

Coolidge Club #13

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News from the Notch

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Plymouth Artisan Cheese: the Finest Vermont Cheese Around

Up the road from the Coolidge Homestead lies a treasure intimately related to President Coolidge and his legacy. [The Plymouth Artisan Cheese factory](#) is one of the oldest cheese enterprises in the United States - producing high quality and distinctive artisan cheeses for over 124 years. The factory still occupies the same site and building where it was started in 1890 in Plymouth Notch, Vermont by Colonel John

Coolidge, the father of President Calvin Coolidge.

When Colonel John founded his cheese factory, Plymouth Cheese as we know it today was born. The Plymouth Cheese Factory operated until 1934, when the factory was closed due to a milk shortage caused by the Great Depression.

Plymouth Cheese disappeared from the stage until 1960, when John Coolidge, the elder son of President Calvin Coolidge, decided to revive the family's cheese making tradition. John owned the Cheese Factory from 1960 to 1998, when he sold the enterprise to the State of Vermont.

In July of 2009 Jesse Werner took the helm at the Plymouth Cheese Factory and began again to produce delicious artisan cheese at the same high standards that marked the cheese when the Coolidge family owned the enterprise. All of the cheeses are made in small batches from raw cow's milk and aged on site. The milk comes from a local farm that engages in the best dairy practices and humane treatment of their livestock.

Plymouth Cheese is just one of the many treasures that lie here in Plymouth. You can observe Jesse and his assistants create their superior product through the viewing windows, and usually Jesse will come out and answer questions about Plymouth Cheese and the cheese making process. Come to the Notch and taste for yourself! You'll definitely be glad you did!

*--Rushad Thomas
Program and Editorial Associate*





Come Judge High School Debate!

The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation invites you to **participate as a judge** for our High School Debate Program. The Debate Program is a major part of our effort to bring Calvin Coolidge's heritage and values to a new generation of Americans.

The Debates will be held on **July 8 & 10 and August 1** here at Plymouth Notch.

Our partner again this year is the [Debate Institutes at Dartmouth](#). The Institutes are led by Nicole Serrano, a nationally-respected debate leader.

We will also have [home school students](#) from throughout New England at our August 1 Debate.

In the morning the students will be given a tour the Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, led by Amity Shlaes, our Chairman and Diane Kemble, our Education Director. The tour will highlight aspects of the Historic Site that relate to the day's debate topic.

Following this, the students will participate in an economics seminar led by [Roberto Salinas-Leon](#) of the Mexico Business Forum, Chairman Amity Shlaes, and Executive Director Matthew Denhart. The seminar will teach students economic reasoning that relates to the day's debate topic.

In the afternoon the students will participate in debate competitions that will be judged

by **generous volunteers like you**, followed by a barbecue dinner and awards ceremony at 5:15PM.

This year's debate topic will be impromptu, but we will send judge materials in advance. As always, we will have our judge trainers on hand.

The Coolidge Foundation is proud to welcome these young Americans and encourage them to learn more about American history and economics, and particularly about our thirtieth president, Calvin Coolidge.

To judge, please R.S.V.P by no later than Thursday, July 3 to events@calvin-coolidge.org or 802.672.3389 ext. 113. Please visit our web page on Debate [Here](#).



Watch the 2013 Video Here





Visit the Coolidge Foundation Mural at the Vermont History Expo!

Muralist Terry Sylvester of Brattleboro has brought the iconic photo of Edison's, Ford's and Firestone's Plymouth visit to life for our exhibit at the 2014 Vermont History Expo (June 21 and 22). The life size mural, painted in shades of black, white, and gray, invites the viewer in to "join the conversation" and think about the changes in technology of the 20's and the changes today, all brought about by the creative process. A chair will be provided and photos encouraged.

In this photo taken 90 years ago in Plymouth Notch, Vermont, Thomas Edison, who is deaf, and Grace Coolidge, teacher of the deaf, lean in towards each other. President Coolidge is flanked by Harvey Firestone and Henry Ford and is signing a sap bucket for Henry Ford's Wayside Inn. Coolidge's father looks on proudly.

The commissioning of this mural was supported by a grant from the Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation. Over the summer and fall, the mural will be in the Schoolhouse, just down the road from the Coolidge Homestead where the photo was taken. After that, it will be downstairs in the Coolidge Classroom in the Museum and Education Center, so the mural will be available for many visitors, including the hundreds of students that visit the site each year with their teachers.

The Vermont History Expo: *Artists & Artisans: Vermont's Creative Heritage*, will be held on June 21 and 22, 10:00AM to 5:00PM, at the World's Fairgrounds in Tunbridge, Vermont. Over 150 history and heritage organizations offer fascinating exhibits sharing community history from all over the state. Artists, artisans, musicians, authors, crafters, and genealogists complete this history-filled heritage extravaganza! More information can be found at <http://vermonthistory.org/expo>.

--Diane Kemble
Education Director

Coolidge Foundation Home School Debate Camp

This summer we are pleased to launch our first annual Homeschool Debate Camp. Interested homeschool families are invited to learn more about this exciting opportunity and sign-up. All the details, [including the link to sign-up](#), are included in our program flier, below.



Join us in idyllic Plymouth Notch, Vermont for the first annual Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation Homeschool Debate Camp. Plymouth Notch is the birthplace and childhood home of America's thirtieth president. It is here that Calvin Coolidge took the Oath of Office in 1923 in a ceremony administered by his father, a notary public.

This unique historical setting is an ideal place for homeschool debaters to come for top-quality debate instruction and an opportunity to win college scholarship prize money.

- Special presentations by **Amity Shlaes**, **Matthew Denhart** and **Rushad Thomas** of the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation and **Roberto Salinas-Léon**, president of the Mexico Business Forum.
- **Greg Rehmk**e of Economic Thinking and experienced NCFCA alumni will lead sessions for beginning and advanced students in policy, Lincoln-Douglas and extemporaneous formats.
- Students will learn how American history and economic principles can give them an edge debating their own annual topic.
- On Friday, August 1, homeschool campers will be invited to compete alongside high school debaters from the Debate Institutes of Dartmouth summer camp on an impromptu topic, with prizes in the form of college scholarship money for the winners.
- Campers will be lodged at the recently renovated Cortina Inn and Resort. **Parents are needed to Chaperone.**
- Camp begins at **11AM on July 30** at the Coolidge Foundation. The Cost is **\$150**, which includes lodging, all meals, and materials. Registration Deadline: **July 11, 2014.**
- For more information please email events@calvin-coolidge.org.

REGISTER TODAY AT



Celebrating Foreign Service

Coolidge Foundation Trustee Robert Cerasoli represented the Foundation at the Massachusetts State House Tribute to Commonwealth Statesmen, Stateswomen & Diplomats held on May 22nd to mark the 90th Anniversary of the U.S. Foreign Service Act.

President Coolidge signed the Foreign Service Act of 1924 (also known as the Rogers Act). Prior to the enactment of this law the diplomatic and consular services of the U.S. State Department were separate organs. The Rogers Act unified the two divisions, bringing them together under the U.S. Foreign Service.

Mr. Cerasoli gave remarks at the celebration, and Mr. Cerasoli presented a signed copy of Amity Shlaes' 2013 biography *Coolidge*. The celebration was hosted in the Massachusetts State House by the Franklin-Rogers MA Public Commission on American Diplomacy and the U.S. Foreign Service.

Calvin Prize for Vermont Youth





The Coolidge Foundation has established the **Calvin Prize for Vermont Youth**, a writing prize named after President Coolidge and Calvin, Jr. Writers aged 19 years and younger currently living in the state of Vermont are eligible to compete for the **first-place prize of \$1,500 and the runner-up prize of \$500**.

This year's Calvin Prize, the second annual, asks Vermont students to think about what factors will influence their decision to remain in Vermont or move elsewhere when the time comes. Furthermore, students are instructed to use Coolidge's *Autobiography* and other sources to address the issues they face and compare and contrast their own situation and decision-making process with that faced by Calvin Coolidge in his years as a Vermont youth. Learn more about the 2014 Calvin Prize by [clicking on this link](#).

Chapter Five Is On the Web!

Be sure to check out our audio recording of Chapter 5 of *The Autobiography of Calvin Coolidge* over on our [YouTube Channel](#)! In Chapter 5 President Coolidge recounts that incredible day in early August 1923 when he was sworn into the U.S. Presidency; his father presided at the "homestead inaugural" at 2:47AM on August 3, 1923. He also discusses his experiences of the presidential office. Please enjoy and share!

Remember we will be having a big group reading of the *Autobiography* on July 4 in Plymouth Notch. Email us at Events@calvin-coolidge.org to sign-up to read!





Coolidge Foundation Updates

Coolidge needs your mind, wisdom and voice this summer! We have a very full calendar of events for summer 2014, and there are many opportunities for Coolidge Club members to get involved. Please join us **July 4 to read from the *Autobiography***. Please also come to the Notch on **July 8, July 10, and August 1 to judge our high school debaters**. Also join us **August 2** to celebrate the inauguration of President Coolidge with the Foundation's annual meeting, a reenactment of the 1923 inauguration, and a presentation by author Reeve Lindbergh. **Let us know if you can help by emailing events@calvin-coolidge.org.**

Here's a comprehensive list of date reminders for your calendar

- **June 21-22: Vermont History Expo** – This year's expo takes place at the **Tunbridge (Vt.) Fairgrounds**. Come see the Coolidge Foundation's exhibit, prepared by Diane Kemble.
- **July 4: Celebration at Plymouth Notch**. Join us for the traditional march to the cemetery, readings and wreath-laying at the gravesite, and a group reading of the Coolidge *Autobiography* in the Union Christian Church. **To sign up to read from the *Autobiography*, [click here](#). Have Questions? Email events@calvin-coolidge.org.**
- **July 8: Presidential high school economic debate at Plymouth Notch**. To judge, email events@calvin-coolidge.org.
- **July 10: Presidential high school economic debate at Plymouth Notch**. To judge, email events@calvin-coolidge.org.
- **August 1: Presidential high school economic debate at Plymouth Notch**. To judge, email events@calvin-coolidge.org.
- **August 2: Coolidge Foundation's Annual Meeting** and Plymouth Old Home Day with speaker **Reeve Lindbergh**. We will also hold a **reenactment** of Coolidge's 1923 inauguration as President. Actor **Jim Cooke** will be on hand for this.
- **August 2: Annual "Under the Tent" Summer Sale at Plymouth Notch** with

- **August 2: Annual "Under the Tent" Summer Gala at Plymouth Notch with keynote speaker former Vermont Governor James H. Douglas.** Tickets required. Ticket info coming soon.
- **August 11: Naturalization Ceremony at Plymouth Notch.** Ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. Open to the public.



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