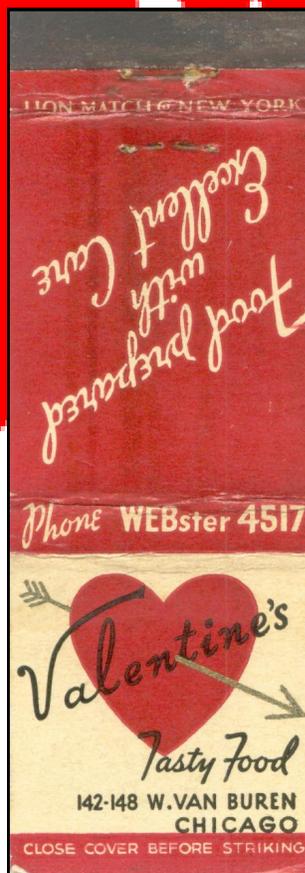
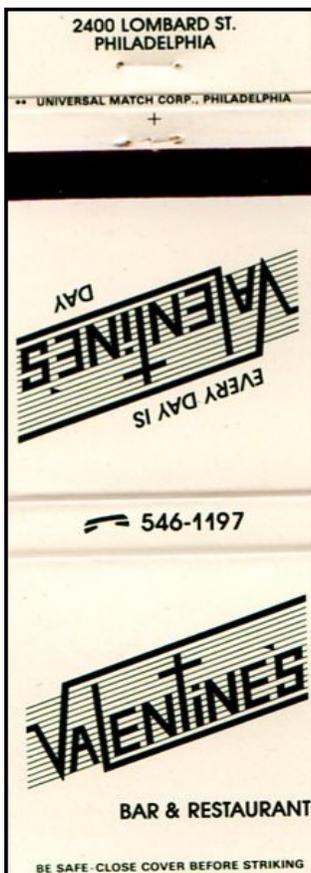


## What You Never Knew About Valentine's!

- The most popular theory about the origin of Valentine's Day is that Emperor Claudius II didn't want Roman men to marry during wartime. Bishop Valentine went against his wishes and performed secret weddings. For this, Valentine was executed, but while in jail he wrote a note to the jailor's daughter, signing it "from your Valentine."
- In Victorian times, it was considered bad luck to sign a Valentine's Day card.
- Based on retail statistics, about 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets.
- App. 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year, making it the second largest seasonal card sending time of the year.
- If you're single, don't despair. You can celebrate Singles Awareness Day (SAD) instead!
- In Finland, Valentine's Day is called "Friend's Day," and is more about remembering friends.
- Many believe the "X" symbol became synonymous with a kiss in Medieval times. People who couldn't write their names signed with an X in front of a witness. The X was then kissed to show their sincerity.
- Girls in Medieval times ate bizarre foods on St. Valentine's Day to make them dream of their future spouses.



- In 1537, England's Henry VII declared Feb 14 as St. Valentine's Day.
- Physicians of the 1800s commonly advised patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for lost loves. *[sounds good to me!]*
- Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800s.
- More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.
- 73% of people who buy flowers for Valentine's Day are men, while 27% are women.
- 15% of women send flowers to themselves on Valentine's Day.
- Over \$1 billion worth of chocolate is purchased for Valentine's Day.
- The red rose was the favorite flower of Venus, the Roman goddess of love.
- Red roses are considered the flower of love because the color red stands for strong romantic feelings.
- 189 million stems of roses are sold in the US on Valentine's Day.
- Women purchase app. 85% of all Valentine's Day gifts.
- Teachers will receive the most Valentine's Day cards, followed by children, mothers, and wives.

