



Notable Quotable

“During the gold rush it’s a good time to be in the pick and shovel business.”

~ Mark Twain, humorist

August Horoscopes and Birthdays

In astrology, those born from August 1–22 are Leo’s Lions. As lions are kings of the animals, Leos are strong and charismatic leaders. Proud and confident, Leos enjoy performing and the attention it brings. Those born from August 23–31 are Virgo’s Virgins. Often symbolized by the goddess of agriculture, Virgos are deeply connected to the material world. They are logical, practical, and aware of every detail.

- Jerry Garcia – August 1, 1942
- P.D. James – August 3, 1920
- Meghan Markle – August 4, 1981
- Leslie Odom Jr. – August 6, 1981
- Whitney Houston – August 9, 1963
- Viola Davis – August 11, 1965
- Don Ho – August 13, 1930
- Halle Berry – August 14, 1966
- Angela Bassett – August 16, 1958
- Usain Bolt – August 21, 1986
- Kobe Bryant – August 23, 1978
- Mother Teresa – August 26, 1910
- Richard Gere – August 31, 1949

The Gold Rush *cont. from pg. 1*

It is estimated that 100,000 people attempted the trip into the Klondike between the summers of 1897 and 1898. Many gold seekers had no experience whatsoever in mining or prospecting. Mass resignations occurred across the country as people left their livelihoods behind to search for riches. Even Seattle’s mayor left his post to try his luck. Of the 100,000 aspiring gold miners, only 30,000 eventually made it to the Klondike.

Travel to the Yukon proved treacherous thanks to mountainous terrain and unpredictable weather. Of the 30,000 who made it to the Yukon, only 4,000 struck gold. And of these 4,000, only a few hundred became rich. By the summer of 1898, the word *Klondike* was spoken with scorn. As rumors of gold found in other northern locales spread, the Klondike was abandoned, and the gold rush was over.

Chain Reaction

Your stomach might start to growl when you learn that August 24 is Iconic American Restaurants Day. This is a day to appreciate those perennial restaurant chains that have graced the American restaurant landscape for decades. Howard Johnson’s. Beefsteak Charlie’s. The Red Barn. Sizzler. And yes, even McDonald’s.

If some of these restaurants don’t sound familiar, that might be because so many iconic restaurants are regional. Friendly’s restaurants—137 of them—were

once found up and down the East Coast. In the mid-1990s, 200 Luby’s Cafeterias could be found in and around Texas. One person’s beloved restaurant chain is another person’s head-scratcher.

What makes an American restaurant iconic anyway? A recognizable logo? A classic menu? The sheer number of restaurants? Perhaps an iconic restaurant chain offers a place that provides all the trappings of a home-cooked meal out on the open road.



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The Gold Rush

On August 16, 1896, prospector George Carmack and his family were looking for gold along Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike River in Canada’s Yukon Territory. Gold was discovered in vast quantities, and Carmack immediately filed claims to mine the land. Word of the find quickly spread, and by the end of August, the length of the entire creek had been claimed by gold miners. Not even winter could stop the miners, and prospectors raced by dog sled to the Klondike and the newly renamed Bonanza Creek.

shipments were valued at \$1.13 million. (That’s over one billion of today’s dollars!) Word of the gold spread like wildfire, and soon prospectors from all over the world were flooding the West Coast and preparing for the journey north. A great economic boom hit cities like Seattle and San Francisco, which birthed outfitting and supply industries for the prospectors.

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It wasn’t until July of 1897 that the first shipments of Klondike gold arrived in the cities of Seattle and San Francisco. The gold

Bargain Hunters

The second week in August is Bargain Hunting Week, but where can you find a bargain these days? According to experts, there are always deals to be had, if you know when and where to look.

Restaurants are often the least crowded on Tuesday, so they offer two-for-one or kids-eat-free deals to lure customers. Grocery stores often receive new deliveries each

week, so you’re more likely to find discounted meats and produce on delivery day. Electronics retailers will start stocking new models in April, so shoppers often find great deals on year-old models throughout the spring and summer. Experts swear that the best airfares can be found at 3 p.m. on a Tuesday, as airlines race to match discounts offered by major airlines the previous Monday.

Celebrating August

Read-a-Romance Novel Month

Happiness Happens Month

International Clown Week
August 1–7

Homemade Pie Day
August 5

Root Beer Float Day
August 6

Elvis Week
August 9–17

International Geocaching Day
August 20

Senior Citizens Day
August 21

Women’s Equality Day
August 26

Arrr-Gust

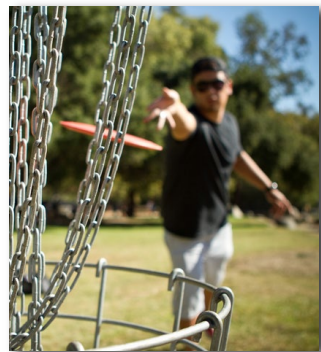
Shiver me timbers, August is International Pirate Month. Historians consider the Golden Age of Piracy to have occurred between the 1650s and 1730s. It was during this period that the likes of Blackbeard, Captain Kidd, and Anne Bonny made their notorious reputations.



The pirate flag known as the Jolly Roger is believed to come from the French joli rouge, which means "pretty red."

It is no coincidence that the Golden Age of Piracy coincided with an era punctuated by the shipping of valuable goods across vast oceans to Europe. European kingdoms had laid claim to distant colonies in North America, West Africa, and India. Sea routes used for the shipping of spices, gold, and other goods provided perfect targets for pirates looking for power, riches, and prestige.

A major factor that contributed to the rise of piracy was the rise of naval power. Empires like Spain and England used brutal methods to bolster their navies.



There are over 50,000 active members of the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA).

Hole in One

The first Saturday of August is Disc Golf Day. On the holiday last year, it is estimated that thousands of golfers threw 732,152 shots on 209,113 tournament holes. If you decide to play a round today, you certainly won't be alone.

August has always been a banner month for disc golf. The first national disc golf tournament, the American Flying Disc Open, was held on August 2, 1974, in Rochester, New York. The success of the Open

Sailors were not so much recruited as kidnapped and forced into conscription. After receiving extensive training and experience on the high seas, many sailors, disgusted with their shoddy treatment and pay, left the navy for piracy.

Much of what we know about piracy comes from the book *A General History of the Pyrates*, written in 1724 by Captain Charles Johnson. The true identity of Captain Charles Johnson remains a mystery, as there is no record of such a man ever existing. Despite a certain lack of credulity, Johnson's fanciful accounts of Blackbeard, Charles Vane, and Calico Jack, have defined piracy for centuries. This book also inspired Robert Louis Stevenson to write *Treasure Island*. While we may never be able to separate pirate fact from fiction, piracy will surely capture our imaginations for years to come.

established disc golf as a new national pastime.

August 12, 1997, marks the date famed toymaker "Steady" Ed Headrick, inventor of the Frisbee and founder of the Professional Disc Golf Association, invented the chain basket device that acts as the "hole" in disc golf. Upon Ed's death in August 2002, his ashes were incorporated into a select number of flying discs, ensuring that he would play his beloved game forevermore.

MLK's Dream



The night before Martin Luther King Jr. made his historic speech, the sound system was sabotaged.

Organizers of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom expected 100,000 people to attend their demonstration on August 28, 1963. In the end, 250,000 showed up, making it the largest demonstration in U.S. history. A speech by Martin Luther King Jr. was set to cap the march. King had used the phrase "I have a dream" in

several speeches leading up to the event, and his advisors cautioned him against leaning too heavily on the theme. But when the gospel singer Mahalia Jackson said, "Tell them about the dream, Martin," King abandoned his drafted speech and launched into what is now one of the most famous and quoted speeches in American history.

Star-Crossed Lovers

For over 2,000 years, the Qixi Festival has been celebrated in China on the seventh day of the seventh month, which this year falls on August 4. This holiday is known by several names: the Double Seventh Festival, the Magpie Festival, but it is perhaps best known in the west as China's Valentine's Day.



A popular Qixi Festival custom is for women to skillfully thread a needle by moonlight.

The Qixi Festival is based on the romantic folk tale of Zhinu the cloud weaver girl and Niulang the ox herder. Niulang had once saved an old ox when it fell ill. What Niulang did not know was that this old ox was once the God of Cattle, sent from heaven to live on Earth as penance for a former misdeed. To show his thanks, the ox introduced Niulang to Zhinu, the seventh daughter of the Goddess of Heaven and the Jade Emperor.

The two fell deeply in love, married, had two children, and set up a life together, with Niulang herding oxen and Zhinu weaving. When the Goddess of

Heaven discovered that her daughter had married a mortal, she descended to Earth and took Zhinu back to heaven.

The old ox instructed Niulang to kill him and wear his hide so that the mortal could ascend to heaven to find Zhinu. Niulang wept for the loss of his ox but did as he was told and took his children to find Zhinu. The Goddess of Heaven, divining the plot, created a massive, uncrossable river to forever separate the lovers.

Niulang and his children wept in their grief. Magpies were so moved that they flew to heaven and formed a bridge over the river. The Goddess, too, was moved, and so she decreed that once a year, on the seventh day of the seventh month, the two lovers should meet on the Magpie Bridge. During the Qixi Festival, if we look to the night sky, we see Niulang and Zhinu as the stars Altair and Vega, separated by the river of the Milky Way.