



Tree Talk



Pride and Professionalism

By Mike Kelly



[Giving is a necessity sometimes... more urgent, indeed, than having.](#)

[Margaret Lee Runbeck](#)

Ah the Holiday's. Now that Thanksgiving is over, we probably are sitting back hoping Santa brings us some miracle diet to lose some of those pounds we put on eating all that great food. But wait; there are still Christmas meals, cookies, and all the wonderful deserts someone always puts in front of us knowing we cannot refuse. Maybe that miracle diet can wait and be our New Years resolution.

What is Christmas really all about? We are taught that it is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, but as a child, all I thought about was what I was getting from Santa. Of course, my father always brought us back to reality when he would make us sing Happy Birthday Jesus before we were even allowed to proceed with the destruction. And that

was short lived before we were ordered to ready ourselves for church.

These days, I am not sure I can figure out what I could possibly want much less need. I bet most of you are the same way. But, I know your hearts get filled with joy when you see your loved ones opening that special gift you struggled relentlessly to find. Even if it was on Christmas Eve. It is all about giving isn't it. Like I said, nothing makes us feel so warm.

Back during my days as a yankee, I was lucky enough to have some extraordinary holidays. As a city firefighter, our union always made it a point to have toy drives and distribute these toys to both under privileged children and children who's holiday's would see them in the hospital. I cannot not begin to put into words the feeling I got watching a kid with cancer get that special toy or the look on a mothers face as her children opened toys she could not even think about buying herself. Like I said, nothing makes us feel so warm. It is all about giving.

This year my family and I have made up our minds to do exactly what I had done in those past years. Did you know that Wayne County has over 200 kids that are either abused or neglected each year? In North Carolina, that number gets multiplied 50 times. Now don't get me

wrong. I am not trying to solicit anyone to do anything differently. **I just need to get that warm feeling again.**

From the owner, the staff and myself to all of our members and their families; have a joyous and safe holiday season. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, & Happy New Year.



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The 4 stages of life: 1. You believe in Santa Claus 2. You don't believe in Santa Claus 3. You dress up as Santa Claus 4. You look like Santa Claus

TOP 10 USES FOR HOLIDAY FRUITCAKES 10. Use slices to balance that wobbly kitchen table. 9. Use instead of sand bags during El Nino. 8. Send to U.S. Air Force, let troops drop them. 7. Use as railroad ties. 6. Use as speed bumps to foil the neighborhood drag racers. 5. Collect ten and use them as bowling pins. 4. Use instead of cement shoes. 3. Save for next summer's garage sale. 2. Use slices in next skeet-shooting competition. 1. Two words pin cushion.

source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/holidayjokes/christmasjokes/fruitcakejokes.html>

