



# The Whitehursts'

## Dry Cleaning News

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JANUARY 2022



Mark and Family      David and Sherry

## Baseball and Whiskers – Then and Now

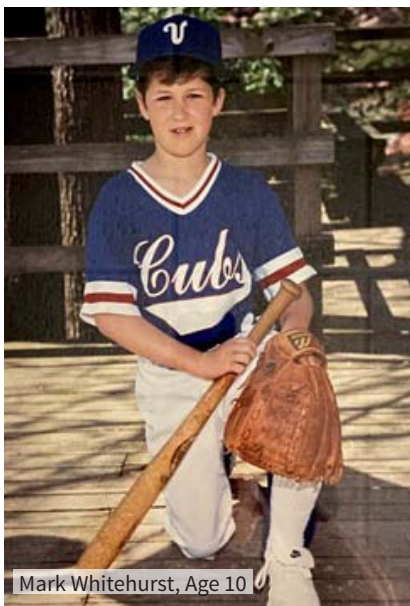
It was back in my day - spring 1958. I remember it well because that was the day my little league coach told me to put on the catcher's equipment.

On that day, putting on that equipment, I felt special. It was like a coronation. That was the day I fell in love with baseball. I learned that the catcher should know where every player should be moving on each pitch and each hit. There's strategy and teamwork in baseball. When played correctly, a baseball team moves as one - like a symphony.

Today, I still love baseball. Some people believe watching a baseball game is boring; it's too slow to enjoy. I don't see it that way. I equate a baseball game to a day fishing. Sometimes you catch something and sometimes you don't. But you always enjoy your time away from the grind.

In my kids' days, I introduced them to baseball. Those were fun days for my family. During the baseball season we were constantly on the go. It was a lovingly grueling time and worth it all.

My tenure as a catcher came in handy for my sons when building their pitching technique. But crouching down to catch my kids needing pitching reps was a lot for my lower back to endure. I learned in my 30's how my back would feel in my 70's. Fortunately, I solved that when I found a round log in my firewood pile that was cut smooth on both ends. Turned up on one end, it served as a



Mark Whitehurst, Age 10

seat for me for several years I was working with my sons in my back yard.

I never guessed that learning to be a catcher when I was 8 years old would help my kids learn how to be a pitcher when they were 8 years old. It's funny how things evolve in our journey through life.

Moving forward to today, every so often, a 35 or 45 year old guy will come up to me and introduce himself as one of the kids I coached. It seems that they can recognize me better than I recognize them. But when

you haven't seen a kid since he was 10 - and now he is 40 - there are a lot of changes that can make him hard to recognize.

I never even dreamed that those 10 year old kids would one day grow whiskers.

A couple of years ago, a young man approached me and introduced himself. His name is Hayden and he is about 37 today. Twenty-five years ago he was on my team. It was great to see him again. He reflected on our teams and playing baseball. He told me that of all the teams he played on, he learned more of how to play baseball from me. That made me feel special.

A couple of weeks ago, Sherry and I were at a local restaurant for a Friday night date. Hayden and Ben, another of my players, were there. We talked again about those days 25 years ago. We talked like adults even though I kept flashing back to when they were 10 years old.

There was something else different from those days. Something different besides whiskers.

Those kids bought our beer that night! I never imagined a 12 year old with whiskers buying me a beer.

*David*

Any comments? Email me at [David@ChampionCleaners.com](mailto:David@ChampionCleaners.com)



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

### Bring Home The Bacon



**Meaning:** To earn money, particularly for one's family; to be successful, especially financially successful.

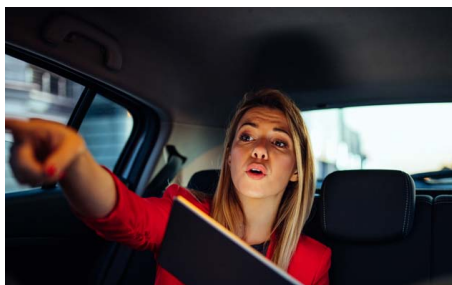
**Origin:** The origin of the phrase 'bring home the bacon' is sometimes suggested to be the story of the Dunmow Flitch. This tradition, which still continues every four years in Great Dunmow, Essex, is based on the story of a local couple who, in 1104, impressed the Prior of Little Dunmow with their marital devotion to the point that he awarded them a flitch [a side] of bacon.

In the US, the earliest we found “bring home the bacon” was when Joe Gans and ‘Battling’ Oliver Nelson fought for the widely reported world lightweight championship on September 3, 1906. In coverage of the fight, the New York newspaper The Post-Standard, September 4, 1906, reported that: Before the fight, Gans received a telegram from his mother: “Joe, the eyes of the world are on you. Everybody says you ought to win. Peter Jackson will tell me the news and you bring home the bacon.”

### Back Seat Driver

**Meaning:** Someone who criticizes from the sidelines.

**Origin:** This comes from the annoying habit of some people of giving unwanted advice to vehicle drivers. It emerged in the USA in the early 20th century, as motoring was becoming widespread. The figurative and derogatory meaning of ‘back-seat driver’ is unambiguous in this from The Bismarck Tribune - December 1921: “A back-seat driver is the pest who sits on the rear cushions of a motor car and tells the driver what to do. He issues a lot of instructions, gives a lot of advice,



offers no end of criticism. And doesn't do a bit of work.” We no longer need back-seat drivers in cars to nag us if we take a wrong turning; we now have our iPhone or Android for that. I wonder how long it will be before someone coins a negative term for them? Why don't you?

### Beat Around The Bush

**Meaning:** Not coming to the point.

**Origin:** The figurative meaning of the odd phrase ‘beat around the bush’ evolved from the earlier literal meaning used in the UK. In bird hunts some of the participants roused the birds by beating the bushes and enabling others, to use a much later phrase, to ‘cut to the chase’ and catch the quarry in nets. So ‘beating about the bush’ was the preamble to the main event, which was the capturing of the birds. Of course, grouse hunting and other forms of hunt still use beaters today. The phrase is old and first appears in the medieval poem Generydes - A Romance in Seven-line Stanzas, circa 1440: “Butt as it hath be sayde full long agoo, Some bete the bussh and some the byrdes take.”



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Our "On-Demand WDF" price is \$3.00/lb. Lower  
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**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

**Top 10 New Year's Resolutions**

*Source: Nielsen*

- 1 Stay fit and healthy 37%**
- 2 Lose weight 32%**
- 3 Enjoy life to the fullest 28%**
- 4 Spend less, save more 25%**
- 5 Spend more time with family and friends 19%**
- 6 Get organized 18%**
- 7 Will not make any resolutions 16%**
- 8 Learn something new/new hobby 14%**

- 9 Travel more 14%**
- 10 Read more 12%**

**WE RECYCLE  
HANGERS**

**Did you know that there is a  
hanger shortage in the USA?  
And did you know that we  
recycle hangers?**

Rather than throw them out to be taken to the  
land fill, please return your unneeded hangers  
and we will reuse your hangers. We would  
appreciate if you would sort them into like  
kinds to help with this conservation effort.



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## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022

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

- Wedding Gowns
- Area Rug Cleaning
- Suedes and Leathers
- Purses, luggage and backpacks
- Ugg Boots
- Wash Dry & Fold

### 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

## New Years Eve Jokes

**What do you tell someone you didn't see at New Year's Eve?** I haven't seen you for a year!

**What happened to the Irish man who thought about the evils of drinking in the New Year?** He gave up thinking.

**What do you call always wanting a date for New Year's Eve?** Social Security

**New Years Eve forecast:** Mostly drunk with a slight chance of passing out.

**My resolution was to read more so I put the subtitles on my TV.**

**I was going to quit all my bad habits for the new year, but then I remembered that nobody likes a quitter.**

**My New Years resolution is 1080p.**

## Time To Do This...

- ✓ Gather tax papers
- ✓ Clean out all bills and papers from 2015 and put them in a box, labeled 2015.
- ✓ Give your office space (home AND work) a thorough cleaning.
- ✓ Purge files, both on your computer and in your filing cabinet.
- ✓ Establish a filing system that you'll use on a REGULAR basis!
- ✓ Place both trash and recycling containers in your office
- ✓ Place pictures and objects in your office that give you pleasure