



# CALVIN COOLIDGE

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

## President's Report to Members

### Annual Meeting 2009

It is indeed an honor to have been named President of the Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation, Inc. during this thrilling period of transformation. The President Calvin Coolidge Museum and Education Center, a public/private partnership with the State of Vermont, is under construction and will be completed in May 2010. We are in the midst of a successful \$4,000,000 Capital Campaign to expand our endowment, fund our share of the new building and raise the matching funds for our \$330,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

We are dedicated to our Mission: **to open the eyes of the world to Calvin Coolidge**. We are committed to our Vision: **to become the gateway to all things Coolidge**. We are focused on a half-dozen Critical Initiatives: Education; National Awareness; our Collections and Archives; the President Calvin Coolidge Historic Site; our Partnerships with other organizations; and our Financial Stability and Governance. The Goals and Strategies for the 2009 Strategic Plan are set in motion.

It is a top priority that we complete the President Calvin Coolidge Museum and Education Center facility. Calvin Coolidge has received relatively little scholarly attention. While a larger facility, in itself, will not achieve our objective of **becoming the gateway to all things Coolidge**, it resonates and gives credibility to our national efforts to **set the record straight** for his legacy. Symposia and debates across the United States will raise awareness and spark a better understanding of Calvin Coolidge's character and accomplishments.

We are drawing upon the power of the internet to reinforce our educational programs. Our enhanced Website content and a blog link to [SilentCal.com](http://SilentCal.com) provide forums to study, correspond and publish comments and opinions online and to open up public dialogue. We plan an archive management system with access to historically important material online.

We welcome your visit to our Website <http://www.calvin-coolidge.org>. Find a variety of new pages and features. Enjoy **Calvin Coolidge**, a video presentation made possible through the generous support of Mary French Rockefeller. On the website, go to **Speeches**, and click on **Wallace's Pick Speeches** for those orations picked by National Advisory Board member, Jerry Wallace. There are also new content and news articles that make this explosive digital and media venue an important tool in educating and inspiring our Nation about Calvin Coolidge.

Our Nation's present economic challenges have inspired an interest by the American public in both politics and finance. This provides us an unique opportunity to make Calvin Coolidge--a man who knew how to position government to support national economic growth and prosperity--relevant for today.

Our educational initiatives, together with our new facility, create a critical mass for our organization that will reinforce national fund-raising.

I take this opportunity to pay tribute to my predecessor Charles C. Buell and his Vice Presidents Mimi Baird, Jennifer Sayles Harville and Thomas A. Murray for the fine job they have done in completing their 2001 Strategic Plan and positioning our Foundation for growth. I am thankful to Len Vignola and our staff, Trustees and National Advisory Board members for their substantial efforts. I recognize and thank Cyndy Bittinger and the luminaries and enthusiasts of this organization that have lent passionate support and tireless efforts to our cause over the last 49 years. Sadly in, **In Memoriam**, I honor the passing of our friend Edward Connery Latham whose writings and contributions have been so vital to understanding Calvin Coolidge.

Importantly, members and friends, our Foundation needs your continued financial support in achieving our Mission. Please consider Membership in our Foundation at a higher level. And, please consider generous donations to our Annual Fund and Capital Fund. Support us in this critical year so we may be successful in caring for the Calvin Coolidge legacy. Thank you.

— Robert P. Kirby, President

Bridgewater VT

August 1, 2009