#### **Trivia**

#### did you know that ...

The winter solstice marks the first day of winter and occurs when the sun appears at the lowest point in the sky creating the shortest day and longest night of the year.

No two snow flakes are alike but all snowflakes have 6 sides.

The record for the most snow angels at one time was set in Ontario, Canada in 2004 when a couple of schools joined to create 15,851 snow angels.

Artificial Christmas trees have outsold real ones since 1991.

Antarctica set the record for the world's coldest temperature at -129°F.

The name December comes from the Latin decem for "ten", as it was the 10th month in the Roman Calendar.

Average snowflakes fall at 3.1 mph.

The tallest snowman was 113 feet 7 inches tall. Named Angus and made in Bethel Maine in 1999.

Electric Christmas lights were first used in 1854.

The record for the largest snowfall in a single day was set in the United States on December 4, 1913, when Georgetown, Colorado received a staggering 63 inches of snow – more than five feet.

The popular Christmas song "Jingle Bells" was actually written for Thanksgiving. The song was composed in 1857 by James Pierpont, and was originally called "One Horse Open Sleigh".

December is National Read a Book Month.

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Dixon Valve & Coupling Company 800 High Street, Chestertown, MD 21620

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### Product Spotlight

### **Cam & Groove Fittings** with King Crimp Ferrules or Sleeves



Application: transportation of liquids and dry bulk in

various applications

Sizes: 1" through 6" (style C and E couplings)

Materials: coupling: aluminum, brass, stainless

steel, iron

sleeves and ferrules: carbon steel, stainless

steel

Features: • all fittings are manufactured to interchange with commercial item

A-A-59326D specifications

• castings are precision machined

• wide variety of gaskets available

#### Product Safety

Under no circumstances should Cam and Groove couplings be used for compressed air or steam service. It is not recommended that Dixon component parts be used with other manufacturer's parts.

## Dates in History

1783 On December 23rd, following the signing of the Treaty of Paris, General George Washington resigned as commander in chief of the Continental Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, Virginia.

On December 17th, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first successful flight in history of a self propelled, heavier-than-air aircraft. Orville piloted the gasoline-powered, propeller-driven biplane, which stayed aloft for 12 seconds and covered 120 feet on its inaugural flight.

1914 Just after midnight on December 25th, the majority of German troops engaged in World War I ceased firing their guns and artillery and commenced to sing Christmas carols.

On December 11th, after ruling for less than one year, Edward VIII became the first English monarch to voluntarily abdicate the throne. He chose to abdicate after the British government, public, and the Church of England condemned his decision to marry the American divorcée Wallis Warfield Simpson.

Shortly after 11am on December 1st, 132 feet below the English Channel, workers drilled an opening the size of a car through a wall of rock. This hole connected the two ends of an underwater tunnel linking Great Britain with the European mainland.

# On the Lighter Side

The Lone Ranger and Tonto camped in the desert, set up their tent, and fell asleep. Some hours later, the Lone Ranger wakes his faithful friend. "Tonto, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

Tonto replies, "Me see millions of stars."  $\,$ 

"Tonto, someone has stolen our tent."

"What does that tell you?" asked the Lone Ranger.

Tonto ponders for a minute. "Astronomically speaking, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, it's evident the Lord is all powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What it tell you, Kemo Sabe?"

The Lone Ranger is silent for a moment, then speaks.

A man rushes into the drugstore and asks the pharmacist for something guaranteed to stop hiccups. The pharmacist slowly poured a glass of water and when it was full he picked it up, screamed at the top of his lungs, and threw the water in the man's face.

"Why did you do that?" the man yelled angrily.
"Well you don't have hiccups now do you?" replied the pharmacist.

"NO!" shouted the man. "But my wife in the car still does!"

A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$100 bill in it. Now there are 100 \$1 bills." The boy quickly replied, "That's right lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have change for a reward."



