

Christmas Day 2006 at Las Islas  
2:30 p.m.

North wind blows through blind.  
Sage leaves glisten in wind.  
Mesquites strain against the gale.  
Wind block makes day survivable.  
Tinnitus rings in my ears  
amplified by ear plugs, worn  
as protection when trigger is pulled.  
Buzzard soars over black brush.