**The American Spirit**

[****In 1783,****](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/) **George Washington had returned to his beloved Potomac River plantation after the exhausting years of war, looking forward to a tranquil old age in a prosperous, independent nation. Soon, however, he became aware that the Congress established by the Articles of Confederation, adopted in 1781 near war's end, was “little more than the shadow without substance.” Now a rebellion in Massachusetts, led by a former captain in the Revolutionary Army, Daniel Shays, had fully revealed the deplorable weakness of the federal government. Should Washington go to the Constitutional Convention of 1787? As historian Clinton Rossiter pointed out, “The greatest man in America -- and, in the opinion of most Americans, the greatest in the world -- Washington enjoyed a personal prestige in 1787 that has never been matched in all our history.” He was acutely aware that he could risk this prestige in such a venture only once. What if most of the states ignored Congress? What if the delegates who showed up failed to agree? It could make a bad situation worse if people decided not even Washington could rescue the floundering ship of state. Some of his most trusted advisors urged him to stay home. For weeks Washington brooded and pondered. Finally, something deep within him said yes. “To see this country happy is so much the wish of my soul,” he told Henry Knox, “that nothing on this side of Elysium can be placed in competition with it.” On May 9, he began his coach journey to Philadelphia. *(Thomas Fleming, in Reader's Digest)***

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[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**Today is February 22nd, 2024**](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

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**April 18th, 2024 - cafeteria *(Bits & Pieces) America***

**April 11th, 2024 - Statue of Liberty *(Thomas Fleming, in Reader’s Digest) little things add up***

**April 4th, 2024 -** [**Wright Brothers *(Derric Johnson, in The Wonder of America, p. 78)***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/) ***American History inspirations***

[**March 25th, 2024 - watermelon plants *(Associated Press) Easter***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**March 18th, 2024 - aspects of its past are feared *(Lonnie G. Bunch III, in The Atlantic magazine) fear***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**March 14th, 2024 - *(Pat Williams, in The Magic of Teamwork) 6189824 giving and sharing***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**March 7th, 2024 - ice trade *(Amy Brady, in Discover magazine, September/October, 2023, on page 49) ahead of its time***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**February 29th, 2024 - Horace Mann *(Adam Harris, in The Atlantic magazine) ahead of its time***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**February 22nd, 2024 - Every vote means something believed in their man! *(Derric Johnson, in The Wonder of America, p. 212) voting & elections***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**February 15th, 2024 - first woman doctor in America *(Bits & Pieces, August 22, 1991, starting on page 14) doctor’s world***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**February 8th, 2024 - The Brooklyn Bridge *(Glenn Van Ekeren, in The Speaker’s Sourcebook, p. 38) American history inspirations)***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**February 1st, 2024 - Walt Disney *(Mike Vance & Diane Deacon, in Think Out of the Box) imagination***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**January 25th, 2024 - “Johnny Appleseed.”*(Jack Denton Scott, in Reader’s Digest) waste traqnsformation***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**January 18th, 2024 - George Washington *(Bits & Pieces) 1115909 leadership***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**January 11th, 2024 Ferris Wheel. *(Derric Johnson, in The Wonder of America, p. 80) American History inspirations***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**January 4th, 2024 - labor contracts *(Lonnie G. Bunch III, in The Atlantic magazine) slavery***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

[**December 28th, 2024 - Mount Rushmore *(Richard B. Manchester, in Incredible Facts)***](http://www.mondaymunchees.com/)

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