

FUN IN THE FIFTIES!

Famous Face of the Fifties: Walter E. Disney

Walter Elias Disney was born on December 5, 1901 in Hermosa, Chicago, IL. Disney was one of five children. He lived most of his childhood in Marceline, Missouri, where he started painting pictures and selling them to people in the neighborhood and family friends.

In 1911, they moved again to Kansas City, where he developed a love for trains from his uncle, Mike Martin who was a train conductor there. Disney attended high school in Chicago, at McKinley, where he took drawing and photography classes. He was one of the cartoonists for the school newspaper. At night, he took classes at the Chicago Art Institute. At 16, he dropped out of school to join the Army but was rejected for being underage, so instead he joined the red cross and was sent to France for a year to drive an ambulance. When he returned from France in 1919, he moved back to Kansas City to pursue a career as a newspaper artist.

His brother, Roy Disney, got him a job at Pesmen-Rubin Art studio. From there, he worked at the Kansas City Film Ad Company. During his job making commercials, he started experimenting with cameras, doing hand drawn cell animation, and decided to open his own animation business.

Walt and Fred Harman, his first employee, made a deal with a Kansas City Theater to screen their cartoons, Laugh-O-Grams. The cartoons were very popular, so Disney was able to acquire his own studio. After hiring more employees, they made a series of seven-minute fairy tales which combined action and cartoon called Alice in Cartoon land.

In 1923, the company was burdened with debt and was forced to shut down from bankruptcy. Walt and Roy pooled their money and relocated to California with one of their old employees and the three began Disney Brothers' Studio. Their first deal was with New York Distributor Margaret Winkler. After that they invented Oswald the Lucky Rabbit.

In 1925, they hired an ink and paint artist named Lillian Bounds, who Walt Disney later married. A few years later, they found out that Winkler and her husband stole the rights to Oswald. So, they produced a new character, Mortimer Mouse but, later they changed his name to Mickey. They made three animated shorts with Mickey in them. The first one was Plane Crazy, second The Galloping Gaucho, and finally, Steam Boat Willie with music and sound.

In 1929, Walt Disney made the Silly Symphonies, with Mickey's friends Minnie, Donald, Goofy, and Pluto. One of the Silly Symphonies was the first in color and one an Oscar. During the Depression Walt made Snow White which earned \$1.499 million, which won an Oscar with seven little ones, representing the dwarves. In the next five years, Walt Disney also made Pinocchio (1940), Fantasia (1940), Dumbo (1941), and Bambi (1942).

During the 1940's, Walt Disney made groups of shorts strung together. In 1950 he made Cinderella, Treasure Island, Alice in Wonderland (1951), Peter Pan (1953), Lady and the Tramp (1955), Sleeping Beauty (1959), and 101 Dalmatians (1961). Walt Disney was one of the first people to use the television by making the Zorro, Davy Crocket series, and the very popular, Mickey Mouse Club. He also had a Sunday night show, Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color. Soon after he produced Mary Poppins (1964), which would be the last major success movie he made himself. Then, Walt Disney made his \$17 million theme park, Disneyland! It opened on July 17, 1955. After a few years, Walt Disney started a new theme park in Florida. During its construction, Walt was diagnosed with lung cancer. He died on December 15, 1966. His memory still lives on through his theme parks and over 600 movies!



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Poetry Pot

Classic Car

When I see an old car cross the street, I wish I could be in its seat. As I see it zoom away, I hope to own one someday. I'd own a piece of history in which I would take pride. I would take it on drives of leisure while listening to fifties on five. And that's what I think when an old car crosses the street.

Fifties Acrostic

Fun
Interesting
Fabulous
Timeless
I wish I lived then
Energetic
Super

Dress with "Bop"!

*LINDY BOP
CLOTHING*

*BORED WITH YOUR
DULL CLOTHES? ADD
SOME COLOR WITH
LINDY BOP!
YOU'LL WANT TO
BOP AROUND WITH
HAPPINESS!*

*ORDER NOW TO GET
A TWO FOR ONE
OFFER NOW!*

Destination Review: Step Back in Time while You Dine!

Portillo's is the greatest restaurant in Chicago. Going to Portillo's is like going back in time. Inside, there are lots of different old advertisements, neon signs, toys and more! The first Portillo's was just a hot dog stand known as "The Dog House". It was opened in 1963 by Dick Portillo. The Dog House became so successful that, in 1967, it moved into a larger building and changed its name to what we know today as "Portillo's". 16 years later they added a drive thru which made them known for their speedy service. Today there are several Portillo's around Chicago themed for different eras. The Portillo's in Schaumburg represents the '50's and '60's. Enjoy checker board floors and music memorabilia.

McKenna Ferguson, a reader of "Fun in the Fifties" and a former Chicagoan says, "It feels like home when you step inside. Every time I go, I order their classic hot dog with everything on it, French fries with cheese, and a refreshing chocolate milkshake." Out of all the places to eat in Chicago, nothing beats Portillo's.



Dixie Stampede (Short Story)

It started as an ordinary day in our trip to the Smoky mountains. "Rise and shine!" I said cheerily. We were going on an early morning hike. If we are late we'll miss out on the Bears, and I definitely don't want that to happen. "You're all sleeping like bears in hibernation," my twin brother Andy joked. "Don't worry Aurora and Andy. "We have plenty of time," mom said as she made the bed. Ten minutes later we were finally off to hopefully see some bears. Andy and I looked at a book about bears as we drove up the curvy dirt road to the hiking trail. I looked up and saw my little sister Annie looking intently out the window. "What are you doing?" I questioned. "I'm trying to count all the trees but I keep losing count." I was about to tell her it was impossible when Dad interrupted me. "We're here. Remember to stick together." Andy and I dashed out of the car. Birds were chirping all around. We started climbing the trail. We saw all sorts of animals but no bears. "I'm going to collapse of exhaustion!" Annie cried. "It is getting late. Let's go back to the hotel and wash up. After that, we're going to the Dixie stampede!" our mom said. We started cheering, "I love horses! Every Monday, I take riding lessons with Andy. We've even been in horse shows and contests." We drive back to the hotel while enjoying the scenery.

I washed up quickly then changed into my cowgirl boots, jeans, and cowgirl hat. "You look like you could be in the Dixie stampede!" Mom laughed. "Andy is dressing like a cowboy, too." I said just as Andy came out of the bathroom. He flung the door open like he was in a western movie. "Suddenly, I feel underdressed. Anybody have an extra hat I can borrow?" he joked.

On the way to the Dixie Stampede, we sang "Davey Crocket". We went in and got our seats. The Dixie Stampede was great, but half way through an announcer said "I regret to inform you that due to the fact that two of our riders have fell ill, we cannot continue with our show." The audience gasped. Little kids started crying. "We can fill in for them!" I shouted, standing up with Andy. "That's very sweet but we couldn't possibly let two children do professional riding," He exclaimed. "We have done lots of horse shows and contests. I think we can do it. Please?" I begged and begged. He finally let us- mostly because the audience was booing him for not letting us help. He made us sign a bunch of papers. We saddled our horses and road out into the arena. The other riders were so nice to us and we had so much fun. I was so sad when it was over, but I'll never forget that day.



*Look out here comes a
heat wave it's a good
thing you use*

BURMA SHAVE

Senryu

Walking in Disney

Saw an old man dancing

In sparkly green shorts.

Chocolate Milkshake

1. In blender grind $\frac{1}{2}$ a cup of malt balls
2. Add 2 cups of chocolate malt frozen custard
3. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{2}{3}$ cups of milk
4. If desired add 2 tablespoons of chocolate syrup.
5. Drink up!



Reflections of the Fifties:

Maryellen Larkin, American girl doll

Maryellen (nicknamed Ellie) is the 14th of the historical American girl dolls and from the 1950's. She's fun energetic, and often tries to stand out in the crowd, but feels she gets stuck in her big family. She is full of big ideas, but often gets in trouble because of them. She has a great imagination which she uses for drawing and imagining herself as famous movie stars such as her favorite actor Debby Reynolds. She's a tom boy, a fast runner, and a good swimmer despite her having polio when she was seven which left her with a weak leg. I think American girl did a great job making her have so much personality.

Poetic Peek....into a Future Issue!

The Benedict Society

There is a Benedict Society,
Whose mysteries surprise me.
With their dangerous escapades
I wonder how,
They'll get away

