I FORGOT DAY

I started to write this article and then forgot what I was writing about, why I was writing it, and for whom was I writing it. Oh, I remember, I forgot that it is I FORGOT DAY.

July 2, is the day to celebrate I FORGOT DAY and it is not a day to remember. So, just what are we forgetting? Can we even remember what we forgot and is it really important that we remember? I think not because I forgot what I am trying to remember and why I forgot.

Some days are days to remember and cherish all of our lives. Other days are to be forgotten and never be subject to recall. If you are having a bad day, it’s just as well that today is I FORGOT DAY.

Some people view today as an opportunity to express their regrets for forgetting something, and to make amends by apologizing for their memory lapse. The trouble is, we will probably forget, for what we are apologizing. And, if we forget something important tomorrow, we must wait a whole year for the next I FORGOT DAY.

Excuse me for not remembering but I did want to wish you all a wonderful, forgetful I FORGOT DAY.

JULY DATES TO REMEMBER

July 1st ....................................................... Canada Day
July 4th ............................................. Independence Day
July 11th .................................... World Population Day
July 14th ..................................................... Bastille Day
July 17th ............................................. National Ice Cream Day
July 19th ....................................................... Full Moon
July 24th .................................................... Parent’s Day

Birthstone: Ruby  
Flower:  Water Lily  
Colors: Green & Red  
Zodiac: Cancer & Leo

DOG OR HOT DOG?

Would you believe there is actually a National Hot Dog & Sausage Council? Hot dog enthusiast proclaim that from Memorial Day to Labor Day is actually considered ‘hot dog season.’ During that time period, Americans will consume 818 hot dogs every second. If that doesn’t impress you, on Independence Day Americans will eat enough hot dogs to stretch from D.C. to L.A. five times over. Americans eat enough of them at major league ballparks to stretch from RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C., to AT&T Park in San Francisco. That is a lot of hot dogs.

To give you a little history, we should go back to the 9th century B.C. when sausage was mentioned in Homer’s Odyssey. But real frankfurters, as we know them today, didn’t happen till the late 1600s in Germany. Some believe that the sausages were first called ‘dachshunds’ or ‘little dogs’ because they resembled the shape of a dachshund and later became the beloved hot dog.
The Rosetta Stone was unearthed by French soldiers on July 19, 1799, in the village of Rashid, located along the Nile Delta in Egypt. This unintentional finding has proven to be instrumental in deciphering the meaning of Egyptian hieroglyphics, which, in turn, led to historians obtaining a broader understanding of Ancient Egyptian culture, literature and civilization as a whole. The Rosetta Stone features what appears to be basically the same text in three different scripts: Greek, hieroglyphic and demotic. It is thought that three scripts were used so that Egyptian rulers, priests and government officials could all read it, as each type of text was commonly used by one of the aforementioned groups. Greek was commonly spoken by Egyptian rulers at the time, while hieroglyphics were widely read by religious officials and demotic was the more often used Egyptian script. The stone is marked with a decree written on behalf of King Ptolemy V in 196 BC in Egypt. French scholar Jean-Francois Champollion and British scientist Thomas Young both played an integral role in the transliteration of the Stone’s hieroglyphics. Currently the Rosetta Stone is housed in the British Museum, located in central London.

Yale University historian Hiram Bingham set out on a great adventure in 1911, leading an expedition through Peru in search of the 15th century Incan iconic settlement, Machu Picchu. And on July 24, 1911, he found it. Machu Picchu, or “Old Peak,” is thought to be originally an estate built for the reigning leaders of the Inca civilization. Following the Spanish Conquest, the Incas fled from Machu Picchu’s protective walls, as Spanish explorers proceeded to deface many of the ancient settlements located within the region. Machu Picchu remained untouched, however, and a hidden secret known only to the locals in the area. Stories of such settlements spread among archaeologists and historians alike, as many scholars were in search of ancient relics from the Inca civilization, and ultimately led to Bingham’s exploration in Peru. Bingham was fortunate enough to befriend local farmers of the Cusco region in Peru, where Machu Picchu is found. These farmers were instrumental in guiding his journey, as they led him right to the steps of Machu Picchu. Restoration of this Peruvian Historical Sanctuary and ancient site continues even today, as it remains a piece of living history.

Independence Day, or the Fourth of July, celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the 13 colonies in 1776, thereby severing their ties to Great Britain. That historic document was drafted by Thomas Jefferson, with substantial edits made by other members of the Congress. An officially inscribed version was signed by 56 members of the Continental Congress on August 2.

Celebration of the day began during the American Revolution with fireworks and parades, traditions that continue today. The best-known observance takes place in Washington, D.C., and includes a spectacular fireworks display.

Did you know?
• A salute of one gun for each state in the United States, called a “salute to the union,” is fired on Independence Day at noon by any capable military base.
• The first week of July is one of the busiest American travel periods of the year, as many people utilize the holiday for longer vacation trips.