

PERSPECTIVES OF THE DAY

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

NATIONAL DAY

National Poinsettia Day

December 12th is National Poinsettia Day! This was first declared a National

and tells her to give any gift with love. The little girl gathered weeds

WHAT DID THE WISE MEN
SAY AFTER THEY OFFERED UP
THEIR GIFTS OF GOLD AND
FRANKINCENSE?
WAIT THERE'S MYRRH!

Day back in the 16th century, and there is a legendary story connected to it. According to the story, a poor girl feared she would have no gift to give to Jesus to celebrate his birthday. An angel appears to her

from alongside the road on her way to the barn. She placed them next to the manger and they miraculously bloomed into beautiful red stars.



TODAY IN HISTORY

- IN 1925, THE FIRST US MOTEL OPENS IN CALIFORNIA
- IN 1972, THE POSIEDON ADVENTURE PREMIERS.
- IN 1983, CABBAGE PATCH KIDS DOLLS ARE FEATURED ON THE COVER OF NEWSWEEK.
- IN 1985, REAGAN SIGNS BILL TO FIX THE FEDERAL DEFICIT.
- IN 2003, KEIKO THE ORCA DIES OF PNEMONIA AFTER BEING RELEASED BACK INTO THE WILD.

The poinsettia initially came to the United States in 1825, when an American botanist, Joel Roberts Poinsett, sent clippings back to his home in South Carolina. It wasn't until the early 1920s that the pretty Christmas plant really took root in American culture. A farmer in California, Paul Ecke, discovered a grafting technique that caused the seedlings to branch

creating a fuller plant. They began selling them at their roadside stands and the popularity took off.

In 2002, the House of Representatives created Poinsettia Day to honor the death of Poinsett but also Paul Ecke and his evolution and popularization for the seasonal plant.

Poinsettias are pretty plants that you can keep outside of Christmas,

even though it is quite finicky. They come in a wide array of colors, not just red. They can come in white, orange, purple, pink, salmon, and yellow.

Celebrate today by getting some special potted poinsettias, donating to a local church, or sending out some special surprises to loved ones.

'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

-Matthew 22:36-38

Interesting Fact

December 12th is Gingerbread House Day! Gingerbread was a favorite treat for Gregory of Nicopolis, an Armenian monk. He brought the recipe to Europe around 992 AD and taught French Christians to bake it. It was used in many religious ceremonies and monks would use the sturdy dough to create likenesses of Saints. The idea of the Gingerbread House comes from the Brother's Grimm fairytale Hansel and Gretel. Once the popularity of the stories took off, German traditions started using the spicy treat to create houses during Christmastime!

Trivia

December 12th is also National Ambrosia Day, Ambrosia is said to be what in Greek Mythology?

- A: Token for passage on the River Styx
- B: Nectar of the Gods
- C: Zeus' weakness
- D: What burned Icarus

Gingerbread House Day

ENBARRGEDGI

EVSOLC

NNCAOMIN

UORMSDGP

LYRAO GIINC

HALSNE DNA EGLRET

CIECORLI

ENPMTPEIPR

ACDNY

OEOTLCACH

Gingerbread House Day

ENBARRGEDGI

GINGERBREAD _____

EVSOLC

CLOVES _____

NNCAOMIN

CINNAMON _____

UORMSDGP

GUMDROPS _____

LYRAO GIINC

ROYAL ICING _____

HALSNE DNA EGLRET

HANSEL AND GRETEL

CIECORLI

LICORICE _____

ENPMTPEIPR

PEPPERMINT _____

ACDNY

CANDY _____

OEOTLCACH

CHOCOLATE _____

