

**This day in history: February 4**

- 1789** The Electoral College chooses George Washington to be there first U.S. President.
- 1826** *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fennimore Cooper is published.
- 1861** Six Southern states form the Confederate States of America.
- 1932** The first Winter Olympics in the United States open in Lake Placid, NY.
- 1943** Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin meet at Yalta in the Crimea to discuss the post-WWII world.

**This day in history: February 5**

- 1846** *The Oregon Spectator*, the first newspaper on the Pacific Coast of the United States, is published in Oregon City.
- 1889** The Southern Pacific Railroad opens a transcontinental "Sunset Route" from New Orleans to San Francisco.
- 1901** Edwin Prescott patents a "loop-the-loop centrifugal railway" --- better known as a roller coaster.
- 1937** President Franklin Roosevelt proposes increasing the number of Supreme Court justices, leading critics to charge that he is trying to "pack" the court with justices to his liking (progressives).

**This day in history: February 6**

- 1788** Massachusetts becomes th 6<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the Constitution.
- 1862** The Union wins its first major victory in the Civil War, with the capture of Fort Hood on the Tennessee River.
- 1899** The Senate ratifies the treaty ending the Spanish-American War.
- 1911** Ronald Reagan, the 40<sup>th</sup> U.S. President, is born in Tampico, IL.
- 1971** *Apollo 14* astronaut Alan Sheprd hits three golf balls on the moon.

**This day in history: February 7**

- 1795** The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which clarifies federal judicial powers, is ratified.
- 1812** The last of the New Madrid earthquakes, a series of violent quakes that changes the course of the Mississippi River, occurs near New Madrid, MI.
- 1867** Laura Ingalls Wilder is born near Pepin, WI. (Author of *Little House in the Big Woods*, *Little House on the Prairie* and other books).
- 1964** The Beatles arrive in New York for their first U.S. Tour and an appearance on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, touching off Beatlemania.
- 1984** Space shuttle *Challenger* astronauts Bruce McCandless and Robert Stewart take the first untethered spacewalk.
- 1795** The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which clarifies federal judicial powers, is ratified.

**This day in history: February 8**

- 1693** The College of William and Mary, second oldest college in the United States, is chartered.
- 1870** The 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment, guaranteeing voting rights regardless of race, is ratified.
- 1910** The Boy Scouts of America founded in Washington, D.C.
- 1922** President Warren G. Harding has a radio installed in the White House.
- 1971** The NASDAQ, the world's first electronic stock market, begins operations.

**1978 Senate debates are broadcast on radio for the first time.**

**This day in history: February 9**

- 1773 William Henry Harrison, the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. President, is born in Charles County, VA.**
- 1825 The U.S. House of Representatives elects John Quincy Adams president after no candidate receives a majority of electoral votes.**
- 1942 Daylight saving time (then called "war time") goes into effect to conserve fuel during World War II.**
- 1943 U.S. troops recapture Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific.**
- 1950 Senator Joseph McCarthy charges that the Communists have infiltrated the State Department.**

**This day in history: February 10**

- 1763 The Treaty of Paris ends the Seven Years' War (the French and Indian War).**
- 1861 Jefferson Davis receives word that he has been chosen to be President of the Confederate States of America.**
- 1903 Teddy bears begin appearing in stores early this year.**
- 1942 Glenn Miller receives the first-ever gold record for selling 1.2 million copies of "Chattanooga Choo Choo".**
- 1967 The 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment, dealing with presidential disability and succession, is ratified.**