Modernism Video Notes

***ROAR* IN THE 1920’S WAS THE “BIRTH SCREAM” OF THE MODERNS**

* Prohibition- Sale and consumption of alcohol was illegal; Speakeasies is where alcohol was sold.
* Battles emerged between groups and/or gangs to gain control over territories.
* 1920’S was about *crossing the line* and *breaking boundaries:*

**Dawn of the 1920’s- Complicate Urban culture\*eager to embrace new\*New York the Modern Age was born.**

* Many people lived in Urban settings\*Wall street associated with economic; Broadway associated with entertainment.
* 400% rise in Millionaires\* everyone was having a good time\*parties in homes\* professional entertainers

**HARLEM RENAISSANCE**

* Political, social, cultural activity\*Harlem was where all dreams came true\*The New Negro.

**INVENTIONS**

* Electric Light -extended the day\*First to the cities-by the end of the decade most Americans had electricity.
* Automobile- Sense of Autonomy\*mid-decade 1 million dollars spent on roads and tunnels on infrastructure that began to knit the country together.
* Roadside advertising- Billboards became popular
* Credit- Became 75% of the way things were bought
* Radio-Became as important as the car\* KDKA reported the Presidential election

**SOCIAL PATTERNS**

* “Flappers-” Women who pushed the boundaries of behavior, dress, and style.
* Women had new found freedom with the 19th Amendment gaining the right to vote.
* Smoking, drinking, and loose talk not as welcome in the smaller communities\* Rural America did not like\*Concerns about losing the principals the country was founded on.

**POLITICAL**

*John T. Scopes*

* convicted of teaching Darwinism (Man and ape share a common ancestor)
* Modern Science vs. Christianity\*Everyone had to make up their minds
* street preachers common and people dressed up real monkeys in suits and paraded them around
* John T. Scopes was found guilty and fined $100, this was later overturned.

*KLU KLUX KLAN*- membership rose to 4 million

* whites who sided with blacks were targeted
* 200 people lynched
* KLU KLUX KLAN began to seize political control/50k marched in the U.S.Capitol

**OLD FASHIONED HEROS**

* Babe Ruth (George Herman Ruth), 60 HR record stood for 4 decades
* Lou Gehrig- also a hero of this time period
* Charles Lindberg- 1927 flew the *Spirit of St Louis* over the Transatlantic\*His parade was as big as the celebration at the end of WW1\*” Lucky Lindy” was his nickname
* Admiral Richard Bird- Flew over Antarctica

***Herbert Hoover said,” America was on its way to riches”,\* unlimited positive outlook for the future***

**STOCK MARKET CRASH OF 1929-**  Buyers began to start cashing in overpriced stocks- this action started a panic of selling that began the stock market crash.

* 30 billion dollars in paper value disappeared overnight
* The 1920’s bubble burst/ people lost every penny
* People committed suicide
* The optimism of the 1920’s disappeared