

# THE MYST-ERIE BLOTTER



December 2016  
Volume 2, Issue 11



# Letter from the Editor



Greetings Sisters, Misters, and Mystery Lovers:

Well, my friends, here we are, wrapping up another year. Can you believe how fast the time has flown by? I feel like it was just yesterday that I was wishing you a Happy New Year.

Despite my strong love for Christmas cookies, gifts under the tree and holiday food, I think the best part for me is the promise for new beginnings. New Year's has and always will be my favorite holiday. For me it brings a time where you can reset and start anew. Of course, you can do that at any time or any place. But, nothing is quite like turning that crisp calendar page to the first month of the year. What adventures and excitement await us in the coming year?!

What goals do you plan to set for yourself in 2017? Do you have any traditions you follow during the holiday season? Send me an email for the next newsletter if you'd like to share what you have planned for the New Year.

As usual, I have some writing goals I'm putting together myself. While I'm hard at work on The #1 Noodle Shop mysteries, my backburner is glowing with plans for my P.I. series, and even my long lost paranormal mystery. (And yes, my brain stove is electric.)

But in the meantime, I shall Christmas shop while simultaneously plugging along at Book 2...*Hot and Sour Suicide*. It's been an exciting time, and I'm completely stoked for my main character, Lana Lee, who just recently got an excellent dye job. Do I smell blue dye on the horizon?

Speaking of "new on the horizon," a few weeks ago, I finally joined the masses on Twitter. I've never really been a fan of the tweeting phenomenon, but it's a great place to meet a lot of other writers and mystery lovers. And, while doing all of this self-promotion and trying to get myself out there as Vivien Chien on social media, I realized how hard it can be to establish a voice. This got me thinking that our newsletter needs a social media page with all of our groups websites, blogs and social media locations. If you have any of these, please send me all of your information so we can get you listed in the newsletter on a monthly basis. New subscribers are joining up to receive our newsletter every month, and you know how I love to promote my fellow writers!

If you're a Tweeter, let's follow each other! You can find me at: [https://twitter.com/vivien\\_chien](https://twitter.com/vivien_chien)

And, that's it for me this month! I hope that all of you have a great holiday season, whatever you may be celebrating!

Until next time...Happy Writing!...and Reading!

*Paula Corrao*  
*And sometimes... Vivien Chien*



# Let's Get Together



*December Meeting*  
**Holiday Get-Together for  
Members Only**  
Details sent via email

## *No January Meeting*

The past few years we've had to cancel the January meeting due to weather, so the board has decided to skip January. Stay warm and cozy, everyone!

## *February Meeting*

Our next chapter meeting will be  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6**  
Details will be sent via email and in the next newsletter.  
This meeting marks the return to Monday evening as our regular meeting night.

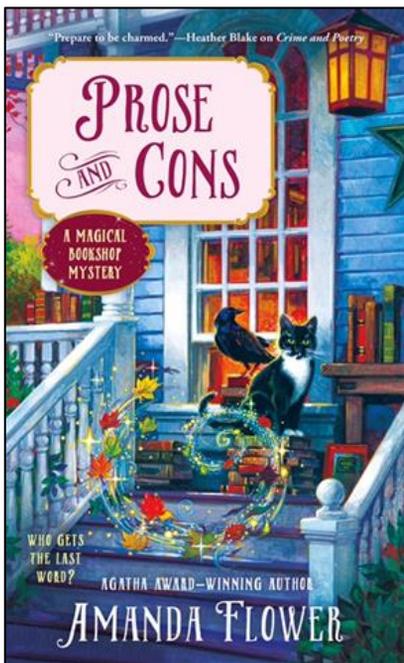
*P.S. If you have a restaurant with a meeting room and would like us to look into scheduling a meeting there, please let us know!*

# What's Everyone Up To?

## Amanda Flower



### *Prose and Cons* Giveback!



*Prose and Cons* will be Amanda's 20th published book, so she is giving back to celebrate!

Preorder or purchase any edition of *Prose and Cons* by Tuesday, December 20, 2016, and Amanda will donate \$1 for every book sold to a local food pantry, The Landing, located in Akron, Ohio.

Her brother and sister-in-law, Andrew and Nicole Flower, manage the Landing in the basement of Akron Christian Reformed Church with a group of dedicated volunteers. The food pantry feeds more than sixty families in the church's neighborhood on \$200 a week.

The Learned Owl will also be donating \$1 to the Landing food pantry for every copy of *Prose and Cons* sold. All copies sold through the Learned Owl will be signed and personalized.

**Amanda will have a signing on Saturday, December 10, 1-3pm at the Learned Owl to launch *Prose and Cons*. All copies of *Prose and Cons* sold at the signing will be included in the giveback.**

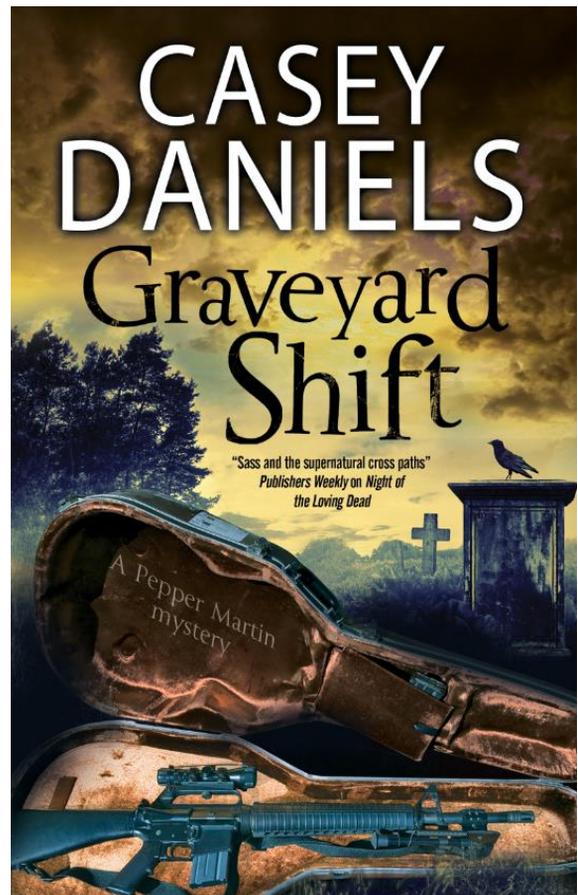
# What's Everyone Up To?

## Casey Daniels

The latest installment in the Pepper Martin mystery series by Casey Daniels, *Graveyard Shift*, releases on January 1.

*Pepper Martin is back, and this time, she's working with the ghost of Cleveland's most famous lawman. What with Eliot Ness following her around, a turbulent love life, a murder to solve, and a mysterious and malevolent presence that's possessing the people she loves, Pepper's got her hands full!*

**Join Casey for a launch party/book signing, Saturday, February 11, from 12:00-5:00 at Something Different Gallery, 1899 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland. The gallery is just north of the West Side Market.**



# What's Everyone Up To?

## Kim Hammond

Kim and her sister, Kerry, have opened up a new Etsy shop, **CrimeSceneSisters**, especially for writers and mystery lovers! Stop by their shop and check out the great items they have for sale!

Kim is also able to take special requests for NEOSinC logo items, much like the nifty tote bag you've seen her sporting! Send her a message for details!



New Etsy Shop!



## CrimeSceneSisters

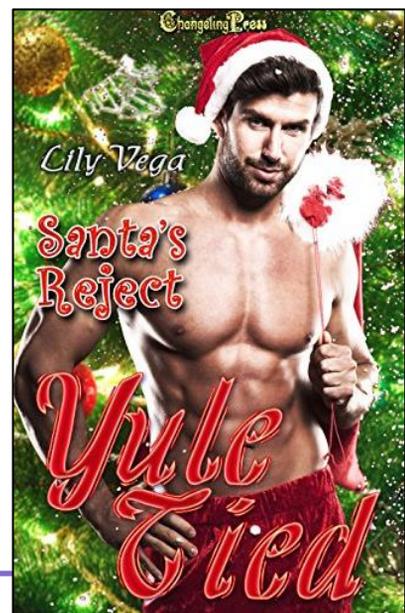
Etsy Shop Link: [https://www.etsy.com/shop/CrimeSceneSisters?ref=shop\\_sugg](https://www.etsy.com/shop/CrimeSceneSisters?ref=shop_sugg)

## Lily Vega

Celebrate a little naughty and nice with Lily Vega's new book titled, *Santa's Reject* (Yule Tied).

*Banished from the North Pole for bad behavior, Beryl is shipped off to Fairyville. A scratch from Cupid's arrow infuses her with Christmas spirit and saddles her with a mad crush on her new boss, Killian -- a.k.a. the Tooth Fairy.*

*Killian despises love and the entire notion of Yuletide celebrations. The last thing he needs is a beautiful Elf spreading holiday cheer and trying to drag him into the sack. After all, Beryl's love could sour like rotten eggnog once she discovers his secret.*



# December

## Birthdays:

December 4 - Anne Carroll George  
December 5 - James Lee Burke  
December 8 - Ann Coulter  
December 24 - Mary Higgins Clark



In 1809, Washington Irving helped to popularize the Sinter Klaas stories when he referred to St. Nicholas as the patron saint of New York in his book, *The History of New York*. For more history on the origins of Santa Claus, check out: <http://www.history.com/topics/christmas/santa-claus>

## December is:

Human Rights Month, Calendar Awareness Month, National Fruitcake Month, Read a New Book Month, Bingo Month, Egg Nog Month, and Write A Friend Month



**December 16, 1915**

Albert Einstein publishes the General Theory of Relativity

*What's this guy lookin' at?*



The first artificial Christmas tree was made in Germany and was made of goose feathers that were dyed green.

*I've been thinking about going green...so bold...*



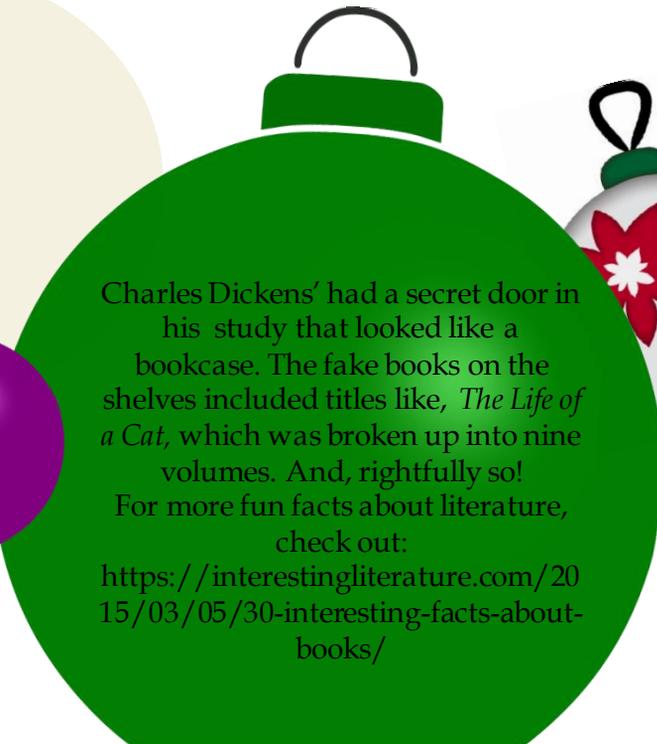


Check It  
Out!

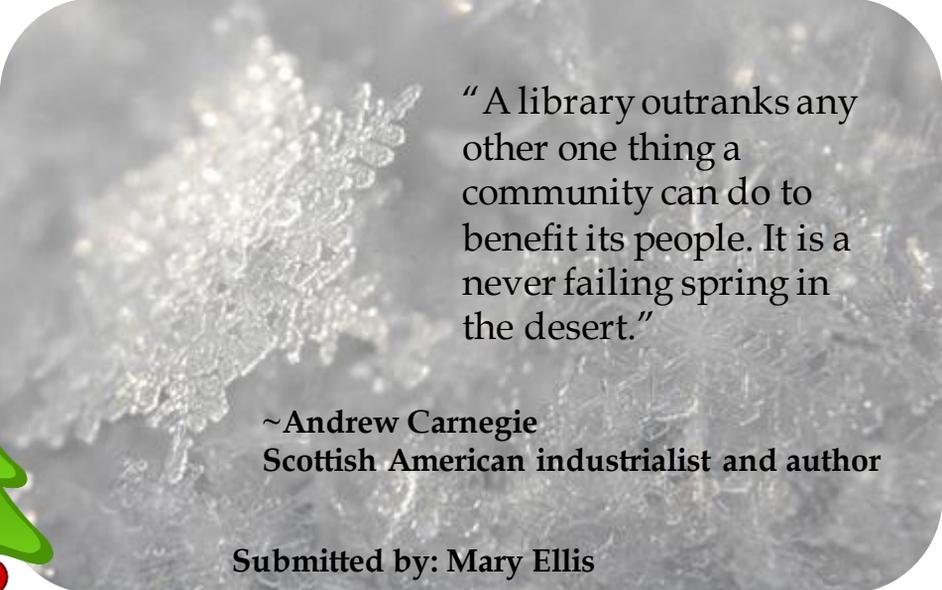
Did you  
know...?



Want to share your blog or  
website? Or maybe a  
favorite quote? Send an  
email to the editor!  
paula.corrao@yahoo.com



Charles Dickens' had a secret door in  
his study that looked like a  
bookcase. The fake books on the  
shelves included titles like, *The Life of  
a Cat*, which was broken up into nine  
volumes. And, rightfully so!  
For more fun facts about literature,  
check out:  
<https://interestingliterature.com/2015/03/05/30-interesting-facts-about-books/>



“A library outranks any  
other one thing a  
community can do to  
benefit its people. It is a  
never failing spring in  
the desert.”

~Andrew Carnegie  
Scottish American industrialist and author

Submitted by: Mary Ellis



## Who's Who and What's Where

President – Irma Baker  
Vice President – Jane Turzillo  
Treasurer – Kim Hammond

**Secretary – Open**

Library Liaison – Cari Dubiel  
Newsletter Editor – Paula Corrao  
Program Chair – Donna Feldman  
Members-at-Large - Shelley Bloomfield,  
Lisa Kaplan



<https://www.facebook.com/NEOSinC>



<https://www.pinterest.com/NEOSinC>

**Check out our website!**  
<https://neosinc.org/wordpress/>



## Chapter Business

*Open Offices...* The office of **Secretary** is open. We also need a **Publicity Chair**. Currently the board is handling these offices as needed but we want to hear from any members interested in taking on these roles. *We promise it won't take over your life.*

*We Need  
You!*

*When Do  
We Meet?*

*Meeting Dates/Flexible Scheduling...* Generally our meetings are held once a month on a weekday evening but we adjust the date, time and place based on the focus of the meeting, availability of speakers and opportunity for special events.

*Meeting Locations...* Meetings are often held at the Twinsburg library or local eateries such as last month's meeting at Mavis Winkle's in Twinsburg. Meeting details are announced via email and the newsletter. *We're open to suggestions for off-site meetings or events for third and fourth quarter. Would you like to host a meeting at your local library or another location or do you have a suggestion for an event or field trip? Let us know!*

*Where  
Do We  
Meet?*

*What's  
Our  
Focus?*

*Meeting Topics...* Presentations generally focus on the theme of "Getting It Right" with speakers professionally involved in crime detection/prevention, whose expertise can help us get our mystery writing right. We also cover craft-related issues and offer opportunities to get together to share experiences and learn from each other. Meeting presentations, such as those on paranormal investigation and lock-picking, and special events expand our knowledge to enhance our writing.