

Lupton's Laugh & Learn American Thanksgiving Week

Thanksgiving Thought for Today

"We will speed the day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing ...Free at last, Free at last, Thank God Almighty, I'm free at last." - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Address at Lincoln Memorial 28 Aug 1963

Turkey Talk

A flock of turkeys are in a field, happily going "gobble gobble" to each other and discussing life as usual when suddenly they hear "moo mooooooooooooooo!"

They look around and see only turkeys. They carry on eating as before.

"Mooooooooooooooooooooo mmmoo!"

One turkey hears it clearly next to him. He struts away a little from his friend, a worried look on his face and then asks "George, why are you mooing. You're a turkey. Turkeys say ' gobble gobble! Cows say Mooo."

His friend replies gladly: "I know, I thought I would learn a foreign language!"

[more humor below]

The Thanksgiving Story



The first American Thanksgiving feast was celebrated in 1621 by the pilgrims of the Plymouth colony along with 90 Wampanoag Indians. The Pilgrims had suffered through a devastating winter in which nearly half their number died. Without the help of the Indians, all would have perished.

After the first harvest, Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving and prayer to God. The food, which was eaten outdoors, included corn, geese, turkeys, ducks, eel, clams, leeks, plums, cod, bass, barley, venison and corn bread. The late autumn feast lasted 3 days.



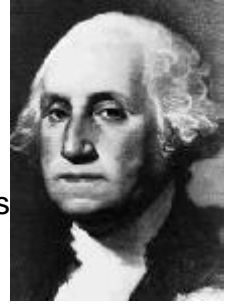
In 1623, a period of drought was answered by colonists with a proclamation of prayer and fasting. This prayer and fasting was changed to another thanksgiving celebration when rains came during the prayers. Later that year, Governor Bradford proclaimed November 29 as a time for pilgrims to

gather and "listen to your pastor and give thanksgiving to Almighty God for all His blessings."

Throughout American history, there were many thanksgiving proclamations and celebrations. In 1789 George Washington proclaimed a National Thanksgiving Day on the last Thursday in November, in honor of the new United States Constitution.



Since Abraham Lincoln's proclamation, it has been a custom that all presidents of the United States make Thanksgiving proclamations every year. One of George W. Bush's proclamations came just two months after the September 11 tragedy. He stated that "*In thankfulness and humility, we acknowledge, especially now, our dependence on One greater than ourselves.*"



Thanksgiving celebrations are directed toward God. Even during the hard years of war or economic depression, the American people know that God is their creator and provider and that all good things ultimately came from Him.

A traditional Thanksgiving dinner includes: roasted turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, and rolls. No Thanksgiving dinner is complete without a pumpkin pie for dessert!

Vocabulary

Speed the Day: We will hurry the day. We will make it happen soon

Devastating: Shocking...Destructive...Damaging...Harmful...Distressing

Perished: Died

Proclaimed: Announced...Declared...Publically said

Pilgrims...some who leaves everything to follow God to a new place, or someone who goes on a long trip for a religious purpose

Venison: Deer meat

Leeks: something like an onion

Eel, clams, cod, bass: Fish from the ocean

Drought: Weeks or months with no rain.

Fasting: To not eat for a day or more, usually with time for praying

Celebration: A big party for group or town. Includes food and games

Humility: Humble, meek...the opposite of proud and arrogant

Acknowledge: Admit...recognize

Ultimately: Only... Truly... Without a doubt... finally... decisively... definitely

Dependence: Reliance...trust...hope...confidence

Depression: emotionally despair and deep sadness, but economically a slump, downturn

Stuffing: A mixture of bread, spices, celery, sausage cooked with the turkey. Something like a dumpling.

Casserole: Food baked in the oven in a large glass bowl

Pumpkin pie: An American favorite dessert for Thanksgiving Day

The Links – several this time

The famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTpvVZHvwSA>

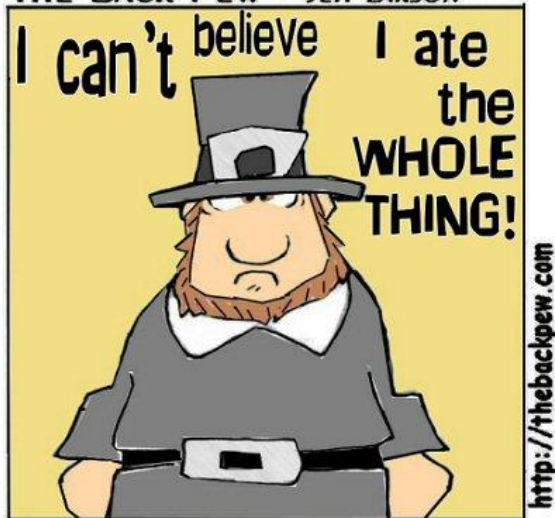
Songs sung at Thanksgiving: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3dXCL34aEA>

Billy Crystal and Robert De Nero Turkey debate: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIBgBHMsqug>

Just for fun: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WixpSiFZQ1Q>

Wild Turkeys at the door: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkZ9_W4IJ7U

THE BACK PEW - Jeff LARSON



**The more things change..
the more they stay the
same.**

The Laugh

Thanksgiving 8000 calorie poem

May your stuffing be tasty
May your turkey be plump,
May your potatoes and gravy
have not a lump.
May your yams be delicious
and your pies take the prize,
and may your Thanksgiving dinner
stay off your thighs!
- Unknown

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
Pilgrims!

Why did the turkey cross the road?
It was the chicken's day off.

If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for?
Their AGE

Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building?
Yes - a building can't jump at all

Why did they let the turkey join the band?
Because he had the drumsticks

What's the key to a great Thanksgiving dinner?
The turKEY

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