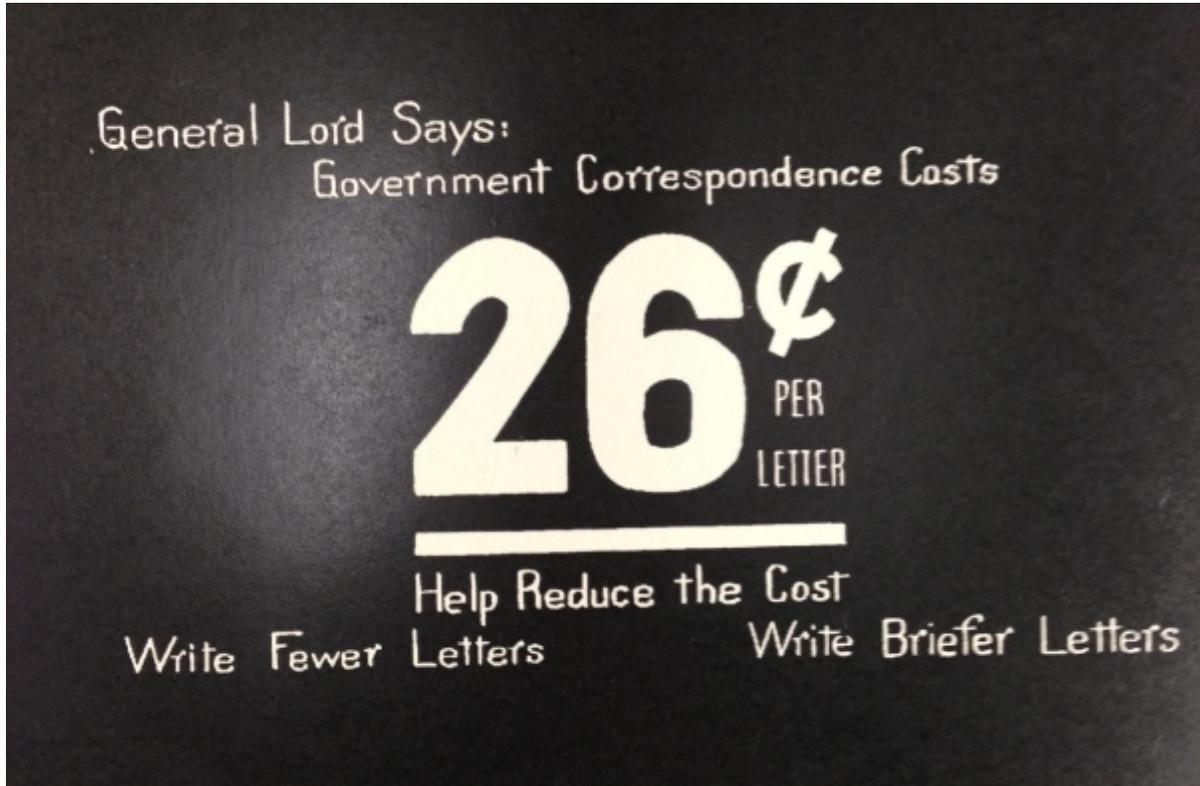


Coolidge Club #26

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News from the Notch

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The Virtuous Obsession

*"...the budget idea, I may admit, is sort of an obsession with me. I believe in budgets. I want other people to believe in them. I have had a small one to run my own home; and besides that, I am the head of the organization that makes the greatest of all budgets, that of the United States Government. Do you wonder, then, that **at times I dream of balance sheets and sinking funds, and deficits, and tax rates, and all the rest?**"* President Calvin Coolidge, [Telephone Remarks to the Federation of Jewish Philanthropic Societies of New York City](#).

As President Coolidge's words show, budgets were definitely his thing. During his time

in Washington, Coolidge was instrumental in forging the modern federal budget process. Coolidge worked hard as vice president to Warren G. Harding to secure passage of the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921. As president, budgeting was Coolidge's greatest strength. The Coolidge Administration submitted to Congress fully crafted budgets of the federal government for its consideration. **Coolidge managed to balance the budget every year of his presidency** so that when Coolidge left office in 1929, **the size of the federal budget was smaller than when he became President in 1923.**

With that proud legacy in mind, the **Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation comes to Capitol Hill on November 12, 2014**, for a conference entitled "**The Virtuous Obsession: How Better Budget Law is Key to Meeting Our Fiscal Challenges.**" The conference will examine the federal budget process and explore reforms that could substantially improve America's fiscal situation and secure a strong future for generations of Americans to come.

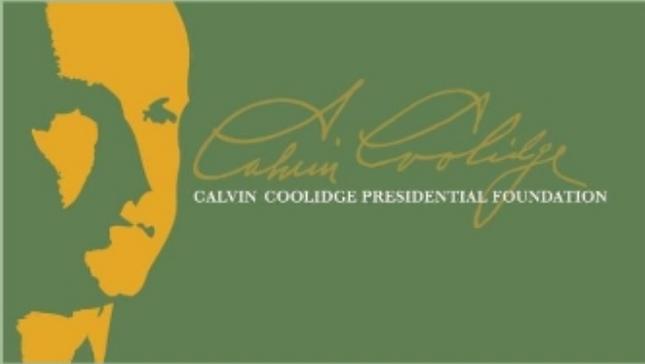
The conference will stress history and empirical evidence, and will kick-off with a panel of top experts who explain the 1921 and 1974 Budget Acts and illuminate the historical evidence which shows that under better budget processes, balanced budgets are possible. Another morning panel will feature former CBO and OMB directors who will look back on the last major budget law, the 1974 Budget and Impoundment Control Act, to explain what's gone wrong and outline the changes still required to get the federal budget under control.

Confirmed participants include **Gov. Jim Douglas of Vermont, Christopher C. DeMuth**, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute, **Robert Reischauer**, former CBO Director, **William Beach**, Chief Economist, Senate Budget Committee, **Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama**, Ranking Member of the Senate Budget Committee, **G. William Hoagland**, Senior Vice President, Bipartisan Policy Center, **Maurice McTigue**, Former New Zealand Member of Parliament and Vice President for Outreach at the Mercatus Center, **Bill White**, former Mayor of Houston, **June O'Neill**, Former CBO Director, **Dan Crippen**, former CBO Director, **Maya MacGuineas**, President, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, **Amity Shlaes**, chairman of the Coolidge Foundation, and many more!

We hope to see you at the U.S. Capitol in D.C. on November 12th! You can expect more information about the budget conference in later editions of the News from the Notch.

*--Rushad L. Thomas
Program and Editorial Associate*

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE



THE SECOND ANNUAL NEW YORK DINNER
THE COOLIDGE PRIZE FOR JOURNALISM

FEATURING

A DEBATE ON INCOME INEQUALITY

SENATOR PHIL GRAMM
AUTHOR OF GRAMM-RUDMAN-HOLLINGS ACT

AND

CHRYSTIA FREELAND, MP
AUTHOR OF "PLUTOCRATS"

WITH REMARKS BY

LAWRENCE KUDLOW

NOVEMBER 6, 2014
NEW YORK CITY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ALEXANDRA PREATE
212.588.9148 OR APREATE@CAPITALHQ.COM

Since debate is our major program, this year's dinner will feature a debate on income inequality between former **U.S. Senator Phil Gramm** and **Chrystia Freeland, Canadian MP**. [Gramm](#), a trained economist, was a longtime U.S. Senator from Texas and the author of much financial legislation. Freeland represents Toronto in the Canadian Parliament and is the author of the major book *Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else*. Freeland gave a [TED talk](#) on

inequality, and it has received well over a million views. **Larry Kudlow** has agreed to help moderate. The audience will judge the debate!

We will also witness a debate between the national high school debate teams of Canada and the United States! **Team USA** and **Team Canada** will begin our evening with a student debate on our income inequality resolution!

At the dinner we will again award the \$20,000 **Coolidge Prize for Journalism** and the \$1,500 **Calvin Prize for Vermont Youth**. This year we will also award a runner-up Calvin Prize.

The dinner will take place at New York City's historic **Metropolitan Club!**

You can view a promotional video for our dinner on our [YouTube Channel](#).



The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation proudly announces the second annual **Coolidge Prize for Journalism**, a \$20,000 prize for short writing of published articles or published blog posts under 800 words each.

The prize will go to the author who best captures the spirit and style of the thirtieth president and the ideals Coolidge favored, some of which were: independence, thrift, balanced budgets, a restrained federal government, active state government, perseverance after hardship, appreciation of commerce, stable money, support for international law, competence at work, meticulous respect for the Constitution, civility and respect for religious faith.

The Coolidge Prize for Journalism will be awarded at a banquet dinner on **November 6, 2014 at the historic Metropolitan Club in New York City**. To be eligible for the prize, the candidate must commit to attending the banquet dinner should he/she be named a

the candidate must commit to attending the banquet dinner should he/she be named a finalist (reasonable travel costs will be covered by the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation).

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the support of the Thomas W. Smith Foundation.

DEADLINE EXTENDED: September 29, 2014 at noon EDT.

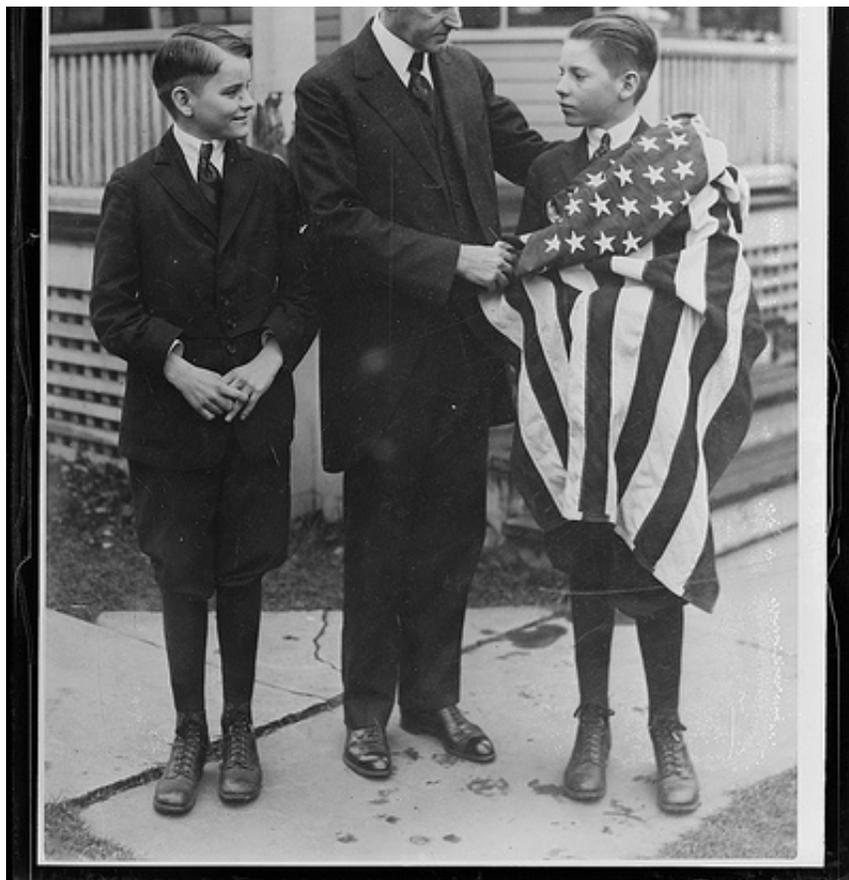
Applications may be submitted on our [website](#).



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](#).





The Constitution Story

"The more I study it, the more I have come to admire it, realizing that no other document devised by the hand of man ever brought so much progress and happiness to humanity. The good it has wrought can never be measured." Calvin Coolidge on the Constitution

Yesterday at Plymouth Notch the Coolidge Foundation was pleased to welcome **Professor Kevin Ryan** to the Education Center, where he spoke on **the history of the U.S. Constitution**. Ryan is Director of Education and Communication at the Vermont Bar Association and an adjunct professor of political science and criminal justice at Norwich University. He's also assistant baseball coach at Norwich University. He did his graduate work at Princeton University and earned a law degree from the University of Denver College of Law. He has published and spoken extensively, both nationally and internationally, on constitutional law and theory, civic education, and a variety of legal topics. He lives in Northfield, Vermont, with his wife, Debbie. Thanks to **Education Director Diane Kemble** for organizing this program!

Resources on the United States Constitution

We the People, the Citizens and the Constitution, textbook series, elementary through high school. (Some teachers may already have in their schools. Worth looking.) Center for Civic Education <http://www.civiced.org/resources/curriculum/constitution-day-and-citizenship-day> Resources for all grade levels.

Try *We the People* for Free - Looking for an engaging, classroom-proven civics and government curriculum for your high school classroom? [Try the *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution* enhanced ebook for free for 28 days.](#) *We the People's* features include classroom management tools, audio narration, videos, and built-in multiple-choice and essay questions. The ebook can be used on a wide range of devices, including desktops and laptops, Apple iPads and iPhones, Android tablets and smart phones, and Windows 8 touch-screen devices. [Learn more.](#)

<http://www.sandywilburmusic.com/> Children sing the Preamble, accompanied by historic and present day photographs. Teachers can also order music to replicate the magic.

Books

For mostly younger students, but can be enjoyed by all:

Shh! We're Writing the Constitution by Jean Fritz

We the Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States by David Catrow

[*If You Were There When They Signed the Constitution*](#) by Elizabeth Levy

WE the PEOPLE The Constitution of the United States by Peter Spier, Richly illustrated with many possibilities of what the words mean plus information of Constitution.

Middle School through High School:

The Creation of the U.S. Constitution by Michael Burgan (Graphic Library)
www.capstonepress.com

A Young People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn

Keys to American History, Understanding Our Most Important Historic Documents by Richard Panchyk

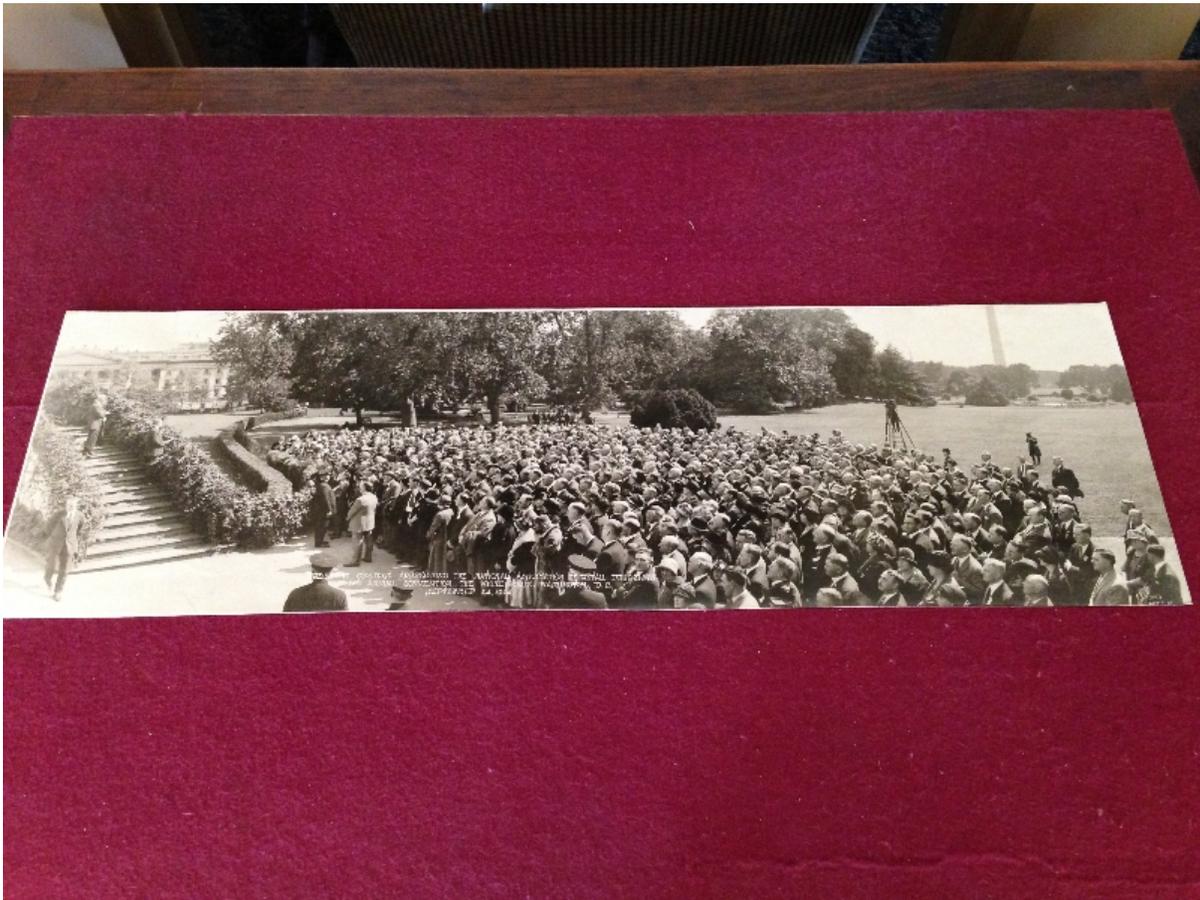
Adults:

The Penguin Guide to the United States Constitution by Richard Beeman

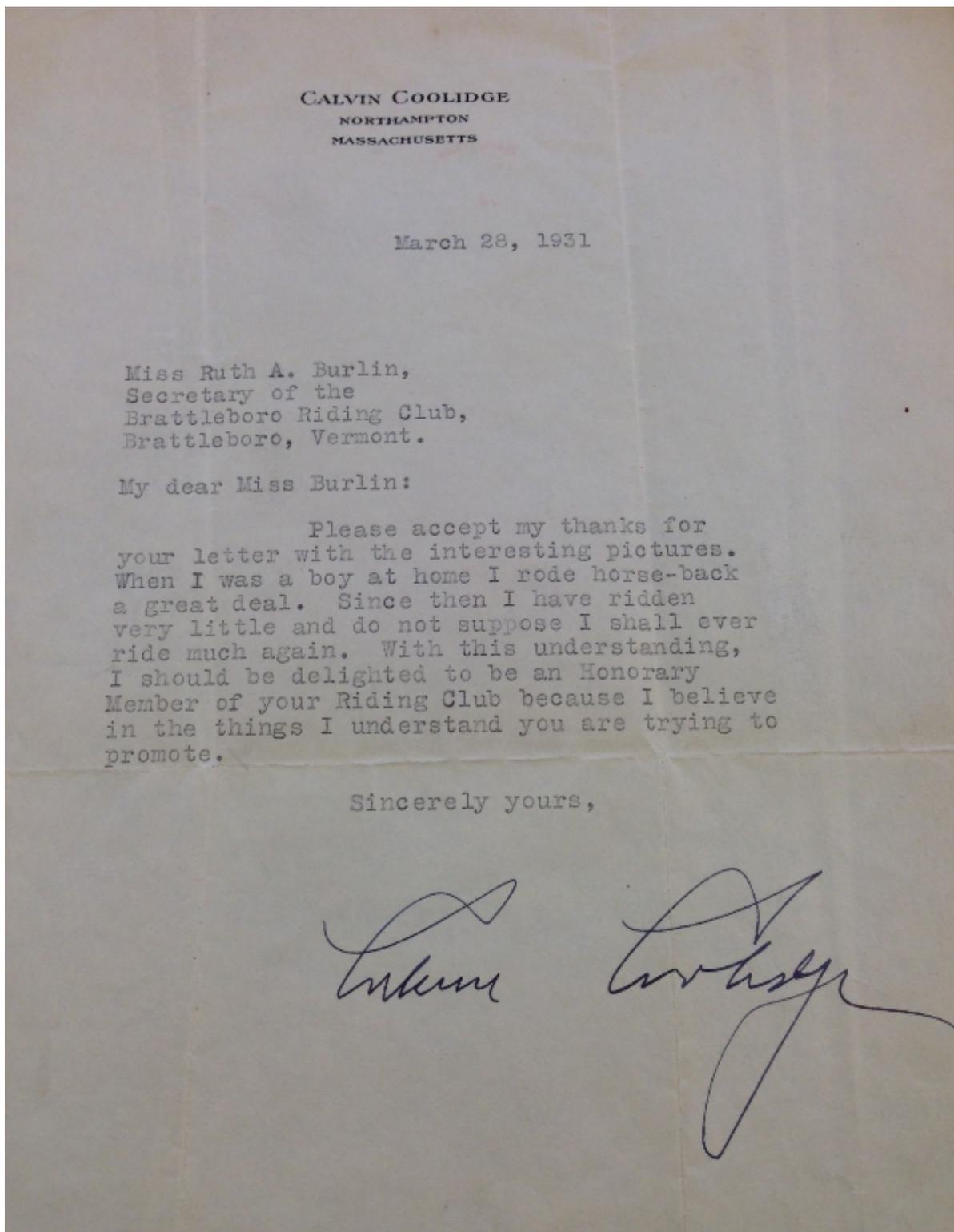
Constitution Café by Christopher Phillips

Miracle at Philadelphia by Catherine Drinker Bowen

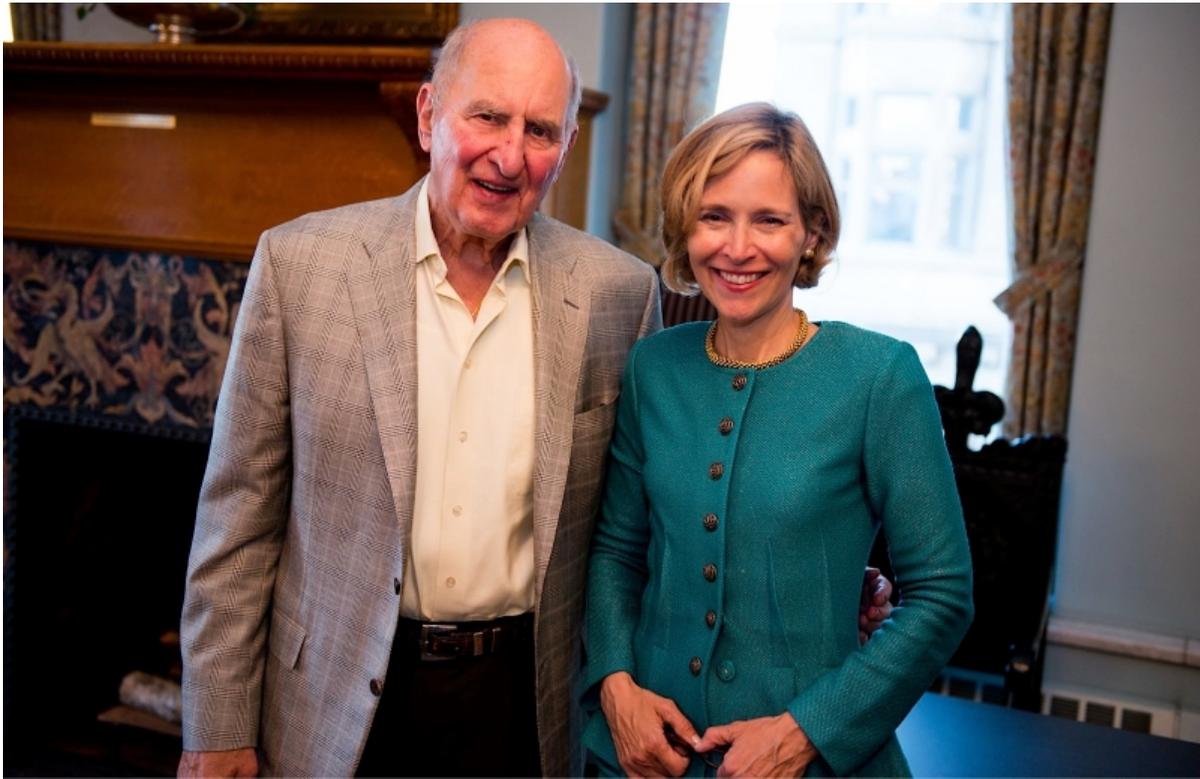
“The Constitution is the sole source and guaranty of national freedom.” Calvin Coolidge,
Accepting nomination as Republican candidate for president, Washington, D.C.,
August 4, 1924.



The Coolidges did conventions! This photograph, donated to the Coolidge Foundation this week by **Margaret Clyde of Carefree, Arizona**, depicts President Coolidge addressing the National Association of Retail Druggists, the trade association for local pharmacists, at their 26th annual convention on the back lawn of the White House on September 24, 1924, 90 years ago this week!



All of our horse-loving friends will appreciate this letter! It was donated to the Coolidge Foundation this week by **Priscilla Pettee Bridgman of Hanover, New Hampshire**. It was written by President Coolidge to the Brattleboro Riding Club accepting their invitation to join as an honorary member. As he notes in this letter, Coolidge rode on horseback often during his childhood at Plymouth Notch.



Foundation chairman **Amity Shlaes** with **Jack Miller** of the **Miller Center at Roosevelt University**. Shlaes spoke about the 1920s and 1930s this week at the Miller Center!



Calendar Reminders

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

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

- **September 29: Deadline for Submissions to the Coolidge Prize for Journalism and the Calvin Prize for Vermont Youth.**
- **November 6: Second Annual New York Dinner.** Metropolitan Club, New York City. *Tickets Required* (info coming soon).
- **November 12: Budget Conference.** Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.



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