



## **ROTARY O'PINION**

Monday, May 22, 2017

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** We'll hear from returned Outbound student Margaret Sager who spent a year in Brazil.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Michelle Redman, Shane Sattler, Penny Vizina, Ken Wilcox May 22, Stephen Smith, May 23, Kerri Kuhn, May 27, Scott Limberg, May 28, Kim Westphal, May 31.

**STUDENT ROTARIANS:** Last day for Mark Kubista, Tommy Pfeifer, Herbert Rand and Elliot Rysavy

**IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS:** Jeff (South Africa) and Leticia (Brazil)

### **ROTARY NOTES**

Memorial Day is this next Monday. Here are some interesting bits of wartime history. This ringside seat to history I am writing especially for ROTARIANS:

1. The first German serviceman killed in WWII was killed by the Japanese (China, 1937): The first American serviceman was killed by the Russians (Finland, 1940). The highest ranking American killed was Lt. Gen. Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps.
2. The youngest U.S. serviceman was 12 years old: Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by Congress.
3. At the time of Pearl Harbor, the top command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'); The shoulder patch of the US Army's 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry division was the swastika. Hitler's private train was named 'Amerika'. All three were soon changed for PR purposes.
4. More US servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, an airman's chance of being killed was 71 percent.
5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.
6. When allied armies reached the Rhine, the first thing men did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who had himself photographed in the act).
7. German ME-264 bombers were capable of bombing New York City, but they decided it wasn't worth the effort.
8. German submarine U-120 was sunk by a malfunctioning toilet
9. Among the first 'Germans' captured at Normandy were several Koreans. They had been forced to fight for the Japanese Army until they were captured by the Russians and forced to fight for the Russian Army until they were captured by the Germans and forced to fight for the German Army until they were captured by the US Army.
10. The last Marine killed in WW II was killed by a can of Spam. He was on the ground as a POW in Japan when rescue flights dropping food and supplies came over, the package came apart in the air and a stray can of Spam hit and killed him.

### **MORE WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU GREW UP IN MINNESOTA**

\*You, or someone you know, was the Beef Queen or Dairy Princess at the county fair.

\*You know that 'combine' is a noun.

\*You let your older siblings talk you into putting your tongue on a steel post in the middle of winter.

\*Football schedules, branding calves and weaning, hunting season and harvest are all taken into consideration before wedding dates are set.

\*A Friday night date is getting a six-pack and taking our girlfriend shining for deer.

\*Cruising 'Main' lasts for six blocks.

NO MEETING NEXT WEEK...HAVE AN ENJOYABLE MEMORIAL DAY!