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# Rotary Club of Apex

"SERVICE Above Self"

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**APEX ROTARY NEWSLETTER - YEAR END, 2008**  
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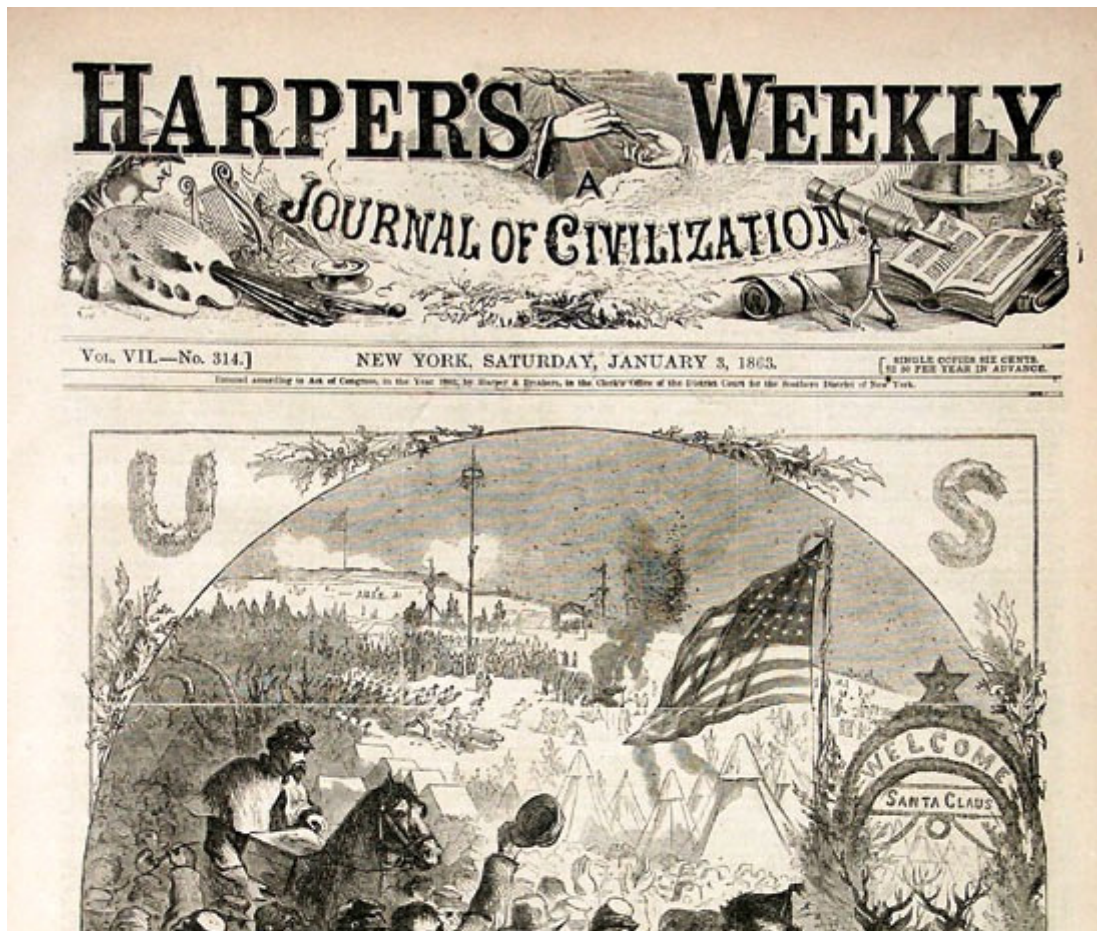
- MERRY CHRISTMAS
- HAPPY NEW YEAR

The following is a quote from a personal eulogy given by a past member of the Apex Rotary Club for a deceased member at gravesite. A concept by which we members should all abide.

*"For those of us who remain, and especially for our fellow Rotarians, we should always be mindful of this life well lived, a life of service above self, a life in which service to God, service to country and service to family was an unending mantra. Would that we all live such a life!"*

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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**Thomas Nast's Original Civil War "Santa Claus In Camp"**

This is Thomas Nast's earliest published picture of Santa Claus. Nast is generally credited with creating our popular image of Santa. This illustration appeared in the January 3, 1863 edition of Harper's Weekly, and shows Santa Claus visiting a Civil War Camp. In the background, a sign can be seen that reads "Welcome Santa Claus." The illustration shows Santa handing out gifts to Children and Soldiers. One soldier receives a new pair of socks, which would no doubt be one of the most wonderful things a soldier of the time could receive. Santa is pictured sitting on his sleigh, which is being pulled by reindeer. Santa is pictured with a long white beard, a furry hat, collar and belt. We can see that many of our modern perceptions of Santa Claus are demonstrated in the 140 year old print.

***HAPPY NEW YEAR***

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