

MTSA *AIRWAYS*

Volume Seven, Number 8, December, 2001
MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!



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. For the last two years, MTSA has played Santa Claus for a very special little 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 seven-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:

Monday, December 24
Tuesday, December 25
Monday, December 31
Tuesday, January 1

MTSA *AIRWAYS* is published for the students, faculty, and staff of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia

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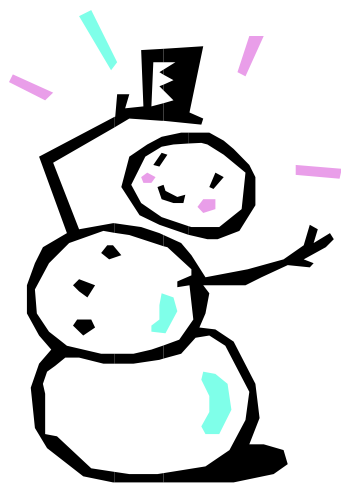
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Congratulations to our 2001 Graduates!

A Baccalaureate service and commencement ceremony for MTSA's class of 2001 was held Saturday, November 3, 2001 at Madison Campus Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Thirty-five students were graduated, receiving a Master of Science degree with a focus in nurse anesthesia. The Agatha Hodgins and Bernard Bowen awards, voted upon by the affiliates of MTSA, were awarded to Josh LeMay and Sharon Lucus, respectively. The Andy Limone Award, sponsored and presented by Gene and Anita Turner, was awarded to Helen Story and Colleen McRedmond. The Team Spirit Award, voted upon by the class itself, was awarded to Matt Aydt. The John C. McAleavy Award, voted upon by the faculty and staff of MTSA, was awarded to Mary Jane Collins, who not only received a plaque (as did all of the above), but was also given \$1,000. A reception for the faculty, staff, graduates, and their families was held at the School after the graduation ceremony.



NOTABLE DECEMBER DATES

- 4 MTSA Christmas Party – Campus Church – 6:00 p.m.**
- 9 Chanukah**
- 21-25 MTSA Christmas Break**
- 25 CHRISTMAS !!!!!**
- 28-Jan. 1- MTSA New Year's Break**
- 31 New Year's Eve**



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Judd English '03
1 Jamie Morrison '03
2
1 Laura Williamson '03
2
2 Kendra Rennell '02
3
2 Melanie Coleman-Goff '03
4
2 John Brownlee (f)
7
2 Richard Young (f)
8
3 Tim Alford '03
0
3 Shannon Hall '03
1

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Todd Smith '02
3 Carol Stinson (s)
6 Mike Bengé '02
6 Donnie Carter '02
8 Angela Baldwin '03
9 Joseph Hensley '02
11 Eric Molina '02
16 Bernard Bowen (e)
16 Denise Horn '02
17 Laura Poe '02
23 Issabel Crabtree '02



RESULTS OF CLASS ELECTIONS

The Class of 2003 has chosen its representatives, and they are as follows:

Administrative Committee: **Representative:** Mike Stovall
Alternate: Brandon Nolen

Alumni Committee: **Representative:** Jamie Morrison
Alternate: Chang Yu

Appeals Committee: **Representative:** Tom Moses
Alternate: Sarah Palazola

Curriculum Committee: **Representative:** Les Andrus
Alternate: Tasha Walker

**Institutional Effectiveness
Committee:** **Representative:** Brandy Elliott
Alternate: Cheril Nelson

Learning Resource Center: **Representative:** Tom Neumaier
Alternate: Jimmy Tucker

Social Committee Co-Chairs: Melanie Coleman, Jimmy Tucker
Committee Members: Lisa Clark, Sarah Palazola, Tasha Walker, Laura Williamson

SPOTLIGHT ON SANTA CLAUS



(By popular demand, this is a reprint of our interview last year with St. Nick – 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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