

A Granada Welcome to

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The beginning of this tradition was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the new year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian Calendar was introduced, and New Year's Day was moved to January 1.

However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others, the more obstinate crowd, refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the new year on April 1. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fools errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes.

This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank-playing on the first day of April. The tradition eventually spread to England and Scotland in the eighteenth century. It was later introduced to the American colonies of both the English and French. April Fool's Day thus developed into an international fun fest, so to speak, with different nationalities specializing in their own brand of humor at the expense of their friends and families.

In Scotland, for example, April Fool's Day is actually celebrated for two days. The second day is devoted to pranks involving the posterior region of the body. It is called Taily Day. The origin of the "kick me" sign can be traced to this observance.

Mexico's counterpart of April Fool's Day is actually observed on December 28. Originally, the day was a sad remembrance of the slaughter of the innocent children by King Herod. It eventually evolved into a lighter commemoration involving pranks and trickery.

Pranks performed on April Fool's Day range from the simple, (such as saying, "Your shoe's untied!"), to the elaborate. Setting a roommate's alarm clock back an hour is a common gag. Whatever the prank, the trickster usually ends it by yelling to his victim, "April Fool!"

Practical jokes are a common practice on April Fool's Day. Sometimes, elaborate practical jokes are played on friends or relatives that last the entire day. The news media even gets involved. For instance, a British short film once shown on April Fool's Day was a fairly detailed documentary about "spaghetti farmers" and how they harvest their crop from the spaghetti trees.

April Fool's Day is a "for-fun-only" observance. Nobody is expected to buy gifts or to take their "significant other" out to eat in a fancy restaurant. Nobody gets off work or school. It's simply a fun little holiday, but a holiday on which one must remain forever vigilantespecially in the Granada, for you may be the next April Fool! Ed.

Saint Patrick's Day

The dancers in the Granada came from The Kennelly School of Irish Dance to perform for us *prior* to performance at Harrington's, San Francisco's "it" spot for Patty's Day.

For more info:
www.kennellyschool.com

After more than a few Irish Coffees, these dancing delights came into our lives at the Granada lounge with their jigs and reels.

Female Veterans of the Granada

by Laura Neustedter

Originally from Kentucky, Cynthia Barger enlisted in the United States Army to serve our country from 1982-1984. Having a difficult childhood, including losing her Mom to cancer at age 14, Cynthia was forced to become an adult at a very young age. As the oldest of four girls, she automatically was thrust into a parental role as she took care of her three younger sisters. When Cynthia joined the army, she “needed to get away.” But what a noble choice she made.

Cynthia made the decision to enlist because she believes, “What we enjoy in this country by virtue of being American, we need to protect.” Candidly speaking, Cynthia admits to having been shocked when she was accepted into the Army. At age 12, in a bicycle accident, she suffered a major skull fracture and thought for sure the injury would prevent her from being able to enlist. However, Cynthia’s strong will and positive attitude endured and carried her through.

Cynthia’s military service took her from Kentucky, to Georgia, Alabama, Maryland, and finally to Monterey and the Pacific Ocean. This is when Cynthia knew she would, from that point forward, remain a Californian because Cynthia fell in love with the Pacific Ocean.

With such a beautiful post, who could blame Cynthia for choosing to remain in California for her service with the Army and after as well?



Sunrise at Fort Ord, Monterey Bay, CA

Even the rifle range at Ford Ord offered exquisite, breathtaking views.

After boot camp and her initial training, Cynthia became a multi-channel communications equipment operator. Unfortunately, her military service ended abruptly when her grandmother passed away. Cynthia once again was thrust into a guardian role for her younger sisters since she no longer had a grandmother to be the fill-in mother needed.

Amazingly, through all the adversity Cynthia faced through childhood and as a young adult, she remains remarkably good natured. “You learn to remember things that are positive, instead of dwelling on the negative—then you move on.” So much wisdom Cynthia is able to convey in just a few words... we are fortunate to have her here at the Granada

April Birthdays

RESIDENTS

- 3 William Minnis
- 6 Sonia Yick
- 9 John M Casey
- 11 Denny Ziegler
- 16 Jay Adams
- 18 Theodore Waite
- 20 Beatrice Degliantoni
- 20 Dave Ryan
- 22 Donald Travis
- 22 Tom Hester
- 22 Charles Laurin
- 23 Robert Camp
- 23 James Beaty
- 26 Stuart Goldman
- 26 Dick Buelow

EMPLOYEES

- 8 Veronica Delgado
- 10 Ronaldo Linis
- 15 Frank Mitchell
- 19 Dan Lovett
- 22 Rey David Castaneda
- 25 Lorin Bagley

There stands Mary Finnigan, one of the Granada's finest, Irish in name but everyone knows Mary is British, hence with the lion, captured on the Legion of Honor Tour, hail Britannia, now that Pat's passed.

Helen the Granada Hair Stylist

Now taking appointments

For the Granada Beauty Salon.

Please call Helen at 921.8402

Are you ready for spring? It's nice to be spoiled even though it is just climate; best in the nation. Saint Patrick's Day with the Kennelly Irish Dancers in the Granada lounge turned out very well as did the 60 Jameson Irish Coffees. This month we will have the Granada Passover Dinner and a special Easter Dinner, get ready everything is about to bloom. Magical Mystery Tour, can someone tell me what this is? I heard rumors of dim sum from Chinatown, home brewed beer at Sunset beach plus snacking under the Golden Gate bridge in a private cable car, why do I always miss out, good that you don't have to with Kevin taking you on two Granada tours a month to keep you active. April means baseball and we are going to AT&T Park again this year so stay tuned. Go Giants! Opening day April 7th against the Brewers catch it in the Granada TV lounge. Remember, my door is always open.

Thanks

Tony Davidauskis, manager

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**Return Services
Requested**

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Kevin B. McGlynn, editor

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