



FIRST SPOUSE SERIES

ONE-HALF OUNCE PROOF AND UNCIRCULATED COINS

HIGHLY COLLECTABLE SERIES

American First Ladies are now honored with First Spouse Gold Coins, which are one-half ounce, 24 karat pure gold coins minted in collector proof and uncirculated versions. This series of gold coins introduced in 2007 and set to last until 2016 compliment and are released on the same schedule as the US Mint Presidential \$1 program which honors past Presidents at a rate of four gold coins each year.



THE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COINS PROGRAM

The program is the first to feature women in a consecutive series of legal tender coins. The series of gold coins is authorized through the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005, which was signed into law (Public Law 109-145) on Dec. 22, 2005 by President George Bush. It calls for the following coin specifications:

- A \$10 denomination
- The same diameter as the \$1 coins
- Issued as counterparts and during the same period as the circulating Presidential \$1 coins

There are two cases where a President has had more than one wife during service and two coins are issued, like John Tyler. Tyler's first wife Letitia died during his second year in office. Tyler later married Julia while still President. Under the program, both Letitia and Julia First Spouse Coins were produced.



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CAROLINE HARRISON 2012



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CAROLINE HARRISON FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN *FIRST LADY, 1889–1892*

Caroline Harrison First Spouse Gold Coins mark the third of four issues released by the United States Mint in 2012 as part of the First Spouse Gold Coins Program. Designs on both the obverse and reverse are emblematic of Caroline Harrison, wife of Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd President of the United States. While serving as First Lady, Caroline Harrison secured appropriations from Congress to perform some much needed renovations to the White House and install electricity. She was known for her elegant receptions and dinners, as well as conducting china-painting classes. Sadly, she passed away on October 25, 1892, while her husband was still in office.

The Caroline Harrison First Spouse Gold Coin features her portrait on the obverse with the inscriptions indicating her name, order of the Presidency, and dates served as First Lady. The obverse was designed by Frank Morris and sculpted by Michael Gaudio. The reverse design selected for the coin features an orchid and paint brushes to represent the First Lady's interest in china-painting. The reverse was designed by Donna Weaver and sculpted by Charles Vickers.

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.

COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Date: 2012

Designers: Frank Morris (obverse), Donna Weaver (reverse)

Composition: 0.9999 Gold

Weight: 0.5000 troy oz. (15.554 g)

Diameter: 1.041 inches (26.49 mm)

Thickness: 0.074 inches (1.88 mm)