



CRUZIN' FEW



Monthly Newsletter

March 2014

On The Horizon

Mar 4th - MEETING NIGHT
 Mar 5th - Ash Wednesday
 Mar 9th - Daylight Savings Time Begins
 Mar 17th - St Patrick's Day
 Mar 20th - 1st Day of Spring
 Apr 1st - MEETING NIGHT (no fooling)
 Apr 1st - April Fool's Day
 Apr 13th - Palm Sunday
 Apr 18th - Good Friday
 Apr 20th - Easter



SOME MUSIC TRIVIA - February's Answers

1 (a) - 2(c) - 3(a) - 4(c) - 5(c) - 6(a) - 7(b) - 8(c) - 9(b) - 10(b)
 11(b) - 12(b) - 13(c) - 14(a) - 15(c)

"You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive"

FOR SALE

4 Steel Car Dollies
 Hold Up To A 14 Inch Tires
 \$80 - Call Rich @ 724-843-5734

The Prez Sez

I want to start off by saying that I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Cruzin Few President. For those of you that don't know me, I have been a member of the Club for 17 years (former Secretary), a proud owner of a 1964 Chevy Nova, 1969 Chevy Truck, 1969 Lincoln Mark III and a 1964 Chrysler 300k convertible. My wife, Lori, and I married last year, we have a very spoiled puppy named Penny and we currently live in Carnegie, PA. I appreciate the opportunity to assist in taking the club into the future and developing memories with some great folks!

Enough of the formalities... let's have some fun!

Please contact me if you are interested in participating in the planning of the Summer picnic, Poker Run, Day at the Drags, Christmas party. If you have any other ideas, please share-it is our club-we can make it whatever we want!

Lee Jay

Featured Car of The Month



Dave & Ida Mae Parks'

1930 Ford Model A Streetrod

If you have never seen your car in the newsletter, please let me know. I am trying to cover our newer members then get back to seeing our older ones!!

Early aircraft's throttles had a ball on the end of it. In order to go full throttle, the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence, the term "*Balls to the wall*" was meant for going very fast.

During WWII, U.S. airplanes were armed with belts of bullets which they would shoot during dogfights and on strafing runs. These belts measured 27 feet long, contained hundreds of bullets, and were folded into the wing compartments that fed their machine guns. Often times, the pilots would return from their missions having expended all of their bullets on various targets. They would say, "*I gave them the whole nine yards*" which meant they had used up all of their ammunition.

Did you know the saying "*God willing and the creek don't rise*" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the south, Hawkins was requested by the President of the U.S. to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to have written, "*God willing and the Creek don't rise*". Because he capitalized the word "Creek", it is deduced that he was referring to the Creek Indian Tribe and not a body of water.

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are limbs; therefore, painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, "*Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg*". (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint.)

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool, but these wigs could not be washed. To clean them, they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy; hence, the term "big wig". Today we often use the term "*Here comes the Big Wig*" because someone appears to be, or is, powerful and wealthy.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The "head of the household" always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest (who was usually a man) would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the "chair man". Today in business, we use the expression or title "*Chairman*" or "*Chairman of the Board*".

Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, "*Mind your own bee's wax*". Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term "*Crack a smile*". In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt. Therefore, the expression "*Losing face*".

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in "*Straight laced*" wore a tightly tied lace.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards, but it was only applicable to the Ace of Spades. To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't "*Playing with a full deck*".

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to "go sip" some ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. The two words "go sip" were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus, we have the term "*gossip*".

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A barmaid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts". Hence, the phrase "*Minding your P's and Q's*".

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem, however ... how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others? The solution was a metal plate (called a "Monkey") which had 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys". Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, "*Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey*". (All this time, you thought that was an improper, didn't you?)