

in 💭 boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

# Groundhog Day

Υ	F	Ρ	Ε	N	N	S	Y	L	V	Α	N	Ι	Α
Т	Ε	N	Ρ	R	Ρ	W	0	D	Α	Н	S	S	Y
Е	В	I	Ε	В	R	Y	Α	D	Ι	L	0	Н	Α
F	R	С	Т	В	Ε	G	Ν	G	Ι	0	Ι	U	D
G	U	L	Α	U	D	Ν	R	R	S	Μ	Ρ	W	G
F	Α	0	Ν	R	Ι	Е	С	0	L	D	S	Е	0
W	R	U	R	R	С	R	L	Ν	S	0	Ν	Α	Н
I	Y	D	Е	0	Т	В	L	0	Ρ	Ν	D	Т	D
Ν	В	Υ	В	W	Ι	0	Ι	С	R	S	н	н	Ν
т	S	W	Ι	Ρ	0	Α	D	Н	Ι	Υ	В	Е	U
Ε	Ι	W	Η	Ε	N	Ι	D	W	N	Α	Y	R	0
R	G	С	Т	Ε	U	Ν	Y	В	G	Α	N	С	R
0	N	В	Ι	L	L	Μ	U	R	R	Α	Y	R	G
G	N	Т	Т	Α	F	0	R	Ε	С	Α	S	Т	R

BURROW SPRING SHADOW HIBERNATE WEATHER COLD FORECAST HOLIDAY PREDICTION SIGN WINTER GROUNDHOG DAY PENNSYLVANIA BILL MURRAY CLOUDY FEBRUARY

# January Birthdays

- 22 Joyce Bagwell
- 23 Denise Wilson
- 26 Kirby Rudisill
- 31 Denise Alexander

# February Birthdays

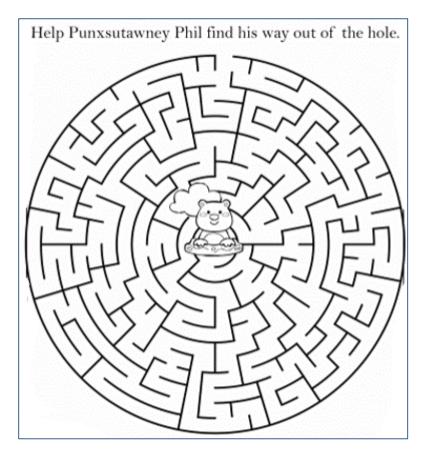
7 Mildred Bradham 14 Shannon Blair

- 16 Jessica Lannon
- 18 Delphia Von Heeder
- 20 Don Giles
- 25 Nina Beth Everhard
- 26 Diane Dow

Grab a pencil and piece of paper. How many words can you make using the letters in "Punxsutawney Phil" We found 48!!









# Free Masks

Lavelle Ford and Barbara Spencer are still making masks. Masks are free to all members and to all TMRC residents and staff.

Barbara: <u>barbs1145@hotdogcrafts.com</u> Lavelle: <u>lavelle.ford@gmail.com</u>



The Masonic calendar is based upon the date of an event or a beginning.

Each of the "Mason" calendars, below, begin with the word, Anno. In the Latin language, Anno means In the Year of. The English word, annual, is derived from the Latin word, anno.

# C.E. means Common Era, B.C.E. or B.C. means Before Common Era

### Ancient Craft Masons Calendar

Anno Lucis - (A.L. or A:.L:.) is Latin for In The Year of Light.

Historical Significance: The Year of Light signifies the date of the creation of the world (approximately 4000 years before the Common Era).

Ancient Craft Freemasons in the York and French Rites, residing in Scotland, England, Ireland, France, Germany, and in America, use the words, Anno Lucis.

Math: Anno Lucis is found by adding 4000 years (from the creation of the world to the present date) (4000 B.C.E. + 2021 C.E. = 6021 A.L. (Anno Lucis)

### Scottish Rite

Anno Mundi - (A.M. or A:.M:.) Anno Mundi is Latin for In the Year of the World.

Historical Significance: Anno Mundi also begins with the date of the creation of the world, but is based upon the older, Hebraic (Hebrew) calendar, which begins the civil year in September rather than the Gregorian calendar in use by us, today which begins the new year in January.

The Hebrew calendar has several differences from the Gregorian calendar, one of which is that some months in the Hebrew calendar have 29 days and some have 30 days. (See Anno Hebraico, below.)

Math: Anno Mundi is found by adding 3760 years to the current year.

(3760 B.C.E. + 2021 C.E.) After September of the current year, add 1 year more.

Therefore, if the current year is July, 2021, add 3760 years = 5781 A.M.

If the current date is October, 2010, add 3761 = 5781 A.M. (Anno Mundi)

Relevance: The Scottish Rite Masonic calendar celebrates the creation of the world, 3760/3761 years before the beginning of the Common Era (C.E.) or 5781 years ago. It is counted using the Hebrew calendar.

(continued on page 4)

# Although it is still January, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is coming next week

**Groundhog Day** is a popular North American tradition observed in the United States and Canada on February 2. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this day sees its shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks; but if it does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early.

# **Origins**

The Pennsylvania Dutch were immigrants from Germanic-speaking areas of Europe. The Germans already had a tradition of marking Candlemas (February 2) as "Badger Day" (Dachstag), where if a badger emerging found it to be a sunny day thereby casting a shadow, it foreboded the prolonging of winter by four more weeks.

# **Traditions**

The largest Groundhog Day celebration is held in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, where crowds as large as 40,000 gather each year (nearly eight times the year-round population of the town). The average draw had been about 2,000 until the 1993 movie Groundhog Day, which is set at the festivities in Punxsutawney, after which attendance rose to about 10,000. The official Phil is pretended to be a supercentenarian, having been the same forecasting beast since 1887.

In 2019, the 133rd year of the tradition, the groundhog was summoned to come out at 7:25 am on February 2, but did not see its shadow. Fans of Punxsutawney Phil awaited his arrival starting at 6:00 am, thanks to a live stream provided by Visit Pennsylvania. The live stream has been a tradition for the past several years, allowing more people than ever to watch the animal meteorologist. The event is always covered live by the Weather Channel and Meteorologist Jennifer 'Jen' Carfagno.

2021 will be the 135th, and for the first time, Phil will be wearing a mask, like all Inner Circle members. The ceremony will be held behind closed doors, as no fans are allowed to attend. Caused by COVID-19 pandemic, all members will be socially distanced.

Using groundhogs for this method of prognostication did not gain mass notoriety until the release of the 1993 comedy Groundhog Day with Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell. The movie became the 13th highest grossing of the year, with over \$70 million at the box office. Over time, the movie became a cult classic and significantly increased awareness and attendance at Groundhog Day events.

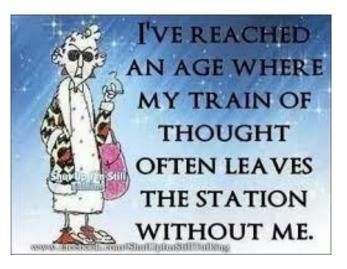
# **Statistics**

Punxsutawney Phil's statistics are kept by the Pennsylvania's Groundhog Club which cares for the animal. Phil has predicted 103 forecasts for winter and just 17 for an early spring. Most assessments of Phil's accuracy have given accuracy lower than would be expected with random chance, with Stormfax Almanac giving an estimate of 39%, and meteorologist Tim Roche of Weather Underground giving a 36% accuracy rate between 1969 and 2016 (a range chosen because local weather data was most reliable from 1969 onward) and a 47% record in that time span when predicting early spring. The National Centers for Environmental Information, using a basic metric of above-normal temperatures for early spring and below-normal temperatures for more winter, placed Punxsutawney Phil's accuracy at 40% for the tenyear period preceding 2019

# Similar customs

In Croatia and Serbia, Orthodox Christians have a tradition that on February 2 (Candlemas) or February 15 (The Meeting of the Lord), the bear will awaken from winter dormancy, and if it sees (meets) its own shadow in this sleepy and confused state, it will get scared and go back to sleep for an additional 40 days, thus prolonging the winter. Thus, if it is sunny on Feb 15, it is a sign that the winter is not over yet. If it is cloudy, it is a good sign that the winter is about to end.

Similarly in Germany, on the June 27, they recognize the Seven Sleepers' Day (Siebenschläfertag). If it rains that day, the rest of summer is supposedly going to be rainy. As well, in the United Kingdom, July 15 is known as St. Swithin's day. It was traditionally believed that, if it rained on that day, it would rain for the next 40 days and nights.



#### Hebrew Calendar

Anno Hebraico is Latin for In the Hebrew Year. It is sometimes abbreviated as A.H or A:.H:.

Historical Significance: Tishri is the 7th month of the Jewish ecclesiastical, and the first month of the Hebrew/Jewish civil year. (September-October).

Tisri begins with the new moon in September.

### <u>York Rite</u> Knights Templar Calendar

Anno Ordinis: In The Year of The Order (A.O. or A:.O:.) Anno Ordinis is Latin for In The Year of the Order.

Historical Significance: In the year, 1118 C.E. (Common Era), 9 French knights, followers of King Baldwyn, the King of Jerusalem, and at his behest and in his presence, took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

With great humility, they assumed the title of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ. The job of this brotherhood-in-arms was to protect the pious pilgrims in their passage to the holy city of Jerusalem.

King Baldwyn assigned them residence in a part of his palace which stood near the former site of the Temple of Solomon.

The Abbot and Canons of the Temple gave them a street between the palace and the Temple in which to store their arms and magazines. Thus, they derived the name of Templars.

Math: Anno Ordinis is found by subtracting 1118 from the current date, thus the year, 2021 minus 1118 = 903 A.O. (Anno Ordinis)

Relevance: The date 892 A.O. celebrates the operative and speculative existence of the Knights Templar from its origin in the year, 1118 C.E. over the last 903 years.

#### Royal Arch Masons Calendar

Anno Inventionis (A.I. or A:.I:.)(530 B.C.E.)

Anno Inventionis is Latin for In The Year of the Discovery.

Historical Significance: King Solomon built the first temple. Zerubbabel built or caused to be built, the Second Temple.

The Masonic calendar used by Royal Arch Masons dates from the year of the second temple having been caused to be built by Zerubbabel in 530 B.C.E..

Math: Anno Inventionis is found by adding 530 years to the current date, thus 2021 C.E. + 530 B.C.E. = 2551 A.I. (Anno Inventionis)

Relevance: The date 2551 A.I. celebrates the building of the Second Temple, 2551 years ago, believed to be on or very near the site of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem.

#### Royal and Select Masters & Cryptic Masons Calendar

Royal and Select Masters & Cryptic Masons: In The Year of the Deposit Anno Depositionis (A:.Dep:)(approx. 1000 B.C.)

Historical Significance: Anno Depositionis dates from the year in which the Temple of Solomon was completed in 1000 B.C.E..

Math: The Masonic calendar used by Royal and Select Masters is found by adding 1000 to the current year; thus, the current year (as of this writing), 2021 C.E. + 1000 B.C.E. = 3021 A:.Dep: (Anno Depositionis).

Relevance: The Masonic calendar which Royal and Select Masters and Cryptic Masons celebrate is the year in which Solomon's Temple was completed, 3021 years ago.