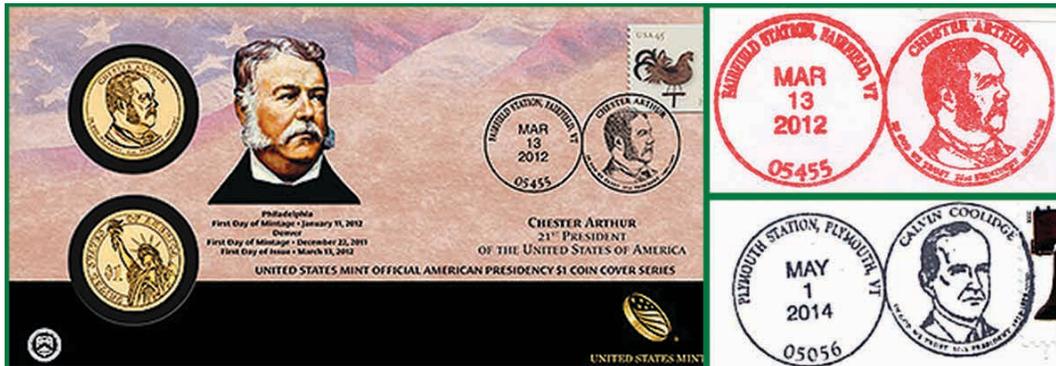
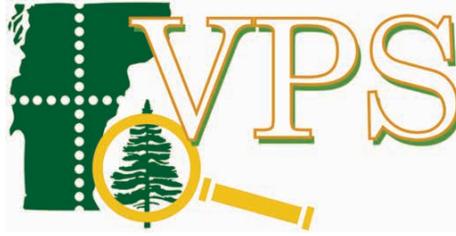


VERMONT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

www.vermontps.org
Meets annually

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A PHILATELIC NUMISMATIC PRODUCT

The United States Mint has been commemorating the presidents of the United States with a series of \$1 coins. The series began in 2009 and will continue until all deceased presidents have been honored. At the current time it appears the series will end with a Gerald Ford coin in 2016, as all presidents since him are still living.

Along with the coin, the Mint and the USPS have been cooperating in producing a philatelic numismatic product which includes two specimens of the \$1 coin from the Philadelphia and Denver mints in a cover canceled with a pictorial postmark at the president's birthplace.

Two presidents were born in Vermont — Chester A. Arthur and Calvin Coolidge. The Mint released the Arthur coin in 2012 and the Coolidge coin in 2014.

Although Arthur was born in Fairfield, Vermont, on October 5, 1829, he spent most of his life in New York State. Nonetheless, the Fairfield post office had a pictorial postmark on March 13, 2012. Usually, this type of pictorial postmark is cancelled with black ink, but, in this case, the postmaster said she didn't have a black ink pad so she used her red ink pad. This caused two varieties in the pictorial cancel, red for the locally canceled items and black on the mass produced Mint product.

This was not the case when the Plymouth pictorial was used for Coolidge. The standard black ink was used. An interesting fact about Coolidge is that he was born on Independence Day in 1872. Like Arthur, Coolidge made his reputation outside of Vermont eventually become Governor of Massachusetts before becoming vice president and then president.

A curious footnote is the fact both men became president upon the death of their predecessors: James A. Garfield and Warren G. Harding. ■