

Celebration Calendar July 2008

In the belief that life was meant to be a celebration we send you this Calendar each month with lots of ideas to celebrate and inspire you to add your own. In Phoenix we're still entitled to blame it on the heat — any and all mistakes. Please send us your comments and contributions.

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- 1-31 Artown, Reno, Nevada. A huge summer celebration with events in all the arts.
 - 1-31 Cell Phone Courtesy Month.
Encouraging the over 180 million cell phone users to be more aware of the poor souls who aren't talking on the cell phone.
 - 1-31 Family Reunion Month.
It's a great occasion any month but July is definitely the most popular.
 - 1-31 National "Doghouse Repairs" Month.
No, not the one in the backyard but the Relationships that have gone awry, another term for "mending fences."
 - 1-31 National Hot Dog Month.
Now we're getting to the fun of summer. We consume over 3 billion hot dogs a year. Do your part!
 - 1-31 National Ice Cream Month
Allow me to share my family's tradition. My father never touched a drop of booze — but binged on ice cream which the whole family got to share.
 - 1-31 National Parks and Recreation Month. Take a break from the heat. Enjoy the healthy lifestyle our Parks offer.
 - 1-31 Sandwich Generation Month.
Let's pay tribute to that generation who is caring for parents and children at the same time. Cheers!
 - 1 Canada Day, A truly great Anniversary Celebration throughout Canada with fireworks, parades, contests, the works.
 - 1 Anniversary of the First Scheduled Television Broadcast, 1941. We don't ordinarily list the thousands of TV Anniversaries, but this marked a whole new way of life (S-I-I-I-I-I-GH).
 - 1 100th Birth Anniversary of Estée Lauder .
She didn't have to say anything memorable. She became one of the 500 richest women in the world by selling glamour.
 - 2 I Forgot Day. Today is the day to make up for all the forgotten birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc. It's annual and official. Some of us may go crazy or broke.
 - 2 100th Birth Anniversary of Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, making many historical contributions including the victory in Brown v. Board of Education which ended school segregation.
 - 2-5 National Tom Sawyer Days (with) Fence Painting Contest. It would be good for all of us to celebrate summer with our national hero.
 - 3-Aug. 15 Air Conditioning Appreciation Days.
Official everywhere but celebrated intensely in Phoenix.
 - 3-Aug. 11 Dog Days. The hottest days of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Believed to be an evil time, "when the sea boiled, wine turned sour, dogs grew mad, ... causing to man burning fevers, hysteria and phrensis." (1813). Sound about right?
 - 3 Stay Out of the Sun Day. Enough said!
 - 3 Happy Birthday to Our Own Cathy Kaiser.
 - 3 Happy Birthday to Tom Stoppard, a playwright who makes us think, "It is better to be quotable than to be honest."
- 3-6 Fourth of July Celebration.**
One of the first of the many, of the day we consider the Birthday of our great nation.

- 4 **The Death Anniversary of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson** (1826) the 50th Anniversary of Adoption of the Declaration of Independence. They carried on a lively correspondence till the day of their deaths. John Adams last words were, "Jefferson still survives." Jefferson's last words: "This is the fourth."
- 4 **Anniversary of the Approval and Signing of the Declaration of Independence**
- 4 **Birth Anniversary of Calvin Coolidge** (1872) a President wise enough to advise us, "*No man ever listened himself out of a job.*"
- 4 **Birth Anniversary of Stephen Foster** (1826), the man who wrote the songs so many of our parents and grandparents sang such as: "Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair" & "Oh Sussana".
- 4 **Birth Anniversary of Ann Landers**, (90th) the famous Advice Columnists who told us, "*Television has proved that people will look at anything rather than each other.*"
- 4 **Happy 90th Birthday to Abigail Van Buren**, Twin sister of Landers, she followed in her footsteps as an advice columnist and with great wit: "*In Biblical times a man could have as many wives as he could afford, just like today.*"
- 4 **Birth Anniversary of Nathaniel Hawthorne** (1804) one of the great American authors: "*Happiness is a butterfly, which when pursued is always just beyond your grasp, but which, if you sit down quietly, may alight upon you.*"
- 4 **Happy 81st Birthday to Neil Simon**, the playwright who fills our lives with fascinating factoids. "*There are two million interesting people in New York and only seventy-eight in Los Angeles.*"
- 5 **Happy Birthday to Jim Sorgatz and Betsy Parker**, valued members of our congregation.
- 5 **International Cherry Pit Spitting Championship**. It's both nutritious and delicious.
- 6 **A Very Happy Birthday to our Al Paskevich**.
- 6 **Birth Anniversary of John Paul Jones**. (1747) It might also be called "*I Have Not Yet Begun to Fight Day*". As a Naval Officer in 1779 he made the slogan famous, when he refused to surrender his ship.
- 7 Today is the birthday of another one of our own. **Happy Birthday Lynda Sampson**.
- 8 **SCUD Day (Savor the Comic, Unplug the Drama)**. A day to remind us that we need to spend a lot more time in the Comic Zone.
- 10 **Birth Anniversary of Marcel Proust** (1871) Renowned French Author, who celebrated the joys of misery "*Happiness, he wrote is beneficial for the body, but it is grief that develops the powers of the mind.*"
- 11 **Birth Anniversary of John Quincy Adams** (1767) 6th President of the U.S. and author of many opinions. Here's his idea on Marriage "*I want (who does not want) a wife
A wife affectionate and fair,
To solace all the woes of life
And all its days to share;
Of temper sweet, of yielding will,
Of firm yet placid mind.
With all my faults to love me still,
With sentiments refined.*"
Wonder what is meant by 'sentiments refined.'
- 11 **Bowdler's Day**. In case you've hesitated to expose your children to Shakespeare or the Old Testament, we have Thomas Bowdler to thank for purifying them back in the 18th century.
- 11 **Birth Anniversary of E.B. White** (1899) an author of great wit for all ages. "*Humor can be dissected as a frog can, but the thing dies in the process, and the innards are discouraging to any but the pure scientist.*"
- 12 **Birth Anniversary of Henry David Thoreau** (1817) a philosopher for our time! "*Man is the richest whose pleasures are the cheapest.*"

Comment :

- 12 Happy 70th Birthday to Bill Cosby**
"You can turn painful situations around through laughter. If you can find humor in anything — even poverty— you can survive it."
 He has practiced this to the benefit of us all.
- 13 Happy Birthday to Our Ben Ragunton.**
 (We don't publish your age unless you're a celebrity.)
- 13 Embrace Your Geekness Day.**
 If you are one of those strange persons who play weird Internet games, immerses yourself in comic books and etc. this is your day to celebrate your Geekness. We'll never tell.
- 13-18 Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival.**
 Allow your Editor to indulge in beautiful memories of what was once a personal annual event: the best in music and inspiring environment.
- 14 Happy Birthday to Douglas Bates,**
 who gets sole celebration honors today.
- 15-21 National Rabbit Week.**
 This is the week to pay tribute to rabbits, said to be great human companions but not always treated well as Easter Bunnies.
- 16 A Very Happy Birthday to Gail Vincent,**
 one of the pillars who holds up our church.
- 17 Anniversary of the Opening of Disneyland**
 (1955) If there is any child left in us, Disneyland will always bring it out.
- 17 Happy 91st Birthday to Phyllis Diller,** living proof that it pays to laugh at yourself. *"My plastic surgeon told me my face looked like a bouquet of elbows."*
- 18 Let Us Honor Nelson Mandela on 90th Birthday.** Among his many contributions to an all-race South African government were 28 years in jail. He remains a symbol of hope not just to South Africa, but also to all people.
- 19 "Toss Away the "Could Haves" and Should Haves" Day** For all those who strive to live in the present moment.
- 20 Happy 89th Birthday to Sir Edmund Hillary**
 In 1953, he became the first (with his Serpia guide) to ascend the summit of the highest mountain in the world, MT. EVEREST. *"We climbed because nobody climbed it before."*
- 20 National Ice Cream Day.** Oh, those Sunday afternoon dishes of ice cream — a little taste of heaven!
- 20 Celebrate with Our Birthday Member, Susan Bartz.**
- 21 Birth Anniversary of Ernest Hemingway,** a very serious Nobel Prize winning author who was surprisingly lighthearted about fatherhood. *"To be a successful father there's one absolute rule. If you have a kid, don't look at it for the first two years."*
- 21 National Get Out of the Doghouse Day.**
 This is officially the day you can get out of trouble with anyone with anyone you care about — assuming you are in trouble.
- 21 Happy Birthday to Robin Williams, #56,**
 a quirky family humorist: *"Death is nature's way of saying 'Your table is ready.' "*
- 22 Pied Piper of Hamelin: Anniversary — Maybe**
 According to the legend the German town of Hamelin was plagued rats and hired the Pied Piper to pipe them into the river. When the town refused to pay him, he piped all the children out of town, never to be seen again.
- 22 Rat-Catchers Day.** A day to honor the rat-catchers who labor in that unglamorous job to rid us of plague carrying rats.
- 22 Spooner's Day. (Birth Anniversary of William Spooner** , the English minister whose frequent and colorful slips of the tongue (such as *queer old Dean* for Dear old Queen) led to the term *Spoonerisms*.
- 23 Hot Enough for Ya Day.**
 This is what we say when we can't think of anything else to say. Blame it on the heat.

24 A Happy Birthday to Richard Edson ,
no matter how hot it is.

24 National Tell An Old Joke Day.
Keep the old jokes alive but clean.

26 Birth Anniversary of Aldous Huxley (1894)
the great English philosopher and satirist who
gave us *Brave New World*. “*Nonsense is an
assertion of man’s spiritual freedom in spite of all
the oppressions of circumstance.*”

26 Birth Anniversary of George Bernard Shaw
(1856-1950) one of loudest and most often
heard voices of the mid-19th and mid-20th
centuries. “*My way of joking is to tell the truth.
It’s the funniest joke in the world.*”

**26 Cow Appreciation Day & National Day of the
Cowboy.** They belong together don’t they?

**28 Happy Birthday to Erin Erikson and Darcy
Erikson.**, two of our valued members.

**28 And just as Happy to Millye Carter-
Bloodworth.** A big day for First Church
birthdays.

29 And a Very Happy Birthday to another of
our members, **Valon Gates**

30 Birth Anniversary of Henry Ford (1863). We
all remember him for revolutionizing the Auto
Industry, introducing \$5 a day wages, and
telling us “*History is bunk.*”

**31 To Conclude a Great Month for Members’
Birthdays, We Salute Dan Weddle**

Let’s all celebrate our lives. Please send me
the things you’d like to celebrate, and *remember* —
“If you want to fly, you must take yourself lightly.

Ellie Marek