

## Story Of The Heirloom Wreath



It was in 1958 that I saw the first Heirloom Wreath, and was completely fascinated by the idea of using cones for wreath-making.

Through friends, Gilbert and I found where we could pick up white pine, scrub pine, spruce, larch, and bull-pine cones; and as time went on, we received through relatives and friends some Jack-pine, red spruce and Scotch-pine, Douglas fir, and gum-balls.

The first wreath we worked on consumed many hours of time and patience. First, we learned that only firm cones are suitable, and that to wire the cones in a symmetrical manner saves time.

We first displayed the cone wreaths at a Christmas bazaar at Grace Church, Kingston, December 2, 1958. Orders stemming from that bazaar cleaned out our entire backlog of wreaths which we had made for Christmas.

During the following years, we

added various sized wreaths, centerpieces with candle holders built into the frames, trees, and hanging baskets.

To date, we have made 281 cone pieces.

We find it a very helpful occupation. We are both in the oldest class, and this is something which we can do together, at our convenience, in our own home at Harveys Lake.

Best of all, we have met so many interesting people. Folks call us up to say that they have picked up a bagful of cones somewhere on their travels through the United States, and will get them to us.

It has been over five years, now, and it is still a fascinating project.

by Mrs. Gilbert Carpenter

## A Childs Christmas

To a small child, Christmas is a wonderful fairy land of surprises — a magic carpet ride with new and exciting adventures on every hand. Christmas ought to be one of a child's first tangible experiences in the satisfaction of giving to others — the outpouring of generous feeling that seems to be more in evidence during the Yule Season than perhaps at other times. Christmas in a large family with many small children can be one of the happiest times of one's life.

As we grow older we lose the spontaneity and easy joy of our childhood. Christmas sometimes becomes a frantic, hectic preparation and search for gifts for Cousin Mary or Uncle Bill. Then after we are married and our own children begin to arrive, we can, again enjoy through them, this most joyful time of the year.

In our household we are looking forward, this year, to a very different Christmas Season than last. A little girl who has all kinds of charm has come to live with us, and we can expect this Christmas and those to follow to once again be a wonderful fairy land of surprises.

by Robert V. Crosson  
Back Mountain Branch  
Y. M. C. A.

## First Christmas Night

Little baby soft and sweet,  
Kings and shepherds at your feet,  
A bright star led their way,  
On this blessed Christmas day.

by Steven Boesche 5-207  
Gate of Heaven



Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the Christmas City of America, as in past years, is preparing for the 1963 observance of the Yule season.

The Christmas lighting ceremony was held on November 26. Visitors will see the huge Star of Bethlehem on the top of South Mountain overlooking the city, one of the largest and best lighted community Christmas trees in the nation on the Hill-to-Hill bridge and candles in every window of most homes and public buildings.

All the churches will have special services during the Christmas holidays and some of the Moravian Churches feature "Putz" displays which are settings of miniature figures depicting the Nativity Story.

The Bethlehem Post Office cooperates each year with thousands of persons who send their Christmas greeting cards to be mailed with the Bethlehem, Pennsylvania cancellation.

The Bethlehem of the new world does not fail to do honor to the tradition of its name and visitors will be richly rewarded by visiting "The Christmas City" during the Yuletide.

For more details concerning the Bethlehem Christmas observance, write to the Northampton County Visitors Council, 420 Main Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

the transformed room for our first peek. "Ohs" and "Ahs" ring from wall to wall as we view their handiwork from the miniature snow-covered trees on the tables to the waitresses dressed as little children. After our luscious dinner the sophomores again show forth, this time in some new and unusual form of entertainment, all in the Christmas spirit of course.

The best tradition connected with this night comes in the form of our Santa Claus, who is really our old Irish janitor, Peter. Many loving smiles and happy tears have come with his arrival over the years for this is his special job, one he looks forward to during each year and one we never want to take from him.

As our dinner and school celebration draws to a close, we, while holding our Christmas candles, sing as all the students before us have sung "Light Just One Little Candle." The glowing flame exists not only on our candles but nestles into our hearts — there to be taken home as a beautiful memory of the traditional Christmas of College Misericordia.

by Mary Jane Bowman  
College Misericordia

## What Child Is This?

Babies are emergencies. One can be born at a gas station, in an ambulance, on hospital steps, in a manger of hay. We retell the story of the baby Boy in a manger. We repeat customs. We sing carols. Bake scads of cookies. From January on, the line of memory gets wispy. The manger's brief Tenant has left. From Bethlehem to Nazareth, to Jordan's waters and wilderness, to Cana's wedding. Forget Capernaum, Samaria, boats on Galilee, shore-line lectures? Have Jerusalem, Golgotha, the Garden, Emmaus and Bethany faded?

All this squeezes in our way of life in a short world, hints a hope of life in the larger world. We see this Baby in the manger once a year. The Baby grew up tall as God.

by Rev. Charles H. Gilbert  
Mt. Zion

## Don't Look

Don't look in the closets  
Or under the bed  
Or in any mysterious nook  
Where things may be hidden  
It's simply forbidden!  
When Christmas is coming  
Don't look!

Don't pick up a package  
That comes in the mail,  
And give it a squeeze or a shake.  
To guess what's inside it  
Before they can hide it  
Is really a Christmas mistake

Don't listen at bedtime  
To hear what they're saying  
Or peep in when the door is ajar.  
Hold your ears; shut your eyes,  
For a Christmas surprise  
Is better on Christmas by far.

by Pam Cully 10-6  
Dallas Senior High

## Christmas

Christmas is the birthday of the Savior, Jesus Christ! There is no story in all the annals of man that is so dramatic and inspiring as the birth of Christ—a birth that has brought happiness, hope, and assurance to all mankind.

Christmas is from all things apart — from war, from hate, fear, and strife. Its spirit glows with a new radiance from within man's open heart—imparting the promise of abiding peace on earth and good will toward all men.

Christmas is a time of unselfish giving — not merely of gifts, but of one's love and joy.

Merry Christmas!

by Rev. Fred M. Eister  
Alderson Methodist Church

## An Angel

I wish I were a CHRISTMAS ANGEL, all shiny and bright,  
How happy I would be  
To hang upon your tree.

by Pauline Yenason 1-214  
Gate of Heaven

## Christmas On College Campus

When twinkling lights adorn the sturdy pines and feathery, glistening snow sifts through their slim needles, a change comes to our home on the hill. Throughout this Yule season we loosen our somewhat new adulthood ties and become again as children, wrapping our spirits with laurel rope and binding ourselves once again to the sentimental and endearing Christmas traditions of College Misericordia.

Traditionally the tiny signs of Christmas come early up here. Right after Thanksgiving by just opening your eyes and ears you'll find them all around — in the softly hummed "Silent Night" drifting over the frosty air from a warmly bundled figure heading for the Student Center; in your roommate's closet where on the top shelf rests a beautiful, glittering gold bow on your Christmas present; or just in the warm smile and cheerful "Hi" as you pass by on the way to class. These tiny things quickly snowball and before we know it we are again right in the midst of our annual Yuletide celebrations.

Christmas at college as a young and eager Freshman can never be forgotten. We can still feel the thrill of bouncing down the stairs on the morning of December 8th to find an enormous, piney-smelling Christmas tree with tiny jewel-like lights winking hello in the gray tinged early morning shadows. Needless to say our Seniors enjoyed trimming the tree with shiny ornaments and multi-colored lights in the wee morning hours. Many giggles and muted snatches of "It's Beginning to Look A lot like Christmas" float up to the Freshmen floor as the youngest members of our college family sleep through the night.

Sometimes as the Holiday grows nearer even our classrooms ring with good cheer. In the Home Economics Department we hear many giggles and expressions of wonder as we work in free periods on all sorts of presents for Catholic Charities. Be it a stuffed cuddly brown teddy bear, a box of candied fruit cookies or a red and white striped stocking stuffed with candy canes and little toys, much love and work go into their preparation. This spirit of traditional giving fills each girl with a warm glow that can't be erased.

With this feeling we head for Wilkes-Barre to rummage in the

quaintly decorated shops and the elaborately tinsled department stores for just the right morsels to finish our shopping. If you ever happen to be on the bus with a few of us you know our spirit well. The carols, though sometimes off key, do lift your spirits.

In all our dorms the usual presents are exchanged. For ages we try to find out just what our roommate and little sister would like. Then after many hours of delight as we put the packages in the traditional Christmas type wrapping, we place them under the tree to await our last night here. Many sly glances pause under the tree and maybe even a few little shakes of a rather cumbersome package takes place before the big night arrives.

With Christmas spirit in full play each Resident Class in turn journeys from dorm to dorm on campus and down to the houses on Lake Street to perform the traditional rite of carolling. These lovely old carols float inside to a group of eager yet peaceful girls who await their coming. Then we disband to find our way into our favorite houses — be it your big sister's or just where your friends are — for hot chocolate and popcorn.

We can contemplate the true meaning of Christmas when we pause before the simple yet so meaningful stable draped in snow at the entrance of the College. Through the softly falling snow with the blue frosted lights on the pine trees as background, we see the picture that will live in our hearts forever.

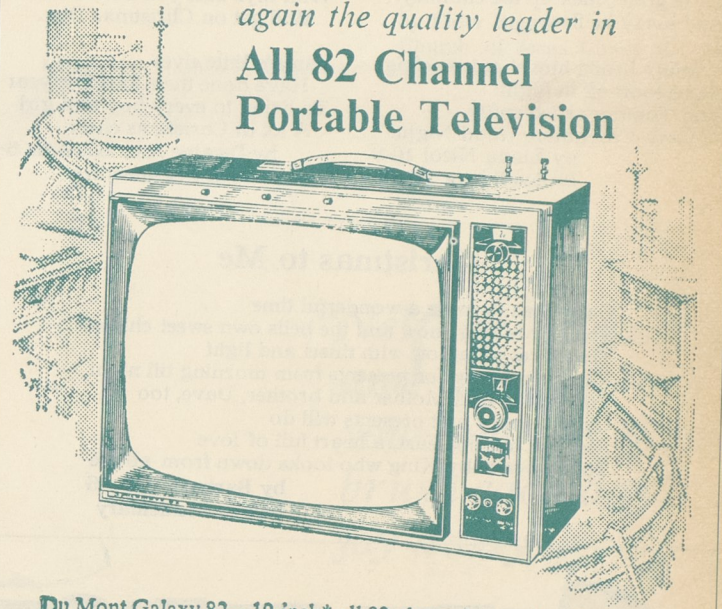
One of our last evenings here is set aside for our resident Christmas dinner. The sophomores of our resident college family transform our dining room into another world — possibly Santa's Northpole workshop or maybe into an old fashioned store gaily decorated for the merry season. Dressed in our best from gown to grin, we enter

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Telecasts may be received on two different types of broadcast bands; VHF or Very High Frequency on channels 2 through 13 and UHF or Ultra High Frequency on channels 14 through 82. Because UHF is becoming so important, the FCC will require that all sets manufactured after April 1964 be equipped to receive both VHF and UHF.

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