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*Ottawa Outlook, nee North Hero News and World Review …. ……. Mostly stuff no one else would print.*

Tuesday, December 14, 2010 c:/nhn&wr10, 10wc31 (2010 NHN&WR letter/story/poem/card #19)

**Christmas 2010**

Almost year’s end. Here is wishing all a Fulfilling, Safe & Happy Christmas & New Years. This will be our second Ottawa Christmas. We are better organized than for the first. Well, … slightly better anyway. The Crèche, which was made by Lucile’s Father Rene years ago, is set up in the living room and still has some of the original ‘straw’ adorning it’s manger floor. The figures comprising the Nativity scene were showing signs of wear. These are fairly new being bought in an Atlanta gift shop, circa 1977 something. They are pure, white, unglazed porcelain and were meant to be painted & fired. We sort of liked the ethereal ghostly look they imparted to the scene and never got around to painting them. (A familiar modus operandi onsite.) Heading into their thirty-third year, leading characters and on-looking animals were turning yellow. Especially Baby Jesus’ bedding[[1]](#footnote-1)[1]. Lucile saved the whole entourage by giving them a short dip in Clorox (u.s.) / Javex (can.). Presto, … pristine virgin look restored.

Susie[[2]](#footnote-2)[2] Cleveland’s Northfield, Vermont plum pudding pan is also on hand. This heirloom was bequeathed to Ken in the 1960’s along with Susie’s recipe. After a hiatus of quite a few years it will be put to use again this Christmas. Golly, for a while there we would make a double recipe and send the kids individual puddings at Christmas time. The entrée vote for this year’s Ottawa dinner went in favor of Beef Bourguignon. There was no dessert vote, … chef’s choice , Plum Pudding flambeé .

The Georgia Pine Cone wreath once again adorns the front door. Once again, the same required maintenance, … re-gluing loose cones. Crèche, Pan, Wreath, and Writers, … all survivors.

Second social event on tap, The Annual Freebie Get-together: Cost, nothing. Laughs, many. You all have some fun of your own this Season!

Finally, December *“Outlook”* renewals are progressing fine. We are even getting renewals in limerick form! Great! Have medal awards, Gold-Silver-Bronze, under consideration for best 2011 renewals.

Enjoying the Season in Ottawa, and hope you are doing the same, wherever you are.

Lucile, Bailey & Ken

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1. [1] Editors note: This is to be taken in the context of ‘Yellow with Age’. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [2] Susie was the Mother of Ken’s first wife Velma. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)