



Hmmm, that coupled with the body paints she stole at the Christmas party makes me wonder if it wasn't Marilyn who was at the shower instead of Beverlee (hee hee).

Needless to say, the mother-to-be had a ball opening gifts and discovering a nifty money tree especially for her and the baby on the dining room table. All the yachter ladies in attendance decided that the next time we all get together, there would not have to be an occasion to enjoy each others company, tell stories, and drink blender drinks, fruit tea, and Bloody Mary's. It was fun! Thanks Wendy and Angie!

## **Christmas Party**

This years Christmas Party was held Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at the home of Carlos and Nancy Bussche. There was great food, excellent spirits, and a whole lot of good cheer.

The highlight of the party was the "White Elephant" gift exchange. Everyone had a blast trying to steal the "best" gifts. Beverly Bergevin ended up with the flavored body paint (enough said), while Matt Crawford strolled off with a bottle of Jack Daniels. Other gifts making the rounds included a sailboat doormat, which Sara Hailey ended up with, and a lucky crystal that Andy Myrick picked after strict instructions. Carrie Thomas held on to Taz and "yucky food", while Angie Garibotte is the proud owner of a "party in a bag". (She says we'll see that again next year!) Little Wizzer made another appearance this year and I feel certain we'll be seeing him again. Other gifts included a boat bag, a nautical candle lamp, bag of books, apron and mitt set, candles, and a set of male nudey cards. (I hear Vicki traded them afterward to Sandy. Just doing our part for our soldiers.) Andy brought a do-it-yourself legal kit that Lucian now owns. There were many other nice, funny or downright weird items but everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. Throughout the night, David and Sally Randstrom were in possession of many nice items, but unfortunately, all were stolen.

Many thanks to Carlos and Nancy for hosting the party.

## **What's In A Name!**

This month it's John, Angie and Ian Garibotte's turn at the name game...

The name of our boat is Lagniappe (pronounced Lan-Yap). It is a Creole word for "A little something extra". It's taken me longer to come up with the name of our boat than it did for Ian, but we think it fits the old girl. (Hopefully her name will get me lagniappe in the next regatta.)

## **New Year's Day Sail**

Don't forget to join us for the annual New Year's Day Sail at the club. Everyone should meet at the club around noonish. Come enjoy the first day of the year with friends for a day of sailing and fellowship. Afterwards, there will be help available for anyone who would like to take their boat out of the water.

## **Waterfowl Refuge Reminder**

Please remember that from December 1<sup>st</sup> until January 31<sup>st</sup> the lake on the dam side of the buoys, from the Girl Scout camp across, is a waterfowl refuge and is off limits to all boats.

## **HYC Rings Bells for the Salvation Army**

Many of our members have been out this month ringing bells at various locations for the Salvation Army.

On Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, HYC manned the kettle at Kmart in Tullahoma. Families participating included the Crawford's, Bentley's, Thomas', Sanders', Cayce's, Bussche's, Dolan's, Jones', Bergevin's, and the Hailey's.

Other members have been bellringers throughout the area including the Utley's in Tullahoma, the Nation's in Manchester, and Stevens' in Winchester.

A big thank you to all who participated this year. Know that through your efforts, many families will have a merrier Christmas.

Thanks again for the generous donation of your time during this busy holiday season.

## **A Soldier's Christmas**

T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, HE LIVED ALL ALONE,  
IN A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE MADE OF CANVAS AND STONE.

I HAD COME DOWN THE CHIMNEY WITH PRESENTS TO GIVE,  
AND TO SEE JUST WHO IN THIS HOME DID LIVE.

I LOOKED ALL ABOUT, A STRANGE SIGHT I DID SEE,  
NO TINSEL, NO PRESENTS, NOT EVEN A TREE.

NO STOCKING BY MANTLE, JUST BOOTS FILLED WITH SAND,  
AND ON THE WALL PICTURES OF FAR DISTANT LANDS.

WITH MEDALS AND BADGES, AWARDS OF ALL KINDS,  
A SOBERING THOUGHT CAME TO MY MIND.

FOR THIS HOUSE WAS DIFFERENT SO DARK AND SO DREARY,  
THE HOME OF A SOLDIER, NOW I COULD SEE CLEARLY.

THE SOLDIER LAY SLEEPING, SILENT, ALONE,  
CURLED UP ON THE FLOOR IN THIS ONE BEDROOM HOME.

THE FACE WAS SO GENTLE, THE ROOM IN SUCH DISORDER,  
NOT HOW I PICTURED A UNITED STATES SOLDIER.

WAS THIS THE HERO OF WHOM I'D JUST READ:  
CURLED UP ON A PONCHO, THE FLOOR FOR A BED?

I REALIZED THE FAMILIES THAT I SAW THIS NIGHT,

OWED THEIR LIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS WHO WERE WILLING TO FIGHT.

SOON ROUND THE WORLD, THE CHILDREN WOULD PLAY,  
AND GROWNUPS WOULD CELEBRATE A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY.

THEY ALL ENJOYED FREEDOM EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR,  
BECAUSE OF THE SOLDIERS, LIKE THE ONE LYING HERE.

I COULDN'T HELP WONDER HOW MANY LAY ALONE,  
ON A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE IN A LAND FAR FROM HOME.

THE VERY THOUGHT BROUGHT A TEAR TO MY EYE,  
I DROPPED TO MY KNEES AND STARTED TO CRY.

THE SOLDIER AWAKENED AND I HEARD A ROUGH VOICE,  
"SANTA DON'T CRY, THIS LIFE IS MY CHOICE;

I FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, I DON'T ASK FOR MORE,  
MY LIFE IS MY GOD, MY COUNTRY, MY CORPS."

THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER AND SOON DRIFTED TO SLEEP,  
I COULDN'T CONTROL IT, I CONTINUED TO WEEP.

I KEPT WATCH FOR HOURS, SO SILENT AND STILL,  
AND WE BOTH SHIVERED FROM THE COLD EVENING'S CHILL.

I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE ON THAT COLD, DARK, NIGHT,  
THIS GUARDIAN OF HONOR SO WILLING TO FIGHT.

THEN THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER, WITH A VOICE SOFT AND PURE,  
WHISPERED, "CARRY ON SANTA, ALL IS SECURE."

ONE LOOK AT MY WATCH, AND I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT.  
"MERRY CHRISTMAS MY FRIEND, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT."

This poem was written by a Marine stationed in Oreaana Japan.

**Please keep our soldiers in your thoughts and prayers  
this Christmas and throughout the New Year.**

**Have a safe and wonderful Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.**