



MTSA *AIRWAYS*

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!



As we look forward to another holiday season with excitement, it is a great time to stop and give thanks for our many blessings and to also share with those less fortunate. Last year, MTSA played Santa Claus for a very special 5-year old girl whose father has terminal cancer. This year, her father continues to fight this battle. Needless to say, this has put a tremendous strain on the family, leaving little money for a Christmas celebration. So continuing this tradition of a Christmas “adoption,” we are asking for help in making just one

child’s holiday a little brighter. Contributions of clothing, toys, and food are being accepted now at MTSA. Cash contributions are also accepted if you don’t have time to shop and will be used to purchase additional goodies. Mitzi Birdwell here at MTSA is coordinating this project and will deliver these contributions before Christmas so this now-6-year old can have a merry Christmas. Contact Mitzi for any further information.

The staff of MTSA would like to extend holiday wishes to our faculty and students (and their families) for a safe, happy, and peaceful holiday season. MTSA will be closed the following dates:

Friday, December 22
Monday, December 25
Friday, December 29
Monday, January 1

Remember – if you signed up for the MTSA Christmas party, it will be December 12, 6:00 p.m. at Campus Church.

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LIBRARY NEWS

For those of you who weren't aware, **Rita McGuffey**, MTSA's Library and Alumni Assistant, retired November 30. Rita had been with MTSA for three years and she will be sincerely missed. On a personal note, Rita helped me tremendously when I came to MTSA in June and while I realize we can't replace her, I hope we can at least find someone nearly as kind, generous, and patient as she.

The following books have recently been added to the Learning Resource Center's collection:

Seeley, Stephens, & Tate. Anatomy & Physiology. 2000.
Parsons and Heffner. Pulmonary/Respiratory Therapy Secrets. 2000.
Datta. Obstetric Anesthesia Handbook. 2000.
Datta. Anesthetic and Obstetric Management of High-Risk Pregnancy. 1996.

Also, for you web surfers out there, the MTSA web page is UP! Our URL is <http://www.mtsa.edu>. Visit our site, look around, and let us know what you like (or don't) and what you would like to see added. Like most web sites, this is a work in progress and we hope to keep it up to date with MTSA news and events. Which brings me to my next bit of news . . .

In January, we will be sending out **AIRWAYS** renewal forms for the usual cost of \$10 annually (what a bargain!). These renewals will need to be returned to me by February 1, 2001. However, I am currently in the process of putting **AIRWAYS** on the MTSA web site. If I am successful with this endeavor, those of you with Internet access will no longer have to receive a copy in the mail (unless you just want to, of course!). I will include any news regarding this "transition" with the renewal letters.

READY FOR MORE TRAFFIC ON THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY? (Scout Report, 17 November 2000)

Have you ever wondered who was "in charge" of all of those web site names???? Well, that is the job of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, or ICANN. After receiving 44 applications for new top-level domain names (e.g., .com, .edu) in August, 2000, ICANN approved seven - .info, .biz, .name, .pro, .museum, .coop, and .aero. Considering the enormous amount of usage of the Internet for health information (see next item), it is interesting to note that .health was rejected. ICANN's report is available online if you would like to read more about this process - <http://www.icann.org/tlds/report/>

WEB USERS SEARCH FOR MEDICAL ADVICE MOST OFTEN (Wall Street Journal, 27 November 2000)

The Web is a vital source of medical information for American Internet users, although many users harbor privacy concerns over the storage of medical records on the Internet, according to a new report from the Pew Internet and American Life Project. The report surveyed more than 12,000 people, determining that 52 million Americans have gone online to become more

informed about medical problems. Roughly 55 percent of all Web users have gone online to seek out health-related information, making the activity more popular than online shopping or searching for sports scores and stock quotes, according to the report. Some 41 percent of those polled said data found on the Internet helped inform their medical decisions, such as whether to see a doctor. Internet users are wary of placing their medical records online due to privacy concerns, with 63 percent of those surveyed saying they oppose the storage of medical records on the Web, even if the information is guarded by passwords.

CONDOLENCES . . .

Our thoughts and prayers go to Matt Aydt, Jeff Case, and Pam Greer (all class of '01) and Wayne Flatt ('02), all of whom recently suffered the loss of a close family member.



NOTABLE DECEMBER DATES

- 12 MTSA Christmas Party – Campus Church – 6:00 p.m.
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 22-5 MTSA Christmas Break
- 22-9 Chanukah
- 25 CHRISTMAS !!!!!
- 29-1 MTSA New Year's Break
- 31 New Year's Eve

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Patti Swint '01
- 5 Timothy Williams '01
- 11 Cheryl Sanders '01
- 23 Kendra Rennell '02
- 27 John Brownlee (f)
- 28 Richard Young (f)



RESULTS OF CLASS ELECTIONS

The Class of 2002 has chosen its representatives, and they are as follows:

Administrative Committee: **Representative:** Eric Molina
Alternate: Tondra McNabb

Alumni Committee: **Representative:** Karen Parrick
Alternate: Jim Forrest

Appeals Committee: **Representative:** Wayne Flatt
Alternate: John Edwards

Curriculum Committee: **Representative:** Chuck Altenberger
Alternate: Issabel Crabtree

Sub-Curriculum Committee: **Representative:** Brad Ferrell
Alternate: Chris Kelly

**Institutional Effectiveness
Committee:** **Representative:** Randall Wilson
Alternate: Marci Hare

Learning Resource Center: **Representative:** Sharon Kendall
Alternate: Paul Carpenter

Social Committee Representatives: Molly Carneal, Kara Mason
Committee Members: Tamara Cameron, John Edwards, Chris Hamm, Laura Poe,
Yvette Riker

SPOTLIGHT ON SANTA CLAUS



(I couldn't resist a little bit of holiday silliness – you might want to pass this along to any children you may know.)

With the holidays just around the corner, I thought it was only appropriate to have as our December interview one of the most familiar faces of the season – Santa Claus! It was very difficult to schedule a time for our interview; as we all know, this is his busy time of the year.

Fortunately, he was in the Nashville area one day last week doing his usual pre-Christmas Eve work – making his list, checking it twice, finding out who is naughty and who is nice.

Santa filled me in on all of the popular toys this year – saying how happy he was that video games have become so popular. They take up very little room in the sleigh, don't weigh much, and require no assembly. The elves are working frantically right now – but Santa says he always rewards them in January with a nice tropical cruise, saying this is a good management/motivational technique. “We work hard and we play hard.” The reindeer have been getting in shape, bulking up on their feed, and doing exercises, really more like “reindeer games.”

All of us here at MTSA were very disappointed that Santa wouldn't let us take his picture – he complained how the camera usually adds “100 pounds.” He looked quite fit to all of us and he claimed that he had been trying to “eat like an elf” this year. However, since Mrs. Claus has to cook such large quantities, there are always leftovers around that he feels compelled to “clean up.” He claims that this is a habit from all of those years of eating the goodies that children leave out for him! Of course, he laughs at the popularity of pumping iron and rock climbing, saying that he was lifting heavy objects AND climbing up on rooftops long before it was chic. Speaking of which, Santa was very interested in the program here at MTSA, saying that he always needs a little “pain management” in the days following Christmas, what with all of the wear and tear his body has endured over the years. He does say that the cruise control he had installed on the sleigh has helped tremendously. Also, he only wears his big black boots at promotional events, saying that he switched to Nike cross-trainers a long time ago.

When Santa left, I went to the window to watch him leave, assuming, of course, that he would be in a limo. I didn't see anything, though, but then I heard the strangest noises on the roof, it sounded like - animals (!) - and I faintly heard bells jingling. Now I wonder what that could have been

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