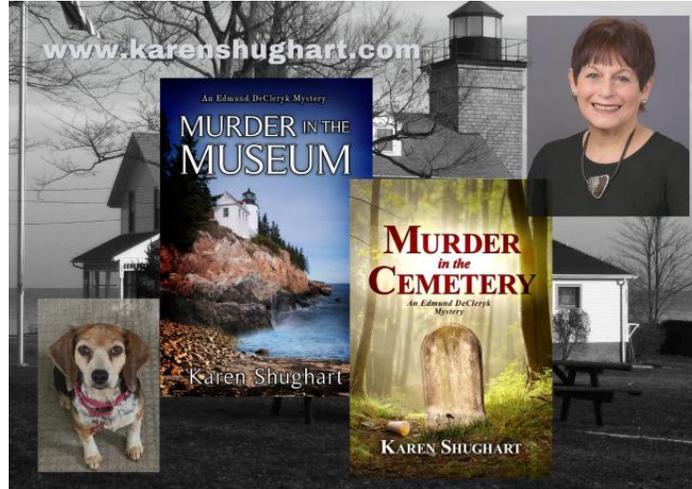


Holiday Greetings!

DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

from Karen Shughart



It's been a while since I've written a newsletter, the spring edition would have been sent right around the time that Covid-19 was rearing its ugly head, and I just didn't feel much like writing then or until now. We all had enough to deal with, and it felt superfluous for me to be sending information to you about my writing projects.

Just a quick update: Book two of the Edmund DeCleryk mystery series, **Murder in the Cemetery**, was published in February ([available on Amazon](#)) and although the traditional ways of promoting were not available because of the virus, the book received positive magazine and newspaper reviews. In addition, I "starred" in a [YouTube video](#) (shot by friend, Tom Lightfoot, and produced by my publisher, Cozy Cat Press) where I cook one of Annie's favorite recipes, Shrimp with Feta Cheese and Tomatoes.

This year I bit the bullet and hired a publicist who is helping to promote my books through social media. Recognition in a blog by friend, Lisa Kelley, and **Murder in the Museum** placing #13 in a cover contest with 360 contenders in October increased visibility for both books. And I was admitted to the Crime Writers Association of the UK.

Two years ago, I wrote a chapter for a mystery written by 26 authors affiliated with my publisher titled **Wheel of Death**. Twenty-four of us contributed to this year's co-written mystery, **A Map for Murder**. It was just released and is [available on Amazon](#). Writing the chapter was lots of fun, and those of us who contributed recently participated in a Zoom interview about the creation of the book that you can also view on [YouTube](#).

Many of you receive my monthly *Ladies of Mystery* blog, and I've begun writing book three in the mystery series, **Murder at Freedom Hill**. As with the others, an historical backstory (this time the abolition movement in the 1860s) becomes interwoven with the reason for the murder and Ed's quest to solve it.

I hope you have a happy holiday and that you and your family stay safe and well.

All my best,

Karen

