

AMERICA THE GREATEST®

America is the greatest nation in the world because she has allowed her citizens the opportunity to develop their "Potential for Greatness." Citizens such as
GRANDMA MOSES

Born: September 7, 1860 (Virgo)
one of ten children on a farm in
Greenwich, New York.

Died: December 13, 1961

Father: Russell King Robertson, farmer

Mother: Margaret (Shannahan)
Robertson

Accomplishment: American artist.



GRANDMA MOSES

As incredible as it sounds, Grandma Moses began her painting career at age seventy-eight. Anna Mary Robertson Moses was born and raised on a small farm in rural New York State, where she received little formal education.

In 1873, she left home as a "hired girl" to earn her living. In 1887, she married a farmer, Thomas Solomon Moses, and went to Staunton, Virginia; in 1905, she returned to Eagle Bridge, New York, where she spent the rest of her life. Her husband died in 1927, and she and her family continued to work the farm. When she reached her mid-seventies, the farmwork was more than she could handle; she began to fill her idle hours by embroidering. Advancing arthritis stopped her from embroidering, and at age seventy-eight she began painting. Her early paintings were given away or sold locally for small sums of money.

In 1939, Louis Calder, a New York engineer and art collector, spotted four of Grandma Moses' paintings hanging in a drugstore window in Hoosick Falls, New York. He bought them; then went to her home and bought her fifteen remaining paintings. Three of the pictures Calder exhibited in the New York Museum of Modern Art exhibit of "Contemporary Unknown Painters" in October, 1939. They were very well received, and in October, 1940, the prestigious Galerie St. Etienne in New York exhibited thirty-five of her paintings in a one-artist show. The next month she had an exhibit in Gimbel's Department Store. From that point her career took off; she painted over two thousand works, many of which were reproduced on Christmas and greeting cards. Some of her most famous pictures are: "Apple Pickers," "Sugaring Off," "Black Horses," and "From My Window." She died in Hoosick Falls, New York on December 13, 1961 at age one hundred and one.

A nation is as great as the sum total of the greatness of its individuals. America offers her people more opportunity to develop their "Potential for Greatness" than any other nation on earth. I challenge you to develop yours!

Today we honor GRANDMA MOSES. Tomorrow could we honor you?

Dr. Michael R. Loss.

DR. MICHAEL R. LOSS
President, America The Greatest, Inc.®