



# The Whitehursts'

## Dry Cleaning News

The Best Dry Cleaning Ever...Or It's Free!

DECEMBER 2019



*Mark and Family David and Sherry*

### Christmas Memories



One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don't clean it up too quickly. ~ Andy Rooney

The smells, the colors, the sounds, the feelings and the family are my favorite childhood Christmas memories. It's the feeling we get on this day when everything around us slows down and we can focus on the things that are important.

Christmas is when I get especially nostalgic over the memories of those who are not with us – for whatever reason.

My fondest memories of Christmas seem to all go back to my childhood. I think that's because Christmas is a special time for kids. It's magical. It's searching the skies. It's hoping for snow. It's the mystery of what will show up under the tree.

It's the smell of the tree and of food cooking for days before Christmas. It's watching Christmas movies. It's

finding the bad bulb on that string of lights that's out on the tree.

It's the one day each year my Mother removed the plastic cover off the living room sofa. It's being out of school for a couple of weeks with nothing that I had to do. It's staying up late and sleeping late in the morning.

I remember driving through a poor side of town visit family on Christmas Day. I saw kids playing with a pair of roller skates on the sidewalk. Two kids playing together – each with one skate just as though that was the way it was supposed to be. I worried about that then. I still do today.

I remember going downtown a few days before Christmas and looking at the Christmas window scenes at Loveman's and other department stores back in the '50s and '60s.

That was an annual affair just as was the drive around Birmingham looking at the wonderfully decorated

homes on Christmas Eve. We always left with a cup of hot chocolate – even when it was 80 degrees outside. I remember an area in Mountain Brook that we called "Christmas Tree Circle." That wasn't the name of the street, but I knew when we were there. The lights were wonderful. The entire street was coordinated. That always seemed to be the last stop on our drive.

These are my memories. I don't recall many gifts I received as a kid. A BB gun and a pair of cowboy boots come to mind. But not much more. It's feelings that I remember – not gifts.

Christmas is a feeling that seems to come but once a year. That's a shame.

**Sherry, Mark and I along with the entire family at Champion Cleaners wish you a very Merry Christmas.**

*David*



“Did You Know Where This Saying Came From...”

## POSTHASTE



**Meaning:** With all possible speed.

**Origin:** In the 16th century, the phrase “haste, post, haste” was used to inform posts (as couriers were then called) that

a letter was urgent and must be hastily delivered. Posts would then speedily gallop along a route with a series of places at which to get a fresh horse or to relay the letter to a fresh messenger. William Shakespeare was one of the first to use a version of the phrase adverbially in Richard II. “Old John of Gaunt ... hath sent post haste / To entreat your Majesty to visit him,” the Bard versified. He also used the phrase as an adjective (a use that is now obsolete) in Othello: “The Duke ... requires your haste-post-haste appearance,” Lieutenant Cassio reports to the play’s namesake. Today, the word still possesses a literary flair attributable to the Bard.

## READ THE RIOT ACT



**Meaning:** WHEN SOMEONE TALKS ABOUT BEING “read the riot act,” it usually means they’ve been caught engaging in antisocial behavior and chastised accordingly.

**Origin:** These days, angry parents might threaten to “read the riot act” to their unruly children. But in 18th-century England, the Riot Act was a very real document, and it was often recited aloud to angry mobs. Instituted in 1715, the Riot Act gave the British government the authority to label any group of more

than 12 people a threat to the peace. In these circumstances, a public official would read a small portion of the Riot Act and order the people to “disperse themselves, and peaceably depart to their habitations.” Anyone that remained after one hour was subject to arrest or removal by force. The law was later put to the test in 1819 during the infamous Peterloo Massacre, in which a cavalry unit attacked a large group of protestors after they appeared to ignore a reading of the Riot Act.

## HOW TO CLEAN YOUR CHIMNEY

We were recently called in after a fire to restore the clothes, rugs and other textiles in a home that became contaminated with smoke from a chimney that caught fire. Fortunately, no one was injured but the house was a mess.

I thought I would share with you how to clean your chimney yourself so you wouldn’t have to go through this routine-disrupting recovery. And of course, a fire in your home can be life-threatening.

But after my research, I decided that the best advice I could give would be for you to hire out this work to a chimney sweep service. After all, do you want to get on your roof and do this work yourself? And that’s just the beginning of a very messy job. Just “Call the Man” to get this done.

This is a task that needs your attention once a year – just to be safe!



**WE ARE AN OFFICIAL  
CORPORATE  
PARTNER OF  
SAMFORD ATHLETICS**



## YOUR BEST DEAL EVER! Home Laundry Done For You

Need some help with your regular laundry chores? Try our **Champion Hamper**<sup>SM</sup>

Just stuff your regular laundry items in our specially designed hamper and get your dirty laundry washed, dried and neatly folded. Rather than paying by the pound like typical "Wash, Dry & Fold" service, you pay one price of \$40 ... and leave the laundry to us!

In order to use this service, you must use our specially designed Hamper and there is a one-time charge of \$10 for each

**Champion Hamper**<sup>SM</sup>. Call your store for more information.

This service includes all of your regular laundry items like shirts, tee shirts, underwear, jeans, sheets, towels, etc. It does not include dry clean only items, items that must be air dried, leather, suede, bedspreads, comforters.

### 15% OFF

**DRY CLEANED GARMENTS**  
EXCLUDES LAUNDERED SHIRTS,

WEDDING GOWNS AND LEATHER/SUEDE  
Minimum 2 Items - Limit 20

Good for orders received in December  
Offer Expires December 31, 2019  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

### 10% OFF WASH DRY & FOLD

Let Us Take the Work Out  
of Your Wash Day

Good for orders received in December  
Offer Expires December 31, 2019  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

### 20% OFF Jeans

Minimum 2 Items - Limit 10

Good for orders received in December  
Offer Expires December 31, 2019  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

### 10% OFF

**TABLE LINENS  
TABLECLOTHS, NAPKINS,  
RUNNERS**

Minimum 2 Items - No Limit

Good for orders received in December  
Offer Expires December 31, 2019  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**Rocky Ridge Cleaning Center**  
2548 Rocky Ridge Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35243  
205.824.7737

**Greystone**  
5403 Highway 280, Suite 101 Hoover, AL 35242  
205.408.2797

**Calera Cleaning Center**  
4204 Highway 31 Calera, AL 35040  
205.668.4727

**Crestline**  
42-A Church Street, Mtn. Brook AL 35213  
205.871.2962

# Winter Solstice

Winter solstice occurs exactly when the axial tilt of a planet is farthest away from its star, depending on the polar hemisphere of reference. The significance of winter is the lengthening of nights and shortening of days. Many of our holiday traditions are the result of our attempts to bring light and greenery into our homes to battle the

darkness and lack of new growth in the garden. Look to the traditions of evergreen boughs, holly, and Yule logs, candles, and the singing of songs. Depending on the shift of the calendar, winter solstice usually occurs on December 21st or 22nd in the Northern Hemisphere. This year it is December 21st.



2548 Rocky Ridge Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243  
United States



PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
PERMIT #85

**NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019**

**Beside the normal stuff, we also clean:**

- Wedding Gowns
- Area Rug Cleaning
- Suedes and Leathers
- Purses, luggage and backpacks
- Ugg Boots

**And we do...**

1. We are a Certified Wedding Gown Specialist
2. We are part of the Certified Restoration Drycleaning Network (CRDN) - We handle textile and electronics restoration due to damage from smoke, fire, water and mold.
3. Home and office dry cleaning pickup and delivery
4. Wash Dry & Fold service - including Champion Hamper service

**Santa Jokes**



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Q:</b> What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa?               | <b>Q:</b> What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? |
| <b>A:</b> A rebel without a Claus.   | <b>A:</b> Claustrophobic.  |
| <b>Q:</b> Why is Christmas just like your job?                               | <b>Q:</b> Why did the snowman want a divorce?                    |
| <b>A:</b> You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets the credit. | <b>A:</b> Because his wife was a total flake.                    |
| <b>Q:</b> What do you call Santa if he also lives in the South Pole?         | <b>Q:</b> Why did the Grinch rob the liquor store?               |
| <b>A:</b> Bi-Polar.  | <b>A:</b> He desperately needed some holiday spirit.             |

**Holiday To-Do List...**

- Holiday To-Do List
- Update any holiday mailing list.
- Buy stamps, cards and wrapping supplies.
- Put all activities on a calendar.
- Make a list of gift recipients.
- Start your decorating.
- Do any online shopping. Order gifts now so you have lots of time to wrap them once they arrive.
- Make sure to schedule some down time - enjoy the season with family and friends.
- Send any holiday cards and make sure any out of town presents are mailed.
- Know what you'll be cooking and what family members will bring.
- Relax & enjoy this time with your family and friends!