

Having a Little Difficulty?

Not able to match all the quotes with the proper President? Don't feel bad; many of the quotes, as well as the Presidents, are rather obscure. Perhaps learning a little more about each President will help you score better on your next try.

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George Washington

1st President of the United States

Years in Office: 1789-97

Married: Martha Dandridge Custis

Birthplace: Colony of Virginia

Administration: As the country's first chief executive, Washington realized that every action he took set a precedent. President Washington did not believe in foreign treaties as he did not want America committed to any other nation.

Interesting Facts:

Washington was in office when the United States Mint was established.

George and Martha are pictured on the back of an 1896 "Educational Series" Silver Certificate.

Washington has appeared on several bills and coins, including notes of the Confederate States of America. He is found on the current dollar and quarter dollar coins and the \$1 Federal Reserve note.

Washington had several sets of false teeth, none made from wood.

Quote: "It is better to be alone than in bad company."

John Adams

2nd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1797-1801

Married: Abigail Smith

Birthplace: Colony of Massachusetts

Administration: The Adams administration was occupied with a war between France and England. French ships would stop and harass American ships believed to be bound for England. France and the United States fought an undeclared war on the high seas until they accepted the Treaty of Morfontaine.

Interesting Facts:

As a lawyer, Adams defended the British soldiers on trial for murder in the Boston Massacre.

Adams served on the committee that wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Adams' son John Quincy Adams also was elected President of the United States.

Adams died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The Presidential Dollar Series is the first time Adams has appeared on a United States coin although he is pictured on the back of the Series 1875 \$100 National Bank note and the Series 1976 \$2 Federal Reserve note.

Quote: "In politics, the middle way is none at all."

Thomas Jefferson

3rd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1801- 09

Married: Martha Skelton (Died before Jefferson became President)

Birthplace: Colony of Virginia

Administration: The crowning achievement of Thomas Jefferson's administration was the Louisiana Purchase. President Jefferson realized the Port of New Orleans was crucial to the free navigation of the Mississippi River and convinced Congress to authorize the purchase of 828,000 square miles of land for 16 million dollars.

Interesting Facts:

Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and started the University of Virginia. Jefferson died on the same day as John Adams, July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

No mention of Jefferson's presidency appears on his tombstone.

President Jefferson currently appears on the nickel, Presidential dollar coin, and the \$2 Dollar Federal Reserve note. His portrait is on the back of the Series 1875 \$100 National Bank note, and the 1993 Jefferson commemorative dollar coin and 1991 Mount Rushmore commemorative coins.

Quote: "I cannot live without books."

James Madison

4th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1809- 17

Married: Dolley Todd

Birthplace: Colony of Virginia

Administration: President Madison spent a good portion of his administration occupied with the War of 1812. The United States was angry with England over the impressment of American sailors. Many citizens wanted to gain control of Canada and saw this war as an opportunity for expansion. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, and both nations returned to their prewar status.

Interesting Facts:

Madison was our shortest President at 5'4".

Because of his strong involvement at the Constitutional Convention, Madison is known as the "Father of the Constitution."

Madison appears on the \$5,000 Gold Certificate and Federal Reserve notes. He also is featured on the 1993 Bill of Rights silver half dollar and \$1, and gold \$5.

Quote: "If men were angels, no government would be necessary."

James Monroe

5th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1817-25

Married: Elizabeth Kortright

Birthplace: Colony of Virginia

Administration: The Monroe administration was known as the Era of Good Feelings because of the peace and expansion America enjoyed during his years in office. The country dealt with the issue of slavery and the balance of power between slave and free states for the first time when the President signed into law the Missouri Compromise, which allowed Missouri to enter the Union as a slave state and Maine to enter as a free state.

Interesting Facts:

Monroe was the last veteran of the Revolutionary War to become President.

Monroe was recalled while serving as minister to France during the Washington administration. A feud developed between Monroe and Washington that never was settled.

President Monroe was the third of the first five Presidents to die on a 4th of July.

Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, was named after President Monroe.

James Monroe appears with John Quincy Adams on the 1923 Monroe Doctrine Centennial half dollar. Monroe also is pictured on the \$100 Silver Certificates of 1878-91.

Quote: “A little flattery will support a man through great fatigue.”

John Quincy Adams

6th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1825-29

Married: Louisa Catherine Johnson

Birthplace: Colony of Massachusetts

Administration: President Adams spent a great deal of his energy asking Congress for money to fund internal improvements for the vast amount of land acquired in previous administrations. Adams also argued for justice for harshly treated Native Americans.

Interesting Facts:

John Quincy Adams was the son of John Adams, the second President of the United States.

Adams' wife, Louisa, is the only First Lady not born in the United States.

John Quincy Adams served in the House of Representatives after retiring from the presidency.

President Adams appears with James Monroe on the 1923 Monroe Doctrine Centennial half dollar. He also is portrayed on a \$500 Legal- Tender note.

Quote: “All men profess honesty as long as they can. To believe all men honest would be folly. To believe none so is something worse.”

Andrew Jackson

7th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1829-37

Married: Rachel Robards (Died before Jackson became President)

Birthplace: Colony of South Carolina

Administration: President Jackson's principal accomplishment during his administration was dissolving the Bank of the United States. Jackson did not trust banks and saw them as a vehicle for the privileged few. Jackson also used his executive powers to prevent South Carolina from seceding after its state legislature passed an Ordinance of Nullification, a protest against high tariffs.

Interesting Facts:

Jackson invoked many policies against Native Americans while in government, yet he adopted a Creek Indian orphan.

Andrew Jackson led an army that defeated the British at the Battle of New Orleans after the treaty ending the War of 1812 had already been signed.

As a young man, Jackson was involved in a duel and was hit by a bullet that doctors left in him for the rest of his life.

President Jackson appears on the \$10 Federal Reserve Bank note of 1915-18 and the current \$20 Federal Reserve note. Jackson also is pictured on Confederate currency.

Quote: "To the victors belong the spoils."

Martin Van Buren

8th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1837-41

Married: Hannah Hoes (Died before Van Buren became President)

Birthplace: New York

Administration: President Van Buren's focus during his administration was dealing with a major national depression that enveloped the country in 1837. The previous year's wheat crop was poor and the price of cotton fell by almost one-half because of the abundance of cotton grown by southern farmers.

Interesting Facts:

Van Buren was the first President born a United States citizen.

President Van Buren's nickname was "Old Kinderhook". The term "OK," meaning all is right, was derived from his nickname.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Martin Van Buren will appear on United States money.

Quote: "As to the presidency, the two happiest days of my life were those of my entrance upon the office and my surrender of it."

William H. Harrison

9th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1841

Married: Anna Symmes

Birthplace: Colony of Virginia

Administration: It is difficult to determine the direction President Harrison's administration would have taken. Harrison died one month to the day of becoming President.

Interesting Facts:

William Henry Harrison was the first President to die in office.

Harrison was the first president-elect to travel to Washington, D.C., by train.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time William Henry Harrison will appear on United States money.

Quote: "Sir, I wish to understand the true principles of the Government. I wish them carried out. I ask nothing more."

John Tyler

10th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1841-45

Married: Letitia Christian (1813-42); Julia Gardiner

Birthplace: Virginia

Administration: The Tyler administration set a precedent when William Henry Harrison became the first President to die in office. Tyler believed that he possessed all the powers designated to an elected chief executive. While in office, President Tyler worked hard for the annexation of Texas.

Interesting Facts:

John Tyler was the first Vice-President to assume the presidency after the death of a chief executive.

President Tyler had 14 children, seven by his first wife and seven by his second.

Tyler was elected to the Confederate House of Representatives in 1861.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time John Tyler will appear on United States money.

Quote: "I can never consent to being dictated to."

James K. Polk

11th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1845-49

Married: Sarah Childress

Birthplace: North Carolina

Administration: The Polk administration was characterized by the country's great expansion. The Oregon boundary was settled with England. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed after the Mexican War, added more than a million square miles to the United States; just in time for the California gold rush.

Interesting Facts:

At the age of 17, Polk survived a gallstone operation without anesthesia or antiseptics. While in office, President Polk did not take a vacation until the last year of his term. The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time James Knox Polk will appear on United States money.

Quote: "No President who performs his duties faithfully and conscientiously can have any leisure."

Zachary Taylor

12th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1849-50

Married: Margaret Mackall Smith

Birthplace: Virginia

Administration: In the short time President Taylor was in office, the central issue concerning the country was the extension of slavery. California was ready to enter the Union as a free state, but there was no slave territory ready to apply for statehood that could maintain the balance of power between slave and free states. Taylor died before the Senate could vote on a compromise.

Interesting Facts:

Zachary Taylor never voted in a presidential election.

President Taylor's daughter Sarah married Jefferson Davis.

Taylor died in office from acute gastroenteritis.

President Taylor's body was exhumed in 1991 to check for arsenic poisoning after historians cast doubt on the cause of his death. It was determined that the amount of arsenic in Taylor's body could not have caused his death.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Zachary Taylor will appear on United States money.

Quote: "The people of the North need have no apprehension of the further extension of slavery."

Millard Fillmore

13th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1850-53

Married: Abigail Powers (1826-53); Caroline McIntosh

Birthplace: New York

Administration: President Fillmore's administration dealt primarily with the issue of slavery. The country was sharply divided, and to keep civil war from breaking out, Congress passed, and Fillmore signed, the components that came to be known as the Compromise of 1850.

Interesting Facts:

Millard Fillmore entered politics as a member of the Anti-Masonic party.

President Fillmore purchased the first stove used in the White House. Food previously was prepared in an open fireplace.

Fillmore's second wife, a wealthy widow, had him sign a prenuptial agreement.

In the Civil War, Millard Fillmore served as a major in the "Union Continentals," a militia group of older men that provided internal security.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Millard Fillmore will appear on United States money.

Quote: "Is it not strange . . . to mistake change for progress."

Franklin Pierce

14th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1853-57

Married: Jane Means Appleton

Birthplace: New Hampshire

Administration: Along with the previous two administrations, the Pierce presidency was concerned with slavery. Even though President Pierce grew up in New England, he was a strong supporter of slavery. Pierce believed that involuntary servitude was upheld by the Constitution. His backing of the Kansas-Nebraska Act resulted in explosive violence in Kansas, providing John Brown with a starting point for his abolitionist actions.

Interesting Facts:

Franklin Pierce was a close friend of author Nathaniel Hawthorne.

President-elect and Mrs. Pierce lost their son Bennie in a train accident two months before the presidential inauguration.

President Pierce was the first President to memorize his inaugural address.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Franklin Pierce will appear on United States money.

Quote: "You have summoned me in my weakness; you must sustain me by your strength."

James Buchanan

15th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1857-61

Married: James Buchanan was a bachelor

Birthplace: Pennsylvania

Administration: The main goal of the Buchanan presidency involved keeping the country from splitting apart over the issue of slavery. Little legislation was passed because of sectionalist bickering by congressmen who could not have their own way. John Brown led a raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, hoping to incite a slave insurrection. President Buchanan also dealt with an uprising within the Mormon community in Utah after several attempts to make the Territory of Utah a state were ignored.

Interesting Facts:

James Buchanan was our only bachelor President.

President Buchanan was nearsighted in one eye and farsighted in the other. To compensate, he held his head at an angle when addressing or listening to others.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time James Buchanan will appear on United States money.

Quote: “What is right and what is practicable are two different things.”

Abraham Lincoln

16th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1861-65

Married: Mary Todd

Birthplace: Kentucky

Administration: The Lincoln administration was consumed with the Civil War. One month after the President was sworn in, the Confederate States of America fired on Fort Sumter. While Lincoln hoped to see slavery end, his “paramount object in this struggle [was] to save the Union.” The President had a very strong Cabinet of men who at first thought they were Lincoln’s intellectual superior. President Lincoln handled his Cabinet masterfully and eventually earned their admiration and respect.

Interesting Facts:

At 6’4”, Abraham Lincoln was our tallest President.

President Lincoln was the first President to die from an assassin’s bullet. Lincoln was murdered on Good Friday, 1865.

President Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address was delivered in two minutes and 15 seconds.

President Lincoln was the first President to appear on a United States coin. Lincoln is portrayed on the cent as well as the \$5 Federal Reserve note. He also is found on the Illinois Centennial half dollar and Legal-Tender notes of various denominations.

Quote: “Whenever I hear someone arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally.”

Andrew Johnson

17th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1865-69

Married: Eliza McCardle

Birthplace: North Carolina

Administration: Upon taking office after the death of President Lincoln, Johnson spent most of his energy formulating a Reconstruction policy and fighting impeachment charges. Congress passed a Tenure of Office Act, which Johnson ignored. The President was impeached and escaped conviction by one vote.

Interesting Facts:

As a young man, Andrew Johnson was apprenticed to a tailor. Johnson ran away before his term of service was finished, making him a fugitive from the law.

Alaska was purchased during President Johnson's administration.

Andrew Johnson served in the Senate after retiring from the presidency.

President Johnson is one of only two Presidents to be impeached.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Andrew Johnson will appear on United States money.

Quote: "Honest conviction is my courage; the Constitution is my guide."

Ulysses S. Grant

18th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1869-77

Married: Julia Dent

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: President Grant was greatly admired by his fellow citizens because of his Civil War record, but his administration was fraught with scandal. Many of Grant's personal appointees used their government positions for graft and kickbacks. One example of a scandal was the "Whiskey Ring," in which revenue officers diverted unreported tax money to officials in the federal treasury.

Interesting Facts:

Grant's father was a tanner who learned his trade from John Brown's father.

President Grant's birth name was Hiram Ulysses Grant.

Grant finished writing his memoirs one week before he died.

President Grant is portrayed on the Grant Memorial half dollar and gold dollar. Grant currently appears on the \$50 Federal Reserve note.

Quote: "A verb is anything that signifies to be; to do; or to suffer. I signify all three."

Rutherford B. Hayes

19th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1877-81

Married: Lucy Webb

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: Rutherford Hayes concentrated on civil service reform and ending Reconstruction during his term in office. Hayes did not believe that it was constitutional for state governments to rule by military force and dismantled the remaining Reconstruction governments in Louisiana and South Carolina.

Interesting Facts:

President Hayes had the first telephone installed in the White House.

Hayes was the first President to travel to the West Coast while in office.

President Hayes said that his greatest asset was his wife, Lucy. The popular First Lady was known as “Lemonade Lucy” because she would not allow alcohol at White House functions.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Rutherford Hayes will appear on United States money.

Quote: “He serves his party best who serves his country best.”

James A. Garfield

20th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1881

Married: Lucretia Rudolph

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: President Garfield was shot by an assassin, and his term in office lasted for only six months. His one meaningful act was approving the “Star Route Fraud” investigation of the United States Post Office.

Interesting Facts:

James Garfield was the second President to be assassinated.

Had doctors not probed for the bullet and left it alone, President Garfield would probably have recovered.

Garfield was the nation’s first left-handed President.

President Garfield could write Latin with one hand while writing Greek with the other.

President Garfield appeared on the \$5 National Bank note.

Quote: “Man cannot live by bread alone; he must have peanut butter.”

Chester A. Arthur

21st President of the United States

Years in Office: 1881-85

Married: Ellen Herndon (Died before Arthur became President)

Birthplace: Vermont

Administration: Chester Arthur had a reputation for being tied to corruption while he served as collector for the Port of New York. When Arthur became President, he surprised everyone by leading the charge for civil service reform and continuing the investigation, started by President Garfield, of fraud within the Post Office.

Interesting Facts:

President Arthur loved to fish and was considered one of the best fishermen in the country.

Arthur had the White House completely redecorated. Many original pieces of White House furniture were disposed of or sold.

President Arthur developed Bright's disease while in office and knowing it was fatal, decided not to seriously run for reelection.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Chester Arthur will appear on United States money.

Quote: "There doesn't seem to be anything for an ex-president to do but to go out into the country and raise big pumpkins."

Grover Cleveland

22nd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1885-89

Married: Frances Folsom

Birthplace: New Jersey

Administration: The first Cleveland administration focused on correcting abuses that occurred before his presidency. Cleveland recovered thousands of acres of unused land that had been ceded to railroad companies and opened it to homesteaders. He also vetoed a popular bill calling for payments to Civil War veterans who had claimed old age as a disability.

Interesting Facts:

Grover Cleveland purchased a substitute to take his place during the Civil War.

Cleveland is the only President to be married in the White House itself.

The Baby Ruth candy bar was named after Cleveland's daughter Ruth.

President Cleveland is portrayed on the \$1,000 Gold Certificate and Federal Reserve note. He also appeared for a short time on the \$20 Federal Reserve note.

Quote: "I have tried so hard to do the right."

Benjamin Harrison

23rd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1889-93

Married: Caroline Scott (1853-92); Mary Scott Lord Dimmick

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: The Harrison administration dealt chiefly with the schism between farmers in the West who favored silver coinage and Eastern businessmen who wanted to keep the country on a gold standard. The Sherman Silver Purchase Act called for the Treasury to purchase 4,500,000 ounces of silver every month and for bank notes to be redeemed in gold or silver.

Interesting Facts:

Harrison was the first President to have his voice recorded.

President Harrison was the grandson of President William Henry Harrison.

Electricity was installed throughout the White House during the Harrison administration.

President Harrison appears on \$5 National Bank notes.

Quote: “Great lives never go out; they go on.”

Grover Cleveland

24th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1893-97

Married: Frances Folsom

Birthplace: New Jersey

Administration: President Cleveland’s second administration dealt with the gold standard and labor issues. Cleveland was a strong believer in the gold standard and had the Sherman Silver Purchase Act repealed. Gold reserves were too low, and the government was forced to accept a loan from financier J.P. Morgan at an interest rate of 3.75 percent. Cleveland sent federal troops to quash violence that erupted when workers of the Pullman Palace Car Company were locked out of their jobs after protesting a wage reduction. The President’s action was seen as too harsh, and he lost the support of many loyal Democrats.

Interesting Facts:

Grover Cleveland is the only President to serve two non-consecutive terms.

To keep the country from being alarmed, Cleveland had a secret operation on a private yacht to remove his entire left upper jaw. A rubber replacement was inserted, and it was not until 1917 that the story of the operation was revealed.

President Cleveland is portrayed on the \$1,000 Gold Certificate and Federal Reserve note. He also appeared for a short time on the \$20 Federal Reserve note.

Quote: “No man has ever yet been hanged for breaking the spirit of the law.”

William McKinley

25th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1897-1901

Married: Ida Saxton

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: The Spanish-American War dominated the McKinley administration. President McKinley wanted to help Cuba gain its independence from Spain by using diplomacy, but the explosion of the battleship *Maine* caused the American public to demand action. The United States defeated Spain and obtained Puerto Rico as part of the treaty.

Interesting Facts:

President McKinley was the third President to be assassinated.

McKinley was the last President to have served in the Civil War.

McKinley's commanding officer in the Civil War was former President Rutherford B. Hayes.

William McKinley was the first President to ride in an automobile.

President McKinley appears on the \$10 National Bank note as well as the \$500 Gold Certificate and Federal Reserve note. McKinley also is portrayed on the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and McKinley Memorial gold dollars.

Quote: "I am a tariff man, standing on a tariff platform."

Theodore Roosevelt

26th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1901-09

Married: Alice Hathaway Lee (1880-84); Edith Kermit Carow

Birthplace: New York

Administration: Upon assuming the presidency after the assassination of President McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt set right to work on reform. President Roosevelt was the first President to make conservation a nationwide issue. He set aside huge tracts of land in the West for national use and doubled the number of National Parks. Roosevelt signed the Pure Food and Drug Act, which helped keep spoiled food from reaching the public and required honest labeling of ingredients. President Roosevelt also was responsible for building the Panama Canal after France abandoned the project.

Interesting Facts:

Theodore Roosevelt was the nation's youngest President at age 42.

President Roosevelt traveled to Panama in 1906, becoming the first President to leave the continental United States while in office.

Roosevelt was the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Roosevelt was shot in the chest while traveling to deliver a speech in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Against the wishes of his doctor, he delivered the hour-long speech anyway.

President Roosevelt appears on the 1991 Mount Rushmore commemorative dollar and half dollar and gold \$5.

Quote: "It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat."

William H. Taft

27th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1909-13

Married: Helen Herron

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: President Taft concentrated on lowering tariffs and continuing with reforms started by the Roosevelt administration. Taft brought 90 lawsuits against corporations alleged to have used illegal monopolistic practices.

Interesting Facts:

President Taft also served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The Tafts were the last presidential family to keep a cow at the White House.

Taft is one of only two Presidents buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time William Howard Taft will appear on United States money.

Quote: “We are all imperfect. We cannot expect perfect government.”

Woodrow Wilson

28th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1913-21

Married: Ellen Louise Axson (1885-1914); Edith Bolling Galt

Birthplace: Virginia

Administration: The Wilson administration was consumed with World War I and altercations in Mexico. Wilson campaigned for a second term on the platform that he kept the United States at peace while a war raged in Europe. Wilson had no choice but to ask Congress to declare war after the sinking of the *Lusitania* and the discovery of the Zimmerman Telegram. President Wilson fought hard for a League of Nations after the war, but was not backed by Congress. Wilson did support the Nineteenth Amendment which gave women the right to vote.

Interesting Facts:

Woodrow Wilson was the first President to have earned a Ph.D.

Wilson was the first President to cross the Atlantic Ocean while in office.

President Wilson suffered a series of strokes during his second term.

Wilson won the Nobel Peace Prize for his participation in starting the League of Nations after World War I.

President Wilson appears on the \$100,000 Gold Certificate.

Quote: “Golf is a game in which one endeavors to control a ball with implements ill adapted for the purpose.”

Warren G. Harding

29th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1921-23

Married: Florence Kling

Birthplace: Ohio

Administration: President Harding wanted to return America to the isolationism it enjoyed before World War I. After Harding's death, it was revealed that his administration was infested with corruption. The most notable example was Secretary of the Interior Albert Fall's leasing of two government oil deposits to private interests in return for \$125,000.

Interesting Facts:

Warren Harding was the first President to visit Alaska.

President Harding died while in office from an apparent heart attack.

Harding was the first President to arrive at his inauguration in an automobile.

Warren Harding was the first President heard on the radio.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Warren Harding will appear on United States money.

Quote: "America's present need is not heroics, but healing; not nostrums but normalcy; not revolution, but restoration."

Calvin Coolidge

30th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1923-29

Married: Grace Anna Goodhue

Birthplace: Vermont

Administration: Calvin Coolidge became President after the death of President Harding. Coolidge's reputation for honesty was a welcome change from his predecessor's corrupt administration. The Coolidge administration was not noted for any meaningful legislation. The economy was doing very well, and President Coolidge often made a conscious decision not to make a decision, believing in only tweaking the government and generally leaving well enough alone.

Interesting Facts:

Calvin Coolidge was born on the 4th of July.

Coolidge was sworn in as President by his father.

President Coolidge rode a mechanical horse installed in the White House for exercise.

Calvin Coolidge was the first President to have his inauguration broadcast on the radio.

Calvin Coolidge is the only President to appear on a United States coin during his lifetime. He appears with George Washington on the 1926 Sesquicentennial of Independence half dollar.

Quote: "If you don't say anything, you won't be called on to repeat it."

Herbert Hoover

31st President of the United States

Years in Office: 1929-33

Married: Lou Henry

Birthplace: Iowa

Administration: Herbert Hoover spent his entire administration dealing with the Great Depression. Hoover was blamed for the Depression even though its causes were well in place before he took office. It was the philosophy of the President that the country should work itself out of the Depression through private enterprise and without government intervention. World War I veterans marched into Washington D.C., to demand early payment of their promised bonuses. Hoover ordered the marchers dispersed and had the shanties they built burned to the ground.

Interesting Facts:

President Hoover approved “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the national anthem.

President Hoover donated his salary to charity.

During the Depression, newspapers used to keep warm were called “Hoover blankets.” Shanty towns were named “Hooverilles.”

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Herbert Hoover will appear on United States money.

Quote: “Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

32nd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1933-45

Married: Anna Eleanor Roosevelt

Birthplace: New York

Administration: President Franklin Roosevelt was very busy during his administration dealing with the Great Depression and World War II. Roosevelt instituted a series of government-sponsored programs called the “New Deal” that were designed to get Americans back to work. The President pushed to get the United States off the gold standard, making debts payable in legal tender. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, many women worked in defense factories, earning much-needed income for their families. Roosevelt died before World War II ended and was mourned by a nation that for many had known Roosevelt as their only President.

Interesting Facts:

Franklin Roosevelt was a fifth cousin of President Theodore Roosevelt. Franklin Roosevelt’s wife Eleanor was a distant cousin. Theodore Roosevelt gave Eleanor away at she and Franklin’s wedding.

Roosevelt was the only President elected to four terms of office.

Franklin Roosevelt contracted polio at the age of 39 and had to use heavy braces and crutches to stand or walk short distances.

President Roosevelt was the first President to have a presidential aircraft.

Franklin Roosevelt’s portrait was placed on the dime to commemorate his involvement in the March of Dimes program to research polio. President Roosevelt also appears on the 1997 Roosevelt Commemorative \$5 gold coin.

Quote: “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself – nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.”

Harry S. Truman

33rd President of the United States

Years in Office: 1945-53

Married: Elizabeth Wallace

Birthplace: Missouri

Administration: After Franklin Roosevelt’s death, President Truman had to form a strategy to end World War II. The newly developed atomic bomb raised strategic and moral considerations. Truman decided to use the bomb to hasten the end of the war. Unfortunately, North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950, and the United States became involved in another conflict.

Interesting Facts:

Harry Truman served as an artillery officer in World War I.

Truman’s middle name was simply the letter “S.”

President Truman was the first President to be televised from the White House.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Harry Truman appears on United States money.

Quote: “Always be sincere, even if you don’t mean it.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

34th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1953-61

Married: Mamie Doud

Birthplace: Texas

Administration: After two wars and hostile relations with China and the Soviet Union, the United States was trying to catch its breath. President Eisenhower was seen as somewhat of a father figure, and his administration was fairly quiet. Eisenhower sent federal troops to Arkansas to enforce the Supreme Court *Brown v. Board of Education* decision allowing black students to attend a white school.

Interesting Facts:

Dwight Eisenhower was a soldier in World War I and World War II.

Mamie Doud was so popular that Eisenhower once had to schedule a date with her a month in advance.

Eisenhower was the first President to govern all 50 states.

Dwight Eisenhower was the first President licensed to fly an airplane.

President Eisenhower appears on the 1971-78 dollar and the 1990 Eisenhower Centennial commemorative dollar.

Quote: “A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both.”

John F. Kennedy

35th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1961-63

Married: Jacqueline Bouvier

Birthplace: Massachusetts

Administration: The Kennedy administration was full of energy and enthusiasm for new programs. The Peace Corps was established for underdeveloped countries in 1961. President Kennedy expanded the space program started under the previous administration. He also instituted a program designed to study and combat mental retardation. Kennedy dealt with the Cuban Missile Crisis by blockading Soviet supplies from reaching Cuba. A compromise was reached in which the Soviet Union agreed to dismantle its missiles in Cuba and the United States agreed to do the same with its missiles in Turkey.

Interesting Facts:

William Howard Taft and John Kennedy are the only Presidents buried at Arlington Cemetery. Kennedy is the only President to die before both his mother and father.

John Kennedy won the Pulitzer Prize for his book *Profiles in Courage*.

Kennedy, along with Richard Nixon, participated in the first televised series of presidential debates.

President Kennedy appears on the half dollar.

Quote: “I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone.”

Lyndon B. Johnson

36th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1963-69

Married: Claudia Taylor

Birthplace: Texas

Administration: The hallmark of President Johnson's administration was his war on poverty. The Job Corps and a food-stamp plan were developed as part of his "Great Society." Johnson was saddled with the very unpopular Vietnam War and chose not to run for reelection.

Interesting Facts:

Lyndon Johnson was the youngest Senate Majority Leader.

Johnson was sworn in as President while flying on Air Force One.

President Johnson enjoyed taking visitors on 90 mph automobile rides around his Texas ranch.

Lyndon Johnson was the first President to visit Australia and Turkey while in office.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Lyndon Johnson will appear on United States money.

Quote: "Doing what's right isn't the problem. It is knowing what's right."

Richard Nixon

37th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1969-74

Married: Thelma Ryan

Birthplace: California

Administration: The Nixon presidency is most remembered for the Watergate break-in that eventually led to his resignation August 8, 1974. There were however positive aspects of the Nixon administration. The Vietnam War was brought to a conclusion, and relations were opened between the United States and China. A series of strategic arms- limitation agreements was signed with the Soviet Union during Nixon's term in office.

Interesting Facts:

Richard Nixon was the first President to visit all 50 states.

President Nixon was the first President to visit China while in office.

Richard Nixon is the only President to resign from office.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Richard Nixon will appear on United States money.

Quote: "Those who hate you don't win unless you hate them, and then you destroy yourself."

Gerald R. Ford

38th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1974-77

Married: Elizabeth Bloomer

Birthplace: Nebraska

Administration: Gerald Ford had to deal with several key issues at the start of his administration. His full pardon of former President Richard Nixon was very controversial because many citizens believed the pardon resulted from a secret agreement. Inflation was measured in double digits, and President Ford looked to private citizens to reduce waste and purchase only what was necessary, thereby lowering the price of consumer goods. Ford called his plan to fight inflation, “Whip Inflation Now.” The government produced and distributed millions of buttons with the acronym *WIN*.

Interesting Facts:

After attending the University of Michigan, Gerald Ford received offers to play professional football.

Gerald Ford achieved the offices of Vice President and President without being elected to either.

Gerald Ford was the first Eagle Scout to become President.

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Gerald Ford will appear on United States money.

Quote: “Tell the truth, work hard, and come to dinner on time.”

Ronald Reagan

40th President of the United States

Years in Office: 1981-89

Married: Jane Wyman (1940-48); Nancy Davis

Birthplace: Illinois

Administration: The hallmark of the Reagan administration was the President’s theory of conservative economics. Reagan deregulated price controls and pushed for a reduction in federal income tax rates. The President hoped to end communism through a “peace through strength” policy. Reagan saw his efforts lead to the fall of the Soviet Union and the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

Interesting Facts:

Ronald Reagan was the first President to have a marriage end in divorce.

President Reagan was the oldest President in history. He was 77 years old upon leaving office.

Ronald Reagan is the only President to have also headed a labor union (Screen Actors Guild).

The Presidential Dollar Series will be the first time Ronald Reagan will appear on United States money.

Quote: “I am not worried about the deficit. It is big enough to take care of itself.”