-nominated.

Rufus’ most significant contribution might have been his children, among whom numbered four sons – Charles G. Dawes, Rufus C. Dawes, Beman G. Dawes, and Henry M. Dawes – whose careers were at the forefront of business and politics for nearly 80 years.

Three of the brothers settled in Illinois after their schooling. Charles was active in banking, Rufus was active in the gas and electric industries, and Henry was active in the oil industry.

Rufus C. was a committed public servant, heading up Chicago’s Commercial Club and its World’s Fair “Century of Progress” corporation. In 1918, he was appointed to serve on the Illinois State Pension Laws Commission and as a delegate to the state’s 1920 Constitutional Convention. Rufus C. also helped prepare the Dawes Plan, which earned his brother Charles, as head of the commission, a share of the Nobel Peace Prize.

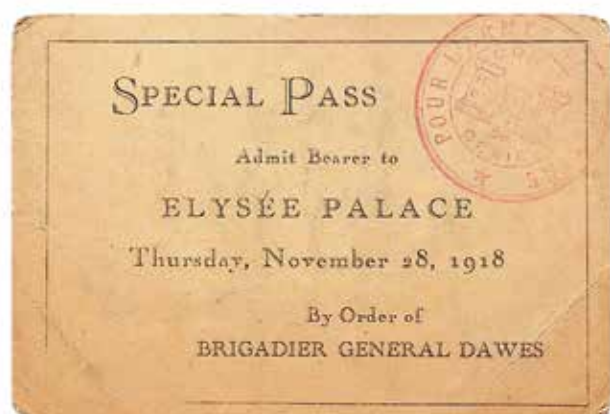
Charles left Marietta and went to Lincoln, Nebraska, to study law. There, he befriended John Pershing and William Jennings Bryan. Like his brother, he settled in Chicago, where he managed William McKinley’s 1896 campaign in Illinois against his pal Bryan. After McKinley’s win, Charles served as Comptroller of the Currency before returning to Chicago to be a candidate for the United States Senate and launch a bank.



During World War I, Pershing appointed Charles to head up the General Purchasing Board for the Allied Expeditionary Force with the rank of general. Dawes, also friendly with Herbert Hoover, would champion war relief and support for veterans. In 1924, the Republican National Convention nominated Charles for Vice President on the Coolidge ticket. Supporters ran a half-hearted "draft Dawes" effort in 1928, but Hoover was chosen.

Henry Dawes also served as Comptroller of the Currency under Harding. Henry resigned to head Pure Oil Company, where, in the 1930s, he was indicted but acquitted for violations of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

The final brother, Beman, stayed in Ohio, engaging in public utilities, and started a bridge company to build a span across the Ohio River at Marietta. In 1904, Republicans in Southeast Ohio elected Beman to Congress, where he served two terms. Factionalism between a Foraker wing of the state party and a wing loyal to Teddy Roosevelt and William H. Taft resulted in Beman's bid for renomination in 1908 failing. He retired from politics but continued his public service by endowing the Dawes Arboretum in central Ohio, dedicated to planting trees and education. The organization remains active today, with nearly 2,000 acres featuring more than 5,300 types of plants.



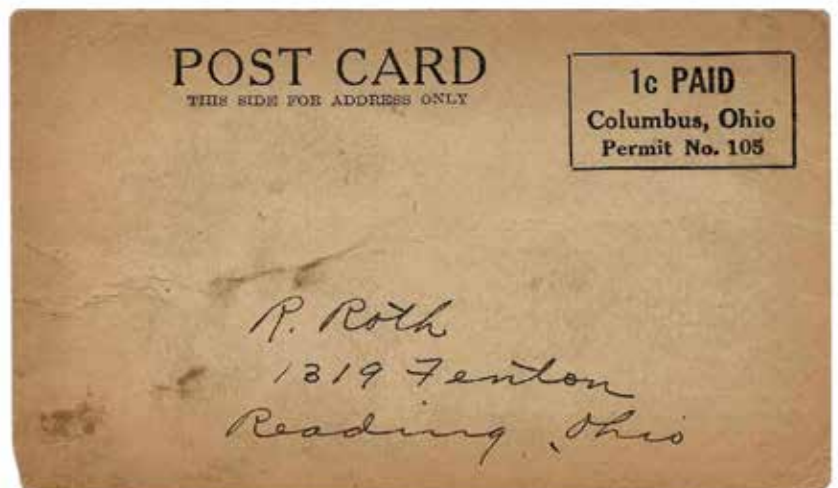
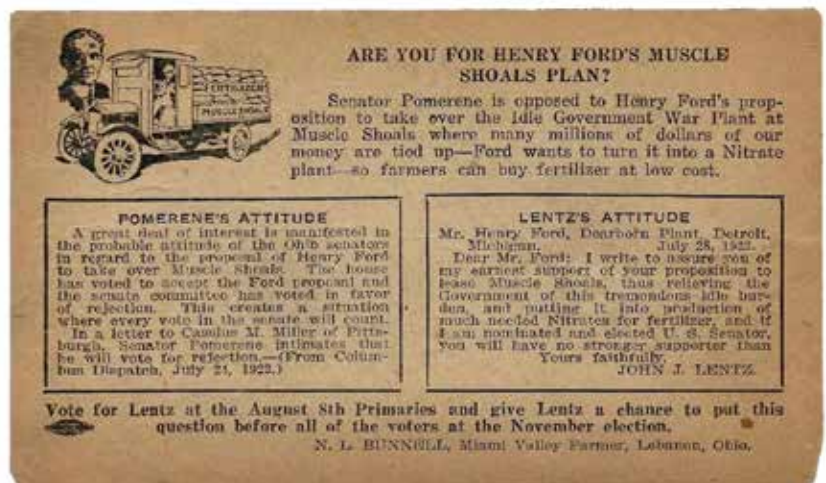
There Was No Ford in Their Future

By David Yount, APIC 6913

A few years ago, I bought a celluloid pinback related to Henry Ford I assumed was advertising an early automobile dealership in Alabama. Recently, fellow APIC member Dick Valentineti, posted online a postcard which definitively solved the mystery. The truth turned out to be much more interesting than my erroneous assumption.

The story relates to a public works project involving a hydroelectric dam and manufacturing plants designed to support U.S. war efforts during WWI. After the war ended, the project was abruptly mothballed. Enter Henry Ford. Ford offered the U.S. government \$5 million to take over the project and turn it into a utopian community "75 miles long," complete with industry, housing, and infrastructure. His proposal easily passed the House, but was stalled by Republican skeptics in the U.S. Senate who questioned his motives (and assumed he was going to use the project to launch a presidential campaign in 1924).

This postcard and button relate to Ford's efforts to elect Senators who were favorable to his plan and unseat his opponents. Both proved unsuccessful. Today, Muscle Shoals, Ala., is a fairly sleepy town along the Tennessee River best known for a famous music recording studio that came into existence in the 1960s. But for a few members of the U.S. Senate in 1922, it might have become a model city of industry and commerce.



Secrets to Cleaning Ferrotypes

By Alan V. Weinberg, APIC 9531

I've specialized in high-quality political campaign ferrotypes for more than two decades, challenged by their history, rarity, difficulty in locating top quality, and apparent great value – at least when compared to rare coins, which for 60+ years was my primary collecting interest. Numismatics became increasingly tiresome with slabbing and huge dollar differences with minute, imperceptible grade differences.

During this period, as with my prior numismatic interest, I've always been inclined to study and experiment in improving or conserving ferrotypes from the effects of age, handling, improper storage, and exposure to elements. I think I've succeeded.

Initially I chose to keep these conservation procedures and secrets to myself as sharing them would reduce my edge in auctions and private purchases. But now, at 81 years old, I figure I have only a few more years of active collecting and I should pass on my knowledge.

When I first started collecting ferrotypes, I distinctly recall APIC member and dealer Rex Stark advising me the only way he knew to clean the ferrotypographic emulsion was with a tongue-wetted Q-tip (his exact terminology). And that I should not use a 10-power magnifying glass as I'd never acquire any ferrotypes. He was mostly right.

The dust that accumulates mainly on the periphery of a photographic ferrotypographic image can be removed, in whole or part, with the gentle application of a lightly tongue-wetted Q-tip swirled around the periphery where the ferrotypographic edge meets the lightly beveled brass encasement. You will see the results on the sullied Q-tip cotton. In many cases, the ferrotypographic surfaces will also have a light film from age and atmosphere storage so the same process, again with tongue-wetted Q-tip, can be used gently to remove the film, resulting in a brighter and more reflective (or "watery" as used by Hakes) surface. There should not be any noticeable saliva remaining on the surfaces as saliva is somewhat acidic, depending upon diet and health. This procedure can only be used on smooth, wholly intact ferro surfaces. Not on cracked or bubbly-surfaced ferros.



Now, with respect to the brass (or improperly used “gilt”) ferrotype casement, it is almost always dull from age-generated film, or dirty with corrosion spots. Use a lightly wetted coin oil Q-tip. I emphasize lightly wetted cotton tipped Q-tip as you do not want the coin oil seeping over onto the ferrotype photographic surfaces. As you apply the lightly wet Q-tip to the brass casement periphery, rotate and angle the casement in your fingertip, under a good lamp, so as to prevent any coin oil accidentally seeping onto the ferrotype itself. If any coin oil contacts the ferrotype itself, immediately wipe off with a dry Q-tip or old, soft, much washed T-shirt.

I can tell you a longtime ultra-experienced collector friend once used coin oil on an expensive Lincoln 1860 ferrotype doughnut overnight and the next morning, the ferro was rendered non-collectible. Coin oil contains acetone.

Immediately after applying the coin oil to the brass encasement, gently remove 95 percent of the oil with dry cotton tips of Q-tips. Look at the cotton: It will be lightly soiled and the brass surfaces will often be brilliant and reflective. On darker, really soiled brass encasements, they will end up more attractive, most dirt removed and small spots stopped, by the oil, from developing further.

Remember, take your time, have steady hands, a good lamp, patience and never use to excess your saliva or coin oil. And use a 5x glass to monitor your success or mistakes. Shown here is a bottle of coin oil w Q-tip and a before and after Grant ferrotype very recently acquired from eBay.

Make APIC Part of Your Estate Planning

As you consider next steps for your collection, please remember that APIC is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt non-profit organization that would greatly value any contribution you'd like to make in your estate planning. A financial bequest or the donation of all or part of your collection would help us greatly as we fund our projects moving forward. You can designate a specific purpose, such as underwriting the APIC Smithsonian Internship or a marketing campaign to help attract new members.

Your bequest or donation also will help us maintain the publication of the Keynoter and the Political Bandwagon without the need to raise membership dues to the rising cost of printing and postage.

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



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Theodore Roosevelt: 1 3/4"
TR in the Ark Cartoon Pin.

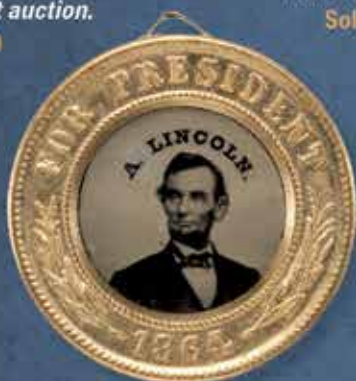
Sold for \$21,250



Theodore Roosevelt: Phenomenal
President/Rough Rider Jugate.

*Record for 2nd most expensive
Roosevelt button sold at auction.*

Sold for \$37,500



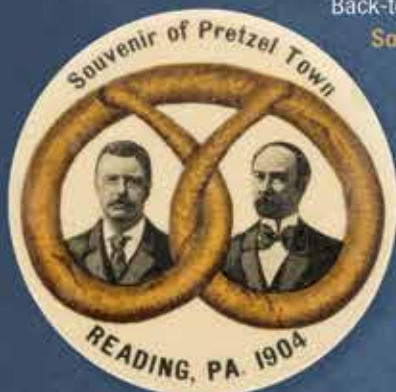
Abraham Lincoln:
Back-to-Back Ferrotypes.

Sold for \$4,500



Theodore Roosevelt: One of the Best
TR Cartoon Button Designs.

Sold for \$15,000



Roosevelt & Fairbanks:
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