



Our United states presidents

Since February has the distinction of honoring the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln with the national holiday called “President’s Day”, we thought it would be fun to relay a few facts and bits of trivia about our United States Presidents.

- George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson and William Henry Harrison were all born before the United States was officially declared a country.
- The state that can claim the birthplace for the largest number of presidents is Virginia with a total of 8 (Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler, Taylor and Wilson). Ohio is second with 6 presidents claiming the state as home. Incidentally, Jimmy Carter was the first president to be born in an actual hospital (the same hospital where his mother was employed as a nurse).
- Twenty-four presidents served in wars. Twenty-three were president during wartime. Six presidents were in the military but saw no action. Twelve presidents had no military experience.
- Notable occupations in addition to presidential service included: circus roustabout – Ronald Reagan, clothmaker – Millard Fillmore, canal boat laborer – James Garfield, cook – Gerald Ford, bartender – Martin VanBuren, elevator operator – Lyndon Johnson, horse handler – Ulysses S Grant, geologist – Herbert Hoover, insurance salesman – Warren Harding, mailroom clerk – Harry Truman, postal clerk – William McKinley, school principal – Chester Arthur, to name a few.
- John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Andrew Johnson and Chester Arthur became president without ever running for the office. Gerald Ford was never elected president or vice president, yet he served in both positions. George Washington and James Monroe were presidents who ran unopposed. John Quincy Adams became president without winning the popular vote or the electoral college vote, while Grover Cleveland served 2 non-consecutive terms.
- John Quincy Adams was selected over Andrew Jackson in 1824, but Jackson defeated Adams in 1828. Van Buren defeated Harrison in 1836, but Harrison defeated Martin Van Buren in 1840. Benjamin Harrison defeated Grover Cleveland in 1888, but Cleveland beat Harrison in 1892.
- Presidents with embarrassing incidents on their resumes included George Washington and Andrew Jackson (both killed people outside of war), Franklin Pierce, Ulysses S Grant and George W Bush (all are reported to have had alcohol problems), and Jefferson, Garfield, Harding, FDR, Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson & Bill Clinton (who were all known for their extramarital affairs).

Each Month a Different Simonson Employee is Featured

Spotlight on Jon Pojar



Jon Pojar

Jon Pojar is a sales person for Simonson Lumber in Ham Lake. He has worked there for approximately 1 _ years. Married to Sara, they have a daughter, Lauren who is 4 years old and a son, Jack who is 2. The family has no pets, but Jon says that his parents have a 120 pound yellow Lab that the kids visit and play with when they need a “pet fix”. In Jon’s leisure time he enjoys fishing and golfing. A favorite vacation spot is Maui where Jon says he can play golf to his heart’s content while his wife relaxes on the warm sunny beach.

Jon enjoys working at Simonsons because of the wonderful friendships he has developed with his customers. He said it is fun to work with everyone at the yard because they work hard and everyone has fun doing it. “It’s a good mix,” says Jon! A pet peeve of Jon’s is when his wife gives the kids a “time-out”. He says he would have laughed at his mom, but he can’t complain because his wife does a great job raising the kids. We asked Jon if he had any amusing work-related stories and he said that once while making a delivery, he lost some 2X10’s out of the back of his truck. When he realized what had happened, he back-tracked and found them on the side of the road.

A little known fact about Jon, is that he has played drums for a few local bands around the Twin Cities area. He says they were not very good, but had a lot of fun. A sci-fi enthusiast, Jon would travel 200 years into the future to see the changes that have occurred if there was time-travel. The best advice he has ever received is, “enjoy whatever it is you are doing. When you stop enjoying yourself, try something else.” He can’t remember where he heard it but it’s sound.

Happy Birthday



Jamie Sahr 2/01, Tom Mueller 2/02,
 Ricky Haus 2/04, Jim Tower 2/06,
 Daniel Hodgson 2/08,
 Pat Pemberton 2/09,
 Rick Holtberg 2/11,
 Paul Lahr 2/12, Heidi Echerman 2/19,
 Matt Skjonsby 2/19, Jim Niklaus 2/20,
 Glenn Imholte 2/1, Kim Wieneke 2/21,
 Sarah Goodrow 2/23,

Success comes from having dreams
 that are bigger than your fears.

-----Terry Litwiller



NEWS from the YARDS



Brian Knettel spent a week in Mexico vacationing. California was the destination for Pete Lowe's vacation. Enjoying the beautiful winter at home on 2 new snowmobiles was Troy Thompson. He's glad there's finally some snow.

Crosslake experienced a minor migration to Florida this month. Mark Buchite went there for the Builder's Show. Tony Albert was in Florida the week of the 10th - 14th, and Keith Anderson drove down on the 21st for a week's R&R. Those left behind are watching and waiting for spring.

Steve Kiscaden took 3 of his contractors to the National Hardware Show in Florida to check out the new hardware displays.

Dennis Dufner flew to Las Vegas for the Guardian Insulation Spring Meeting held at the Paris Hotel and Casino. It was the first time Dennis has flown.

Cory Guck won 1st place in a scorching Dart Tournament held in Duluth the frigid weekend of the 15th. Congratulations, Cory!



**Matt Murphy presents
 Ham Lake's Jerry Laske
 with the "Wild Turkey"
 Award for exemplary
 Customer Service.**

**Congratulations, Jerry!
 Our founder, Nels**

**Simonson, would be proud to see that you are
 fulfilling the Simonson tradition - providing
 quality materials at fair prices with the great
 service our customers expect from Simonsons.**

Celebrating a Simonson Anniversary!

Richard Harris - 1 yr, Matt Murphy - 1 yr,
 Nora Castle - 2 yrs, Darren Kaufman - 3 yrs,
 Rob Meininger - 3 yrs, Keith Anderson - 13 yrs,
 Ken Fuchs - 13 yrs, & Ann Harren - 13 yrs.

*Thanks for your contribution
 to Simonson's success.*

N--Ice Humor

Father Tim moved from Florida to Minnesota. He heard ice fishing was almost a religious experience for many Minnesotans, so he bought himself some gear and went out to try it.

As he drilled a hole in the ice, he heard a voice boom "No fish there!"

Father Tim looked around and saw no one, so shouted to the heavens: "Is that you, God?"

"No!" the voice boomed. "The rink manager!"



Timing

At breakfast one morning, a woman said to her husband, "I bet you don't know what day it is?"

"Of course I do," he answered as he went out the door on his way to work.



At 10 am, the doorbell rang. The woman opened the door and was handed a box containing a dozen long-stemmed red roses. At 1pm, a two pound box of her favorite chocolates arrived.

Later, a boutique in town delivered a stylish new dress in her favorite color.

The woman couldn't wait for her husband to come home. "First the flowers, then the candy, and then the dress," she exclaimed. "I've never spent a more wonderful

Groundhog's Day in my whole life!"



FOOTBALL

Congratulations to all the winners of our "Friendly Football" contest. Larry Ramey won Week #16, and Week #17 was won by Luke Bednar. The Monticello yard won the Victory Party for the month of December. December's individual winner was Justin Tetric. And the best total score for the 2004 games was Tim Kondrick with Bob Rogers coming a close second. We send our thanks to Ken Fuchs and his family for diligently scoring and recording the statistics each week. You did a wonderful job guys and we look forward to next year's "Friendly Football" contest! It was great fun.