



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:

Newspaper gets the inside story from Santa before he visits Midland

by PAUL SANDERSON

By special arrangement with the North Pole Christmas Council, "The Midland Times" obtained an exclusive telephone interview via satellite with Santa Claus over the weekend.

TIMES: Mr. Claus, I've been sitting on your lap with my Christmas list for almost 30 years now. You never seem to get any older - how do you do it?

SANTA: HO-HO-HO young fella. Please call me Santa. If you knew that you were loved by over six billion children around the world, you too would feel as young as I do.

TIMES: With the world's population explosion, doesn't it take longer and longer every year to do your route?

SANTA: Longer you say? HO-HO-HO! Those new high-rise apartments are great. I can visit 200 Christmas trees in just one stop!

TIMES: How much computerized navigation equipment will you be using in the sleigh this year?

SANTA: We'll never need a computer on Christmas Eve. Even without Rudolph's famous red nose to follow, HO-HO-HO, I still have eight reindeer who already know the way.

TIMES: Where is the sleigh now?

SANTA: Well, the old sleigh is still up on blocks with mothballs under the seat, but we're taking her out, HO-HO-HO, for a test run Saturday, Dec. 1 in the Midland Santa Claus Parade.

TIMES: You must get tired of cookies and milk by the time you're at the last house on your list.

SANTA: HO-HO-HO, not at all! For the last couple of years more and more children have been leaving me an apple or an orange and a Diet Coke. I like that stuff too you know.

TIMES: Tell me Santa, how have toys changed since you first got the job as Father Christmas?

SANTA: That's an easy one to answer! Every year the old red sack gets heavier and heavier.

TIMES: Is that because there's more kids?

SANTA: Oh no! HO-HO-HO. It's the batteries! The batteries that most toys use nowadays are so heavy that I was thinking of adding another reindeer to help carry the load. HO-HO-HO! I really don't mind the extra work though, because any child would be disappointed on Christmas morning without the batteries to run his or her favourite present.

TIMES: How do you stay in shape during the off-season Santa, so you can carry that huge sack every Christmas?

SANTA: Well son, HO-HO-HO, we're into aerobics in a big way up at the North Pole. My favourite exercise is when me and Mrs. Claus get together with a few of the local snowmen and challenge the elves to a basketball game. I really like that, because the elves are so short, HO-HO-HO, we always win!

TIMES: I know you're in shape Santa, because you get the job done in record time every year. But, surely you must feel exhausted when you climb out of that last chimney early Christmas morning?

SANTA: HO-HO-HO, that's a silly question. When I'm heading north, after visiting the homes of all the boys and girls in the world, I feel like I'm going to a party.

TIMES: A party? Whose party?

SANTA: From way up in the sky, the earth looks like a big round frosted cake. The sun that comes up over the horizon to my right every Christmas morning reminds me of a birthday candle for that cake. And of course Christmas is a birthday party, because it's the day baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a long time ago.

TIMES: Thank-you Santa...just one last question. What do you want for Christmas?

SANTA: HO-HO-HO! Young fella, it's the same thing every year.

TIMES: And what is that?

SANTA: Peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

Dollar for Dollar Extravaganza

The following list of articles have been donated by members of MIDLAND Town Centre for the auction sale to be held Jan. 7th, 1985, at the Midland Civic Centre



Save all your Cash Register receipts up until Dec. 24, 1984

Business:	Article	Value
The Beauty Stop	Beauty Package includes Perm, Facial, Manicure, Pedicure, Make-up	\$80.00
The Beauty Stop	Shampoo and Hairstyle Conditioner	\$18.50
HOS	No. 6104 Global Steno Chair, Brown	\$120.00
HOS	Trivial Pursuit Sports Edition Cards	\$30.00
Yum Yum's	Catered Cocktail Party or Buffet for 8	\$100.00
Yum Yum's	Luncheon Certificate	\$15.00
Skilja Design	Gift Certificate	\$100.00
Skilja Design	Gift Certificate	\$25.00
The Briarpatch	Handmade floral arrangement	\$80.00
The Briarpatch	Gift Certificate for babywear	\$15.00
Jory's	Gillette Curlingwand	\$20.95
Jory's	Ladies Timex LCD Watch	\$14.99
Jory's	Madison Carriage Clock	\$19.99
U-Bag-It	Nic-Nac or Spice Shelf Courtesy B.P. Cabinets	\$85.00
U-Bag-It	Gift Certificate	\$5.00
U-Bag-It	Gift Certificate	\$5.00
U-Bag-It	Gift Certificate	\$5.00
U-Bag-It	Gift Certificate	\$5.00
BIA	Olympia Sword Knife Set	\$45.00
BIA	Olympia Sword Knife Set	\$45.00
BIA	Olympia Sword Knife Set	\$45.00
BIA	Olympia Sword Knife Set	\$45.00
Games Plus	Commodore 16 Computer	\$199.95
Games Plus	Indiana Jones Computer Game	\$20.00
Games Plus	Marvel Superhero's Computer Game	\$20.00
Audio Shoppe	JVC Stereo	\$185.00
Martin's	King James Gift & Award Bible	\$24.95
Christian Supply		
Partners	Lace Tablecloth (52x70)	\$35.99
Edwards Floor Fashion	12x12' Nylon Plush Carpet Rubber backed	\$255.00
Kettle Creek Canvas Co.	Canvas Duffle Bag	\$23.00
Edwards Ladies Wear	Gift Certificate	\$25.00
Rascals	Lunch for two	\$10.00
Gerows	Floral arrangement	\$30.00
Video Daze	Collection of Walt Disney Classics	\$200.00
Gisele's Knitting Studio	Yarn & Pattern for sweater	\$20.00
Agnew Surpass	Beige Purse	\$14.99
Arcade Guardian Drugs	Water Pik Deluxe Combo	\$64.95
Arcade Guardian Drugs	Braun Automatic Grinder	\$24.95
Arcade Guardian Drugs	Chanel No. 5 Gift Set	\$48.50
Let's Face It	Fidji Gift Set	\$15.00
Let's Face It	1 Set of Acrylic Nails	\$40.00
Garner's Sports Shop	Pair Adidas Running Shoes	\$55.00
Il Giardino	Dinner for 2 (not including alcoholic beverages)	\$25.00
The Pendulum	\$50.00 Gift Certificate toward purchase of any Seiko or Bulova Watch	\$50.00
Johnstone's MusicLand	Record Albums	\$100.00
Johnstone's Music Land	Mann small jumbo student Guitar	\$149.00
Gianetto's	Grocery Voucher	\$100.00
Gianetto's	Surf & Turf for 4 (4 filet mignon & 4-9 oz. Lobster tails)	\$55.00
Cumming-Nicholson Ltd.	1 pair Remike Clogs	\$60.00
Cumming-Nicholson Ltd.	1 pair Hush Puppies	\$45.00
Cumming-Nicholson Ltd.	1 Purse	\$50.00
Livingston's Men's Wear	1 Gift Certificate	\$50.00
Livingston's Men's Wear	1 Gift Certificate	\$50.00
Livingston's Men's Wear	1 Gift Certificate	\$50.00
Lee's General Store	1 Gift Certificate	\$25.00
The Tamarack	1 Indian Carving	\$10.00
The Tamarack	1 Soap Stone Carving	\$12.95
Parker's Variety	52 Lottery Tickets (one per week)	\$52.00
Fisher's HairYard	1 Perm	\$35.00
Country Steakhouse	1 Gift Certificate	\$15.00
Perrin's Flower Shop	Silk Flower arrangements	\$35.00
Pizza Delight	15 inch Round Pizza	\$15.00
Midland Times	1 Year Subscription	\$20.80
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Tom Downer	Waltec single lever	\$60.00
Plumbing & Heating	Omega Kitchen Faucet	

Articles may be added to or changed later

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