

Thanksgiving History

The wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopax*) is native to North America and was a staple in the Native American diet. It was imported to Europe in the early part of the 16th century by the Spaniards via Turkey (the country.) It was confused in those early times with the Guinea fowl which also arrived via Turkey, and both birds were called *turkeys* in those days. When it was assigned its latin name in the 18th century, the name *turkey* still stuck. Native Americans called it *peru* with no reference to the country of the same name.

Turkey was introduced to the early Pilgrim settlers by the Native American Wampanoag tribe after the Pilgrims arrived in 1620. The first year for the settlers was bleak, with many dying from the journey. Their seeds, aside from barley, did not produce any usable crops. The Indians assisted the settlers, introducing them to native foods such as corn and squash and showed them how to hunt and fish. The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 at the behest of Governor William Bradford, and the Native Americans were invited guests of honor.

Thanksgiving became an official holiday in the United States on October 3, 1863 via proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln. This was largely due to the lobbying efforts of Sarah Josepha Hale, editor of *Godey's Lady's Magazine* who had lobbied for 17 years for the holiday. The proclamation declared the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

By 1916, Thanksgiving was referred to in writings as *Turkey Day* due to the popularity of the bird at the traditional feast.

Interestingly enough, in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt attempted to move the official Thanksgiving date to earlier in November in order to encourage a longer Christmas shopping season as a Depression recovery strategy. His idea was shut down by Congress, and the official date was declared permanently as the fourth Thursday in November via Public Law #379.

The popularity of wild turkeys nearly wiped them out. The federal government stepped in with protection in 1991, and they are now found in 49 states.

Turkey was most-associated with Thanksgiving and Christmas, making winter the prime season for turkey farmers. In 1935, the per capita consumption of turkey was only 1.7 pounds.

Today, turkey has been recognized as a lean substitute for red meat. Aggressive marketing by turkey farmers by advertising and availability of parts rather than the necessity of cooking a whole bird has increased consumption to 20 pounds per person per year, with 74 percent of the consumption being in sliced turkey sandwiches.

And, of course, who can resist drying the wishbone from the breast of the turkey to make a wish?

By about.com

Club Officers 2011-2012

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Vice President	<i>Carl Flanagan</i>
President Elect	<i>Marc Shapot</i>
President Elect-Elect	Keith Taylor
Secretary	<i>Alison Markham</i>
Treasurer	<i>Grant Bryson</i>
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Committee Chairs

Membership	<i>Fancy Taylor</i>
Public Relations	<i>Casey Jones</i>
Club Service	<i>Keith Taylor</i>

Club Administration/Leadership	<i>Patty Silvey</i>
Fund Raising	<i>Marc Shapot</i>

Interact

President:	Kristen Wilson
Vice Presidents	Claudia Whitmarsh Reece Sisto

Rotary Club of Crystal River

Club #4267 District #6950

P.O. Box 1207

Crystal River, Florida 34423 USA

<http://www.crystalriverrotary.com/>

2010-2011 Recipient Rotary International President's Citation



November 21, 2011

Please "Make Up"

We need 100% Attendance! Local Clubs welcome you for your "Make Up" meeting:

- Tuesday Inverness 12:00 PM VanderValk (n/ k/a Lakeside Bar & Grill)
- Tuesday Sugarmill 5:00 PM Sugarmill Woods Country Club
- Wednesday Central Citrus 7:30 AM Black Diamond Clubhouse
- Wednesday Kings Bay 12:15 PM Café on the Avenue
- Thursday Homosassa 7:00 AM Luigi's Restaurant

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS ARE MAKE-UPS TOO!

<http://www.rotaryclub34.org/> or

<http://www.rotaryclubone.org/programs.htm>

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Casey and Bonnee Jones 11/24

Eddie and Sandy Levin 11/23

Club Anniversaries

Bryon Costley 11/24 14 years

Allison Markham 11/26 4 years



SERVICE Above Self

Visitors and Visiting Rotarians

Guests:

This Week:

Rotary Day—Fancy Shopping

Next Week:

Gailen Spinka—Lead, Follow, or

Get Out of the Way!!

Rotary Calendar

- Call for Governor Nominees for Rotary Year 2014–2015—Contact DS Brenda Wendt at wendt3@gate.net by 11/30/2011
- December 3—Christmas Shopping and Crystal River Christmas Parade
- December 16—6pm—Christmas party at Julie and Keith Taylor's Home
- February 16—Travels with KC at Pecks (Travel photos and commentary by KC Nayfield)
- April 19–23 Annual Rotary District Cruise—Royal Caribbean's Jewel of the Seas

Meetings will be at Fat Catz on Citrus Avenue for the month of December



Of the things we think, say or do
1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Please remember to bring an unwrapped toy.....

