



-TRALEE TOASTMASTERS-

Weekly Toastmaster Times

Christmas Edition

ISSUE 16

Monday December 15th 2014

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. (Charles Dickens)

A SPRINKLE OF HUMOUR...

Do give books – religious or otherwise - for Christmas. They're never fattening, seldom sinful, and permanently personal. (Lenore Hershey)

Dear Santa: Please send me an elf for Christmas. They make me feel tall. (Anonymous)

Last year I bought my kids a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it "toys not included". (Anonymous)

VPE QUOTE FOR THE WEEK...

Christmas is not the counting of the presents you have, it is the counting of the loved ones surrounding you. (Anonymous)

THE POETMASTER...

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

Excerpt from the poem *Twas The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke Moore



REEL WISDOM...

It's Christmas Eve! It's the one night of the year when we all act a little nicer, we smile a little easier, we cheer a little more. For a couple of hours out of the whole year, we are the people that we always hoped we would be. (From the movie *Scrooged*)

The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear. (From the movie *Elf*)

Christmas isn't just a day. It's a frame of mind. (From the movie *Miracle on 34th Street*)

Michael Mac Egan VPE (Editor)

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TIPS FOR WRITING AND SPEAKING...

For the season that is in it call, write, text, or e-mail someone that you have lost touch with, you never know but it could be the best present that you will receive this Christmas.

Waxing Lyrical...

I

I'm dreaming of a White Christmas,
Just like the ones I used to know'
Where the tree tops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow...

An excerpt taken from the song *White Christmas* by Irving Berlin

II

We're walking in the air, we're floating in a moonlit sky
The people far below are sleeping as we fly
I'm holding very tight, I'm riding in a midnight blue
I'm finding I can fly, so high above with you

An excerpt taken from the song *Walking in the Air* by Howard Blake for the film *The Snowman*.

Fun Christmas Facts...

The tradition of naughty boys and girls receiving a lump of coal in their stocking originated in Italy.

In 1895 saw the first use of electric Christmas tree lights.

The tallest Christmas tree that was ever put on display was in Seattle, Washington in 1950.

It measured 221 feet.

What Santa Claus is called by children in other countries...

Argentina	Papa Noel
Belgium	Pere Noel
Iran	Baba Noel
Italy	Babbo Natale
Morocco	Black Peter
Poland	Swiety Mikolaj
Portugal	Pai Natal

**WISHING ONE AND ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND ONLY THE VERY BEST FOR THE
YEAR TO COME**

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