



It's National Hobo Week

During the Great Depression, American hobos depended on communication through their language and signage for their survival. They disclosed information about violent railroad bulls and towns to each other in the rail yards, where they moved between trains, and jungles where they lived while on the road. Hobo communications reveal how they build communities and responded to the dangers of their lives.

The origin of the word, “hobo” is unknown, but most accepted theories date the term to the creation of the railroads and the American Civil War. One argues that veterans, who were “homebound”, abbreviated the word to “hobo”. Another argues that transient laborers who rode the rails often carried garden hoes. Onlookers called them “hoe-boys”, which eventually abbreviated to “hobo”.

Hobos choose to live a migratory lifestyle. They roam from town to town primarily by hopping train cars. They support themselves by working temporary jobs like harvesting crops. In exchange for work, they often receive money, food, or shelter.

Anyone could become a hobo regardless of their background, gender, or race. Women hobos, “Bo-ettes”, often dressed like men and carried weapons while on the road to avoid harassment.

Hobos consider themselves different from “tramps” and “bums”. A tramp is a transient worker who walks or hitchhikes to new locations. They work most of the time for what they receive. A bum is a person that does not travel often and relies on handouts for food and money.

“When it’s cold outdoors, a tramp takes a newspaper and stuffs it down his shirt to stay warm. A hobo does the same thing, but he reads it first. There’s a hierarchy. The difference is in the willingness to work and be self-reliant. Hobos are the elite of society’s basement.” (From *One More Train to Ride* by Clifford Williams, 2003)

Hobos have their own code of ethics and their own signs and symbols that they leave for the next Hobo—some are warnings and some alert them to folks who are helpful. Who knew?

Now on to important stuff...

The Week of August 8-14:

- National Motorcycle Week
- Resurrect Romance Week
- Weird Contest Week
- Safe and Sound Week
- Elvis Week
- National Hobo Week

Some celebrations only last a day.

- 8th-** Bagel Day
Sleep Under the Stars Night
Happiness Happens Day
Fried Chicken & Waffles Day
Wear Your Mother's Jewelry Day
Sneak Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Night
- 9th-** Book Lovers Day
- 10th-** National Shapewear Day
Paul Bunyan Day
S'mores Day
Skyscraper Appreciation Day
- 11th-** Presidential Joke Day
Kinetic Sand Day
- 12th-** IBM PC Day
Milkman Day
Home Sewing Machine Day
International Youth Day
Vinyl Record Day
- 13th-** Blame Someone Else Day
Lefthander's Day
National Prosecco Day
Shop Online for Groceries Day
- 14th-** Free Comic Book Day
Military Marriage Day
Middle Child Day
National Bowling Day
National Garage Sale Day
Navajo Code Talkers Day
World Calligraphy Day

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 😊

Pastor Bill 901-569-1428
Pastor Cassie 678-492-3956
Carol 803-360-7137

WEEKLY GIGGLE



*Remember, God
created laughter.
Enjoy it!*