

611 Druid Road East, Suite 712 • Clearwater, FL 33756

Celebration for Dad or for the Merchant?

By Walt Shurden

I have always taken for granted the fact that Father's Day is celebrated. Being a good father is arguably the most important job that a man who has children can have, so why not say thanks once a year. It sure works for me.

But before Father's Day was a federal holiday, it was very controversial. While Mother's Day was widely accepted, the general public, as well as fathers themselves, was not in favor of a day to recognize fathers.

On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the first event specifically to honor fathers. The Sunday sermon on that day focused on the memory of 362 men who had died the previous year in explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines. It was a onetime event, but it was the start. The following year, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, started a decades-long effort to establish a yearly celebration in honor of fathers. The dedication and love of her father, a Civil War veteran, who single-handedly raised six children after his wife died in child birth, was the catalyst for her campaign. Because of her persistence with church and civic organizations, Washington State celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day in 1910.

President Woodrow Wilson encouraged Father's Day observation in 1916 as did President Calvin Coolidge in 1924 stating it would "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations."



Fathers were not buying in! One historian stated that men "scoffed at the holiday's sentimental attempts to domesticate manliness with flowers and gift-giving, or they derided the proliferation of such holidays as a commercial gimmick to sell more product – often paid for by the father himself."

During the 1920s and 30s there was a big push to get rid of Mother's Day and Father's Day and have a "Parents' Day." The idea might have succeeded if not for the redoubled effort of retailers during the Depression. They started promoting typical Father's Day gifts such as neckties, hats, pipes & tobacco, golf *Continued on page 2*

Our Goal

To provide exceptional legal service to our clients.

Celebration for Dad or for the Merchant?... (Continued from page 1)

clubs and other sporting goods. When World War II began, advertisers argued that celebrating Father's Day was a way to honor American troops and support the war effort. By the end of the war, Father's Day was a national institution. Father's Day is now celebrated around the world with Americans alone spending more than \$1 billion each year on gifts and cards.

We are all over Father's Day at my house. The most hilarious and unique gift that I received this year was a video made by my children called "Dadisms". It's a series of video skits where my kids pretend to be me while doing or saying something silly or strange that (they think) I do. My sister, who organized the project, said the kids were dying laughing after each take.

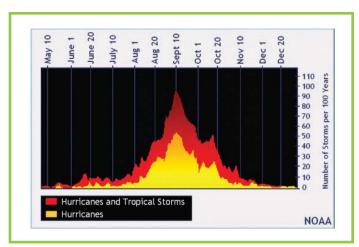
Thanks to my own father for his love and hard work supporting and raising me and my two older sisters. This year, for Father's Day, he sent me a package of Omaha Steaks about a month early! So I went online and sent him a package right back. Happy Father's Day, Dad. Good idea on the gift.



We have received two requests for a book in our 2016 Summer Book Giveaway. Our client, Wayne Ayers, has selected <u>Moreau De St. Mery's American</u> Journey 1793-1798, Translated and Edited by Anna Roberts and Kenneth Roberts. And Nicole Kerr has received <u>Sir Gawain & the Green Knight</u> (in original and modern English side by side).

We are still waiting to hear from YOU. What book would you like us to buy for you to read in your leisure time this summer? Call the office to let us know.

Peak Hurricane Season



The National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration is always giving us information to help us to be aware of and prepared for Hurricanes. This graph shows us that in the last 100 years, by far the most hurricanes and tropical storms have occurred in September.

Summer is here – AHHHH...

Try not to concentrate on the Florida heat and humidity. Think of the great things about summer:

• The longest day – Summer solstice – the date changes a little every year. This year it is on June 20th. Kids are confused about how a day can be longer than 24 hours. Actually, it is just the longest period of sunlight between sunrise and sunset, approximately 17 hours of light;

- Independence Day Picnics, family, fireworks, and of course, a day off from work;
- School vacation so the grandkids can come from out of town to visit; and
- Afternoon showers Without the afternoon showers we would not get those great billowy clouds and beautiful sunsets.

Grouper fishing season opened on June 1st. When you catch that good one here is a great, easy recipe to try.



Grilled Grouper Tangerine

Ingredients:

- 4 (6 ounce) grouper fillets
- 2 tangerines, juiced and zested
- 2 Tbsp dry white wine
- 3 Tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp fresh rosemary
- ¹/₂ tsp fresh thyme
- ¹/₄ tsp black pepper
- Vegetable cooking spray
- Fresh herbs and tangerine slices for garnish

Directions

- 1. Place fillets in shallow dish.
- 2. Combine zest with tangerine juice, olive oil, white wine, herbs, and black pepper and mix well.
- Pour marinade over fish and marinate for 1 2 hours in refrigerator.
- 4. Coat grill with vegetable spray and preheat to medium-high.
- 5. Grill fillets for 4 5 minutes on each side until meat flakes easily.
- 6. Garnish with herbs and tangerine slices and serve.

This Month's Spotlight

Elaine Fennelon and Katie

Elaine and Katie have been volunteers at Stratford Court Rehab and Nursing Center for over a year.

They became involved after Elaine lived in Stratford Court Independent living for a year to help her through some health concerns.

Katie is a 13 year old Sheltie and has been with Elaine



since she was a puppy. They visit the residents 3 to 4 times a month. When Elaine tells Katie they are going to visit the residents she runs to the door all excited. The residents' faces light up when they see Katie coming.

Elaine, her husband and two young daughters moved to Florida in 1971 from Pennsylvania to escape the harsh weather. She is a retired RN who earned her degree at age 42.

Thank you Elaine, for your service.

New Voice on the Phone

If you called our office this month while Jennifer was on vacation you may have heard a new voice answer, "Attorney Shurden's office, this is Jordan." Jordan Rucker is helping us out part time this summer. She is a full time student at Pasco-Hernando State College majoring in Engineering Technology. Jordan lives with her father and younger brothers in New Port Richey.



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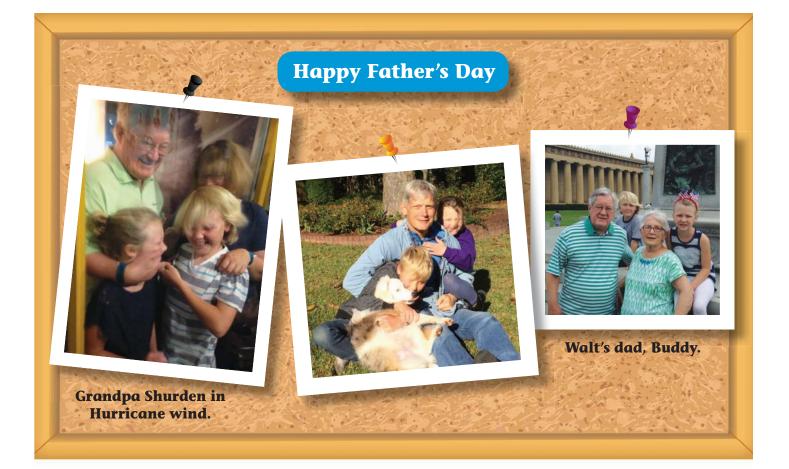
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Legal Term of the Month

Exploitation – The use or manipulation of another person for one's own advantage.

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