

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too)
Values & Character + Spiritual Life + Relationships + Fun stuff

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 Rich or Marie Dymmel
 (336/674-7564 or 336/908-3652)

Crimson & White? What's this?

... This letter is part of a ministry primarily to students and singles. It started with college students. Now about 60% of the mailing list are college students, 20% middle and high school, and 10% are age 22 to 30, and we'll just leave ages unsaid for the last 10% since, well, they're old.. Articles are on character, values, spiritual life, relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's Son, eternal, part of the single triune God, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified and risen, and is the *only* way to eternal life. We are free to choose Him. He has told us to be holy and that includes behaviors such as: sex outside of marriage is wrong.

This letter and post cards are sent about twice a month. We're trying to say that you are important enough for us to put this in your mailbox. We care about you and want to encourage your character growth and your spiritual walk.

A second part of the ministry is prayer. We pray for each person on our mailing list as the mail is prepared. When you get mail from us, you know someone prayed for you.

A college student reader chose the name **Crimson and White Connection** based on Isaiah 1:18 in the Bible "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." The cleansing of our nature and our sins is a universal need. If you base your trust for entrance into Heaven in Jesus, God's Son, and His death and resurrection on your behalf, then your crimson stains are made white as wool. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way. If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and have asked Him to forgive you, then He has forgiven you. If you are truly repentant, then there will be evidence of that in your actions, your life. -- If the "religion police" were to arrest you, would you be turned loose for "lack of evidence"? Or would the evidence of your actions convict you of being a Christian?

If you have chosen to accept Jesus as Lord of your life, either the first time or again, we would like to know so that we can pray for you and encourage you. Write or call us.

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today.

John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

The Rebel Bugle....

December 12, 2005
Merry Christmas

Whichever masthead you're familiar with, "Crimson & White Connection," or "The Rebel Bugle," which has been our family Christmas card since 1985, ...

*Wishing you a most joyous Holiday,
 and the Peace and Joy of the King of Kings*

Rich & Marie Dymmel



Christmas J  y

(c) Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D. 2005

I'm not sure why, I just really seem to be caught up in the "childish" ideas around Christmas this year. Namely "Santa Claus." Maybe it's Gabe is going on two and we're anticipating what it will be like Christmas morning. Maybe I am so struck by Lauren's desire to give gifts to other children. -- Oh, you'll find Christmas in here, but I just really feel like having some fun, so you'll find a lot of "Santa" in here... just for fun. And Santa Claus is about gifts. And Christmas is about the biggest gift ever ... ever in the history of the world. You can find the "Christmas story" starting in Matthew 1:18 and in Luke 1 and 2. Want the short version? For those of you like me, I'm a little ADD, a little hyper, shorty attention span, all that... here it is in one verse, in one sentence, three translations: (KJV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(New Century) God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.
 (The Message) This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. (John 3:16)

"Not be lost." It's like God created the ultimate GPS. It's better than On-Star. We had someone with a new Mercedes program our address in and they got lost because the car's system couldn't find the address. "Lost" is terrible. "Destroyed" in The Message is even worse. But instead find and have a "whole and lasting life."

God so loved the world, you, me, that he gave us a gift.

Well ... I just wish you a Super-Duper-Merry Christmas ... with Jesus this year.

Oh? What would I like for Christmas? A note from you that says, "I accepted the gift of life in Jesus" would be the most perfect gift anyone could give me.

In Christ, Rich

Do you have a relationship with God where you know He has accepted you just as you are? A relationship like with a loving father? If not, call me at 336-674-7564. Or call 1-888-NEED-HIM. -- With God, you have never gone too far to return.

Strange Math: Cookies + Lemonade = Bicycles

May I tell you about "giving"? Hey, it's a grampa thing. I just have to "brag" a little about the grandchildren (and my kids, too, because they are teaching their children).

When our boys were home and pretty much grown, high school and college anyway. Marie would often work at the hospital on Christmas Day so others with little children could be home on Christmas day. The boys and I, and Jessica, (the picture is Christmas Day 1992, Matt and Jessica) would put some candy and a miniature ornament and a bow in zip-lock baggies, put on "Santa hats," and go over to the hospital on Christmas and walk the halls giving the bags out to patients and staff and everyone we saw. One year it was snowing and nothing was open. We stopped at the highway truck stop and had our Christmas dinner there.

Christmas '03. Lauren is 3 1/2. Matt takes her to the city Angel Tree and has her pick five angels. He thought each angel was a child. - They were families. Well, can't put them back. He calls us and asks, "When we were home, we used to do angel tree kids. We have five families. Want to help?" So we help with grocery store gift cards. And they go and deliver Christmas to families and find bare pantries and help stock them. Lauren takes ornaments off the tree in her room to give to the children.

Christmas '04. Matt monitors Lauren picking angels and they take three. One has a 6 year old child that wants a bike. Lauren says, "I want to get them the bike." "You don't have any money for a bike." "Ahh. Can I make cookies and sell them at a cookie and lemonade stand?" And last year she made \$130 "selling" cookies and lemonade; bought a bike and other toys for the children on the angel tree.

This year she says, "Mommy we have to start making cookies." "Why?" "For my children." "What children are you talking about?" "My angel tree children. I need to sell cookies and lemonade to buy toys for them." - - And in two days they made 240 cookies and a flyer that she delivered to all the houses in her neighborhood. - - The day of the cookie sale, Lauren took in over \$300!! "I can buy 5 or 6 bicycles now!!" - - Word got out about Lauren's cookie sale and she was even interviewed by the newspaper. Front page of the local news.

A few days later a program was on TV and the people were crying... "Why are they crying, Mommy?" Lauren asked. "Because they didn't have a home and those other people gave them a house and they're happy." Are you ready for this? Lauren thinks a moment and then says, "Someday I want to give people houses."

Giving... gifts... That is what Christmas is about. Giving gifts is what "Santa Claus" is about. ... Giving gifts is what God is about. God gave mankind a gift at what we now celebrate as Christmas. Jesus is the ultimate gift, a way for us to understand God, a way for us to spend eternity with God rather than separated from God. Jesus... because He cared enough to send the very best. All we have to do is accept His gift.



Jesica & Matt
Christmas Day '92
distributing candy pack-
ets to patients and staff
at the hospital

Lauren making 240
cookies for the sale



The day of the
cookie sale



1 CORINTHIANS 13 FOR CHRISTMAS

If I speak in the tongues of Christmas materialism and greed but have not love, I am only a tinny Christmas song or an out of tune choir.

If I have the gift of knowing what Aunt Agatha will give me this year and can even understand last year's present, and if I have the faith that I won't get yet more socks and ties this year but have not love, I am nothing.

If I clear out the house and give everything to charity and my credit cards are snapped in half but have not love, what can I possibly gain?

Love is patient when the fourth store you've tried doesn't have a bottle garden. Love is kind and lets the couple with only a few items go in front of you and your bulging shopping cart.

Love does not envy your friend who gets mega-presents from everybody.

Love does not boast about the £400 bike, the Xbox 360, the TV, VCR, and computer your dad gave you.

Love does not attempt to out buy, out wrap, and out give the rest of the family just to impress.

Love doesn't cut Aunt Flo off your Christmas card list because she forgot you last year.

Love is not self-seeking and leaves a copy of your Christmas list in every room of the house.

Love is not easily angered when the young girl at the checkout takes forever because she is just temporary staff.

Love doesn't keep remembering how many times your mum forgets you don't like Brussels sprouts.

Love does not delight in the commercial bandwagon but rejoices with the truth of a baby born in the stable.

Love always protects the family from Christmas hype.

Love always trusts that the hiding places for presents will remain secret for another year.

Love always hopes that this year more neighbors will drop in to your open house coffee morning.

Love always perseveres until the cards are written, the presents all bought, the shopping done, and the Christmas cake iced.

Toys may break, socks wear thin but love never fails.

Where there is the feeling of the presents to guess their contents, and mum going on about being good so Father Christmas will come, and searching through the cupboards to find your hidden presents, they will all stop.

For we think we know what we are getting, and we hope we know what we are getting but when Christmas Day arrives all will be revealed.

When I was a child I talked with big wide-open eyes about Christmas, thought that Christmas was all about me, I reasoned that Jesus should have been born more often. When I became an adult, I forgot the joy, wonder, and excitement of this special time.

Now we just hear about the angels, shepherds, and wise men, then we shall see them all the time. Now I know as much as the Bible says about the first Christmas, then I shall know just how many wise men there were and where they came from.

Now three things remain to be done:

To have faith that the baby born in a stable is the Son of God.

To hope that the true message of Christmas will not get discarded with the wrapping paper and unwanted gifts.

And the most important to have a love for others like the one that God has for us.

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When you get something forwarded on the net, well, it's accuracy may be in doubt. So I did some research at the San Diego Zoo and their reindeer exhibit. It's true. - Rich.

REMEMBER THIS AT CHRISTMAS TIME



According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should've known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and **NOT GET LOST!**

http://www.sandiegozoo.org/kids/animal_reindeer.html
San Diego Zoo site

Zoo Name: Tundra

Species: Siberian Reindeer

Reindeer Games

.... Both male and female reindeer grow antlers, and drop them at different times of the year. And since females have their rack of antlers in winter, to help protect food sources and unborn calves against the males... Yep, you guessed it! Santa's reindeer are females!

Christmas Carols for the Psychiatrically Challenged

DEMENTIA - I Think I'll Be Home For Christmas.

NARCISSISTIC - Hark The Herald Angels Sing (About Me)

MANIA - Deck the Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town ...or Deck the Halls and Spare No Expense!

PARANOIA - Santa Claus is Coming To Get Me.

PERSONALITY DISORDER - You Better Watch Out, I'm Gonna Cry, I'm Gonna out, then MAYBE I'll tell you why.

DEPRESSION - Silent anhedonia, Holy anhedonia. All is calm, All is pretty lonely.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE - Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell...

BORDERLINE PERSONALITY - Thoughts of Roasting in an Open Fire.

PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE - On the First Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me (and then took it all away).

SCHIZOPHRENIA - Do You Hear What I Hear?

The Famous Joke of the Day One Liner!

Those who dance are considered insane by those who can't hear the music. — George Carlin [Do you hear the music of Christmas? The *real* music?]

Little eight year old Virginia O'Hanlon, of 115 West 95th Street in New York, wrote to the New York Sun, in 1897, and said that some of her friends said Santa does not exist. She went on, 'Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun, it's so'. Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?' And this is what editor Francis P. Church wrote ...

Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We would have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Bah, Humbug, Virginia!

Read scrooge science teacher's rebuttal!

Ok, I am a scrooge. I tell my physics students that there is no Santa Claus! Well, if I lie about that, they might think I am lying about more important matters, too. Well, on to my rebuttal (B000!...I know, I know) to Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus:

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

As a result of an overwhelming lack of requests, and with research help from that renowned scientific journal SPY magazine (January, 1990) - I am pleased to present the annual scientific inquiry into Santa Claus.

1. No known species of reindeer can fly. BUT there are 300,000 species of living organisms yet to be classified, and while most of these are insects and germs, this does not COMPLETELY rule out flying reindeer which only Santa has ever seen.
2. There are 2 billion children (persons under 18) in the world. BUT since Santa doesn't (appear) to handle the Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist children, that reduces the workload to 15% of the total - 378 million according to Population Reference Bureau. At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, that's 91.8 million homes. One presumes there's at least one good child in each.
3. Santa has 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 822.6 visits per second. This is to say that for each Christian household with good children, Santa has [just over] 1/1000th of a second to park, hop out of the sleigh, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left, get back up the chimney, get back into the sleigh and move on to the next house. Assuming that each of these 91.8 million stops are evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false but for the purposes of our calculations we will accept), we are now talking about .78 miles

per household, a total trip of 75-1/2 million miles, not counting stops to do what most of us must do at least once every 31 hours, plus feeding and etc.

4. This means that Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per second, 3,000 times the speed of sound. For purposes of comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle on earth, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a pokey 27.4 miles per second - a conventional reindeer can run, tops, 15 miles per hour.
5. The payload on the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized lego set (2 pounds), the sleigh is carrying 321,300 tons, not counting Santa, who is invariably described as overweight. On land, conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even granting that "flying reindeer" (see point #1) could pull TEN TIMES the normal amount, we cannot do the job with eight, or even nine. We need 214,200 reindeer. This increases the payload - not even counting the weight of the sleigh - to 353,430 tons. Again, for comparison - this is four times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth.
6. 353,000 tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance - this will heat the reindeer up in the same fashion as spacecrafts reentering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer will absorb 14.3 QUINTILLION joules of energy. Per second. Each. In short, they will burst into flame almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team will be vaporized within 4.26 thousandths of a second. Santa, meanwhile, will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500.06 times greater than gravity. A 250-pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of his sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force.

In conclusion - If Santa ever DID deliver presents on Christmas Eve, he's dead now.

Read the counter-rebuttal to the above rebuttal from the folks of X-mas Files who claim to have proof not only that Santa exists, able to travel at great speeds, but that he existed in prehistoric times!!! (Go to www.Christmas.com/fun and scroll down to "The X-MAS files" for the pictures and stories in support of Santa and also downloadable coloring pages)

THE X-MAS FILES

<http://www.christmas.com/pe/39>

In 1994, the release of the MH-2600 Cyber Sleigh specifications astounded scientists and Scrooges worldwide. For many, that was not enough proof. They still didn't Believe.

During the Summer of 1995, high-powered microwave signals were intercepted from the North Pole to a spot somewhere in New York City. When the FCC attempted to triangulate it's source and destination, officials overheard part of the conversation. Although they were unavailable for comment, sources say it was Santa Claus placing a call back to his home up North. These same sources also claim Santa Claus has been making regular visits into society during the off-season, sometimes passing as an ordinary person.

That is where WE come in.

Children and Adults alike commonly come to conclusion that

there is no Santa Claus. To disprove this myth, our team was assembled under the guidelines of the Elves in Black. The best researchers, investigators, photographers, and cameramen in the world bring you the XMAS files. The following images have been pulled from our archives. Permission for release to the general public has been cleared through both the Elves in Black [EIB] Ministry of Information and the United Nations:

<http://www.christmas.com/pe/40>

In search of the Mysterious Cyber-Sleigh

Cyber-Sleigh Sighting!

On November 5th, 1996, NOAA officials reported strange atmospheric activity somewhere near the North Pole.

This segment of footage was obtained from an unidentified military spy satellite before it's camera was mysteriously "turned off". Scientists around the world have analyzed this footage to determine the origin of this vessel. As of this writing, it has been confirmed that this is genuine footage of the Mysterious Cyber-Sleigh and an actual glimpse of the even more elusive Saint Nick!

Case Photo #3082

Ancient Egyptian Papyrus offers proof of his existence.

A Christmas.com Exclusive Report

EIB case photo: #3650

Ever wonder why the NASA photo of the "Astronaut's Footprint on the Moon" is cropped so close?

This is the actual full shot of the astronaut's footprint in the lunar soil,

photographed with a 70mm lunar surface camera during the Apollo 11 extravehicular activity on the moon. The "un-
age
me
"hoof
to it.

Zoologists have confirmed that these hoofprints were not made by extraterrestrials, but by a

species of reindeer. Sources say the astronaut was actually photographing these prints for NASA researchers. Due to unforeseen circumstances, news leaked out that NASA had photos of a footprint on the moon and, in turn, resorted to cropping out the rest of the image to save the public from this "damaging evidence that we were not the first on the moon". Researchers speculate that Subject Kringle may use the moon as a refueling point during his Christmas flight schedule.

Case Photo #4279

This stone monolith and surrounding stone circle outside of Drombeg, Ireland has a very interesting design.

Case Photo #4918

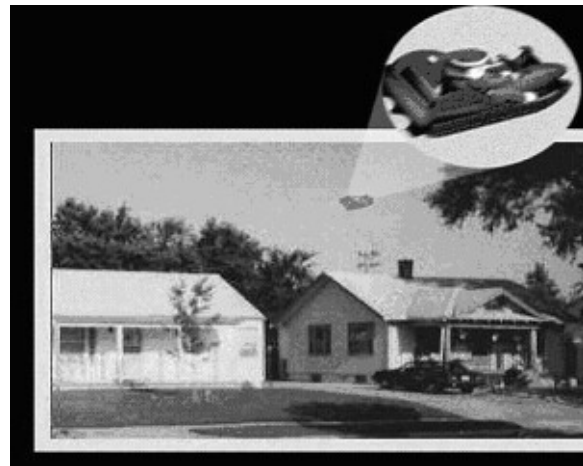
Santa spotted during 1975 ASP World Surfing Tour.

Case Photo #5025

Photo of Santa discovered during UFO investigation!

This photograph was taken over officer's quarters near a United States Air Force base in 1993. This evidence remained in a high security USAF archive pending a full military investigation as a UFO sighting. After studying the recently released Cyber Sleigh footage, scientists determined that this is clearly a picture of Santa Claus in his sleigh banking to the right during a fast lift-off. Incidentally, the photo mysteriously vanished from the USAF's possession in early 1994 and did not

surface again until last year when an officer's son (living in the house with a chimney) teased his little brother and made him cry by saying "There is No Santa Claus." For Christmas, the misbehaved youth received a lump of coal - and this photo. Once this picture made its way into the hands of the Project X-mas Team, USAF officials promptly disavowed all knowledge of the photo, its origin, or its authenticity.



Case Photo #5772

Image of an 1852 group of Atsina Plains Warriors and "Tunkashila Claus".

Case Photo #6700

Snapshot of Kringle on vacation.

Case Photo #7456

Kringle preparing to windsurf off the beaches of Maui.

Why Women Would Love Being Santa Claus

1. You'd never be expected to make the coffee.
2. There'd be no more early morning decisions about what to wear to the office.
3. You could grow a gut the size of Fat Albert's and consider it a job requirement.
4. One big black belt - accessorized for life!
5. There'd be no reason to have your colours done.
6. Everyone would be extremely nice to you, even if you weren't.
7. Should people suggest your belly jiggled... that is when you giggled... like a bowlful of jelly, you could hit them with your purse.
8. You'd always work in sensible footwear.
9. There'd be no need to play office politics; a hearty 'Ho! Ho! Ho!', would remind everyone who's boss.
10. You wouldn't need an expensive briefcase.
11. No one would dare ask for a ride to work.
12. Never again have to wear pantyhose or worry about your slip showing.
13. No more trips to the vending machine... you'd just snack on milk and cookies all day.
14. You'd never be asked to take an early retirement package.
15. Juggling work and family would be a breeze because your children would adore you; even your teen-agers would want to sit in your lap.
16. You'd be guaranteed the best chair in the office.
17. Age discrimination wouldn't be an issue.
18. You'd never grab the wrong coat on your way out the door.
19. No one would ask to see your job description.
20. Your co-workers would be on notice that they'd better not pout.

A Technical Night Before Christmas

The scientific and politically Correct Version of *The Night Before Christmas*

[This is why scientists, engineers, and mathematicians aren't popular writers.]

'Twas The Nocturnal Segment of the Dieurnal Period.....

'Twas the nocturnal segment of the diurnal period preceding the annual Yuletide celebration, and throughout our place of residence, kinetic activity was not in evidence among the possessors of this potential, including that species of domestic rodent known as *Mus musculus*. Hosiery was meticulously suspended from the forward edge of the wood burning caloric apparatus, pursuant to our anticipatory pleasure regarding an imminent visitation from an eccentric philanthropist among whose folkloric appellations is the honorific title of St. Nicholas.

The prepubescent siblings, comfortably ensconced in their respective accommodations of repose, were experiencing subconscious visual hallucinations of variegated fruit confections moving rhythmically through their cerebrums. My conjugal partner and I, attired in our nocturnal head coverings, were about to take slumberous advantage of the hibernal darkness when upon the avenaceous exterior portion of the grounds there ascended such a cacophony of dissonance that I felt compelled to arise with alacrity from my place of repose for the purpose of ascertaining the precise source thereof.

Hastening to the casement, I forthwith opened the barriers sealing this fenestration, noting thereupon that the lunar brilliance without, reflected as it was on the surface of a recent crystalline precipitation, might be said to rival that of the solar meridian itself - thus permitting my incredulous optical sensory organs to behold a miniature airborne runner conveyance drawn by eight diminutive specimens of the genus *Rangifer*, piloted by a minuscule, aged chauffeur so ebullient and nimble that it became instantly apparent to me that he was indeed our anticipated caller. With his ungulate motive power traveling at what may possibly have been more vertiginous velocity than patriotic alar predators, he vociferated loudly, expelled breath musically through contracted labia, and addressed each of the octet by his or her respective cognomen - "Now Dasher, now Dancer..." et al. - guiding them to the uppermost exterior level of our abode, through which structure I could readily distinguish the concatenations of each of the 32 cloven pedal extremities.

As I retracted my cranium from its erstwhile location, and was performing a 180-degree pivot, our distinguished visitant achieved - with utmost celerity and via a downward leap - entry by way of the smoke passage. He was clad entirely in animal pelts soiled by the ebony residue from oxidations of carboniferous fuels which had accumulated on the walls thereof. His resemblance to a street vendor I attributed largely to the plethora of assorted playthings which he bore dorsally in a commodious cloth receptacle.

His orbs were scintillant with reflected luminosity, while his submaxillary dermal indentations gave every evidence of engaging amiability. The capillaries of his malar regions and nasal appurtenance were engorged with blood which suffused the subcutaneous layers, the former approximating the coloration of Albion's floral emblem, the latter that of the *Prunus avium*, or sweet cherry. His amusing sub- and supralabials resembled nothing so much as a common loop knot, and their ambient hirsute facial adornment appeared like small, tabular and columnar crystals of frozen water.

Clenched firmly between his incisors was a smoking piece whose grey fumes, forming a tenuous ellipse about his occiput, were suggestive of a decorative seasonal circlet of holly. His visage was wider than it was high, and when he waxed audibly mirthful, his corpulent abdominal region undulated in the manner of impecuniated fruit syrup

in a hemispherical container. He was, in short, neither more nor less than an obese, jocund, multigenarian gnome, the optical perception of whom rendered me visibly frolicsome despite every effort to refrain from so being. By rapidly lowering and then elevating one eyelid and rotating his head slightly to one side, he indicated that trepidation on my part was groundless.

Without utterance and with dispatch, he commenced filling the aforementioned appended hosiery with various of the aforementioned articles of merchandise extracted from his aforementioned previously dorsally transported cloth receptacle. Upon completion of this task, he executed an abrupt about-face, placed a single manual digit in lateral juxtaposition to his olfactory organ, inclined his cranium forward in a gesture of leave-taking, and forthwith effected his egress by renegotiating (in reverse) the smoke passage. He then propelled himself in a short vector onto his conveyance, directed a musical expulsion of air through his contracted oral sphincter to the antlered quadrupeds of burden, and proceeded to soar aloft in a movement hitherto observable chiefly among the seed-bearing portions of a common weed. But I overheard his parting exclamation, audible immediately prior to his vehiculation beyond the limits of visibility: "Ecstatic Yuletide to the planetary constituency, and to that self same assemblage, my sincerest wishes for a salubriously beneficial and gratifyingly pleasurable period between sunset and dawn."

www.cstone.net/~bry-back/holidayfun/hannukah.html and
www.everythingjewish.com/Hanukah/origins.htm

Do you know what Hanukah celebrates?

[Since Jesus was a Jew, my guess is that he celebrated Hanukah. We're told to pass our heritage and our faith on to our children by retelling the stories, by writing it on our doorposts and gates. See Deuteronomy chapters 6 and 11.]

The origins of Hanukah or the Festival of Lights are an event that happened 200 years before the birth of Christ. A king named Antiochus attempted to have all Jewish persons under his reign follow the Greek religion. For all its beauty and accomplishments, especially in the fields of athletics, theater and philosophy, Hellenism had a dark side. In ancient Greece, behavior that is today considered deviant, such as infanticide, pedophilia, adultery and institutionalized prostitution, were routine and even encouraged. To Jews, who valued the Torah and purity of family life, these aspects of Hellenistic culture was incompatible with their own.

Under the leadership of Judah Maccabee, there was a rebellion.

After three years of fighting, the Maccabees drove the Greek soldiers away. The Maccabees wanted to rededicate the temple, but were only able to find enough oil for one day. Miraculously, the oil lasted eight days; long enough to make new oil.

An important part of the Hanukah celebration is the menorah. This is a candleholder with eight candles and a shammash or servant candle. One candle is lit by the shammash for each of the nights of Hanukah.

After the lighting of the candles, people give gifts to one another. People sing and make merry. A popular food for Hanukah is potato pancakes, or latkes, cooked in oil in honor of the miracle.

Children enjoy playing the dreidel game. This is a top game played with nuts or gold-covered chocolate coins. There are four letters of the top which stand for nun, gimel, hay, and shin and give the directions for what to give or take during the game. The letters also stand for "nes gadol hayah sham" or "a great miracle happened there."



Crimson & White Connection

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Dec. 10, 2005

Christmas

Spiritual and otherwise (like did you know that Dec. 26 is actually Whiner's Day?)

**Please help us with information on
contacting YOUR campus newspaper**

**You can't be good enough to deserve
heaven. And you can't be bad enough
to be beyond God's forgiveness.**

Someone PRAYED for YOU and mentioned YOUR NAME before God's throne
as this was prepared for mailing. God bless and watch over you today.

A publication so dangerous it now
comes with it's own warning label.

WARNING

Do not read the Crimson &
White Connection unless you
want your HEART
ENCOURAGED and your MIND
CHALLENGED and your
SPIRIT PRODDED

Yes! This is a subversive, challenging, counter-
culture publication. That's what Christianity is - a
counter-culture. This should have a warning label.



Kartoon Knuggets
www.christiancartoons.com/kartoons



Lift HIS name on high! Psalm 7:17

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Trey Knechtel

knechtel@sidestream.com

You are cordially invited to A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!!

Guest of Honor: Jesus Christ

Date: Every day. Traditionally, December 25
but He's always around, so the date is flexible....

Time: Whenever you're ready.

(Please don't be late, though, or you'll miss out on all the fun!)

Place: In your heart.... He'll meet you there.

(You'll hear Him knock.)

Attire: Come as you are... grubbies are okay.

He'll be washing our clothes anyway. He said something about new white robes
and crowns for everyone who stays till the last.

Tickets: Admission is free.

He's already paid for everyone... He says you wouldn't have been able to afford it
anyway... it cost Him everything He had. But you do need to accept the ticket!!

Gift Suggestions: Your life.

He's one of those people who already has everything else.
(He's very generous in return though. Just wait 'til you see what He has for you!)

**Entertainment: Joy, Peace, Truth,
Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness,
Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing, Power, Eternity
in Paradise, Contentment, and much more!**

For those of you whom I will see at the party, share this with someone today.