



Greetings from Karen Shughart

Happy Spring!



For those of us who live in the north, this winter was a tough one, and I hope you survived it. We didn't have much snow, but many of the days were unseasonably cold and very gray. We took a quick trip to see family in southern California, but other than that remained here in Sodus Point. It was a good time to stay inside and write, which is what I did for several hours each afternoon, working on *Murder in the Cemetery*, the second in the series of Edmund DeCleryk mysteries. I also wrote a monthly blog in [Ladies of Mystery](#). Please check it out. All of us who write at this site are women mystery writers, although we write in a variety of genres, not just Cozies. And I spent one lovely Sunday afternoon signing books at the Fairport Historical Society Museum. If you're interested in local history, be sure and visit that museum; it's housed in an old library. The building and its displays are a real treat, and the friendly staff will assure you of a pleasant visit.



Another Mystery Site

I discovered another site where the editor does book and newsletter swaps for Cozies and "Clean" Romances. She's mentioning my book, **Murder in the Museum**, and I promised to share the link to one of hers. This [collection of cozy mysteries](#) includes books one to six in the **Blooms, Bones and Stones** series. If you like cozy mysteries with interesting characters, unexpected turns, magical moments and sweet romances, then this is the cozy mystery series for you.



Murder in the Cemetery: An Edmund DeCleryk Mystery (Book #2 in the series)



It's been a lot of fun writing this book, and as with book one, the research has been fascinating. For the first book I interviewed several professionals in the field of criminal justice including sheriffs, professors, police commanders and detectives. Drawing from that knowledge has helped with the current book, but I needed to reach out to an additional group of experts. Our county DA, Mike Calarco, has patiently met with me twice for questions I had about the role of a district attorney in a murder case and shared information about the circumstances that require a medical examiner to conduct an autopsy after a suspicious death. The CIA plays into this story, and no one I know had any contacts with any officers of that agency, so I emailed them, and lo and behold, I received an email from their knowledgeable public affairs spokesperson who happily answered questions and set me on the right track. And our good friend and retired police officer, Jim Quinn, taught me about the virtue of compassion when dealing with suspects.



Website update

Check out my new, improved [website](#). In addition to biographical info and a list of books I've written with links to purchase, you'll be able to obtain book discussion questions and download the [recipes](#) that appeared in **Murder in the Museum**.