

"SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS" Press Release

"SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS" storybooks for Children are now available as eBooks on www.amazon.com in time for Christmas 2013. The books are combined efforts of a former Boys & Girls Club Director and a local Artist who overcame serious life altering challenges to complete their quest.

"SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS" is a true, charming and insightful collection of 13 stories of encounters between Children and Adolescents, 3 to 12 years of age, enjoyed with **SANTA**.

Bernie's Christmas Wish!

Thanks to the enthusiastic welcome I received from the Members and Staff of the Boys and Girls Club of Durham during their 50th Anniversary Year Celebration, I was inspired. They discovered a time capsule encased in the cornerstone of the Club with a picture of the founding staff members including myself, which defined my start in this national movement. It is My Christmas Wish for Members of Boys and Girls Clubs across Canada to enjoy free eBook access to my collection of true stories "SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS" during the 12 days of Christmas at www.santabooks.ca

Each of the stories is based upon an actual encounter youngsters had with **SANTA**. An insight to each of these stories is provided in the two pages of Public Service Announcements. The News Release touches upon the physical challenges which confronted these two men, as they sought to complete the quest each had agreed to undertake.

Please contact the Illustrator or the Author for additional information.

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New Release

Well known Ottawa Artist and Muralist **Stephen Sammon** has applied his colorful, imaginative and creative artistry to bring the “**SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS**” collection of stories for children, written by Author **Bernard J. Muzeen**, to life.

The writer is known as “Bernie” to the uncounted thousands of youngsters entrusted to his care and supervision through-out fifty years of Volunteer and Professional service with Children and Youth in Oshawa, Calgary, Ottawa, and Kanata.

Upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club, Ottawa, Bernie accepted many invitations to play “SANTA” over a fifteen year period. It was during a successfully battle prostate cancer that he regaled friends and visitors with stories about youngsters encounters with Santa. They encouraged him to write what turned out to be a collection of thirteen true, charming and insightful stories of encounters Children and Adolescents enjoyed with Santa.

Stephen Sammon demonstrated his “natural ability” in creative and whimsical art during his formative years as an active Member of the Arts and Craft Shop in the Boys and Girls Club, during the “Bernie” years. Agreeing to illustrate the books he had completed artwork for five stories when a freak accident seriously injuring his left eye. Following two years of surgery, coupled with a great deal of prayer, he made a remarkable recovery and completed the illustrations of the “**SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS**” storybooks. Stephen continues to secure commissions for murals at the local, national, and international levels.

“Our reunion and recovery from major medical challenges were in themselves’ very remarkable.” said Bernie. Muzeen. “Then miraculously we sell out of our limited supply of hard copy storybooks, a proven ‘Christmas delights’ for many families. Consequently, “**SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS**” stories are now available on www.amazon.com” explained the author. “Best wishes for a **Merry Christmas** to everyone” he added with a smile.

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Public Service Announcements # 1.

As a child of World War II, he never had the opportunity to meet **Santa Clause** in the land of his birth. Never-the-less, he introduces **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to uncounted thousands of New Canadians. These are true stories of Children's wonderful encounters with **Santa**.

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While he never encountered **Santa Clause** during his war torn childhood, this Author fully made up for that circumstance by playing **Santa** in his adopted land Canada. Visit: **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to access these 13 wonderful, true life stories.

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A five year old Jewish child finds himself in the midst of a Christmas Party. To his wonderment he learns that **Santa** is acquainted with the insights, and the meaning of **Chanukah**. Share this touching true story with your Children by visiting **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com

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Santa relieves the concern of a boy who is distressed, because others tease him about his bountiful supply of freckles, by sharing the little known secret as to their origin and meaning. This story will touch all Children and Adults even if they have no freckles at all. Visit **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to learn about Angels and their connection to your freckles?

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Santa delves into myth and tradition to explain the '**Legend of the Candy Cane**'. Their shape was a symbol of Kingship in the time of the Pharaohs. To share the legend regarding the shape, colors, and spirit of the Candy Cane with the Children of the 21st Century, please visit **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com

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Santa explains why we put a star on our Christmas Tree. Children are also delighted to learn that shining in the night sky is '**Your Own Star**'. Parents and Grandparents are invited to share this fable. Visit: **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to access a heart warming story.

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Illustrated by: **Stephen Sammon** Written by: **Bernard J. Muzeen**
SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS on www.amazon.com

Public Service Announcement # 2

New Canadians, many from war torn lands, will discover **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com by an Author who endured the risk of WWII throughout his childhood. He came to Canada and fell in love with the new found spirit of Christmas, and later in his retirement years played **Santa** for 15 years. These true and amazing stories of Children's encounters with **SANTA** open up the world of wonderment and delight for all. Visit **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** for these charming stories.

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The wonderment of the '**Humble Snowflake**' for New Canadians from far off lands is a delight to behold. **Santa** who has a soft spot in his heart for all Children of the world, explains how the 'Humble Snowflake and Children' enjoy many of the same attributes. Visit: **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to discover the conclusion to this enchanting story?

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Santa is invited by Grandma to explain to a group of Girls where the **Christmas Spirit** resides in between each holiday season. His conclusion to this often asked question is magical, insightful and practical. To solve the mystery for your family, visit **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com

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SANTA shares the secret of how Rudolph and the Reindeers travel in the dark on Christmas night. Your Child will learn how Rudolph brings the sleigh to their home. Visit: **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** on www.amazon.com to learn about the magic of '**Moon Glow**'.

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"**Do You Believe in Christmas?**" is about the toughest question pre-adolescent Girls and Boys ask unsuspecting Adults. In this true life encounter a Youth Leader was able to answer the youngster's question, while keeping the **Christmas Spirit** alive in the minds and hearts of these youngsters entrusted to his ongoing care and supervision. Go to **SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS** www.amazon.com to discover **Santa's** wise and informative answer to this often asked question.

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"**SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS**" a collection of short stories, which are fully illustrated, are based upon real encounters between Children and **Santa**. Visit: www.amazon.com enjoy the Art Work accompanying these true stories.

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"**SANTA and the SPIRIT of CHRISTMAS**" is a collection of 13 short stories. Illustrated by: **Stephen Sammon** Written by: **Bernard J. Muzeen, P.Mgr.**

Please visit www.amazon.com to access stories.