



The Whitehursts'

Dry Cleaning News

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DECEMBER 2021



Mark and Family David and Sherry

“May You Never Be Too Grown Up To Search The Skies On Christmas Eve.”

Details of my Christmases as a kid have leaked from my memory like water from a rusted bucket. I don't recall a specific gift I received as a kid, although I know I received plenty. Trying hard to recall more details was asking too much for my sometimes feeble brain.

But the details aren't that important. I remember the big picture, the important part, of the season – family, faith, and freedom. It's not just about the guy in the red suit.

I'm sharing memories of my family traditions from my childhood and my early adult years. If you're my age, you'll understand these traditions because this is how many of us experienced the holidays back in my day.

I remember riding through Birmingham with my family looking at the brightly-lit houses on crisp winter nights with a full moon more than half a century ago.

I remember looking for Santa in the sky when my mom walked me outside in my Popeye pajamas and slippers on a cold Christmas Eve.

I remember watching classic Christmas movies with the whole family, popcorn, and hot chocolate.

I remember the time spent with family on Christmas Day - kids, grandkids, cousins, parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. There's a hole in my heart remembering family members not with us anymore. There are more of us missing every year.

It's sharing Christmas with a lonely neighbor since she had no one else.

I remember the smells floating in the air like turkey roasting, cookies baking, fresh-cut pine, and rum-spiked eggnog (for my dad, of course). I don't know why I remember the smell of rum - I don't like rum!

It's also the doing and going that I remember, like decorating the tree, going to church, dressing up for church, searching through the Sears Catalog to make my list, driving downtown to gaze at the department store windows, wrapping gifts in secret, and hanging the lighted Santa head over the garage door with my dad.

It's filling the kids' stockings with candy, nuts, and snacks. It's assembling toys for my boys late on Christmas Eve that had more parts than a box of Lincoln logs. It's finding for my dad the one burned-out bulb that kept the entire string of Christmas lights from working - and strutting like the

lone cowboy walking out of the OK Corral.

Of course, I can't forget the sounds of Christmas. Carols sung by the church choir or played with 33 1/3 LP albums on the family stereo are at the top of my list. I remember saying grace over the Christmas dinner and waking up early to the whispering and giggling kids on Christmas morning.

Those are the Christmas feelings that have stuck with me over seven decades.

What I know is that Christmas is a time of slowing down, looking up, being present, and reflecting on your family, faith, and freedom.

All of us at Champion Cleaners wish you a very merry Christmas – and don't forget to search the skies on Christmas Eve.

David

Any comments? Email me at David@ChampionCleaners.com



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

Lovey-Dovey



Meaning: The affectionate stuff that people in love do, such as kissing and hugging.

Origin: The origin of this phrase is not clear. What we are about to state is obvious, but it looks like someone took the words ‘love’ and ‘dove’ and then added the letter ‘y’ to the end of them. Perhaps this was done to make them sound cuter. Why combine these two words, though? Well, the dove bird is sometimes used as a symbol for love, so that might have something to do with it, and there’s also the whole thing where these words rhyme with one another.

Alright, so not much is known about this expression. What I do know, however, is that this saying has existed for around 200 years, at least, possibly longer. For example, *The Metropolis*, a book published in 1819, there’s a part from it that reads: “My dearest love--love, dovey, or odious ducky!” However, apparently the phrase goes back even further than that, by 60 years, as claimed by Robert Hendrickson in the *Facts on File of Word and Phrase Origins*: “It is recorded first in England in 1769 as a term of affection: ‘The domestic Lovies and Dovies.’ “

Love-Birds

Meaning: A pair of people who have a shared love for each other.

Origin: Lovebirds are small parrots that are very fond of their mate. They get their name from the strong affection they show for their partner, often sitting next to them for lengthy periods of time. Aw, how adorable! Well, it would seem that at some point, people who were showing affection for one another began being compared to a couple of lovebirds. An early example of this that we found in writing comes from the *Burlington Hawk Eye* newspaper,



1897: “The two Norwegians sat on a chest side by side, alike and placid, resembling a pair of love-birds in a perch.”

WHEN YOUR CLEANING MACHINES GET STINKY

Even the machines you use to clean can get dirty and stink. Here are some easy ways to fix this stinky problem.

Dishwasher

Remove the filter along with any built up food or gunk. Wash the filter under warm water, wipe out the gunk in the filter recess, and replace the filter. Wipe down the floor in the dishwasher, especially in the corners.

Front-Load Washer

Wipe down the build up of detergent around the gasket and leave the door open to dry out. Detergent build up can cause odors is usually caused by adding too much detergent and fabric softener.

Garbage Disposal

Put a few ice cubes in your disposal, add a tablespoon of baking soda, a few lemon slices, and more ice cubes. Then you can grind it, rinse it, and breathe freely.

CHAMPION CLEANERS VOTED BEST OF ...

Birmingham
Vestavia Hills | Hoover
Mountain Brook | Shelby County

10% OFF

**DRY CLEANED GARMENTS
EXCLUDES LAUNDERED
SHIRTS AND BLOUSES**

Minimum 3 Items - Limit 20

1 coupon per household. Free Pickup & Delivery
Good for orders received in December
Offer Expires 12/31/21
Cannot be combined with any other offer

20% OFF

SUIT/SPORT COATS

Minimum 2 - Limit 10

1 coupon per household. Free Pickup & Delivery
Good for orders received in December
Offer Expires 12/31/21
Cannot be combined with any other offer

20% OFF

**TABLE LINENS
TABLECLOTHS,
RUNNERS, NAPKINS**

1 coupon per household. Free Pickup & Delivery
Good for orders received in December
Offer Expires 12/31/21
Cannot be combined with any other offer

20% OFF

**ANY WEDDING GOWN
CLEANING, PRESERVATION,
OR RESTORATION SERVICE**

1 coupon per household. Free Pickup & Delivery
Good for orders received in December
Offer Expires 12/31/21
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**WE CAN TAKE THE WORK OUT
OF YOUR WASH DAY!**

**Champion Cleaner's
Wash Dry & Fold Service**

If you put it in your washer and dryer, we will
do that for you. Then we'll neatly fold your
clothes, towels, sheets and more then return
them to you ready to put away.

Our "On-Demand WDF" price is \$3.00/lb. Lower
prices are available if you sign up for one of our
monthly subscription plans.

30 lbs. - \$59

50 lbs. - \$99

90 lbs. - \$179

That's less than \$2.00 per lb.

Subscription plans are cancellable anytime. See our
website for details. Some restrictions apply.
Price includes Free Pickup & Delivery in our service area.



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

Where does the term "Christmas" come from
and what does it mean?



You would think that it originates from the word "Christ". Makes sense, but it doesn't. Christmas is a shortened form of "Christ's Mass", or "Cristes Maesse" as it was first recorded in 1038. It was then followed by the words "Cristes-messe" in 1131 according to the Catholic Encyclopedia. The word "Christ" or "Crist" comes from the Greek word "Khristos". When translated from the Hebrew word Messiah, it means "anointed". The last part of Christmas--maesse--comes from the Latin word "missa", which is the celebration of the

Eucharist tradition of eating bread and drinking wine.

So there you have it! Merry Christmas!

**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.



**WE ARE AN
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NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

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



Top Ten Things To Say About A Christmas Gift You Don't Like

- 10 **Hey! There's a gift!**
- 9 **Well, well, well ...**
- 8 **Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes that would've fit.**
- 7 **This is perfect for wearing around the basement.**
- 6 **Gosh. I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season though. There are lots of unexplained fires.**
- 5 **If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!**
- 4 **I love it -- but I fear the jealousy it will inspire.**
- 3 **Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Federal Witness Protection Program.**
- 2 **To think -- I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity.**
- 1 **"I really don't deserve this."**

And the Number One Thing to say about a Christmas gift you don't like:



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!