



Celebrating November

**Inspirational Role Models
Month**

Alzheimer's Disease Month

**American Indian Heritage
Month**

Author's Day
November 1

Men Make Dinner Day
November 7

Veterans Day: U.S.
November 11

World Kindness Day
November 13

Rock Your Mocs Day
November 15

Thanksgiving: U.S.
November 28

Grow a Mo, Bro

This November, you may notice that a lot more men than usual are sporting beards and moustaches. These facial hair aficionados may be following the premise “Grow a Mo, Save a Bro,” in honor of Movember, a worldwide movement of growing facial hair to raise awareness of men’s health issues.



The Movember movement began in a bar in 2003, when two Australian men, Travis Garone and Luke Slattery, shared a beer and a laugh over the demise of the moustache. It seemed as if that particular piece of facial hair’s heyday was long over. Moustaches

had not just fallen out of fashion, but they were deemed corny. Inspired by a friend who was fundraising for his mother’s breast cancer, these two friends decided that they would grow big and funny moustaches as a fundraiser for men’s health issues such as prostate cancer. They would ask people to donate 10 dollars per moustache. Before long, they had found 30 friends willing to grow a “mo” in support of their cause. Today, their worldwide moustache movement numbers five million “mo bros,” and over the past 15 years, they have raised \$837 million to combat men’s health problems such as prostate and testicular cancer, mental health problems, and suicide prevention. Thanks to Movember, many men are living longer and healthier lives.

Men can join Movember by growing a moustache, and women can support the men who choose to grow a mo. You can also support the movement by just explaining why you’ve chosen to grow a moustache. Many men will kick off the month of Movember with a “shave down” event, where they gather over dinner or drinks and shave their faces as a group, beginning their month of growing their moustaches as a team. Whether you grow a handlebar, a walrus, a goatee, or a pencil moustache, your facial hair will help prevent men from dying too young.

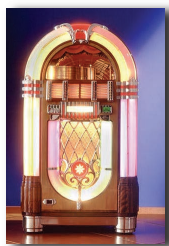
Easy-Baked Success



On November 4, 1963, the Kenner toy company introduced the Easy-Bake Oven, a real baking oven for children that was powered by nothing more than a lightbulb. Toy salesman

Norman Shapiro was inspired after taking a trip to New York City, where he saw street vendors heating their pretzels with lightbulbs. Inventor Ronald Howes was tasked with turning the idea into reality, which he did by using two 100-watt bulbs. Despite a high price tag of \$15.95, which is equivalent to \$127 in today’s marketplace, the toy was a hit, selling half-a-million units in its first year alone. Now, over 50 years and 10 different designs later, it remains popular.

Jukebox Heroes



The day before you gather around the turkey for Thanksgiving, gather around the jukebox for Jukebox Day! After all, both are American pastimes, and both offer perfect reasons to gather together and have a party.

The very first jukebox was installed by Louis Glass in San Francisco's Palais Royale Saloon on November 23, 1889. His nickel-in-the-slot machine was little more than an Edison wax cylinder phonograph fitted with Glass's own invention, a coin slot. The machine did not have any speakers or means of amplification, so listeners had to put their ear to one of four listening tubes to hear the music. And listen they did! In the first six months of operation, the single nickel-in-slot phonograph machine earned over \$1,000. Glass quickly installed other machines throughout the area, which helped him earn thousands. Before long, other inventors got in on the game, creating coin-operated music players of their own.

In 1918, Hobart Niblack created a device that could automatically change records. This led to the invention of the first machine that could play a wide selection of music from different records, by the Automated Musical Instrument Company in 1927. Then in 1928, Justus Seeberg combined a loudspeaker with a coin-operated player that allowed for multiple records. The modern jukebox was born, and the 1930s became the jukebox's golden era.

So why was the device named the "jukebox"? The term *juke* comes from the Elizabethan English word *jouk*, meaning "to dance or act wildly." Before the jukebox, there were juke bands that played in juke joints. These were rowdy establishments filled with heavy drinking and good times. But with the invention of the automatic, coin-operated playing machine, live juke bands gave way to the far cheaper jukeboxes, which suddenly appeared in every juke joint in America.

The Descent of Dunce



November 8 commemorates the death of the medieval Catholic scholar and philosopher John Duns Scotus in 1308. It is from Duns Scotus that we get the term *dunce*, meaning "a stupid person." How would such an esteemed scholar give rise to a term for a know-nothing? Duns Scotus earned great renown for his sweeping philosophical tracts, including arguments for free will, the existence of God, and the Immaculate Conception of Mary. He rivaled the great minds of Thomas Aquinas and William of Ockham. Hundreds of years later, during the Renaissance of the 16th century, many scholars thought that the ideas of Duns Scotus were behind the times. Many began to use the word *Duns*, or *dunce*, as an insult, meaning one who was incapable of scholarship. Furthermore, since Duns Scotus was often depicted in his signature pointy cap, which he believed was a sort of funnel for knowledge into the head, his detractors derided the "Dunce Cap" not as a badge of intelligence, but as a symbol of ineptitude.

The Queen of Queens

On November 17, 1558, Queen Mary I died, and her 25-year-old half-sister Elizabeth ascended the throne to become Queen Elizabeth I. Queen Mary was Catholic and had spent much of her reign trying to restore the supremacy of the Pope to England. Upon her death, Queen Elizabeth I, a Protestant, was heartily welcomed by lords and laypersons alike. Queen Elizabeth's reign was



one of peace and prosperity and has been called by historians both the "English Renaissance" and England's "Golden Age." Indeed, the period of Queen Elizabeth's reign is known in history books as the Elizabethan Era.

Much of England's prosperity was due to trade across the Atlantic, especially the slave trade. This new wealth combined with a strong government and the establishment of a religious doctrine known as the Elizabethan Religious Settlement (which made Protestantism the law of the land) created stability that allowed England to flourish. Perhaps the era's most notable achievements were in literature, poetry, and drama, led by writers William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, and Ben Jonson. The court of Elizabeth watched the same plays as the commoners, and so drama became a unifying art form for the country.

While England remained unified at home, it expanded its interests abroad. Queen Elizabeth's favorite explorer was Sir Francis Drake, a sea captain who turned pirate at the queen's behest, raiding rivals from Spain and France. When Drake returned to England after his circumnavigation of the globe in 1580, he was celebrated as a national hero and as a symbol of England's power. Queen Elizabeth never married, which led commoners to nickname her the "Virgin Queen," and also helped her consolidate her power. She was celebrated and idealized in poetry, portraiture, and pageantry. Even today, she remains an icon of majesty and perfection, and her continued worship is known as the cult of Queen Elizabeth.

Japan's Movie Monster



On November 3, 1954, the movie *Godzilla* was released throughout Japan. The tale of a giant dinosaur-like monster awoken by an atomic bomb was not an instant hit. Many critics believed that the

filmmakers were exploiting Japanese fears of nuclear devastation, fears that were still fresh in the minds of many Japanese less than 10 years after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When the film was released in America two years later, critics had a different view. They believed that the movie accurately captured the horrors of nuclear war. Soon, even Japanese critics were praising *Godzilla* for its social commentary. Today, *Godzilla* remains an enduring part of Japanese pop culture. The movie spawned 32 more films, as well as a bevy of comic books and toys. According to Guinness, *Godzilla* is the longest-running film franchise in history.