



## a lovable legend, bringer of gifts

Throughout history, Santa Claus has had many names, many origins. He has as many personalities as fertile imaginations through the ages can dream up.

The symbol of Santa Claus and other magical bringers of gifts is infinitely variable. In Europe the chief gift-bringers are St. Nicholas on his saint's day, the 6th of December; his Anglo-American descendant is Santa Claus; in parts of Scandinavia dwarfs and goats take his place; there is the Christ Child of the German Xmas Eve; the white-robed girl Kolyada in pre-revolutionary Russia arrived by sleigh on Christmas Eve with attendant carol-singers; and the Epiphany gift-bearers associated with the Magi — such as the Befana of Italy, Babouschka of old Russia, and the Tres Reyes Magos of Spain — all parade down through the centuries with essentially the same function — to bring gifts to good little boys and girls.

Santa Claus himself is composed of many elements; he is half Saint Nicholas and half ancient yule god. St. Nicholas, the original, was a bishop of Myra in Asia Minor in the fourth century. He is supposed to have wrought miracles; certainly he was a good man. Many stories evolve from legends concerning the Bishop. One which is not as well known

is told which introduces his connection with children.

Three boys were murdered by an innkeeper, cut up, and the pieces preserved in barrels of vinegar. St. Nicholas found these truncations, fitted them together with a prayer, and brought the boys back to life. To our 20th century minds this may seem a most macabre way to begin a legend's association with children!

In Holland, St. Nicholas becomes Sante Klaas. The children put out a pair of shoes or clogs filled with hay, water and carrots for his white horse; these are placed before the fireplace, and the next morning the shoes are found filled with either sweets and little gifts — or, depending on

past behavior, birch rods.

Santa's arrival by chimney in America probably has an origin of antecedent significance. Hearth-gods and gods of the Yule-log went in and out by chimney — also witches, adherents of the old and earliest religion of the horned god only much later made into a satanic Christian devil-figure. (Shades of an exorcist!) These people used hallucinatory drugs and used ointments like belladonna that made them feel like they were flying.

So it seems that the jovial, genial fellow whom we know as St. Nick or Santa Claus has had his darker side, too. All very interesting, as is most history, if you dig deep enough.

## THE YULE LOG STORY

Remember those familiar scenes of men and horses pulling a freshly-cut log home o'er the snow from the forest? It was the Yule log, destined for a Christmas fireplace! It lighted up the house with a cheery glow, turned night into day, and made the holiday festivities so much gayer.

This custom, which is observed in many places, goes far back into pagan times, long before Christianity.

Our ancestors called it the Mid-Winter Fire Festival. It was held indoors because of the bad weather outside.

The Yule log, generally an oak tree, would be ceremoniously lighted from a fragment saved expressly for this purpose from the year before.

When the new log sent out its brilliant flames it was believed that the house and family would once again be protected against lightning and fires; that the cattle and grain fields would thrive, and all the earth would be fertile.

## Yarn ball ornaments breakproof

Deck your tree with balls of a glistening yarn of Crestan acrylic fiber and nylon which has the right look for a tree — particularly one without lights. And there's nothing for toddlers or pets to break.

**TO MAKE THE BALLS:** Cut two cardboard circles to desired size of pompon and cut a hole about 1/4" in center of each. For balls 1 to 1 1/2 inches in diameter — cut 4 lengths of Glimmer yarn, each 3 yards long. Place circles together and wind yarn through center and over edges. Continue until circles are completely covered and opening is filled in.

Cut yarn between two circles and slip length of yarn between the cardboards winding it very tightly around several times; knot leaving ends long enough to tie to tree. Remove circles. Fluff pompon and trim. (You can work with two colors at a time or you can make designs by sectioning off your circle with different colors. A plastic yarn needle makes the going easier once the hole in center begins to fill up.)

## The homemade gift: something special to folks

Every gift is appreciated at Christmastime, but the idea of making it yourself usually merits special attention. Everyone buys gifts, but not everyone puts their special talents into doing something special.

Wherever your creative genius lies, why not use it to best advantage and have fun at the same time.



THIS LUXURIOUS MANE OF HAIR is an Elura wig. Made of Monsanto modacrylic fiber, it holds its curl and has the look of real healthy hair. By Brentwood. About \$30. Colors: off-black, brown, red, blonde, frosted.



THE SOFT, FLUFFY STYLE of this Elura wig made of Monsanto modacrylic fiber is perfect for gauzy holiday fashions. By Leon Buchheit. About \$35. Colors: black, brown, red, blonde, frosted.

## Wig is 'natural' Christmas present

Stumped about what to give that special woman for the holidays? Why not select something she will appreciate and wear all year long — a wig? With the frantic round of parties and family gatherings so near, what could be more welcomed than the

instant glamour of a natural-looking wig?

Now better than ever, wigs come in beautiful colors and styles that are superb. The blending is excellent, too, eliminating that old tired wiggy look. Elura wigs contain a fine mixture of at least five to

seven colors that create the appearance of natural healthy hair. They're made of Monsanto modacrylic fiber which won't frizz or lose its curl.

Styles for the holidays run the gamut from softly fluffed versions skimming the ear to classic pageboys

cut at the chin or shoulder. There are also long cascades of soft waves resembling a luxurious mane of hair.

This dependable fashion accessory will be a most welcomed gift. Why not send a wig gift certificate today?

**Silent Night**

May the blessings of the Christmas season be yours. Greetings from

Marty - Lois & Kay

**KAY'S BEAUTY SALON**

25 Main St. North

**Happy Holiday**

May the songs of Christmas fill your heart with the joys of the season.

**PARK MILK STORE**

MAIN ST. S. GEORGETOWN

**Happy Holiday**

Here's a sleighful of wishes for all our fine patrons: health and happiness to you!

**HILLSIDE SAND & GRAVEL**

BUD & EV. HAINES  
3 Durham St.

**Season's Greetings**

It's our favorite time of year and one of the most enjoyable customs of the season is greeting our many good friends and patrons and wishing them the best that life has to offer. Merry Christmas to you all!

**PRESTON'S LUCKY DOLLAR STORE**

AND STAFF  
GLEN WILLIAMS



**PEACE AND GOODWILL TOWARDS ALL MEN**

It is with this thought in mind that your Co-operative extends to you and yours best wishes for a Merry Family Christmas and a Happy New Year

**United Co-Operatives Of Ontario**

Georgetown

**Merry Christmas**

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

... To all our friends and customers

Kay and George

**KAY'S GROCERY**

**NOEL**

May the Holy Family bless your home with peace and harmony.

**ROBERT JOHN FASHIONS**

GEORGETOWN MARKET CENTRE

Nel - Helen and Reg

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

It's a pleasure to greet our many patrons and wish them the very best!

**HARRY BRANDFORD**

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R. R. 2 Georgetown