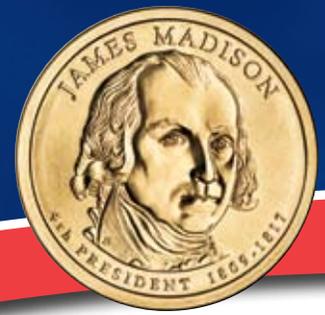


# JAMES MADISON



## Presidential Profile

- **James Madison, Fourth President of the United States:** Madison served from 1809-1817. He was born on March 16, 1751, in Port Conway, Virginia, but he lived most of his life at Montpelier, his family's 2,750-acre estate in Orange, Virginia. He died there on June 28, 1836. His wife's name was Dolley. They had no children, but they did have a pet macaw, which is a type of parrot.
- **The Constitution:** James Madison is often called the "Father of the Constitution" for his role in creating the document that to this day provides the basic framework for how the United States government operates. Believing that the Articles of Confederation (1781-1789) did not provide for a strong enough central government, Madison played a key role in organizing the Constitutional Convention in 1787. His Virginia Plan became a large part of the Constitution, and he also helped write the Federalist Papers, a series of essays designed to convince Americans to support ratification of the Constitution.
- **Bill of Rights:** He was elected to the first Congress of the United States as a representative from Virginia (1789-1797). While in Congress, Madison introduced the 10 amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, for further protection of Americans' rights and freedoms.
- **The Presidency:** After serving as President Jefferson's Secretary of State from 1801-1808, Madison was elected President in 1809, defeating his opponent by 122-47 electoral votes. During his Presidency, Great Britain continued to seize goods and sailors from American ships. This eventually led to the War of 1812 between

the United States and Great Britain. During the war, Francis Scott Key wrote what would one day become our national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner," while watching a battle at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Monumental Moments

- James Madison University (located in Harrisonburg, Virginia) and James Madison College (at Michigan State University) are both named for the 4th President.
- Built in 1980, the Madison Building at the Library of Congress is named for him.
- As of 2007, there are 54 cities and towns and 20 counties in the United States that are named Madison.

## Did You Know?

- President Madison was the eldest of 10 children.
- Although he entered a four year degree program at The College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), Madison finished in just two years.
- His wife, Dolley, was a social First Lady. When she first arrived in Washington, she visited every new member of Congress.

## Coin Connection

- The James Madison \$1 Coin will be available beginning in November, 2007.



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