

WHY ARE YOU CIRCLING THOSE DAYS ON THE CALENDAR, ANTE?

MAY

THESE ARE **HOLIDAYS** - SPECIAL DAYS SET ASIDE FOR US TO REMEMBER HISTORICAL EVENTS OR SPECIAL PEOPLE. LOOK AT MAY, FOR INSTANCE. THE LAST MONDAY IN MAY IS **MEMORIAL DAY**.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE "MEMORY DAY."

GOOD POINT! AFTER THE **AMERICAN CIVIL WAR**, MANY TOWNS DECORATED THE GRAVES OF SOLDIERS KILLED IN THE WAR. PUTTING FLOWERS OR FLAGS ON THE GRAVES WAS A WAY OF HONORING THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY. SO IT IS SOMETHING OF A "MEMORY DAY."

I KNEW IT!

PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON SIGNED A PROCLAMATION IN 1966 NAMING WATERLOO, NEW YORK, AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF MEMORIAL DAY. TOWNSPEOPLE THERE ORGANIZED PARADES AND DECORATED GRAVES BEGINNING IN 1866.

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBERS ALL THOSE WHO DIED IN AMERICAN WARS, FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR UP THROUGH THE IRAQ WAR. HERE AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, SMALL FLAGS ARE PLACED ON ALL OF THE SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

WHAT BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY!

IN 1971 CONGRESS MADE MEMORIAL DAY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY AND CHANGED THE OBSERVANCE FROM MAY 30 TO THE LAST MONDAY IN MAY, TO GIVE WORKERS A THREE-DAY WEEKEND.

CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HOLIDAY WE CELEBRATE IN JULY, SCORPY?

JULY

THE FOURTH OF JULY!

THE FOURTH OF JULY - OR "INDEPENDENCE DAY" - IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL HOLIDAYS IN THE UNITED STATES. ON JULY 4, 1776, THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ADOPTED THE **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE** IN PHILADELPHIA.

THIS ESSAY WILL LET EVERYONE KNOW WHY WE WANT TO SEPARATE FROM ENGLAND TO BECOME OUR OWN NATION!



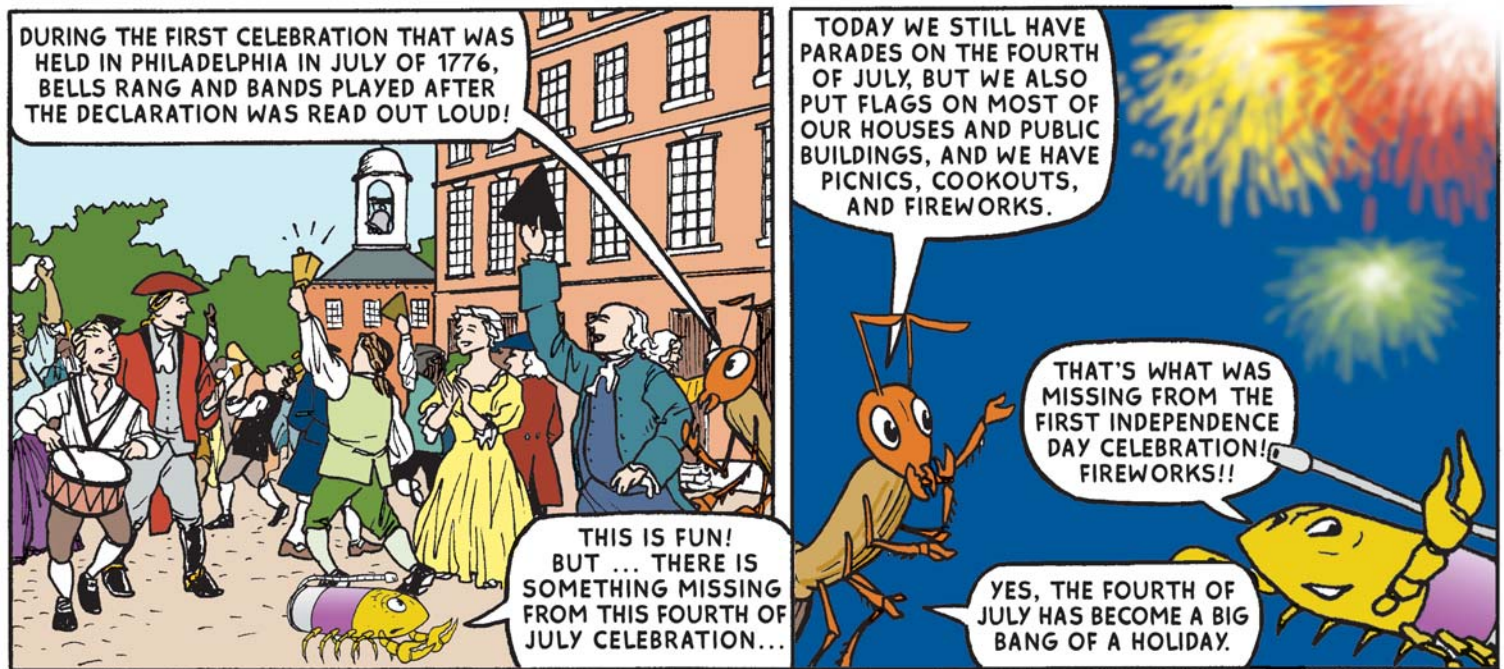
DURING THE FIRST CELEBRATION THAT WAS HELD IN PHILADELPHIA IN JULY OF 1776, BELLS RANG AND BANDS PLAYED AFTER THE DECLARATION WAS READ OUT LOUD!

TODAY WE STILL HAVE PARADES ON THE FOURTH OF JULY, BUT WE ALSO PUT FLAGS ON MOST OF OUR HOUSES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND WE HAVE PICNICS, COOKOUTS, AND FIREWORKS.

THAT'S WHAT WAS MISSING FROM THE FIRST INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION!! FIREWORKS!!

THIS IS FUN! BUT ... THERE IS SOMETHING MISSING FROM THIS FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION...

YES, THE FOURTH OF JULY HAS BECOME A BIG BANG OF A HOLIDAY.



SCORPY, I'M PLANNING OUR SCHEDULES FOR OCTOBER. YOU GET A DAY OFF OF SCHOOL FOR THIS HOLIDAY HERE.

HALLOWEEN!

OCTOBER

NO, COLUMBUS DAY. REMEMBER WHO HE IS?

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS?? SURE - COLUMBUS SAILED THE OCEAN BLUE IN 1492.

COLUMBUS CROSSED THE ATLANTIC OCEAN AND LANDED IN THE CARIBBEAN ON OCT. 12, 1492. SOME CREDIT COLUMBUS WITH THE EUROPEAN DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

AHA - OCTOBER 12! THAT'S WHY WE CELEBRATE COLUMBUS DAY IN OCTOBER!

YES. HISTORICALLY, THE ITALIAN POPULATION OF NEW YORK HAS HAD CELEBRATIONS TO RECOGNIZE THEIR NATIVE SON, COLUMBUS. THE FIRST RECORDED CELEBRATION TOOK PLACE OCT. 12, 1792, TO MARK THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBUS' LANDING. EVEN TODAY THERE IS A PARADE IN NEW YORK CITY ON COLUMBUS DAY.

WHY ARE WE RUSHING TO THE POST OFFICE?

BECAUSE IN 1971 PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON DECLARED COLUMBUS DAY A FEDERAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER. THE POST OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY!

ANTE, IN NOVEMBER I KNOW WE HAVE THANKSGIVING, BUT WHAT IS THIS HOLIDAY EARLIER IN THAT MONTH?

NOVEMBER

THAT IS VETERAN'S DAY. IT IS OBSERVED EACH YEAR TO HONOR ALL OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES. ANYONE WHO HAS SERVED IN OUR ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINES, OR COAST GUARD IS CALLED A VETERAN.

HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM MEMORIAL DAY?

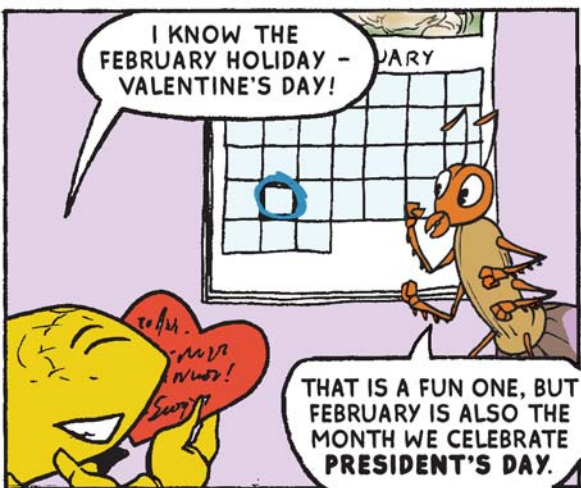
MEMORIAL DAY IS FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES DEFENDING US. VETERAN'S DAY IS FOR ALL VETERANS, BOTH LIVING AND DEAD.

VETERAN'S DAY ORIGINALLY MARKED THE END OF **WORLD WAR I** WHEN THE ARMISTICE (A TRUCE OR CEASE-FIRE) WAS SIGNED. WORLD WAR I ENDED IN 1918 AT THE 11TH HOUR OF THE 11TH DAY OF THE 11TH MONTH.

NOW VETERAN'S DAY IS MARKED BY PARADES, SPEECHES AND A FORMAL CEREMONY AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIERS IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, IN VIRGINIA. THE UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS OF SOLDIERS FROM SEVERAL U.S. WARS HAVE BEEN BURIED IN THE TOMB SINCE 1921. ON VETERAN'S DAY, THE PRESIDENT PLACES A WREATH ON THE TOMB.

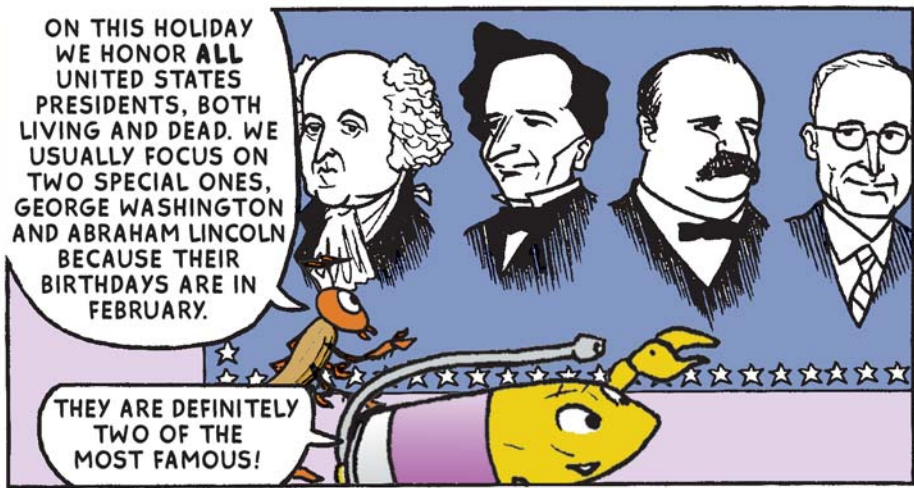
Wow!

WHAT A GREAT WAY TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY.



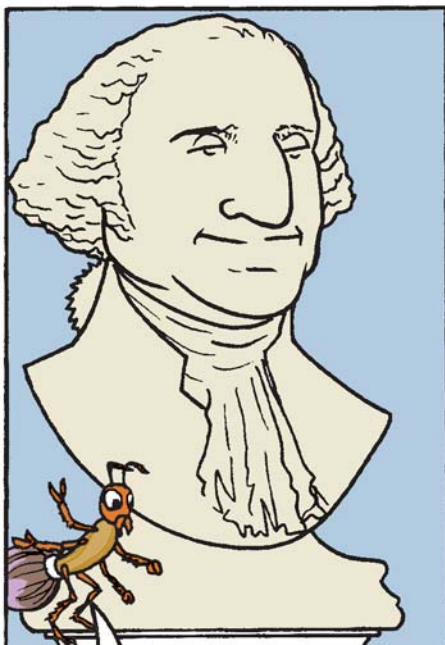
I KNOW THE FEBRUARY HOLIDAY - VALENTINE'S DAY!

THAT IS A FUN ONE, BUT FEBRUARY IS ALSO THE MONTH WE CELEBRATE **PRESIDENT'S DAY.**

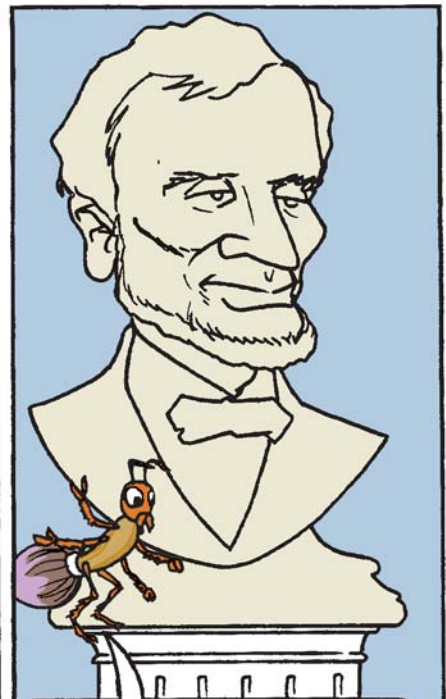


ON THIS HOLIDAY WE HONOR ALL UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS, BOTH LIVING AND DEAD. WE USUALLY FOCUS ON TWO SPECIAL ONES, GEORGE WASHINGTON AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN BECAUSE THEIR BIRTHDAYS ARE IN FEBRUARY.

THEY ARE DEFINITELY TWO OF THE MOST FAMOUS!



WASHINGTON WAS BORN ON FEB. 22, 1732, AND IS KNOWN AS "THE FATHER OF OUR COUNTRY." THE FIRST TIME AMERICANS CELEBRATED WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY WAS IN 1796, THE LAST FULL YEAR HE WAS PRESIDENT.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN FEB. 12, 1809. OUR COUNTRY FIRST OBSERVED HIS BIRTHDAY THE YEAR AFTER HE WAS ASSASSINATED AT THE END OF THE CIVIL WAR.



CONGRESS VOTED IN 1968 TO RECOGNIZE BOTH OF THESE GREAT MEN BY NAMING THE THIRD MONDAY IN FEBRUARY AS PRESIDENT'S DAY.

MANY BANKS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON THIS NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF THE MANY PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE LED OUR NATION.

I'M GOING TO HONOR THEM BY PLAYING THE PRESIDENTIAL SPORT - GOLF!