



## April Fool's Day

Unlike most of the other un-foolish holidays, the history of April Fool's Day is not totally clear. It is believed to have evolved simultaneously in several cultures at about the same time from celebrations marking the first day of spring.

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this tradition was in 1582 in France when reform of the calendar to the Gregorian calendar moved New Year's Day from March 25<sup>th</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Communications being somewhat primitive at that time meant that many did not receive the news for several years. Some who heard it refused to accept the new calendar and continued to mark the end of the old 8 day New Year's celebration on April 1<sup>st</sup> which labeled them as "fools". Subject to ridicule and practical jokes for their unprogressive response to the new calendar, their harassment eventually turned into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day of April.

April Fool's Day has become an international fun fest with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor. Unlike other holidays, April Fool's Day is a "for-fun-only" observance. Nobody gets a day off from work or school, or marks the occasion with gifts or special treats, but everyone remains vigilant so as not to be caught as the next April Fool!

Here are a few things that have been said about "Fools"... and those who said them.

- But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. – *1 Corinthians 1: 27*
- However big the fool, there is always a bigger fool to admire him. – *Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux*
- A fool sees not the same tree that a wise man sees. – *William Blake*
- He who lives without folly isn't so wise as he thinks. – *Francois, Duc de La Rochefoucauld*
- A fool must now and then be right by chance. – *Cowper*
- Looking foolish does the spirit good. – *John Updike*
- Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed. – *Mark Twain*
- It is better to be a fool than to be dead. – *Stevenson*
- The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year. – *Mark Twain*



Each Month a Different Simonson Employee is Featured

### Spotlight on Ed Thorson Jr.



Ed Thorson

Ed Thorson is a salesperson for the Alexandria Simonson Lumber location. He is married to Dana who is a dental hygienist and they have two children, Eddie who is 10 yrs old and Mason who is 8 yrs. The family also has a pet Miniature Pinscher dog named Allie. Ed said his favorite vacation spot would have to be Mexico because it is the only place he has ever been on a REAL vacation. The thing that he enjoys the most about working at Simonsons is the people he works with, both co-workers and his customer contractors/builders. Ed likes to ice fish, hunt, snorkel and scuba dive when he has leisure time.

When we asked Ed if he had any favorite childhood memories, he said he remembers the first time his father took him deer hunting, just the 2 of them. He says they haven't missed a season since and he looks forward to it every year. The best advice he ever received came from his parents who told him to be true to himself and treat others with the same respect he expects to receive. A pet peeve he has is when he needs to use something and it hasn't been returned to where it is supposed to be. He says that drives him nuts. If he could talk to anyone living or dead, he would like to talk to his grandpa who died when he was nine. It doesn't matter what they talk about, just to have an adult conversation. He says we might not know that he likes to listen to classical music after a particularly stressful day.

The race is not always to the swift  
But to those who keep on running



## Happy Birthday!

David Hiltner 4/01,  
Doug Berthiaume 4/04, Richard Harris 4/05,  
Matthew Mooney 4/05, Carolyn Tuftte 4/06,  
Lisa Danninger 4/07, Lee Johnson 4/08,  
Roger Kaufmann 4/10, Janice Saatzer 4/11,  
Dave Kalla 4/13, Ralph Johnson 4/14,  
Jaymy Blowers 4/14, Robert Anderson 4/19,  
Randy Foss 4/20, Greg Weismann 4/21,  
Steven Skow 4/22, Cherie Nelson 4/26  
& Diane Latterell 4/29.

**SOME PEOPLE DRINK AT THE FOUNTAIN  
OF KNOWLEDGE. OTHERS JUST  
GURGLE**



Mark Buchite is recipient of last months Wild Turkey Traveling Trophy. He won it for his exemplary service to his customers. Nice Work, Congratulations, Mark! We appreciate your dedication.

### SHAPE UP CHALLENGE

Lace up your walking shoes, grab an apple, and call your "Mom" because we're ready to launch the Shape Up Challenge! Join the fun as you eat healthier, increase your stamina and generally enjoy life! The best part is that it costs nothing to participate and the payoff can last a lifetime! It's easy and fun! It's starting April 4th and runs for 6 weeks!

### Celebrating a Simonson Anniversary

Dennis Dufner – 1yr, Glenn Imholte – 1yr,  
Logan Green – 1yr, Michael Jerde – 1 yr,  
Conrad Zellmer Jr – 1yr, Cherie Nelson – 2yrs,  
Matt Smieja – 2yrs, Craig Anderson – 3yrs,  
Doug Berthiaume – 3yrs, Stan Kolasa – 3yrs,  
Richard LaFlex – 3yrs,  
Jerry Baumgartner – 4yrs, Danny Sakry – 6yrs,  
Darrel Borka – 7yrs, Tony Borka – 7yrs,  
Larry Hanson – 7yrs, Aaron Hexum – 7yrs,  
Mark Ohman – 8yrs, Chet Disselbrett – 9yrs,  
Dan Hemminger – 11yrs, Joel Saldana – 12yrs,  
Rick Holtberg – 13yrs, Justin Tetrick – 13yrs,  
And Paul Lahr – 27yrs.



## NEWS from the Yards

We hear from the Monticello yard that they now have 2 birds – one male and a female. (Dan says he'll keep an eye out for any weight problems that might develop.)

The Design Team has formed a team for the MS walk on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you want to join or contribute, call Jane at 320-252-1517.

Not to be outdone by the Monticello yard, St Michael has acquired a pet "guard cat" named Simon. They also have done some spring housecleaning in Randy's office and believe they've found the bones of Jimmy Hoffa under some old files.

Brainerd's Scott Kneeland & family spent time vacationing in warm and sunny Mexico.

Denise & Ron Wilkins have purchased the home they have been renting for 2 \_ years.

Wayne Burggraff's daughter, Krystle, took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Boston at the National Indoor Track meet. She jumped 5'7". Congratulations!!

Jerome Kippley's daughter has opened a store in Woodbury specializing in skate & snow board merchandise

Hutchinson is busy remodeling and looking forward to the completion of the project They are also gathering old pictures of the yard for Hutchinson's Centennial in July.

Crosslake's, Paul Nylin spent a week the first part of March in Texas babysitting his grandchildren.

Sadie says that Mark Buchite had a surprise awaiting him when when he returned from church on Palm Sunday...a newborn calf!



Busy, Busy Bookkeepers at the Bookkeepers Meeting held February 26<sup>th</sup>