

Freedom's View

A Commentary on Government from Atop the Capitol

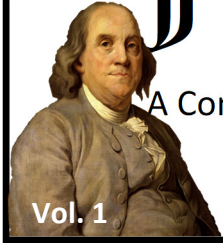
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"All the other alternative facts you need to know"

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JUST IN TIME FOR THANKSGIVING . . .

GOP RELEASES LONG-AWAITED RECIPE AND DEMONSTRATES HOW TO STUFF A TURKEY

November 4, 2017

WASHINGTON, DC ~ *Armed Freedom*

Noting that Thanksgiving is but three weeks away, Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan appeared on The Food Network yesterday. Donning a red apron, he demonstrated how to make the dressing and stuff a turkey.

He began: "The important thing for the American people to know is that the Republican members of the House, after lengthy discussions, have perfected the perfect stuffing. Each member contributed ingredients favored by all the good folks back in their own districts.

"It is long-past time for us to have a new recipe. The one we have been using for several decades is far too complicated for the average home chef to undertake. Given the fact that most families' Thanksgiving gatherings have about them all of the treacherous and complex political sensitivities of the 115th Congress, what is so desperately needed is a new recipe: one that is simple and easy to follow. The one I have here is printed in large type and fits easily on an ordinary 4 x 6 post card. Nothing could be simpler . . . or taste better!

"Today, I want to show you how to create the stuffing and place it in the bird. First, though, this isn't just any old bird. It's a *turkey*: a real, red-blooded, American turkey, the kind that Benjamin Franklin said was 'a much more respectable bird, (than the eagle) and withal a true original native of America.'

"Back where I come from, we celebrate our second amendment rights and shoot our own turkeys. Personally, I don't use a shotgun for this. It's more sporting to use a rifle. Mine is fitted with a bump-stock and works just fine for this purpose.



"But, if you have to, get one at your local supermarket. Just be sure it's a *turkey*! You wouldn't want to stuff an eagle! For as Franklin also observed, the eagle is 'exactly fit for that order of knights which the French call *Chevaliers d'Industrie*.' I'm sure you wouldn't want to kill an emblem of *that* sort of exalted gathering, a group to which so many of our most able members and donors surely belong!

"Now that I've rooted our GOP recipe for stuffing a Thanksgiving turkey in our

nation's history, it's time to begin."

We interrupt the Speaker's remarks to correct the historical record.

Franklin's 1784 remarks about the turkey vs. the eagle appear in an unlikely, spoof letter! The new nation was fragile then (as now?). How much its governance would come to mimic European traditions was anyone's guess. Franklin believed the newly created Society of the Cincinnati ¹ was, to use the words of one of his fellow patriots, "a deep-laid contrivance to beget and perpetuate family grandeur in an aristocratic nobility, to terminate at last in monarchical tyranny."

Intending it to be a public satire of the Cincinnati, Franklin drafted a supposed letter to his daughter, Sarah. It is here that Franklin delivers his remarks about eagles and turkeys. And so much more! Debate over the Cincinnati was both contentious and incendiary: so much so that, following the wise counsel of others, Franklin directed that it not be published until after his death. It was first published in 1817, twenty-seven years after his death.

¹ For more on the Society of the Cincinnati then and now, see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Society_of_the_Cincinnati

FOODIE PAUL RYAN SHARES RECIPE

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Addressing his daughter, “My Dear Child,” Franklin’s “letter” begins:²

“I only wonder that when the united wisdom of our nation had, in the Articles of Confederation, manifested their dislike of establishing ranks of nobility, by authority either of the Congress or of any particular state, a number of private persons should think proper to distinguish themselves and their posterity from their fellow citizens and form an order of hereditary Knights, in direct opposition to the solemnly declared sense of their country.”

The same issue is before us in our time. Franklin’s words shine a bright light on the news *today*.

Before yielding back the floor to the Honorable Speaker, we wish to point out that the *Chevaliers d’Industrie*, which the Speaker praised, actually means “*one who lives by fraud; a pickpocket.*” It appears he did not misspeak.

Mr. Speaker, Please Continue!

“As I was saying, first, you need to turn the turkey upside down. This will enable you to more efficiently cram . . . er . . . ram-rod . . . uh . . . install the stuffing into the turkey. Be sure to pack the stuffing in very tightly. You’ll be surprised that,

² You can read Franklin’s entire letter here: <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Franklin/01-41-02-0327>

although the ingredients are few in number, there’s really a *huge* volume we’re going to put in.

“Now, while I’m happily enjoying fisting this stuffing into the turkey, let me tell you the recipe.

“First, into an enormous bowl, liberally sprinkle billions of dollars to reward Wells Fargo Bank. Yes, this is the bank which illegally opened-up 3.5 million bogus credit card accounts for which their customers were then liable. I know this is an unconventional ingredient, but trust me on this: it’s essential to stabilizing the banking system.

“Second, gently stir in about 700 billion dollars of gratitude to foreign investors. Without their investing in our economy, the Food Network here couldn’t afford to operate!

“Next, fold in many more billions in tax breaks to American-based multinational corporations. Even though they invest in jobs overseas, it really *does* help us here at home. They’ll produce lots of revenue *for us all*. Remember: we’re doing this for you!

“Even though those are the basic ingredients, there’s more to know about this recipe. For example, we measured it all out using *just 4 spoons*. Four! Not the 7 that prior recipes have called for. We found that all those spoons made for too much balance in the flavors. And, as our new President has repeatedly shown, when you *unbalance* the old ways, the result is infinitely better!

“Finally, there’s this. In a separate bowl, add spoonfuls of sugar to taste; then whisk it together with enough melted butter to put a smile on every one of Michigan’s 1800 dairy farm families! It really *does* make the medicine go down! Then slowly *trickle down* all that slippery-sweet goodness into the gooey mix! Good-paying jobs for everyone will be the result! Why, the middle class will have homes to rival Manafort’s!

“So there you have it, America: the GOP’s simplified recipe. All that’s left is for me to do is to turn the turkey right-side up. Watch me carefully now as I flip the bird!

“And, finally, remember: as you sit down with your out-of-work, diseased, burdened down relatives this Thanksgiving (which is all the fault of the Obama Administration’s high taxes, Obamacare, and onerous regulations of the Deep State) give thanks that the GOP has got your back. I’m sure I speak for all my GOP colleagues when I say:

“Get stuffed, America!”

