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First Thanksgiving

Source: Kathleen Curtin, Food Historian at Plimoth Plantation

In 1621 the Plymouth colonists and the Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast which is now known as the first Thanksgiving. While cooking methods and table etiquette have changed as the holiday has evolved, the meal is still consumed today with the same spirit of celebration and overindulgence.

What Was Actually on the Menu?

What foods topped the table at the first harvest feast? Historians aren't completely certain about the full bounty, but it's safe to say the pilgrims weren't gobbling up pumpkin pie or playing with their mashed potatoes. Following is a list of the foods that were available to the colonists at the time of the 1621 feast. However, the only two items that historians know for sure were on the menu are venison and wild fowl, which are mentioned in primary sources. The most detailed description of the "First Thanksgiving" comes from Edward Winslow from *A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth*, in 1621:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, among other recreations, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed upon our governor, and upon the captain, and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.



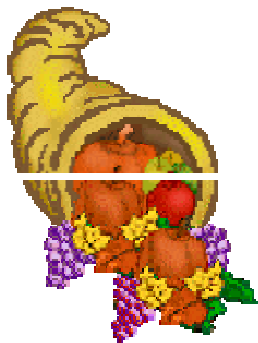
Seventeenth Century Table Manners:

The pilgrims didn't use forks; they ate with spoons, knives, and their fingers. They wiped their hands on large cloth napkins which they also used to pick up hot morsels of food. Salt would have been on the table at the harvest feast, and people would have sprinkled it on their food. Pepper, however, was something that they used for cooking but wasn't available on the table.

In the seventeenth century, a person's social standing determined what he or she ate. The best food was placed next to the most important people. People didn't tend to sample everything that was on the table (as we do today), they just ate what was closest to them.

Serving in the seventeenth century was very different from serving today. People weren't served their meals individually. Foods were served onto the table and then people took the food from the table and ate it. All the servers had to do was move the food from the place where it was cooked onto the table.

"Side by Side We Stand With Pride"



For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, we give thanks for our military members who have made the ultimate sacrifice and those that continue to sacrifice so that our Nation and our people continue to enjoy the blessing of freedom.

A safe and Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!



New Army Slogan Ad Campaign

The Army will be adopting a new service slogan and will launch their public advertisement program November 9, 2006. "**Army Strong**" vice an "Army of One" (which was unveiled in 2001), will represent the truth about today's American Soldier. They are strong and choose to make a difference in their lives, their families, their communities and their nation. Read more on the Oct 9th, memo announcing this campaign from the Secretary of the Army, Francis J. Harvey.

Sponsorship of \$200 SAT/ACT Training to All Families in The Armed Forces.

The NFL has generously...

- Continued their offer for students in military families to acquire free \$200 SAT/ACT software tutorial
- Extended the user license for another year for those military students who have already received their software
- Extended their offer to spouses of the military who will need the SAT for continuing education

This is a wonderful gift to our military families.

About The SAT/ACT Power Prep DVD/CD-ROM Programs

The SAT & ACT test prep training programs come in either a single DVD or two CD-ROM sets and includes more than eleven (11) hours of training video and 25-40 hours of student participation—They can be used as a stand-alone complete course or as a supplement to other SAT & ACT prep materials. The students select the training they most need and can study at their own pace by picking which of the 120 video lessons they want to view. The program also provides progress tracking and much more

To view a flyer that has been made to assist in the effort, please go to: <http://sat.eknowledge.com/military.asp>

How Military Families Request The \$199 Programs

A military person visits <http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil> to confirm their military status through the secure Department of Defense main Database. That website will then forward the person to the sponsorship order page where they can request the programs. The sponsorship will cover the \$199.99 cost for the program. The families pay only the s/h of \$9.95.

Questions: Please contact: Brandon Chatham - bchatham@eknowledge.com - 951-256-4076

*Connect And Join*TM is "Life at Home" recreated online for those away

• Operation Appreciation

Would you like to help out our servicemen and women serving overseas? Operation Appreciation may be just what you're looking for. They are running very short of items such as baseball caps, t-shirts, back packs, underwear, blankets, etc. to give to wounded/injured members from their home state. If you can help and support this worthy cause you can send items to MSG Russell, the ARNG Liaison in the Surgeon's Office, currently on ADSW orders through 30 Sep 07. MSG Russell's address information is: MSG George Russell, CMR Box 1413, APO AE 09180. This would be a great project for your installation to support during the holiday season. Spread the word and do what you can to show your support by sending organization/state unique t-shirts and ball caps, and other items needed. They will greatly appreciate your efforts!



LEGISLATIVE NEWS, BENEFITS UPDATES AND MORE

A Democratic View of the Defense Authorizations Act

Key Points: • For the past three years, Democrats have been fighting for our military and our military families. • This DOD Authorization conference report includes a number of key Democratic priorities, including: improving military readiness, providing health care for reservists, improving military pay for senior enlisted personnel and warrant officers, and blocking the President's proposed increase in TRICARE pharmacy co-payments.

Retirees Now Eligible for Recruiting Program Bonuses

Docupak Inc., which administers the National Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP), announced this month that eligible retirees now may become recruiting assistants for the Army Guard.

Once hired and trained, G-RAP recruiting assistants may receive free recruiting incentive items and up to \$2,000 for each soldier they help enlist in the Army Guard.

Some participants also may receive additional incentives, such as health care insurance coverage.

The program, which began as an experiment last year, does not limit the number of potential soldiers a recruiting assistant can bring into the Guard.

A recruiting assistant receives an initial payment of \$1,000, with a second \$1,000 payment upon successful shipment of a non-prior service recruit to basic training.

As for a prior-service recruit, the recruiting assistant will receive the initial payment of \$1,000 upon the recruit's enlistment in the Army Guard. The second \$1,000 payment comes upon that recruit's successful drilling of 120 days in their unit.

The incentive program led to perhaps the greatest recruiting boost ever for the Army Guard.

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) for Guard and Reserves

Since 9/11 the Guard has become a much more operational force and as appropriate many benefits have adjusted to be commensurate with the service provided by the soldiers and airmen of the National Guard.

The Montgomery GI Bill still remains an outdated and even an "unfair" benefit compared to the active duty Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill.

Currently the MGIB Selected Reserve Chapter 1606 monthly rate is \$309.00 while the MGIB Active Duty Chapter 30 monthly rate is \$1,075.00. Not only are the monthly rates enormously different but, under Chapter 30, an active duty service member has 10 years from separation to use their MGIB benefits. A National Guard member loses all of their benefits as soon as their enlistment ends. While all of this information can be quite disturbing, there seems to be hope coming from Congress that this issue may be a priority in the 110th Congress. On September 27th a hearing on the GI Bill for Selected reserves was held in the Rayburn House Office Building. This hearing garnered much bipartisan support and even some legislative action.

The very next day, on September 28th Representative Vic Snyder introduced H.R. 6250 "To amend Title 38, United States Code to recodify as part of that title the educational assistance programs for members of the reserve components". As we all know the 109th Congress is quickly coming to an end and this bill is likely to not make it far with the amount of work left for the year. This bill does however give us hope that next year we can take this issue further and give the soldiers and airmen in the National Guard what they deserve, benefits that are equal to their service and their sacrifices.

Due to the importance of this issue to members of the National Guard, the NGAUS legislative staff will be preparing a draft resolution for consideration for the states as this year's resolutions' process begins in January.

FENGA (Florida Enlisted Association of the National Guard Auxiliary Scholarship Program)

FENGA Scholarship Chair

Pamela Hall has distributed the criteria and scholarship form for members, sons, daughters and spouses of FENGA to participate in the Barbara E Rains Scholarship Program.

Qualified persons are encouraged to participate in the program. The deadline for entrants is 30 June 2007.

For additional information/details, contact Pamela at 352.473.9862; pam9701@aol.com

Georgia to hold Membership Raffle

Fundraiser—

AEANGGA (Auxiliary of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Georgia) will have a drawing for a lifetime membership in the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) and EANGGA (Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Georgia) this month (November).

CARES/CONCERNS AND PRAYERS TO:
Bob Jackson—(husband of Kathy) is dealing with a medical issue.

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