

# THE MONTHLY GAZETTE

*"The breeze tastes of apple peel. The air is full of smells to feel—ripe fruit, old footballs, burning brush, new books, erasers, chalk, and such."*

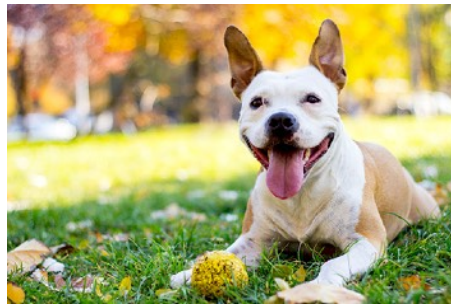
~ John Updike



## Animal of the Month – Dog

Dogs are descended from domesticated wolves. They were domesticated by humans over 15,000 years ago and have become well-suited to living among people. Selective breeding over thousands of years has resulted in a large variety of breeds that have various preferred behaviors, talents, and capabilities.

Dogs come in a range of sizes, shapes, and colors. They specialize in a variety of tasks, such as hunting, herding, safeguarding, therapy, and companionship. Popular breeds include the golden retriever, bulldog, labradoodle, German shepherd, beagle, and pug. Dogs



have an amazing sense of smell that is estimated to be 40 times stronger than ours—their wet noses help maximize this ability. Some dogs can even detect medical issues just by a person's smell. Other dogs are super fast runners or excellent swimmers. Dogs are associated with loyalty, protection, and unconditional love—as well as just being downright adorable.

## Special Days

**Labor Day**  
September 6

**Rosh Hashanah**  
September 6–8

**National Day of Service  
& Remembrance**  
September 11

**Grandparents Day**  
September 12

**Yom Kippur**  
September 15–16

**World Gratitude Day**  
September 21

**First Day of Autumn**  
September 22

## Flower – Aster



September's flower is the late-blooming aster, considered the afterthought of the Roman goddess Flora because it blooms later in the season than most flowers. These mid- to late-summer blooms get their name from aster, the Greek word for "star." There are around 180 species of aster, many found in North America. The flower comes in a variety of colors, including pink, purple, lavender, blue, and red—usually with a yellow center but sometimes centered in black.

## Birthstone – Sapphire



The sapphire is the birthstone for September. This gem is similar to a diamond in that it's one of the hardest materials on Earth. Though sapphire means "blue" in Greek, the gemstone comes in nearly all colors except red. And even the blue stones come in different shades—from dark royal blue to light gray-blue. The finest sapphire, however, is a rich, velvety blue. Per gemstone lore, sapphires contribute to mental clarity and lead to financial success.

## Historic September Events

**Sept. 3, 1783** – Britain and the U.S. sign a peace treaty.

**Sept. 4, 1888** – George Eastman registers the trademark name “Kodak,” marking the age of the first personal cameras using rolls of film instead of photographic plates.



**Sept. 4, 1957** – Ford Motor Co. unveils the Edsel, named after Henry Ford II's late father.

**Sept. 4, 1998** – Graduate students Sergey Brin and Larry Page incorporate Google, the now-giant technology company.

**Sept. 6, 1915** – The first tank, a prototype nicknamed “Little Willie,” rolls off the assembly line in England.

**Sept. 9, 1895** – The American Bowling Congress is formed.

**Sept. 18, 1830** – A famous race takes place between a horse and an 18-mph steam engine. The horse wins.

**Sept. 25, 1882** – First Major League double-header is held.

**Sept. 25, 1981** – Sandra Day O'Connor takes office as the first female justice on the United States Supreme Court.

## Call Me September

According to BabyCenter.com, the name *September* is now the 3,187th most popular baby name. Around 30 babies per million born in 2021 will be named September, up from 21 per million in 2020. Related names that evoke the fall season include Autumn, Sage, Ivy, and Willow.

### September Zodiacs

Virgo (The Virgin)  
September 1–22

Libra (The Scales)  
September 23–30

**September** is the ninth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It gets its name from the Latin word *septimus*, which means “seven,” because it was the seventh month of the year until 45 BC. September is generally considered to be the first month of autumn in the northern hemisphere. In Japan, September is called *kugatsu*, meaning “long moon.” Anglo-Saxons called this time *haligmonath*, which translates to “holy month”—a time to make sacrifices for the harvest.

## Ahoy, Matey!

Calling all buccaneers! Dust off your pirate hats, batten down the hatches, and practice your “Ahoy, me hearties!” What began as a lark—two friends talking to each other in “pirate-speak” during a game of racquetball in 1995—spawned International Talk Like a Pirate Day. The holiday is now celebrated every September 19. Here are a few more phrases to get you started: *Blimey! Fire in the hole! Heave ho! Shiver me timbers!*

## What's Lucky in September?

Lucky Color: Yellow  
Lucky Animal: Tiger  
Lucky Letters: K and S  
Lucky Day: Wednesday  
Lucky Plant: Goldenrod



## September Birthdays

Lily Tomlin (comedian) – September 1, 1939  
Raquel Welch (actress) – September 5, 1940  
Buddy Holly (singer) – September 7, 1936  
Roger Maris (home run hitter) – September 10, 1934  
Jesse Owens (track star) – September 12, 1913  
Mel Tormé (singer) – September 13, 1925  
Agatha Christie (author) – September 15, 1890  
Lauren Bacall (actress) – September 16, 1924  
Anne Bancroft (actress) – September 17, 1931  
Greta Garbo (actress) – September 18, 1905  
Julio Iglesias (singer) – September 23, 1943  
Jim Henson (puppeteer) – September 24, 1936