



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.

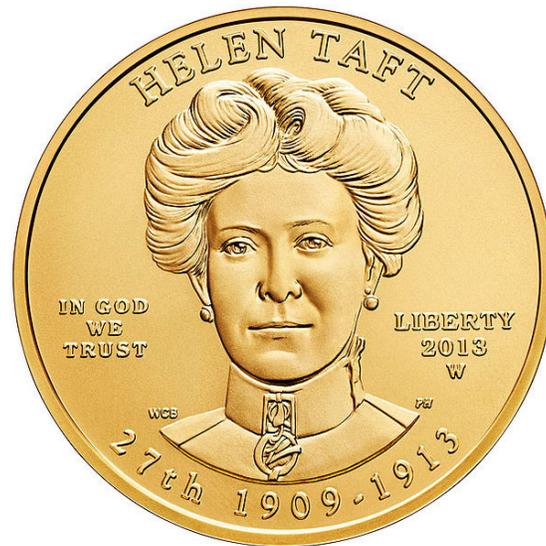


THE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COINS PROGRAM

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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HELEN TAFT 2013



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HELEN TAFT FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN *FIRST LADY, 1909–1913*

This is the third coin released in 2013 in the First Spouse Gold Coin Series and features Helen Taft.

Helen Herron “Nellie” Taft was born June 1, 1861, in Cincinnati. She met “Will” Taft when he was a student at Cincinnati Law School. They married in 1886, and when he became president in 1909.

She also supported the establishment of the First Ladies Collection at the Smithsonian, starting the custom of first ladies donating their inaugural gowns to the institution. Mrs. Taft is best known for the Japanese cherry trees around the Tidal Basin, which were a gift from the mayor of Tokyo to the American people. She planted the first two trees herself in March 1912. She continued to be active in Washington while former President Taft served as Supreme Court chief justice and continued to live in the capital until her death in 1943.

The obverse of the coin features a front-facing portrait of the First Lady designed by William C. Burgard and engraved by Phebe Hemphill. Following the format of the series, the inscriptions include the First Spouse's name, order of the Presidency, and dates served, along with “Liberty”, the motto “In God We Trust”, and the date.

The reverse design features a branch of Japanese cherry blossoms, intended to symbolize Helen Taft's role in bringing the cherry trees to Washington, D.C. The Commission of Fine Arts had praised the abstracted cherry blossom design as a strong symbol. The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee gave the design their strongest possible recommendation and felt that it was elegant, beautiful, and would produce a very attractive coin.

COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Metal Content: .9999

Fine Gold Weight: 0.5000 troy oz (15.554g)

Diameter: 1.043 inches (26.49 mm)

Edge: Reeded

Face Value: \$10