

St. Pauli News in Detail



Greeting and Ushering

Feb. 2 Mike Stickler
Feb. 9 Ken Cedergren
Feb. 16 Craig Torkelson
Feb. 23 Darren Torkelson

Altar Preparation: Cindy Cedergren

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February Milestones

Birthdays

Feb. 15 Jordan Rondorf
Feb. 18 Becky Stickler
Feb. 20 Gary Iverson
Feb. 25 Arlo Rude
Feb. 26 Evie Johnson



Anniversaries

None that the editor is aware of.

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Church Council and WELCA did not meet in December, so no minutes are included in this newsletter.

We are also fortunate to not have any obituaries to include.



Holy Communion Date Change

Sunday, February 16

Sunday, March 16

To help accommodate pastor schedules, we will celebrate Holy Communion on Sunday, February 16, and Sunday, March 16, instead of the last Sunday of this month.

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Priority Needs for VIP and Northland Rescue Mission

Violence Intervention Project:

- Volunteer drivers
- Volunteer childcare
- Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, razors, hairbrushes
- Furniture – dining tables/chairs, sofas, beds, dressers, easy chairs, end/coffee tables, TVs, bed frames (call 218-681-5557 to ensure storage space)
- Gift cards for Walmart

Northland Rescue Mission:

- Men's winter gloves (L-XL)
- Deodorant
- Men's shoes/work boots (sizes 10-13 preferred)
- Men's underwear (new, sizes S-2XL)
- Women's underwear (new, all sizes)
- Twin-size fitted sheets
- Plastic/rubber flip-flops

A Collection of HISTORICAL FEBRUARY EVENTS

February 1, 1865 – President Abraham Lincoln signed the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, officially abolishing slavery.

February 1, 1960 - In Greensboro, North Carolina, four African American students sat down and ordered coffee at a lunch counter inside a Woolworth's store. They were refused service, but did not leave. Instead, they waited all day. The scene was repeated over the next few days, with protests spreading to other southern states, resulting in the eventual arrest of over 1,600 persons for participating in sit-ins.

February 1, 2003 - Sixteen minutes before it was scheduled to land, the Space Shuttle *Columbia* broke apart in flight over west Texas, killing all seven crew members.

February 2, 1848 - The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In exchange for \$15 million, the U.S. acquired the areas encompassing parts or all of present-day California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Texas. The treaty was ratified on March 10, 1848.

February 3, 1821 - The first female physician in the U.S., Elizabeth Blackwell was born near Bristol, England. As a girl, her family moved to New York State. She was awarded her MD by the Medical Institute of Geneva, New York, in 1849. She then established a hospital in New York City run by an all-female staff. She was also active in training women to be nurses for service in the American Civil War.

February 3, 1870 - The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Note that this did not apply to women.

February 3, 1913 - The 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes.

February 3, 1943 - An extraordinary act of heroism occurred in the icy waters off Greenland after the U.S. Army transport ship *Dorchester* was hit by a German torpedo and began to sink rapidly. When it became apparent there were not enough life jackets, four U.S. Army chaplains on board removed theirs, handed them to frightened young soldiers, and chose to go down with the ship while praying.

February 6, 1933 - The 20th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was adopted. It set the date for the Presidential Inauguration as January 20th, instead of the old date of March 4th. It also sets January 3rd as the official opening date of Congress.

February 6, 1895 - Legendary baseball player George Herman "Babe" Ruth was born in Baltimore, Maryland. Ruth held or shared 60 Major League records, including pitching 29 consecutive scoreless innings and hitting 714 home runs.

February 7, 1812 – British novelist Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England. He examined social inequalities through his works including *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, and *Nicholas Nickleby*. In 1843, he wrote *A Christmas Carol* in just a few weeks, an enormously popular work even today.

February 7, 1885 - American social critic and novelist Sinclair Lewis was born in Sauk Center, Minnesota. He received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1930. His works include *Main Street*, *Babbitt*, and *It Can't Happen Here*.

February 8, 1910 - The Boy Scouts of America was founded by William Boyce in Washington, D.C., modeled after the British Boy Scouts.

February 10, 1967 - The 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, clarifying the procedures for presidential succession in the event of the disability of a sitting president.

February 11, 1929 - Italian dictator Benito Mussolini granted political independence to Vatican City and recognized the sovereignty of the Pope (Holy See) over the area, measuring about 110 acres.

February 11, 1990 - In South Africa, Nelson Mandela, at age 71, was released from prison after serving 27 years of a life sentence on charges of attempting to overthrow the apartheid government. In April 1994, he was elected president in the first all-race elections.

February 13, 1635 - Boston Latin School, the first taxpayer supported (public) school in America was established in Boston, Massachusetts.

February 13, 1945 - During World War II in Europe, British and American planes began massive bombing raids on Dresden, Germany. A four-day firestorm erupted that was visible for 200 miles and engulfed the historic old city, killing an estimated 135,000 German civilians.

February 14, 1849 – Photographer Matthew Brady took the first photograph of a U.S. President in office, James Polk.

February 15, 1898 - In Havana, the U.S. Battleship *Maine* was blown up while at anchor and quickly sank with 260 crew members lost. The incident inflamed public opinion in the U.S., resulting in a declaration of war against Spain on April 25, 1898, amid cries of "Remember the Maine!"

February 19, 1942 - Internment of Japanese Americans began. Over 110,000 persons therefore shut down their businesses, sold off their property, quit school, and moved inland to the relocation centers.

February 20, 1962 - Astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth.

February 25, 1862 - Congress passed the Legal Tender Act, which made paper notes legal tender. The act created the first national currency in the United States.

February 27, 1950 - The 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximum of ten years in office.

February 28, 1954 – The first color television set went on sale to the public.

February 28, 1953 - James Watson and Francis Crick discovered the structure of DNA.

Charles Schultz died 25 years ago on February 12, 2000

The following is the philosophy of Charles Schulz, the creator of the 'Peanuts' comic strip.

You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just ponder on them. Just read them straight through, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is none of us remember the headlines of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields.

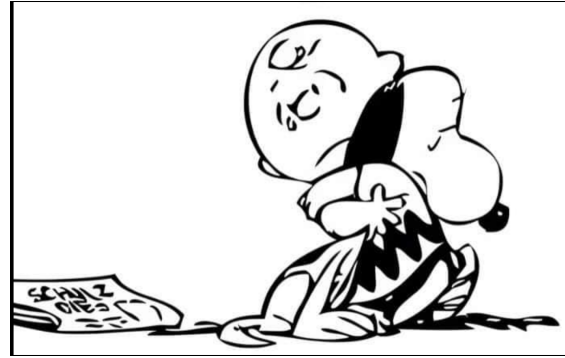
But the applause dies.

Awards tarnish ...

Achievements are forgotten.

Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:



1.

List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.

2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson:

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money ... or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most.



Rotary Snowplow is Invented

John O. Johnson was an inventor born in Oslo, Norway, who then emigrated to America, traveling to White Bear Lake, Minnesota. Here he designed and built many sailboats and airplanes. His most notable invention, which many Minnesotans may recognize today, is the rotary snowplow.

Built in the winter of 1921 to address the issue of clearing the roads of snow during winters with heavy snowfall, Johnson's invention of the snowplow was very successful. He would later go on to sell the patent design.

Early Years

Johnson was born in Oslo, Norway. His mother died when he was seven years old, and his father sent him to live with relatives and work for his room and board. At age fifteen he worked on a coastal steamer that delivered supplies to coastal villages.

In 1893, he emigrated to America, traveling to White Bear Lake where he lived and worked for a fellow Norwegian, Gus Amundson.

In 1896, he started his own boat-building business, Johnson Boat Works, building boats for members of the White Bear Yacht Club. In those days, White Bear Lake was a resort town with hotels, parks, steamboats and boat rentals. Twenty-five trains a day came there from St. Paul bringing visitors to enjoy the lake.

John's first major success was the *Minnezitka*, a 38 ft. scow design sailboat that won the championship on the lake in 1900. This boat was said to be beginning of the speedy scow design that skimmed over the water. A model of this boat was later displayed at the Smithsonian Museum. (See below.) The Johnson Boat Works became well known nationally as well as in Canada and foreign countries. The 38 ft. scow design became the class A-boat. Later racing classes included the 32 ft. B-boat, the 28 ft. E-boat, the 20 ft. C-boat and others.

Aviation

In addition to designing and building sailboats, Johnson was also an inventor. He was the first aviator in Minnesota to achieve a take-off from a level surface in a powered airplane. He built his airplane in his back yard and flew it from the frozen lake. From the *St. Paul Dispatch*, January 26, 2010: "WHITE BEAR MAN FLIES OVER LAKE. Inventor, Johnson, soars about 200 feet, then engine misses fire, and he falls." The crash landing destroyed the fragile aircraft. Johnson built a second airplane but did not have the funds to buy a suitable engine. His wife told him that flying airplanes was too dangerous, ending his attempts.

Snowplow invention

In the 1920s, local road crews were unable to clear the roads of snow during winters with heavy snowfalls. Car owners put their vehicles away and used horse drawn sleighs for travel or used the train to get into the city. Johnson designed and built a rotary snowplow in the winter of 1921. He asked a lawyer, who lived on the lake, to get a patent. Johnson paid for the patent work by building the lawyer a large iceboat. This snowplow was very successful, and some Minneapolis businessmen bought the patent and built the Snow King plows. With the money from the sale of the snowplow business, Johnson was able to enlarge and modernize his boat works business.

Death

Johnson died in February 1963. He had earlier given over the business to his three sons, Milton, Iver and Walter. The Johnson Boat Works continued until it was sold in 1998 after 102 years of business.

Smithsonian's description of Scow Model on right (currently not on display):

This model represents a scow, a sailboat used for racing on the lakes of Minnesota and Wisconsin. This type of scow was used for racing on lakes and rivers and could occasionally reach up to 28 miles per hour. A scow has a flat vertical transom, usually with a blunt bow (although this example has a sharp bow). The model represents a Class A racing scow about 37 feet long and 8 feet wide. It was given to the Smithsonian in 1959 by boat builder John O. Johnson of White Bear Lake, MN.



At Age 74, World's Oldest Known Wild Bird Hatched a New Chick



Wisdom the Laysan albatross's most recent egg hatched on February 1, 2024 at Midway Atoll, a speck of land in the Pacific Ocean, according to the U.S. Wildlife Service. The egg was laid in November 2023.

Wisdom is the world's oldest known wild bird. She was first banded in 1956, when she was estimated to be at least five years old.

Scientists have long marveled over Wisdom's longevity and her ability to breed as she gets older. Jonathan Plissner, a supervisory wildlife biologist at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, told BBC Radio 4 that "it's very rare" for a bird of Wisdom's age to lay an egg, noting that "the average age that birds can survive is probably closer to 30 years." The next oldest albatross that researchers are aware of at Midway Atoll is about 45 years old, he said.

"She is unique," Dr. Plissner said. "We don't know of any others that are even close to her age."

While albatrosses usually mate for life, they will find new mates to breed with if their partner dies. Dr. Plissner believes Wisdom has outlived at least three mates. She hatched and raised chicks with another albatross named Akeakamai for decades, most recently in 2021, but Akeakamai has not been seen in several years. Wisdom's new mate was outfitted with a tracking band last Friday. He stayed back to incubate the egg while Wisdom headed back to sea for a time, researchers said.

Carl Safina, a marine ecologist at Stony Brook University who has studied seabirds, said that Wisdom is aptly named because of her ability to survive despite increasing environmental dangers to albatrosses, including plastic pollution and rising sea levels that threaten their nesting grounds.

"The fact that she's old is one thing," Dr. Safina said. "The fact that she has survived this long is actually much more impressive."

Birds can lay eggs late into life, although they may slow down as they get older, Dr. Safina said. Albatrosses can lay only one egg a year, and Wisdom has laid about 50 to 60 eggs since researchers began tracking her in 1956, the Fish and Wildlife Service said. At least 30 chicks have hatched from those eggs and flown from the nest, Dr. Plissner said.

"I think it's impossible for us to look at that bird and not be stunned that she is still breeding and has laid an egg," Dr. Safina said. Most albatross eggs hatch in January or February, after about 65 days of incubation. Chicks fly from the nest sometime in June or July after being fed regurgitated fish eggs and squid from their parents for several months.

Wisdom spends most of her life at sea. The researchers estimate she has flown about 3.7 million miles. She has also outlived Chandler Robbins, the well-known ornithologist who banded her in 1956. He died in 2017.

In November 2024, Wisdom was again spotted at Midway, having found a new mate and having laid another egg. The incubation period is about 11 weeks, so this egg should be hatching any day now!

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Ice flowers, also known as frost flowers, are a natural phenomenon that can be found in the seas of Norway's polar regions. They are formed when water vapor from cracks in the ice crystallizes in the cold air.

Frost flowers are rare because they only occur under specific conditions in some of the world's coldest waters.

This photo was taken in January 2025 in Norway.



And now, THE SYSTEM OF U.S. LAND SURVEYS

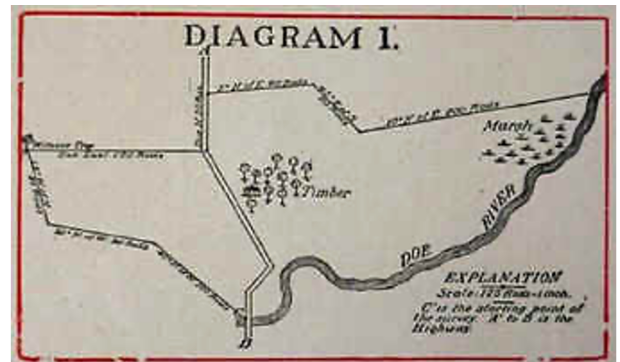
Ever wonder how the Township, Range and Section are determined? Well, get ready for a history lesson.

Our story begins in 1785, toward the end of the American Revolution as the U.S. received new land, thanks to the Treaty of Paris which ended the American Revolution. This included all land east of the Mississippi River, north of Florida and south of Canada. In order for the U.S. to properly assess the new land, the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) was developed to plat or divide real property for sale or settling. The PLSS is now the primary surveying method for the majority of America, excluding the original 13 colonies and Texas.

METES AND BOUNDS

Up to the time of the Revolutionary War, and in some cases until about the beginning of the 20th century, land when parceled out and sold or granted was described by "Metes and Bounds." To describe land by "Metes and Bounds" is to have a known landmark for a place of beginning and then follow a line according to the compass-needle (or magnetic bearing), or the course of a stream, or track of an ancient highway. This plan has resulted in endless confusion and litigation, as landmarks decay and change, and it is a well-known fact that the compass-needle varies and does not always point due North.

As an example of this plan of dividing lands, the following description of a farm laid out by "Metes and Bounds" is given: "Beginning at a stone on the Bank of Doe River, at a point where the highway from A. to B. crosses said river (see point marked C. on Diagram 1); thence 40 degrees North of West 100 rods to a large stump; then 10 degrees North of West 90 rods; thence 15 degrees West of North 80 rods to an oak tree (see Witness Tree on Diagram 1); then due East 150 rods to the highway; thence following the course of the highway 50 rods due North; then 5 degrees North of East 90 rods; thence 45 degrees of South 60 rods; thence 10 degrees North of East 200 rods to the Doe River; thence following the course of the river Southwesterly to the place of beginning." This, which is a very simple and moderate description by "Metes and Bounds" would leave the boundaries of the farm as shown in **Diagram 1**.



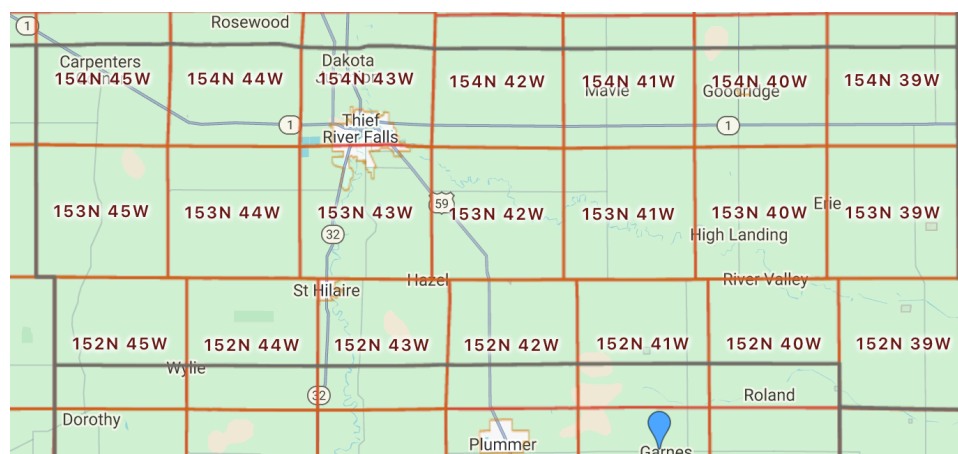
More accurate means of measuring were established to overcome the method's serious shortcomings: streambeds move over time, witness trees are struck by lightning, compass needles do not point true north, and measuring chains and surveyor strides can be of slightly differing lengths. (Future newsletter article on true vs. magnetic north.)

MERIDIANS AND BASE LINES

The present system of governmental land surveys was adopted by Congress on May 7, 1785. It has been in use ever since and is the legal method of describing and dividing lands. It is called the "Rectangular System," i.e., all its distances and bearings are measured from two lines which are at right angles to each other.

These two lines, from which the measurements are made, are the Principal Meridians, which run north and south, and the Base Lines, which run east and west. These Principal Meridians are established with great accuracy. Each Principal Meridian has its Base Line, and these two lines form the basis or foundation for the surveys or measurement of all the lands within the territory which they control.

Diagram 2 (on next page) shows all of the Principal Meridians and Base Lines in the U.S., and from it the territory governed by each Meridian and Base Line may be distinguished. Each Meridian and Base Line is marked with its proper number or name. The map below of Pennington County reveals that Smiley Township is 153N of the Base Line and 42W of the Principal Meridian, while Rocksbury Township is 153N and 43W.



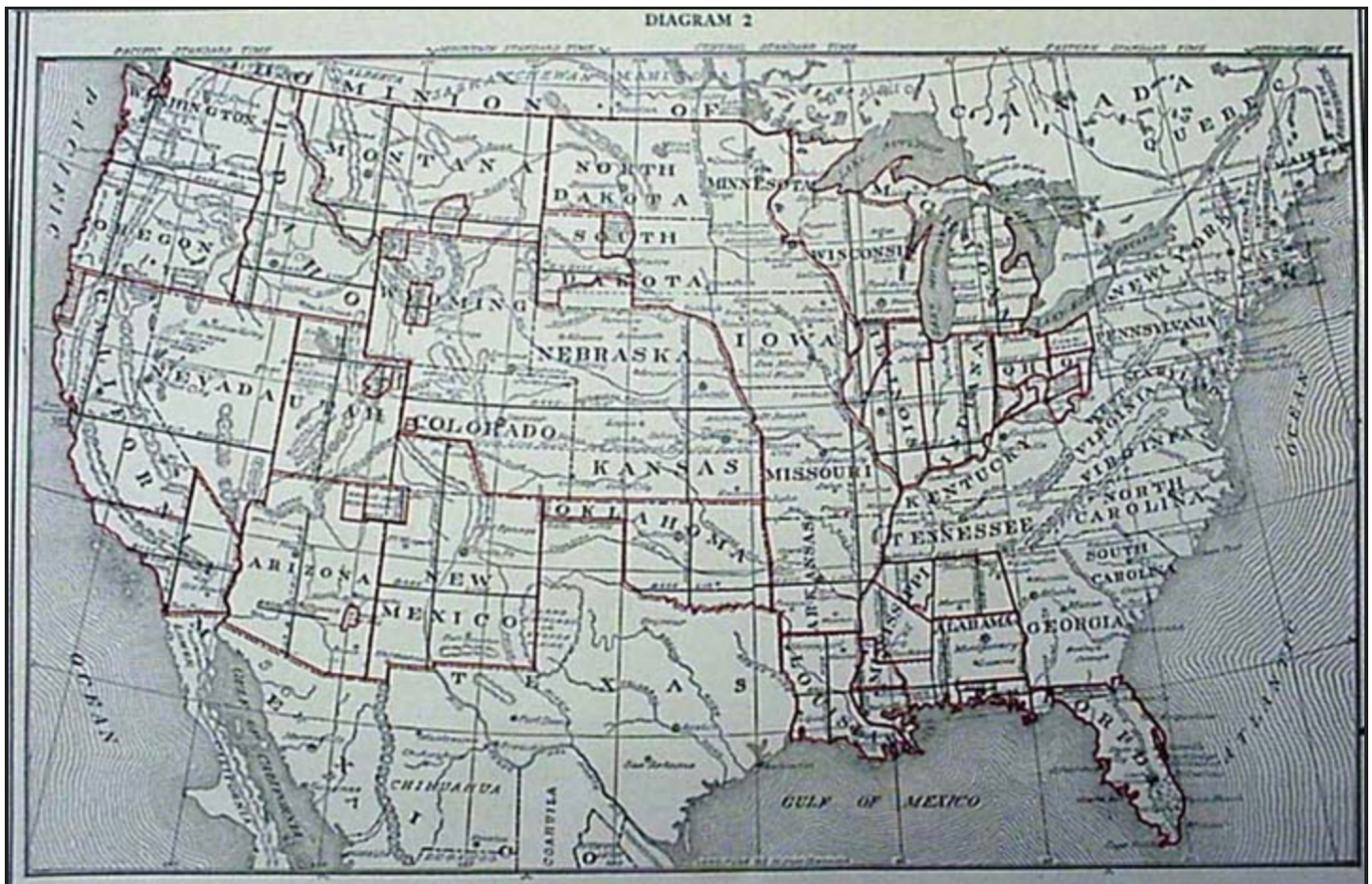


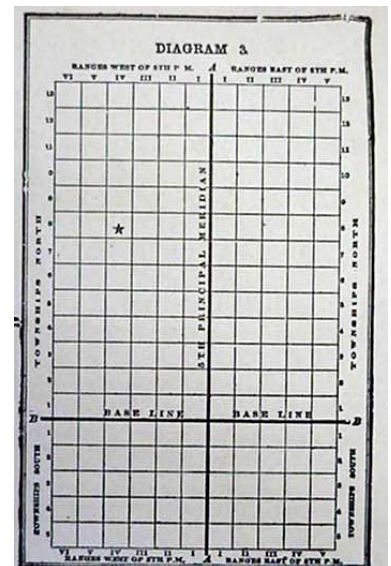
Diagram 3 illustrates what is meant when this method is termed the “Rectangular System” and how the measurements are based on lines which run at right angles to each other. The heavy line running north and south (marked A. A.) on Diagram 3 represents the Principal Meridian, in this case let’s say it’s the 5th Principal Meridian. The heavy line running east and west (marked B. B.) is the Base Line. These lines are used as the starting points or basis for all measurements or surveys made in territory controlled by the 5th Principal Meridian. The same fact applies to all other Principal Meridians and their Base Lines. Commencing at the Principal Meridian, at intervals of six miles, lines are run North and South parallel to the Meridian. This plan is followed both East and West of the Meridian throughout the territory controlled by the Meridian.

These lines are termed “Range Lines.” They divide the land into strips or divisions six miles wide, extending North and South, parallel with the Meridian. Each division is called a Range. Ranges are numbered from one upward, commencing at the Meridian. For instance, the first division (or first six miles) west of the Meridian is Range 1, West; the next is Range 2, West; then comes Range 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and so on, until the territory governed by another Principal Meridian is reached. In the same manner the Ranges East of the Meridian are numbered, the words East or West being always used to indicate the direction from the Principal Meridian.

Commencing at the Base Line, at intervals of six miles, lines are run East and West parallel with the Base Line. These are designated as Township Lines. They divide the land into strips or divisions six miles wide, extending East and West, parallel with the Base Line. This plan is followed both North and South of the Base Line until the territory governed by another Principal Meridian and Base Line is reached. These divisions or Townships are numbered from one upward, both North and South of the Base Line, and their numbers are indicated by figures. For instance: The first six-mile division North of the Base Line is Township 1 North; the next is Township 2 North; and so on. The same plan is followed for South of Base Line as well. The Pennington County map on the previous page illustrates this numbering system.

Past presidents of the United States are often remembered for individual accomplishments, but three of the four presidents featured on Mt. Rushmore also had an instrumental role in the way of creating America.

George Washington was one of the most notable land surveyors in American history, laying the lines for the Western Virginia frontier. In 1749, George Washington was appointed to serve as the Surveyor General for Virginia at the age of 17. The role was essential because surveying the land promoted westward expansion for the growing country.



Thomas Jefferson was instrumental in creating the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). At the time, the U.S. government wanted to distribute land to Revolutionary War soldiers as a reward for their service, and to sell land as a way to raise money for the nation. However, before this could happen, the land needed to be surveyed, and Jefferson enlisted the help of Meriweather Lewis and William Clark.

One-and-a-half billion acres were surveyed into townships and sections (1 square mile) during the 1800s. During that time the vast open land was sold by the federal government for \$1.25 per acre. In 1800, the minimum lot was halved to 320 acres and settlers were allowed to pay in four installments.

Abraham Lincoln signed the law known as The Homestead Act of 1862. By May of that year, 11 states had left the Union, and this piece of legislation would continue to have regional and political overtones. The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed any citizen who did not fight in a war against the United States to purchase 160 acres of land.

Survey Technology at a Glance

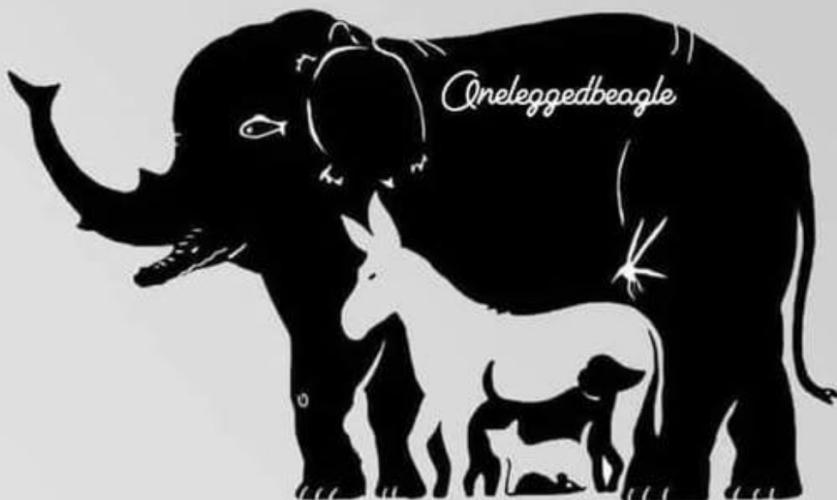
- **1780-1890** – Surveyors used the compass and chain to trace lines.
- **1890-1975** – Over the course of 85 years, technology changed rapidly, and surveyors started using steel tape and engineer's transit to trace lines.
- **1975-1985** – Surveyors started using Electronic Distance Measuring (EDM) devices to retrace the PLSS lines, where the original government surveyors placed them.
- **1985-Present** – As technology has continued to change, surveyors have had to learn new tools, including total stations and data collectors to help them retrace the PLSS lines.
- **1990-present** – Surveyors have continued to retrace PLSS lines and follow in the footsteps of original government surveyors by using global positioning system (GPS), 3D laser scanning and UAV's or drones to make measuring faster and more accurate.



The original compass and chain.

* * * * *

How many animals are in this picture??



Don't look at the answer first!

But when you're finished searching, look at the elephant:

- 1) trunk is a shark,
- 2) mouth is alligator,
- 3) eye is a fish,
- 4) ear is a turtle,
- 5) tail is a snake.

Then look between the feet:

- 6) mouse,
- 7) cat,
- 8) dog,
- 9) donkey,
- 10) at donkey's rear leg a dragonfly or mosquito,
- 11) the actual elephant.

YET ANOTHER 20 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE WORLD OF LANGUAGES

ENDANGERED UNWRITTEN LANGUAGES

The majority of the languages and dialects in the world are unwritten. In Mexico there are over 100 unwritten indigenous languages and dialects, and India has over 1,000. A study by the MIT estimates that 3,000 of the world's languages are endangered because few children are learning them.

EIGHT MAJOR ALPHABET GROUPS

are in use today: Arabic, Hebrew/ Aramaic, Armenian, Brahmi, Cyrillic, Georgian, Greek, Latin.

Niamh, Aoife, Fionnuala or Saoirse are all **IRISH NAMES**,



but can you pronounce them correctly? On edl.ecml.at/irishnames listen to how these and many other names from Ireland sound!



In **FRENCH** there are 16 ways of writing the sound "o" within a word: au, aux, aud, auds, aut, auts, eau, eaux, o, ô, ods, op, ops, os, ot, ots.

Ο ο Ω ω

In the **GREEK** alphabet, the letters omicron and omega are "connected": the first literally means "little o" (o mikron) and the latter is referring to "great o" (o mega).



The **SPANISH** word for olive (aceituna) actually comes from the Arabic word "zaytun" (زيتون). This tells us something interesting about the connection between these two cultures, since both words refer to the olive itself as well as the oil that comes from it.

The two countries with the most native **GERMAN** speakers outside of Europe are Brazil 🇧🇷 and the United States 🇺🇸.

THE MOST CONFUSING BIRD IN THE WORLD

is called "French chicken" in Greek, "peru" in Portuguese, "hindi" in Turkish and "turkey" in English.



FALSE FRIENDS



are words or phrases in two languages that resemble each other but have different meanings. E.g. the Italian "squisito" means *delicious* while the Portuguese "esquisito" means *strange*.



The **INDUS SCRIPT** is the oldest script that has not yet been deciphered. It was used around 2600 BC in the Indus valley in today's Pakistan. Maybe you can be the one to crack it and become a decoding hero!

HELLO AND BYE

The informal Polish salutation "cześć" can be used for both "hello" and "goodbye". The same is true for the Italian "ciao", French "salut" and Austrian "servus".

תִּירְבֶּעַ

HEBREW is the most successfully revived language in history. It wasn't used as a mother tongue and in everyday speech for about 15 centuries – until its revival in the 19th century. Hebrew now has over 9 million speakers.



Many languages have their fair share of untranslatable words, e.g. the **SWEDISH**

Gökotta (to rise at dawn in order to go out and listen to the birds sing), the **ITALIAN** *culaccino* (the wet mark left by a glass on a table) or the **DUTCH** *niksen* (sitting down and doing nothing at all).



In **FRENCH** the word for potato is "pomme de terre", meaning "apple of soil", while in **ITALIAN** the word for tomato is "pomodoro", meaning "golden apple" (pomo + d'oro).



In **GERMAN** many words are created by combining two existing words: *Vorfreude* (before + happiness), *Handschuh* (hand + shoe), *Zweisamkeit* (two + loneliness), *Drahtesel* (wire + donkey), *Luftschloss* (air + castle), *Lampenfieber* (lamps + fever), *Ohrwurm* (ear + worm), *Schadenfreude* (damage + joy). Can you work out their exact meaning?

გამარჯობა

In **GEORGIAN** words are usually pronounced exactly the way you write them, as each letter has a single, fixed pronunciation and in most cases the first syllable of a word is stressed. This makes it relatively easy for foreigners to learn. That is, once you have mastered the Georgian characters! ზარმატებები!

The word **JANUARY** can be traced back to Janus, the Roman god of portals, gates, and doorways. The words "janitor" and "janela" (Portuguese for "window") have the same origin.



Icelanders buy so many books as gifts for Christmas that they have a word for it: "Christmas Book Flood" (jólábókaflóð)

SCRABBLE is the king of all word games!

Invented in 1931, it currently exists in 38 different language versions, including Faroese and Latin. The best players even battle it out in world championships!

Have you ever heard of ARAGONESE?

Once widespread, Aragonese is now a hidden gem of Northern Spain. Spoken by around 11,000, it's a fascinating cousin of Spanish with its own unique vocabulary and sounds.

European Day of Languages
26 September

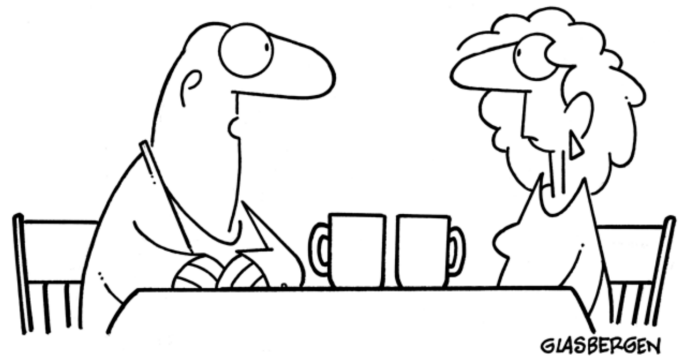


The Back Page

Best snow plow name I've ever seen. ❄️



AS A KID I THINK
I ATE TOO MANY RICE KRISPIES
NOW ALL MY BODY DOES IS
SNAP CRACKLE AND POP



"I may not be the world's greatest husband, but I'm pretty good for an unpaid volunteer!"

When a young minister was still single, he preached a sermon he entitled, "Rules for Raising Children."

After he got married and had children of his own, he changed the title of the sermon to "Suggestions for Raising Children."

When his children got to be teenagers, he stopped preaching on that subject altogether.

