

# Cliff View Notes

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Vol 5 No. 10

News & Notes For Owners, Employees, Friends & Guests

December 2015

### Yes, Virginia There is A Santa Claus

Dear Editor: I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says "If you see it in the Sun it's so."

Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus? -Virginia O'Hanlon



My Dear Virginia

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no

Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God, he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

### December Birthdays

We only have one birthday to announce this month, but it's a biggie!

Jesus Christ was born just south of Jerusalem in the little Palestine village of Bethlehem on the 25th. His parents, Mary and Joseph hailed from the town of Nazareth about 75 miles north east of Bethlehem.

This birth was such a milestone that mankind measures it's timeline for history from that singular occurrence.



### Happy News

#### Christmas at Cliffview

Once again it's almost time for our Family Fun Filled Frolic!

This year we'll hold our fourth annual Christmas at Cliffview and it's bound to be the best yet! As with each year, we plan to have lots of good food, good friends and good times! Please bring your friends, family, co-workers, anyone you know that will enjoy a great time, out to party with us on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at the Activity Center in Cliffview Resort. Festivities will begin at 2 pm and food will be served around 4 pm. You and your children are invited to attend this happy event. We try to make this event as special for the children of Lee and Wolfe Counties as possible; what better way to have a great time than to celebrate with friends and neighbors!

Bring your appetite as we are gonna have a super scrumptious meal. Glazed ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, garden fresh corn, cranberry relish, and rolls for sure. Of course there will be lots of wonderful treats such as cookies, cakes, pies, breads and other decadent desserts to enjoy. We will have a craft section set up to make ornaments to take home. There will be face painting, a photo booth (bring your camera) and lots more fun things for kids to do. And Santa will be there! We have some great plans to make this year's party a time to remember by all.

# Cliff View Notes

Is the official newsletter of  
Cliffview Resort,  
Campton, Kentucky

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Cliffview Notes is published monthly for the entertainment of Cliffview Resort Guests, Owners, Visitors, Staff and Friends.

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## HELPFUL WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

### State Facilities

#### **Natural Bridge State Resort Park General Information**

(606) 663-2214 or 1-800-325-1710 (reservations) 2135 Natural Bridge Rd. Slade, KY 40376 Trail map & descriptions, park laws and regulations, lodging, camping, group meeting facilities, group programs  
*"Natural Bridge State Resort Park is hiking, arches, exploring, scenery, reflection, and making memories."*

[www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/nb](http://www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/nb)

#### **Kentucky State Nature Preserve Commission**

[www.naturepreserves.ky.gov](http://www.naturepreserves.ky.gov)

#### **The Skylift** (606) 663-2922

[www.naturalbridgekyskylift-and-giftshop.com](http://www.naturalbridgekyskylift-and-giftshop.com)

#### **Red River Gorge National Geological Area** (606) 663-8100

[www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/redriver\\_gorge.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/redriver_gorge.shtml)

#### **Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center** (606) 663-8100

[www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/gladie.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/gladie.shtml)

#### **Red River Gorge Trail Crew (Volunteers)** [www.RRGTC.com](http://www.RRGTC.com)

#### **Leave No Trace – Outdoor Ethics** [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

#### **Kentucky State Parks - Create your own Experience.**

[www.parks.ky.gov](http://www.parks.ky.gov) Become a KYSP fan at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kentucky-State-Parks/152588316577>

### Private Facilities

#### **Cliffview Resort & Cliffview Retreat 606.668.6222**

[www.cliffviewresort.com](http://www.cliffviewresort.com) 455 Cliff View Road, Campton, KY 41031

**The Lodge is available for groups, weddings and retreats.**

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#### **Red River Gorge Zip Lines 855.ZIP.TOUR ( 855.947.8687)**

**606.668.6222** [www.redrivergorgezipline.com](http://www.redrivergorgezipline.com)

#### **Scenic Cabin Rentals 606.668.6487** [www.sceniccabin.com](http://www.sceniccabin.com)

#### **Paul Hamann 513.378.8716 Nancy Hamann 513.919.7150**

#### **Red River Gorge Cabin Rentals 606.668.3272**

[www.redrivergorgecabinrentals.com](http://www.redrivergorgecabinrentals.com)

#### **Ian Teal 513.284.2332 Sandy Teal 859.409.0024**

#### **Cliff Notes Jenny or Jerry Ison 865.674.6740**

#### **The Gorge Café in Cliffview Resort 606.668.3349**

**Email stories, ideas, suggestions, news to: [jenny@jerryison.com](mailto:jenny@jerryison.com)**



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- **Daniel Boone Coffee Shoppe & Deli.** Gourmet coffees and groceries 606-663-2549  
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- **Thrillville Aerial Adventure Park** 1/2 Mile south of Exit 33 on KY Rt 11, Slade, KY  
For more info click onto Thrillville.org or call 844.CLIMBHI (844.354.6244) 15 minute drive
- **Natural Bridge State Park, Lodge & Sky Lift:** [www.parks.ky.gov/resortparks/nb/index.htm](http://www.parks.ky.gov/resortparks/nb/index.htm)
- **Red River Gorge Hiking, Rock Climbing:** [www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/)
- **Cave Run Lake** boat rentals, swimming beach: (606) 784-9666. 1 hour to Cave Run Lake.
- **Wild Things of Kentucky Reptile Zoo & Gem Mining** KY Rt. 11 Slade 859-577-0277 15 minutes.
- **Gift Shops: Daniel Boone Trading Post** 606-663-2549; **Ye Ole Country Peddler** 606-663-2683.  
All on KY Rt 11, 15 minute drive.
- **Kayaking and Canoeing:** [www.redriveradventure.net](http://www.redriveradventure.net) 606-663-1012
- **Rock climbing, rappelling, camping:** 606-369-051 **Ash Cave Rappelling** 10 minutes.
- In-house **Massage & Manicure** available with orders of 2 or more massages. 859-595-6388
- **Kentucky Tourism & Vacation Guide:** <http://kytourism.com/> [www.tourseky.com](http://www.tourseky.com)
- **Via Ferrata Rock Climbing Park:** Great for beginners 606-668-6441 [torrentfalls.com](http://torrentfalls.com) 5 Minutes.
- **Hiking Trail Guide** and Descriptions. Great for beginners. [www.redrivergorge.org](http://www.redrivergorge.org).
- **Drive In Theater Stanton, KY.** Open April-September. 606-663-9988, 30 minute drive.
- **Peddler's Mall** Open Year Round. Stanton and Winchester. Gifts, Arts & Crafts, Antiques, Flea Market. Stanton is a 25 minute drive; Winchester is an hour's drive.
- **Beech Fork Golf Club** in Clay City - 606-663-9479 30 minutes.
- **Sag Hollow Golf Course** in Booneville 606-593-4653 40 minutes.
- **Beattyville Public Golf Course.** Off Rt. 52 in Beattyville, KY 606.356.4199 30 minutes

*Drive times are from Cliffview Resort to the listed attraction/event.*

### Come Zip the Rupp!

Once again you can zip across **Rupp Arena** during the annual Sport, Boat, and Recreation Show February 11-14. It's Fun! It's Thrilling! It's a *Super Adrenalin Rush!* and It's **FREE!**

If a **Holiday Party, any Party, Family Reunion, Corporate Meeting, Church Retreat or Wedding** is on your to-do list, go ahead and check it off. We have the perfect solution to party planning from catering to lodging to activities. The **Lodge at Cliffview** will sleep 64. The 7000 square foot **Activity Center** seats up to 250. The **Retreat** and **Lakeside** will sleep up to 50 with double appliance kitchens and technically compatible media rooms.  
**Call Amy at 606.668.6222 for details.**

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# Cookin' with Jenny

## Christmas Pudding

*"Oh, bring us a figgy pudding; "  
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;  
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding  
and a cup of good cheer"*

*"We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some,  
so bring some out here!"*

Like the popular Christmas Carol, "We Wish You A Merry Christmas!", says, they want Figgy Pudding so, here's how to make it.

### Figgy Pudding

This dense, moist cake heralding back to Victorian England, was and is the perfect finale to a chestnut-stuffed, Christmas goose (or turkey!) dinner. Serve warm with whipped cream flavored with liqueur."

#### Ingredients:

- 1 3/4 cups buttermilk
- 12 ounces dried Calimyrna figs, coarsely chopped
- 1-1/2 cups white whole-wheat flour
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder

- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 (2.45 ounce) package sliced almonds
- 3 tablespoons orange marmalade
- 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
- 1/2 teaspoon orange-vanilla flavoring (optional)

#### Preparation:

Gently heat buttermilk and figs in a saucepan over medium-low heat until softened, 10 to 15 minutes; set aside until cool.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a tube pan.

Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, nutmeg, cinnamon, and salt together in a bowl.

Beat eggs in a large bowl with an electric hand mixer on high for 1 minute. Add fig-and-buttermilk mixture, bread crumbs, butter, almonds, orange marmalade, orange zest, and orange-vanilla flavoring. Beat on low speed until blended. Gradually add flour mixture while beating until just incorporated into a batter. Spoon batter into prepared pan. Grease a sheet of aluminum foil to cover pan.

Bake in preheated oven until firm and pulling away from sides of the pan, about 2 hours. Set aside to cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan.

*"While visions of  
sugar plums danced  
in their heads"*




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## **A Winter's Walk** By Tina Seigley



I took a walk in the woods today. Today of all days, the fog was as thick as pea soup. A mist showered down upon everything. No snow on the ground, just brown, muddy,

slippery surroundings.

As I began my journey, I had no idea what I would find. Who knew this dreary scenery would start my memories dancing and my soul searching.

This particular woods sits adjacent to an old stone quarry and my walk began at an old stone spring house. This little building is well over a hundred years old and as I started down the slippery path, I am sure the ghosts of the area's history were watching me. At the bottom of the path, a noisy brook flowed freely, dividing the woods in half. With the birds absent, the only sounds were those of water running over, under and through rocks.

As I strolled the lower paths, I couldn't help but notice old stone wall sections that randomly dotted the sloped landscape. Grand trees stood majestic and bare, some even seemed to be growing right out of the rocks.

Large grapevines hung gracefully from the tops of the trees and reached down to the ground.

I couldn't resist grabbing one and swinging from it as I had done as a child.

*This was just the beginning...*

As I continued along my way, I discovered many signs of wildlife. Although there were no sounds, no movement save the bare tree limbs being pushed by the wind, there were signs of life almost everywhere.

Deer tracks and tooth-chisled hickory nut shells at the base of trees let me know this is still home to quite a few animals. Fresh raccoon tracks and what looked to be fox prints were here and there along the way.

I found myself turning almost childlike, with each animal track or chewed shell I found. At times, I'd stop at the edge of the brook, pick bits of flint and what looked like milky bits of glass out of the water. As I continued following the brook, I found such a peace within myself.

Just as I was thinking, "This couldn't get any better", I came upon stone bridge. An old, old stone bridge.

It was apparent the bridge had been built to provide horse drawn wagons and carriages access to the area where an old stone farm house sits. One doesn't often come upon a scene such as this. Between the stone, the landscape, the bridge and the fog, I felt as if I were in England instead of Eastern Kentucky.

Even though there was this wonderful old bridge, the kid in me just could not pass up the chance to build my own stepping stone bridge, to cross the brook. So stone by stone, step by step, I crossed the little brook.

Once on the other side, I stood back and took in the view, of the place I had just been. It was beautiful.

Even though there were no leaves, no grass, no flowers, birds nor snow, I knew the All Mighty was all around me.

Winter can sometimes be so depressing, especially when there is no snow, when all seems so gray and gloomy. However, nature has a way of helping us put our own being into perspective. That is just what happened to me. I left those woods feeling rejuvenated, invigorated and feeling very much alive. Physically, mentally and spiritually.

So sleep mighty trees and rest up for spring, because I will be back.

Back to get refueled, renewed, and reborn.



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## Win A Great Christmas Gift By Entering Our December Contest.

The first three emails responses with the correct translations will win a Free Zipline Tour Pass at Red River Gorge Ziplines here in the Cliffview Resort. Send your solution to jerry@jerryison.com by the 22nd of December and the first three – decided by time stamp only – and with the correct solutions - decided by the editor only - will win a free pass. No cash value, and can not be transferred.

## Politically Correct Carols

What if some Scrooge at the ACLU with a thesaurus was to rename traditional Christmas songs, would you be able to identify them? Have fun trying

01. Small City in Judea \_\_\_\_\_
02. Colorless Yuletide \_\_\_\_\_
03. Singular Yearning for Twin Anterior Incisors \_\_\_\_\_
04. Loyal Followers Advance \_\_\_\_\_
05. Righteous Darkness \_\_\_\_\_

06. Weather: Cloudless; Arrival Time: 2400 Hours \_\_\_\_\_
07. Far Off in a Feeder \_\_\_\_\_
08. Array the Corridors \_\_\_\_\_
09. Diminutive Young Male Percussionist \_\_\_\_\_
10. Monarchical Triad \_\_\_\_\_
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness \_\_\_\_\_
12. Father Christmas En Route to Borough \_\_\_\_\_
13. Initial Christmas \_\_\_\_\_
14. Frozen Precipitation Commence \_\_\_\_\_
15. Proceed and Enlighten on the Pinnacle \_\_\_\_\_
16. The Quadruped with the Vermilion Proboscis \_\_\_\_\_
17. Query Regarding Identity of Descendent \_\_\_\_\_
18. Delight for This Planet \_\_\_\_\_
19. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Beings \_\_\_\_\_
20. Hence Arriveth Kris Kringle \_\_\_\_\_
21. To Descry Matriarchal Osculation of Yuletide Benefactor \_\_\_\_\_
22. At the Zenith of the Habitat \_\_\_\_\_
23. Endocarps Vesicated in a Conflagration \_\_\_\_\_
24. Jehovah Dulcify Blithe Chevaliers \_\_\_\_\_
25. The Dozen Festive 24-hour Intervals \_\_\_\_\_



### Give the Gift of Adventure!

If you don't win a Zipline pass, you can still give that adventurous person on your list the Gift of Adventure! Give us a call - **606.668.6222** - before 12-15 and receive your gift certificates in time for Christmas giving. Wintertime is a great time to Zip. Come see one of the things the Gorge is most known for - the clifflines! These are easy to see and absolutely breathtaking once the leaves have fallen.

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