

# CLANCY'S CLICHES

Arf-arf-arf-arf-aaahrf That's Fa-la-la-la-lah in dog song. Music is all around us this season of thanks and giving. Some joyful, some reflective. All reaching into our souls full of memories, recalling traditions with loved ones, and capturing the sights, smells, and feel of Christmas. Our senses are heightened with music.

Most of this music is age-old timeless tunes of yore. Yet there are some newbies out there and not necessarily "seasonal" tunes. Take Chance. Yes, that's the performer's name. Here are some lines from a couple of his tunes that are great reflections especially this time of year: "Praises Go Up; Blessings Come Down....", "Are you ready for your blessings? Are you ready for your miracle?"

In the busyness of the season, we often forget the simplicity and grace that underlies the cacophony of jangling jingles and the jungles of junk in stores that we just have to have. Really? Besides a new bag of doggie chews, what's more precious than readying ourselves to the blessings of the season and those miraculous unexpected moments of joy? Can we not raise our voices a tad bit more? Can we not open our arms, our heart, and our minds to the blessings that come falling down all around us?

I may just lie around looking unimpressed. Well, hardly. I'm paying attention to it all. I'm ready for the blessings of the season. I'm ready for the miracle. Are you?



Jake, the chess enthusiast extraordinaire, has a holiday story he asked me to share:

A group of chess enthusiasts were checking out of a hotel at the end of a chess tournament. They were in the lobby, discussing their recent victories. After about an hour, the hotel manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. He couldn't stand the sound of chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.

Both Jake and I  
fish ewe all a  
very Mare Egrets Moose and a  
Hippo Gnu Deer!



## CLANCY'S CACKLES

KNOCK KNOCK, Who's there? Dexter. Dexter who? Dexter Halls with boughs of holly!

Q. How did Santa take pictures? **With a North Pole-aroid!**

Q. What does the moon look like when it's had a lot to eat at Christmas dinner? **Full!**

Q. What kind of cars do elves drive? **Toyotas!**

