

Trivia

did you know that ...

Bats are the only mammal that can fly.

Mercury is the only metal that is liquid at room temperature.

Q is the only letter in the alphabet that does not appear in the name of any state of the United States.

Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's brilliant detective, arrived on the mystery scene in the late nineteenth century in "A Study in Scarlet" (1887).

The hummingbird is the only bird that can fly backwards.

The only active diamond mine in the United States is in Arkansas.

The penguin is the only bird that can swim, but not fly. It is also the only bird that walks upright.

A lump of pure gold the size of a matchbox can be flattened into a sheet the size of a tennis court.

England's Stonehenge is 1500 years older than Rome's Colosseum.

The Statue of Liberty weighs 225 tons.

<http://www.corsinet.com>

Ancient Aztec Technology

Farming

Since their capital was built upon an island in the middle of a lake, the Aztecs developed a system to create their own farmland. By using reed mats placed on the water, the Aztecs were able to create man made islands where they were able to cultivate their food. These small islands were called "*chinampa's*"; mud was placed upon them to plant the crops and the roots of the plants would grow to the bottom of the lake.

Medicine

Aztec doctors used a variety of remedies to help heal their citizens. They used splints for broken bones, used crushed obsidian (natural occurring glass) on cuts, preferred fresh dew in the nostrils to combat colds and suggested steam baths for fevers to sweat out evil spirits.

Calendar

The Aztecs used two calendars during their time - one used for religious festivals and the other to measure time. The time-measuring calendar recommended the best time to plant crops while the religious calendar advised when to consult the gods. The time calendar had 365 days divided into 18 months. Each month had 20 days, with 5 days at the end of the year for potential disasters and bad luck. The religious calendar had a 260 day cycle, called the "count of days."

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/>

THE DIXON DRILLER

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☞ JANUARY ☞

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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Product Spotlight

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What does this mean to you, your customers, and employees? That third party inspectors verify our products quality, and that we manufacture to the highest specifications required. Safety and quality: not just a slogan at Dixon Powhatan, but also the underlying philosophy of how we conduct business.

Dates in History

1839 On January 12th, Anthracite Coal is first used to smelt iron.

1935 On January 11th, Amelia Earhart becomes the first person to make a solo airplane flight from Hawaii to California.

1938 On January 3rd, The March of Dimes campaign to stomp out Polio is organized.

1925 On January 18th, presliced bread banned to reduce bakery demand for metal parts.

1959 On January 25th, the first American transcontinental commercial jet flight occurs.

1973 On January 23rd, U.S. president Richard Nixon announces the end of U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

2005 On January 26th, Condoleezza Rice is sworn in as U.S. Secretary of State, becoming the first African American woman to hold the post.

(<http://www.datesinhistory.com>)

On the Lighter Side

- Father (looking over report card) to small boy: "One thing in your favor - with these grades, you couldn't possibly be cheating."
- *"My grocer gave me a phony quarter this morning. You can't trust anyone these days. "Let's see it. " "I can't. I passed it along at the drug store. "*
- How come, if necessity is the mother of invention, so much unnecessary stuff gets invented?
- *"I told her I wanted to be surprised for dinner, so she soaked the labels off the cans. "*
- "What does your husband do?" one wife asked another.
"He's an expeditor."
"Whats that?"
"Well, it's hard to explain but if we women did what he does, they'd call it nagging."
- Boss: "You're twenty-five minutes late, young man. Don't you know what time our people start to work around here?"
Teen-age employee: "No sir. They're always at it when I get here."
- The bathtub was invented in 1850, and the telephone in 1875. Had you lived in 1850, you could have sat in the bathtub for the next 25 years without having the phone ring once.