

The Making of the Freedom 250 Calendar

**From Immigration to
a Third Generation
American Business
Seeking a Partner**



**FREEDOM
250
CALENDAR**

Freedom250Calendar.com

Copyright © 2026 by Patrick J Fischer

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except for the use of brief quotations in a publication review.

ISBN - 979-8-218-44369-6

The Making of the Freedom 250 Calendar

Patrick J Fischer



Freedom 250 Calendar

The Crossing: Carl Fischer's Leap Into Freedom (1912)

The story of the Freedom 250 Calendar begins long before America prepared to celebrate its 250th birthday. It begins with a single decision made by a 19-year old young man in 1912—a decision that would shape three generations of American life.

Carl Fischer lived in a small German village where music drifted through open windows and the rhythms of daily life rarely changed. A gifted musician, he could coax warmth and wonder from the polished wood of his treasured Stradivarius violin. But even music could not quiet the restlessness growing inside him. Europe was tightening. Opportunities were shrinking. And whispers of a different kind of life—one built on freedom, possibility, and self-determination—were crossing the Atlantic like a calling.

One cold morning, Carl made his choice.

He packed a single suitcase. He placed his violin carefully in its case, just as his father had taught him. He hugged his mother and father goodbye, knowing he might never see them again. Then he stepped onto a train that would carry him across Germany toward the great port cities where steamships waited to take dreamers to America.

The journey took five long days. Carl slept sitting up, violin case clutched to his chest, surrounded by other young men and women chasing the same promise. At each stop, more travelers boarded—farmhands, craftsmen, widows with children, students with nothing but hope in their pockets. They spoke different dialects, but they shared the same destination: freedom.

Leaving Germany

When Carl finally arrived at the port, he saw the massive steamship rising above the docks like a floating city. Smoke curled from its stacks. Crates, luggage, and livestock crowded the loading ramps. Families clung to each other. The air smelled of saltwater, coal, and anticipation.

Carl stood there for a moment, violin in hand, staring at the ship that would carry him away from everything he had ever known. He wasn't just leaving Germany. He was stepping into the unknown—toward a country he had only read about, a place where a man could build a life with his own hands.

He took a deep breath, tightened his grip on the violin case, and walked up the gangway.

That single step began the Fischer family's American story.

Ellis Island and the First American Steps (1912–1915)

Carl's first sight of America was not the Statue of Liberty—though she stood in the harbor like a promise—but the restless gray water of New York Bay and the towering brick buildings of Ellis Island, the gateway for millions. After two weeks at sea, the ship's whistle cut through the morning fog, and passengers surged toward the rails, straining for their first glimpse of the land they had risked everything to reach.

The Arrival

The great hall of Ellis Island was a cathedral of hope and fear. Wooden benches stretched in long rows. Families clutched bundles of clothing. Babies cried. Officials barked instructions in English, German, Italian, Yiddish, Polish —languages colliding in a chaotic symphony.

Carl moved through the lines slowly, answering questions in halting English:

- Name?
- Age?
- Occupation?
- Do you have family in America?
- Are you healthy?

He passed the medical inspection, breathing deeply as instructed. When Carl opened his violin case for the customs officer, the man raised an eyebrow.

“A musician, eh?” he said, tapping the polished wood. “America can always use more music.” Those words stayed with Carl for the rest of his life.

The First Years in America

Carl settled in New York City, renting a small room in a German speaking neighborhood on the Lower East Side. He worked wherever he could:

- unloading crates at the docks
- sweeping floors in a bakery
- playing violin in taverns for coins dropped into a tin cup

Music became his anchor.

On nights when loneliness pressed in, he played German folk songs out the window of his boarding house. Neighbors paused on the sidewalk, listening. Some cried quietly. Others sang along. In those moments, Carl realized he had not left his heritage behind—he had carried it with him. Picture in New York in 1913.



Finding His Place. By 1914, Carl heard that the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra—founded in 1903 and already gaining national reputation—was seeking a violinist. He boarded a train and headed west. He auditioned, was hired on the spot, and played with the orchestra for a year before moving to Granville, Iowa, near Sanborn in the rich farmland of northwestern Iowa—an area often called “God’s Country” for its black soil and abundant crops.

Certificate of Naturalization

In 1918, Carl received his Certificate of Naturalization in the State of Iowa. This document marked the moment he officially became a United States citizen after taking the Oath of Allegiance.

In 1922, Carl married Clara, and together they raised two children.

By the late 1920s, Carl opened his own general store named—*Carl Fischer General Store*—which sold a little bit of everything and even featured a soda fountain. At class reunions decades later, many of his children’s friends fondly recalled Carl and his cool soda fountain drinks. He even had his own promotional calendar, given to regular customers. Carl Fischer General Store pictured below. His motto “A FIT FOR EVERY FOOT – A PRICE FOR EVERY PURSE”



Carl Fischer General Store Calendar - October 1931



CARL FISCHER
GRANVILLE, IOWA

| 1931 | | Month | | OCTOBER | | | | | | | 1931 | |
|------|------|-------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | |
| 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | 1931 | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | |



A FIT FOR EVERY FOOT - A PRICE FOR EVERY PURSE

Carl Fischer General Store Calendar - October 1931

The Third Generation and the Birth of the LargePrint Calendar

Three generations later, Carl Fischer's grandson, Patrick J. Fischer, carried the family's spirit of innovation into a new era. In 1988, he founded Share Technology to help persons with disabilities. In 1997, he founded F1 Key to help the blind, later renamed Accessibility Dot Net, Inc.

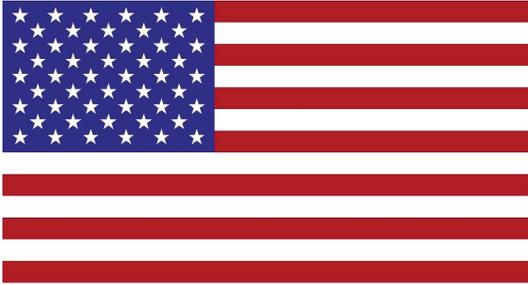
In 2008, Patrick recognized a growing need for large print, heavyweight calendars for people with low vision. He began producing high quality calendars sold on Amazon Prime and through custom contracts with the VA, assisted living centers, and state agencies for the blind.



First Jumbo Large Print Calendar - March 2008

In 2025, two new brand names:

America 250 Calendar

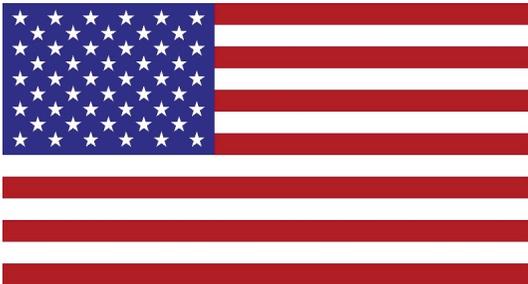


**AMERICA
250
CALENDAR**

America250Calendar.com

The *America 250 Calendar* is now available on Amazon Prime. Searching *America 250 Jumbo Large Print Desktop Calendar* reveals photos and a full video flipthrough, showcasing its historical facts and collectible design.

Freedom 250 Calendar



**FREEDOM
250
CALENDAR**

Freedom250Calendar.com

The *Freedom 250 Calendar*, however, has not yet been developed—because it requires the right partner to bring it to life.

Seeking a Partner for the Freedom 250 Calendar

The Freedom 250 Calendar is more than a product. It is a tribute to America's 250th birthday—a milestone that calls for reflection on the long, courageous journey toward freedom. This calendar is meant to carry the same spirit that made the America 250 Calendar so meaningful: a blend of history, accessibility, patriotism, and storytelling that honors the people who built this nation.

Where the America 250 Calendar celebrates the events that shaped our country, the Freedom 250 Calendar is designed to tell the deeper story behind those events—the story of freedom itself. It draws from immigrants who took the leap of faith, continued through military service and hard work, and now lives on through a commitment to national pride.

To fulfill its purpose during America's 250th anniversary, the Freedom 250 Calendar needs a partner who believes in this mission. A partner who can help develop, produce, and distribute a calendar worthy of this historic moment—one that reaches homes, schools, veterans, and communities across the nation. A partner who understands that this calendar is not just about dates, but about telling America's story of freedom in a way that honors the past and inspires the future.

What the Right Partner Looks Like

- **Understands the Moment** — Recognizes that America's 250th anniversary is a once in a generation milestone.
- **Has National Reach** — Strong distribution channels and relationships with retailers, civic groups, schools, museums, and veteran organizations.
- **Shares the Values of Freedom, Heritage, and Legacy** — Honors veterans, supports accessible design, respects American diversity, and values historical accuracy.
- **Brings Production Strength and Quality Standards** — High quality printing, durable materials, and scalable production capacity.
- **Believes in Collaboration** — Respects the Fischer legacy and works as a partner, not a replacement.
- **Sees Beyond the Calendar** — Understands the potential for educational materials, digital content, community partnerships, patriotic merchandise, and historical storytelling.

An Invitation

The Freedom 250 Calendar is ready to be built. The story is here. The brand is here. The vision is here. What's needed now is the right partner to help bring this national project to life.

Interested in helping? Contact us at **Accessibility.net**.

Accessibility.Net

Accessibility Driven, By Demand

info@accessibility.net

402-491-3191

Accessibility.Net