

March Holidays

March is a month full of new beginnings and wonderful celebrations. We begin to see longer and warmer days and with that comes the first buds or blooms of Spring. The vernal equinox (or season of Spring) arrives in March. Because of the longer days, most states switch to Daylight Savings and move their clocks forward one hour. While some may fear the Ides of March, most are in search of a lucky shamrock or pot of gold as they celebrate St. Patrick's Day, whether they are Irish or not. Either way, March celebrates Irish American Heritage Month and in 1995, Congress made it official. Just like every month, you will find national, world and local holidays. You will find serious honors and tributes, days to celebrate favorite foods or animals, and days to just have fun.

While many celebrations are only for one day, some get to last a week or possibly the whole month. The first week of March is Celebrate your Name Week and we celebrate Female Construction Workers this week as well. The second week is National Bubble Week. I am not sure if we are looking for soap bubbles or chewing gum, but both are fun! This is said to be Craft Month, but the second week is specifically Crochet Week.

On March 1st we celebrate Peanut Butter Lovers' Day, which kicks off National Peanut Month for March. It's National Pig Day, Peace Corps Day, and Plan a Solo Vacation Day. While March first may be World Compliment Day and Share a Smile Day, let's celebrate these every single day.

For March 2nd we celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday and National Read Across America Day. It is also Old Stuff Day and World Teen Mental Wellness Day. For a snack you could celebrate National Banana Cream Pie Day.

While March is considered Music in our Schools Month, the 3rd is dedicated to National Anthem Day. This is a day full of gratitude as we celebrate Caregiver and Employee Appreciation Days. It's World Wildlife Day and If Pets Had Thumbs Day? To celebrate spring coming we have Peach Blossom Day. It's funny that it's National Mulled Wine Day and I Want you to be Happy Day. It is also the National Day of Unplugging and World Day of Prayer.

On March 4th wrap your arms around your favorite service member because it's Hug a GI Day. If you're not into hugs you could give them a baked treat because it's also National Pound Cake Day. I'm not sure which came first, but this day is National Snack Day and World Obesity Day. For those who served in the past, this whole week is National Invest in Veterans Week.

March 5th is Multiple Personality Day and a day to relax as there is not much else going on on this day.

March is considered National Frozen Food Month and we also get March 6th as National Frozen Food Day. Once you're done eating, brush up because it's also Dentist's Day.

On March 7th you'd best wake up hungry because we have Flapjack Day and National Cereal and Crown Roast of Pork Day. It is Sock Monkey Day and National Be Heard Day.

March is National Women's History Month and March 8th is International Women's Day. This is also National Proofreading Day. For fun you can celebrate Discover What your Name Means Day or National Retro Video Game Day.

On March 9th we have World Kidney Day and National Barbie Day. For food we have National Popcorn Lover's or Meatball Day. If you're upset, you can try to celebrate Get Over It Day. If that doesn't work, it's also Panic Day.

As we continue to honor women this month, we have National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and the International Day of Awesomeness! One special woman was Harriet Tubman and this is her Day. It is also Middle Name Pride Day. Perhaps the most difficult celebration so far will be International Find a Pay Phone Booth Day! Do those even exist anymore?

Another thing I didn't know still existed are fanny packs, but March 11th is International Fanny Pack Day. It's Johnny Appleseed Day and it's Genealogy Day. This is also National Promposal Day where students make a grand gesture to invite their date for the Prom. National Prom Day is March 31st.

This year Daylight Savings Time falls on March 12th as does the Oscars Night. It's also National Girl Scout Day and Working Moms Day. We continue to get ready for Spring with Plant a Flower Day.

March 13th has an interesting mix of celebrations with Ear Muff Day (because it's still cold possibly), K9 Veterans Day, Jewel Day, and Good Samaritan Day. My personal favorite is National Napping Day. I cannot wait!

Mariposans will love March 14th because it's Learn About Butterflies Day. We have a Butterfly Festival in May. This is also National Potato Chip Day and Pi Day. That is P-I not P-I-E. The fun in this is that Pi is 3.14 and today is 3/14. This should help explain why this is also the International Day of Mathematics.

While March 15th is considered Buzzards Day, Dumbstruck Day, and Everything you Think is Wrong Day, it's most famously known as the Ides of March. This is the day that the Roman statesman, Julius Caesar was assassinated, and the line "Beware the Ides of March" is famous thanks to William Shakespeare who penned that line in his play, "Julius Caesar". Another Roman reference is the name of the month itself. March is named after Mars, the Roman God of War.

March 16th is Artichoke Day, yum! It is also Freedom of Information Day. One celebration dear to my heart is National Giant Panda Day. We did a whole show here on Mariposa READ about pandas awhile back. If you would like to listen to past readings you can find those on the Mariposa County's website under the Adult Literacy Tab, Mariposa READ. We have them placed on a YouTube Channel so you can listen and read along anytime. Today, though, you have been listening here on KRYZ Community Radio.

It makes sense that March 17th is Corned Beef and Cabbage Day, in this month that Celebrates Irish American History, because this is Saint Patrick's Day. Be sure to wear some green on this day so that you don't get pinched.

Which do you prefer on this March 18th, National Sloppy Joe or Corn Dog Day? Hopefully you won't have to celebrate Awkward Moments Day. This is also the Goddess of Fertility Day and National Biodiesel Day as we get closer to Earth Day.

For March 19th we have Poultry Day, Certified Nurses Day, and Let's Laugh Day. Let's laugh every day!

To follow up our day of laughter, March 20th is the International Day of Happiness. For many that happiness may be because this is Proposal Day. It is also the First Day of Spring or the

Vernal Equinox. Show me a big smile for World Oral Health Day. It's also International Earth Day and World Sparrow Day. What I do hope you don't have to celebrate is Extraterrestrial Abductions Day. YIKES!

It seems a bit early, but March 21st is California Strawberry Day. It's also French Bread, Fragrance, and World Puppetry, and World Poetry Days. Let's look forward to Credit Card Reduction Day. It's nice that National Common Courtesy Day falls on World Down Syndrome Day and International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Let's have some fun on March 22nd with National Goof Off Day and As Young As You Feel Day. Then onto some conservation with World Water Day.

Everyone say "Awwwww" because it's National Puppy Day on March 23rd. This holiday is actually to promote awareness toward ending puppy farms. Let's all pledge to adopt from our local shelter. It's also World Meteorological Day, Melba Toast, Chip & Dip, National Tamale, and Near Miss Day. This year, Ramadan begins at sundown on March 23rd.

Get ready because today is National Cocktail, Cheesesteak, and Chocolate Covered Raisin Day. What a mix! On a more serious note, March 24th is also World Tuberculosis Day.

Everyone grab a Hobbit because today is National Tolkien Reading Day. It's also International Waffle and Pecan Day. Those go great together! Many will celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation. For our heroes, today is National Medal of Honor Day.

March is called National Nutrition Month and March 26th is National Spinach Day. Someone declared today Make Up Your Own Holiday Day, so someone else dubbed this Live Long and Prosper Day. Thank you Mr. Spock. On a more serious note, we honor Epilepsy Awareness Day.

I look forward to March 27th because it's National Spanish Paella Day. Delicious! This is also National "Joe" Day and World Theatre Day.

Well, March 28th is Something on a Stick Day and National Black Forest Cake Day. Maybe that's why they started making cake pops. It is Respect Your Cat Day, but don't expect kitty to return the favor.

March 29th is Manatee Appreciation Day and Smoke and Mirrors Day. As a big fan of supporting small and local businesses, I love that today is also Mom and Pop Business Owners Day. Let us all honor National Vietnam War Veterans on this, their Day.

The last week in March is National Physicians Week and March 30th is National Doctor's Day. This is also I am in Control Day, Take a Walk in the Park Day, and Turkey Neck Soup Day.

Last but not least we have March 31st with National Clam on the Half-Shell Day, Tater Day, Bunsen Burner Day, and National Crayon Day. Remember to back up your computers often but today we will celebrate World Backup Day. California has officially made today Cesar Chavez Day.

There are some other week-long observances such as Chocolate Chip Cookie, and National Aardvark Week for the first week of March. The second week is Sea Week and the last week is National Tsunami Awareness Week. Mid-March has Anonymous Giving Week and National Introverts Week. Some of the other month-long observances include Adopt a Rescued Guinea Pig Month, Celery, and International Ideas Month. The health awareness celebrations include Brain Injury, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, National Kidney, Colorectal Cancer, Deaf History, Color Therapy, and Endometriosis. We also celebrate the American Red Cross this month. As we continue to find ways to honor women this month, we have National Cheerleading Safety Month and Expanding Girls' Horizons in Science and Engineering Month. I am sure that calling this Mad for Plaid Month has something to do with St. Patrick's Day. Maybe that inspired the green Celery Month celebration too. As we look for Ethics Awareness or Optimism Month, we can also show our appreciation for Social Workers' Month. Luckily the Procrastination Celebration is only a week and not the whole month. It is said to be the first week of March... or whenever it's convenient.

There are some other unpredictable parts of March. This month two birthstones, Aquamarine and Bloodstone. It has two Zodiac signs, Pisces and Aries, which are nothing alike. We may get to celebrate Passover, Easter, and Ramadan in March, but we may not. We may find weather forecasts to be undependable in this month as well. It is often said that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. We here at Mariposa Read hope that you enjoy your March and all of the holidays and celebrations that it brings.