



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Cafe 50's Newsletter 11623 Santa Monica Blvd. West Los Angeles (310) 479-1955 February 2015

WHAT'S A VALENTINE?

The holiday of Valentine's Day probably derives its origins from the ancient Roman feast of *Lupercalia*. In the early days of Rome, fierce wolves roamed the woods nearby. The Romans called upon one of their gods, *Lupercus*, to keep the wolves away. A festival held in honor of *Lupercus* was celebrated February 15th. The festival was celebrated as a spring festival. Their calendar was different at that time, with February falling in early springtime.

One of the customs of the young people was *name-drawing*. On the eve of the festival of *Lupercalia* the names of Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into jars. Each young man drew a slip. The girl whose name was chosen was to be his sweetheart for the year.

Legend has it that the holiday became Valentine's Day after a priest named *Valentine*. Valentine was a priest in Rome, at a time when Christianity was a new religion. The Emperor at the time, *Claudius II*, ordered the Roman soldiers NOT to marry or become engaged. *Claudius* believed that as married men, his soldiers would want to stay home with their families rather than fight his wars. Valentine defied the Emperor's decree and secretly married the young couples. He was eventually arrested, imprisoned, and put to death.

Valentine was beheaded on February 14th, the eve of the Roman holiday *Lupercalia*. After his death, Valentine was named a saint. As Rome became more Christian, the priests moved the spring holiday from the 15th of February to the 14th - Valentine's Day. Now the holiday honored Saint Valentine instead of *Lupercus*.

(A rather grim history for a day dedicated to LOVE!-Craig)

♥ **Did you know?** While women make 75% of chocolate purchases all year long, during the days and minutes before Valentine's Day, 75% of the chocolate purchases are made by men. Over \$1 billion of chocolate is purchased for Valentine's Day.

♥ **Did you know?** About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year. That's the largest seasonal card-sending occasion of the year, next to Christmas.

♥ **Did you know?** The red rose was the favorite flower of *Venus*, the Roman goddess of love. Red stands for strong feelings, which is why a red rose is a flower of love.

Germany or Florida Quiz??

From the "Too late with Adam Carolla" Show that aired on Comedy Central. They pointed out that the strangest news stories either originate in Germany or Florida!

Pick the location of these bizarre but TRUE stories! Did they happen in Germany or in Florida?

(Answers are on page 4!)

1. Three people were arrested for trying to film an "adult" film in a Ferris wheel compartment.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
2. A teacher ripped out a student's beeping insulin pump mistaking it for a cell phone.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
3. A 69-year-old man was arrested for stabbing a dentist from a rival practice (during an argument) over a parking space.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
4. A pet squirrel attacked a police officer when he attempted to arrest the squirrel's owner on drug charges.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
5. A man attempted to get into a family funeral. When he was denied entry he then stabbed two people.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
6. Police allowed a naked shopper to go home with a warning after she said she was buying groceries in the nude because she lost her clothes playing spin the bottle.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
7. A woman burned her house down while trying to kill a spider with a can of hairspray and a lighter.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
8. A disabled man was arrested and his wheelchair was confiscated after police discovered his blood alcohol level was four times the legal limit.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???
9. A man made up a story about kidnapping and killing a hitchhiker in hopes that it would make his wife divorce him.
Did this happen in Germany or Florida???

(Answers are on page 4!)

If the world were a logical place, men would ride side saddle.

-Rita Mae Brown

THE ROAD TO SUCCESS IS PAVED WITH FAILURE...

Steven Spielberg's mediocre grades prevented him from getting into UCLA film school. Instead, he majored in English at California State University in Long Beach but dropped out during his junior year. (He went on to produce five of the all time top ten grossing films and won three academy awards!)

**If you were born in February
You share your Birthday with:**



- 1 - Lisa Marie Presley
- 2 - Farrah Fawcett
- 3 - Morgan Fairchild
- 4 - Oscar de la Hoya
- 5 - Hank Aaron
- 6 - Axel Rose, Chris Rock
- 7 - Ashton Kutcher
- 8 - James Dean
- 9 - Carole King
- 10 - Mark Spitz
- 11 - Brandy
- 12 - Charles Darwin
- 13 - Chuck Yeagar
- 14 - Drew Bledsoe
- 15 - Chris Farley
- 16 - John McEnroe
- 17 - Michael Jordan
- 18 - Dr. Dre
- 19 - Smokey Robinson
- 20 - Kurt Cobain
- 21 - Jennifer Love Hewitt
- 22 - Drew Barrymore
- 23 - George Frederic Handel
- 24 - Steven Jobs
- 25 - George Harrison
- 26 - Fats Domino, Johnny Cash
- 27 - Chelsea Clinton
- 28 - Mario Andretti

Black History Month

Americans have recognized black history annually since 1926. In 1915, historian Carter G. Woodson proposed a "Negro History Week" to honor the contributions of African Americans. Years later, his dream became reality. Woodson chose the second week of February to pay tribute to the birthdays of two Americans that dramatically affected the lives of black Americans: Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14). The weeklong observance officially became a month long observance in 1976.

What you might not know is that black history had barely begun to be studied-or even documented-when the tradition originated. Although blacks have been in America at least as far back as colonial times, it was not until the 20th century that they gained a respectable presence in history books. We also owe the study of black history to Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Born to parents who were former slaves, he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines and enrolled in high school at age twenty. He graduated within two years and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. The scholar was disturbed to find in studies that history books largely ignored the black American population -and when blacks did figure in to the picture, it was generally in ways that reflected the inferior social position they were assigned at the time.

Cafe 50's FEBRUARY Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February is Black History Month!		<i>Hershey's Chocolate was founded on February 6th!</i>	<i>Feb. 1950- Senator Joseph McCarthy claims that 81 employees of the State Dept. have loyalty that is "suspect".</i>	Great American Pies Month!	Try our Cherry Pie! 	<i>Feb. 1950- Cadillac introduces the one piece windshield in it's 4-door sedan.</i>
1 1958: U.S. launches it's first Earth Satellite -Sweet Potato Pancakes...YUM! Magician: David 11am-2pm	2 1953: Jacques Cousteau publishes <i>The Silent World</i> . Burgers & Omelets 50%OFF 6pm-10pm with purchase of a drink	3 1959: Buddy Holly, Big Bopper & Richie Valens die in plane crash. Buy one Sandwich, with a friend- get one FREE! with purchase of 2 drinks	4 1956: 14 year old wins \$100,000 on TV quiz show <i>The Big Surprise</i> . Kids eat FREE! w/ Adult Meal	5 1958: France escalates the war in Algeria Chocolate, Vanilla Strawberry Shakes \$2.98 6-10pm	6 1953: The New Soviet Encyclopedia says Israel does not exist. Fish & Chips \$8.97 (6pm - 10pm)	7 1951: Boston Red Sox star Ted Williams signs a \$125,000 contract. Magician: (West LA) Clark 11am-2pm
8 1952: King George VI dies. Daughter Elizabeth becomes current Queen. \$3.79 Hot Fudge Sundaes after 6!!	9 Burgers & Omelets 50%OFF 6pm-10pm with purchase of a drink	10 1958: Ruth Carol Taylor becomes the first black stewardess. Buy one Sandwich, with a friend- get one FREE! with purchase of 2 drinks 6pm-10pm	11 1953: Disney Movie <i>Peter Pan</i> opens. Kids eat FREE! w/ Adult Meal	12 1950: "Rag Mop" by the Ames Brothers is top Radio hit. <i>Lincoln's real Birthday!</i> Chocolate, Vanilla Strawberry Shakes	13 1953: Coffee is 89 cents per pound. Clam Chowder Only \$3.89 (6pm - Midnight)	14 Valentines Day ...bring your Sweetheart to Cafe 50's!!! Magician: (West LA) Thai 11am-2pm
15 -Eggs Avocado -Smoked Salmon Benedict -Eggs Benedict Magician: Micah 11am-2pm	16 Presidents Day! We Open at 8am -Brunch Menu available till 3pm!	17 Buy one Sandwich, with a friend- get one FREE! with purchase of 2 drinks 6pm-10pm	18 Ash Wednesday Kids eat FREE! w/ Adult Meal	19 1950: Senator Joe McCarthy claims he has a list with 205 communists in Govt. Chocolate, Vanilla Strawberry Shakes \$2.98 6-10pm	20 Fish & Chips Only \$8.97 Clam Chowder Only \$3.89 (6pm - Midnight)	21 Magician: (West LA) Steven 11am-2pm
22 Try our Stone Ground Grits from Tennessee! Magician: Nathan 11am-2pm	23 Burgers & Omelets 50%OFF 6pm-10pm with purchase of a drink	24 Buy one Sandwich, with a friend- get one FREE! with purchase of 2 drinks 6pm-10pm	25 1956: Khrushchev secretly condemned Stalin as a deranged mass murderer PAJAMA PARTY! 6pm - 10pm	26 Birthdays Today: Fats Domino and Johnny Cash Chocolate, Vanilla Strawberry Shakes \$2.98 6-10pm	27 Fish & Chips \$8.97 (6pm - 10pm)	28 Try our Johnny Cake for Brunch!! Magician: (West LA) Steven 11am-2pm

Quotes we love!:

NEVER JUDGE A BOOK BY IT'S MOVIE.

My Mother is the Travel Agent for Guilt Trips.

**I SOLD MY EXPECTATIONS TO REALITY AND GOT RIPPED OFF.
At the feast of ego, everyone leaves hungry.**

Rules for Students FROM

"DUMBING DOWN OUR KIDS: WHY AMERICAN CHILDREN FEEL GOOD ABOUT THEMSELVES, BUT CAN'T READ, WRITE OR ADD."

BY CHARLES SYKES, 1996

To anyone with kids of any age, or anyone who may have grown up but is still a kid, here's some advice. His book is about things they did not learn in school. Charles Sykes points out how feel-good politically correct teachings created a generation of kids who have no concept of reality and how this lack of a concept can set them up for failure in the real world.

Here's what he said:

Rule 1: Life is NOT FAIR!-Get used to it.

Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3: You will NOT make 40 thousand dollars a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone, until you earn both.

Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure.

Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping-they called it opportunity.

Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.

Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying YOUR bills, cleaning YOUR clothes and listening to YOU talk about how cool YOU are. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents' generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers but life has not. In some schools they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

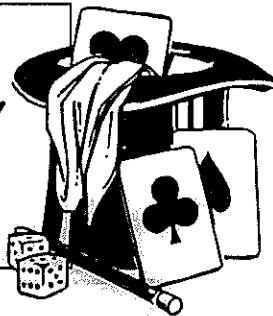
Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. You have to do that on your own time.

Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to their jobs.

Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one. We all could.

Rule 12: Enjoy things while you can. Sure parents are a pain, school's a bother, and life is depressing. But someday you'll realize how wonderful it was to be a kid. ...Maybe you should start now.

Visit our
Master Magicians
every SATURDAY
& SUNDAY
11am - 2pm



Brain Teasers

1. How many apples would you have if you took two apples from three apples?
2. Gus and Joe are raising pigs. Gus said that if Joe would give him two pigs they would have an equal number, but if Gus gave Joe two of his, Joe would have twice as many as Gus. How many pigs did they each have?
3. If you had to swallow one pill every half-hour, how much time would it take for you to swallow three pills?
4. What day would yesterday be if Thursday was four days before the day after tomorrow?
5. A boy and a girl born on the same day of the same year with the same parents are not twins. How is this possible?
6. A century ago, two Frenchmen, Alphonse and Gaston, fought a duel with pistols. Each put a bullet through his opponent's head, yet neither Alphonse nor Gaston died. How is this possible?
7. A man can paint a room in four hours, and another man can paint the same room in two hours. How long would it take to paint the room if they worked together?
8. Mr. Green has removed a flat tire and is putting on the spare. He doesn't know that a squirrel is stealing the four lugs (nuts) that hold the tire to the axle. After finding the lugs missing, how does Mr. Green manage to attach his spare tire and drive to the nearest service station where he can obtain four more lugs?
9. A Taiwanese airplane crashes on the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) between Communist North Korea and Democratic South Korea. Where would you bury the survivors?

Give up? Answers are on the last page!

Do you remember this Poem?

*Thirty days hath September,
April, June and November.
All the rest have thirty-one,
Excepting February alone
Which hath but twenty-eight, in fine,
Till leap year gives it twenty-nine.*

Cafe 50's News:

Get an early jump on Valentines Day! Starting on February 1st Cafe 50's will again have cut-out red or white hearts that you can personalize to your special Valentine and display on our walls. Just stop on by and we'll set you up!

We sure hope you have an opportunity to stop by and "create" your own personalized Valentines Day cut-out hearts at Cafe 50's. This year's batch of artists has to try and outperform last year's artists!!!!

FREE a'la mode:

Did you know that every Saturday at Cafe 50's from 11am until 8pm you can get a generous serving of our delicious rich French Vanilla Ice Cream FREE on any slice of cake or pie? If you want, ask your server to heat your pie first before it is smothered with our tasty rich French vanilla ice cream!

**BUY AMERICAN,
EAT AT CAFE 50's.**

'BRAIN TEASER' ANSWERS: (from page three)

1. Two apples, of course.
2. Gus had ten pigs, Joe had fourteen pigs.
3. One hour-for instance, if you swallowed one at 7:00, one at 7:30, and one at 8:00
4. Friday.
5. They are two out of a set of triplets.
6. Alphonse and Gaston did not duel each other.
7. 80 minutes.
8. Mr. Green removed one lug from each of the other three tires and used them to attach the spare. Three lugs will hold a tire firmly for a short drive.
9. Survivors? Why would you bury survivors!?

How many did you get right?

If 3 or more...consider yourself a smart Cookie!

Germany or Florida Quiz Answers: (from page one)

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Germany | 4. Florida | 7. Florida |
| 2. Florida | 5. Florida | 8. Germany |
| 3. Germany | 6. Germany | 9. Florida |

♥ **Happy Valentines Day** ♥

*If Love is Blind,
why is lingerie so popular?*

RED Envelope Deadline: Friday the 13th is the **LAST** day you can bring in your unopened RED Envelopes!!
Are you our next big winner??

This is our 21st Annual Academy Awards Contest. Win up to 30 prizes at Cafe 50's in West L.A. **Top Prize is a \$150 Gift Certificate!** You may enter every time you visit us!!!

Going Directly to Jail

Last month a New Hampshire woman was arrested on assault charges after she slapped her boyfriend during an argument over a game of Monopoly. She did not Collect \$200.

(February is National Cherry Month!) ...

Featuring ...

- CHERRY PIE **A' LA MODE!** ...or
- CHOCOLATE CHERRY **COKE!** ...or
- VERY CHERRY **SHAKE!** ...or
- CHOCOLATE CHERRY **SHAKE!**

Fads from the 1950's: Boomerangs by Mark A. Long

One day, while he was cutting down some trees and bushes, Australian Jackie Byham found an odd-shaped piece of wood. This piece of wood, he later discovered, was a boomerang that had been crafted by Aborigines at least 130 years earlier.

The boomerang was a hunting tool, a variation on the killer stick, used in Australia, Egypt, India, and parts of Europe and North and South America. These sticks were generally used to hunt fowl and had been around for almost twelve thousand years. Legend had it that hunters in ancient times found that when they flung the bent stick at their prey, it would fly back to them if it missed its mark. This was certainly a very desirable feature. It meant that they didn't have to waste time searching for lost hunting tools or making new ones.

Jackie Byham imagined that modern society might find a use for such an object, so he had some made and set about selling them at the Summer Olympic Games of 1956, held in Melbourne, Australia. He ended up selling more than five thousand units, and the boomerang became a popular new sports toy.

Then, in the late 1950's, an American atomic-weapons researcher named Lorin Hawkes began designing boomerangs, eventually hooking up with Wham-O, the company behind the Frisbee and the Hula Hoop. Soon, boomerangs were being thrown all over the world. Boomerang oriented clubs and organizations sprang up everywhere; their members began sponsoring competitions and laying out rules and regulations. As consumers became more proficient with boomerangs, performing various tricks and stunts, manufacturers started producing new models-with four, five or six blades, creating different flight patterns. In 1976, Herb Smith, a British prison warden, crafted a special boomerang. He was able to throw it more than 108 yards and catch it on its return.

The boomerang has fallen from the heights of popularity it once enjoyed. But, true to its nature, it will almost certainly make a return.