

My Two Cent's Worth

By: Joseph Andalina

'Tis the season

...to be jolly. As the Earth turns rapidly to a new year, we should all be filled with the joy that life presents.

Notwithstanding the words of Ludwig Wittgenstein, an Australian and British philosopher as quoted in the UK "I don't know why we are here, but I'm pretty sure it is not in order to enjoy ourselves." Feels like it sometimes, I must admit.

However, even with the banality of it all and everyday disappointments, I choose not to wring my hands every Christmas season over all the bad juju out there. I leave that to Ludwig and his ilk to do that.

Instead, focus on your faith, your sense of giving, and of course, the Santa gift you will enjoy. It is a remarkable season.

What are you looking for in your stockings? I love books, preferably sci-fi, history, wildlife, and a scary novel here and there.

Music is also a delight. Jazz, I say: The Byrd, the Train, and my beloved Oscar Peterson are all good additions. And of course toys. No clothes or tools, please. Robots and vintage stuff to look beautiful on a shelf. How about you? Lots of cool things out there. The Internet brings wonders to your door.

Animals are cool, too. I have a dog, two cats, a few herps, but I asked Santa for a Palmetto Corn Snake, but the blonde said no! Just because a two-foot Fox snake escaped and got loose in the house the blonde is still wary. Maybe because we never found her. I believe she may be hiding out in the basement, under the stairs, growing to a larger size right now. That's why maybe she never goes down there, even though it's finished — except under the stairs where it's dark and musty. She wonders why I spend so much time there trapping mice. But that's a story for another time.

Whatever are your wishes, I hope all your dreams come true, as "Pedro" might say. I hope Santa is good to you, but above all, I wish for peace, serenity, and joy for all of you this Christmas season. May the Lord bless you all.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, and keep believing in yourself and the noble job you do.

Remember in this season of joy to tell someone that you love them.

Vita é bella.