

*The first of 453,200,000 Wisconsin state quarters was struck at the Denver Mint in October 2004. The design features a cow, a round of cheese, and an ear of corn and was selected by Wisconsin citizens in an online poll. Interest in the coin surged in 2005 after varieties surfaced with apparent extra leaves on the corn stalk. The so-called “extra leaf” varieties were eagerly sought by collectors who paid a substantial premium over the 25 cent face value. (U.S. Mint)*



*The official release of the Wisconsin State Quarter took place at State Fair Park in West Allis on October 25, 2004. Among those in attendance were U.S. Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore (at the podium) and*



*Governor Jim Doyle and First Lady Jessica Doyle. They were joined by a large contingent of enthusiastic Wisconsin school children.*

*(Kathleen Siter, LRB)*





*The S/V Denis Sullivan, Wisconsin's Flagship, is a replica of a 19th century Great Lakes schooner. She was built in Milwaukee by more than 900 volunteers to serve as a floating classroom, focusing on water education and conservation programs, in addition to offering day and evening sails for the general public, and private receptions. The 137-foot sailing vessel is equipped with broadband interactive communications, including wireless and satellite feeds, which allow her to communicate directly with an interactive network of learners, educators and industry professions from the deck of the ship. The Sullivan travels south each winter to Florida, the Bahama Islands and the Dry Tortugas in the Gulf of Mexico to conduct an expeditionary learning program called, "Science Under Sail". Aboard ship, students and crew work together to bring the Denis Sullivan to life, studying marine life and learning navigation, math, and science. (Chris Winters)*