

NORAD To Track Santa In 2006

Christmas Eve, 1955: The commander of the Continental Air Defense, Colonel Harry Shoup, picks up his hotline to hear a child reciting his Christmas list. He is not amused.

That call is followed by another. And another. And Shoup, after speaking with a child's mother, discovers that a Sears ad has inadvertently printed the air defense commands phone number instead of a number for Santa. Shoup instructs staff to tell each child who called Santa's position on their radar. And so was born the precursor of the NORAD Santa Tracking program.

Today volunteers at the U.S.-Canada NORAD, the multinational aerospace defense system, each year track Santa through his world travels and, since the advent of the Internet, you can watch Santa's progress yourself at noradsanta.org.

According to NORAD, the military organization brings its top technology to bear on tracking Santa: radar, satellites, Santa Cams, and even jet fighters.

Families will find the NORAD Web site an all-purpose holiday center with fabulous Christmas songs by U.S. and Canadian Air and Naval bands, maps, coloring books, puzzles, and Santa countdowns.

You can even find out why Santa is such a jolly old elf with a belly like a bowl full of jelly since NORAD tracks exactly the number of cookies Santa eats on Christmas Eve. Santa's reindeer snack, too, eating lots of carrots during their busy Christmas Eve.

December Events

- 7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
- 22 Winter begins.
- 24 Christmas Eve.
- 25 Christmas Day.
- 26-Jan.1 Kwanzaa.
- 31 New Year's Eve.

Hanukkah With Mountains Of Doughnuts

Hanukkah, also known as The Jewish Festival of Lights, is a celebration mingling fun and competition with the religious observance.



Many of the tasty treats of Hanukkah, such as latkes and fried jelly doughnuts are cooked in oil celebrating the miracle of one day's oil lighting a menorah for eight days during the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem. In 1997, near the Israeli town of Afula, a group built a pyramid of fried jelly doughnuts (sufganiyot) placing 6,400 of the doughnuts in a 12-foot high pyramid.

The food didn't go to waste. When the pyramid was taken down, the doughnuts were given to Israeli soldiers.

In 1977, a menorah was built in Latrun near the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway. More than 60 feet tall, it weighed 17 tons. It required a crane to lift a rabbi each night to light the candles.

The Lubavitch Youth Organization built a 32-foot high gold-colored menorah in 1998. Situated in New York City's Central Park, the menorah boasted glass chimneys to protect the lights from the wind.

Not all materials used in building menorahs are traditional. A menorah in Upper Manhattan was made from food cans, one in Russia was a giant ice sculpture, Miami Beach boasted one made of seashells, and Connecticut displayed one made from Legos.

 Our reports are printed on-site.
 Starting 1/1/07, full color pictures will be included in the report pages for easy viewing.

Do You Have A Question About Home Maintenance That You Want Answered?

We love to hear from all of our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question about anything related to your house, feel free to give us a call at **PHONE: # 715-341-5970** or **EMAIL inspector@goida.com**

Learn To Be More Charming: You'll Get More Of What You Want

You probably know a man and a woman who are obviously charming. They seem to draw people to themselves, people who want to be with them and are likely to do whatever the charmer wants.

Some people seem to be naturally charming, but the trait is not necessarily in-born. It can be learned and developed. The key is not to be more appealing to others, but to make others feel good about themselves. Some ways to do it:

- * Make every person you meet feel special. Greet them with enthusiasm and act as if you are thrilled to see them again. In his book, *The Power of Charm: How to Win Anyone Over in Any Situation* (Amacom), Brian Tracy says you can capture a person's trust and attention within the first few seconds of meeting. You can win their support.
- * Show appreciation. Thank everyone you come in contact with for whatever you can think of. It boosts their self-confidence, and makes them feel better about themselves. They are then drawn to you for making them feel that way. Showing appreciation also makes you feel better about yourself.
- * Find something to praise people for. People have a great need for praise and will do more to get your praise again. Don't let them say what they did was nothing special.

No matter how smart or experienced you may be, 85 percent of your ability to succeed at anything depends on your ability to win people over, to charm them.

Charm can help you get what you want in every aspect of your life.

- 🌲 Every single family home inspection includes a 90 day limited home warranty.
- 🌲 Starting 1/1/07, the warranty will have **no deductible!**

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Special thanks go out to all of our clients and friends who graciously referred our company to their friends and neighbors last month! Our business is built based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you. We just couldn't do it without you.

Have your 'Verbal Business Card' Ready To Present

When you're at a meeting, convention, or business gathering, you're bound to be asked what you do. But many people who are good at their jobs don't know how to explain them in a few words. Too bad. According to the Advantage Edge Newsletter, unless you have a verbal business card ready, you could miss an important connection, a future sale, or more.

You should be ready with an answer you can give in 30 seconds or less because your listener has a very limited attention span, especially in the midst of a group. He or she may not even care what you do and is just trying to make a little conversation.

That's where your advance preparation will allow you to grab his or her attention.

Don't just give your job title, tell about your business briefly using verbs, numbers, and PR techniques, say the experts at Nightingale Conant.

You may have spent a great deal of time designing your paper business card, but your verbal business card will be given far more often. That means designing it and rehearsing it can pay off by capturing and holding the listener's attention.



Christmas Music For Everyone

Christmas carols are beautiful, but sometimes we want to celebrate Christmas with songs that are sentimental or just fun.

The rollicking "Jingle Bells," written as a Thanksgiving song, was created by James Pierpont in 1857. He had no idea that it would become popular.

The sentimental favorite, "White Christmas," was written by Irving Berlin in 1940. Introduced in 1942, it was a song of peace in a time of war. Bing Crosby's rendition is still famous.

In 1934, Eddie Cantor almost declined to record "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" because he thought it was too much of a kiddie song.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was written by Johnny Marks for a Christmas book given as a promotional item to Montgomery Ward Christmas shoppers in 1939. Gene Autry sang it.

More recently, a modern style of Christmas music has produced new classics, including:

"I saw Mama Kissing Santa Claus," was composed and first sung by Reba McEntire. At the time, she was a little-known gospel singer.

"Jingle Bell Rock" composed and sung by Bobby Helms is another holiday classic. Helms died in 1997.

"Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer" was composed and sung by Randy Brooks in 1977. The hit song was also recorded in 1984 by Elmo & Patsy.

"Santa Baby," with words and music by Joan Javits, is a hit as sung by Eartha Kitt. Others who have recorded the song are Patti Labelle, Vanessa Williams, and Gregory Hines.

"Rocking around the Christmas Tree" was composed by Johnny Marks. Sung by Brenda Lee and others, it continues to be a holiday treat.

Bothersome Whistling

One problem with hearing a song while you're working is that the song can get stuck in your head. It could be hours after you heard the song until you're over it.

It's an affliction called "musical imagery," according to Timothy Griffiths, a professor of cognitive neurology at Newcastle University Medical School in London. Dr. Griffiths says the same parts of the brain are activated whether we listen to a song or just think about it. Songs that are most likely to be stuck in your head are simple melodies.

If you happen to be a whistler, singer, or hummer, consider whether those working nearby can hear you. It's better to keep your melodious talents in check until quitting time.



"That's mistletoe. We like to give every passenger a chance to kiss their luggage good-bye."

Thanks For The Kind Words

I liked the professionalism of Inspector, Excellent customer service regarding setting appt., and inspectors willingness to answer questions. Jan O., Stevens Point

I especially liked the thorough report and the walk through with inspector so he could point out areas of concern. Dannielle E., Stevens Point

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What's Inside?

- Ways To Track Santa -
- Your Verbal Business Card -
- How To Be Charming -
- Christmas Music Fun-
- Menorahs Out Of Donuts -
- & Much More!



What's The Answer?

- *Do You Know How To Track Santa's Cookie Intake?*
 - *What Is Your Verbal Business Card?*
 - *How Can You Get What You Want?*
 - *How Does Musical Imagery Effect You?*
 - *What Christmas Song Did Reba McEntire Introduce?*



The Answers To These And Many
Other Questions Are Inside?

