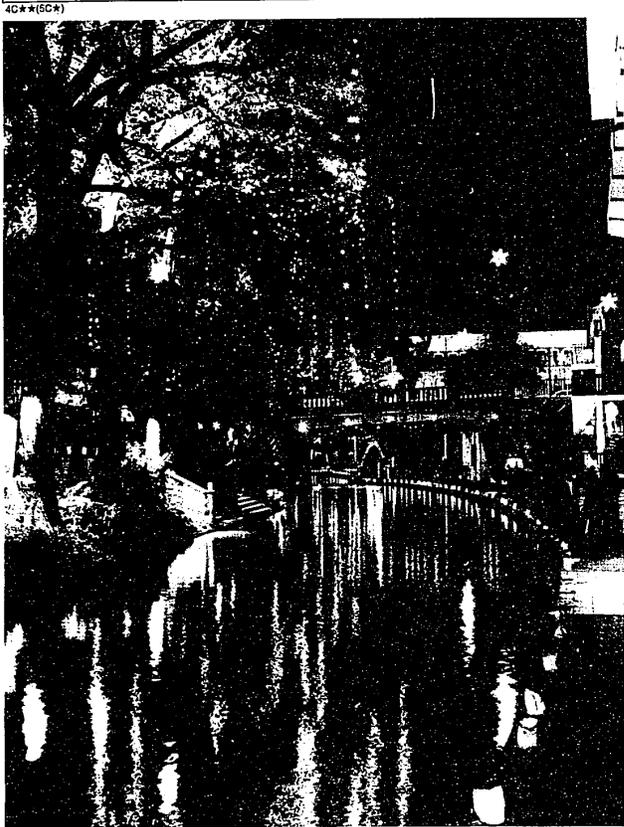


Monday, December 1, 1980



Tiny lights overhead reflect in the San Antonio River during the Holiday River Festival Dec. 12-14 in that Texas city. The appealing glow along the river walk is the result of luminarias — paper bags filled with sand, with a candle centered inside. The tops of the bags are folded to maintain an upright stance.

## Asides to partake of before Florida line

By IRIS SANDERSON JONES

Travelers often miss Christmas events along the highway when they are traveling away from home during the holidays, because they don't know about those events in advance.

There are Christmas festivals in Texas, Christmas boat parades in Florida, holiday events along the Lincoln Heritage Trail, and lots of tree-lighting, carol-singing events in between.

**GOING SOUTH** on Interstate 75, you will find Cincinnati all lit up for Christmas, from the yuletide trees in Fountain Square to the live-animal creche at the Krohn Conservatory in Eden Park.

The planetarium at the Museum of Natural History, also in Eden Park, includes the Christmas Star in its holiday program. The Cincinnati Zoo, three miles north of downtown, holds its annual Christmas at the Zoo evening programs Dec. 12-21.

Old-fashioned Christmas decorations can be seen at the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Taft Museum, the John Hauck House Museum and in the 19th century homes in Sharon Woods Village in suburban Sharonville, where caroling and other special events will be held Dec. 10-14.

Especially for the children: the new Cincinnati Fire Museum opens downtown this month and the Cincinnati Gas and Electric Holiday Model Train Exhibit runs for the 35th year through December.

**A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS** at Calloway Gardens, Ga., is highlighted by a Christmas flower show throughout December. Every day from Friday, Dec. 19, to Thursday, Jan. 1, includes a long list of Christmas activities ranging from a golf tournament and craft classes Dec. 19 and 20 to the traditional New Year's Day luncheon Jan. 1.

The Madrigal Dinner Concert is at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, and medieval food and music feast that costs \$15 for adults and \$9 for children younger than 10. There are also greenhouse tours, craft and music classes, tree trimming events, a Christmas Day feast, and all kinds of other attractions at this unusual non-profit garden in Pine Mountain, Ga.

**CONTINUE I-75 to Florida**, and you will find the world's largest decorated Christmas tree in Lantana, a festival parade Dec. 13, at Ocala; a grand Christmas illumination ceremony at St. Augustine Dec. 15; an 800-voice candlelight procession at Lake Buena Vista mid-December; and Christmas boat parades Dec. 20 or 21 in Deland, Fort Lauderdale, Madeira Beach and Pompano.

**IF YOU ARE** going south to Texas, you will find two unusual events: the Christmas Tree Forest in Corpus Christi and the Fiesta Navidena in San Antonio.

The Christmas Tree Forest, in the Art Museum of South Texas, this year carries the theme, "A Victorian Yuletide." A 20-foot, two-story Victorian housefront with stained glass windows is a backdrop for 40 decorated trees and a Santa's workshop. That's Dec. 10-24.

**Fiesta Navidena** is a three-day festival Dec. 12-14 in San Antonio's Market Square. There are mariachi bands, Mexican folk dances and lots of food and gifts at both El Mercado, the Mexican market, and at Farmer's Market, which sells fresh fruits and vegetables as well as gifts.

The Blessing of the Animals occurs when festival-goers bring their pets to Market Square on Saturday afternoon. Las Posadas, a procession symbolizing the Holy Family's search for an inn, closes the festivities at 6 p.m. Dec. 14. It is staged along with the Fiesta de las Luminarias, a fiesta of lights along the beautiful River Walk beside the San Antonio River.

**CLOSER TO HOME**, on the Lincoln Heritage Trail, Christmas attractions mark the highway route that follows Abraham Lincoln's life through Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. A Christmas village opens the festivities this weekend, Dec. 5-7, at Henderson County High School in Henderson, Ky.

There is a Christmas candlelight tour Dec. 7 at the Benjamin Harrison home in Indianapolis, Christmas at the Zoo Dec. 12-21 at the Indianapolis Zoo and an Ethnic Christmas all month at the Indianapolis Children's Museum.

Fort Wayne, Ind., also has a Christmas time at the Zoo Dec. 12-23. In Illinois, you will find a Statehood Day celebration with candlelight tours and entertainment in Springfield and an exhibit of American crafts all month at the Springfield Art Association.

There is a new Salem Christmas at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site from noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 6 and 7 in New Salem; a Christmas tree decorating party at the Vandala Statehouse Historic Site Dec. 13 and 14 in Lerna; Christmas at the Clayville Rural Life Center and Museum in Pleasant Plains, Dec. 14; and Christmas at the Statehouse in Vandala Dec. 15-19.



Roman Catholic Bishop of the Archdiocese of San Antonio blesses a holiday clad poodle during the blessing of the animals at Fiesta Navidena at El Mercado, one of the highlights of the holiday season at San Antonio.

**travel log**  
Iris Sanderson Jones  
contributing travel editor

## Good seats, a kosher flight and some holiday travel hints

As I approach the deadline for this column, I am flying home from Israel aboard El Al Flight 009. As usual, when I fly a Boeing 747, I ask for a bulkhead seat because it gives me extra leg room.

The three seats on either side of the emergency doors adjacent to the kitchen, or the toilets, are the best seats in the plane if you can't fly first class.

By choice, I would always take the ones next to the kitchen, even if the attendants run over my feet with the food trolleys, but this time I got the aisle seat next to the toilets, which means enduring the periodic line-ups for the washrooms. C'est la vie.

A national airline is often reflective of the nation itself, and El Al is no exception. From my seat, I can see men walking up and down the aisles with yarmulkes on their heads and even a few of the very orthodox Hasidic Jewish men with their long ear curls, black suits and hats.

**THE WOMAN** sitting next to me, like so many of the people I met in Israel, is an American who emigrated to the Holy Land. She came originally from Los Angeles, but now she lives in the ancient city of Jerusalem.

Crouched next to her is another passenger who stopped on his way down the aisle for a brief chat; he is a young man who lives on a kibbutz in the Golan Heights within two miles of the Syrian border.

A kibbutz is a communal village in which families share work and all public buildings, usually as either a farm community or for small industry.

This flight starts at 8 a.m. from Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv, flies 11 hours to Montreal and another hour to New York. On the way, we have two movies and three meals to break the monotony, but we are all still exhausted long before the wheels touch down in North America.

The meals are kosher, which means that no meat or dairy product is served at the same meal. If you did not know this ancient religious law, you would not be aware of anything unusual, but look again and you will see that the breakfast tray contains eggs and cheese but no meat, and the dinner tray includes margarine and dried vegetable-based coffee creamers, but no milk foods.

**MORE ABOUT** that next week when I tell you about Israel. Right now, I'd like to share some air travel tips collected from another airline, United.

In order to avoid the hassles that sometimes accompany over-crowded holiday travel conditions, United suggests the following:

Book a specific return flight to be sure you get home on time. Obtain tickets by mail or from your agent before you go to the airport.

Ask somebody to drive you to the airport so you don't have to park. Get there at least an hour before flight time.

Mark luggage clearly on the outside, and be sure to pack identification and an itinerary on the inside of your bag in case it gets lost. Be prepared to have carry-on luggage inspected, which takes time.

Be prepared for the possible unwrapping of your Christmas gifts during this inspection. To avoid that, either wrap your gifts after you get to your destination or pack them in your luggage.

You can send packages weighing less than 50 pounds by United's package dispatch for arrival the same day they are sent or you can send larger packages by air freight, both of which cost money.

If you have wrapped gifts in your hand when you arrive at the airport for check-in, you can ask any airline for a free carton, which will then be closed and checked as regular flight baggage.

## Without "The Big Oh", Detroit Just Wouldn't Be Detroit!



It'd be Detroit! And really, now . . . can you imagine cheering for the Detroit Lions? Or listening to the beautiful sounds of the Detroit Symphony?

Ah . . . but there is an "Oh"! It's WOMC FM 104 . . . "Detroit's Big Oh", and it has the oh-so-popular music and personalities you love.

Like Marc Avery to get you going every morning from 6 to 10. And Tom Dean to cheer you up from 10 am to 2 pm. Plus Nick Arama to brighten your afternoons from 2 to 6 pm.

Oh-Oh! We almost forgot to mention the other Detroit favorites on "The Big Oh"—Bob Charlton,

Greg Russell and Steve Peck. They'll lighten up and liven up your life like nobody's business!

So turn on "The Big Oh" today—WOMC FM 104. It's the only "oh" in Detroit . . . er . . . Detroit!

