

# Study source of star

"There shall come forth a Star"—Numbers 24:17. In this Old Testament prophecy by Balaam, was a real star meant, or does "Star" refer to a great person? For centuries, Biblical scholars have considered this question. Many believe that the prophecy led the wise men to watch for and follow the "star in the east", of which St. Matthew wrote in his story of the Nativity.

**Miraculous appearance**  
The star itself is the source of many theories. Perhaps the best of all is that it was a miraculous appearance and as such needs no explanation. However, astronomers through the ages have sought to connect the star seen by the wise men with other reported celestial objects—a comet, perhaps, or an especially brilliant star that only appears at long intervals. Still another theory suggests that the star may have been configuration or grouping of planets. In 1604, the German astronomer Johannes Kepler theorized that Jupiter, Saturn and Mars might have occurred in such a configuration at about the time of Christ's birth.

**Another question**  
The fact that the star and the visit of the wise men were described only by St. Matthew has led to still another question. Did only the wise men see the star?

That they were so privileged is sometimes explained by the legend that the wise men were astrologers whose special interest helped them to notice the unusual brilliance of the three planets grouped together.



**Joyous Greetings**  
As you celebrate Christmas, we extend best wishes for your holiday. "Thank you."  
Management and Staff  
The Palace for Pizza



The newer varieties of poinsettias are no longer temperamental and have become permanent houseplants. Like many others they benefit from good light exposure and regular feeding with a soluble fertilizer. They provide a wonderful blaze of color in the winter months. Rubber plants and other "tropical" evergreens benefit from an occasional wash with room temperature water.

## Holiday fun prompts lively party ideas

Christmas gatherings just naturally turn into parties—friends and relatives drop in with holiday greetings, and all of a sudden it's a party! Party games designed specially for the season can spur on the fun.

**For groups large or small, parties planned or impromptu, the following entertaining ideas are suggested.**

**One way to "break the ice,"** especially when all of the guests are not well acquainted with each other, is to play a guessing game. A Christmas Personality game can be played by pinning a name such as "Rudolph," "Santa" or "Christmas Angel" on the backs of several guests. Then

each tries to guess his name by hints others give.

Another way to start a party is to start the guests out thinking! Have a little contest and see who can spell the most words with the letters in "Christmas."

**Musical cane**  
A lively combination version of Musical Chairs and Hot Potato makes use of some unbreakable symbol of Christmas festivities—a small package, one of the sturdier tree ornaments, a big candy cane.

One person who is not playing puts on a Christmas record. Everyone sits in a close circle and passes the object around. When the music suddenly stops, the person who has the object in his hand is out. This continues until the circle is reduced to one—the winner!

**Pin the star**  
Children never tire of exciting party games, while the adults may need a rest. One game that is loads of fun for kids to play and adults to watch is a seasonal version of "Pin the Tail on the Donkey." This one is "Pin the Star on the Christmas Tree."

It's easy to cut a large shape of a Christmas Tree out of green construction paper and tape it to a wall or door, making sure it is low enough for the littlest guest to reach the top.

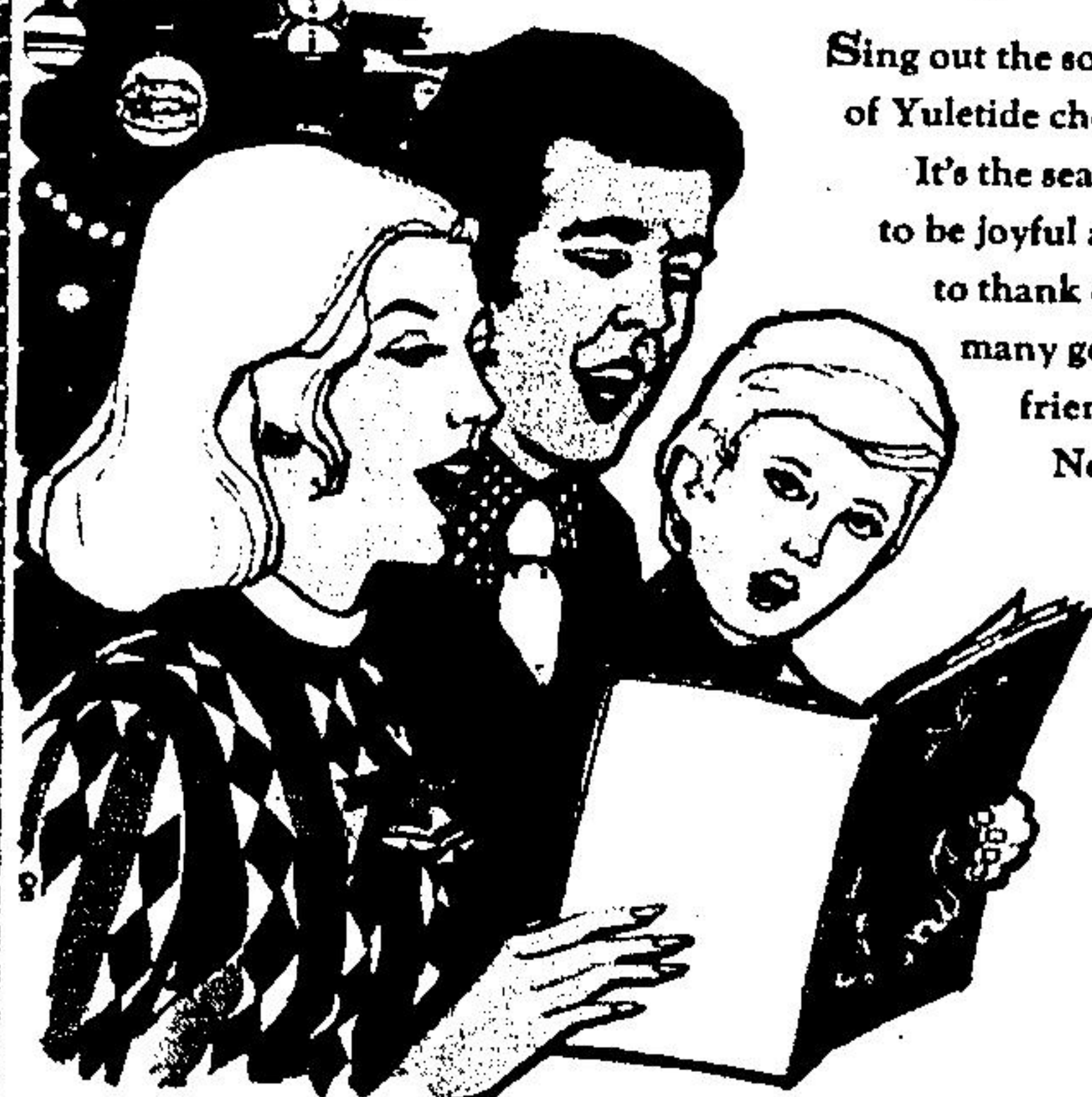
Each child gets a paper star with tape on the back and takes his turn being blindfolded and spun around. The one who can place his star closest to the top of the tree wins.

**Christmas tree**  
A Christmas Tree game that everyone can play is a guessing game. In "Christmas Tree" the person who is "it" leaves the room while

the other players decide on a secret word. It must be a verb, or a word showing action, such as run, eat or swim. When "it" comes back, he

tries to guess the word by asking questions using "Christmas Tree" in place of the word. He may ask, "Do children Christmas Tree?"

# CHRISTMAS Greetings



Sing out the songs of Yuletide cheer. It's the season to be joyful and to thank our many good friends. Noel!

**LOVELL BROS. MEAT MARKET**  
ACTON

**Greetings to All**  
This frosty fellow brings our best Christmas & New Year's Wishes and many thanks for all your trust.

**Rachlin Jewellers**  
Mill St. - Acton

**GREETINGS**  
We bring good tidings and glad greetings to you and your kin, with wishes for happy holidays and a Merry Christmas.

**B-P**  
SERVICE STATION  
AND  
ACTON AUTOMAT CAR WASH

**Patron Saint**  
For centuries, the Feast of Sinterklaas has been unique as a Dutch and Flemish event, honoring St. Nicholas' Calendar Day on December 6, but celebrated on the eve, December 5.  
Why is St. Nicholas' influence so strong in Holland? Primarily because he was the patron saint of merchants and sailors. The actual Saint lived from 271 A.D. to December 6, 342 or 343, so that his Calendar Day honors the date of his death. He became famous as the Archbishop of Myra, in Asia Minor, and performed many good and saintly deeds. Legend tells us he performed miracles as well, such as calming stormy seas, dropping dowries into the shoes of penniless maidens, and saving children from dire harm.