

December 25, 2011
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
and
January 1, 2012
**HAPPY NEW YEAR
EVERYONE!**



The **SW Lakeland** Christmas Brunch was held December 15th, 2011. In order to enjoy the festivities w/ Freida, the Lakeland office staff decided to have a small Christmas brunch. Planning ahead, we didn't realize how busy we would be on the 15th and, as a result, most reporters were not able to attend. We try to make sure the reporters are able to stop in and grab a bite during the day, but busy is a good thing! Every year we have a sign-up list of what the staff will bring, and this year we enjoyed a lot of tasty food, including a hash brown casserole, drunken fruit salad, taco dip, sausage gravy and biscuits, sausage pinwheels, and mini-quiches to name just a bit of what was shared. With everything that tasty, what was enjoyed the most was enjoying each other's company during a few moments of down time together. Even our reporter from Orlando, Karen Rhine, was able to join us this year! Due to everyone's ever-growing busy schedule, trying to plan a get-together outside of the office has proven to be a very unfeasible task. Freida allowing this tradition has proven to put a lot of smiles on our faces as we gather together and fill up on a lot of yummys, realizing how grateful we are to have a second home at SW! Rachael Gierlach



Christmas at Sclafani Williams



SW Tampa Christmas Party



The **SW Tampa** office had their annual Christmas party this year at Miguel's. This is a recently redone, fun Mexican restaurant. Rosalie and her husband, Ken; Alisa, Denise, Pam, Karen and her husband, Michael; Thom and his wife, Lauren, attended. We always enjoy each others' company and had lots of laughs. As usual, the food was yummy and the sangria and margaritas were awesome. It was a great way to start the holiday season!

Rosalie Nowak



The **SW Daytona** office had their Christmas lunch at the office on Friday, Dec. 16th. We enjoyed some really good food and conversation. We all stuffed our faces with a variety of pinwheels and yummy salad. Our local subpoena serviceman brought us some delicious desserts. We had a good time playing Santa and exchanging gifts with each other. It was very nice to slow down this very hectic time of year and enjoy a few laughs with friends and family.

Lori Collins

*Not really feeling the Christmas Spirit this year?
Maybe you just need to get around some
CHRISTMAS atmosphere!*

Nights of Lights

From November 19 to January 31, St. Augustine glows with holiday magic - from the ground to the rooftops. One by one, tiny white lights make the oldest city twinkle in the night.

Come visit and brighten your spirits at this unforgettably electric festival.

Osborne Family Spectacle of Dancing Lights at Disney's Hollywood Studios

Dec. 7, 2011 and Dec. 9, 2011– Jan. 7, 2012 on the Streets of America at Disney's Hollywood Studios theme park is a massive seasonal display featuring millions of holiday lights perfectly synchronized to music.

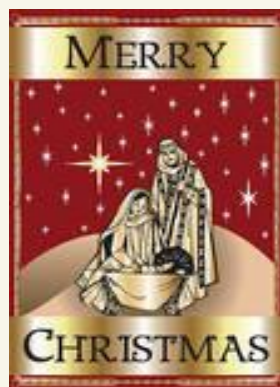
Tampa Bay Boat Parade of Lights

Friday, December 23 at 6:00 p.m.

A huge holiday boat parade travels through Downtown Tampa, Davis Islands, and Harbour Island. Park up at any good spot along the water and watch these dazzling, decorated boats go through the water.

The best views of the parade will be from:

- Curtis Hixon Park
- The Convention Center
- Yacht Starship Dining Cruise
- Channelside Bay Plaza
- American Victory Ship



St. Augustine Night of Lights



Disney's Hollywood Studios Theme Park

You think English is easy?

Read on thou courageous one!



- The bandage was wound around the wound.
- The farm was used to produce produce.
- The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- I did not object to the object.
- The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- They were too close to the door to close it.
- The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- We must polish the Polish furniture.

LET'S FACE IT –

ENGLISH IS A CRAZY LANGUAGE!

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. Quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write, but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce, and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, two geese - so one moose, two meese? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language can you recite at a play and play at a recital? You ship by truck and send cargo by ship, and we have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up and it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all!

P.S. – And why doesn't "Buick" rhyme with "quick"?

Court Reporter News

Have you heard the news? Wendy Wyncoop passed the RPR!
CONGRATULATIONS, WENDY!!

- * **Version 13 from Stenograph** will be released February.
- * **Court Reporting Firm Owners Conference**, February 5 – 7, 2012, Palm Beach, Florida
- * **STAR 2012 Mid-Year Conference**, April 15 – 18, 2012, Las Vegas, Nevada. Anita Paul Realtime Mastery.
- * **FCRA Annual Convention**, June 29 – July 1, 2012, Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort, Clearwater, Florida.

End-of-Year Reminder:

After Christmas, but before New Year's Day, is a good time to go into your include files and change your 2011 to 2012.

Yeah, Wendy!!



New Year's Superstitions

Gosh, there's over 100! Here's some interesting superstitions, but check out snopes.com/holidays/newyears/beliefs.asp to read more in depth. It's a hoot!

Before New Year's Day:

- Stock up the pantry to ensure prosperity through 2012.

At midnight:

- Open all your doors to let the old year escape.
- Make a very loud noise to scare the evil spirits away.
- Kiss someone to ensure affection and strengthen ties.
- First person to enter your home after the stroke of midnight will influence your whole year.

New Year's Day:

- Nothing goes out, not even garbage!
- Eat black-eyed peas for good luck and good fortune.
- Do not do laundry as it will bring bad luck.
- Do not pay off a loan or lend money, as also bad luck.



HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY
 EVERYONE!