Print Shop™ Graphics
for Libraries

American Heritage
Print Shop™ Graphics for Libraries
Volume 6

American Heritage

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MARIAN COLCLASHURE

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v. 3: Books and Fonts (Apple version)

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v. 5: States and Politics (Apple version)

v. 6: American Heritage (Apple version)

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Introduction and Directions for Use

*American Heritage* tries to capture the pioneer spirit of America, both historical and contemporary. There are three parts to this volume: 101 small graphics (on diskette side 1), 45 hi-res (high-resolution) panels to be used with Print Shop's "Screen Magic" (on diskette sides 2, 3, and 4), and the American history time line which can be found in this booklet. The reference information contained in the time line is divided into five areas: history, literature, arts, sports, and technology.

The two included diskettes are graphic data disks only. They will not function without the Print Shop program. Keep in mind that graphics are contained on all four sides of the disks. Never place a diskette on any surface without first placing it in the provided sleeve, or else the information on the "under-side" might be damaged. We suggest that you make a copy of the disks, then use only the copies while storing the original disk away.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SMALL GRAPHICS USE**

All of the 101 small graphics are found on side 1. Place your Print Shop program disk in drive 1 and turn on the computer. When the MAIN MENU screen appears, decide whether you wish to design a greeting card, sign, letterhead, or banner. If you select the greeting card mode, you are asked to make a choice between DESIGN YOUR OWN and READY-MADE. When using the American Heritage program or any other graphic disks in the Print Shop Graphics for Libraries series *select only DESIGN YOUR OWN*. The READY-MADE selection contains cards previously programmed with appropriate graphics for birthdays, anniversaries, invitations, etc.

After selecting DESIGN YOUR OWN, the next screen will ask you to select a border. Use the up/down arrows to highlight your choice, then press RETURN. Now, you are asked to "choose a graphic." Highlight the choice FROM OTHER DISK, then press RETURN. At this time, place the correct data disk in drive 2 (or drive 1 if only one drive is available). Type the graphic name and press RETURN. You will not see the graphic until it is printed out. Next, you must decide what size you would like your graphic printed. If you are designing a greeting card or a sign, and you decide to select a small sized graphic, you are given the option to use the TILED mode. This means the chosen graphic will be printed thirty-five times in tile formation on the card. Some of the graphics work well in this mode; they are as follows:

- BARB
- BARB2
- ENGLAND (or any of the flags)
- GBA
- STAR
- STAR2
Once you have decided on the size of your graphic, the font (type of lettering) is the next choice you must make. Use the up/down arrows to make your selection, then press RETURN. Now comes the fun part of deciding what wording you wish to place on the front of the card. Pressing CONTROL and the letter “I” will provide tips on changing size and form of lettering. Once the message is typed, hit the RETURN key until the cursor is at the bottom. This completes the designing of the outside of the card. Now you must go through the same steps to design the inside page. When you arrive at the PRINT menu, you might wish to select GIVE YOURSELF CREDIT. This allows you to print one line on the bottom of the back of the card at the location where you would normally see the price on store-bought cards.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PANEL USE**

The forty-five hi-res (high resolution) panels are found on sides 2, 3, and 4. Place the Print Shop program disk in drive 1 and turn on the computer. When the MAIN MENU appears, select SCREEN MAGIC (panels work in this mode only), then press RETURN. Once the next menu appears, select GET SCREEN and press RETURN. At this time, you will be asked to type the panel name. Make sure you have the correct panel disk side in drive 2 (or drive 1 if only one drive is available). Type the graphic name and press RETURN. In a few seconds the graphic will appear on the screen.

If you decide you don’t want the graphic appearing on the screen, you may at this point press ESC, then type another graphic name. However, if you like the graphic on the screen, press RETURN to continue. Now you have the option to type words onto the graphic before it is printed out. In order to do this, choose DRAW TEXT ON SCREEN, then press the RETURN key three times. Then you will be asked to choose a font. Use the up/down arrows to make your selection, then press RETURN. Type your message, then press RETURN until the cursor is at the bottom of the screen. On the screen will appear the graphic with your typed message. If you are not satisfied with the results, press ESC and then repeat the steps in this paragraph. Otherwise press RETURN to continue. Once you have obtained the desired results, choose PRINT SCREEN. At one point you will be asked what “print image” you desire. It is best to choose REVERSE (unlit dots are printed). Otherwise, your picture will be the negative image of what you saw on the screen. Use the down arrow to select REVERSE, then press RETURN. When the PRINT menu appears, you will be asked if you want the results printed on the top or bottom half of the page. If a half-page booklet is desired, then choose BOTTOM HALF. The resulting printed panel is a half page in size (approximately 6½” by 5”).

*Note:* Print Shop IIGS does not have the feature SCREEN MAGIC available.
Trouble Shooting

Sometimes, even though everything appears to be correctly set up, problems occur. Here are some tips that might prove helpful in pinpointing and correcting the problem area:

**Nothing on the screen** — Check cable connections to make sure they are properly plugged in to the monitor and computer.

**Printer won’t work** — First check the set-up from the Print Shop’s MAIN MENU to be sure the right printer has been selected. Next, make sure that the printer is “on-line” (selector switch is on as well as the printer off/on switch). Also, make sure that the printer slot number is correct in the set-up. The slot number for printers is usually 1, but not always.

**Printer works, but nothing prints out** — Check the ribbon. Is there one? Or, perhaps has the ribbon been pushed up?

**Program won’t allow me to access the graphic disk** — You have probably selected the category in the greeting card mode called READY-MADE. This option contains already-selected graphics from the Print Shop program. In order to select graphics from American Heritage or any other graphics data disk for making greeting cards, you must choose the category called DESIGN YOUR OWN.

**Printer skips lines when printing** — One of the switches on the printer is called “automatic linefeed switch.” Turn this switch off, then try printing again.

**Printer works, but printout is messed up** — Sounds like the wrong printer was selected from the set-up. Go back and check. If your printer brand is not listed, try others one at a time to see if any might work. On rare occasions, the dip switches in the printer will need to be changed in order for your printer to work with Print Shop. To make sure, you will need to refer to your printer manual; also, you could call the printer manufacturer for consultation. If you have a serial rather than a parallel interface, the baud rating must be set at 9600 baud.

Sometimes, all that is needed to achieve a good printout is to simply turn off the printer; wait a few seconds; then, turn the printer back on and try to print again.

**Panel prints out as a negative image** — Just before the PRINT menu, you are asked if you wish the panel printed in NORMAL or REVERSE image. We admit this seems confusing; however, the NORMAL mode means that the lit dots are printed. In other words, the lit-up (white) screen dots become black on the printout. Therefore, it is necessary to choose REVERSE mode to have a correct looking panel.
Side 1 of Disks: 101 Graphics
Sides 2-4 of Disks:
Panels

QUICK REFERENCE TO PANEL LOCATIONS

SIDE 2
PARTIES
WILL ROGERS
LITTLE BRAVE
FARMING
THANKSGIVING
GEORGE
LINCOLN
IWO JIMA
PANAMA CANAL
WE THE PEOPLE
GRANT
LEE
RIVERBOAT
PIONEERS
PIKEMAN

SIDE 3
INDEP. HALL
MINUTEMAN
WESTWARD
GIRL
INDIAN
EINSTEIN
CANNON
SAILING
RODEO
DIXIE
LEWIS & CLARK
PIRATE
WWII SOLDIER
JUSTICE
HULA

SIDE 4
FDR
CAVALRYMAN
VIKING
ASTRONAUTS
SHUTTLE
CAR
MOON
SITTING BULL
TURKEY
LONGFELLOW
EDISON
GERONIMO
MARK TWAIN
GW CARVER
EXPLORE
WESTWARD
SIDE 3

INDEPENDENCE HALL
SIDE 3

GIRL
SIDE 3

INDIAN
SIDE 3

MINUTEMAN
SIDE 3
Time Lines of U.S. History

HISTORY

1490

April 17, 1492: Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain sponsor Columbus’s voyage in search of the East Indies.

August 3, 1492: Columbus leaves Spain on the ships the Pinta, Nina, and Santa Maria.

October 12, 1492: Columbus and crew arrive in the New World on Watling Island in the Bahamas.

May 2-August 6, 1497: Two brothers, John and Sebastian Cabot sponsored by England’s Henry VII, become the first to reach the continent of North America since the Northmen.

May 10, 1497: Amerigo Vespucci’s famous voyage from Cadiz results in the claim that he discovered America.

1500

1507: A German, Waldseemüller coined the name “America” after Amerigo Vespucci, and used it in a French geography book. He was unaware of Columbus’s voyages and contributions to the discovery of the New World. He had only read the letters of Vespucci and believed him to be the discoverer of the New World.

1580

January 12, 1588: Governor John Winthrop of Massachusetts Bay Colony is born.

1600

May 13, 1607: Capt. John Smith and 105 cavaliers land their three ships on the Virginia coast and found the first English settlement in the New World, at Jamestown.

April 6, 1609: Henry Hudson begins his voyage to America under Dutch sponsorship. Hudson, with his vessel the Half Moon, sails along the east coast and explores what we now call Hudson Bay.

July 4, 1609: Champlain discovers the lake which now bears his name.

1610

April 5, 1614: Pocahontas marries John Rolfe, bringing peace between the Virginia Colony settlers and the Chickahominy Indians.

July 30, 1619: The House of Burgesses is established in Jamestown, Virginia, making it the first representative assembly in the New World.

August, 1619: Slavery is introduced to North America when 120 Negroes are brought to Jamestown by a Dutch man-of-war.

1620


November 19, 1620: The Pilgrims arrive in Cape Cod and name their landing area “Plymouth Rock” after their home in England.

May 6, 1626: Peter Minuit buys Manhattan from Man-a-hata-a Indians for trinkets valued at $24. The new settlement is under the control of the Dutch.

1630

1634: The first Roman Catholic church in America is built in St. Mary’s City, Maryland.

October 28, 1636: Harvard College, oldest college in America, is founded in Boston.

1637: The oldest frame house in America still standing is built in Dedham, Massachusetts.

1638: Swedish settlers introduce the log cabin to America.

1640

January 2, 1647: Nathan Bacon, colonial leader, is born.

1680

April 9, 1682: La Salle claims the lower Mississippi River country for France, calling it Louisiana.

1690

March, 1692: The witch hunt of Salem, Massachusetts, begins when three old women are accused of bewitching some children. By January, 1693, twenty “witches” are executed.

February 8, 1693: College of William and Mary, second-oldest college in America, is chartered.
1700

January 16, 1706: Benjamin Franklin, American statesman and inventor, is born.

1730

February 22, 1732: George Washington, 1st president of the United States, is born.

January 1, 1735: Paul Revere is born in Boston, Massachusetts.

October 30, 1735: John Adams, 2nd president of the United States, is born.

January 12, 1737: John Hancock, first signer of the Declaration of Independence, is born.

1740

January 14, 1741: Benedict Arnold, American Revolutionary War general and traitor, is born.

April 13, 1743: Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of the United States, is born.

January 12, 1746: Pestalozzi, pioneer educator, is born.

1750

March 16, 1751: James Madison, 4th president of the United States, is born.

January 1, 1752: Betsy Ross, American flag maker, is born in Philadelphia.

February 6, 1756: Aaron Burr, American political leader, is born.

April 28, 1758: James Monroe, 5th president of the United States, is born.

1760

March 15, 1767: Andrew Jackson, 7th president of the United States, is born.

July 11, 1767: John Quincy Adams, 6th president of the United States, is born.

1770

March 5, 1770: The Boston Massacre. British troops fire into Boston mob killing five including a black man, Crispus Attucks, who reportedly was leader of the group.

December 16, 1773: The Boston Tea Party. A cargo of tea is thrown overboard into Boston Harbor to protest British taxes.

September 5-October 26, 1774: First Continental Congress is held in Philadelphia to protest British tax levies and a call is issued for civil disobedience.

March 23, 1775: Patrick Henry gives his famous "Give me liberty, or give me death!" speech before the Virginia Convention.

April 18, 1775: Paul Revere makes his famous ride to warn the people that the British are on their way to Lexington, Massachusetts.


June 7, 1776: During the Continental Congress, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia moves that "These united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states."

July 2, 1776: Richard Henry Lee's motion of June 7, 1776, is adopted.

July 4, 1776: The Declaration of Independence is approved by the Continental Congress.

September 22, 1776: Nathan Hale is executed by the British because of his disloyalty to the British.


January 3, 1777: The Continental Congress adopts the Stars and Stripes as the country's flag.

January 3, 1777: The American army under the leadership of George Washington defeats three British regiments at the Battle of Princeton in New Jersey.

1780

September 23, 1780: Benedict Arnold is found to be a traitor.

January 18, 1782: Daniel Webster, American statesman, is born.

September 3, 1783: Great Britain and the American colonies sign a peace treaty.

December 24, 1784: The Methodist Church is organized in Baltimore, Maryland, by Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury.

January 25, 1787: Shay's Rebellion of debt-ridden farmers in Massachusetts fails.

December 7, 1787: Delaware becomes the 1st state to join the Union.

December 12, 1787: Pennsylvania becomes the 2nd state.

December 18, 1787: New Jersey becomes the 3rd state.

January 2, 1788: Georgia joins the Union as the 4th state.

January 9, 1788: Connecticut joins the Union as the 5th state.

February 6, 1788: Massachusetts becomes the 6th state.

April 28, 1788: Maryland and South Carolina become the 7th and 8th states respectively.

June 21, 1788: New Hampshire becomes the 9th state.

June 25, 1788: Virginia becomes the 10th state.

July 26, 1788: New York becomes the 11th state.

January 7, 1789: The first American presidential election is held.

February 4, 1789: George Washington is chosen president and John Adams vice president by the electoral college.
April 30, 1789: George Washington is sworn into office as the first president of the United States. The inauguration takes place on the balcony of Federal Hall in New York City.

September 24, 1789: The Supreme Court is created by the Federal Judiciary Act.

November 21, 1789: North Carolina becomes the 12th state to enter the Union.

1790

February 1, 1790: First meeting of the U.S. Supreme Court.

May 29, 1790: Rhode Island becomes the 13th state to enter the Union.

March 4, 1791: Vermont becomes the 14th state.

June 1, 1792: Kentucky becomes the 15th state.

June 1, 1796: Tennessee becomes the 16th state.

December 14, 1799: George Washington, 1st president of the United States, dies at the age of 67.

1800

March 1, 1803: Ohio becomes the 17th state.

December 20, 1803: The United States purchases the Louisiana territory from Napoleon, thereby doubling the size of the country.

May 14, 1804: The Lewis and Clark expedition begins by orders of President Jefferson. It sets out from St. Louis, Missouri and will eventually reach the mouth of the Columbia River.

July 11, 1804: Vice President Raymond Burre mortally wounds Alexander Hamilton in a pistol duel. Hamilton dies the next day.

January 19, 1807: Robert E. Lee, commanding general of the Southern armies during the Civil War, is born.

February 12, 1809: Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States, is born near present-day Hodgenville, Kentucky.

1810

April 30, 1812: Louisiana becomes the 18th state.

June 18, 1812: The War of 1812 begins. Congress declares war on Britain for seizing U.S. ships trading with France, and for arming Indians.

August 24, 1814: The Capitol and the White House are burned by invading British troops.


January 8, 1815: Andrew Jackson, in command of U.S. forces, defeats the British at the Battle of New Orleans.

December 11, 1816: Indiana becomes the 19th state.

December 13, 1816: The first savings bank in the United States is organized in Boston.

1817: The first insane asylum in the United States is built in Frankford, Pennsylvania.

December 10, 1817: Mississippi becomes the 20th state.

April 4, 1818: Congress votes to have a U.S. flag with thirteen stripes (the number of stripes would never change), and a square of stars representing the number of states belonging to the Union.

December 3, 1818: Illinois becomes the 21st state.

December 14, 1819: Alabama becomes the 22nd state.

1820

February 15, 1820: Susan B. Anthony, American woman suffrage leader, is born.

March 15, 1820: Maine becomes the 23rd state.

March 3, 1820: The Missouri Compromise bill, proposed by Henry Clay, is passed by Congress.

August 10, 1821: Missouri becomes the 24th state.

April 27, 1822: Ulysses S. Grant, 18th president of the United States, is born.

December 2, 1823: Congress ratifies the Monroe Doctrine, which opposes any European intervention in the western hemisphere.

January 21, 1824: General “Stonewall” Jackson, famous commander of Confederate forces, is born.

October 26, 1825: The Erie Canal is opened. The canal cuts shipping costs to the west by 90 percent and travel time by one-third.

July 4, 1826: Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of the United States, dies at the age of 83.

1830

April 6, 1830: Joseph Smith organizes the Mormon church in Fayette, New York.

August, 1831: Nat Turner, a black slave from Virginia, leads a slave rebellion killing fifty-seven whites. Turner is later captured by troops and hanged.

March 6, 1836: Texans at the Alamo in San Antonio are massacred by Mexicans under General Santa Anna.

June 15, 1836: Arkansas becomes the 25th state.

January 26, 1837: Michigan becomes the 26th state.

March 18, 1837: Grover Cleveland, 24th president of the United States, is born.

June 29, 1837: Horace Mann, father of the common school, is born in Franklin, Massachusetts.

1840

February 17, 1844: Montgomery Ward, founder of the famous department store, is born.

March 3, 1845: Florida becomes the 27th state.
June 8, 1845: Andrew Jackson, 6th president of the United States, dies.

December 29, 1845: Texas becomes the 28th state.

December 28, 1846: Iowa becomes the 29th state.

July 1, 1847: The first adhesive U.S. postage stamps are sold for five cents (Ben Franklin is pictured) and ten cents (Washington is pictured).

July 26, 1847: Mormons, under the leadership of Brigham Young, settle in the Salt Lake valley, a part of Mexico at that time.

January 24, 1848: Gold is discovered in California at Sutter’s Mill near Sacramento.

February 2, 1848: Mexico gives California, New Mexico, and other parts of the west to the United States by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

May 29, 1848: Wisconsin becomes the 30th state.

1850

September 9, 1850: California becomes the 31st state.

February 28, 1854: The Republican party is formed at Ripon, Wisconsin.

April 21, 1855: The first railroad train to cross the Mississippi River on a bridge: Rock Island, Illinois.

December 28, 1856: Woodrow Wilson, 28th president of the United States is born.

March 6, 1857: The U.S. Supreme Court hands down the Dred Scott decision stating that a slave does not become free when entering a free state; blacks cannot be citizens; and Congress cannot bar slavery in a territory.

May 11, 1858: Minnesota becomes the 32nd state.

October 27, 1858: Theodore Roosevelt, 26th president of the United States, is born.

February 14, 1859: Oregon becomes the 33rd state.

1860

April 3, 1860: The Pony Express, between Sacramento, California and St. Joseph, Missouri, begins.

January 29, 1861: Kansas becomes the 34th state.

February 4, 1861: The Confederate States of America formed at a temporary committee meeting in Montgomery, Alabama.

February 8, 1861: Jefferson Davis becomes president of the Confederate States of America.

April 12, 1861: Ft. Sumter, in Charleston, South Carolina is forced on by Confederate troops.

July 21, 1861: The Battle of Bull Run begins. The Confederates repel the Union forces.

October 24, 1861: The Pony Express ends due to the opening of the first transcontinental telegraph line.

January 1, 1863: Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves.

June 20, 1863: West Virginia becomes the 35th state.

July 1-5, 1863: The battle of Gettysburg is fought. The Union forces win a major victory.

November 19, 1863: Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address.

October 31, 1864: Nevada becomes the 36th state.

April 9, 1865: Robert E. Lee surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House.

April 14, 1865: Lincoln is shot at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. by John Wilkes Booth. Lincoln dies the next morning.

April 26, 1865: Death of John Wilkes Booth, Lincoln's assassin.

December 18, 1865: The Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery is put into effect.

March 1, 1867: Nebraska becomes the 37th state.

March 30, 1867: Representing the United States, Secretary of State William Seward buys Alaska from Russia for $7.2 million.

December 4, 1867: Granges are organized to help protect farmers' interests.

1870

February 9, 1870: The U.S. Weather Service is established.

October 8-11, 1871: The great fire of Chicago is supposedly started by Mrs. O'Leary's cow knocking over a lantern. Damage is estimated at $196 million.

1872: Yellowstone (Wyoming) becomes the first national park in the United States.

May 1, 1873: The first U.S. postal card is issued.

August 10, 1874: Herbert Hoover, 31st president of the United States, is born.

June 25, 1876: Custer's Last Stand, the term given to the Battle of Little Big Horn, is fought in Montana. Sioux Indians kill 264 soldiers who are under the command of George A. Custer.

August 1, 1876: Colorado becomes the 38th state.


1880

January 26, 1880: General Douglas MacArthur, famous World War II general, is born in Little Rock, Arkansas.

February 12, 1880: John L. Lewis, American labor leader, is born.

July 2, 1881: President James A. Garfield is shot in the Washington, D.C. railroad station by Charles Jules Guiteau.

1881: The Tuskegee Institute is founded by Booker T. Washington.


May 24, 1883: The Brooklyn Bridge is opened.

May 8, 1884: Harry S. Truman, 33rd president of the United States, is born.

July 23, 1885: Ulysses S. Grant, 18th U.S. president, dies.

September 4, 1886: The final surrender of Geronimo, Apache Indian.

December 8, 1886: The American Federation of Labor (AFL) is formed by twenty-five crafts unions.


November 2, 1889: North Dakota and South Dakota become the 39th and 40th states respectively.

November 8, 1889: Montana becomes the 41st state.

November 11, 1889: Washington becomes the 42nd state.

1890

July 3, 1890: Idaho becomes the 43rd state.

July 10, 1890: Wyoming becomes the 44th state.

August 6, 1890: William Kemmler becomes the first prisoner to die by electrocution. (Auburn Prison, New York. Crime: murder)

October 14, 1890: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president of the United States, is born.

December 29, 1890: The Battle of Wounded Knee is the last Indian/U.S. troops conflict.

December 31, 1890: Ellis Island opens as the New York immigration depot.

1900

January 21, 1901: Carry Nation begins her campaign against booze by creating havoc with a hatchet in saloons and other drinking establishments.

September 6, 1901: President William McKinley is fatally wounded by anarchist Leon Czolgosz.

September 14, 1901: William McKinley, 25th U.S. president, dies.

October 24, 1901: Anna Taylor becomes the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

November 18, 1901: George Gallup, famous poll-taker, is born.

February 4, 1902: Charles Lindbergh, American aviator, is born.

November 18, 1903: The United States signs treaty with Panama to dig a canal through Isthmus of Panama.

April 18-19, 1906: The San Francisco earthquake and fire kills 452, and leaves $350 million in damage.

November 9, 1906: Teddy Roosevelt becomes the first U.S. president to visit a foreign country while in office when he leaves for the Canal Zone in Panama.

November 16, 1907: Oklahoma becomes the 46th state.

June 24, 1908: Grover Cleveland, 24th U.S. president, dies.

August 27, 1908: Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th president of the United States, is born.

April 6, 1909: Admiral Robert E. Peary and party of five are attributed with becoming the first to reach the North Pole.

May 30, 1909: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is formed.

1910

February 8, 1910: The Boy Scouts of America is founded by W. D. Boyce.

February 6, 1911: Ronald Reagan, 40th president of the United States, is born.

January 6, 1912: New Mexico becomes the 47th state.

February 14, 1912: Arizona becomes the 48th state.

April 15, 1912: The Titanic, a great ocean liner, sinks on its way to New York from London.

January 1, 1913: The U.S. Parcel Post service begins.

January 9, 1913: Richard M. Nixon, 37th president, is born in Yorba Linda, California.

March 10, 1913: Harriet Tubman, American abolitionist and Underground Railroad leader, dies.

July 14, 1913: Gerald R. Ford, 38th president, is born.


February 18, 1915: Frank James (Jesse's brother) dies peacefully in Missouri where he had been a law-abiding farmer.

August 4, 1916: The United States buys the Virgin Islands from Denmark.

November 7, 1916: Jeanette Rankin becomes the first woman to be elected to the House of Representatives.

April 6, 1917: The United States officially enters World War I.

May 29, 1917: John F. Kennedy, 35th president of the United States, is born.

December 18, 1917: The Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which marks the beginning of Prohibition, is submitted to the states by Congress.
November 11, 1918: The armistice for World War I is signed.


February 26, 1919: Congress establishes Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

June 28, 1919: The Treaty of Versailles officially ends World War I.

1920

February 10, 1920: The League of Nations is established.

May 19, 1921: Congress puts a limit on the number of immigrants by voting a national quota system.

November 11, 1921: The "unknown soldier" is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

February 3, 1924: Woodrow Wilson, 28th U.S. president, dies.

June 15, 1924: Congress approves a law making all Indians citizens.

October 1, 1924: Jimmy Carter, 39th president of the United States, is born.

January 5, 1925: Nellie Taylor Ross becomes the first woman governor in the United States (Wyoming). She completes the term of her husband who died while in office.

January 15, 1929: Martin Luther King, Jr., American civil rights leader, is born.

February 14, 1929: The St. Valentine's Day Massacre occurs in Chicago. Gangsters murder seven members of a rival gang.

October 29, 1929: The Stock Market crash occurs, marking the beginning of the Great Depression.

November 1, 1929: Teapot Dome Scandal occurs: Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior, is convicted of accepting a bribe of $100,000 as a part of the Elk Hills Naval Oil Reserves lease.

1930

May 1, 1931: The Empire State Building (102 stories tall), is completed in New York City.

March 1, 1932: The baby son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh is kidnapped. The child was found dead May 1 of the same year.

March 7, 1932: On this day during the Great Depression, three thousand men riot and four are killed when the Ford Motor Company advertises that a few jobs are available.

March 4, 1933: President Franklin Roosevelt utters the famous quote, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

March 6, 1933: President Roosevelt orders the closing of all banks in the United States due to the depression.

March 9-June 16, 1933: During a 100-day special session of Congress, the New Deal is passed to strengthen the U.S. economy.

November 13, 1933: The Hormel Packing Company in Austin, Minnesota, is the scene of America's first sit-down strike.

December 5, 1933: Prohibition ends.


August 15, 1935: Comedian Will Rogers and aviator Wiley Post are killed in a plane crash in Alaska.

November 9, 1935: The Committee for Industrial Organization (CIO), a labor union, is formed.

1936: Boulder Dam, on the Colorado River in Arizona, is completed.

May 6, 1937: The Hindenburg blimp crashes while docking at an airport in Lakehurst, New Jersey.

July 2, 1937: Amelia Earhart Putnam is lost in the Pacific near Howland Island while on an attempted solo plane flight around the world.

1940

July 7, 1941: The United States occupies Iceland.

December 7, 1941: The bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii by Japanese forces results in twenty-three hundred dead and twelve ships sunk or damaged.

December 8, 1941: The United States declares war on Japan.

March 17, 1942: General Douglas A. MacArthur arrives in Australia after leaving the Philippines, and announces, "I shall return."

June 3-6, 1942: The United States defeats Japan at the Battle of Midway. It is the first major defeat for Japan.

June 22, 1943: One of the worst racial riots occur in Detroit. During the riot, thirty-four people are killed and thirteen thousand are arrested.

June 6, 1944: The Allied forces begin the invasion of Europe at Normandy beach on the coast of France.

June 22, 1944: The G.I. Bill of Rights is signed providing veterans with educational and medical benefits.


April 12, 1945: Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President, dies of a cerebral hemorrhage.

May 7, 1945: The documents of surrender of Germany to the Allies are signed in Reims and in Berlin.

July 16, 1945: The first atomic bomb is exploded at Alamogordo, New Mexico.

August 6, 1945: The United States drops the first atomic bomb, on Hiroshima, Japan.

August 9, 1945: The United States drops the second atomic bomb, on Nagasaki, Japan.

August 15, 1945: Japan surrenders.

April 30, 1948: The Organization of American States (OAS) is founded.
August 24, 1949: North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is established.

1950

January 31, 1950: President Truman authorizes development of the hydrogen bomb.

September 4, 1951: President Truman's address at the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference in San Francisco becomes the first transcontinental television transmission.

July 16, 1952: President Truman signs the G.I. Bill of Rights into law.

January 7, 1953: President Truman announces to the world that the United States has developed a hydrogen bomb, and states, "From now on, man moves into a new era of destructive power."

May 11, 1953: Tornados hit Waco and San Angelo, Texas, killing 124 people.

June 19, 1953: Julius and Ethel Rosenberg become the first civilians to be executed in the United States for espionage.

March 1, 1954: On the floor of the House of Representatives, five congressmen are shot by Puerto Rican nationalists. All five recover.

April 1, 1954: Authorization is granted for a U.S. Air Force Academy to be built. On June 24, the site is announced to be Colorado Springs, Colorado.

May 17, 1954: The Supreme Court unanimously rules racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional, thus guaranteeing equal protection of the law. The decision is known as Brown vs. the Board of Education.

September 30, 1954: The U.S.S. Nautilus, the first atomic-powered submarine, is commissioned at Groton, Connecticut.

December 1, 1955: A black woman, Rosa Parks, refuses to move from the front to the back of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, even though the city bus segregation ordinance declares she must do so. The NAACP protests the ordinance and begins a boycott. Later, a federal court rules the ordinance to be unconstitutional.

June 27-28, 1957: Hurricane Audrey and a subsequent tidal wave slam into the coast of Texas and Louisiana resulting in 531 deaths.

September 4, 1957: Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus calls out the National Guard to bar nine black students from entering all-white Central High School in Little Rock.

September 24, 1957: President Eisenhower sends federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas to ensure enrollment and attendance of blacks to previously all-white schools.

January 3, 1959: Alaska becomes the 49th state.

August 21, 1959: Hawaii becomes the 50th state.

September 15-27, 1959: Nikita Khrushchev becomes the first Soviet premier to visit the United States.

1960

January 4, 1960: The nation's longest steel strike, which had begun on July 15, 1959, is finally over. An agreement is finally reached by the U.S. Steel Workers and the steel companies for increased wages.


January 3, 1961: The United States breaks off diplomatic relations with Cuba.

March 1, 1961: President John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps.

April 17, 1961: The Bay of Pigs incident occurs. Anti-Castro Cubans, backed and trained by the CIA and the U.S.-based National Revolutionary Council, forge an unsuccessful attack to overthrow the Castro government.

September 5, 1961: A hijacking bill is signed into law by President Kennedy making air piracy a crime punishable by death or imprisonment.

October 22, 1962: During the Cuban Missile Crisis, President Kennedy reveals a Soviet missile buildup in Cuba, and orders a blockade of offensive military equipment to the island.


February 21, 1963: President Kennedy submits to Congress the plan for Medicare.

April 10, 1963: The nuclear-powered submarine Thresher sinks in the Atlantic due to a system failure, with 129 dead.

August 28, 1963: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Washington, D.C., gives his famous speech in which he says, "I have a dream that this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal.'"

August 30, 1963: The "hot line" (telephone connection) between Washington and Moscow is created for the purpose of avoiding accidental war.

November 22, 1963: President John F. Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas by Lee Harvey Oswald. Lyndon B. Johnson is sworn in as president.

November 24, 1963: Kennedy's assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, is shot and killed by Jack Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner. Ruby dies of natural causes January 3, 1967 while awaiting retrial.

November 25, 1963: John F. Kennedy is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

January 9, 1964: Diplomatic relations between the United States and Panama are severed after riots break out in the Canal Zone over the flying of the U.S. and Panamanian flags.

March 27, 1964: A devastating earthquake in Alaska kills 117 people and causes tremendous damage. The following day President Johnson declares Alaska a major disaster area.
August 4, 1964: Just outside Philadelphia, Mississippi, three white civil rights workers are found murdered and buried in an earthen dam. They had been held six hours for speeding on June 21st; once released they were reported missing. Their burned station wagon was found on June 23, and President Johnson ordered an FBI search for the men.

February 16, 1965: An unsuccessful attempt is made by four people to bomb the Statue of Liberty, the Liberty Bell, and the Washington Monument.

February 21, 1965: Black activist Malcolm X is assassinated by rival black Muslims while addressing a rally at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City.

March 8-9, 1965: The first U.S. combat troops, more than thirty-five hundred Marines, arrive in Vietnam.

April 11, 1965: A series of thirty-seven tornadoes kill 271 people and injure 5,000 more as they plow their way through Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ohio.


February 28, 1966: A T-38 jet trainer crashes in St. Louis, Missouri. Among the dead are two NASA astronauts Elliott See, Jr. and Charles Bassett II en route to a Gemini training exercise.

July 1, 1966: The beginning of Medicare, a government program to help pay medical expenses of people over 65 years old.


June 12, 1967: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that state laws forbidding interracial marriages are unconstitutional.

October 2, 1967: Thurgood Marshall becomes the first black to be sworn into office as a justice of the Supreme Court.

October 20, 1967: A federal jury convicts seven Ku Klux Klan members of the murders of three white civil rights workers in Mississippi.

January 23, 1968: The Navy intelligence ship U.S.S. Pueblo is seized off the coast of North Korea by North Korean patrol boats. The crew of eighty-three are subject to harsh treatment until their release on December 23rd.

April 4, 1968: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, by escaped convict James Earl Ray. Ray is later sentenced to ninety-nine years.

April 9, 1968: The funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is held in Memphis, Tennessee, with an estimated attendance of seventy-five thousand.

June 5, 1968: Senator Robert F. Kennedy is fatally wounded by Sirhan Sirhan in Los Angeles during celebration of primary victories. He dies the next day.

June 23, 1968: On this day, the Vietnam War becomes the longest war in U.S. history.

November 5, 1968: Richard M. Nixon is elected president after a close race with Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

November 5, 1968: New York's Shirley Chisholm becomes the first black woman to be elected to the House of Representatives.

March 28, 1969: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president, dies. He is buried in the town of his boyhood, Abilene, Kansas.

April 23, 1969: Sirhan Sirhan is sentenced to death for the murder of Senator Robert Kennedy.

June 10, 1969: Warren Earl Burger is confirmed as chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

August 17, 1969: Hurricane Camille slams into the coasts of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama killing three hundred people and leaving seventy thousand homeless.

1970

March 4, 1970: The Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty signed by the United States, the Soviet Union, and 41 other countries becomes effective.

April 1, 1970: The U.S. population is 205,000,000.

May 4, 1970: The Kent State incident occurs. Four students are shot and killed by National Guardsmen on the Kent State campus in Ohio during a protest against the United States invasion in Cambodia.

May 15, 1970: The first two women generals in U.S. history are appointed by President Nixon.

December 21, 1970: The voting age in national elections is reduced to eighteen.

January 26, 1971: Charles Manson, along with three others, is found guilty of murdering seven people, among them Sharon Tate, a movie actress.

February 21-28, 1972: President Nixon makes a historic visit to Communist China paving the way for normalizing relations between the two countries.

May 15, 1972: As he campaigns at a shopping center, Governor George Wallace of Alabama is shot and crippled by Arthur Bremer.

June 17, 1972: The Watergate scandals begin with the breaking into the Democratic National Committee offices at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C. by Nixon's top aides.


October 10, 1973: Spiro Agnew resigns as vice president after being convicted on tax evasion charges.

May 9, 1974: Impeachment proceedings are opened against President Nixon by the House Judiciary Committee.

August 9, 1974: President Nixon resigns office. Vice President Gerald R. Ford is sworn into office.
September 8, 1974: President Ford pardons ex-President Nixon for his part in the cover-up of the Watergate scandals.

August 6, 1975: Literacy requirements for voting in national elections are abolished as a part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

September 22, 1975: Congress authorizes military academies to admit women.

June 5, 1976: The Teton Dam in Idaho collapses flooding three hundred square miles. One billion dollars of damage is done and fourteen people lose their lives.

July 4, 1976: The United States celebrates the two hundredth anniversary of its independence.


September 7, 1977: President Carter signs two treaties transferring control of the Panama Canal to Panama by the year 2000.

1978: The United States and China establish diplomatic relations.

April 5, 1978: President Carter signs a retirement age bill allowing workers to retire at age seventy rather than sixty-five.

June 18, 1978: The SALT II treaty limiting nuclear arms is signed in Vienna by President Carter and Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union.

March 28, 1979: Three Mile Island near Middletown, Pennsylvania, is the site of a nuclear reactor disaster in which radioactive gases escape through the plant's venting system.

November 4, 1979: Sixty-three Americans and others are taken hostage at the American embassy in Teheran, Iran by militant student followers of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

1980

January 4, 1980: President Carter announces a grain embargo against the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan.

April 7, 1980: The United States breaks diplomatic relations with Iran over the hostage crisis.

April 24, 1980: An attempted rescue of the U.S. hostages in Iran fails miserably.

May 18, 1980: Mount St. Helens erupts in Washington state scattering ash over a large part of the United States.

January 20, 1981: Fifty-two American hostages are freed after spending 444 days in captivity in Iran.

March 30, 1981: President Reagan is shot in the chest by John Hinckley, Jr. in Washington, D.C.

August 5, 1981: All striking air traffic controllers are fired by President Reagan after refusing to go back to work.

September 21, 1981: Sandra Day O'Connor, first woman justice of the Supreme Court, is confirmed by the Senate.

June 30, 1982: The Equal Rights Amendment fails to be ratified by enough states to become a part of the U.S. Constitution.

September 29-October 1, 1982: Cyanide in Tylenol capsules causes the deaths of seven persons in Chicago. The crime is never solved. Safer packaging of food and medicines is the result.

April 12, 1983: Harold Washington is elected as the first black mayor of Chicago.

October 23, 1983: A car bomb (suicide attack) devastates the U.S. Marine compound in Beirut, Lebanon killing 241 marines and sailors.

October 25, 1983: The United States invades Grenada.

July 17, 1984: President Reagan signs a bill which requires states to raise the drinking age level to twenty-one or face loss of federal funds.

April 14, 1986: The United States bombs Libya as a part of anti-terrorist actions.

July 3-6, 1986: The restoration of the Statue of Liberty is completed. The renovation took over three years and cost over $70 million. On the 3rd, President Reagan relights the torch, and on the 4th is the most spectacular fireworks display ever assembled in U.S. history, comprising over forty thousand "rockets."

October 19, 1987: "Black Monday" occurs—so named because of the 508-point plummet of the U.S. stock market.

Summer, 1988: Fire burns 1.3 of 2.2 million acres of Yellowstone Park in Wyoming. The summer is the driest ever recorded in the United States.

April, 1988: The U.S. Senate votes an apology to the sixty thousand Japanese-American survivors of WWII internment.

March 24, 1989: The Exxon oil tanker Valdez runs a-ground near Prince William Sound just off the Alaskan coast, rupturing its hull and releasing eleven million barrels of oil, resulting in the world's worst oil spill.

April 12, 1989: Anti-war and civil rights activist Abbie Hoffman is found dead of a drug overdose in his Pennsylvania home.

August 22, 1989: Former Black Panther leader Huey Newton found shot to death in drug-infested Oakland, California neighborhood.
LITERATURE

1600

1608: The first American book, *A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Nrote as Hath Hapned in Virginia Since the First Planting of that Colony*, by Captain John Smith, was printed in London.

1610

1612: Captain John Smith wrote a book entitled *A Map of Virginia* in which he described Virginia's people, land, commodities, government, and religion.

1620

1620: The first American public library opens at a college planned for Henrico, Virginia. The college never developed, and the collection of books was broken up.

1622: The first detailed and accurate account of the landing of the pilgrims at Plymouth is recorded in the writings of William Bradford and Edward Winslow in the book *Mourt's Relation*.

1630

1630: William Bradford begins writing the book *History of Plymouth Plantation* which is regarded as the first account of the settlement of the Plymouth Colony. The book takes more than twenty years to complete, and is finally published in 1656, more than two hundred years later.

1630: The Reverend Jose Glover imports the first printing press of the colonies into Cambridge, Massachusetts. When Glover dies, his widow and Stephen Daye print the first document in America: "Oath of a Free-Man."

1638: Harvard College library opens.

1638: The first almanac, called *An Almanak for the Year of Our Lord, 1639, Calculated for New England*, by William Pierce, is published at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1639: The first American bookseller and publisher, Hezekiah Usher, settles in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1640

1640: *The Whole Booke of Psalms Faithfully Translated into English Metre* becomes the first book published in America. It is published in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is more commonly called *The Bay Psalm Book*.

1643: *A Key Into the Languages of America, or an Help to the Language of the Natives of that Part of America Called New England*, written by Roger Williams, becomes the first American word book.


1650

1653: *Catechism* is the first book for the Indian people ever published. Written by John Eliot, it was translated into the Algonquian language.

1657: The first town library opens in Boston.

1660

1661: The first Bible printed in America was not in English. The New Testament was translated by John Eliot into the language of the Algonquian Indians in 1661. Eliot went on to publish the Old Testament two years later.

1667: The first illustrated book is printed in America.


1670


1678: The first book of poetry by a woman in America is *Several Poems Compiled With Great Variety of Wit and Learning* by Anne Bradstreet. It is published in Massachusetts.

1680

1681: One of the best sellers of all time in America, *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan, is published in the colonies only three years after it was first published in London.

1682: Virginia's first printing press, belonging to William Nuthead, caused an uproar with King Charles II of England for printing *Acts of the Virginia Assembly*. The king took steps to assure that no more printing presses were ever to operate in Virginia again.


1690

1690: The first paper mill opens in America.

1690: One of the most popular elementary textbooks, the *New England Primer*, is published.

September 25, 1690: *Publick Occurrences* the first newspaper in the colonies, is published in Boston.

1700

1701: Yale College library opens.

1710

1714: The first play to be printed in America, *Androboros*, by Robert Hunter, is published in New York.
1730
December 19, 1732: Benjamin Franklin first publishes Poor Richard's Almanack.

October, 1734: John Peter Zenger is arrested for libel written in his Weekly Journal.

May 29, 1736: Patrick Henry, orator of the famous quote, "Give me liberty or give me death," is born.


1750
January 11, 1757: Alexander Hamilton, statesman and author of The Federalist Papers, is born on Nevis Island.

1768: Encyclopaedia Britannica is published.

1770
January 17, 1771: Charles B. Brown, novelist and author of Alcuin, is born in Philadelphia.

January 10, 1776: Thomas Paine publishes his Common Sense pamphlet.

1780
1782: The first edition of the Bible in English is published.

1783: The American Speller by Noah Webster is published. Used as a text in school, it included stories, quotations, and pointers for ethical behavior.

1783: The first copyright laws are passed in the United States.


September 21, 1784: Pennsylvania Packet & General Advertiser becomes the first successful daily newspaper.

October 27, 1787: The Federalist, a series of famous political essays, begins publication. It ends after eighty-five essays on April 4, 1788. Most of the essays were written by Alexander Hamilton.

1790
January 17, 1790: Benjamin Franklin, elder statesman, printer, and publisher, dies in Boston.

November 3, 1794: William Cullen Bryant, poet, is born in Cummington, Massachusetts.

1800
1800: The Library of Congress opens in Washington, D.C.


May 25, 1803: Ralph Waldo Emerson, American philosopher and author, is born in Boston.

July 4, 1804: Nathaniel Hawthorne, novelist and author of The House of the Seven Gables, is born in Salem, Massachusetts.

April 17, 1806: William Gilmore Simms, novelist and author of Woodcraft, is born in Charleston, South Carolina.


February 27, 1807: Henry W. Longfellow, poet, is born in Portland, Maine.

January 19, 1809: Edgar Allan Poe, American poet and short story writer, is born in Boston.

February 12, 1809: Charles Darwin, author of On the Origin of Species, is born in Massachusetts.

August 29, 1809: Oliver Wendell Holmes, poet and author of The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, is born in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1810
February 3, 1811: Horace Greeley, American publisher, is born.

June 14, 1811: Harriet Beecher Stowe, novelist, and author of Uncle Tom's Cabin, is born in Litchfield, Connecticut.

1814: William Clark publishes a report of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The Library of Congress is destroyed by fire.

September 13-14, 1814: Francis Scott Key pens the words to the first stanza of "The Star Spangled Banner" on the back of an envelope during the night of the 13th. He was in a vessel in the harbor outside Baltimore, Maryland witnessing the bombardment by the British on Ft. Sumter. The next day, after learning that the Americans had withstood the attack, he wrote the remaining verses from his hotel room in Baltimore.

1815: The Library of Congress is re-established after the fire of 1814.

August 1, 1815: Richard Henry Dana, novelist and author of Two Years Before the Mast, is born in Cambridge, Massachusetts.


August 1, 1819: Herman Melville, author of Moby-Dick, is born in New York City.

1820
1821: The Spy, by James Fenimore Cooper, is published.

September 16, 1823: Francis Parkman, author of California and the Oregon Trail is born in Boston.

1826: The Last of the Mohicans, by James Fenimore Cooper, is published.

1827: Tamerlane and Other Poems, the first book of poems by Edgar Allen Poe, is published.
1828: Noah Webster publishes his *American Dictionary of the English Language*.

1829: Braille writing appears.

1829: *Encyclopedia Americana* is published.

1830

September 16, 1830: Oliver Wendell Holmes's poem "Old Ironsides" is published in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*.

December 10, 1830: Emily Dickinson, poet, is born in Amherst, Massachusetts.

January 2, 1831: Justin Winsor, librarian, editor, and historian, is born.

1832: The collected *Poems* of William Cullen Bryant are published.


1835: *Democracy in America* by Alexis de Tocqueville is published.

November 30, 1835: Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), author of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, is born in Florida, Missouri.


March 1, 1837: William Dean Howells, novelist, is born in Martin's Ferry, Ohio.

February 16, 1838: Henry Brooks Adams, historian and author of *The Education of Henry Adams*, is born.

1840

1840: *Two Years Before the Mast*, by Richard Henry Dana, is published.

April, 1841: Edgar Allan Poe publishes the first detective story, "The Murders in the Rue Morgue."

1841: *Essays*, by Ralph Waldo Emerson, is published.

1841: *The Deerslayer*, by James Fenimore Cooper, is published.

1841: Famous poems including "The Skeleton in Armor" and "The Wreck of the Hesperus" are published by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his collection *Ballads and Other Poems*.

February 3, 1842: Sidney Lanier, American poet, critic, and author of *The Science of English Verse*, is born in Macon, Georgia.

June 24, 1842: Ambrose Bierce, short story writer, is born in Meigs County, Ohio.

April 15, 1843: Novelist Henry James is born in New York City.

October 12, 1844: George W. Cable, author of *The Silent South*, is born in New Orleans.

July 4, 1845: Henry David Thoreau begins his twenty-six month stay at Walden Pond.

February 14, 1847: Esther Howland makes the first American Valentine's Day cards.

December 9, 1848: Joel Chandler Harris, novelist, folklorist, and author of the Uncle Remus stories, is born in Georgia.


September 3, 1849: Sarah Orne Jewett, short story writer, is born in Berwick, Maine.

1850

1850: *The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne, is published.

July 12, 1850: Kate Chopin, author of *The Awakening*, is born in St. Louis.

1851: *The House of the Seven Gables*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne, is published.

1851: *Moby Dick*, by Herman Melville, is published.

1852: *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, is published.

October 31, 1852: Mary E. W. Freeman, novelist, and author of *Doctor Gordon*, is born in Randolph, Massachusetts.

1854: *Walden*, by Henry David Thoreau, is published.

May 5, 1854: Marie Shedlock, storyteller, is born.

1855: John Bartlett's famous *Familiar Quotations* is first published.

1855: *Leaves of Grass*, by Walt Whitman, is published.


August 18, 1856: A copyright law is passed by Congress.


June 20, 1858: Charles W. Chesnutt, novelist and author of *The Conjure Woman*, is born in Cleveland, Ohio.

1860


1860: Dime novels first make their appearance. The first was *Malaeska; The Indian Wife of the White Hunter*, by Mrs. Anna Sophia Stephens.

September 16, 1860: Hamlin Garland, author of *The Middle Border*, is born in Salem, Wisconsin.
November 14, 1861: Frederick J. Turner, historian and author of The Frontier in American History, is born in Portage, Wisconsin.

January 24, 1862: Edith Wharton, novelist, is born in New York City.

September 11, 1862: O. Henry (real name W. S. Porter), short story writer, is born in Greensboro, North Carolina.

April 29, 1863: William Randolph Hearst, newspaper editor and publisher, is born in San Francisco.

November 19, 1863: Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address.


January 13, 1864: Stephen Foster, one of America’s greatest song and ballad writers, dies.

1865: Mary Mapes Dodge publishes her famous story Hans Brinker; or The Silver Skates as a serial publication.

November 18, 1865: Mark Twain captures public attention for the first time when he publishes his story: “Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog” in the New York Saturday Press.

April 6, 1866: Lincoln Steffens, author and journalist, is born in San Francisco.


1868: The World Almanac is published.

1868: Louisa May Alcott publishes Little Women.

August 23, 1868: Edgar Lee Masters, poet, novelist, and author of Spoon River Anthology, is born in Garnett, Kansas.

July 29, 1869: Booth Tarkington, novelist, is born in Indianapolis, Indiana.

December 22, 1869: Edwin A. Robinson, poet, is born in Head Tide, Maine.

1870

March 5, 1870: Frank Norris, writer and naturalist, is born in Chicago, Illinois.

August 27, 1871: Theodore Dreiser, author of Sister Carrie, is born in Terre Haute, Indiana.

November 1, 1871: Stephen Crane, author of The Red Badge of Courage, is born in Newark, New Jersey.

1873: St. Nicholas Magazine, one of the most popular children's magazines ever, begins publication under the editorship of Mary Mapes Dodge.

April 22, 1873: Ellen Glasgow, author of She Stopped to Folly, is born in Richmond, Virginia.

December 7, 1873: Willa Cather, author of My Antonia, is born in Winchester, Virginia.

February 3, 1874: Gertrude Stein, author and critic, is born in Allegheney, Pennsylvania.

February 9, 1874: Amy Lowell, poet, is born in Brookline, Massachusetts.

March 26, 1874: Robert Frost, poet, is born.

November 18, 1874: Clarence Day, humorist, essayist, illustrator, and author of Life with Father, is born in New York City.

November 23, 1874: Far From The Madding Crowd, by Thomas Hardy, is published.

January 31, 1875: Zane Grey, author of westerns, is born in Zanesville, Ohio.


1876: Tom Sawyer is published by Mark Twain.

January 12, 1876: Jack London, author of Call of the Wild, is born.

September 13, 1876: Sherwood Anderson, poet, novelist, and short story writer, is born in Camden, Ohio.

April 30, 1877: Alice B. Toklas, author of The Alice B. Toklas Cook Book, is born in San Francisco, California.

January 6, 1878: Carl Sandburg, American poet and author, is born in Galesburg, Illinois.

September 20, 1878: Upton Sinclair, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Dragon’s Teeth, and author of The Jungle, is born in Baltimore, Maryland.

1879: The first “Uncle Remus Story” by Joel Chandler Harris is published in the Atlanta Constitution.

October 2, 1879: Wallace Stevens, poet, is born in Reading, Pennsylvania.

November 10, 1879: Vachel Lindsay, poet, is born in Springfield, Illinois.

1880

1880: Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson, is published.

1880: Ben Hur, by Lew Wallace, is published.

1880: Five Little Peppers and How They Grew, by Harriet Lothrop using the pen name Margaret Sidney, is published.

June 27, 1880: Helen Keller, writer and advocate for the blind, is born in Tuscumbia, Alabama.

July 23, 1880: Raymond Chandler, mystery writer and author of The Big Sleep, is born in Chicago, Illinois.

September 12, 1880: H. L. Mencken, editor, satirist, and author of The American Language, is born in Baltimore, Maryland.

August 10, 1881: Witten Byrner, poet, is born in Brooklyn, New York.

October 30, 1881: Elizabeth M. Roberts, novelist and author of The Great Meadow, is born in Perryville, Kentucky.

1882: Mark Twain publishes The Prince and the Pauper.
November 2, 1883: Martin Flavin, winner of the 1944 Pulitzer Prize, is born in San Francisco.

1884: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain, is published.

August 8, 1884: Sara Teasdale, poet who wrote “Love Songs,” is born in St. Louis, Missouri.

October 4, 1884: Damon Runyon, journalist, writer, and author of Guys and Dolls, is born in Manhattan, Kansas.

February 7, 1885: Sinclair Lewis, the first American author to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, is born in Sauk Center, Minnesota.

March 6, 1885: Ring Lardner, story writer, is born in Niles, Michigan.

October 30, 1885: Ezra Pound, poet and critic, is born in Hailey, Idaho.

November 5, 1885: Will Durant, historian, and author of The Story of Civilization, is born in North Adams, Massachusetts.

January 3, 1886: John Gould Fletcher, poet, is born in Little Rock, Arkansas.

September 10, 1886: Hilda Doolittle, poet, and author of Hedgehog, is born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

December 1, 1886: Rex Stout, creator of Nero Wolfe, is born in Noblesville, Indiana.

December 6, 1886: Joyce Kilmer, poet, and author of “Trees,” is born in Brunswick, New Jersey.

January 7, 1887: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle publishes his first work involving the character Sherlock Holmes.

January 10, 1887: Robinson Jeffers, poet, is born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

November 15, 1887: Marianne Moore, poet, is born in Kirkwood, Missouri.

January 27, 1888: Founding of the National Geographic Society.

April 30, 1888: John Crowe Ransom, poet, is born in Pulaski, Tennessee.

May, 1888: Ernest Thayer’s poem, “Casey at the Bat,” is recited for the first time at Wallack’s Theater in New York City by DeWolf Hopper.


September 26, 1888: T. S. Eliot, poet and winner of the Nobel Prize, is born in St. Louis, Missouri.


July 8, 1889: The Wall Street Journal begins publication.

July 17, 1889: Erle Stanley Gardner, author of the Perry Mason mysteries, is born in Maiden, Massachusetts.

August 5, 1889: Conrad Aiken, poet, is born in Savannah, Georgia.

November 16, 1889: George S. Kaufman, playwright and co-author of Stage Door, is born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1890

1890: Jacob Riis publishes How the Other Half Lives concerning the plight of city slums.

May 15, 1890: Katherine Anne Porter, novelist and author of Ship of Fools, is born in Indian Creek, Texas.

October 13, 1890: Conrad Richter, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1950 for The Town, is born in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania.

1892: Death of Walt Whitman, beloved American poet, and author of Leaves of Grass.

February 22, 1892: Edna St. Vincent Millay, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, is born in Rockland, Maine.

May 7, 1892: Archibald MacLeish, poet, is born in Illinois.

June 12, 1892: Djuna Barnes, poet, illustrator, and author of Nightwood, is born in New York.

June 26, 1892: Pearl S. Buck, author of The Good Earth and winner of the 1938 Nobel Prize, is born in Hillsboro, West Virginia.

July 1, 1892: James M. Cain, novelist and author of The Postman Always Rings Twice, is born in Annapolis, Maryland.

September 28, 1892: Elmer Rice, author of Street Scene, and winner of the 1929 Pulitzer Prize, is born in New York.

February 20, 1893: Russell Crouse, writer of The Sound of Music, is born in Findlay, Ohio.

June 9, 1893: S. N. Behrman, playwright, is born in Massachusetts.

November 10, 1893: John P. Marquand, novelist, is born in Wilmington, Delaware.

1894: Margaret Marshall Saunders publishes Beautiful Joe one of the most popular children’s novels of the decade.

October 14, 1894: E. E. Cummings, poet, is born in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

December 8, 1894: James Thurber, humorist, cartoonist, and author of The Night the Ghosts Got In, is born in Columbus, Ohio.

December 26, 1894: Jean Toomer, writer and author of Cane, is born in Washington, D.C.

1895: The Red Badge of Courage, by Stephen Crane, is published.

October 6, 1895: Caroline Gordon, novelist, is born in Todd County, Kentucky.

January 14, 1896: John Dos Passos, novelist, poet, and essayist, is born in Chicago, Illinois.


1897: The Copyright Office is established at the Library of Congress.

January 11, 1897: Bernard DeVoto, American writer, is born.

April 17, 1897: Thornton Wilder, playwright and author of *Our Town*, is born in Madison, Wisconsin.

September 25, 1897: William Faulkner, novelist, and author of *Light in August*, is born in New Albany, Mississippi.

November 4, 1897: Will Rogers, American humorist and writer, is born in Oologah, Indian Territory.

1898: *The Turn of the Screw*, by Henry James, is published.

July 21, 1898: Ernest Hemingway, author of *A Farewell to Arms*, is born in Oak Park, Illinois.


1899: *School and Society* by John Dewey, a book which promotes progressive education, is published.

July 21, 1899: Hart Crane, poet, is born in Garrettville, Ohio.

November 19, 1899: Allen Tate, poet, critic, and biographer, is born in Clarke County, Kentucky.

1900

1900: *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, by L. Frank Baum, is published.

May 14, 1900: Hal Borland, nature writer, is born in Sterling, Colorado.


1901: *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, by Alice Hegan Rice, is published.

August 30, 1901: John Gunther, journalist, and author of *Death Be Not Proud*, is born in Chicago.

1902: *The Virginian*, by Owen Wister, is published. *The Story of My Life* by Helen Keller is also published.

February 1, 1902: Langston Hughes, American writer, is born.

February 27, 1902: John Steinbeck, American writer, is born.

August 19, 1902: Ogden Nash, author, is born in Rye, New York.

1903: *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London is published. *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, by Kate Douglas Wiggins, is also published.

May 30, 1903: Countee Cullen, poet, novelist, and author of *One Way to Heaven*, is born in New York City.

August 19, 1903: James Gould Cozzens, novelist and author of *By Love Possessed*, is born in Kent, Connecticut.

December 17, 1903: Erskine Caldwell, novelist and author of *Tobacco Road*, is born in Coweta County, Georgia.

January 8, 1904: Peter Arno, American cartoonist for the *New Yorker* magazine, is born in New York City.

February 23, 1904: William L. Shirer, journalist, and author of *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, is born in Chicago.


April 5, 1904: Richard Eberhart, poet, is born in Austin, Minnesota.

October 24, 1904: Moss Hart, playwright, and author of *You Can't Take It with You*, is born in New York City.


March 21, 1905: Phyllis McGinley, poet, and author of *Times Three: Selected Verse from Three Decades*, is born in Ontario, Oregon.

April 24, 1905: Robert Penn Warren, poet, novelist, and author of *All the King's Men*, is born in Guthrie, New York.

June 20, 1905: Lillian Hellman, playwright, and author of *The Little Foxes*, is born in New Orleans, Louisiana.

1906: *The Riders of the Purple Sage*, Zane Grey's most popular novel, is published. *The Jungle*, by Upton Sinclair, is also published.

October 18, 1906: Playwright Sidney Kingsley, winner of the 1934 Pulitzer Prize for *His Men In White*, is born in New York City.

May 27, 1907: Rachel L. Carson, naturalist, and author of *Silent Spring*, is born in Springdale, Pennsylvania.

June 22, 1907: Anne Morrow Lindbergh, author and aviator, is born in Englewood, New Jersey.

August 8, 1907: Jesse Stuart, Kentucky poet and short story writer, is born.

December 10, 1907: Rumer Godden, novelist, and author of *Black Narcissus*, is born in Aldington, Kentucky.

May 25, 1908: Theodore Roethke, poet, is born in Saginaw, Michigan.

August 31, 1908: William Saroyan, playwright, and winner of the 1940 Pulitzer Prize for *The Human Comedy*, is born in Fresno, California.

September 4, 1908: Richard Wright, novelist and author of *Black Boy*, is born in Natchez, Mississippi.

1909: *Girl of the Limberlost* by Gene Stratton Porter is published.

March 28, 1909: Nelson Algren, novelist and author of *The Man with the Golden Arm*, is born in Detroit, Michigan.
April 13, 1909: Eudora Welty, novelist and author of Losing Battles, is born in Jackson, Mississippi.

November 27, 1909: James Agee, screenwriter and author of Death in the Family, is born in Knoxville, Tennessee.

1910

December 27, 1910: Charles Olsen, poet, is born in Worcester, Massachusetts.

February 8, 1911: Elizabeth Bishop, poet, is born in Worcester, Massachusetts.

March 26, 1911: Tennessee Williams, playwright and author of The Glass Menagerie, is born in Columbus, Mississippi.

May 27, 1912: John Cheever, novelist, story writer, and author of Bullet Park, is born in Quincy, Massachusetts.

June 11, 1912: Mary Lavin, novelist, writer, and author of The Single Lady, is born in East Walpole, Massachusetts.

1913: Pollyanna, the famous children's novel by Eleanor Hodgman, is published.

August 4, 1913: Robert Hayden, poet, is born in Detroit, Michigan.


December 8, 1913: Delmore Schwartz, poet and story writer, is born in Brooklyn, New York.

December 21, 1913: The first crossword puzzle to appear in a newspaper is published in the New York World.

1914: Tarzan of the Apes, by Edgar Rice Burroughs, is published.


May 6, 1914: Randall Jarrell, poet, is born in Nashville, Tennessee.

October 25, 1914: John Berryman, poet, is born in McAlester, Oklahoma.

1915: Spoon River Anthology by Edgar Lee Masters is published.

June 10, 1915: Saul Bellow, novelist and author of The Adventures of Augie March, is born in Canada.

October 17, 1915: Arthur Miller, playwright and winner of the 1949 Pulitzer Prize for Death of a Salesman, is born in New York City.

December 29, 1915: Robert Ruark, novelist and author of Something of Value, is born in Wilmington, North Carolina.


1916: Chicago Poems, by Carl Sandburg, is published.

September 5, 1916: Frank Yerby, novelist, and author of The Foxes of Harrow, is born in Augusta, Georgia.

March 1, 1917: Robert Lowell, poet, is born in Boston, Massachusetts.

June 4, 1917: Robert Anderson, playwright and author of Tea and Sympathy, is born in New York City.

June 17, 1917: Gwendolyn Brooks, first black to win the Pulitzer Prize (1950), is born in Topeka, Kansas.

September 2, 1917: Cleveland Amory, author of The Proper Bostonians, is born in Nahant, Massachusetts.

September 27, 1917: Louis Auchincloss, novelist and author of The Winthrop Covenant, is born in Lawrence, New York.

March 15, 1918: Richard Ellmann, critic and biographer of James Joyce, is born in Highland Park, Michigan.

November 29, 1918: Madeleine L'Engle, novelist and author of A Ring Of Endless Light, is born in New York City.

January 1, 1919: J. D. Salinger, author of The Catcher in the Rye, is born in New York City.

March 24, 1919: Lawrence Ferlinghetti, poet, is born in Yonkers, New York.

1920

1920: This Side of Paradise, by F. Scott Fitzgerald, is published. Main Street, by Sinclair Lewis, is published. The Great Impersonation, by E. Phillips Oppenheim, is published.

January 2, 1920: Isaac Asimov, scientist, teacher, and writer of science fiction and nonfiction, is born.


October 15, 1920: Mario Puzo, novelist and author of The Godfather, is born in New York City.

November 6, 1921: James Jones, novelist and author of From Here To Eternity, is born in Robinson, Illinois.

1922: The Newbery Medal is awarded for the best book of literature for young adults.

March 12, 1922: Jack Kerouac, novelist and author of On The Road, is born in Lowell, Massachusetts.

April 1, 1922: William Manchester, writer and author of Death of a President, is born.

November 11, 1922: Kurt Vonnegut, novelist and author of Slaughterhouse Five, is born in Indianapolis, Indiana.

November 28, 1922: "Hello USA" is the first message in skywriting.

February 2, 1923: James Dickey, novelist and author of Deliverance, is born in Atlanta, Georgia.

March 27, 1923: Louis Simpson, winner of the 1963 Pulitzer Prize for At the End of the Road, is born in Jamaica, New York.

May 1, 1923: Joseph Heller, author of Catch 22, is born in Brooklyn, New York.
December 23, 1923: Calder Willingham, novelist and author of *And As a Man*, is born in Atlanta, Georgia.

1924: *The Horn Book* begins publication.

February 2, 1924: Betty Friedan, social reformer and author of *The Feminine Mystique*, is born in Peoria, Illinois.

August 2, 1924: James Baldwin, novelist and author of *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, is born in New York City.

August 3, 1924: Leon Uris, novelist and author of *Exodus*, is born in Baltimore, Maryland.

November 24, 1924: William F. Buckley, Jr., novelist, publisher, and political analyst, is born in New York City.

1925: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald is published.

February 21, 1925: First issue of the *New Yorker* is published.


October 3, 1925: Gore Vidal, novelist, playwright, politician, and author of *Burr*, is born in West Point, New York.

1926: *Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years*, by Carl Sandburg, is published. *The Sun Also Rises*, by Ernest Hemingway, is published.

March 3, 1926: James Merrill, playwright, and author of the 1976 Pulitzer Prize winner *Divine Comedies*, is born in New York City.

June 3, 1926: Allen Ginsberg, poet, is born in Newark, New Jersey.

June 27, 1926: Frank O'Hara, poet, is born in Baltimore, Maryland.

1927: *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*, by Thornton Wilder, is published.

February 19, 1927: Novelist Carson McCullers, author of *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*, is born in Columbus, Ohio.

March 12, 1928: Edward Albee, playwright and author of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, is born in Washington, D.C.

November 9, 1928: Anne Sexton, poet, is born in Newton, Massachusetts.


1930

May 27, 1930: John Barth, novelist and author of *Giles Goat-Boy*, is born in Cambridge, Maryland.

1931: *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck is published.

April 7, 1931: Donald Barthelme, poet and short story writer, is born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

April 11, 1931: Dorothy Parker steps down as critic for the *New Yorker*.


October 27, 1932: Sylvia Plath, poet and writer, is born in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.


March 19, 1933: Philip Roth, novelist and author of *Goodbye, Columbus*, is born in Newark, New Jersey.

December 5, 1934: Joan Didion, novelist and author of *Play It As It Lays*, is born in Sacramento, California.

1936: *Gone with the Wind*, by Margaret Mitchell, is published.

1937: Pocket Books begins publishing paperbacks in the United States.


February 12, 1938: Judy Blume, famous young adult author, is born.

June 16, 1938: Joyce Carol Oates, novelist and short story writer, is born in Lockport, New York.

1939: *The Grapes of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck, is published.

1940

1940: *Native Son*, by Richard Wright, is published.

April 10, 1941: Paul Theroux, novelist, short story writer, and author of *Mosquito Coast*, is born in Medford, Massachusetts.

October 4, 1941: "Dick Tracy," the popular detective comic strip, makes its debut.

May 11, 1942: *Go Down Moses*, by William Faulkner, is published.

1943: *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, by Betty Smith, is published.

1945: Bantam begins publishing paperback books.

September 8, 1947: Ann Beattie, novelist, short story writer, and author of *Falling in Place*, is born in Washington, D.C.


1950

1951: *The Catcher in the Rye*, by J. D. Salinger, is published.

1960

1960: Time-Life Books created.
1962: *Silent Spring*, by Rachel Carson, is published.


December 20, 1968: John Steinbeck, author, dies in New York City.

1970

1970: *Mr. Sammler's Planet*, by Saul Bellow, is published.


1973: *Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. is published.

1974: *Jaws*, a novel by Peter Benchley, is published. It later becomes a motion picture which frightens the entire country. *All the President's Men*, an account of the watergate scandal by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, is published and becomes a bestseller.


1976: U.S. copyright laws are revised for the first time in 67 years.

1977: A Gutenberg Bible is sold for $2 million at an auction in New York City. *A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous Fourteenth Century*, by Barbara Tuchman, is published. Isaac Bashevis Singer wins the Nobel Prize for Literature.

1980

February 25, 1983: Tennessee Williams, American playwright, dies.

February 12, 1986: Frank Herbert, science fiction author and writer of *Dune*, dies.

1988: Louis L'Amour, eighty years old, a high school dropout, and writer of 101 westerns, dies.

ARTS

1510

1519: Thirteen years after Columbus's death, his portrait is completed by the Italian painter Sebastiano Del Piombo. Currently it hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

1580

1584: Sir Walter Raleigh requests Richard Hakluyt to write a book for Queen Elizabeth I of England to read about planting crops and establishing settlements. He was seeking more royal funding, but the queen did not act upon his request, even though she did read the book entitled A Discourse Concerning Western Planting.

1590

April 30, 1598: The first theatrical performance given in America is held on the Rio Grande near present-day El Paso, Texas. The play, a Spanish comedy, dealt with an expedition of soldiers.

1620

1620: Psalm Book becomes the first American music book. Written by Henry Ainsworth, the book brought together tunes from earlier England, France, and Switzerland and was the best collection of its kind at the time.

1660

August 27, 1665: Ye Bare and Ye Cubb, by Philip Alexander Bruce, is the first play performed in the North American colonies. Three of the local residents were fined for performing in the play because there were laws in most of the colonies forbidding performing in public.

1670

1670: The first portrait engraving in America is a woodcut crafted of Richard Mather, the Puritan leader.

1720

1720: Georgian architecture, fashionable in England, becomes popular in America. Many structures including the Old North Church in Boston are designed in this style.

1722: The Alamo is constructed in Texas.

1740

1741: The first symphony orchestra in America is organized by Moravian settlers in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

August, 1741: Johann Gottlob Klemm completes his construction of the first pipe organ built in America. It is installed at the Trinity Church in New York City.

September 24, 1742: The famous structure Faneuil Hall in Boston is opened to the public.

1750

1754: Benjamin Franklin publishes the first political cartoon, in his Pennsylvania Gazette.

1755: Dr. Richard Shuckburg writes the words to the song "Yankee Doodle."

1760

1765: John Copley paints a portrait of John Hancock.

1770

1770: Thomas Jefferson designs and builds his famous home, Monticello.

1780

1785: John Singleton Copley, famous colonial painter, is commissioned to paint the "Children of George III."

1790


1796: Gilbert Stuart completes his famous portrait of George Washington.

1797: Construction begins on the church at San Juan Capistrano.

1800

1804: Andrew Jackson's famous home, The Hermitage, is begun.

1810

July 4, 1815: The cornerstone for the Washington Monument in Washington D.C. is laid.

May 27, 1819: Birth date of Julia Ward Howe, who wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and introduced the idea of Mother's Day to America.

1820

May 8, 1823: The popular song "Home Sweet Home" by John Howard Payne is sung for the first time.

1826: Samuel F. B. Morse unveils his famous painting of Lafayette.

1827: John J. Audubon begins publishing his famous The Birds of America series.

1830

September 11, 1847: "O Susanna," the famous song by Stephen Foster, is performed for the first time.

March 1, 1848: American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens is born.

1850

1851: Stephen Foster composes "Old Folks at Home."

1859: Dan Emmett composes the famous song of the South: "Dixie."
February 1, 1859: Victor Herbert, American composer, is born.

1860

September 7, 1860: Grandma Moses, who began painting at age seventy-eight, is born in Washington County, New York.

January 13, 1864: Stephen Foster dies in New York City.

cia. 1865: James Abbot McNeill Whistler paints his most famous painting: “Whistler’s Mother.”

February 9, 1866: George Ade, American humorist, is born.

June 8, 1869: Frank Lloyd Wright is born in a small Wisconsin town. He is most famous for his merging of nature into his architectural designs.

1870

1870: Vaudeville becomes popular on the New York stage.

1871: Grand Central Station, an architectural wonder, opens in New York City.

March 25, 1871: Gutzon Borglum, Mount Rushmore sculptor, is born in Idaho.

February 20, 1872: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the largest art museum in the United States, opens in New York.

March 24, 1874: Harry Houdini, the most famous escape artist who ever lived, is born on this date in Budapest, but moves with his parents at an early age to Appleton, Wisconsin.

1876: Winslow Homer paints the famous “Breezing Up.”

1880

February 14, 1882: John Barrymore, American actor, is born.

1885: Ragtime, an early form of jazz, becomes popular.

February 21, 1885: The Washington Monument is dedicated in Washington D.C.

March 3, 1886: A black inventor, Robert Flemming, Jr. receives the first U.S. patent for a guitar.

1888: John Philip Sousa composes “Semper Fidelis.”

1889: Edward MacDowell, recently returned from studying in Europe, performs his “Second Piano Concerto” and becomes a major American composer.

1890

January 29, 1891: The composer of the song “Aloha Oe,” Lydia Kamehena, is crowned queen of the Hawaiian people. Two years later she resigns due to controversy over her rule.

May 5, 1891: Carnegie Hall opens in New York City.

February 13, 1892: Grant Wood, American painter, is born.


February 14, 1894: Jack Benny, actor, whose real name is Benjamin Kubelsky, is born.

July 4, 1895: Katharine Lee Bates publishes her song “America the Beautiful.”

January 30, 1897: The lavish Astoria Hotel opens in New York City.

1897: John Philip Sousa composes “The Stars and Stripes Forever.”

1899: Scott Joplin composes “Maple Leaf Rag.”

1900

December 5, 1901: Birth of Walt Disney in Chicago.

February 17, 1902: Marian Anderson, black American singer, is born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She became the first black to be a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York.

June 28, 1902: Richard Rodgers, one of America’s most successful composers and producers, is born.

1908: Nickelodeons, or movie theaters, become extremely popular entertainment in the United States.

1908: Isadora Duncan becomes a very popular performing dancer.

April 5, 1908: Bette Davis, actress, is born.

1910

1911: Irving Berlin composes “Alexander’s Ragtime Band.”

April 19, 1911: Kismet, the popular operetta by Edward Knoblock, opens in New York City.

October 26, 1911: Mahalia Jackson, gospel singer, is born.

February 8, 1915: D. W. Griffith’s famous motion picture The Birth of a Nation opens in Los Angeles.

1920

1921: Popular songs of the year include “Blue Moon” and “Look for the Silver Lining.”

February 12, 1924: “Rhapsody in Blue” by George Gershwin is first performed.

December 2, 1924: The Student Prince, an operetta by Sigmund Romberg, opens in New York City.

January 11, 1925: “Symphony for Organ and Orchestra” by Aaron Copland is premiered in New York City.

January 24, 1925: American ballerina Maria Tallchief, who is praised for her graceful dancing, is born in Fairfax, Oklahoma. Her father is an Osage Indian, and her mother is of Scottish-Irish descent.

August 5, 1926: Don Juan, the first talking picture, opens in New York City. The sound comes from a phonograph, not the film itself.

September 9, 1926: NBC (National Broadcasting System) is founded. Service begins with radio broadcasts from New York City.
December 3, 1925: "Concerto in F" by George Gershwin, the first jazz concerto for piano, is played in Carnegie Hall.

October 31, 1926: Magician Harry Houdini dies from advanced appendicitis brought on by a punch to the stomach.

1927: Popular songs of the year included "Old Man River," "My Blue Heaven," and "My Heart Stood Still."

October 26, 1927: "The Jazz Singer" with Al Jolson, the first talking picture with sound on film, debuts in New York City.

December 27, 1927: The musical play "Show Boat" opens in New York.

September 19, 1928: Mickey Mouse, created by Walt Disney, is introduced to the public in his first cartoon, "Steam Boat Willy."

January 28, 1929: Claes Oldenburg is born. He is most famous for designing sculpture from all sorts of scraps.

May 16, 1929: The motion picture industry pays tribute to its members for the first time. Trophies called "Oscars" are awarded in various categories.

November 2, 1929: The Embassy Theater, first to show news reels before the movie, opens in New York City.

1930

1930: Radio City Music Hall, the largest indoor theater, opens in New York City.

November 5, 1930: All Quiet on the Western Front wins the Academy Award as best film.

March 3, 1931: President Herbert Hoover signs an act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the U.S. national anthem.

December 26, 1931: The musical, Of Thee I Sing (music by George Gershwin) opens at the Music Box Theatre in New York City.

1932: Ferde Grofe composed the famous "Grand Canyon Suite."

February 18, 1933: Yoko Ono, former Beatle John Lennon's second wife who also sang with John on occasion, is born.

1934: The first electronic organ, "The Hammond," is produced by Laurens Hammond.

January 8, 1935: Elvis Presley, king of rock and roll, is born in Tupelo, Mississippi.

October 10, 1935: George Gershwin's musical Porgy and Bess opens at the Alvin Theatre in New York City.

May 5, 1936: Mutiny on the Bounty receives the Academy Award as the best film of 1935.

October 30, 1938: The broadcast of "War of the Worlds" by Orson Welles causes nationwide panic as many Americans believe the fictional plot of an invasion by Martians.

April 9, 1939: The Daughters of the American Revolution refuse to allow singer Marian Anderson to perform in Constitution Hall because she is black. The concert is moved to Lincoln Memorial for a crowd of seventy-five thousand. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt cancels her DAR membership in protest of the racist action.

November 12, 1939: The song "God Bless America" is sung for the first time by Kate Smith.

1940

March 31, 1943: The play Oklahoma, by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, opens.

October 7, 1943: The musical play One Touch of Venus opens in New York City.

March 13, 1947: The musical play Brigadoon, by Lerner & Loewe, opens at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York City.

December 30, 1948: The musical comedy, Kiss Me Kate, by Cole Porter, opens at the New Century Theatre in New York City.

1949: The musical play South Pacific opens.

1950

February 18, 1952: Juice Newton, singer, is born.

1953: RCA Record Company invents the music synthesizer.

February 18, 1954: John Travolta, actor and dancer, is born.

April 11, 1954: The record "Rock Around the Clock" ushers in the rock-'n-roll era.

November 16, 1956: Elvis Presley's first film, Love Me Tender, makes its debut.

1956: The play My Fair Lady opens.

September 26, 1957: The play West Side Story opens at the Winter Garden Theatre in New York City.

May 21, 1959: The musical play Gypsy opens at the Broadway Theatre in New York City.

1960

September 22, 1964: The musical play Fiddler On The Roof opens at the Imperial Theatre in New York City.

March 16, 1969: The musical play 1776 opens at the Forty-Sixth Street Theatre in New York City.

1970

April 26, 1970: The musical play Company opens at the Alvin Theatre in New York City.

December 3, 1979: Eleven people are stampeded to death as thousands of teenagers rush into a stadium in Cincinnati, Ohio, for a rock concert by the rock group The Who.

1980

December 8, 1980: Former Beatle John Lennon is shot and killed by a former psychiatric patient, Mark Chapman.

October 2, 1985: Rock Hudson, actor, dies of AIDS.

October 10, 1985: Actor Yul Brenner dies from lung cancer due to smoking. Before death he makes a major campaign to warn against the hazards of smoking.

March 30, 1986: Actor James Cagney dies at the age of eighty-five.

April 8, 1986: The actor Clint Eastwood is overwhelmingly voted mayor of Carmel, California.

November 29, 1986: Actor Cary Grant dies.

December 2, 1986: Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball’s former husband, dies.


May, 1988: Songwriter Irving Berlin celebrates his one hundredth birthday.

October, 1988: E.T. becomes the all-time videocassette best seller with advance orders of more than eleven million.


April 26, 1989: Lucille Ball, queen of comedy, dies of heart failure.

July 10, 1989: Mel Blanc, the voice behind such cartoon characters as Bugs Bunny, Tweety Bird, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Elmer Fudd, Yosemite Sam, Sylvester the Cat, and many others, dies of cardiac arrest in Los Angeles at the age of eighty-five.
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1580

1589: William Lee invents the knitting frame. It allows for mass production of knitted goods.

1640

October, 1641: The first patent in America is issued to Samuel Winslow of Massachusetts for his salt-making process.

1690

1690: The first paper mill is set up in Pennsylvania by German settlers. In the same year, the whaling industry is begun out of Nantucket, Massachusetts.

1710

1714: Henry Mills secures the first patent on a typewriter. The first iron furnaces are set up by the governor of Virginia.

1716: The first lighthouse in the colonies is set up on Little Brewster Island in Boston Harbor.

1730

1730: The first stoneware kiln is set up in New York City, the forerunner of major pottery manufacturing.

1731: The first real fire engine, imported from England, is put into service in Philadelphia by Ben Franklin.

1740

1740: The Franklin stove is invented by Benjamin Franklin. It saves much wood and heats rooms much more evenly.

1750

1750: Jacob Yode invents the flatboat which is a boon to inland waterway navigation.

June 15, 1752: Ben Franklin flies his kite in a thunderstorm and proves that lightning is electricity.

1753: The first steam engine imported from England is put to work in North Arlington, New Jersey.

1760

1760: Benjamin Franklin creates the first bifocal lenses.

February 14, 1764: A patent is given in Philadelphia for the first spinning and carding machine, invented by James Davenport.

1765: John Harmon manufactures the first chocolate in North America, at Dorchester Lower Mills on the Neponset River in Massachusetts. In 1780, the plant comes under the ownership of Dr. James Baker resulting in the now famous Walter Baker and Company.

May 3, 1765: The College of Philadelphia is the location of the first medical school in the colonies. (The school is currently known as the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.)

1770

1770: James Hargreaves invents the Spinning Jenny, which spins thread into yarn much quicker than by hand.

1780

1780: Tomatoes are introduced to this country.

1782: Harvard Medical School opens.

1787: The first cotton factory is built and put in operation in Beverly, Massachusetts by John Cabot and Joshua Fisher.

August 22, 1787: John Fitch sails the first steamboat on the Delaware River.


1790

1790: John Greenwood invents the dental drill. The same year, the first cotton mill is built in Pawtucket, Rhode Island by Samuel Slater.

July 31, 1790: The U.S. Patent Office is opened.

October 28, 1793: Eli Whitney applies for a patent for the cotton gin which removes the cotton seeds from the fibers.

1796: The first important suspension bridge is built over Jacob's Creek between Uniontown and Greensborough, Pennsylvania.

June 26, 1797: Charles Newbold of New Jersey is issued a patent for the first plow in the United States.

1798: Eli Whitney manufactures firearms for the U.S. Government and for the first time uses the concept of interchangeable parts.

1800

1800: The first shoes designed to fit right and left feet are made by William Young of Philadelphia. Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse performs the first cowpox vaccination in Philadelphia.

1804: A patent for suspenders is granted.

August 17, 1807: Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamboat, makes his first practical steamboat trip from New York City to Albany.

February 12, 1809: Charles Darwin is born.

February 15, 1809: Cyrus McCormick, inventor, is born.

1810

1812: William Monroe of Concord, Massachusetts produces the first lead pencils in the United States.

June, 1816: The City of Baltimore, Maryland becomes the first to have a gas company, named the Gas Light Company.
September 20, 1818: Seth Boyden of Newark, New Jersey is the first to manufacture patent leather.

1820

1822: C. M. Graham receives the first patent for false teeth.

1825: The first locomotive in the United States is invented by John Stevens in New Jersey.


1829: Louis Braille begins Braille printing.

July 23, 1829: William Burt of Detroit is issued the first patent for a typewriter.

1830

1830: The sewing machine is invented by Barthelemy Thimonnier and developed by the Singer Company. Robert L. Stevens also invents the “T” rail which is to become the standard railroad rail.

1832: Trams and trolleybuses (a form of railway system) are introduced to New York City by John Stephenson.

1833: Daguerreotype photographs appear.

1834: Thomas Davenport of Vermont builds a prototype of the first electric motor. Cyrus McCormick obtains a patent for a model of his grain reaper which was to revolutionize grain harvesting.

1835: Samuel F. B. Morse demonstrates a model telegraph for a few friends and receives a patent for his work in 1844.

November 23, 1835: Henry Burden of Troy, New York puts a machine that manufactures horseshoes into production. It produces sixty horseshoes a minute.

1836: Jim Bowie creates the famous Bowie knife.

March 23, 1836: The first coins made by a steam-powered press are minted by the U.S. Mint.

1837: John Deere produces the first of his famous plows.

1840

1840: Charles Babbage uses punched cards for data storage. Also, the first regular transatlantic steamer service is begun between England and the United States.

March 31, 1840: The ten-hour workday becomes a federal standard.

1841: Vulcanized rubber is invented by Charles Goodyear.

1844: Paper patterns for making clothes is introduced.

May 24, 1844: The first telegraph message, “What hath God wrought,” is sent from Washington to Baltimore by inventor Samuel Morse.

May 25, 1844: An early gasoline engine is patented by Stuart Perry of New York.

1846: Elias Howe manufactures his first sewing machine.

October 16, 1846: Dr. William Morton, a Boston dentist, demonstrates the use of anesthesia.

February 11, 1847: Thomas A. Edison, American inventor, is born.

March 3, 1847: Alexander Graham Bell, inventor, is born.

June 27, 1848: Broadway Theatre in New York City becomes the first building to be air-conditioned.

1850

August 12, 1851: Isaac Singer obtains a patent for his famous sewing machine.

April 21, 1856: The first locomotive to cross the Mississippi on a railroad bridge: between Rock Island, Illinois and Davenport, Iowa.

March 3, 1857: Congress votes the money for the first overseas cable. It is not successful until 1866.

1858: Richard Esterbrook produces the first steel pens in Philadelphia.

October 9, 1858: The first letter using the overland mail service begins its journey eastward from San Francisco.

1859: The first elevator is installed, in the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City.

August 27, 1859: The first commercial oil well is drilled near Titusville, Pennsylvania by Edwin L. Drake.

September 1, 1859: George M. Pullman’s first sleeping car is put in service.

1860

1860: Linoleum is invented by Frederick Walton. Also, Oliver F. Winchester demonstrates the first successful repeating rifle.

April 3, 1860: The first Pony Express mail service leaves St. Joseph, Missouri for Sacramento, California.

February 10, 1863: The first fire extinguisher is patented by Virginia Alanson Crane.

1868: Plastic is introduced by inventor John Wesley Hyatt.

January 16, 1868: The first patent for a refrigerator car is issued to William Davis of Detroit, Michigan.

May 10, 1869: A golden spike is driven into the rail marking the completion of the first transcontinental railroad at Promontory Point, Utah.

1870

February 9, 1870: The U.S. Weather Bureau is established.

1872: Luther Burbank develops the famous strain of potatoes named after him.

1873: Christopher Sholes designs the first successful models of the typewriter.
1873: Barbed wire is invented by Joseph Glidden, and is soon used widely on farms and ranches; later in warfare.

1873: The first cable car is put in operation in San Francisco, California.

March 7, 1876: Alexander Graham Bell patents the telephone.

1876: M. R. Bissell of Michigan invents the carpet sweeper (mechanical, not electric).

1876: The first mimeograph for duplicating printed pages is invented by Thomas A. Edison.

1877: Thomas Edison invents the phonograph.

1879: The filament lamp, invented by Thomas Edison, provides the first lighting by electricity.

1880

January 27, 1880: Thomas Edison is granted the first patent for the incandescent light.

1880: Kodak patents the first roll film camera. It becomes commercially available in 1885.

1882: An electric fan is developed by Schuyler Wheeler in New York City.

1883: The machine-gun is invented by Hiram Maxim.

March 24, 1883: The first telephone service is begun between New York and Chicago.

1884: The fountain pen is invented by Lewis Waterman.

January 4, 1885: Dr. William Grant performs the first appendectomy (removal of an appendix).

1887: Round records for the phonograph are invented.

1888: George Eastman invents the Kodak camera. Eastman consults linguistic experts to come up with a company name that would be pronounced the same in every language, hence the name "Kodak."

1889: "One-armed bandits" (slot machines) are invented by H. S. Mills.

1890

December 29, 1891: Thomas Edison is issued a patent for the wireless telegraph.

September, 1892: Charles and Frank Duryea build the first gas-powered automobile in Massachusetts.

April 14, 1894: The kinetoscope, invented by Thomas Edison, has its first debut in New York City, and is the forerunner to motion pictures.

January 12, 1896: The first medical examination with the use of X-rays is made.

June 4, 1896: Henry Ford rolls out his first automobile from his brick workshed in Detroit, Michigan.

1897: Breakfast cereals are introduced to the country by Charles Post and the Kellogg brothers.

1900

April 29, 1900: Railroad engineer Casey Jones rides to his death on the Wabash Cannonball.

1900: Dr. Walter Reed begins a campaign to rid the world of Yellow Fever.

November 3, 1900: The first National Automobile Show opens in Madison Square Garden in New York City.

January 10, 1901: Texas's first great oil strike yields an enormous amount of crude oil.

December 5, 1901: Walt Disney, cartoon animator and producer, is born.

1902: K. C. Gillette introduces the safety razor with removable, disposable razor blades.

May 16, 1903: George Wyman makes the first transcontinental motorcycle trip.

May 23-August 1, 1903: The first transcontinental car trip is made from San Francisco to New York City.

December 17, 1903: Orville Wright is the first to fly a heavier-than-air mechanically propelled plane near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The plane stays in the air for 12 seconds and flies 120 feet.

April 7, 1906: The first wireless transmission across the Atlantic is made, from New York to Ireland.

1907: The first flight of a helicopter.

1908: Henry Ford invents the conveyor belt, ushering in the age of the assembly line.

1908: Poison gas is announced as an effective wartime weapon.

October 1, 1908: The Model T Ford is introduced.

1910

September 17-November 5, 1911: The first transcontinental plane flight is made by C. P. Rodgers, from New York to Pasadena, California.

1912: Cellophane is first manufactured in the United States.

April 29, 1913: Gideon Sundback invents the zipper. It is first called the "separable fastener."

1914: Mary Jacobs is granted the first patent on the brassiere.

1914: Traffic lights, worked by hand, are introduced in America.

May 18, 1914: The Panama Canal is opened to traffic.

1915: The general theory of relativity is published by Albert Einstein explaining the effects of gravity on light, and the distortion of space by mass.
January 25, 1915: The first telephone talk from New York to San Francisco is held between phone inventor Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas A. Watson.

1918: The taxicab is introduced in New York City.

1919: Daily airmail service is begun between New York and Chicago.

1920

1920: The United States begins regular radio broadcasting.

August 20, 1920: The first regular licensed radio broadcast begins.

March 28, 1922: The first microfilm reading machine is patented by inventor B. A. Fiske. Called the Fiskeoscope, it reduces a 2½-inch newspaper column to ¼-inch, and can be carried in a pocket.

April, 1923: The first motion picture with sound-on-film is shown and is titled Phonofilm.

November 6, 1923: Jacob Schick receives a patent for his electric shaver.

March 16, 1926: The first liquid fuel rocket is launched by Dr. Robert Goddard in Auburn, Massachusetts. The rocket rises 184 feet in 2.5 seconds.

May 9, 1926: Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd and Floyd Bennett make the first successful flight over the North Pole.

January 7, 1927: Transatlantic commercial telephone service begins with a call from New York to London.

May 20, 1927: Charles A. Lindbergh flies the first solo nonstop flight from New York to Paris in the plane "The Spirit of St. Louis." It takes 33½ hours to travel 3,600 miles.

November 13, 1927: The Holland Tunnel, first underwater tunnel for motor vehicles, is opened linking New York City and New Jersey.

July 30, 1928: The first color motion pictures are shown by George Eastman.

September 19, 1928: Walt Disney's first cartoon, called "Steamboat Willy," is created. Mickey Mouse is the main character.

November 6, 1928: The first animated electric sign is turned on at the top of the Times Building in New York City.

November, 1929: Sebastiano Lando receives a patent for a coin-operated vending machine.

November 29, 1929: Lt. Commander Richard E. Byrd makes the first flight over the South Pole.

1930

February 18, 1930: The planet Pluto is discovered by astronomer Clyde W. Tombaugh of Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona.

March 4, 1930: Coolidge Dam in Arizona is dedicated.

March 13, 1930: The first photograph of the planet Pluto is made at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona.

September 17, 1930: Construction of the Hoover Dam begins near Las Vegas, Nevada.

1931: The radio telescope is invented by K. Jansky. It is used to study the stars and other objects in space by interpreting the radio waves they emit.

May 1, 1931: The Empire State Building is dedicated in New York City.

October 18, 1931: Thomas Alva Edison dies at age eighty-four in Glenmont, New Jersey.

October 24, 1931: The George Washington Bridge is opened for traffic between Manhattan and New Jersey.

1932: Carl C. Magee invents the parking meter.

1932: Neutrons are discovered.

May 20, 1932: Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean.

October 2, 1933: The five-day work week is sanctioned by the American Federation of Labor (AFL).

April 12, 1934: The strongest wind gust ever recorded in the world is measured at 231 miles per hour on the top of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire. It is believed that this 6,288 feet mountain has the most extreme, worst weather known.

May 23, 1934: Nylon is first produced by Wallace H. Carothers in the DuPont laboratories.

1935: Invention of the jukebox.

January 11, 1935: Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean when she flies 18 hours, 15 minutes from Honolulu, Hawaii to Oakland, California.

1936: Hoover Dam is completed on the Colorado River near Las Vegas, Nevada.

September 17, 1936: "Major Bowes Amateur Hour" makes its debut on radio.

1937: From research by the Air Force on heated flying suits, the electric blanket is invented.

1937: Xerography is invented by Chester F. Carlson.

February 16, 1937: The patent for nylon is granted to inventor Wallace Carothers.

March 15, 1937: The first blood bank is established in Chicago.

May 6, 1937: The first coast-to-coast radio program is a report of the Hindenburg disaster.

May 12, 1937: The first worldwide radio broadcast is a report of the coronation of King George VI of England.

May 27, 1937: The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco is dedicated.
December 22, 1937: Opening of the Lincoln Tunnel, which runs under the Hudson River and links New York and New Jersey.

April 30, 1939: From the top of the Empire State Building in New York City, the very first television program, "Felix The Cat," a cartoon, is broadcast.

June 28, 1939: Pan American Airways begins the first transatlantic passenger air service between the United States and Portugal.

October 25, 1939: Nylon stockings go on sale for the first time.

1940

April 20, 1940: The first electron microscope is shown to the public at the RCA laboratory in New Jersey by Dr. Ladislaus Marron, its developer.

May 15, 1940: The helicopter is successfully flown for the first time.

November 7, 1940: The suspension bridge over The Narrows at Tacoma, Washington collapses. The cause is wind vibration.

March 22, 1941: The Grand Coulee Dam in Washington begins operation.

1942: The tape recorder is invented.

1942: Napalm, a fuel for flame throwers, is invented at Harvard University.

December 2, 1942: The first nuclear chain reaction is produced at the University of Chicago, beneath the football stadium.

1943: George Washington Carver, black American scientist, dies.

1943: Large-scale production of penicillin begins.

October 17, 1943: The Chicago subway is opened.

February 15, 1946: The first full-scale computer, the ENIAC, is dedicated in Philadelphia. It is developed by John W. Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert, Jr.

June 24, 1947: In the first recorded sighting of a UFO in the United States, Kenneth Arnold is quoted to have seen nine saucer-shaped objects flying over Mt. Rainier in Washington state.

October 14, 1947: The Bell X-1 aircraft becomes the first plane to fly faster than the speed of sound.

1948: Long playing (33 1/3) records are invented.

1948: The transistor is invented by William Shockley. Due to its small size and requiring of very little electricity, the transistor made possible the miniaturization of electronics.

1948: The Polaroid Land Camera goes on sale. It is developed by Edwin H. Land.

March 2, 1948: The Lucky Lady II, a U.S. Air Force plane, becomes the first aircraft to fly nonstop around the world.

June 3, 1948: The largest reflector telescope in the world is dedicated at the Palomar Mountain Observatory in California.

1950

June 14, 1951: John W. Mauchly and J. Presper Eckert, Jr. demonstrate the UNIVAC computer.

June 25, 1951: The first commercial color TV broadcast is made by CBS.

December 20, 1951: Electricity is produced for the first time by an atomic-powered generator, in Idaho.

1952: A link is discovered between smoking and lung cancer.

February 2, 1952: The first hydrogen bomb is exploded by the United States, on the island of Eniwetok in the Pacific Ocean.

June 14, 1952: The first atomic submarine, the Nautilus, is dedicated at Groton, Connecticut.

1953: The structure of DNA is discovered, bringing about a keener understanding of protein synthesis in the body and the inheritance of characteristics by offspring.

March 26, 1953: A cure for polio is announced by Dr. Jonas Salk.

May 18, 1953: Jacqueline Cochran becomes the first woman to fly faster than the speed of sound.

1953-1955: The polio vaccine is developed.

January 21, 1954: The submarine Nautilus, first nuclear-powered ship in the world, is launched in Groton, Connecticut.

July 12, 1954: President Eisenhower announces plans to build the transcontinental freeway system.

December 27, 1954: An experimental rocket-powered sled sets a new land speed record of 632 miles per hour.

1955: Disneyland, the 160-acre amusement park in Anaheim, California opens.

1955: Computers are made available for commercial use.

September 25, 1956: The first transatlantic telephone cable is put into operation.

September 19, 1957: Near Las Vegas, Nevada the first underground atomic explosion is tested.

1958: Stereo sound recordings are made available.

January 31, 1958: The first U.S. earth satellite, named Explorer I, is launched into orbit. The Van Allen radiation belt is discovered as a result of this flight.

August 5, 1958: The Nautilus, first U.S. atomic submarine, becomes the first vessel to cross the North Pole underwater. It submerges at Point Barrow, Alaska, and travels for ninety-six hours under a fifty-foot-thick ice cap, then surfaces.

1959: The hovercraft is introduced.

May 28, 1959: Two monkeys are launched into space from Cape Canaveral, Florida. They are recovered after their three hundred-mile ride.
July 21, 1959: First nuclear-powered merchant ship, N.S. Savannah, is launched in Camden, New Jersey.

1960

1960: The Trieste, a bathyscaphe, becomes the deepest descending vessel in the ocean as it travels seven miles down to the deepest part of the ocean.

1960: The laser is invented. Primary uses are precision cutting and optical surgery.

April 1, 1960: The first U.S. weather satellite, Tiros I, is placed in orbit.

January 31, 1961: Ham becomes the first chimpanzee to be sent into space flight.

May 5, 1961: Alan B. Shepard makes the first U.S. manned space flight.

February 20, 1962: John Glenn, Jr. becomes the first American to orbit the earth.

May 24, 1962: M. Scott Carpenter becomes the second American to orbit the earth, in the Mercury capsule Aurora 7.

July, 1962: The first U.S. communications satellite, Telstar, is placed in space, and relays back to earth the first transatlantic TV signals.

October 3, 1962: Walter N. Schirra is the third American to orbit the earth in the Mercury capsule Sigma 7.

1964: Syncom becomes the first satellite put into orbit that provides constant communication service.

1964: MEDLARS are made available to the public.

January 11, 1964: The Surgeon General of the United States, Luther Terry, releases a report to the public saying that “cigarette smoking is hazardous to your health.”

November 21, 1964: The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge is opened, linking Brooklyn and Staten Island. It is the world’s longest suspension bridge to date.

1965: The U.S. space probe Mariner 4 flies past Mars and sends back the first pictures from another planet.

January 27, 1967: Three astronauts, Grissom, White, and Chaffe are killed on Apollo I when a pre-launch fire breaks out.

December 23, 1968: Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders become the first men to orbit the moon.

1969: DDT is banned in the United States after concerns arise about its harmful side effects.

April 4, 1969: The first totally artificial heart is implanted by Dr. Denton A. Cooley in a patient. The person dies April 8.

July 20, 1969: Neil Armstrong utters the now famous phrase, “That’s one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind” as he becomes the first man to walk on the moon, during the Apollo 11 mission.

December 3, 1969: The Boeing 747 is presented to the public on its first flight from Seattle to New York.

1970

1971: The first launching of earth resource satellites used to detect and map the world’s resources is successful.

1971: The launching of a series of American space probes to obtain a close-up view of Mars, Mercury, and Jupiter is made.

1971: Disney World in Orlando, Florida opens.

January 31-February 9, 1971: Alan B. Shepard, Jr., Edgar D. Mitchell, and Stuart A. Roosa complete a mission to the moon bringing back one hundred pounds of rock for study.

July 26-August 7, 1971: David R. Scott, James B. Irwin, and Alfred M. Worden complete a lunar mission, traveling 17.3 miles on the lunar surface and bringing back rock samples.

April 16, 1972: John W. Young, Charles M. Duke, and Thomas K. Mattingly complete a successful mission to the moon.

December 7-19, 1972: Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, and Harrison Schmitt complete the last of the Apollo missions to the lunar surface.

1973: Due to the rise ($0.26 to $1+) of the price of oil from limited natural and mineral fuel supplies, America begins research on alternate sources of energy, such as solar, tidal, and geophysical energy.

September 22, 1973: The Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, the largest airport to date, is opened for traffic.

September 1, 1974: The SR-71, a U.S. Air Force spy plane, flies the fastest trip between New York and London. Recorded time is 1 hour and 55 minutes. Average speed is 1,817 miles per hour.

July 20, 1976: Viking I sets down on Mars.

1977: Voyager spacecraft flies past Jupiter and Saturn and discovers Jupiter’s rings.

1980

May 18, 1980: Mount St. Helens erupts in Washington state. Twenty-six people are left dead and forty are missing.

April 12, 1981: The world’s first space shuttle flight occurs with the launching of the Columbia from Cape Kennedy.

December 2, 1982: Dr. Barney B. Clark becomes the first heart transplant recipient during a 7½-hr. operation in Salt Lake City.

June 18, 1983: Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space as a member of the space shuttle Challenger.

April 23, 1984: The AIDS virus is discovered by federal researchers.

August 30-September 5, 1984: The space shuttle Discovery completes its mission orbiting the earth.

October 26, 1984: Baby Fay is given the heart of a baboon at Loma Linda Hospital in California.
January 28, 1986: Space Shuttle Challenger explodes moments after launch killing all seven on board, including school teacher Christa McAuliffe.

April 10, 1986: Halley's Comet comes closest to earth on its continuing orbit around the sun.


October 28, 1988: Two whales at Point Barrow, Alaska are finally freed from being trapped in frozen waters for two weeks, and begin to migrate south to Mexican waters. Freedom comes through American and Russian efforts.

February 22, 1989: The first 3-D commercial is shown on national television during the Super Bowl. Coca-Cola provides twenty million pairs of special glasses for viewing the event.

August 26, 1989: The U.S. space probe Voyager passes within 3,000 miles of the planet Neptune sending amazing pictures 4 billion miles back to earth.
SPORTS

1720

April 30, 1722: The first mention of the game of billiards is made, in the New England Courant.

1730

1732: The first fishing club is formed in Philadelphia. It is named the Schuylkill Fishing Company, later known as the Fish House Club.

1734: The first jockey club is formed, in South Carolina.

1760

1766: A list of popular games in a New York City newspaper includes battledores, shuttlecocks, cricket, tennis, and backgammon.

1770

1775: The first description of the game lacrosse, an invention of the Cherokee Indians in Florida, is published.

1780

1783: Deer hunting at night is outlawed in the Carolinas because too many cows and sheep are being killed.

1820

1820: The forerunner of football is banned at Yale by President Timothy Dwight.

1823: The first major horse race takes place, on Long Island, New York. American Eclipse of the North wins over Sir Henry from the South.

1825: The first gymnasium is opened, in Northampton, Massachusetts by Charles Beck.


July 23, 1827: The first swimming school is opened, in Boston. John James Audubon and John Quincy Adams swim there.

1828: The first archery club is formed, in Philadelphia by Franklin Peale and others.

1830

1830: Cock fighting becomes a popular sport.

September 18, 1830: The Tom Thumb, a steam engine, loses a race to a horse near Baltimore, Maryland.

1833: A forerunner of the game of baseball is played in Philadelphia by the Olympic Ball Club.

1839: In Cooperstown, New York, Abner Doubleday creates baseball, the game that becomes America's pastime.

1840

1840: The first international cricket match is held in Toronto between the United States and Canada. The United States wins and collects five hundred dollars.

1846: Alexander J. Cartwright designs the rules by which baseball is played today.

June 19, 1846: The first baseball game at Elysian Field, Hoboken, New Jersey is played between the New York Club and the Knickerbockers.

February 7, 1849: Tom Hyer, boasting that he is boxing's champion, fights his last fight and wins.

1850

June 3, 1851: The New York Knickerbockers wear baseball uniforms for the first time.

August 3, 1852: Harvard and Yale conduct the first intercollegiate rowing race, in New Hampshire. Harvard wins.

October 12, 1853: John C. Morrissey becomes the heavyweight boxing champion, in New York.

1854: The sport of baseball becomes popular in New York City. By 1856, it is considered the national pastime.

1857: The America's Cup is won by the United States yacht "America" in England.

October 6, 1857: The American Chess Association is formed in New York City.

June 30, 1859: Charles Blondin crosses Niagara Falls on a 1,100-foot tightrope.

1860

1860: Harvard and Yale play the first intercollegiate billiards match.

1862: Union Grounds, Brooklyn is the first enclosed baseball field.

1863: The sport of four-wheel skating is begun in New York City.

1864: George A. "Candy" Cummings of the Brooklyn Stars pitches the first curve ball.

June 19, 1867: Ruthless wins the first annual Belmont Stakes.

1868: Cycling becomes a popular sport.

1869: The first professional team in baseball is the Cincinnati Red Stockings.

November 6, 1869: A football game between Princeton and Rutgers at New Brunswick, New Jersey is the first intercollegiate football game in history. Rutgers wins.
1870

1870: Walking is considered one of the most popular sports. The famous boardwalk in Atlantic City, New Jersey is completed this year.

1871: The National Rifle Association is formed.

June 7, 1873: Survivor wins the first annual Preakness Stakes.

October 19, 1873: Yale, Princeton, Columbia, and Rutgers adopt the first code of football rules.

1874: The first public zoo is opened in Philadelphia.

May 17, 1875: Churchill Downs horse racing track hosts the first Kentucky Derby in Louisville, Kentucky. The winner is Aristides.

February 2, 1876: Baseball's National League is formed with teams in Chicago, Hartford, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Louisville.

May 23, 1876: The first no-hitter baseball game is played when Joe Borden pitches for Boston.

April 12, 1877: The first face protector in baseball history is worn by a Harvard catcher James Tyng. Designed by Frederick Thayer, the protective device is first called a birdcage.

1878: The 5-foot-front-wheel bicycle becomes popular.

1880

1881: The U.S. Lawn Tennis Association is formed. Richard D. Sears wins the first national championship played, in Newport, Rhode Island.

October 15, 1881: The first fishing magazine, the “American Angler,” goes on sale in Philadelphia.

1882: Phil Casey introduces handball to the United States.

February 7, 1882: John L. Sullivan defeats Paddy Ryan to become the world heavyweight bare knuckle boxing champion.

1883: Yale wins the first national college football championship.

June 2, 1883: The first baseball games to be played under electric lights is played in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

October 22, 1883: The first annual New York Horse Show opens in New York City.


January 1, 1886: The first Tournament of Roses is held in Pasadena, California.

1887: The first golf club in the United States is formed in Foxbury, Pennsylvania by John Mickle Fox.

May 26, 1887: Racetrack betting becomes legal for the first time in New York State.

March 4, 1888: Famous football coach Knute Rockne is born.

1889: Bicycles with two equal-sized wheels appear for the first time.

January 25, 1889: Nellie Bly completes her race around the world in 72 days, 6 hours, 10 minutes, and 58 seconds. She was trying to beat the fictional record of Phineas Fogg in Jules Verne’s novel Around the World in Eighty Days.

1890

November 29, 1890: Navy wins the first Army-Navy football game, played at West Point.

1891: Basketball is invented by Dr. James Naismith, a physical education instructor at the YMCA College in Springfield, Massachusetts. The players would throw balls into peach baskets, and had to use ladders to get the balls down.

September 7, 1892: James J. Corbet knocks out John L. Sullivan in the twenty-first round to gain the world heavyweight boxing championship.

1893: Ice hockey is introduced in the United States in a game played at Yale by two Canadian teams.

1894: Hugh Duffy achieves the highest batting average to date: .438 as a member of the Boston Nationals.

May 25, 1895: “Babe” Ruth, home-run king is born.

September 13, 1895: The first professional football game is played, in Latrobe, Pennsylvania between the jeannette Athletic Club of Pennsylvania and the local YMCA. Each player receives ten dollars for expenses; alphabetically, John Brailer receives the first ten dollars, making him the first professional player in football.

October 4, 1895: The first U.S. Open Golf Tournament is held at Newport Golf Club in Newport, Rhode Island. It is won by Horace Rawlins.

November 28, 1895: Brothers Charles E. and J. Frank Duryea win the first automobile race in Chicago.

1896: Professional baseball begins in New York City.

April 6, 1896: The first modern Olympic Games is held in Athens, Greece. The U.S. team wins nine of the twelve events.

April 19, 1897: The first Boston Marathon is won by John J. McDermott.

1900

January 29, 1900: Baseball’s American League is organized in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with eight teams: Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis.

1900: Photography becomes a hobby when Eastman Kodak introduces the Brownie Box Camera.

1903: The first world series is played from October 1-13. The Boston Red Sox beat the Pittsburgh Pirates five games to three.

1904: President Theodore Roosevelt popularizes jiu-jitsu by taking lessons from a Japanese instructor in the White House.
July 26, 1908: The American team wins the famed around-the-world auto race from New York City to Paris via Alaska and Siberia.

1910

February 6, 1910: The Boy Scouts of America is begun by William D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher.

March 16, 1910: A new land speed record of 133 miles per hour is set by Barney Oldfield in a Benz auto at Daytona.

March 17, 1910: The Camp Fire Girls is founded by Dr. and Mrs. Luther Halsey Gulick of Sebago, Maine. The group’s password is “Wohelo” from the first two letters of the words “work, health, love.”

1911: Cy Young retires from major league baseball after a long and successful career.

May 30, 1911: The first annual Indianapolis 500 auto race is won by Ray Harroun. Average speed: 74.59 miles per hour.

1912: Jim Thorpe, said to be the greatest male athlete of the first half of the twentieth century, wins the pentathlon and the decathlon in the Olympic Games in Stockholm.

March 12, 1912: The first parachute jump from a plane is made by Captain Albert Berry.

March 12, 1912: The Girl Guides, later the Girl Scouts, is organized by Mrs. Juliette Low at her home in Savannah, Georgia.

1915: Ty Cobb sets a major league record for bases stolen: ninety-six.

May 11, 1918: Exterminator wins the Kentucky Derby.

January 31, 1919: Birth of Jackie Robinson, first black to play in major-league sports when he signs with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

July 4, 1919: Jack Dempsey wins the world heavyweight boxing championship.

1920

September 8, 1921: Margaret Gorman of Washington D.C. wins the first Miss America title.

August 6, 1926: Gertrude Ederle of New York City becomes the first woman to swim the English Channel.

September 23, 1926: Gene Tunney is crowned heavyweight boxing champion over Jack Dempsey.

1927: The first Golden Gloves amateur boxing matches are held this year.


1930

1930: Robert Tyre “Bobby” Jones, Jr. retires from golf after becoming nationally known for his records. He wins the U.S. Open Golf Tournament on July 12.

May 6, 1931: Willie Mays, famous baseball player, is born.

August 18, 1934: Roberto Clemente, famous baseball player, is born.

September 24, 1934: Babe Ruth makes his sad farewell appearance with the New York Yankees.

1935: Jay Berwanger, halfback of Chicago, is named the first Heisman Trophy winner.

1936: Basketball is declared an Olympic sport.

January 29, 1936: The Baseball Hall of Fame inducts its first players: Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Babe Ruth, and Honus Wagner. The B.H.F. Building is located in Cooperstown, New York where tradition says the first game of baseball was played.

August 21, 1936: Wilt Chamberlain, famous basketball player, is born in West Philadelphia.

1937: Inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame: Morgan Bulkeley, Ban Johnson, Larry Lajoie, Connie Mack, John McGraw, Tristram Speaker, George Wright, and Cy Young.

June 22, 1937: Joe Louis wins the world heavyweight boxing championship from James J. Braddock.

1940

June 2, 1941: Lou Gehrig, first baseman of the New York Yankees, dies.

January 9, 1942: Joe Louis successfully defends his heavyweight boxing championship for the twentieth time, against Buddy Baer.

January 17, 1942: Famous boxer Cassius Clay, better known as Muhammad Ali, is born in Louisville, Kentucky.

April 11, 1947: Jackie Robinson becomes the first black player to play in major league baseball by signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

1949: The formation of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from a merger by the National Basketball League and the Basketball Association of America.

1950

1950: Ezzard Charles becomes the world heavyweight boxing champion.

February 8, 1950: Man o’ War is named the greatest horse of the first half of the century by an Associated Press poll.

February 10, 1950: Mark Spitz, famous Olympic swimmer, is born in Modesto, California. At the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany Spitz became the first athlete ever to win seven gold medals.

February 25-March 9, 1951: The first Pan-American Games are held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

July 18, 1951: “Jersey Joe” Walcott wins the world heavyweight boxing championship from Ezzard Charles.
September 23, 1952: Rocky Marciano becomes world heavyweight boxing champion.

September 30-October 5, 1953: The New York Yankees win their fifth consecutive World Series from the Brooklyn Dodgers.

July 19, 1957: Don Bowden is the first U.S. runner to break the four-minute mile, at a Stockton, California race.

January 8, 1958: At age fourteen, Bobby Fischer wins the U.S. Chess Championship. Nine months later he wins the international chess championship by defeating Russian Boris Spassky, making him the youngest ever World Grand Master of Chess.

1960

February 2, 1962: John Ueles becomes the first person to vault sixteen feet, in the Millrose Games in Madison Square Garden in New York City.


April 3, 1962: Eddie Arcaro, considered the greatest American jockey, retires from racing.

August 24, 1963: John Pennel becomes the first person to pole vault seventeen feet, at a meet in Miami, Florida.

1965: Muhammad Ali successfully beats Sonny Liston and Floyd Patterson but through technicalities is denied the heavyweight championship.

January 2, 1965: Joe Namath signs a three-year contract to play football with the New York Jets for $400,000.

March 5, 1966: Peggy Fleming wins the women's singles title in the world figure skating championships in Switzerland.

July 2, 1966: Billie Jean King wins the Wimbledon tennis championship.

January 15, 1967: The first annual Super Bowl is won by the Green Bay Packers over the Kansas City Chiefs.

1969: Stan Musial is elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. He played for the St. Louis Cardinals 1941-1963, and compiled 3,630 hits and a .331 lifetime batting average.

1970

October 23, 1970: Gary Gabelich drives his rocket-powered car to a new land speed record of 622.4 miles per hour on the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.

November 8, 1970: Tom Dempsey, born with a deformed hand and foot, kicks a National Football League record field goal of sixty-three yards.

February 6, 1971: Golf is played for the first time on the moon. Astronaut Alan Shepard claims that the ball sailed hundreds of yards further than it would have on earth.

March 8, 1971: Joe Frazier beats Muhammad Ali to become the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

August 26-September 11, 1972: Mark Spitz sets an Olympic record by winning seven gold medals in swimming at the Munich games.


1973: Secretariat wins the triple crown of horse racing (the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, and the Belmont Stakes).

September 20, 1973: In the battle-of-the-sexes tennis match, Billie Jean King beats her male competitor, Bobby Riggs.

December 1, 1973: Jack Nicklaus brings his lifetime winnings to two million dollars when he wins the Disney World Open golf tournament.

April 8, 1974: Hank Aaron hits his 715th home run, breaking Babe Ruth's career record.

July 17-August 1, 1976: Bruce Jenner is the gold medalist decathlon champion in the Montreal summer Olympics.

November 4, 1976: Reggie Jackson signs the first free-agent draft in major-league baseball for $2.9 million.

1977: Skateboards become a national pastime for young people.

December 10, 1977: Steve Cauthen becomes the first jockey to earn more than $5 million in purses in a single year.

1978: Jogging and physical fitness for massive numbers of Americans comes into vogue.

1980

1980: President Carter withdraws the United States from the summer Olympics in Moscow because of Russia's invasion of Afghanistan.

January 26, 1983: Paul "Bear" Bryant, the winningest football coach in history, coach at the University of Alabama, dies.

May 31, 1986: The seventieth racing of the Indianapolis 500 marks the first time that the race is run in under three hours. Won by Bobby Rahal in 2 hours, 55 minutes, 43.48 seconds, his average speed was 170.722 miles per hour.

June 1, 1986: Pat Bradley becomes the first woman to win all four of the top women's golf tournaments: the LPGA, the U.S. Women's Open, the du Maurier Classic, and the Nabisco Dinah Shore. This also resulted in her becoming the first woman to exceed two million dollars in career earnings.

June 8, 1986: The longest-playing nine-inning game in American League baseball history takes place at Yankee Stadium where the Baltimore Orioles beat the New York Yankees 18 to 9 in a game lasting 4 hours 16 minutes.

June, 1988: Heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson earns twenty-two million dollars in ninety-one seconds when he knocks out Michael Spinks in Atlantic City.

August 8, 1988: Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs, is lighted electronically for the first time in seventy-three years.

September, 1988: At the summer Olympics, the world's best woman athlete, Jackie Joyner-Kersee, sets a record in the heptathlon and also wins the long jump.

April 12, 1989: Death of famous boxing champ "Sugar" Ray Robinson.