

# 1908

- First **New Years Eve Ball** dropped in Times Square
- **Phone**...introduced in 1880's...the prediction of a wireless phone which will "usher in a new series of miracles"...**radio** not until 1920's.....**population** 87,000,000...90% of homes with no **electricity**....**50% rural**.... State of Nevada...population 8,000...46 states.....**Marconi's telegraph** a struggling concept....**auto in infancy**
- Founding of USA **Boy Scouts**...first **Mothers Day**...opening of Chicago's Garfield Park Conservatory.....Western cowboy bandits Butch Cassidy & Sun Dance Kid killed in Bolivia...**medical prediction of...human organ transplants**
- **Theodore Roosevelt**...youngest President at age 42 succeeded McKinley .....President 1901-1909....only individual to receive both the Congressional Medal of Honor & Nobel Peace Prize

**Mark Twain** on **Roosevelt**..."in spite of all this he was the most popular human being that has ever existed in the US"

- **New York to Paris Auto Race**...arrived in Chicago 2-25-1908...thru Northern IN.....the American built *Thomas Flyer*...won the race in 169 days...**NY to Chicago...took 13 days**
- **Great White Fleet**.....commissioned by President Roosevelt to sail around the world...15 months...Straits of Magellan...[Panama Canal not open until 1914]....16 battleships painted white....4 Civil War veterans commanded...13,000 sailors
- **Henry Ford**.....total of 200,000 cars in USA at the beginning of year....500 different manufacturers...120,000 horses in New York City.... typical car cost \$2,000 - \$4,000....Ford introduces the **Model T...\$850 sells 100,000...by 1916, ...600,000.... reduced cost to \$360**
- **General Motors** founded
- **Robert Peary**....first to arrive at North Pole 7-5-1908....disputed by historians
- **Wright Brothers** continue to improve flight taking first sustained flights.... also took up the first passenger; the flight crashed & resulted in the first passenger fatality
- **Chicago Cubs**....win World Series....Tinkers to Evers to Chance...you know the rest of the story

*Source: AMERICA 1908...THE MAKING OF A MODERN NATION ...by: Jim Rasenberger*

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