

# Patchwork Press



Newsletter for the Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild

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December 2021 – Issue 04 | [www.durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca](http://www.durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca) | Email: [dtqguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtqguild@gmail.com)

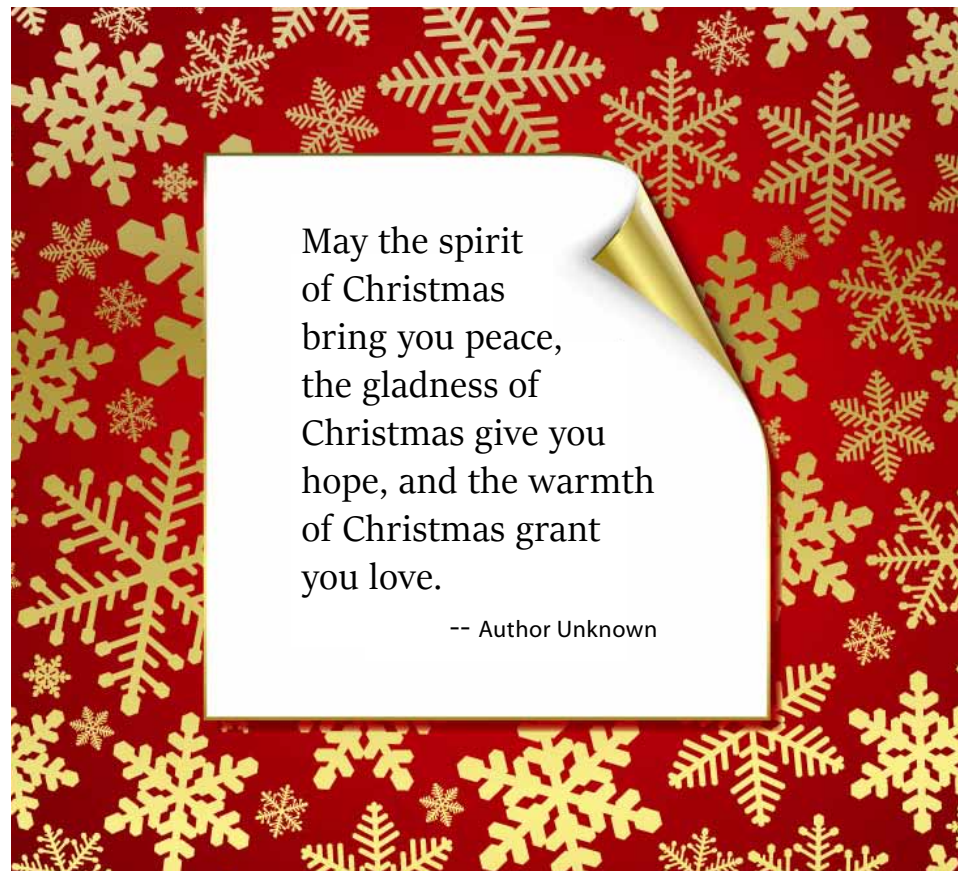
## President's Message - Debbie K

Merry Christmas/Happy Holidays  
Fellow Quilters.

I hope that all is well with you and that, as the weather starts to turn colder and snow is showing up in places, you are having a wonderful time in your sewing spaces.

So many things to do, new projects, UFO's, and presents for this year. Amazing how we manage to overload our plates each year with projects we want to complete for Christmas. And amazing how many people do manage to finish their list in the time they allotted for it. You can guarantee that I am not one of them. I am still sorting out my sewing area and trying to incorporate my Mom's stash into mine. Quite a feat, I tell you.

About the only thing I have sewn and completed in the last couple of months are the placemats I made for the President's Challenge. It was fun trying to find the space to do it but I did manage and I did not take over the dining room table like my hubby



thought I would. I have been able to manage to contain my sewing/quilting activities in my sewing area so far.... Hubby thinks that my material, etc. is like an amoeba – it just grows and flows into every area of our life and takes over the world. He may have a point there.

Speaking of the President's Challenge, I would like to thank

everyone who created and donated all those wonderful placemats. We will announce the total amount donated, where they went and who won the challenge at the Guild meeting on December 13. I do know that pictures of some of them will be in the newsletter. Please enjoy these beautiful works of art that will bring so much joy to

**continued on Page 2**



a great many people.

This year we are turning the corner and are able to do what we so wanted to do last year, spend time with our loved ones and share our holiday with them. May this coming year be a very special one for you, your families, and your friends. May the time you share with each other be filled with joy, love, laughter, and appreciation for the fact we are here and able to do this. Such a wonderful step forward for all of us.

I would like to thank all the Executive team for their hard work this year. They have worked together to create a year of interest, social interaction, education, fun, and opportunities to help give back to our communities even with the restraints we were dealing with. Their dedication and focus has helped us be one of the most active Guilds in Canada. Thank you, Ladies, you are awesome and very much appreciated.

December 13 is our Christmas celebration meeting. The meeting will open up at 6:30 PM and Kate

will be running a game until 7:00 PM for those early birds. Please wear something festive, bring a pen/pencil and paper to the meeting along with something to snack on and drink a toast with. Oh, and your wonderful sense of humour as well, please. We are going to have a good time enjoying each others' company. We are still having the Show & Share, so please get your pictures in to Peggy by

her deadline and same for the Mystery Quilt installment #1, pictures to Kate by her deadline (see their articles for the specifics). I am really looking forward to seeing everything that has been created by you. This guild is such an inspiring group of wonderful people.

As I close off this month's article I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, loving, joyful holiday. May your month be very productive, may you complete the projects you have planned, and may you take the time to rest, recharge, and rejuvenate your mind, body, spirit, and soul. Be blessed and see you on December 13 at 7:00 PM.

*May this coming year be a very special one for you, your families, and your friends.*



Thank you, Sharon M, for submitting these pictures of some of the completed placemats that were made for the President's Challenge.







## Community Quilts - Maria S, Andrew S, Pam T, Diana S

Thank you so much to the members who completed quilts for the guild's Community Quilts. I have included their names and a picture of the quilts that were submitted and then delivered to Diana S to be distributed to the charity organizations in Durham Region.

Also, thank you to all the members at the Elim Lodge Retreat who took quilt kits home to complete. Please remember that if you have a kit that you picked up before the pandemic that you can either deliver what you have completed to Pam T or contact me via phone or email and I will pick it up from you.

Thanks to all the members who have been working on our quilt kits and also those using your own fabrics to complete quilts for us.



Created by Carol M, Laura F, and Janet H



Wheelchair quilt by Gail L



Quilt by Gail L



Wheelchair quilt by Gail L



Wheelchair quilt by Gail L





Quilt by Gwen V



Quilt by Gwen V



Quilt by Gwen V



Quilt by Gwen V



Quilt by Gwen V



Community Quilt Kit by Jana B

### Simple Applique Tip

It's the season to hurry up and get things finished. What can be frustrating is when all kinds of unexpected events interfere with your planned schedule. Here's a quick, easy applique tip to help your project get done quicker.





Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D



Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D



Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D



Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D



Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D



Wheelchair quilt by Kathy D

Wow! I just have to interject here how wonderful you members are when it comes to your generosity. These are amazing placemats and quilts. Thanks for sharing your incredible skills.

### 5 Things 4 Quilters

Sorry, I couldn't fit the complete title in the link box, but here is a YouTube video that covers five things every quilter should know.

### Snowman Applique

There's more than just snowmen here, lots of links to check out. But if you need some holiday applique patterns, this is a good place to start.





### Fabric Basket - Jacqueline H

Why not turn those scraps into Seasonal Ornaments. Here is a website that will help you make 25 fabulous scrap ornaments.

Click on the photo above to get to the website. There's lots to explore here, so get comfortable.

Also, remember to wash those hands regularly as we know flu season is upon us.

### Library - Maria S and Janet H

Thank you to the two individuals who requested books from the library last month. They were delivered to these members. We still have books and magazines available from the list that was posted last month.

If you would like to borrow one of them, please let me know and we will get them to you.

### Membership - Grace R

Our guild welcomes Ginny B from Bancroft as our newest guild member. We have had eight previous members renew their membership during the month of November. Our guild now has 76 members in good standing.

We are always happy to have guests join us at our regular meetings. Due to COVID, we are still having our meetings on Zoom. This is a great time to invite your fellow quilting friends from near or far to attend one of our meetings and enjoy a guest presentation.

Tickets can be purchased each month by emailing our regular guild website for each request - dtqguild@gmail.com. All requests for a guest ticket must be done prior to the Thursday before our meeting.

A ticket costs \$10.00 and must be paid by e-transfer at the same

time as the request.

The purchase of a ticket also allows the purchaser to attend a virtual sew day that month. Once the guest request and payment are received, I forward the meeting email invitation to the guest.

I also pass on the information to Laura B so that the guest will be let into the Zoom meeting. Jacqueline is also informed so if our guest desires to join us on one of that month's sew days. Of course, I also forward the sew day information to the guest.

Please note that there are a limited number of tickets available each month and the ticket must be purchased by the Thursday before the scheduled meeting. Please remember that guests are not permitted to attend our Annual General meeting in June.



Photo by Daniel on Unsplash



### More Christmas Applique

This link provides some great applique patterns as well as some really fabulous Christmas projects in which to use them.

Perhaps you'll find a couple of ideas that will help fill out your "Santa's List" of projects. The only trouble is finding the time to finish everything. Santa's coming!

### For the Quilter

I think it's important to put myself on Santa's list. So, if you think that's a great idea, too, check out some of these crafty and gift ideas for the quilter in your life - You. There are a lot of downloadable fonts and design files here. Because only you know best what you want to have this Christmas.

## Join Our Next Guild Meeting

Our guild meets at 7:00 PM on the second Monday of every month from September to June.

If you are interested in following our newsletters, they are posted on the first Monday of every month of our guild year on our website under "Newsletters."

In-person meetings are currently suspended due to COVID-19's physical distancing requirements.

Until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, members and pre-registered visitors will receive an email invitation to Zoom meetings. We look forward to you joining in and sharing at our virtual meetings this fall. We have a great line-up of presentators scheduled for the months ahead. Be sure to save these dates to join in our meetings.

## Upcoming Guild Meeting Dates

- December 13
- January 10
- February 14
- March 14
- April 11
- May 9
- June 13





## Mystery Quilt - Kate H

We now have 34 participants signed up. It's not too late if you want to join. The cost is \$15.00 per person for the pattern and you can use up some of your stash.

Looking for ideas? Check out the fabric selections on the [Border Creek Station](#) webstore for our mystery program. Registration is open and payment by e-transfer can be sent directly to the guild.

Installment #2 was released recently and the Facebook group DTQG Mystery 2021-22 has been launched. This group has been set up to be a safe supportive group, and a great resource for quick information!

For this year's project, to be eligible for the grand prize of \$50 your quilt must be quilted and bound with a label!

Send your photos to our new email submission location:



[dtqgmystery@gmail.com](mailto:dtqgmystery@gmail.com). Thanks to Laura for setting this up!

Installment #3 will be released in January 2022, which leaves you loads of time to catch up after all your Christmas gifts are completed. Here's the [link](#) if you still want to register and join in. Happy sewing!

## Morale Officer - Jacqueline H

As the weather turns colder it is a great time to retreat into our sewing rooms. Perhaps put a crockpot on to stew and spend the day sewing. It is also a great way to stay safe this winter!

This is a slightly adapted recipe from the Jean Pare *Company's Coming Slow Cooker Recipes* (of which I have made 50 wonderful recipes over the years):

### Tried & True Beef Barley Soup

- 1 lb stew meat, diced small
- 3 carrots, sliced or chopped
- 2 med onions, chopped
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 5 cups water
- 1 tsp parsley flakes
- ¼ tsp pepper
- 1 tsp sugar, optional
- 2 Tbsp beef bouillon powder
- ½ cup pearl barley
- 2 cans tomato sauce, 7.5 oz each



Dump all ingredients into the crockpot. Place lid on crockpot. Cook on low for 8 to 10 hours of sewing time or on high for 4 to 5 hours.



## Upcoming Sew Days - Jacqueline H

Here is the list of upcoming Sew Social Days. Please note the extended hours during the week.

- Wed, Dec 8, 1 PM to 4 PM and 7 PM to 10 PM - Sew Social Santa Style
- Wed, Dec 22, 1 PM to 4 PM and 7 PM to 10 PM - Sew Social Santa Style
- Fri, Dec 31, 7 PM to 1 AM - Ring in the New Year
- Sat, Jan 1, 9 AM to 5 PM - Ring in the New Year

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next series of SEW SOCIALS! The SEW SOCIAL ladies from early November prepared a list of "Quick Homemade Gifts" you might enjoy.

- Pillow Cases
- Wine Bottle Bag with wine
- Quilt Panel as a wall hanging
- Embroider a hand towel
- Home made napkins
- Mug Rug
- Placemats
- Microwave soup cozy bowls
- Orphaned block trivet
- Fabric notebook
- Zippy Zipper Bags
- Apron for a wine bottle (include the wine as part of the gift)
- Shoe Bags
- Serviette Holders
- Apron



Our latest winners of a shop local gift card are: #23 Deb W, #24 Gerlinde





## Show & Share - Peggy G

As we continue with our monthly tradition of Show & Share, we all love to see everyone's finished (or unfinished) projects. It is inspiring to see the work done by members and fun to hear the stories on the process and the history/meaning of the various quilts and projects. As we continue with virtual meetings, I will continue with having you submit photos of your projects in advance of the meeting.

Please send photos of your Show & Share projects to [dtqgShowNShare@gmail.com](mailto:dtqgShowNShare@gmail.com) instead of the regular guild email. For our December meeting, please have these sent by 9:00 PM, December 10, 2021, to allow time to get them into my presentation.

Please remember to:

- Send one email per quilt/project
- Include "Show & Share" in the email subject
- Include the name of the person submitting the quilt (I can't always tell from the email address, I will make up a name if I can't tell)
- Please only send a maximum of 2-3 photos per quilt/project

You can send as many project emails as you like, but if there are a lot submitted, I will limit displayed projects to two per person. So, if submitting more than two projects, please indicate your preferred two or I will just randomly select them. Note that speaking of the quilts will be limited to one minute per quilt at the meeting. Don't forget....each submission qualifies for the monthly draw. I'm looking forward to receiving photos of your beautiful and inspiring projects.

**Next  
Show & Share  
Deadline**

**Friday,  
December 10**



### 1930s Christmas Quilt

This really cute quilt was made for a Christmas in July promo. Ha! July was a while ago, and the real Christmas is just around the corner. Maybe this is one quilt you can pull off and get under the tree in time. Free download available.

### Machine Applique Tips

This tutorial may be old news for some of you. However, I like the very detailed pictures included with the explanations provided. I did learn a thing or two, so you may want to check it out as well. More pictures, less words. Love it!

### Free Applique Patterns

I can't draw to save my life, so finding adorable patterns that someone else is posting for free use is just up my alley. Of course, some of these are just soooooo adorable, I have to find a project where I can use them. Lots of Christmas stuff here, too.

### Time Management

Well, since we can't spend ALL day quilting, here are some tips on how to manage a balanced schedule so that all of your responsibilities are addressed and you still have time to get into your sewing room to do some quilting.

### Print on Fabric

Freezer paper seems like its pure magic. So many ways to use this product for really cool sewing results. Here's a YouTube video on how to use freezer paper to print on fabric. Yes, your own designs that come alive on fabric. Whoa!

### Applique Quilt

If you love applique, this is a quilt project for you. It's super adorable, and fairly easy to pull together.

There are many, many ways to coordinate colours for this quilt, so this might be the hardest part of the whole project.





### 10 Kids' Games

Here's a win-win scenario. You can make some kids' games in time for the holidays and use up fabric scraps at the same time. Gotta love it when a plan comes together.

### Better HSTs

Here's a tutorial for three time-saving methods when you have to make a lot of half square triangles. Check them all out, and then use your favorite tactic to speed up your next HST project.

### Christmas Star

This beautiful star block is super versatile and can be used in many projects. The website provides four different sizes, so you have a lot of options.

### A N. Zieman Tutorial

This blog post covers how to make a quilt block called Air Castle. It's the eleventh block in a series of twelve free blocks. This block is sure to keep you busy with all the ways it can be incorporated into projects.

### Mini Ornament Quilt

I really, really want to make one of these quilts. I just have to figure out where to add it on my bucket/to-do/in progress list. Anyone else have this problem?

### Lots of Blocks

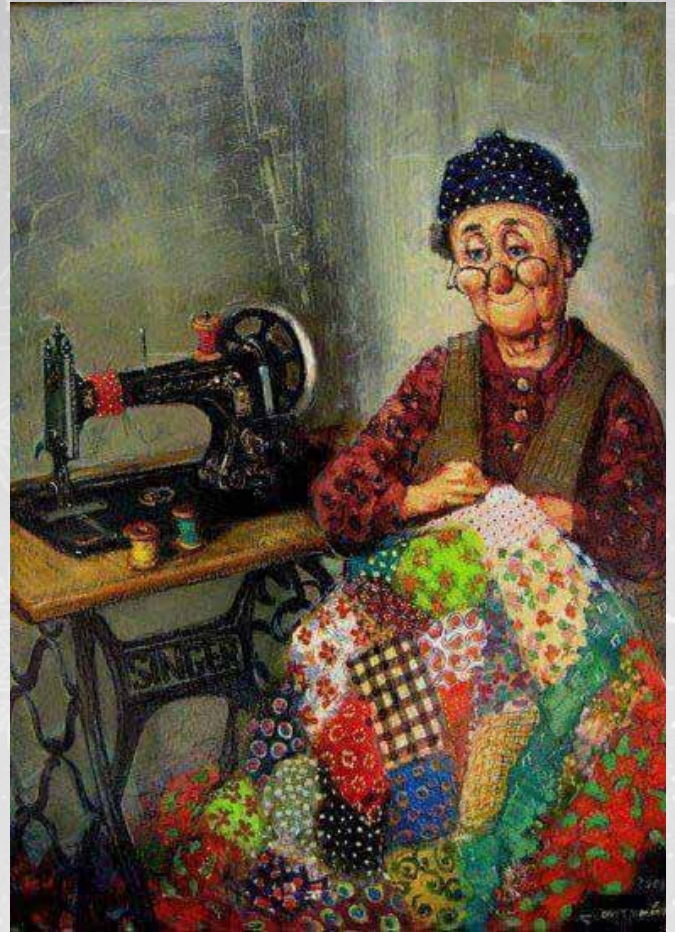
Speaking of blocks, here's a website that will certainly be one to bookmark for future reference. Since each of you has the opportunity to browse individually, I don't think we're infringing on copyright here.





'Twas the night before Christmas,  
And the quilts were not made.  
The threads were all tangled, the cookies delayed.  
The stocking weren't hung, the pantry was bare.  
The poor weary Quilter, was tearing her hair.  
Stacks of fat quarters, tipped over in streams.  
Visions of Log Cabins, had turned into dreams.  
When what to her wondering eyes should appear,  
But a bus full of quilters with all of their gear.  
They went straight to work with just a few mutters,  
Sorting and stitching and brandishing cutters.  
The patterns emerged from all of the clutter,  
Like magic the fabrics arranged in a flutter.  
Log Cabins, Lone Stars, Flying Geese, and Bear Tracks.  
Each quilt was a beauty - even the backs.  
Her house, how it twinkled, her quilts, how they glowed.  
The cookies were baking, the stockings were sewed.  
Their work was all done, so they folded their frames,  
And packed up their needles, without giving their names.  
They boarded the bus, and checked the next address.  
More quilts to be made, another quilter in distress.  
She heard one voice echo, as they drove out of sight,  
Happy quilting to all and to all a good night!

~Author Unknown



### Squaring Up Blocks

I have a project that I've been procrastinating on because it's my first panel. I really, really want all my blocks to square up properly, so this article definitely has my interest. There's a lot of great advice here, and when I get up the nerve to tackle my panel, I'm definitely going to review what is mentioned here once again.

### More Block Ideas

There's something for everyone here and just about every occasion throughout the year.

There are 27 block ideas posted, and they are super sweet and free. You just may find some inspiration to get a couple of quick projects done as Christmas gifts. They are super hard to resist, just warning you now.

### Lots of Free Patterns

This link is one where you need to find a comfy chair, have your favorite beverage on hand, and perhaps some notepaper to remind yourself of all the great ideas that are available.

From baby quilts, to table runners, to Easter and Christmas projects, there's something here to inspire you.

**Merry Merry, Happy Happy, Quilty Quilty & all!!**





## The Man Who Hated Christmas

It's not a quilting story, but it is very relatable to the times we face when Christmas comes around.

Last year, we were locked down and unable to get out and shop. This year, we can go to the malls, but Christmas is more than buying things. It's a spirit of generosity that many of you have clearly demonstrated with your donated projects. The story I'm sharing is called, "The Little White Envelope," by Nancy W. Gavin.

"It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches

of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past ten years.

It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas. Oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it – overspending and the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma – the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else.

Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the

usual shirts, sweaters, ties, and so forth. I reached for something special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way.

Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was on the wrestling team at the school he attended. Shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church.

These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold

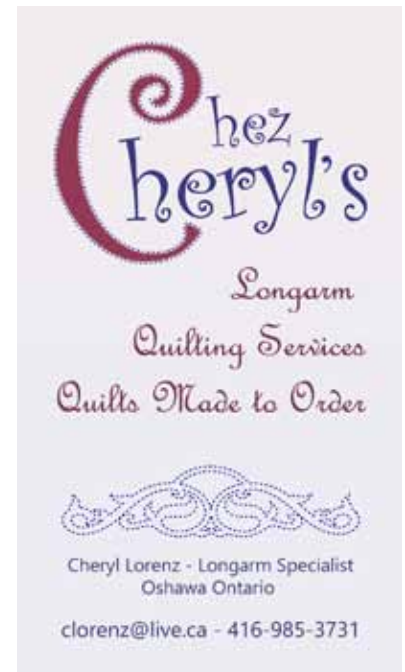
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uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes.

As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford.

Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them." Mike loved kids – all kids. He so enjoyed coaching little league football, baseball, and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came.

That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes, and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed a small, white envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done, and that this was his gift from me.

Mike's smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year. And that same bright smile lit up succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition – one year sending a group of mentally handicapped youngsters to a hockey game, another year a

cheque to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on.

The white envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning, and our children – ignoring their new toys – would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the small, white envelope never lost its allure.

The story doesn't end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree. And the next morning, I found it was magically joined by three more. Unbeknownst to the others, each of our three children had for the first time placed a white envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing to take down that special envelope.

Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit will always be with us."

For the Man Who Hated Christmas, a true story written in 2015.

*Me in November:  
I will make a beautiful  
hand crafted gift  
for everyone I love!*

*Me in December:  
I love two people.*



A satisfied life is better than a successful life. Because our success is measured by others, but our satisfaction is measured by our own soul, mind, and heart.



**Next newsletter  
submission deadline:  
December 27  
9:00 AM**

Newsletter submissions MUST be sent as WORD documents via email to the Editor by the posted deadline. Her email address is available on our guild's membership roster.