



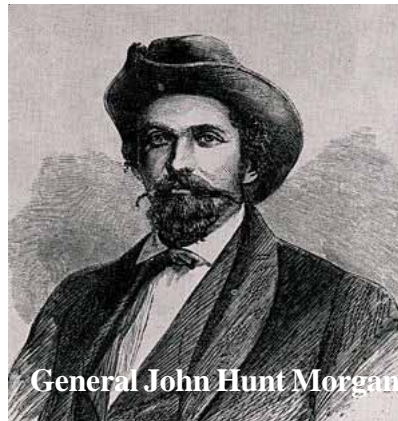
A look back at Blue Ash History...

Modern historians have listed Morgan's Indiana-Ohio raid as among the top 20 in world history. Though the raid did not affect the outcome of the Civil War, it set a significant precedent. The German Blitzkrieg of World War II and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 extrapolated from the "lightning war" tactics of John Hunt Morgan.

The Hunt House is part of the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail. The trail generally follows the path of Confederate Brigadier-General John Hunt Morgan's 1863 Indiana-Ohio Raid, also known as the Great Raid or Ohio Raid.

In 1863, the home and nearby barn, along with others in Blue Ash, were raided by members of Morgan's army. In the early morning hours of July 14, 1863, the Hunt family lost some of their horses to Morgan's troops who were foraging for food and fresh horses. When Morgan's Raiders came through Hamilton County, young Wilson Hunt, about 10 years old, was standing in an upstairs window of the house and watched as the raiders took horses from their barn. According to family stories, Wilson asked his father what he was going to do about it. "There's not much that I can do. You can't stop an army," responded John Craig Hunt. The Hunts lost ten horses to the raiders during that infamous raid.

Morgan's Raid was historically significant since it was the longest non-stop cavalry march in American military history - 85 miles in 35 hours, from Sunman, Indiana to Williamsburg, Ohio - and it also represented the raid which came the farthest north in the country by Confederate forces.



General John Hunt Morgan

The biggest impact on Ohio at the time was the realization that they were truly unprepared for the war to be in their own "backyard". They had felt secure by the distance from the south and had not put much effort into preparations for defense. The fact that Morgan was able to almost traverse the whole state, from Harrison in the west to West Point in the east (only about 10 miles from Virginia (WV) and Pennsylvania, with little or no resistance is testimony to this fact

"The raid of the rebel Morgan into Indiana, which he seems to be pursuing with great boldness, has thoroughly aroused the people of that State and of Ohio to a sense of their danger. On July 13th General Burnside declared martial law in Cincinnati, and in Covington and Newport on the Kentucky side. All business is suspended until further orders, and all citizens are required to organize in accordance with the direction of the State and municipal authorities. There is nothing definite as to Morgan's whereabouts; but it is supposed that he will endeavor to move around the city of Cincinnati and cross the river between there and Maysville. The militia is concentrating, in obedience to the order of Governor Tod."

—Harper's Weekly, July 25, 1863



Fireworks, food, and family: A festive Fourth of July celebration is a sure sign that summer has arrived, but the holiday isn't just about hot dogs and sparklers. There's much more to our country's long and complicated history that can't be summed up by a fireworks show (although celebrating Independence Day with fireworks was originally John Adams' idea). This year, brush up on the history of the Fourth of July with these fun facts:

1. The Declaration of Independence wasn't actually signed in July. Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, but it actually wasn't signed until almost a month later. When the declaration was officially approved on July 4, John Hancock and Charles Thompson (president and secretary of the Continental Congress) signed the draft that day. But the official copy wasn't signed by all 56 signers until August 2, 1776.



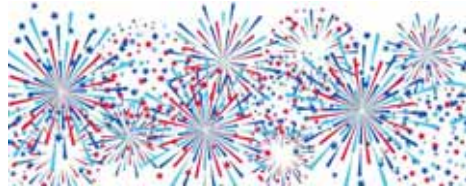
2. Fireworks were John Adams' idea. When Adams wrote a letter predicting an annual Fourth of July celebration, he specifically called out one iconic tradition: fireworks. He wrote that the holiday would be celebrated "with illuminations from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward, forevermore." And judging by the amount of fireworks purchased each year he was correct.



3. According to the American Pyrotechnics Association, Americans spend \$1 billion on fireworks each July. That's a lot of bottle rockets and sparklers! The APA estimates that price adds up to about 268 million pounds of fireworks sold each year.



4. According to Forbes, 155 million hot dogs are consumed each Independence Day, setting Americans back \$104.7 million for the dogs and another \$70.4 million for the buns. If you're grilling up hot dogs this Fourth of July, you're in good company.



5. George Washington celebrated the holiday with rum. While many people enjoy a red, white, and blue cocktail on the Fourth of July, George Washington may have been the first to start the tradition. On the second anniversary of the first Fourth of July, America was still fighting for independence in the Revolutionary War. George Washington ordered a double ration of rum for his soldiers (along with an artillery salute) to celebrate the holiday on July 4, 1778.



6. One President was born on July 4. Calvin Coolidge was the first (and so far, the only) president to have been born on the Fourth of July. He was born on July 4, 1872, in Plymouth, Vermont, and went on to become president in 1923.



7. Three presidents have died on July 4. While only one president has been born on Independence Day, three have died on the holiday. Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson actually died on the same day, on July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the Fourth of July. Later, President James Monroe died on July 4, 1831.



Continued on page 3

8. The first person to sign the Declaration of Independence was never president.

John Hancock famously was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence (that's where the phrase 'put your John Hancock here' originates), so many people falsely assume he became president at some point. Although he was president of the Continental Congress, John Hancock never became president of the United States.



9. Apple pie is considered the most American dessert. When the colonists first came to America, they were looking for ways to distance themselves from Britain. They ditched their traditional scones and cakes and learned how to make a flaky pastry crust from Dutch immigrants who had also come to America. Since apples were easy to come by, they filled the pastries with apple slices and the tradition of apple pie (and independence) was born.



10. The Fourth of July wasn't a federal holiday until 1870, although the holiday has been celebrated each year since 1776. It wasn't until after the War of 1812 (when the U.S. faced Great Britain again and patriotic sentiments were at an all-time high), that the Fourth of July became an even larger celebration than before. Because of this, Congress declared it an official holiday in 1870, and in 1941, made the day a paid holiday for all federal employees.



11. The White House held its first Fourth of July party in 1801. Each Fourth of July, a televised concert and fireworks show is presented from the National Mall in Washington D.C., but it wasn't always celebrated this way. President Thomas Jefferson held the White House's first Fourth of July celebration in 1801, starting the annual tradition.

12. Massachusetts was the first state to declare July 4 an official holiday. Although the holiday wasn't made an official nation-wide holiday until 1870, the state of Massachusetts has recognized the holiday since 1781. Several months before America won the Revolutionary War, Massachusetts declared the Fourth of July an official state holiday.



13. 'The Star Spangled Banner' didn't become the national anthem for more than 100 years. Francis Scott Key wrote The Star Spangled Banner on September 14, 1814, as he watched British troops take over fort Fort McHenry during the war of 1812—but the song didn't become the national anthem until more than a hundred years later in 1931. Now, it's tradition for the national anthem to be played before all Fourth of July shows and celebrations and most sporting events.



14. There were only 2.5 million “original” United States citizens. Today, the United States has a population of more than 332.5 million, but on July 4, 1776, there were only 2.5 million people living in the United States. That means the population has grown by 13,200% since the first Independence Day.

*Source: www.bhg.com/holidays/July-4th/traditions
April 14, 2021*

A vibrant graphic of colorful fireworks exploding in the night sky, with stars and trails of light in red, blue, yellow, and green.

The City of Blue Ash announces the return of Red, White, Blue Ash - as a fireworks only event. Visit www.blueash.com, Events page, for up-to-the minute details!

As you prepare for your Fourth of July picnic, consider these recipes that were popular with both northern and southern soldiers because it was food they could prepare and eat on the run and required little or no cooking skills:



Battlefield Cornbread - Mix cornmeal with enough pork fat to make a stiff batter. Spin your bayonet until it is coated, then hold over the fire to cook the bread.

Indian Sagamite - Three parts cornmeal with one part brown sugar, browned in a skillet. In small amounts, it allays hunger and thirst, making it a good food for scouts.

Coffee Substitute - Wash ripe acorns in the shell, dry them, and parch them until open. Take the shell off and roast the nuts with a little bacon fat and you'll have a "splendid cup of coffee." Chicory was also used, and chicory coffee remains a southern thing.

Plain Irish Stew (feeds 50) - Cut 50 pounds of mutton into 1/4-pound chunks. Put them in a pot and add 12 pounds of whole potatoes along with 8 tablespoons of salt and 3 tablespoons pepper. Cover with water, about a half-pint to each pound of meat. Light the fire and simmer, 1 1/2 hours of "gentle ebulation".



Hard Tack - Dissolve 1 1/2 tablespoons salt in 1 cup water. Mix into 5 cups flour. Knead into a dough and roll out to 1/3-inch thickness. Cut into 3-inch squares and pierce each with a fork or whatever is available. Cook on low temperature to prevent burning for at least 4 hours, turning over halfway through.



Johnnycakes - Bring 2 cups water to boil, slowly add 1 cup cornmeal. Cook for 5 minutes, then add 1 teaspoon salt, 1 tablespoon sugar, and 1 tablespoon lard. Place a 3-oz. scoop into a hot skillet greased with 1 tablespoon bacon fat, cook for 5 minutes on each side or until each side is lightly browned.

Confederate Biscuits - Stir together 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1/4 teaspoon baking soda, and 1 teaspoon salt. Cut in 6 tablespoons lard until mixture is consistency of meal. Stir in 2/3 cup buttermilk. Form into a ball, place on floured surface and knead a few times. Pat out until about 1/2-inch thick. Cut with a cup, tin, or biscuit cutter and place on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake over hot fire or 450 degree oven for 8-10 minutes.

Source: survivopedia.com/topcivilwarsurvivalfoods