

Hello!

End of the year letters are prone to exaggeration. A new day is dawning for end of the year holiday letters. This one is based on *the truth*. Allison here...as the year wraps up I want to assure you that... our time- honored tradition of the holiday letter will not go down!

I know this is a surprise to those of you look forward to hearing the heteronormative cis-gendered words of Aunt Susan's yearly family holiday letter. However, she has graciously stepped aside and now this letter is mine. I am also the new admin of our family FB page! Look for a new twitter account. Also, we are looking for someone to host next year's Thanksgiving dinner. Aunt Susan needs a break.

In the spirit of our shared values of honesty, love of family and desserts, I offer a transparent recap of what happened at Thanksgiving to mark the shift in authorship of this letter. I want to set the record straight to offer the "truth" of what happened. This is for those of you *who weren't there* and missed *the delicious deserts!* I want to dispel any misinformation and false claims. The meme of Corry guzzling the gravy boat and falling down "drunk" did not happen. That was Corry's mid-term assignment for his "Art, New Media and the Intragoogle" class. It was fake. He made it up. It is part of his portfolio for his application to art school to study performance art. Again, it was not real. It was done *after* Thanksgiving. The blood was not real. It was beet juice. He did not break his head. He is alive.

Thanks giving recap...

All of you saw Aunt Susan's pre-Thanksgiving invitation and post featuring a mouthwatering pic of Cousin Emily's traditional apple cobbler from last Thanksgiving. Under the pic she wrote "politics would be off the table for Thanksgiving but everything sweet and delicious is welcome!" Each of your were encouraged to "bring your signature offering" to the sweet table. Our beloved Marine veteran Cousin Emily brought a new take on her traditional apple cobbler. A delicious peach and mint re-do, decorated with tiny American flags! The handwritten note next to her desert read "Ems peach/mint crumbler". Ooyah!

Cousin Phil (soon to be graduating from Moody Bible Institute!) found time to bake Pumpkin/Sweet potato pie. The handwritten note read "MAGA pie - Make America Grateful Again! pumpkin pie with pecan crust -does *not contain* peanuts!" He decorated his pie with little yellow smiley face flags.

Knives came out and folks gathered around to get their favorite deserts, Joshua (they just flew in from Portland!) brought warm brownies to the table. They had two trays of brownies one with and the other without special seasoning (pot) baked in. Aunt Susan was in the kitchen brewing up some decaf. Everyone gave an applause as Joshua brought in two trays of warm brownies one in each hand. It was the oven mitts that an early Christmas gift for Aunt Susan that seemed to set things off.