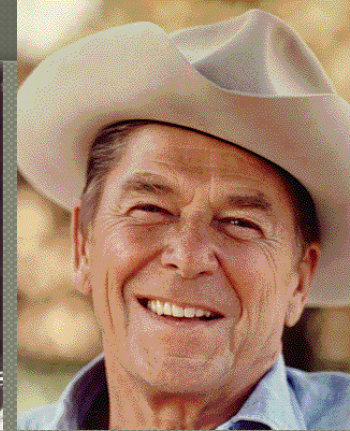
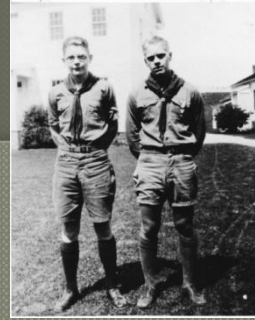


The Presidents



What we know...

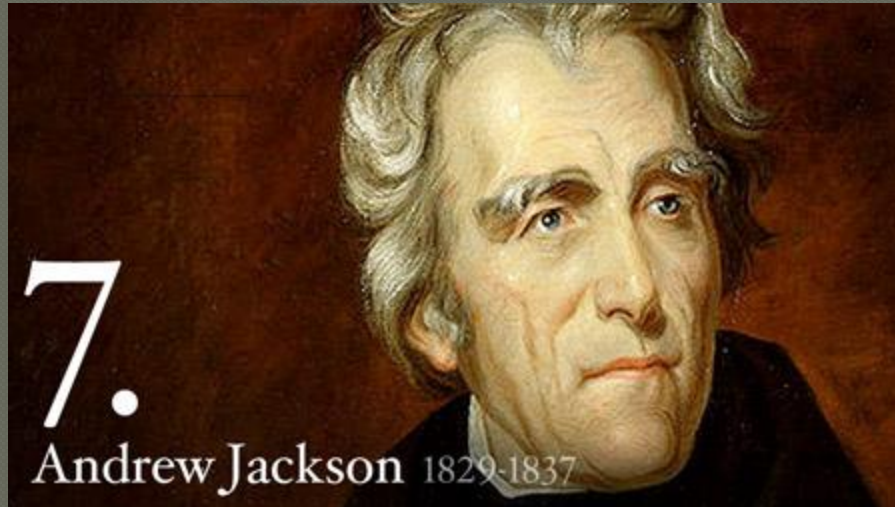
- All Presidents bring their personal touch to the Presidency
- All Presidents' popularity declines – usually after about a year
- Each President has wins and losses
- Politics and public opinion make the difference
- Determining a President's "legacy" is challenging as defining "success" is very subjective

Veto Power and the Power to “Annoy” Congress

- Three types:
 - **Veto message**
 - **Pocket veto:** law not signed and congress adjourns during that time.
 - **Line-item veto:** President can veto certain parts of a law
- **Impoundment of Funds:**
 - Simply don't spend what congress orders you to spend
- **Signing statements**
 - Declaration of how the President interprets the bill
 - **One statement went so far as to say the President has the right not to follow the law he just signed.**

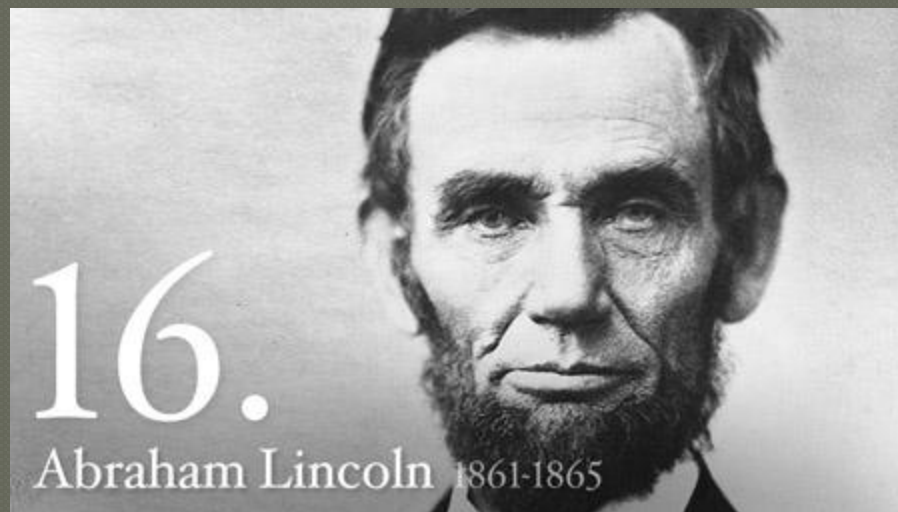
Andrew Jackson

- ◉ Strong-willed, self-centered, centrist attitude
- ◉ Personality changed the national perception of the Presidency (veto).



Abraham Lincoln

- ◉ Ruthless, cunning, strong-willed politician
- ◉ Obsessive, depressive, purposeful
- ◉ Expanded the powers of the President due to the “conditions of the Civil War”.



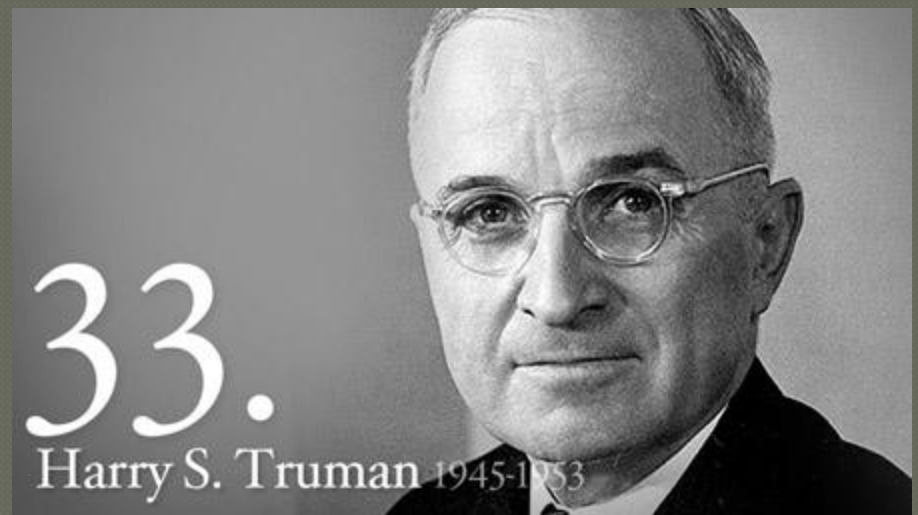
Franklin D. Roosevelt

- Smart, in-charge, trusted, experienced
- Held many press conferences (Fire-side Chats)
- Attempted to “pack the Supreme Court”
- Master of the “1st 100 Days”



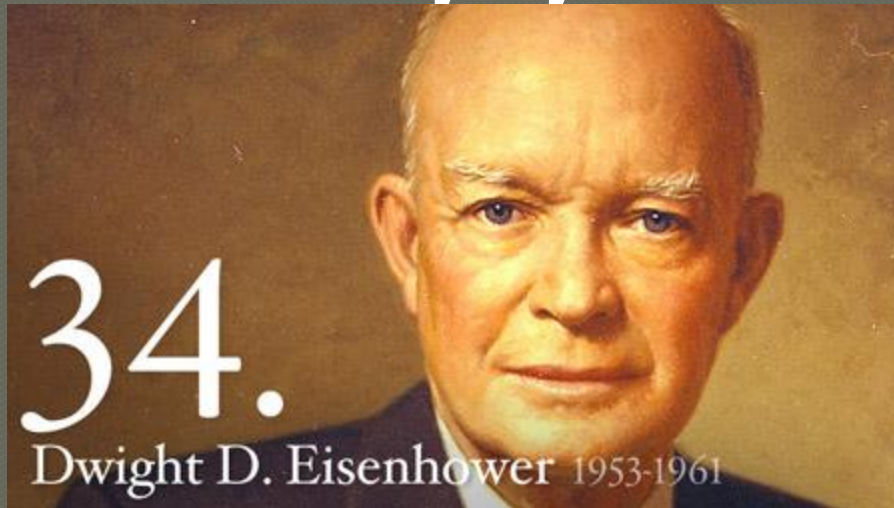
Harry Truman

- ◉ Quiet, unassuming, decisive
- ◉ Little success with proposed legislation
- ◉ Hurt by his subordinates and the Korean War



Dwight Eisenhower

- ◉ Character - Orderly, military style
- ◉ Relied on careful and complete staff work
- ◉ Proposed very little legislation
- ◉ Warned of “military industrial complex”
- ◉ Interstate Freeway System



John F. Kennedy

- ◉ Bold, articulate, amusing, with personal rule and improvisation. Bypassed chain of command. Use of talented amateurs.
- ◉ Won the Pres. In 1960 but Dems. lost seats in the House



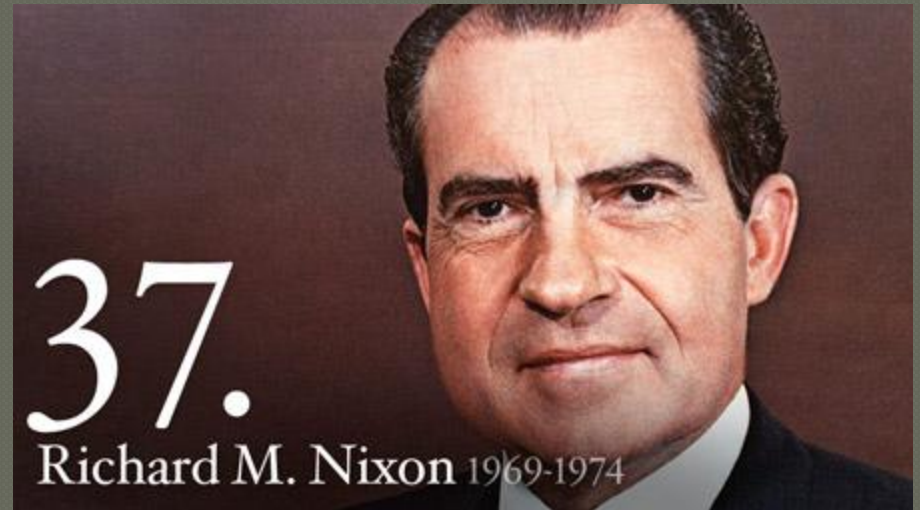
Lyndon Johnson

- ◉ Master strategist with strong personal persuasion skills.
- ◉ Tried to do everything himself
- ◉ Thought of as smart, in-charge, trusted, experienced
- ◉ Highly productive relationship with Congress



Richard Nixon

- ◉ Knowledge and interest in foreign policy
- ◉ Distrusting, cautious, obtuse, and skeptical
- ◉ Reelected in 1972, yet Repubs. lost seats in the Senate
- ◉ Severely damaged by Watergate Scandal



Gerald Ford

- Genial man – Midwestern values, liked talking, disorganized, perceived as not very smart
- Faced opposition from his own party



Jimmy Carter

- ◉ Reader, appetite for detail
- ◉ Did too much in too much detail (himself)
- ◉ Faced opposition from his own party
- ◉ Made his views known on 22% of House bills (Eisenhower = 56%)
- ◉ Weakened by inflation



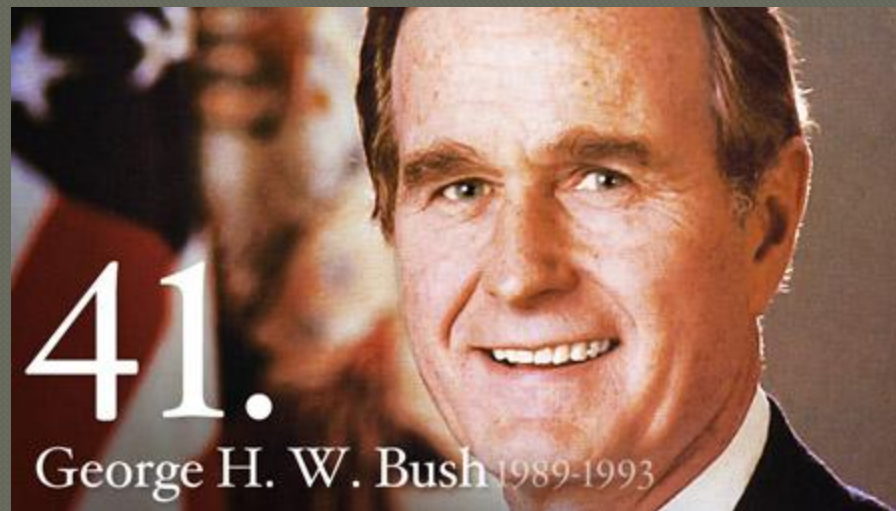
Ronald Reagan

- Presented broad direction of government and left details to subordinates
- Good speaker
- Election of R.R. in 1980 + a major increase in Repub. Senators and Reps. (due to Reagan or unpopularity of Carter?)



George H.W. Bush

- ◉ Lacked speaking skills
- ◉ Lots of international contacts and federal experience
- ◉ Hurt by economic recession



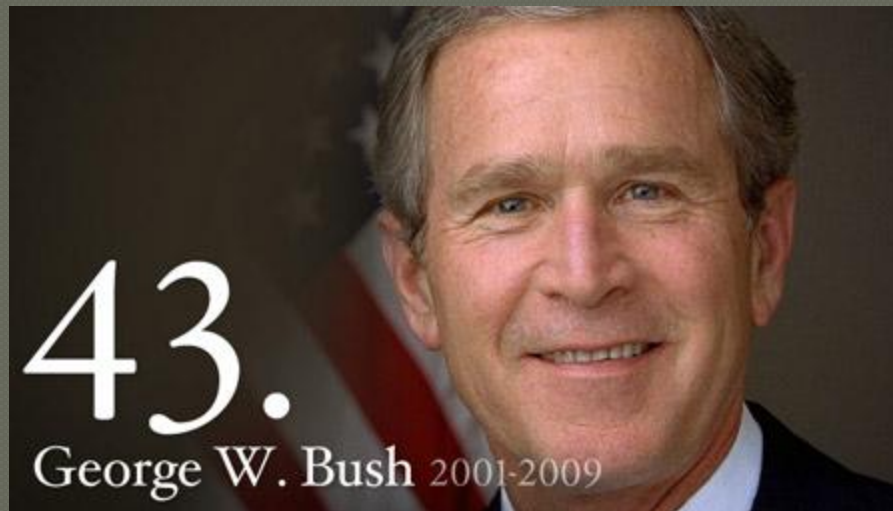
Bill Clinton

- ◉ Paid attention to detail
- ◉ Effective speaker and compromiser
- ◉ Effective in face-to-face encounters
- ◉ Popularity not affected by “Lewinskygate”



George W. Bush

- ◉ Charming, folksy, perceived as not very intelligent
- ◉ Relied heavily on subordinates
- ◉ Hurt by Iraq war and economic recession



Barack Obama

- ◉ Collegial, collaborative, perceived as intelligent, friendly, and cool
- ◉ Constitutional Professor
- ◉ Massive debt, recession, no-growth economy, etc.



A President's Program

So you've been elected to the Presidency,
now what???



Program Sources

- ◉ Interest groups and “Think Tanks”
- ◉ Aides and Campaign Advisers
- ◉ Federal bureaus and agencies
- ◉ Outsiders, academics, etc.

Program Barriers

- Adverse public reaction
- Time and attention span of the President
 - Ex: average of 406 bills are passed each year
- Unexpected crisis:
 - Cuban Missile Crisis
 - Gulf of Tonkin
 - Soviets invade Afghanistan
 - Sandy Hook gun violence
- Federal budget is difficult to change

Executive Privilege

- ◉ Executive Privilege: right to speak candidly with advisors
- ◉ United States vs. Nixon
 - No “absolute unqualified Presidential privilege of immunity from judicial processes under any circumstances”
- ◉ “Monicagate”
 - Only certain close associates to the President deserve executive privilege

Impeachment and Conviction

- The House of Representatives impeaches the President
 - Impeachment: set of charges against the Pres.
 - Simple majority is required
- Senate determines guilt/innocence
 - Guilt requires a 2/3 vote from the Senate