

JAKE'S JABS & JABBER

Yrp, that's me. These selfies show what playing in the sticker burr bushes can do. I now look like Telly Savalas aka Kojak so just call me Ko*J*ake. Since I got cut short, the editor is cutting me short, too, in my column. With my new "do" I applied for a reindeer position. Figured my impeccable leaps and jumps and sleek reindeer look would get me the job, but they told me my ears were too long. Go figure!



December's Quandry: There is one Christmas Carol that has always baffled me...What in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree, have to do with Christmas? Eh? You've dogged this same dilemma, haven't you? Well, here's fodder for your Christmas gathering!



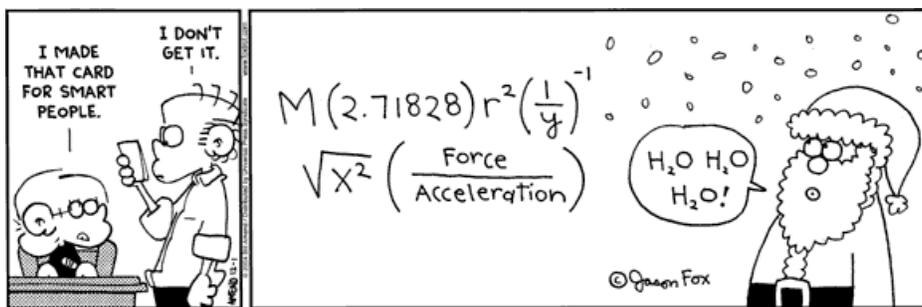
From 1558 until 1829, Catholics in England weren't permitted to practice their faith openly and someone wrote this carol as a catechism song. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning. Each element in the carol has a description for a religious reality which the children could remember.

- The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.*
- Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.*
- Three French hens stood for faith, hope, and love.*
- The 4 calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John.*
- The 5 golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first 5 books of the Old Testament.*
- The 6 geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.*
- Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.*
- The 8 maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.*
- Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.*
- The 10 lords a-leaping – the Ten Commandments.*
- The 11 pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.*
- The 12 drummers drumming symbolized the 12 points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.*

...Now we know!

JAKES JOKES & JOLLIES

I'm getting the "cut it" slash sign again from the Editor so no jollies but here's my one joke...



Arfin' is Awesome; Yippin's so Yuckie!



- Jake

