

Lots of reasons to party in February (02, 02, 13)

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Our ancestors were bored with February. In most places, it was downright chilly. In some places it was freezing cold. And in other places, you would not even venture outside. Of course, nowadays thanks to global warming, as Arctic ice disappears, in a few places such as Greenland, you may now go water-skiing.

If you play the stock market, in February, invest your money in latex, alcohol and flowers. On February 28, place your cash in the money market until I tell you what to purchase for March. No fee for this advice, but if you believe in quid pro quo, send me a few quid when you realize your fortune.



Okay, back to our bored ancestors. Because their lives were so lackluster, they invented holidays wherein one could party from morning to night. None of these holidays were named after Silvio Berlusconi, Italy's former prime minister who at 76 will soon marry a young lady who is a mere 27. The fact that Silvio's net worth is \$5.76 billion has absolutely no bearing on this matter. Silvio is simply a handsome Italian male, and if you have ever seen the movie, Saturday Night Fever, starring John Travolta, well, you will understand.

Our ancestors were indeed bored, but nonetheless, they were creative. The first holiday that they invented was in honour of a squirrel-like rodent. Thus, Saturday February 2 is Groundhog Day. If you can never remember how it works, simply think about sun and shade and then reverse your thinking as to which is more desirable in the winter. Got it? Okay, according to the script, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early; if it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow, and the winter weather will continue for six more weeks. I know. It makes little sense, and when you get right down to it, who cares about what a groundhog thinks? I'd be more inclined to trust an elephant or a dolphin, two creatures that are much sharper than a squirrel-like rodent.

Our next holiday is Sunday February 3, Superbowl Sunday, and this is where your investment in alcohol stock begins to gather some muster. The 47th Super Bowl will take place in New Orleans at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome which leads into our next holiday that also is centred in New Orleans. In fact, if you a resident of New Orleans, your genetic makeup includes, red, puffy eyes, cirrhosis of the liver and an extremely dry mouth. Tuesday, February 12 is Mardi Gras which is French for Fat Tuesday, referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the fasting during Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday which in French is plus soot.

With food and booze abounding in February, our ancestors next turned to sex and Thursday Feb 14, Saint Valentine's Day, when the stock in flowers and latex will really take off. Latex? Yes, Thursday, February 14 is also International Condom Day! In Miami Beach, a biplane towing a 50-foot long ad banner over South Beach in Florida, promoting International Condom Day will kick off a daytime condom giveaway to the brunch crowds gathered along bustling Ocean Drive. How exciting is that! And for those of you who like to interview the aforementioned dolphins or enjoy hunting in the rain, because condoms are waterproof, elastic, and durable, they are also used for non-sexual purposes such as creating waterproof microphones and protecting rifle barrels from clogging.

Monday, February 18 is Presidents Day in honour of Bill Clinton who really knew how to party, even in the confines of his condom-shaped Oval Office!

Last, but not least is Purim on Sunday, Feb. 24, commemorating the deliverance of the Jewish people in the ancient Persian Empire, yet another reason to party in February. Can it get any better in March?

