

# gag-gift giving

**B**ah, humbug. The holiday season means fake cheer from salespeople, nowhere to park at the hell-mall and monogrammed argyle socks.

Maybe it's not that bad, but nothing redlines the stress meter like the holiday season, so before you drop your hard-earned dollars on serious and boring gifts, take a few minutes to read this column and treat yourself to the oddest items we could find. Remember, it still is better to give than receive, especially when you are talking about giving that special someone a hard time.

## Presidential drives

Everyone's favorite punching bag is about to ride off into an Arkansas sunset, leaving partisans, pundits and comedians without their best source of material. But don't despair. While you may not have Clinton to kick around anymore, you still can take a swing at him with Slick Willie golf balls. The balls promise "a good lie every time" and feature the grinning mug of our soon-to-be former president. A dozen of these whoppers will set you



RETURN THE FUN TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON BY CHECKING OUT THESE NOVELTY GIFTS **BY MARK LUCE**

back \$26.95, and are available at [www.accesstulsa.com/slickwillie](http://www.accesstulsa.com/slickwillie).

## Can you believe it?

Have you ever wanted to tee off, but nature's call was too strong? Never fear: The piddle putter is here. The self-described "toilet tee off" features a tiny felt green, mini-putter and ball for use in the john. The bathroom course-in-a-box will run you \$19.95 and can be found at [store.yahoo.com/spencergifts/488155.html](http://store.yahoo.com/spencergifts/488155.html).

## No more bad form

Our buddies at The Golf Collection offer a rare, painful treat to help duffers remember to keep their head down. The Crotch Hook features elastic band and a fish hook to "fit snugly in the crotch." It doesn't take Ken Venturi to tell you what will happen if you lift your head.

A great gag at just \$7.95 and ready to be snagged at [www.golfcollection.com/golfcrotchhook.html](http://www.golfcollection.com/golfcrotchhook.html)

## It's in the hole?

Certainly one needs to get a little

something for the foursome, and gamesmanship should be at the top of the list with this gift from Golf'Un. The PopAPutt is a little spring-loaded device that will shoot a downed putt right back out on the green. Of course, stealth must be employed to load the PopAPutt, but you can order it without reservation at [www.golfun.net/popaputt.htm](http://www.golfun.net/popaputt.htm) for \$8.99.

## More fun than a Barrel of Monkeys

Maybe you have tired of golf-related mayhem, but other goofiness abounds at Archie McPhee, the novelty retailer that put the "OK" in joke. Check out its site — [www.mcphee.com](http://www.mcphee.com) — for rubber snakes, joy buzzers and just about every sophomoric prank you can think of.

I got what I deemed a "bag of junk" from McPhee for my 30th birthday in May, and have gotten hours of entertainment from hula girls, a boxing puppet, rubber eyeballs and some orange-molded plastic frogs. It's a great place to beat the grumpiness of the Grinch.

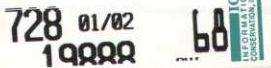
Happy holidays.

*Mark Luce, a free-lance writer from Lawrence, Kan., will get a lump of coal from Santa Claus for this column.*

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