

Wildtales Country Journal

by Heather A. Wallis Murphy ©2003



November: From Latin or Roman Calendar the 9th month; the 11th month of the Gregorian Calendar. The month of the North Wind blowing; migration of wild geese and deer; and it seems the birth month of presidents, artists, writers, visionaries and explorers. November's Birth Flower is Chrysanthemum. The Birthstone is TOPAZ. found in Brazil, Siberia, Canada.

November Dates To Celebrate:

- 1st Sade Hawkins Day - All Saints Day;
- 2nd Daniel Boone born 1734;
- 4th Election Day U.S.A. + Will Rogers born 1879;
- 5th Roy Rogers Born 1911;

- 8th Full Moon + Lunar Eclipse;
- 11th Washington Memorial 1829;
- 11th Veteran's Day, Armistice Day 1918;
- 12th Lock Ness Monster photographed 1933;
- 13th Robert Louis Stevenson born 1850;

- 14th Clark Gable born 1894;
- 14th Nellie Bly 1861 begins her around the world in less 80 days;
- 15th Georgia O'Keefe born 1887;
- 16th Skunks Hibernates;

- 19th Leonid Meteor Showers;
- 23rd TOTAL Eclipse of the Sun;
- 25th Andrew Carnegie born 1835;
- 27th Thanksgiving Day;
- 30th Jonathan Swift born 1667 + Mark Twain 1835 + Winston Churchill 1874

Nature Tales:

November is a month of change in the wild world, and in the human world as well. It begins with U.S. voters electing five U.S. presidents were born in November:

- James Aik 2nd Nov 1789;
- Warren Harding 29th Nov 1875;
- James Garfield 19th Nov 1833;
- Franklin Pierce 23rd Nov 1797;
- Richard Taylor 24th Nov 1784;
- Winston Churchill 30th Nov 1874.

The plant world goes dormant as autumn leaves complete their fall, snows come and put the forests and shrublands to sleep. Many birds have migrated south. Elk deer migrate to their winter range - having finished their rut. Bear, squirrel, marmot and bat are hibernating, as are skunks. A unique group undergoes a color change to white. The ermine (short-tail weasel), the snowshoe hare, the ptarmigan all turn pure white to match the snowy landscape they are active in all winter. Matching the white bark of the Aspen - disguised.

John Murphy's Elk - Major Murphy, El Dorado

ELK DEER, MOOSE & CARIBOU antlers also change in the winter months. Antlers are on the male of these species. In the spring, long days trigger secretions in the pituitary gland to spur antler growth. As the antler grows, the outer layer is covered with velvet - blood circulation. Until the fall, when short days trigger decalcification, and velvet sheds when antlers are shed in winter.

MAINTAINING BISON, BISON, MUSKRAE, BIRCHON SHEEP have horns, and both male and female. The bony core is never shed for these species.



Ocean in view! Of the joy.

7th November 1805
William Clark wrote these words when finally sighting the Pacific Ocean after 19,000 miles of travel on the Lewis & Clark expedition.

During the winter months Lewis & Clark cataloged several specimens: "we got a white weasel" Nov 1804
"Nov 2, 1805 Sealion" "a robe made of it"
"Nov 29, 1805 Weasels Common Cases"
"Yakbarve comes in abundance."
"Nov 3, 1805 Foxes & Elk"
"The side of the rocky mountains"

Celebrate the wonders of this world, giving Thanks at the End of November. Thanks too for Home and Heart, Fire, Family and Friends. And don't forget to feed the winter birds.



Steehkin Footfalls

this, the sense of footfalls and memories, long ago chartered by the mountain spirits.

We watch, wait for God's glory dancing over the Steehkin River, revealed through eons of sunset.

The full moon rises over the down stream. All life pauses with the fall of night.

We gaze, seek, read, whisper with the river's chatter, like children's wonder.

Watching, while footfalls pass on by.

— Heather A. Wallis Murphy 1996 © camping with Patrice &

Field Journal Entries - Changes

November 12th 1994
parade snowfalls
Black-capped Chickadee 11
Mountain Chickadee 2
Red-breasted Nuthatch 8
Winter Wren 1
Stellar's Jay 4
Dark-eyed Junco 2
Mule Deer 2 ♀ 1 ♂
Mountain goat 3 ♀ (at Camp Chelan)

November 27th 1994
8" snow on ground
Bald Eagle pair
Great Blue Heron 1
Mourning Dove 3
Black-capped Chickadee
Mountain Chickadee 2
Red-breasted Nuthatch 2
Stellar's Jay 9
Black-billed Magpie 2
Raven 1
Dark-eyed Junco 40
Mule Deer 5

Aspen Stand

