



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
UNITED STATES MINT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

February 22, 2011

DIRECTOR  
OF THE  
MINT

Mr. Gary B. Marks  
Chairperson  
Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee  
501 Pine View Lane  
Bellevue, ID 83313

Dear Mr. Marks:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on March 1, 2011, are the reverse design narratives for the 2012 First Spouse Gold Coin and Medal Program.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Act) (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$10 gold coins with designs emblematic of the spouse of each President. The obverse of each First Spouse Gold Coin will bear an image of the first spouse with the reverse depicting a design emblematic of her life and work. The Act also authorizes the Secretary to strike and sell bronze medals that bear the likenesses of these coins.

As you know, when a President served in office without a spouse, the United States Mint will mint and issue a coin with an obverse bearing an image emblematic of Liberty as represented by a coin issued during that President's period of service and a reverse design representative of the themes of such President. In the case of President Chester A. Arthur, who served without a spouse, the Act provides that his corresponding First Spouse Gold Coin bear an obverse design incorporating the name and likeness of suffragist Alice Paul, who was born during his term in office. The reverse is to be representative of the suffrage movement. In addition, Frances Cleveland will be honored twice – one for each of President Grover Cleveland's two non-consecutive terms.

In accordance with the Act's provisions as described above, in 2012, Alice Paul, Frances Cleveland, and Caroline Scott Harrison will be honored with First Spouse Gold Coins and Bronze Medals.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed design narratives at your meeting on March 1, 2011. A representative of the United States Mint will present the narratives at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Richard Peterson  
Acting Director  
United States Mint

Enclosure:

Design narratives for the 2012 First Spouse Gold Coin and Medal Program

## 2012 First Spouse Gold Coin and Medal Narratives

### Alice Paul (Arthur's "Liberty")

**The Right to Vote in the Broader Context of Citizenship:** Founder of the National Women's Party in 1914, Alice Paul was instrumental in advocating and securing the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting women the right to vote. Paul's leadership in the August 26, 1920, ratification of the amendment gave almost one-half of the entire Nation -- women -- the right to vote. But the simple ability to cast ballots was not all that women gained through passage of the amendment. Paul felt that by the Nation's conferring the right to vote upon women, it legally acknowledged women as full citizens under the Constitution -- but the right to vote was only the first step toward equality. By helping women gain the right to vote, Paul hoped that women would also gain a legal and social status equal to that of men.

**Picketing the White House:** In January 1917, the National Women's Party (NWP), led by Alice Paul, became the first group in history to picket the White House. On the initial day of protests, a dozen NWP members marched with signs and banners addressed to President Woodrow Wilson. These protests, known as "silent sentinels," prompted one senator to refer to the participants as "iron-jawed angels" while they stood in front of the White House gates.

**Ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment:** In January 1918, President Wilson embraced women's suffrage as a "war measure," urging Congress to pass legislation authorizing the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Upon ratification of the amendment, Alice Paul was famously photographed "toasting" it. The photo was taken outside the National Women's Party headquarters at 14 Jackson Place NW (Lafayette Square) in Washington. But realizing the limitations of the 19th Amendment, Paul presented the Equal Rights Amendment (yet to be ratified) in 1923 to guarantee broader equality for women.

### Frances Cleveland

**White House Wedding (first term):** Frances Cleveland was the youngest first lady, and remains the only one, to marry a sitting President in the White House itself. The couple married in the Blue Room on the morning of June 2, 1886. Frances wore a lace veil and ivory satin gown.

**Christening of S.S. St. Louis/U.S.S. St. Louis/U.S.S. Louisville (first term):** On November 12, 1894, in Philadelphia, Mrs. Cleveland christened the steamship S.S. St. Louis in a ceremony attended by the President, members of his cabinet and a delegation of prominent local citizens. A huge crowd attended, with buildings in and around the shipyards festively decorated. S.S. St. Louis was originally a passenger steamer built by William Cramp and Sons of Philadelphia for the American Line. It became U.S.S. St. Louis during the Spanish-American War and U.S.S. Louisville

during World War I. The christening of *S.S. Saint Louis* represented the beginning of a resurgence in passenger liner construction by American steamship lines.

*\*Note: this ship is not to be confused with other ships using the name "St. Louis," such as "MS St. Louis," a diesel-powered passenger ship often incorrectly referred to as "SS St. Louis" built in 1925 for the Hamburg America Line, or "SS St. Louis" (1944), an 18,362-gross register ton container ship active until 1988.*

**Educating Women (second term)**: Frances Cleveland was always a strong proponent of education for women at all levels. During her husband's second term, she secured a kindergarten teacher to teach in the White House, the first formalized school to be located there. Several children, including her daughter Ruth, were in the class. Frances also held a White House First Congress of Mothers reception in February 1897. That congress eventually evolved into the National Parent Teacher Association.

### **Caroline Scott Harrison**

**China Painting (general)**: Caroline Harrison enjoyed painting for recreation, including china painting, which became one of her passions when she taught ceramic painting at her church. Along with her German teacher Paul Putzki, she taught china painting classes. The classes were made up of Washington wives and daughters. In 1890, she painted a white "White House Orchid" with her water colors and dedicated it to "mothers, wives, and daughters of America." This painting was lithographed and distributed widely. She often painted china with her daughter. Women in Washington sent her vases, platters, milk sets and other pieces of china, requesting that she decorate them personally. Her signature was a tiny four-leaf clover.

**White House China (1889-1893)**: As first lady, Caroline Harrison began the effort to organize pieces of past Presidential china still in the White House into a systematic collection for later display. She uncovered, identified and tagged china, grouping pieces together for eventual public display. She had a china cabinet made to display all past Presidential china she found. While the full, official White House China Collection was not inventoried and established until the administration of Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909), Caroline Harrison is credited with beginning the effort during her husband's term.