

MoNdAy FuNnIeS

26 Feb 2007

From Cordell & Janice Vail

The MoNdAy FuNnIeS were started on the 22nd of Sept 1997.
That is 10 years of trying to help you smile every Monday Morning.

Now that is a lot of smiles!

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Archives of past MoNdAy FuNnIeS are at

<http://www.mondayfunnies.com>

Your can email us at MondayFunnies@yahoo.com

Wisdom For The Week :
To succeed, "You Got'a Wa'n"
Cordell Vail

MoNdAy FuNnIeS

(Contributed by Karen Teushcer... Thanks Karen)

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to

hide the body odor. Hence the custom of carrying a *bouquet* when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. (By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "*Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.*")

Houses had thatched roofs--thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, "*It's raining cats and dogs.*"

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice, clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how *canopy beds* came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a "*thresh hold.*"

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much

meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day., Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite awhile. Hence the rhymes, "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, *peas porridge in the pot nine days old.*"

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could "*bring home the bacon.*" They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "*chew the fat.*"

Those with money had plates of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leak onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, *tomatoes* were considered poison.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burned bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "*upper crust.*"

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around the eat and drink and wait to see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a "*wake.*"

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bonehouse" and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized that they had been burying people

alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the *"graveyard shift"*) to listen for the bell; someone could be *"saved by the bell"* or was considered a *"dead ringer."*

Consumer Tips

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight saving time will be on March 11th this year. The calendar has April 1st.

(Reminder from Mary Stephens.... Thanks Mary for the reminder)

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#### MORE ON DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME:

Also on the KOMO 4 TV and Radio news here in Seattle the other night, Herb Weisbaum said if you have a device like a VCR, Microwave, Stereo or computer that keeps the date as well as the time, unless it is pretty new, it will be off until April 1st. If you use Microsoft XP patch 2 on your computer it should update from the Internet. However unless you use your computer for something other than just email and word processing, don't worry about the date being off for a few weeks. If you need the date correct on any of those devices, then just manually reset them on Mar 11th and then you will need to reset them again on April 1st when they try to do the auto update as planned.

If you are concerned about it, here are a couple of web pages where you can learn more about it:

Herb KOMO4 News:

<http://www.komoradio.com/news/tech/5806516.html>

Computer Expert:

<http://www.hanselman.com/blog/DaylightSavingsTimeAndWindows.aspx>

CNN News:

[http://news.com.com/Daylight-saving+change+could+confuse+gadgets/2100-1041\\_3-5823792.html](http://news.com.com/Daylight-saving+change+could+confuse+gadgets/2100-1041_3-5823792.html)

Microsoft:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/setup/expert/cloc.mspx>

Oklahoma City News Station Report:

<http://kotv.com/news/local/story/?id=120721>

Learn the History of Day Light Savings Time

<http://webexhibits.org/daylightsaving/>

Hopefully that will give you all you need to know about it to be on time for church March 11th and April 1st.... or did it make it even more confusing????

More good things to come

Cordell Vail



Consumer web page: [www.goldenmailbox.com](http://www.goldenmailbox.com)



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