



MAHOVA

December 2021

News

The History of Santa Claus

Santa Claus, otherwise known as Saint Nicholas or Kris Kringle, is mainly thought of as the holly, jolly, bearded man dressed in a red suit that brings toys to the good boys and girls on Christmas Eve. But his story goes back to the 3rd century; the legend of Santa Claus can be traced back to a monk named St. Nicholas. He gave away all his inherited wealth to help the poor and sick in the countryside. The name Santa Claus evolved from Nick's Dutch nickname, Sinter Klaas, a shortened form of Saint Nicholas.

The Christmas holiday gained popularity in the early 19th century when stores began to advertise Christmas shopping in 1820, and by the 1840's newspapers were creating separate sections for holiday ads, often featuring Santa Claus. In 1841, it did not take long for other stores to catch on after a shop in Philadelphia had a life-size Santa model at Christmas, which started the tradition of a live Santa at the mall and various stores in the US.

Other Traditions around the world:

Austria: Krampus, a beast-like creature, roams the streets scaring kids with rattling chains and bells. St. Nicholas rewards the nice children, while Krampus punishes the bad ones.

Japan: Kentucky Fried Christmas Dinner. Christmas is not a major holiday in Japan, as it is more of a novelty holiday. A quirky tradition developed in recent years in which you dine on Christmas Day with a KFC meal.

Iceland: Yule Lads, in the 13 days leading up to Christmas, 13 troll-like characters come out to play. Children place their best shoes by the window and a different Yule Lad visits, leaving gifts for nice children and rotting potatoes for the naughty kids.

Norway: Hiding the broom. A tradition that dates back to when people believed that witches and evil spirits came out on Christmas Eve looking for brooms to ride. Many people still hide their brooms in the safest place in the house, to stop them from being taken.

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Health

Here's To Your Good Health!

13 tips for staying warm without turning up the heat:

1. Dress in layers.
2. Wear thick socks or slippers.
3. Use the oven and stove for cooking.
4. Leave the oven door open when done to release the heat into the house.
5. Eat a cup of soup.
6. Drink a warm beverage.
7. Use a humidifier.
8. Reverse the ceiling fan to the correct direction. The fan should be rotating clockwise during the colder months.
9. Use a heating pad.
10. Make sure all vents, registers and radiators are clear and clean.
11. Don't use the bathroom fan after showering, the humidity from the shower can spread to your room if you leave the door open.
12. Hot air rises, so if possible, move to a higher level of your house.
13. Be active. Movement generates body heat.

Christmas Wish List

Is there something you have been wanting but can't seem to make it happen for whatever reason? Perhaps it is a letter you would like to send to a friend or loved one but could use help writing it. Is there someone you'd like to speak to by phone but haven't been able to find the number or connect for some reason? Do you need a pair of socks, a sweater, undergarments or pajamas that the Home can help you purchase? While the Home can't manage every wish, we will do our best. Please feel free to share your wish by completing a form left by the Christmas Wish box in the Activity Foyer Area. The box will be placed following Resident Council on Monday, December 6 and picked up in the afternoon on Monday, December 13. Please know that someone may be getting back with you to obtain more details to better assist with your special wish.

Book Ends

By Georgeen Carden

Christmas

Jeffery C. Olsen is with Myra Bracey Kartchner.

As the holiday season of 1938 came to Chicago, Bob May wasn't feeling much comfort or joy. A 34-year-old ad writer for Montgomery Ward, May was exhausted and nearly broke. His wife, Evelyn, was bedridden, on the losing end of a two-year battle with cancer. This left Bob to look after their four-year old-daughter, Barbara.

One night, Barbara asked her father, "Why isn't my mommy like everybody else's mommy?" As he struggled to answer his daughter's question, Bob remembered the pain of his own childhood. A small, sickly boy, he was constantly picked on and called names. But he wanted to give his daughter hope, and show her that being different was nothing to be ashamed of. More than that, he wanted her to know that he loved her and would always take care of her. So he began to spin a tale about a reindeer with a bright red nose who found a special place on Santa's team. Barbara loved the story so much that she made her father tell it every night before bedtime. As he did, it grew more elaborate. Because he couldn't afford to buy his daughter a gift for Christmas, Bob decided to turn the story into a homemade picture book.

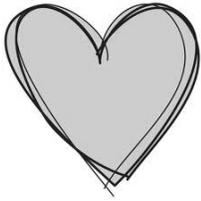
In early December, Bob's wife died. Though he was heartbroken, he kept working on the book for his daughter. A few days before Christmas, he reluctantly attended a company party at Montgomery Ward. His co-workers encouraged him to share the story he'd written. After he read it, there was a standing ovation. Everyone wanted copies of their own. Montgomery Ward bought the rights to the book from their debt-ridden employee. Over the next six years, at Christmas, they gave away six million copies of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer to shoppers. Every major publishing house in the country was making offers to obtain the book. In an incredible display of good will, the head of the department store returned all rights to Bob May. Four years later, Rudolph had made him into a millionaire.

Now remarried with a growing family, May felt blessed by his good fortune. But there was more to come. His brother-in-law, a successful songwriter named Johnny Marks, set the uplifting story to music. The song was pitched to artists from Bing Crosby on down. They all passed. Finally, Marks approached Gene Autry. The cowboy star had scored a holiday hit with "Here Comes Santa Claus" a few years before. Like the others, Autry wasn't impressed with the song about the misfit reindeer. Marks begged him to give it a second listen. Autry played it for his wife, Ina. She was so touched by the line "They wouldn't let poor Rudolph play in any reindeer games" that she insisted her husband record the tune.

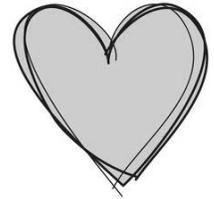
Within a few years, it had become the second best-selling Christmas song ever, right behind "White Christmas." Since then, Rudolph has come to life in TV specials, cartoons, movies, toys, games, coloring books, greeting cards and even a Ringling Bros. circus act. The little red-nosed reindeer dreamed up by Bob May and immortalized in song by Johnny Marks has come to symbolize Christmas as much as Santa Claus, evergreen trees and presents. As the last line of the song says, "He'll go down in history."

I was the recipient of one of those free books when I was 7 or 8 and just learning to read and so proud to be able to read it on my own.

Anniversaries



December 19, 1975 Richard and Georgeen Carden
December 19, 1975 John and Gloria Edelin
December 21, 2005 William and Dolores Reinhold
December 21, 1984 Gardner and Gypsy Rollings
December 22, 1956 Robert and Jane Harrison
December 22, 1956 Chester and Marian Wright



Have you Heard

Facts about Hanukkah

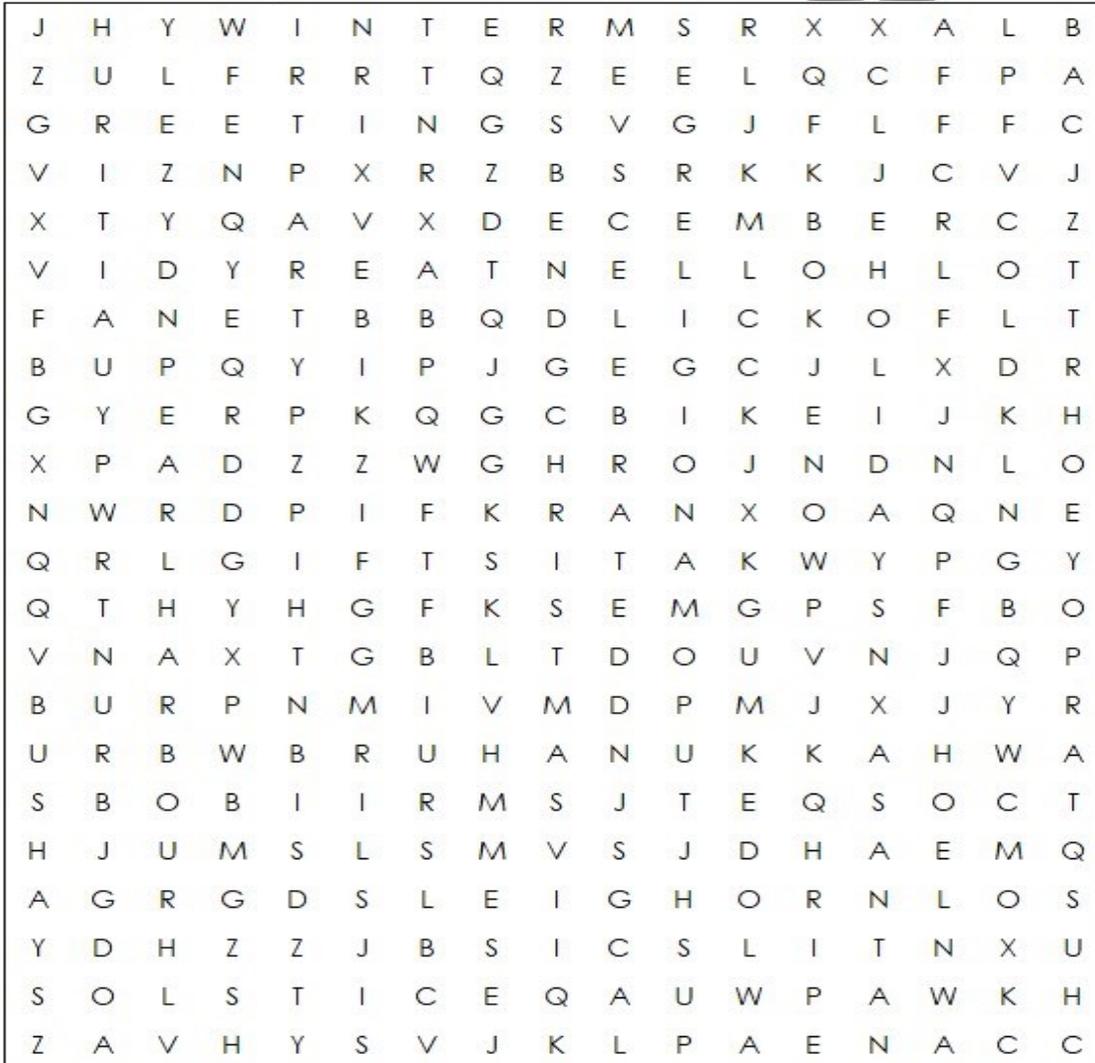


Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the dedication of the second temple in Jerusalem. In 164 BCE, the Jewish people revolted against the Greeks in the Maccabean War. After their victory they rededicated the temple. An oil lamp was inside the temple that had only one day of oil, but the lamp burned for eight days. This is called the miracle of the oil and is where the eight days of celebration comes from. It is often referred to as the Festival of Lights or the Festival of Dedication. The word Hanukkah comes from the Hebrew meaning “to dedicate.” The birthstone for December is the Blue Topaz or turquoise, and symbolizes success, happiness and prosperity. The flower is the Poinsettia.

Brain Teaser

Name: _____

December Word Search



DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS
WINTER
COLD
SOLSTICE

CELEBRATE
HANUKKAH
PEARL HARBOUR
GIFTS
HOLIDAYS

SANTA
SLEIGH
RELIGION
GREETINGS
PARTY



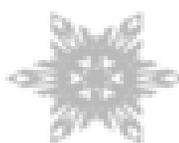
© Monsterwordsearch.com

Winter

B	D	E	T	S	O	R	F	S	C
A	S	C	N	E	W	Y	F	R	A
R	E	E	J	R	A	E	M	I	T
E	E	M	A	S	N	O	W	M	T
T	R	B	N	U	A	S	N	A	E
I	T	E	I	S	R	N	E	I	N
N	A	R	C	K	Y	O	L	C	S
G	K	S	E	I	F	W	C	I	H
F	E	B	R	I	L	A	S	L	G
Y	R	A	U	N	G	K	E	E	I

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| BARE TREES | MITTENS |
| DECEMBER | NEW YEAR |
| FEBRUARY | SCARF |
| FROST | SKIING |
| ICE SKATING | SLEIGH |
| ICICLE | SNOWFLAKE |
| JANUARY | SNOWMAN |



This is zigzag word search puzzle. Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle. There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.

Grid size:
10 x 10 squares,
10 x 10 letters,
90 x 90 mm.

Square size:
9 x 9 mm.

ANSWER:

I	C	E	S	O	N	O	W	M	A
D	E	C	E	M	A	S	N	O	W
H	I	C	O	M	F	I	J	E	R
S	C	T	O	A	X	C	R	E	N
M	I	T	T	E	N	S	I	L	I
E	V	N	C	V	N	E	N	E	L
T	R	E	E	A	S	M	A	N	T
E	E	M	O	N	S	Y	W	E	E
R	E	E	I	N	A	E	M	I	T
A	S	C	N	E	M	A	S	L	G
B	O	T	S	O	R	F	S	C	

Coloring Page



Happy Birthday to You!

Happy Birthday to the following residents who celebrate their birthdays:

12/4 Betty Klotz
 12/6 Susan Sprigg
 12/6 Helen Wadkins
 12/8 Roy Lythgoe
 12/18 Mary Lee Peroe
 12/20 Anne Dechent
 12/24 Woody David
 12/25 Norma Klebert
 12/28 Ed Bowen
 12/28 Bea Holm
 12/31 Gloria Edelin

Scan this QR image to go to the Masonic Home Website.



Masonic Home Census

Employee Birthdays

12/2 Peter Mollica	12/18 Rashida Traywick
12/5 Charles Vaught	12/19 Ciera Rawlings
12/7 Bonnie White	12/21 Sheba Bowman
12/8 Beverly Allen	12/23 Holly Fiore
12/10 Johnetta Bell	12/25 Marlena Jennings
12/10 Dioni Aull	12/26 Brian Wisecarver
12/12 Penny Allen	12/27 Mark Mumford
12/12 Shyvonne Bagby	12/27 Janet Jamison
12/12 Mary Corbett	12/28 Carol Whyte
12/15 Cheryl Smith	12/28 Wanda Woody-Cuppitt
12/18 Dianne Winston	

The MAHOVA News

A monthly publication of the Masonic Home of Virginia
 500 Masonic Lane
 Henrico, VA 23223
 804-222-1694
 800-262-4644

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Anne Hagen, CPA, MBA
 Chief Executive Officer
Warren Swanson, CPA, MBA
 Chief Financial Officer
Robert Adkins, LNHA
 Senior Administrator
Kathy Bryant, ALFA
 Assisted Living Administrator
Dr. Danny Felty
 Medical Director
Terry Hilton
 Director of Development
Regina Pettaway, RN
 Director of Nursing
Barbara Ramirez
 Human Resources Director
Mike Butler, Jr.
 Director of Facilities

MAHOVA Editor
 Robyn Massie
 804-222-1694
 Extension 77268

MAHOVA Copy Editors
 R. Bradley
 R. Carden
 G. Morton