



Santa's Lament

By Steve Pomeranz, CFP®
President of Pomeranz Financial Management
Host of WXEL Radio's *On The Money!*



T'was the week before Christmas and all through the house
all investors were worried to report to their spouse

That Santa would *not* be coming this year
'cause his workshop's got notice it was in arrears.

Seems Santa got greedy and financed his "dive"
Just at the time in two thousand and five

When prices were up, and had gone through the roof
And his business was booming so he needed no proof

That the trend would continue –and the bank would be blind
'cause of sugarplum bonuses all on their mind

So they gave him the money and he hired more deer
But the problem with Santa –was he worked Once a Year!

No income of sorts just the shop he had going
and the deer *and* the elves but no profits were flowing!

And the shop's market value had just hit a double
it all seemed so easy -there was no sign of trouble.

And then, with a shutter and sounds like a rumble
The value of everything started to crumble

Then launched a descent that provided a scare
Not seen since the days of a young Fred Astaire

Now, Lehman, then Merrill, now Citi then Bear
Then Wamu and GM the signs were all there

That the piper was playing its song of despair
That this time the system may be-b'yond repair.

But then came the Fed with its pail full of cash
Doling millions and billions to ward off a crash

With Geithner and Ben and the Dems on the aisle
Doling money as if it could go out of style

And just when the light at tunnel's end was unclear
We saw hope in the name of "Green Shoots" which appeared

To begin a revival of sorts, some would say
A *survival* of sorts some would say on this day

And now with the chance it won't happen again
We look with some hope toward Two Thousand and Ten

To getting our fiscal affairs in some order
To paying the billions of debt owed to China

To hope that the Gov doesn't add to our stress
And allows us to grow our way out of this mess

But so I digress.....

And what of poor Santa, that man who's so jolly
Whose outlook is sunny and not prone to folly

Well he did alright cause his home did inspire
a bid from a couple, yes a first time homebuyer!

But truly it's sad that an era has ebbed
Cause Santa has mastered the biz of the web

And like eBay and Google and Facebook and Twitter
Santa's new site is considered a winner

With overnight shopping and shipping no cost
His deer are retired and his elves are laid off

Only Donner and Prancer and Rudolph are willing
to help at the times when backorders need filling

But Santa remembers and though he's alright
He misses the thrill of the children's delight

He misses the workshop and laughter and noise
He misses the thrill of inventing new toys

But of all things he misses
It's the chance to recite:

"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

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Steven L. Pomeranz Financial Management is located at 555 South Federal Highway, Suite 210,
Boca Raton, Florida 33432. For more information, call 561-362-7850, 1-866-MONEY-01,
or visit www.slpomeranz.com or www.onthemoneyradio.org.