

May 2016



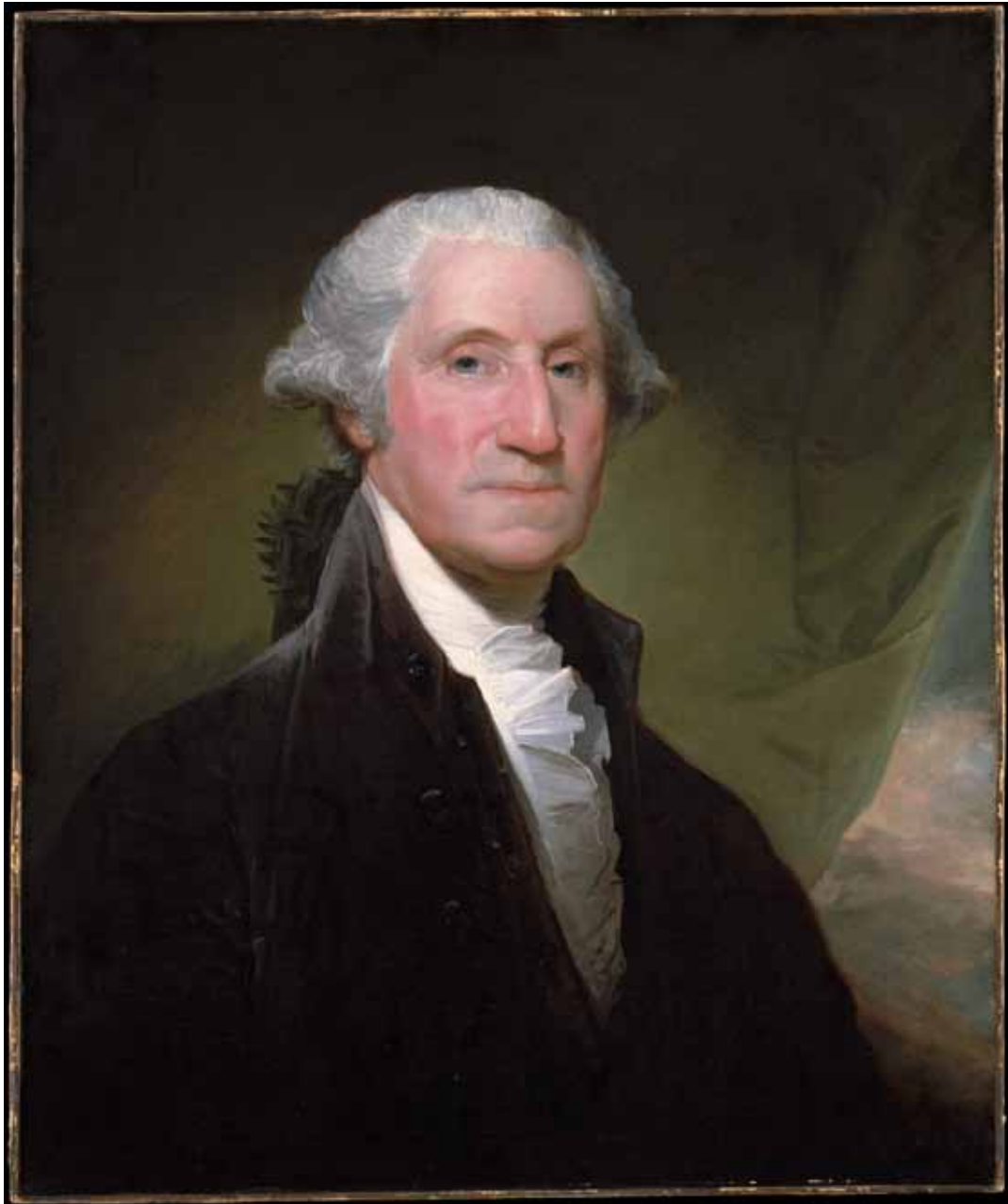
# ZOOM

in on america

A Monthly Publication of the U.S. Consulate Krakow

Volume XII. Issue 138

## AMERICA'S 44 PRESIDENTS



**1. George Washington (Feb. 22, 1732 - Dec. 14, 1799)**

Nickname: *Father of His Country*

Political Party: Federalist  
Term of Office: April 30, 1789 - March 3, 1797  
Age at inauguration: 57

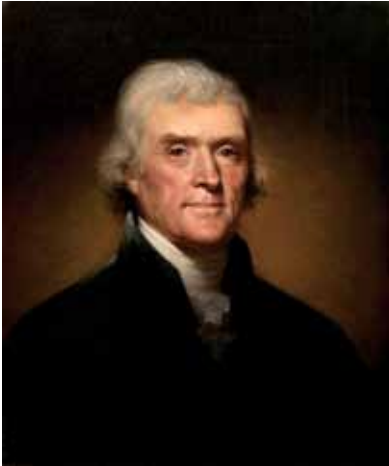
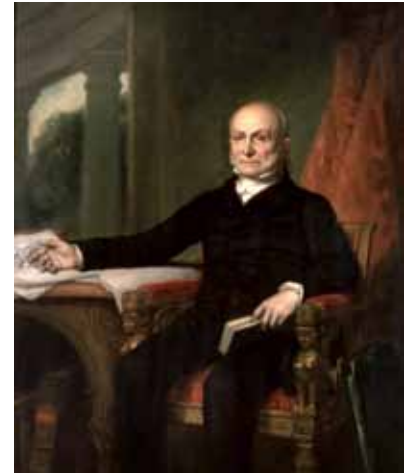


**2. John Adams  
(Oct. 30, 1735-  
July 4, 1826)**

Nickname: *Father of American Independence*  
Political Party: Federalist  
Term of Office: March 4, 1797 - March 3, 1801  
The first President to live in the White House  
Age at inauguration: 61

**6. John Quincy Adams  
(July 11, 1767-  
Feb. 23, 1848)**

Nickname: *Old Man Eloquent*  
Political Party: Democratic-Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1825 - March 3, 1829  
Age at inauguration: 57

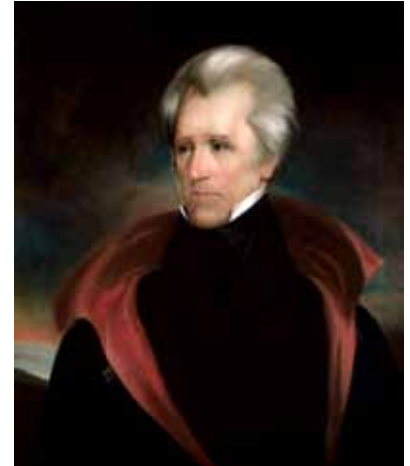


**3. Thomas Jefferson  
(April 13, 1743-  
July 4, 1826)**

Nickname: *Father of the Declaration of Independence*  
Political Party: Democratic-Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1801 - March 3, 1809  
Age at inauguration: 57

**7. Andrew Jackson  
(March 15, 1767-  
June 8, 1845)**

Nickname: *Old Hickory* (given by his soldiers who thought he was as tough as a hickory tree in the War of 1812.)  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: March 4, 1829- March 3, 1837  
Age at inauguration: 61

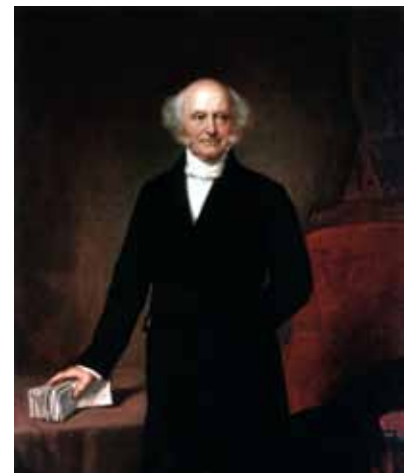


**4. James Madison  
(March 16, 1751-  
June 28, 1836)**

Nickname: *Father of the Constitution*  
Political Party: Democratic-Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1809 - March 3, 1817  
Age at inauguration: 57

**8. Martin Van Buren  
(Dec. 5, 1782-  
July 24, 1862)**

Nickname: *Little Magician* (because of his smooth politics in New York and short stature.)  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: March 4, 1837 - March 3, 1841  
Age at inauguration: 54

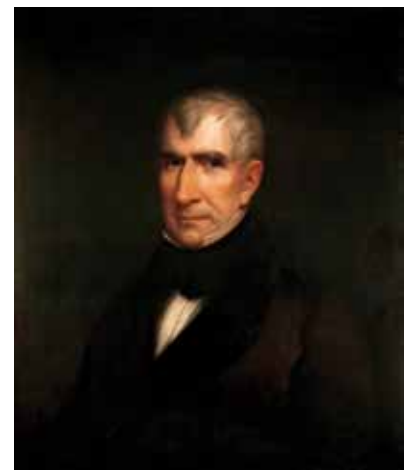


**5. James Monroe  
(April 28, 1758-  
July 4, 1831)**

Nickname: *Era of Good Feelings President*  
Political Party: Democratic-Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1817 - March 3, 1825  
Age at inauguration: 58

**9. William Henry Harrison  
(Feb. 9, 1773-April 4, 1841)**

Nickname: *Tippecanoe* (to remember his victory at the 1811 Battle of Tippecanoe.)  
Political Party: Whig  
Term of Office: March 4, 1841 - April 4, 1841 (he died just after one month of presidency.)  
Age at inauguration: 68





**10. John Tyler  
(March 29, 1790-  
Jan. 18, 1862)**

Nickname: *His Acci-  
dency*  
(given by his oppo-  
nents when he ,as Vice  
President, succeeded  
late William Henry Har-  
rison.)  
Political Party: Whig  
Term of Office: April 6,  
1841 - March 3, 1845  
Age at inauguration:51

**14. Franklin Pierce  
(Nov. 23, 1804-  
Oct. 8, 1869)**

Nickname: *Handsome  
Frank*  
Political Party: Demo-  
crat  
Term of Office: March  
4, 1853 - March 3,  
1857  
Age at inauguration: 48



**11. James K. Polk  
(Nov. 2, 1795-  
June 15, 1849)**

Nickname: *Young  
Hickory*  
(as he was a protégé of  
Andrew Jackson)  
Political Party: Demo-  
crat  
Term of Office: March  
4, 1845 -March 3, 1849  
Age at inauguration: 49

**15. James Buchanan  
(April 23, 1791-  
June 1, 1868)**

Nickname: *Top-Cent  
Jimmy*  
(for his bookkeeping)  
Political Party: Demo-  
crat  
Term of Office: March  
4, 1857 - March 3,  
1861, the only Presi-  
dent who never married  
Age at inauguration: 65



**12. Zachary Taylor  
(Nov. 24, 1784-  
July 9, 1850)**

Nickname: *Old Rough-  
and-Ready* (for his  
engagement in the  
military)  
Political Party: Whig  
Term of Office: March  
4, 1849 - July 9, 1850  
Age at inauguration: 64

**16. Abraham  
Lincoln (Feb. 12,  
1809-April 15, 1865)**

Nickname: *Honest Abe*  
Political Party: Repub-  
lican  
Term of Office: March  
4, 1861 - April 15, 1865  
assassinated  
Age at inauguration: 52  
(Called the greatest  
U.S. President because  
he reunited the coun-  
try.)

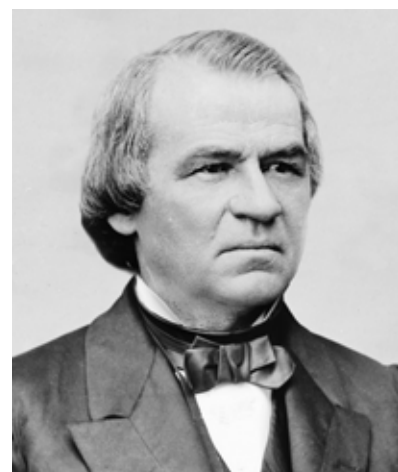


**13. Millard Fillmore  
(Jan. 7, 1800-  
March 8, 1874)**

Nickname: *Last of the  
Whigs*  
Political Party: Whig  
Term of Office: July 10,  
1850 - March 3, 1853  
Age at inauguration: 50  
(He became President  
when Zachary Tylor  
died in office)

**17. Andrew Johnson  
(Dec. 29, 1808-  
July 31, 1875)**

Nickname: *The Veto  
President*  
Political Party: Demo-  
crat  
Term of Office: April 15,  
1865 - March 3, 1869  
Age at inauguration: 56



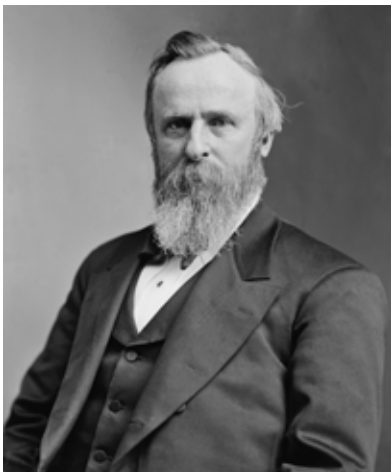
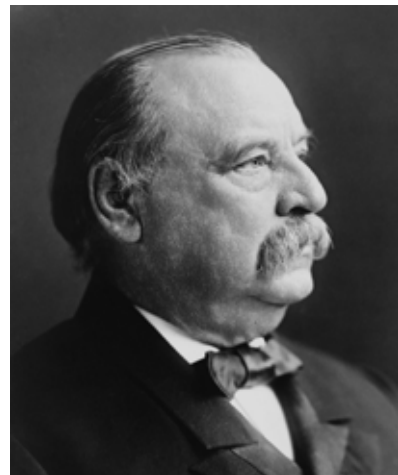


**18. Ulysses S. Grant  
(April 27, 1822-  
July 23, 1885)**

Nickname: *Unconditional Surrender Grant*  
(because of the terms he set during the Battle of Fort Donelson)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1869 - March 3, 1877  
Age at inauguration: 46

**22. Grover Cleveland  
(March 18, 1837-June 24, 1908)**

Nickname: *Uncle Jumbo*  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: March 4, 1885 - March 3, 1889  
Age at inauguration: 47  
(reelected as the 24th President)

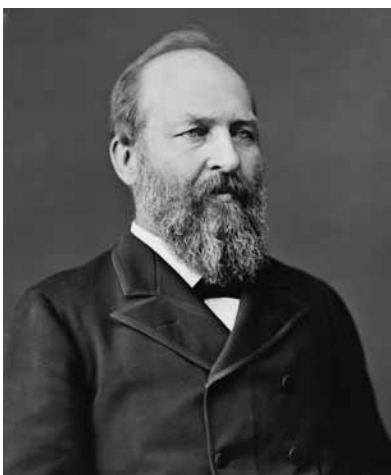


**19. Rutherford Hayes  
(Oct. 4, 1822-  
Jan. 17, 1893)**

Nickname: *His Fraudulency*  
(because of disputed results of popular and electoral voting in 1876)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1877 - March 3, 1881  
Age at inauguration: 54

**23. Benjamin Harrison  
(Aug. 20, 1833-March 13, 1901)**

Nickname: *Little Ben*  
(due to his posture or because his grandfather was President.)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1889 - March 3, 1893  
Age at inauguration: 55

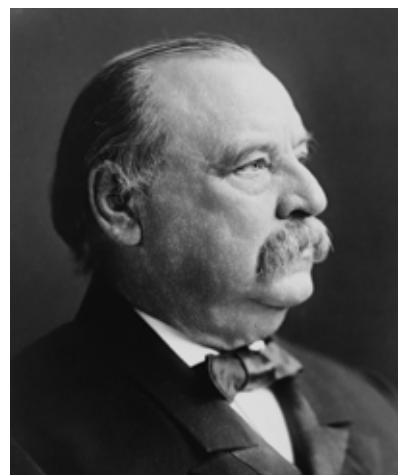


**20. James A. Garfield  
(Nov. 19, 1831-  
Sept. 19, 1881)**

Nickname: *Preacher President*  
(a good public speaker)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1881 - Sept. 19, 1881  
He was shot by an assassin shortly after he began his term.  
Age at inauguration: 49

**24. Grover Cleveland  
(March 18, 1837-June 24, 1908)**

(see also above 22nd President)  
Elected again for the  
Term of Office: March 4, 1893 - March 3, 1897  
Age at inauguration: 55



**21. Chester A. Arthur  
(Oct. 5, 1829-  
Nov. 18, 1886)**

Nickname: *Elegant Arthur*  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: Sept. 20, 1881 - March 3, 1885  
Age at inauguration: 51

**25. William McKinley  
(Jan. 29, 1843-  
Sept. 14, 1901)**

Nickname: *Idol of Ohio*  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1897 - Sept. 14, 1901- assassinated  
Age at inauguration: 54





**26. Theodore Roosevelt (Oct. 27, 1858-Jan.6, 1919)**

Nickname: *T.R.*  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: Sept. 14, 1901 - March 3, 1909  
Age at inauguration: 42

**30. Calvin Coolidge (July 4, 1872-Jan. 5, 1933)**

Nickname: *Silent Cal* (famously economical with words)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: Aug. 3, 1923 - March 3, 1929  
Age at inauguration: 51



**27. William Howard Taft (Sept. 15, 1857-March 8, 1930)**

Nickname: *Big Bill*  
(allusion to his posture)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1909 - March 3, 1913  
Age at inauguration: 51

**31. Herbert Hoover (Aug. 10, 1874-Oct. 20, 1964)**

Nickname: *Chief*  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1929 - March 3, 1933  
Age at inauguration: 54

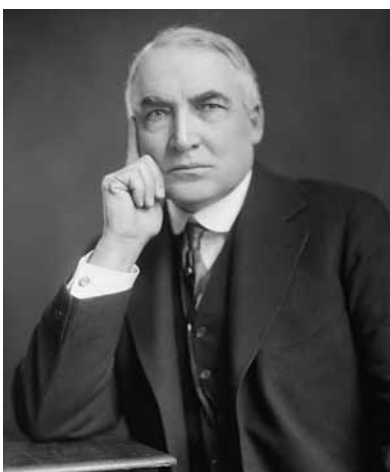


**28. Woodrow Wilson (Dec. 29, 1856-Feb. 3, 1924)**

Nickname: *Professor*  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: March 4, 1913 - March 3, 1921  
Age at inauguration: 56

**32. Franklin D. Roosevelt (Jan. 30, 1882-April 12, 1945)**

Nickname: *FDR*  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: March 4, 1933 - April 12, 1945  
Age at inauguration: 51 (elected 4 times - the longest presidency)



**29. Warren G. Harding (Nov. 2, 1865-Aug. 2, 1923)**

Nickname: *Wobbly Warren* (for the habit of changing his mind)  
Political Party: Republican  
Term of Office: March 4, 1921 - Aug. 2, 1923  
Age at inauguration: 55

**33. Harry S. Truman (May 8, 1884-Dec. 26, 1972)**

Nickname: *Give 'Em Hell Harry*  
Political Party: Democrat  
Term of Office: April 12, 1945 - Jan. 20, 1953  
Age at inauguration: 60





**34. Dwight Eisenhower (Oct. 14, 1890-Jan. 20, 1953)**

Nickname: *Ike*

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 1953 - Jan. 20, 1961

Age at inauguration: 62

**38. Gerald Ford (July 14, 1913-Dec. 26, 2006)**

Nickname: *Jerry*

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Aug. 9, 1974 - Jan. 20, 1977

Age at inauguration: 61  
(The only president never elected to the office of President or Vice President.)



**35. John F. Kennedy (May 29, 1917-Nov. 22, 1963)**

Nickname: *JFK*

Political Party: Democrat

Term of Office: Jan 20, 1961 - Nov. 22, 1963 - assassinated

Age at inauguration: 43

**39. Jimmy Carter (b. Oct. 1, 1924)**

Nickname: *Jimmy*

Political Party: Democrat

Term of Office: Jan 20, 1977 - Jan. 20, 1981

Age at inauguration: 52



**36. Lyndon B. Johnson (Aug. 27, 1908-Jan. 22, 1973)**

Nickname: *LBJ*

Political Party: Democrat

Term of Office: Nov. 22, 1963 - Jan. 20, 1969

Age at inauguration: 55

**40. Ronald Reagan (Feb. 6, 1911-June 5, 2004)**

Nickname: *Dutch*

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 1981 - Jan. 20, 1989

Age at inauguration: 69



**37. Richard Nixon (Jan. 9, 1913-Apr. 22, 1994)**

Nickname: *The Boss*

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Jan 20, 1969 - Aug. 9, 1974 - forced to resign from office following a political scandal.

Age at inauguration: 56

**41. George Bush (b. June 12, 1924)**

Nickname: *Poppy*  
(used from childhood)

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 1989 - Jan. 20, 1993

Age at inauguration: 64





**42. William J. "Bill" Clinton (b. Aug. 19, 1946)**

Nickname: *Comeback Kid*

Political Party: Democrat

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 1993 - Jan. 20, 2001

Age at inauguration: 46



**43. George W. Bush (b. July 6, 1946)**

Nickname: *Dubya (W.)* (the middle letter W that distinguishes the 41st and 43rd President, *Dubya* - Texas pronunciation of "W")

Political Party: Republican

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 2001 - Jan. 20, 2009

Age at inauguration: 54



**44. Barack Obama (b. Aug. 4, 1961)**

Nickname: *Barry*

Political Party: Democrat

Term of Office: Jan. 20, 2009 - present

Age at inauguration: 48

*(Official White House Photo by Pete Souza.)*

*In November 2016 the 45th President of the United States will be elected.*

## The Office of the President

There are a few requirements that each candidate for the President of the United States must meet:

1. He or she must be born as a U.S. citizen.
2. Be at least 35 years old.
3. Must live in the country for at least 14 years.

The first President, George Washington, was elected unanimously on February 4, 1789 during meetings held simultaneously in different states. He held his office for 8 years.

Since the first President's times, the United States has gone through huge changes in terms of territory and population. The country has grown from 13 to 50 states, while its population is now about 80 times larger than at the end of the 18th century. In the sphere of social changes the most important was the abolition of slavery and granting women voting rights. George Washington has been followed by 42 other men who served one or more terms in the office. Grover Cleveland was the only President to serve two nonconsecutive terms in office and therefore his Presidency is counted twice.

There are as many stories about Presidencies as there are Presidents, but besides differences there are similarities and comparisons to be made. By simply looking at the Presidents' metric it is easy to find the President who was the youngest (Theodore Roosevelt - 42) and the oldest (Ronald Reagan - 69) at their inauguration. The President who served the longest term was Franklin Delano Roosevelt (elected 4 times). By looking at the Presidents' states at birth, most were born in Virginia, which earned the state the nickname "Mother of Presidents." Massachusetts, New York and Ohio can also boast to be the birth states of many Presidents (together they brought 23.)

As many as nine Presidents have not completed their terms of office. Richard Nixon resigned following a political scandal, and eight died before the end of their Presidency.

Challenges in domestic and foreign policy have influenced each Presidential term. Some Presidents like Abraham Lincoln, Franklin D. Roosevelt or John F. Kennedy have been remembered for their decisions, which had a huge importance in and beyond the United States.

While the authors of the U.S. Constitution only loosely outlined the role of the Presidency, it has been worked out and shaped throughout history and in relation to concrete political situations in the country and globally.

While there are many differences between individual Presidents, each takes the same oath upon taking the office:

*"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."*

# ACTIVITY PAGE

## MAY 2016 TRIVIA QUESTION

Which President served two non-consecutive terms in office?

Send the answer (with your home address) to: [KrakowAIRC@state.gov](mailto:KrakowAIRC@state.gov)

The 5th, 8th and 10th sender of the correct answer will be awarded with a book prize.

APRIL 2016 Answer:

4 years

The first three readers who sent the correct answer were:

Maya from Gliwice, Ewelina from Tarnow and Agata from Wroclaw

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The prizes will be sent to you by mail.



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Exercise 1: Reading comprehension

Scan read the short texts about the U.S. Presidents and find the answers to these questions:

1. Who was the youngest American President?
2. Who was the oldest American President?
3. Which President served the longest?
4. Who was the first President to live in the White House?
5. How many Presidents died on the Fourth of July?
6. How many Presidents died during their term?
7. How many Presidents have the word "Father" in their nickname?
8. Who was the only President who never married?
9. Which President did not talk a lot?
10. Who was the second oldest President?
11. Who served the shortest term in office?
12. How many Presidents were removed from office?
13. Which President died at the youngest age?
14. Which President died at the oldest age?
15. Which President said this: "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country?"

Check your answers on Zoom's Facebook page: <https://goo.gl/QH3n9c>

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