**Credits**

**Did that Greek slave Aesop create all the fables himself? Created or recreated. Many fables credited to Aesop have turned up on Egyptian scrolls dating back 1,000 years before him. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**“The Alphabet Song” was copyrighted in 1834 under the title “The Schoolmaster.” Of course, it wasn’t exactly an original, as the melody for the tune is identical to that of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,” which was copyrighted 28 years earlier. But even “Twinkle” was something of a copycat – that same melody has been traced back to at least 1761, when it appeared in a French music book as “Ah! Vous Diraije, Maman” (“Shall I tell you, Mother?” *(Kelly Cadieux, in Tidbits)***

**Eleven countries around the globe take credit for discovering America. *(Susan Jimison)***

**I find it interesting that the meanest life, the poorest existence, is attributed to God's will, but as human beings become more affluent, as their living standard and style begin to ascend the material scale, God descends the scale of responsibility at a commensurate speed. *(Maya Angelou, in I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings)***

**In 1939, at age 19, I wrote my first robot story," recalls Isaac Asimov. "I had changed the world, and I didn't know it. In 1950 someone took my first nine robot stories and put them together into a book. A gentleman named Joseph Engelberger read it and was inspired with a lifelong desire to build robots. He has since become the world's leading manufacturer, installer and maintainer of these machines, and he makes millions. He gives me all the credit, but he keeps the money." *(From a speech at Ithaca College)***

**Banjo is only musical instrument to have originated in the United States. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**And work they do, even to the extent of being the golden architects of popular menu items. A franchise in Pittsburgh, for example, invented the Big Mac. A California operator dreamed up the Egg McMuffin. These people receive no payment for their creations – only the recognition of their peers and the increased sales the new products bring. *(Per Ola & Emily D’Aulaire, in Reader’s Digest)***

**In his book Electronic Principles, Albert Malvino opens with this credit: “TO JOANNA – My brilliant and beautiful wife without whom I would be nothing. She always comforts and consoles, never complains or interferes, asks nothing and endures all, and writes my dedications.” *(Published by McGraw-Hill)***

**On September 26, 1820, frontiersman Daniel Boone died quietly in his sleep at his home in Missouri. Boone helped establish settlements farther west than had previously been thought possible. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Ernest Borgnine was the voice of Mermaid Man on the popular children's show SpongeBobSquarePants from 1999 until 2012. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**If anything goes bad, I did it. If anything goes semi-good, then we did it. If anything goes real good, then you did it. That's all it takes to get people to win football games for you. *(Bear Bryant. legendary football coach)***

**Ralph Wedgewood of London, England, invented carbon paper in 1806. Nobody honored him for his contribution. Now it's too late. Most students don't know what it is. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The caterpillar does all the work and the butterfly gets all the publicity. *(George Carlin)***

**Not just school cafeterias but every cafeteria in the nation, I suspect, has served beef-tomato-cheese-macaroni casserole. So why isn’t Mary Marzetti famous? She invented it. In Columbus, Ohio. Almost a century ago. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**On January 20, 1921, Charlie Chaplin's silent movie The Kid premiered at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The film was Chaplin's masterpiece, a masterful blend of comedy and tragedy. Chaplin wrote, produced, directed, edited, starred in, and even composed a score for the movie. Young Jackie Coogan, who played the titular character, became one of Hollywood's first child stars. Not only is The Kid considered one of the silent era's most important films, but it proved once and for all that Chaplin was one of Hollywood's most prodigious talents. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**None of the 52 U.S. towns named in honor of Christopher Columbus claim to be his birthplace, but 18 other towns do. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A Georgian named Catherine Littlefield Greene conceived the idea of the cotton gin, designed it, perfected it, financed it and marketed it. Such is now known. That Mrs. Greene got Eli Whitney to help her put the thing together is also in the record. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**Seven items designed by Leonardo da Vinci: Cluster bombs, Toilet seat that closes by itself, Ball bearings, Alarm clock, Snorkel, Rotisserie, and Life preserver. *(Leonardo the Inventor 2.0 CD-ROM, Softkey Multimedia Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1996)***

**Leonardo da Vinci drew plans for the first armored car in 1485. In addition, he designed the cannon, a machine gun, gliders, a turnspit for roasting meat, irrigated canal system for fields, the parachute, scissors, and even invented the bicycle 300 years before it appeared on the road. *Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 66)***

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**When Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, the fact of his authorship was known only to the Continental Congress and a few of his friends. The identity of the writer of the most famous document of the American Revolution was not generally known until it was published in a newspaper in 1784. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 214)***

**You will accomplish a great deal if you do not worry about who will get the credit. *(Dorothy Height, civil rights pioneer)***

**THE DISCOVERY OF ELECTRICITY: While Boston’s Ben Franklin (1706-1790) first harnessed the power of electricity, he wasn’t the first person to discover it. That honor goes to England’s Dr. William Gilbert, who discovered electricity in 1600 when he showed that two substances – amber and jet – worked as a magnet when rubbed together, forming the basis for static electricity. Gilbert, who would later become personal physician to England’s Queen Elizabeth I, derived the word “electricity” from the Greek word for amber. Franklin improved upon Gilbert’s findings with his lightning-and-key experiment in 1752, proving that lightning and the spark from amber and jet essentially are the same thing. *(Paul Niemann, in Invention Mysteries)***

**Billy says at the dinner table after he finished eating his meal: “I finished first! Do I get a gold medal?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**It is not the employer who pays wages – he only handles the money. It is the product that pays wages. (Henry Ford)**

**On February 11, 1753, due to the efforts of Benjamin Franklin, the very first hospital in America, Pennsylvania Hospital, opened in Philadelphia. (The Daily Chronicle)**

**Wife says to husband who is sick in bed: “While you’re taking time off from work, just remember where you got the germs.” *(Jim Unger, in Classic Herman comic strip)***

**If you remember “Rhapsody in Blue,” you remember George Gershwin. If you remember “Long Ago and Far Away,” you remember his brother, Ira. It’s a little known fact that more sheet music was sold for that song of Ira’s than for any of George’s. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**She wanted her cookies shaped liked the people in her court, did Queen Elizabeth I. That's why the historical footnotes credit her with creation of the first gingerbread men. (L. M. Boyd)**

**Contractor James Marshall found gold flakes (an original in the National Museum of American History) in the tailrace of a sawmill he built for John Sutter near Coloma, California, January 24, 1848. When word spread, gold-seeking “forty-niners” raised California’s nonnative population from 14,000 to 100,000 in two years. Marshall died penniless in 1885, and Sutter, his men gone prospecting, and his land full of squatters, went bankrupt. He died in 1880, at 77. *(Alison McLean, in Smithsonian magazine)***

**Haircuts are great because I did none of the work but get all the credit. *(Ludwig Pettersson)***

**Am told by a Hindu that Hindus were the first to come up with chess, the concept of zero and the big bang theory of the universe. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**On January 20, 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency had passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan. *(Associated Press)***

**It's repeatedly claimed Scandinavians in Delaware built North America's first log cabins. But there's something wrong with that. Historical footnotes indicate the Cherokees were already living in log cabins in Carolina country when the first Europeans showed up there. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Alfred Lewis Vail, 30-year-old assistant to telegraph entrepreneur Samuel F. B. Morse, was the one who really invented the Morse code. Meanwhile, were you aware Morse made the first daguerreotype photographs in America? *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The mother never gets any credit, not really. Take Maria Magdalena Kerwich. She was the mother of Ludwig von Beethoven. But she’s never mentioned. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Thomas Edison may get the credit for invention of motion pictures, but film historians claim the real inventor was an Edison employee named William Kennedy Laurie Dickson. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The development of a new product is a three step process: first, an American firm announces an invention; second, the Russians claim they made the same discovery twenty years ago; third, the Japanese start exporting it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Although “pasteurization” was named after Louis Pasteur, he didn’t invent it. He just doped it out scientifically around 1860. Some 65 years earlier, French chef Louis Appert invented it when he first canned food. Then there was Gail Borden, who used it when he came up with condensed milk in 1856. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Where was the first pay phone installed? Hartford, Connecticut, after William Gray received his first patent on the invention in 1889. The phone company got 65 percent, the store 10 percent, Gray 25 percent. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Biographers say Thomas Edison especially liked his phonograph because it was his own idea. But the International Herald Tribune once reported the idea actually originated with French poet and scientist Charles Cros. In early 1877. Same year Edison came out with it. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**On September 6, 1916, the first self-service grocery store, the Piggly Wiggly, opened in Memphis, Tennessee. Piggly Wiggly was responsible for many innovations, including shopping carts and checkout stands. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Although millions of Americans have recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, few know where it came from, or who wrote it. The pledge was written in 1892 by Francis Bellamy, a retired minister. He submitted the pledge to a popular magazine of the day, Youth’s Companion. The magazine published the Pledge of Allegiance, and virtually every school in the country adopted it. (Charles Reichblum, in Knowledge in a Nutshell, p. 59)**

**First women: "So you and Harry will get to meet the President and First Lady?" Second women: "I think that would be pretty intimidating. It helps if I imagine all of the people who really make it possible. Whenever you see the President, there's someone who cleaned the room, pressed that shirt and shined those shoes." (Tom Batiuk, in Funky Winkerbean comic strip)**

**Every school boy and girl knows Joseph Priestley discovered oxygen. But did you know he also discovered ammonia, carbon monoxide, hydrogen chloride, sulfur dioxide, and nitrous oxide? He also was first to isolate chlorine. People with swimming pools can be grateful. (Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 46)**

**You can accomplish much if you don’t care who gets the credit. *(Ronald Reagan)***

**You can’t copyright a recipe, can you? Your precise wording, yes, but not your specific instructions, ingredients or measurements. (L. M. Boyd)**

**Today is January 20, Disc Jockey Day. On this day in 1965, the world lost one of its most beloved DJs, Alan Freed. In the 1940s and '50s, Freed began playing rhythm and blues hits on his Cleveland radio station and coined the term "rock and roll." (The Daily Chronicle)**

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**It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena. *(Theodore Roosevelt)***

**The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at the best, know the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat. (Theodore Roosevelt)**

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**The highest reward for man’s toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it. *(John Ruskin)***

**Some men become proud and insolent because they ride a fine horse, wear a feather in their hat or are dressed in a fine suit of clothes. Who does not see the folly of this? If there be any glory in such things, the glory belongs to the horse, the bird and the tailor. *(St. Francis de Sales)***

**The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more. *(Dr. Jonas Salk)***

**Words created in San Francisco: beatnik, yuppie, hippie, psychedelic, blue jeans, sandlot baseball, fortune cookie, and hoodlum. *(John Snyder, in San Francisco Secrets)***

**We credit scarcely any persons with good sense except those who are of our opinion. *(Francois de La Rochefoucauld)***

**You can offer your ideas to others as bullets or as seeds. You can shoot them, or sow them; hit people in the head with them, or plant them in their hearts. Ideas used as bullets will kill inspiration and neutralize motivation. Used as seeds, they take root, grow, and become reality in the life in which they are planted. The only risk in the seed approach: Once it grows and becomes part of those in whom it’s planted, you probably will get no credit for originating the idea. But if you’re willing to do without the credit . . . you’ll reap a rich harvest. *(Richard C. Halverson, Former Chaplain of the United States Senate)***

**Too many people get credit for being good, when they are only being passive. They are too often praised for being broad-minded, when they are so broad-minded they can never make up their minds about anything. *(Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen)***

**In the “old days,” an actress was hired for a role based on her box office drawing ability more than anything else. If she couldn’t sing and the role required it, no problem: The studio would hire a vocalist like Marni Nixon, often known as the “Ghostess with the Mostess.” Nixon provided the singing voice for Deborah Kerr in The King and I, Audrey Hepburn in My Fair Lady, and Natalie Wood in West Side Story, just to name a few. *(Tidbits of Loveland)***

**Everyone thinks Fulton invented the steamship, but it was actually John Fitch, who built a passenger vessel that operated between Philadelphia and Trenton, New Jersey, in 1790. Fulton’s boat didn’t arrive until 1807. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Book of Chance, p. 94)***

**When Ben Franklin began signing up contributors for the first subscription library in North America, he wasn’t very successful. Eventually, he decided he would present the project as originating with a group of friends rather than being his own pet project, lest he be suspected of self-promotion. Subscriptions to the library promptly took off. Ben determined to conduct all his future affairs in the same way and encouraged others to do the same. “The present little sacrifice of your vanity will afterwards be amply repaid,” he said. What if someone else takes credit for your work? No problem, said Ben. People who are envious of the claim jumpers will eventually expose their pretense, and you’ll get the credit you deserve. When actor Spencer Tracy was starring with Katharine Hepburn, he always insisted on having his name listed first in the credits. A director challenged him, saying it was more gallant to let the lady go first. Tracy replied. “This is a movie, not a lifeboat.” *(Ben Franklin’s Almanac, p. 193)***

**That the Swedes invented the log cabin is widely known. But hardly anybody realizes Swedes also invented the zipper, monkey wrench, telephone receiver and car safety belt. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Nobody knows who built the Taj Mahal. The names of the architects, masons, and designers that have come down to us have all proved to be latter-day inventions, and there is no evidence to indicate who the real creators were. *(David Louis, in Fascinating Facts, p. 15)***

**There was a bartender named Tom Collins who worked at Limmer’s Old House of London in the 1800s. His most popular drink wound up with his name. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**You can accomplish anything in life, provided that you do not mind who gets the credit. *(Harry Truman)***

**The original Mark Twain was not Samuel Langhorne Clemens, but another riverboat pilot named Isaiah Sellers who wrote articles for the New Orleans Picayune. The great Sam Clemens was not above lifting that byline. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**We talk about Napoleon as though there were only one. There were three. We talk about Cleopatra as though there were only one. There were seven. We talk about Columbus as though there were only one. There were three. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Noah Webster coined only one word – “demoralize.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Creation Story: One night as I was putting my 2 1/2-year-old daughter to bed, I saw a bright full moon in the sky. I let her look at the moon for a minute and then asked, "Who made the moon?" "God," came the reply. "And the stars?" I asked. Again the answer was, "God." I continued with a few more questions: Who make the trees, the flowers, etc. Finally I asked, "Who made Daddy?" She said, "Grandma." *(Delaine Swardstrom, in Country magazine)***

**What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common? They were all invented by women. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Six who coined familiar words and phrases:**

**"nerd" -- created by Dr. Seuss (1950)**

**"gossip column" -- by Mark Twain (1893)**

**"gene" -- a Danish botanist (1909)**

**"laser" -- a Cornell doctoral candidate (1957)**

**"teen-ager" - by Dick Clark (1955)**

**"bootlegger" -- by American frontiersmen (who had illegal liquor in their boot tops). *(World Features Syndicate)***

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