



THE PRESIDENTS'
KITCHEN CABINET

presented by

AMERICA

★ 250!



Daughters of the
American Revolution

NOTES ON ETIQUETTE



“Ladies have frequently and affected way of holding the knife halfway down its length, as if it were too big for their little hands. But this is as awkward away as it is weak, the knife should be grasped freely by the handle only, the forefinger being the only one to touch the blade, and that only along the back of the blade at its root, and no further down..”

“The cream cake and anything of similar nature would be eaten with knife and fork, never bitten. Asparagus--which should be always served on bread were tossed so it can absorb superfluous moisture --may be taken from the finger and the thumb, if it is fit to be set before you the whole of it may be eaten. Pastry should be broken and eaten with a fork never cut with a knife. Raw oysters should be eaten with a fork, also fish. Peas and beans, as well known, require the fork only, however food that cannot be held with a fork should be eaten with a spoon. Potatoes, if mashed, should be mashed with the fork. Green corn should be eaten from the cob, but it must be held with a single hand.”

The White House Cook Book

Hugo Ziemann

1887



HISTORY
ON
A
FORK

TODAY'S MENU

President Theodore Roosevelt's
Fried Chicken with Gravy

&

Clove Cake with Caramel Sauce



PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S FRIED CHICKEN

Ingredients:

4 bone-in chicken pieces thighs, drumsticks, or breasts

1 cup buttermilk

1 large egg

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon paprika

1 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon onion powder

1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper optional, for a bit of heat

Salt and pepper to taste

Vegetable oil for frying

Directions:

Step one. In a large bowl, whisk together the buttermilk and egg. Add the chicken pieces, ensuring they are fully submerged.

Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour, or overnight for best results.

This step helps to tenderize the chicken and infuse it with flavor.

Step two. In a shallow dish, combine the flour, paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, cayenne pepper (if using), salt, and pepper. Mix well.

Step three. Remove the chicken from the buttermilk mixture, allowing any excess to drip off. Dredge each piece of chicken in the seasoned flour, pressing the flour onto the chicken to ensure an even coating. Shake off any excess flour and set the coated chicken aside on a wire rack.

Step four. In a large skillet or cast-iron pan, heat about 1 inch of vegetable oil over medium-high heat until it reaches 350°F (175°C). Carefully add the chicken pieces to the hot oil, being careful not to overcrowd the pan.

Step five. Fry the chicken for about 10-12 minutes per side, or until golden brown and crispy. The internal temperature of the chicken should reach 165°F (74°C).

Step six. Remove the chicken from the oil and place it on a paper towel-lined plate to drain any excess oil.

Serve the country fried chicken hot, accompanied by classic sides like mashed potatoes, gravy, and biscuits. This dish is perfect for a hearty family meal or a casual gathering with friends.

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S GRAVY

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 1/2 cups whole milk
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon apple cider vinegar

Directions:

Step one. Melt the butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat.

Step two. Add the flour and cook, whisking continuously, until light brown, about 2 minutes.

Step three. Pour in the milk in a steady stream while whisking. Add 1 1/4 teaspoons salt and 1 teaspoon pepper, then the vinegar.

Step four. Cook at a simmer, stirring constantly, until thickened, 1 to 2 minutes.



PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S CLOVE CAKE

Ingredients:

1/2 cup of butter (room temperature)
1 cup of sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup of molasses
1 teaspoon baking soda, mixed in the molasses
1/2 cup of milk
2 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon cloves, cinnamon, and allspice
1 1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
3 cups raisins or finely chopped dates*

Directions:

Step one. Mix butter and sugar until fluffy; add eggs, beating well.

Step two. Add molasses with soda, milk, and flour that has been sifted together with the spices. Beat well. Add raisins/dates.

Step three. Bake in greased 8-inch tube or bundt pan at 350F for 40-45 minutes.

Step four. Brush the top with butter, and garnish with overlapping slices of crystallized ginger. (Our preferred method is to top the cake with warm caramel sauce and whipped cream).

RICK'S THEODORE ROOSEVELT HISTORY

Theodore Roosevelt became our youngest President in 1901 at age 42 after the assassination of President William McKinley. Along with his young age, he brought new technologies to the presidency. He was the first President to drive an automobile, fly in an airplane and ride in a submarine.

He is best known as the “Conservation President,” setting aside 230 million acres of public land for protection, and as the President who was instrumental in building the Panama Canal. He also is referred to as the “Trust Buster,” having filed 44 antitrust suits and breaking up monopolies like the Northern Securities Company. He strengthened government oversight of industry through the Hepburn Act, which regulated railroads, and the Meat Inspection and Pure Food and Drug Acts of 1906.

Most North Dakotans best know Theodore Roosevelt through his many connections to what was then Dakota Territory. He first visited what is now North Dakota in 1880 to bird hunt in the Fargo-Moorhead area. His wife and mother died the same day, Valentine’s Day 1884. Overcome with grief, he left New York and moved to western North Dakota. He called this period, where he lived as a rancher and cowboy from 1883-87, as the “romance of my life,” saying it transformed his life and inspired his dedication to environmental conservation. He said if it had not been for his experience in Medora and the North Dakota Badlands, he never would have been President.

The brutal winter of 1886-87 killed 80 percent of the Dakota cattle herds and over half of Roosevelt’s cattle. Because of it, he decided to return East, reentered politics and was elected Governor of New York in 1898. He returned to North Dakota to campaign as the Republican Vice Presidential nominee in 1900.

Three years later, he made his only visit as incumbent President, during a train tour of the West. He visited North Dakota four more times in the next 16 years before his death in 1919.

He is also the only person to receive both the Nobel Peace Prize and Medal of Honor, for mediating the end of the Russo-Japanese War in

1905 and for his charge up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War in 1898.

During Roosevelt's presidency, his Maltese Cross Cabin near Medora was acquired for the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. The cabin then traveled to Portland, Oregon for the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, then spent some time in Fargo before settling on the grounds of the State Capital in Bismarck in 1906. The Daughters of the American Revolution Minishoshe-Mandan Chapter took over the care and repair of the cabin, opening it to the public during the summer months from 1926-59. In 1959, it was moved to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, where it can still be seen today.

Roosevelt's family made quite an impression in the White House. His six children, often called the "White House Gang," were known for wild antics, including bringing a pony up the elevator, walking with stilts, roller skating in the halls and launching spitballs at portraits of Presidents and First Ladies. They also had many pets, including Shetland ponies named Algonquin and General Grant, a St. Bernard, a badger, a pig, a one-legged rooster, and a laughing hyena named Bill, which was a gift from the Emperor of Ethiopia.

Edith Kermit Carow and Theodore Roosevelt were childhood playmates and teenage sweethearts. After the death of his first wife, Alice, the two rekindled their relationship and married in 1886. Edith was the first to formalize the role of First Lady. She hired a chief usher, managed a major renovation of the White House – redesigning the Green, Blue and East Rooms – and created the East Wing. She was a trusted adviser to her husband, reading several daily newspapers and meeting with him daily to discuss issues. She was also influential in managing the social scene to support his political goals.

His daughter, Alice, was a popular subject of gossip. As a young woman in the early 1900s, Alice shocked society by smoking cigarettes in public, riding in cars with men, betting on horse races and staying out late. Her antics led her father to remark, "I can be President of the United States or I can attend to Alice. I cannot possibly do both!" She married U.S. Representative Nicholas Longworth of Ohio, who later became Speaker of the House, in a 1906 White House wedding. She publicly opposed her cousin Franklin D. Roosevelt's candidacy for the Presidency in 1932. She once declared that FDR was "one third sap and two thirds Eleanor." She was a fixture in Washington, D.C., society, meeting every U.S. President from Benjamin Harrison to Gerald Ford and was known as the "Second Washington Monument."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

The new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library is scheduled to open in Medora on July 4, as part of the America 250 celebration. It will showcase the legacy of America's 26th President through items such as personal letters and writings. This will include pages from his diary written after his wife's and mother's deaths, and a deep dive into his ranching and military life.

The library is designed by the Norwegian architectural firm Snøhetta, covering 96,000 square feet on 92 acres and a beautiful view overlooking Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The roof will be camouflaged with native grasses. Inside, guests will be entertained with interactive, high-tech storytelling about Roosevelt's life and times. Chronological galleries will take visitors through eight chapters of Roosevelt's life, beginning with his childhood in New York City, exploring his life, conservation legacy and leadership. It will be transparent about his complicated legacy. A mile-long boardwalk will connect the main library to the surrounding landscape, with views of the National Park and Elkhorn Ranch.

The library will also be a model for environmental stewardship, built on top of a butte on the edge of Medora and blending into the Badlands landscape with prairie roofs and an outdoor boardwalk loop, embodying Roosevelt's own conservation beliefs. Built with mass timber and low-carbon concrete, the structure is designed to meet LEED Platinum, SITES and Living Building Challenge certifications. The site will include more than 200 geothermal wells, solar arrays and its own water/wastewater treatment.

RICK'S RUTHERFORD B. HAYES HISTORY

Most Presidents attain office either through winning an election or taking over after the death or resignation of their predecessor. The Election of 1876 ended in a far more interesting result that eventually gave Rutherford B. Hayes the title of President of the United States.

As the Republican nominee for President, Hayes believed at first he had lost the election to the Democratic nominee, New York Governor Samuel Tilden, who won 250,000 more votes than did Hayes of the 8.3 million cast. Tilden is the only Presidential candidate to receive more than 50 percent of the popular vote (50.9) and not win the Presidency. A few southern states submitted two different sets of Electoral College votes and the result was in dispute. An Electoral Committee of eight Republicans and seven Democrats appointed by Congress awarded all 20 disputed electoral votes to Hayes, giving him the Presidency by one vote, 185-184, in what is called the Compromise of 1877. That agreement included a promise by Hayes to withdraw all federal troops from areas still occupied in the South, which ended Reconstruction.

As President, Hayes made good on that promise and also restored respect for the Executive Branch after the scandals of the Grant Administration. He fought the political "spoils system" by requiring that many government officials be hired on merit, not political patronage.

In 1878, Hayes became the first incumbent President to visit what is now North Dakota. He, his wife Lucy and three of their seven sons came to Fargo for a breakfast and speech as part of a train tour of the West. Their stop included a visit to the massive Bonanza Farm in the Red River Valley owned by Oliver Dalrymple, the great-grandfather of North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple. In 1877, Hayes was gifted a farm in Hay Creek Township north of Bismarck by the Northern Pacific Railroad. He never visited and sold it in 1885 for \$21,000.

RICK'S BENJAMIN HARRISON HISTORY

Benjamin Harrison was born with national politics in his blood. His great-grandfather signed the Declaration of Independence, his father was a two-term U.S. Congressman from Ohio and his grandfather, William Henry Harrison, was the nation's ninth President, elected in 1840. Forty-nine years later, Benjamin Harrison won the Presidency after a term as U.S. Senator and law career in Indiana.

He was the first President to have electricity in the White House. But he and his wife, Caroline, worried about being electrocuted and refused to touch the light switches. Instead, they had the White House domestic staff do it. He was also the first President to have his voice recorded – actually, as a former President, in the mid-1890s.

Several Presidents covered in this series have ties to North Dakota or visited here, but Harrison is the one who actually made North Dakota a state. No one knows what order the Dakotas came into the Union. Each wanted to be first, so President Harrison had his Secretary of State, James G. Blaine, shuffle and cover the papers before he signed them so he wouldn't know which state he signed first. Because of that, their order is listed alphabetically, with North Dakota listed as the 39th and South Dakota the 40th state. Harrison later added Montana, Washington, Idaho and Wyoming, the most states ever admitted by a President.

Harrison is also known for the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890, which was the first federal act to prohibit monopolies. He also was a strong advocate to expand and modernize the Navy. He authorized the construction of modern steel-hulled warships which significantly increased the power of the Navy and laid the groundwork for the U.S. to become a global power.

Caroline Harrison was a key founder and first president of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1890. Leveraging her position as First Lady, she helped establish this organization to promote historic preservation and patriotism, serving until her death in 1892.

RICK'S FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT HISTORY

Franklin D. Roosevelt was a fifth cousin of Theodore, who took a day off from his job as President in 1905 to attend Franklin's wedding to his niece, Eleanor Roosevelt. He cracked a joke about "keeping the name in the family."

In 1921, at the age of 39, Roosevelt contracted polio and never recovered the use of his paralyzed legs. But that did not stop him from pursuing the Presidency. After a failed run for Vice President on the Democratic ticket with Ohio Governor James Cox in 1920, Roosevelt took some time off, then renewed his political career with speeches at the 1924 and 1928 Democratic National Conventions. Al Smith, the 1928 Democratic nominee for President, urged Roosevelt to run for Governor of New York. Smith lost his election in a landslide; FDR won his by a margin of less than one percent.

After being elected to second term as governor in 1930, Roosevelt ran for the White House in 1932. He easily defeated incumbent President Herbert Hoover, winning 57 percent of the popular vote and carrying all but six states. Before taking office, FDR was the target of an assassination attempt in Miami. The gunman missed and instead killed Anton Cermak, the Mayor of Chicago.

Upon taking office, Roosevelt began a major expansion of the federal government to meet the many challenges of the Great Depression in what he called the New Deal. In the first 100 days of his administration, massive federal programs were launched, such as the Works Progress Administration to create jobs and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to help stabilize banking and restore public confidence. The Social Security Act of 1935 established a federal old-age pension system and unemployment insurance program.

The New Deal helped guide the United States through the Great Depression and greatly benefited rural states. The Agricultural Adjustment Act and Soil Conservation Service helped farmers survive

the drought by providing aid, encouraging soil conservation practices like crop rotation and contour plowing and supporting a massive shelter belt project to curb wind erosion. The Rural Electrification Act brought electricity to remote areas, modernized rural life and, along with the other New Deal programs, made the federal government a primary economic driver for North Dakota.

With the New Deal came a major increase in infrastructure development. In North Dakota, Civilian Conservation Corps projects included the campground, roads, visitor center, Army blockhouses and Indian earth lodge reconstructions at Fort Lincoln State Park; a stone shelter at Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site; roads, picnic shelters and other structures at then-Theodore Roosevelt State Park; the American Lodge at the International Peace Garden; construction of Turtle River State Park and much more.

In 1933, North Dakota was on the verge of economic collapse. Another of the many programs FDR instituted in his first year in office was the Civil Works Administration (CWA), a short-term employment program that provided much-needed assistance to North Dakotans hit hard by the Depression. Created to last only through the winter of 1933-34, it ended March 31, 1934. Its brief existence was important, for example, to Grand Forks County. Without the CWA, no road or building repair would have been possible that winter, and other improvements like cleaning up parks and planting trees would not have been undertaken. By 1939, 37 percent of North Dakota's population was receiving assistance from federal or state agencies.

FDR is our only President to serve more than two terms. He was elected to four terms during the Great Depression and unprecedented crisis of World War II, serving from 1933-45. Before his death in 1945, FDR had orchestrated America's transition to a "global arsenal." This mobilization of the military and industry helped secure Allied victory over the Axis powers in World War II.

RICK'S SUGGESTED READING

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