

CLANCY'S CLICHES

Ahhh . . . the closing of another year.

It was a difficult year. Many near and dear to me have gone through illness, difficulties, and even death of loved ones. As this year comes to a close, what seemed to shine brightly was the love, kindness, concern and deep and caring friendships through those events and circumstances - always incredibly outshining the sadness, anxiety, tears, grieving, and frustration. What shone brightest? Unconditional Love. It weaved its beautiful fingers around shoulders. It embraced hearts. It touched souls.



As we gather around with family and friends this Christmas, unwrap the bestest gift of all. Just stop opening the wrapped presents. Look at the gifts under and around the tree—the unwrapped ones...each family member, each friend, each doggie or kittie companion. Then feel— the greatest gift will be what's in the room with you. It's Love. Unconditional Love.

Ohwoofohwoofohwoof! It was difficult finishing my sentences in my letter to Santa. Here's as far as I've gotten:

*Dear Santa Paws,
First of all, it wasn't me...
I can explain...
Do you take bribes?...
Define GOOD...
It was really my master.....
It was really the office staff...*

Seasonal Poochie Pointers:

- * Don't order a knit sweater from a Christmas tree. They're always losing their needles.
- * I've learned from eating extension and lamp cords NOT to eat Christmas decorations. You get tinselitis.
- * This time of year don't catch snowflakes on your tongue until all the birds have flown south for the winter.
- * Every family has one weird relative. If you don't know who it is then it's probably you.
- * Be patient with folks who are afraid of Santa. They can be very Claustrophobic.
- * Avoid showing a snowman your hair dryer. You'll scare him!

As I sit here (well, in my normal sleeping position) looking out the window, I think of the beautiful carols this time of year. Did you know that Elvis' ghost said to Santa "I'll Have a Boo Christmas Without You" and it became a wonderful song of the season? And there are our newbie parents of the twins whose favorite Christmas Carol this year is sure to be "Silent Night". May they enjoy one!

And now Heehee Time!

Knock, Knock. Who's there? Mary and Abby. Mary and Abby who? Mary Christmas and Abby New Year!

1. What's white & red and goes up & down & down & up? **Santa in an elevator!**
2. What comes before Christmas Eve? **Christmas Adam!**
3. What do you get if you cross an apple with a Christmas tree? **A pineapple!**
4. What did Mary Poppins want from Santa? **Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!**
5. Why was Santa's little helper so depressed? **He had low Elf-esteem!**
6. What do Elves learn at school? **The Elfabit!**
7. What do you call it when Santa stops moving? **Santa Pause!**

Howlin' is hootin'; Growlin's not gooten!

— Clancy



Who's this in the back yard? This photo was in our old archives. If anyone knows my former resident's name, please call and let me know! HappyHowl-idays!

