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# The Polar News



Volume 5

## Creative Blizzard Hits Santa's Workshop

Each year after Christmas, Santa and his Little Helpers take a few months to rest up after the busy Christmas season. Santa's Workshop, usually buzzing with activity, comes to a complete stop and creativity among the Little Helpers plummets. "We all like to spend a couple of months just lounging around in our jammies all day eating cookies and watching a lot of shows on NPTV, North Pole Television," said Mrs. Claus. "The Little Helpers work so hard all season. They deserve lots of cookies, cocoa and a nice long break," she added.



Santa, however, has a different opinion. "I'm starting to think we're taking too long of a break!" According to Santa, new toy creation and production has suffered over the last two

years. "I love cookies more than anyone but I'm starting to wonder if the long winter's rest is doing more harm than good!" he added. In an effort to get his Little Helpers off the couch

and out of the cookie jar, Santa came up with a new game based on the Little Helpers' favorite NPTV show. "The idea behind the game is to challenge the elves to use their vast knowledge of tools, toys and tots to create a new toy." Said Santa.

The game, Santa's Workshop Challenge, pits four Little Helpers against each other in a three round, single elimination contest. Each Little Helper takes his or her spot at one of the four different tool benches. Each bench is stocked with various toy making tools and a basket containing toy parts. Also at their disposal is

(Continued on next page)

### Joke of the Day

**What did the Christmas tree say to the ornament?**

(See page 2 for answer.)

**The weather outside is frightful but playing cards is delightful when you use Santa's Little Helper playing cards!**

(Continued from previous page)

Santa's fully stocked hardware shop. The elves have 30 minutes to create and build a new toy using the parts in the basket. The toys are then judged by three of the North Pole's best toy makers- Santa, Burt Elf, and Ginny Elf. The toys are judged on creativity, design, and function. "I

love being on the Judge's Panel!" said Burt. "I've been making toys for 150 years and I've never seen toys like this. We see a lot of crazy stuff!"

Last year one of the contestants, Barney the Elf, was disappointed that he didn't walk away a winner. "I thought for sure I was

going to win. I made this awesome spinning toy you can hold with your fingers," said Barney. "But when Santa tried Mary's pie catapult he laughed so hard he fell off his chair!" Santa said he is very happy with how the Little Helpers are really getting into the spirit of the game. He

decided all winners would receive a big basket of cookies from Mrs. Claus. "Since we started the game, creativity in the workshop is at an all time high!" an excited Santa exclaimed. "Cookies and creativity — what a great combination!"

## Burt Hits the BIG 1-5-0



This year one of Santa's Little Helpers will be celebrating a very special anniversary. On Friday, December 11th, Burt the Elf will mark his 150th anniversary in Santa's Workshop! "I still remember his very first day in the Workshop. Seems like such a long time ago," said Santa. "For his first task, I

asked him to make a toy train. He was so nervous he made it with square wheels! I got a good chuckle out of that!" Santa recalled fondly.

"Oh golly!" exclaimed Burt. "That first day I was as nervous as a snowman on a hot day. And when I saw those wheels... gosh, I just wanted to

go hide in the stuffed animal pile! I thought for sure that Santa was going to laugh me right out of the workshop!" recalls Burt. "But he just let out a jolly Ho-

*"And when I  
saw those  
wheels...  
gosh, I just  
wanted to go  
hide in the  
stuffed  
animal pile!"*

HoHo and told me he knew that I was a hard worker and I'd do a great job. And look, here I am 150 years later!"

In honor of Burt's anniversary, the North

Pole is throwing a big party. Santa and his reindeer have been hanging decorations. Mrs. Claus has been busy in her kitchen baking cookies, twisting candy canes, and mixing cocoa. And the Little Helpers have been hard at work preparing to celebrate their friend and mentor with a slide show filled with all of Burt's best and funniest workshop moments.

### Joke of the Day Answer:

(from page 1)

**Aren't you tired of  
hanging around?**

### Jack's Frosty Forecast



Saturday  
Sunday  
Monday

Snow  
Snow  
Snow



## Sports

### Playoff Fever

Playoff fever is spreading rapidly throughout the North Pole! For the first time in 130 years the Polar Cubs are advancing to the post season. "At this time of the year we're usually we're up to our elf elbows in toy making but with the Polar Cubs still in the game we're all kind of distracted," said Albert Elf. "Santa has been very understanding about the slowdown in productivity. He has been a Polar Cub fan for a really long time. He's probably more excited than

anyone in the North Pole!" said Albert.

Mrs. Claus is known to be a big Polar Cub fan too. "Santa and I make sure to watch all the games. We have been such big fans and are hoping they can make all the way this season," she said, adding "We have a special game day routine. We wear our favorite Polar Cubs shirts, light a cozy fire and settle down in front of the TV with a pot of my famous hot cocoa and a big plate of fresh out of the oven cookies. When the games are exciting



and the score is really close, Santa will eat two plates of cookies!" No

one in the North Pole wants this fever to break!

## North Pole Hospital

Santa and Mrs. Claus are excited and proud to announce the opening of the new Polar Medical Center. This state of the art facility will provide medical care for all in the North Pole. Along with an Elf Wellness Center and a Toy Mending & Restoration Center, the hospital features a dedicated Veterinarian wing that will offer specialized medical treatments for Santa's beloved and hard working reindeer, including private barn stalls for

newborn calves and their mothers.

"Every North Pole citizen will now be able to get the care and treatment he or she needs! It's the greatest gift we could receive," said Mrs. Claus. The Polar Medical Center will be staffed with the North Pole's best and finest medical professionals, toy makers, and vets.

"My Little Helpers are all kind, compassionate and experts in their jobs. When it came to staffing the

PMC I had to think carefully about which of my Little Helpers would be the best to fill each position. Mrs. Claus and I went through lots of cocoa and cookies as we put together our list," said Santa. "I know they will all do an outstanding job!" he added.



## Cooking



### With Mrs. Claus

Every December 26th when the Christmas rush is over, all of us here at the North Pole are ready to hunker

down for a long winter break! Santa and his Little helpers like to gather around the fire, watch a little TV and enjoy their favorite foods, so every winter I whip up a batch of my deliciously sweet Elf Chili. This fast and easy recipe is perfect for a cozy and quiet night at home.

## Elf Chili

### Ingredients:

Ready made vanilla or chocolate pudding  
Mini marshmallows  
Mini chocolate chips  
Crushed candy canes  
Sliced strawberries/bananas  
Whipped cream

In a large bowl mix pudding, mini marshmallows and mini chocolate chips. Divide pudding into individual bowls. Top with candy cane pieces, fruit, and whipped cream as desired. Enjoy!

## Dear Dolly



### Dear Dolly,

Good golly Dolly I am in a real pickle! I am an intern in the video game department in Santa's Workshop. Before I get a perma-

nent assignment, I have to take a BIG TEST! I was supposed to be studying all month, but I have been playing games and getting into mischief instead. Now the test is just THREE days away! I don't have a snowflake's chance in Florida of passing. Got any ideas?

Signed,  
In a Pickle

### Dear Pickle,

This test sounds like a really big dill! :O) But never fear when Dolly is here! The first thing you need to do is crack open those books and get studying. You will have to put off the fun and games until after your BIG TEST. See if you can find a study buddy to help keep you focused and out of mischief! If you feel like stopping, just

take a moment to remember how much Santa is depending on you to do a good job and how proud he'll be when you pass your BIG TEST. I bet Mrs. Claus will make you a delicious treat as a reward for working hard. Just think, once you pass your BIG TEST you'll be out of that pickle and relishing in your success!

Love, Dolly

## Santa's Mystery Puzzle

Using the key below, see if you can break Santa's secret code!

**A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**  
**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26**

1) 19-1-14-20-1 11-14-15-23-19 23-8-15 9-19 14-1-21-7-8-20-25

1-14-4 23-8-15 9-19 14-9-3-5!

2) 19-1-14-20-1-19 12-9-20-20-12-5 8-5-12-16-5-18-19 12-15-22-5 20-15

8-1-22-5 6-21-14 1-14-4 7-5-20 9-14-20-15 13-9-19-3-8-9-5-6!

3) 18-21-4-15-12-16-8-19 2-9-7 18-5-4 14-15-19-5 19-8-9-14-5-19

2-18-9-7-8-20 15-14 3-8-18-9-19-20-13-1-19 5-22-5 14-9-7-8-20!