

Roanoke's "Lost Colony"

On August 18, 1587, Virginia Dare was born, becoming the very first child born in the New World to English parents. This honor alone would have been enough to grant the girl fame, but she became even more famous for her mysterious disappearance as a member of the "Lost Colony" of Roanoke.



The founding of the Roanoke Colony in 1585 was the first attempt at establishing a permanent English settlement in the New World. The attempt was not successful, however. Due to a lack of supplies and bad relations

with the local Croatan tribe, most of the settlers returned to England. A second contingent of settlers, led by John White, returned to the colony in 1587. Shortly after their arrival, Virginia Dare, White's granddaughter, was born. This small success was overshadowed by other hardships. Desperate for assistance, White sailed back to England in late 1587, leaving behind Dare and the others. If White had hoped for a quick return to Roanoke with fresh supplies, he was badly mistaken. The Anglo-Spanish War broke out, and White's return was delayed for three years.

White did eventually return to Roanoke, ironically landing on August 18, 1590, his granddaughter Virginia Dare's third birthday. The settlement, though, was completely deserted, and there was no trace of the 118 people he had left behind. Even stranger, there was no sign of a battle. The only clue left was the word "CROATOAN" carved on a fence post. White believed this to mean that the colony had moved to the nearby Croatoan Island. The colony, however, was never found, and their disappearance remains a mystery. Theories abound as to the colony's fate. Some believe they moved north and integrated with a local tribe, only to be slaughtered by another. Others say they perished during a drought. Still others claim they attempted to sail back to England and were lost at sea, or that they were killed by the Spanish. Whatever their fate, archaeologists and anthropologists have been searching for clues for centuries.

August Birthdays

Maria Mitchell (astronomer) – August 1, 1818
 Louis Armstrong (musician) – August 4, 1901
 Neil Armstrong (astronaut) – August 5, 1930
 Matthew Henson (explorer) – August 8, 1866
 Alfred Hitchcock (director) – August 13, 1899
 Davy Crockett (frontiersman) – August 17, 1786
 H. P. Lovecraft (writer) – August 20, 1890
 Dorothy Parker (writer) – August 22, 1893
 Sean Connery (actor) – August 25, 1930
 Charlie Parker (musician) – August 29, 1920
 Frank Robinson (ballplayer) – August 31, 1935

Al Matt - August 15, 1931



Lincoln's Penny

On August 2, 1909, the very first Lincoln cents were put into circulation by the U.S. Mint. Before 1909, a president's visage had never appeared on a coin. In January of 1909, the Mint approached artist Victor David Brenner to design a coin depicting President Abraham Lincoln to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Lincoln's birth. Two years earlier, Brenner had completed a plaque of Lincoln in profile for the Gorham Manufacturing Company; it was this plaque that became the design for the Lincoln cent, with Brenner imprinting his initials VDB on the reverse. When the cent was released, Treasury facilities were mobbed by those seeking the new pennies. Just one week after the minting, production of the pennies was halted to remove the VDB initials on the reverse, making the original VDB pennies invaluable collector items.

The Gardens

Gable Pines at Vadnais Heights

The Fairest of Them All

By the month of August, summer is in full swing, and nothing says summer like the state fair. With live music, animals, wacky inventions, crazy competitions, carnival rides, and a fascinating assortment of deep-fried foods, state fairs offer the ultimate Americana experience for Americans and foreign visitors alike.

The oldest state fair in America is the Great New York State Fair. Although the first fair did not take place until 1841, its story began in 1832 when a group of farmers formed the New York State Agricultural Society. The group tasked itself with innovating and sharing agricultural practices for New York's farmers. In 1841, the Society held its first ever state fair in Syracuse to showcase the bounty of New York's farms. It is estimated that 15,000 people gathered for the fair, where they heard speeches, viewed livestock, sampled fresh produce, and cheered on the contestants of a plowing contest. This first state fair was not much different from the Great New York State Fair of today, which is still held in Syracuse.

New York's state fair may have been the first, but these grand events are found in almost every state of the union, and each fair boasts the unique flavor of its home state. The Kentucky State Fair is known for its World Championship Horse Show, a prestigious competition that has been held since 1902. Every year, the Iowa State Fair boasts a cow sculpted entirely of butter; the first was carved by J.K. Daniels in 1911 and the tradition continues today. Additional butter sculptures have also included Elvis Presley, John Wayne, and the Last Supper. Washington's state fair, known locally as the Puyallup, ranks as one of the biggest in the world.

Speaking of unique flavors, one of the best parts of every fair is the food. Traditional fair fare includes everything from Fisher scones dipped in honey butter and jam, to deep-fried butter, to corn dogs. All across America, there is a state fair to suit every taste.



Celebrating August

August 2 Patrick Sullivan
2:30

August 6 National Noon Out
With the Bandanahhs
11:30-1:30

August 8 Charles Kemper
2:30

August 12 Erin Livingston
2pm

August 13 Jack Schaler
3pm

August 16 Snowbyrd
2pm

August 19 Diane Zilverberg
2pm

August 23 Vinnie Rose
2:30

August 27 The Gardens Waffle
Breakfast

It Be Arr-gust, Matey



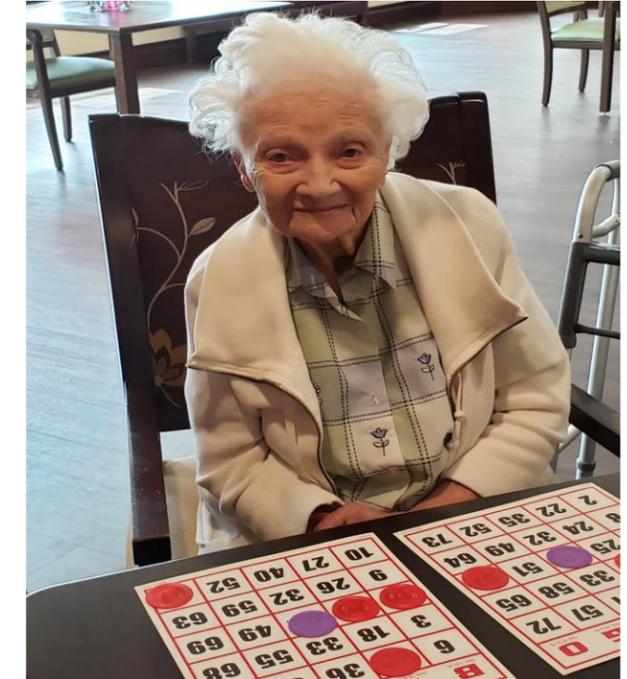
Yarr, Matey, Arr-gust be International Pirate Month. But you don't have to talk like a pirate to appreciate the fascinating history and characters from the Golden Age of Piracy.

Spanning from 1650 to the late 1720s, piracy's golden age left an impression on historians and pirate fans alike. Many factors contributed to this era becoming such a golden age. For starters, many of the most famous pirates of this age were former sailors from European navies, with valuable training and experience. Secondly, this was a period when prized cargoes, such as gold and newly discovered tradable goods, were shipped via boat between the New World and Europe. Thirdly, European powers were unable to stretch their influence all the way across the Atlantic to the New World, leaving the North American colonies and sea routes vulnerable to attack. Furthermore, enlistment in the Navy was akin to indentured servitude, with hard labor and little freedom. Piracy, on the other hand, was more democratic and far better paying when successful. These factors made the era ripe for lawlessness and thievery.

Perhaps the grandest prize sought by pirates were the Spanish galleons bringing gold and silver back through the Caribbean to Europe. The English, French, and Dutch—all enemies of Spain—commissioned pirates called privateers to attack Spanish ships. Perhaps the most famous privateer in history was Sir Francis Drake, nicknamed "my pirate" by Queen Elizabeth I herself. Others, too, sought such valuable prizes. Captain William Kidd was initially hired to hunt down pirates, only to turn a pirate himself. John "Calico Jack" Rackham and Anne Bonny roamed the Caribbean like a pirate-era Bonnie and Clyde. Edward Teach, better known as Blackbeard, was one of the most feared pirates of the era and chief inspiration for popular depictions of pirates in books like *Treasure Island* and movies like *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The romantic legacy left by the pirates is worth billions today.

Light the Way

August 7 is Lighthouse Day, a day that commemorates the signing in 1789 of the Act for the Establishment and support of Lighthouse, Beacons, Buoys, and Public Piers. The newly formed U.S. Congress thought this Act so important that they signed it into law before establishing their own pay. The Act did not just dictate that the U.S. Treasury pay to maintain lighthouses, beacons, buoys, and piers, but it called for the construction of a new lighthouse at the entrance of Chesapeake Bay. That lighthouse was the Cape Henry lighthouse, the very first constructed under the Lighthouse Act and the first federally funded public works project in America. Nowadays, sailors may use GPS systems, radar beacons, buoys, and nautical charts to find their way, but lighthouses still serve the same purpose as they did in 1789. They are both navigational aids and warnings of dangerous areas such as shoals or rocky coasts. Visiting a lighthouse may whisk you back in time, but these towers of light remain integral to modern navigation.



Family Activity Day

August 17th 1:00-2:00pm

Outdoor Games and Fun!



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