

# 2012—January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Sosigenes of Alexandria</b> (-10)** <b>1</b></p> <p>Mathematician, astronomer, creator of Julian calendar, With minor variations this became the Clavian calendar.</p>	<p><b>Rudolph Clausius</b> (1822) <b>2</b></p> <p>Physicist: Using inputs from Carnot and others, formulated 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. Probably most fundamental law of nature.</p>	<p><b>Lucia Elizabaeth Vestris</b> (1797) <b>3</b></p> <p>Opera singer, dancer, actress, stage manager, she set new standards in stage decor and costumers.</p>	<p><b>Louis Braille</b> (1809) <b>4</b></p> <p>Developed a system of printing &amp; writing consisting of raised dots, enabling blind people to read. Coding developed by Charled Barbier.</p>	<p><b>Antoine de Chézy</b> (1718)* <b>5</b></p> <p>Engineer, he was the author of the basic forumula for calculating the velocity of a fluid stream.</p>	<p><b>Jacques-Etienner Montgolfier</b> (1746) <b>6</b></p> <p>With brother Joseph-Michel he was a pioneering developer of the hot air balloon, opening way to upper-air exploration.</p>	<p><b>Johann Philipp Reis</b> (1834) <b>7</b></p> <p>The inventor of the telephone. In 1861 he demonstrated a telephone capable of transmitting music.</p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup></b> <b>8</b></p> <p><b>Alfred Russell Wallace</b> (1823)</p> <p>Developed theory of evolution independent of and before Darwin, although not as well illustrated.</p>	<p><b>Friedrich Esmark</b> (1823) <b>9</b></p> <p>Surgeon, noted for introduction of the “band-aid,” &amp; first-aid manuals that were the best in their field.</p>	<p><b>Galina Ulanova</b> (1910) <b>10</b></p> <p>A “prima ballerina assoluta” of Russia, she excelled in classical ballets that displayed her skill as a dancer.</p>	<p><b>Juan Sánchez Coltán</b> (1561)* <b>11</b></p> <p>Considered a pioneer of Baroque realism in Spain, known for his visual harmony and illusion of depth.</p>	<p><b>Luigi Galvani</b> (1717) <b>12</b></p> <p>His investigation of the effects of what he thought was “electricity” in human tissue led to Volta’s development of the battery.</p>	<p><b>Gowin Knight</b> (1713) <b>13</b></p> <p>His work in the field of magnetism led to significant improvements in the magnetic compass.</p>	<p><b>Uvedale Price</b> (1747)* <b>14</b></p> <p>With Gilpin and Knight, he was one of the chief aestheticians of the Picturesque movement in landsaping.</p>
<p><b>Isaac Avicenna</b> (980)** <b>15</b></p> <p>His “Book of Healing” &amp; “Canon of Medicine” are a vast encyclopedia of medical knowledge, &amp; among the most famous books in medicine.</p>	<p><b>Johannes Schöner</b> (1447) <b>16</b></p> <p>In 1515 he is the first to construct a globe showing the Americas, although Martin Behaim will make the first globe of the earth in 1492.</p>	<p><b>Antonio del Pollaiuolo</b> (1432) <b>17</b></p> <p>Sculptor, painter, engraver who produced a myriad of works having major influence on Florentine art.</p>	<p><b>Leonhard Fuchs</b> (1501) <b>18</b></p> <p>Botanist, noted for fuschia, named after him. He described more than 400 plants, including peppers, pumpkins &amp; maize from the New World.</p>	<p><b>William Keen</b> (1837) <b>19</b></p> <p>One of the first surgeons to successfully remove a brain tumor (1888). tapped lateral ventricles of the brain to reduce intracranial pressure.</p>	<p><b>Ruth Saint-Dennis</b> (1877) <b>20</b></p> <p>Choreograher, dance innovator who influenced almost every aspect of American dance, particularly through Denishawn School.</p>	<p><b>Joseph Justis Scaliger</b> (1540)* <b>21</b></p> <p>Comparing time computations for various civilizations, he corrected errors &amp; for first time placed historical chronology on a firm footing.</p>
<p><b>Thales of Meletus</b> (-636) <b>22</b></p> <p>Noted for predicting the solar eclipse of -585/5/28, but none of his writings seem to have survived.</p>	<p><b>Francois Monsart</b> (1598) <b>23</b></p> <p>One of the most brilliant architects of his generation, he played a leading role in shaping French Baroque architecture.</p>	<p><b>John Vanbrugh</b> (1664) <b>24</b></p> <p>Dramatist/Architect: “The Relapse” (1696) was highly successful. Architectural work culminated in Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire.</p>	<p><b>Robert Boyle</b> (1627) <b>25</b></p> <p>Noted for pioneering work in the property of gases. Corpuscular view of matter was forerunner of modern theory of chemical elements.</p>	<p><b>Henry Briggs</b> (1561)* <b>26</b></p> <p>Invented “common” logarithms, instrumental in easing calculation burden on astronomers &amp; other using long, tedious calculations.</p>	<p><b>Carlo Maderno</b> (1556) <b>27</b></p> <p>Leading Roman architect of 17th century, his work foreshadowed the style of early Baroque architecture.</p>	<p><b>Giovani Borelli</b> (1608) <b>28</b></p> <p>First to explain muscular movement &amp; other body functions according to the laws of statics and dynamics.</p>
<p><b>Thomas Paine</b> (1737) <b>29</b></p> <p>Author of <i>Common Sense</i>, father of the American revolution. His <i>The Age of Reason</i> is one of the most important books written on religion.</p>	<p><b>Carlo Maderno</b> (1556) <b>30</b></p> <p>Leading Roman architect of 17th century, his work foreshadowed the style of early Baroque architecture.</p>	<p><b>Andre Garnerin</b> (1769) <b>31</b></p> <p>Created first successful parachute, parachuting from a hydrogen-filled balloon on October 22, 1797.</p>	<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>

\* Exact birth month & day unknown; month & day of death used with actual year of death.

\*\* Month, perhaps not even year of birth is known for sure, thus an arbitrary birth date has been chosen.