

THANKSGIVING DAY

What was the first Thanksgiving really like? Surprisingly it was very different from the traditional Thanksgiving we celebrate this month.

History tells us that the original celebration lasted three days, the actual dates of the festival were never recorded, but historians feel that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in October rather than November.

It was an outdoor event celebrated during one of New England's mild Indian Summers. There were sporting events and other recreation between meals.

Because of the length or the feast there was a great variety of foods in the meals. Turkey was not specifically mentioned in the feast records, though they did serve a great deal of fowl which would have included turkeys along with roast duck and goose. The main meat dish however, was venison. Other meats may have included striped bass, cod, clams, and other shellfish. New and Old World vegetables such as beans, pumpkins, squash, turnips, barley, onions and roasted colorful indian corn graced the feast as well. The white bread they served consisted of leftover ship biscuits (and

butter) from the Mayflower. The dark bread was made from cornmeal, barley, and rye flour. Dessert consisted of wild fruits such as plums and a variety of dried berries (not including cranberries). There is also a chance that hasty pudding or Indian pudding made from cornmeal might also have been served. Pumpkin pie had not yet been invented. The only pies made at the time were English-style meat pies.

The celebration was such a great success, that it was held again in subsequent years. The tradition spread and was carried on sporadically until 1863 when President Lincoln designated a national Thanksgiving Day as a result of urgings begun though the Ladies Magazine of which Mrs. Sarah J. Hale was editor in 1827.

She began to push for a uniform day throughout the country for the expression of thanks for the blessings of the year. Her agitation continued in a dusultory manner until the Ladies Magazine was consolidated with Godey's Lady Book in Philadelphia. As editor she wrote editorials repeatedly in support of her plan. She wrote personal letters to the governors of all the

states and to the President.

On October 3, 1863, President Lincoln issued the first national Thanksgiving Proclamation setting apart the last Thursday in November as the day to be observed. A portion of this proclamation reads:

"The year that is drawing towards its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of almighty God.

THANKSGIVING...the oldest and distinctively American holiday that we celebrate!

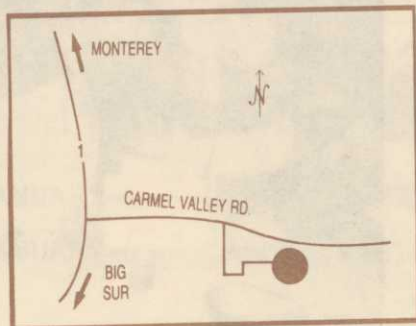
GIVE THANKS!!

compiled by an member.



The November issue of Golf Digest announced the biennial rankings of America's 100 greatest golf courses. Of interest to us is the fact that in the course conditioning category, we had two of our members honored in the first ten. #5-Manual Cardoza (Cypress Point Club) and #9-Bob Klinesteker (San Francisco GC).

In the overall selections our chapter members maintain four of the top nineteen courses in the country. Larry Norman (Pebble Beach Golf Links) and John Fleming (Olympic Club). Something to be proud of.



RANCHO CANADA GC

NEXT TEE

