

AMERICA'S BEST IDEA

Will Wonders Never Cease?

Designs for National Park Service commemoratives are unveiled in Washington, D.C.

ON NOVEMBER 19, at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., the United States Mint released designs for three commemorative coins honoring the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service (NPS). In attendance were Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis and U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios.

Public Law 113-291 authorizes a three-coin program of \$5 gold, \$1 silver and half-dollar clad coins honoring the NPS' century milestone, which will be observed on August 25, 2016. "The centennial commemorative coin serves as a lasting tribute to 100 years of the National Park Service—'America's Best Idea,'" says Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. "Whether these coins are kept in a safe place at home or given as a gift to the next generation, they serve as a lasting reminder that our nation is blessed with unique natural, cultural and historical treasures."

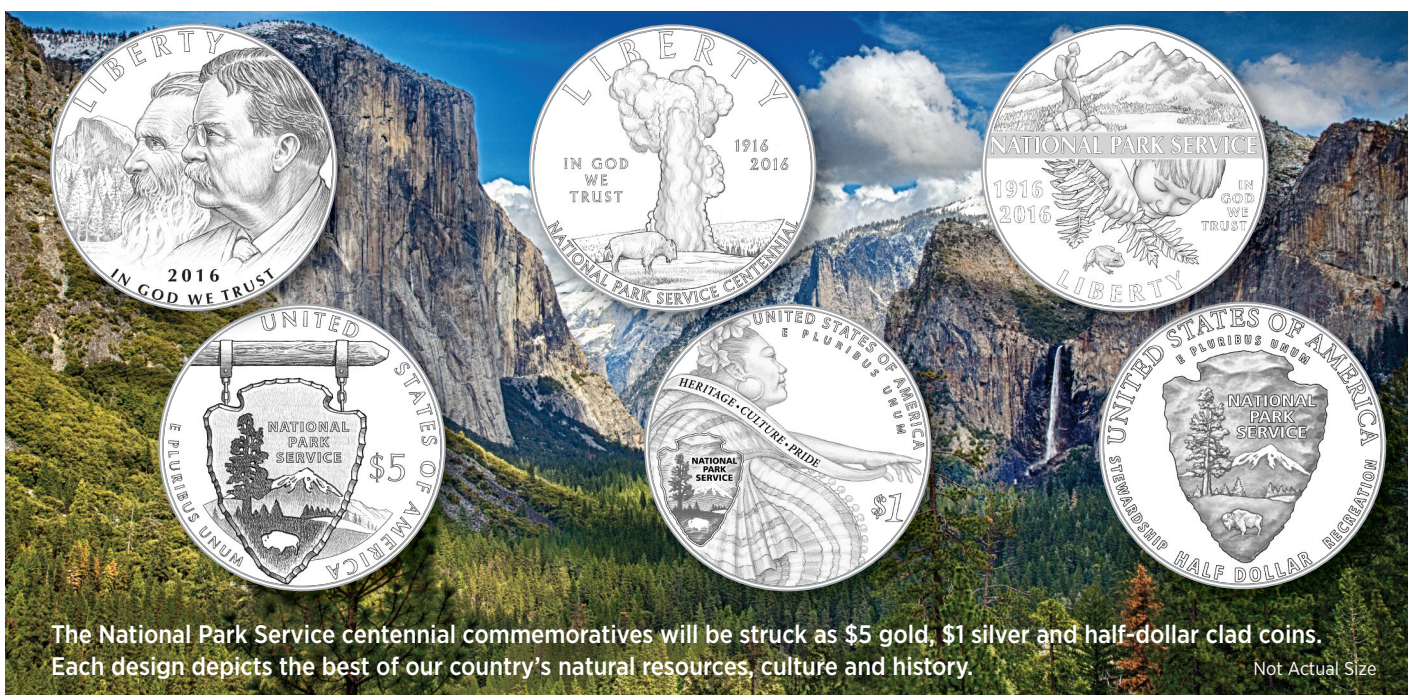
The \$5 gold coin's obverse depicts Scottish-American naturalist John Muir and former president and national parks advocate Theodore Roosevelt, with Yosemite National Park's Half Dome in the background, the date, and the inscriptions LIBERTY and IN GOD WE TRUST. The reverse features the NPS logo and reads UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/E PLURIBUS UNUM and \$5. Both sides were designed and executed by U.S. Mint Sculptor/Engraver Don Everhart.

The \$1 silver coin features Yellowstone National Park's Old Faithful geyser with a bison in the foreground, and the legends LIBERTY and NATIONAL

PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL, the motto IN GOD/WE/TRUST, and 1916/2016. U.S. Mint Sculptor/Engraver Joseph Menna designed and sculpted the obverse. The reverse, designed by Artistic Infusion Program (AIP) artist Chris Costello and sculpted by U.S. Mint Sculptor/Engraver Jim Licaretz, shows a Folklórico dancer and the NPS logo, representing the multifaceted cultural experience that awaits in America's national parks. The inscriptions read UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/E PLURIBUS UNUM, along with HERITAGE • CULTURE • PRIDE and \$1.

The clad half-dollar obverse, which was designed by AIP artist Barbara Fox and sculpted by U.S. Mint Sculptor/Engraver Michael Gaudio, depicts a hiker exploring the wilderness and a child discovering a frog hiding in ferns. Inscribed below is LIBERTY, along with the dates 1916/2016, IN/GOD/WE/TRUST and NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. The reverse, designed by AIP artist Thomas Hipschen and sculpted by U.S. Mint Sculptor/Engraver Charles L. Vickers, bears the NPS logo, and reads UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/E PLURIBUS UNUM, with the words STEWARDSHIP and RECREATION flanking the denomination, HALF DOLLAR.

The U.S. Mint will announce the issue's release date and pricing information in the near future. Proceeds from the sale of the coins will be used to preserve and protect resources under the stewardship of the NPS and promote public enjoyment of these national treasures. For more information, visit www.nationalparks.org/coins.



The National Park Service centennial commemoratives will be struck as \$5 gold, \$1 silver and half-dollar clad coins. Each design depicts the best of our country's natural resources, culture and history.

Not Actual Size

PHOTOS: U.S. MINT (LINE ART) & ISTOCKPHOTO/GARY TOGNONI