

WINTER ISSUE #005 DEC 2014 ASTINSON COMMUNITY PUBLICATION

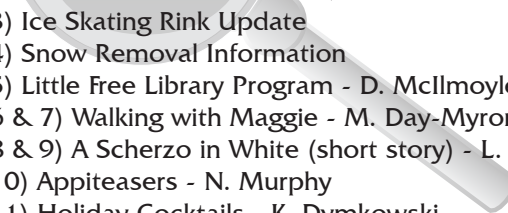
# STINZINE



CARTER PARK ICE RINK  
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES  
COMMUNITY UPDATES  
STINSON HOLIDAY STORY  
HOLIDAY CARTOONS  
HOLIDAY BAKING TIPS  
HOLIDAY COCKTAILS  
...AND MUCH MORE

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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For more information,  
visit the StinZine website:  
[stinsoncommunity.ca/  
tag/stinzine](http://stinsoncommunity.ca/tag/stinzine)  
or just Google [StinZine](#)

We're Social!



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[www.facebook.com/  
stinsoncommunityassociation](http://www.facebook.com/stinsoncommunityassociation)  
[Twitter.com/Stinson\\_HamOnt](https://twitter.com/Stinson_HamOnt)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thank you to the amazing StinZine Distribution Team: Treading every street across Stinson, these are the folks who get the latest StinZine to your mailbox! Thank you to Greg Reader, Ben Babcock, Dave Michal, Mike Montreuil, Natasha Murphy, Susan McArthur, Laurie Robertshaw, Sue Cole, Lee McIlmoyle, Ralph Meiers, Katherine Dymkowski, Maggie Day-Myron, and Mike Case-Good Shepherd Youth Services. We also want to thank Peter and the crew at CopyDog Printing for great service. And we thank Aryn and Allegra Printing for their excellent work on this issue.

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your article ideas  
or story/art submissions to:

[stinzine@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:stinzine@stinsoncommunity.ca)

For general inquiries  
into SCA activities:

[info@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:info@stinsoncommunity.ca)

# CARTER PARK ICE RINK TEAM

December is finally upon us, and if we haven't had any snow by now, it won't be far off. This winter, things are going to be a little different in Stinson, as we are going to build our first ice skating rink in Carter Park.

You may ask 'Why now?' or 'What took us so long?', but we prefer to ask, 'What's stopping us now?', and the answer is, 'Nothing!'. The City of Hamilton has approved our application, and our Adopt-a-Parks Captain will be overseeing its construction this year, along with any able-bodied volunteers that offer to help build and maintain it.

To be part of this important community initiative, all you need to do is email [info@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:info@stinsoncommunity.ca) and include RE: Carter Park Ice Rink Team in the subject heading. Volunteers are already signing up. We'd love for you to be one of them. All you need are warm clothes, winter boots, and a great attitude. Details will be made available to registered volunteers soon.

Looking forward to seeing you out there on the ice.

## StinZine Submission Guidelines:

### ART:

1) Art can be either scanned or photographed paintings, drawings or sculptures, or digitally painted or vector-based graphics. Sketches and collages are welcome. Colour is preferred, though interior pages of StinZine are generally printed in B&W/grayscale.

2) Art submissions can be made in JPEG, PNG, GIF or PDF formats via email. Paper mail-in submissions are acceptable. No parcel post, please.

3) All art submissions should be between 300 & 600 dpi, with no obvious resolution flaws. Web graphics are not acceptable for print. Please do not increase art file size. Digital photographs taken at 180 dpi are acceptable.

### WRITING:

1) Writing can be in the form of fiction, poetry, interview or essay, with a strong preference for essays; exceptions will be made based on topical subject matter and quality of writing.

2) Writing submissions can be made in TXT, RTF, DOC or DOCX file formats via email. Paper mail-in submissions are acceptable. No parcel post, please.

3) All writing submissions should be 250 words or less, unless asked to write a feature article, which can be up to 500 words. You may email to query about writing a feature article, but please, do not submit anything over 250 words unless asked.



Mail-in submissions should be addressed to:  
STINZINE/Stinson Community Association  
c/o: Central Memorial Recreation Centre  
96 West Avenue South  
Hamilton, ON L8N 2S3

E-mail Submissions should be addressed to:  
[stinzine@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:stinzine@stinsoncommunity.ca)  
A more detailed submission guideline can  
be found at [www.stinsoncommunity.ca](http://www.stinsoncommunity.ca)  
under the Newsletter tab.



## **Snow Routes – No Parking**

Snow route signs are posted on most major roads where getting the snow cleared out quickly is important for keeping traffic moving well in snow storms. Other major roads may not have snow route signs but it is still a good idea not to park on those busy streets during a heavy snowfall, even if on-street parking is allowed at certain times of the day.

## **What is the law regarding snow and ice removal?**

Property owners and/or occupants are responsible for the complete removal of snow and ice from all City sidewalks surrounding their property within 24 hours of a snowfall, that builds up on roofs or eaves that overhang a City sidewalk, from walkways, stairs, and other areas of a property where safe passage is needed. For safety reasons ensure snow and ice is not placed, on a road or boulevard, immediately beside or blocking access to a fire hydrant, or in such a manner that it would block drainage to any drain or sewer.

## **When will my street be cleared of snow?**

Snow clearing is performed in a priority order. Examples are Priority 1 – King St, Wellington, Wentworth, Victoria, Priority 2 – Stinson; Priority 3 – Erie, Tisdale, Emerald etc.; Priority 4 – Courts and dead ends.

## **Snow Angels Program**

Volunteer Hamilton, in partnership with the City of Hamilton, offers a volunteer snow removal service for eligible seniors and persons with physical disabilities. Volunteers offer clearing of snow on city sidewalks, snow left by plows at driveways, and a clear path to the front door. More information can be found at:

<http://volunteerhamilton.on.ca/programs/snow-angels-2/>

The city can be reached at **(905) 546-CITY (2489)**

# The LITTLE FREE LIBRARY Program

by Dawn McIlmoyle

## Little Free What?

Little boxes are popping up all over town. A cross section of shapes and sizes, in all colors and materials. And they all have one thing in common: They're full of books.

The Little Free Library program is a grassroots movement, their only motto "Take a book, leave a book". No cards fees, or registrations. Just take a book. Drop off those you've already read for someone else to read. It's that simple. If there are a lot of books to donate, most of them have a method for contacting the "Steward" or maintainer of that particular library.

As for what to donate, that's up to you. Although it is not considered helpful to include erotica, as children are also free to check the libraries--in fact, we encourage them to! So choose your materials responsibly.

For Stinson, a Little Free Library is currently being built for Carter Park, and hopefully will be up and running by the time you read this. There is also one at 73 Ferguson Ave. N., at 174 Fairleigh Ave. S., and one at Cathy Wever School (courtesy of the Rotary Club).

You can find more information, and track registered libraries, at [littlefreelibrary.org/](http://littlefreelibrary.org/).

To donate or get involved, email [info@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:info@stinsoncommunity.ca)



**Central Health Institute Inc.**  
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Hamilton ON L8N 1J1

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**"Our Graduates are Working"**





# WALKING

by Maggie Day-Myron

WITH

*Maggie*



## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE



The decorated Christmas Tree, with twinkling lights and shimmering tinsel, has to be one of the most loved customs of the season. So it is no wonder that it has been adopted by many cultures as a symbol and centrepiece of the festive holiday.

What is truly fascinating, though, are some of the stories behind the tradition. Did you know that the use of evergreen trees, wreaths, and garlands have for centuries symbolized belief in renewed life to many of the world's peoples, including ancient Egyptians, Chinese, and Hebrews? The cultural significance goes back over two-thousand years, long before Christmas existed as a religious celebration, and long before Christianity itself.

The history of the evergreen began when agricultural societies were developing across northern Europe, and the change in weather patterns were recognized as being distinct seasons. Plants and trees that remained green all year, when all other vegetation had died off in the winter, held special mystical meaning. Ancient peoples scattered evergreen boughs over their floors, doors and around the windows, and also hung them over the chimney mantel to keep witches, ghosts and spirits from getting into the house. Romans decorated their homes with evergreen boughs, and the Celtic Druids used evergreens on the darkest day of the year to symbolize eternal life. These were not decorated, because the function of these evergreen boughs was protective more than celebratory, but the aroma was important, and scents such as pine, juniper and balsam are still used by aroma-therapists today to fend off illness and

# WALKING WITH *Maggie* (continued)

winter depression.

The practice slowly evolved to other cultures, and in particular the pagan celebration of the winter solstice, marking the shortest day of the year, usually the 22nd or 23rd of December. Norse pagans would, by tradition, bring entire evergreen trees into their homes. These massive evergreens were called Yule trees, and it was believed that the spirits of the trees would inhabit their home and bless its inhabitants.

In an effort to convert pagans to the new religion of Christianity, the same period in the year was chosen to mark the birth of Christ, and pagan rituals were tolerated enough to eventually become part of the Christmas holiday as celebrated today.

The tradition of having a decorated tree as we know it, became immensely popular in Victorian times when, in 1848, the London Illustrated News had as their front cover, an illustration of Queen Victoria and her family around a Christmas tree. This sparked a trend that became an immediate success. These days, glittering glass ornaments, electric lights, and shining tinsel have replaced the gilded fruits, pine cones, sweets, apples and candles that were once used as 19th century decorations, but the ceremony itself has changed little over the centuries. The Christmas tree, green and lush in the winter, is a symbol that life is eternal, and that there is hope for the future, while any gifts below it are reminders of the love, joy and close ties that are shared by families and friends.

Looking for **Advertising possibilities** in your community?

## LOOK NO FURTHER!

You can place your ad in the next issue of the **StinZine!**

We even offer repeat listings at reasonable rates.

Contact [adsales@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:adsales@stinsoncommunity.ca)

The sidewalks were layered and laden, snow strewn treacherous, so of course, Richard was running. He hadn't expected it had been for the first time in days, after the last big snow storm. worry so soon. It would appear, once again, that Kara had been right.

And thank goodness for that, because he might have lost his scarf. It had been nice and pleasant, despite the layers of snow, without the bitter chill, either. He should have turned back when the flakes began to fall. Time he had found what he was looking for and made the fateful decision.

At this point, he was turning onto Stinson Street from the north. It probably been five minutes since he had left the Canadian Tire with the heavy winds. It felt more like ten minutes, with the slalom of footprints in the snow.

A car was revving and reversing in the path of the deep tracks of snow that had piled up. Richard wasn't in the best of luck, able to throw some of it behind the push to break the car free, and away. Time Richard did the same. The winds were blowing harder with his ungloved hand. Kara had been right about that, too. Next time, he would have been better off with a scarf.

The snow removal teams were still out there, stopped again. Shame, really, because an elderly gentleman was walking, obviously having trouble moving his walker into position as the bus stopped. The lowered bus and helped the man aboard.

Richard finally trudged up the pathway to his apartment. He brushed the snow from his boots as he entered the front entrance.

Walking through his door, Kara was waiting. He stripped out of his coat and passed the box to her. Soon after was a wonderland display; a lovely little cottage, just big enough for two. It appeared within the mouse's door. Seeing the mother mouse dressed in a red and white and went to prepare for dinner.



# A SCHERZO IN WHITE

all about like frosting on a coffee cake. The walking was  
ed the snow to start again so soon. When he'd left the apartment,  
Somehow, it had seemed reasonable that he wouldn't need to  
ght.

at have left the house on this errand without his heavy coat and  
en he had left. There hadn't even been a breeze. No sun, but no  
gan to drift past his head before he reached the store. By the  
decision, the snow was falling in earnest once more.

a Victoria Avenue, and the snow was almost blinding. It had  
th his package tucked in his coat, scarf blowing freely in the  
rints. But home was close. He just had to press on.

arking lot across the road, the driver helpless to break free of the  
shape of his life, but he had enough body weight these days to be  
t in a moment, the little car was trundling onto Stinson and  
still, if that were possible, and Richard was shielding his eyes  
t time, he'd know better than to trust December.

re, of course, nowhere in sight, and wouldn't be until the snow  
aiting at the bus stop on the corner of Emerald, and was  
s ground to a halt. Richard carefully raised the wheels onto the

ent building, tucked in the back of Claremont Court, and kicked

as already waiting with a towel as he crossed the threshold, and  
ard, she was setting this newest addition into their winter

little mice and a tea kettle. Kara plugged it in and a little light  
sed for the kitchen, Richard remembered the turkey in the oven, 9

# Appiteasers!

by **Natasha Murphy**

*Do any of these events sound familiar; Pot lucks? Dinner invites? Spontaneous guests? Late night gift wrapping? Each of these requiring you to provide something yummy. Well here are some quick, easy recipes that can be served as very snackable treats or appetizers to any meal this holiday.*

## **Creamy Baked Artichoke Dip w/pita chips:**

2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, room temperature  
1/3 cup sour cream  
1/4 cup mayonnaise  
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard  
1 garlic clove, minced  
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce - instead of just salt.  
1/2 teaspoon hot pepper sauce - not required but good flavour  
3 6-ounce jars marinated artichoke hearts - drained then coarsely chopped  
1 cup grated mozzarella cheese (about 2 1/2 ounces)  
3 green onions, finely chopped  
2 teaspoons minced seeded jalapeño chili (optional)  
6 6-inch pita rounds, each cut into 6 triangles  
Olive oil

### *How to prepare the fixings:*

Beat first 8 ingredients in large bowl to blend. Fold in artichokes, mozzarella cheese, green onions and jalapeño. Transfer to ceramic/glass baking dish (2" deep would be ideal for this dip to go from bake to table).  
\*Yes! You can make 1 day ahead just cover and refrigerate.

### *When ready to serve/eat:*

Preheat oven to 400°F. Place pita triangles in single layer on baking sheet. Brush with oil. Sprinkle with salt. Bake until crisp, about 10 minutes. Remove from oven. Maintain oven temperature. Now Bake dip until bubbling and brown on top (20 minutes).

## **Baked Brie:**

1 round Brie cheese

3 sheets phyllo dough (store bought is fine)  
2 tablespoons melted butter

### *Let's get started:*

Preheat an oven to 350 degrees F.  
Cut the rind off the top of the brie cheese (leave a 1/4" lip around the edge). Place the brie cheese onto a baking sheet. Fold the phyllo sheets to make large square pieces. (large enough to cover Brie). Wrap the brie with the phyllo squares, tucking the edges underneath. Try to avoid tucking too much pastry underneath. Trim as necessary but you want to completely cover the cheese. Brush the top with melted butter to make the pastry brown in the oven. Bake oven until the phyllo has turned golden brown--about 20 minutes. Serve warm with your favourite wine or cocktails.

## **Hummus:**

1 clove garlic (optional, but adds a lot of flavour)  
1 (19 ounce) can garbanzo beans, half the liquid reserved  
4 tablespoons lemon juice  
2 tablespoons tahini\*\*  
1 teaspoon salt  
black pepper to taste  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
• roasted garlic • roasted red peppers • sun dried tomatoes all a great way to add layers of flavour.

### *Easiest preparation ever:*

In a blender, chop the garlic first then add garbanzo beans into blender. As you blend add your remaining flavours, and spices (lemon juice, tahini, chopped garlic and salt). Blend until creamy.

Transfer the mixture to any serving bowl. Sprinkle with pepper and pour olive oil over the top. Garnish or top with parsley or (crushed pistachios are my fave).

*\* serve with crisp pita chips*

*\*\* tahini sauce can be homemade as quickly and easily as going to the store. Simply roast your sesame seed and pulse with olive oil until sauce like. You can add spices and flavours such as chillies, smoked paprika, etc... to your tahini for use in many recipes.*

# Holiday Cocktails

by Katherine Dymkowski

*The Christmas season is quickly approaching. Why not try this tasty holiday-themed martini to put you in the festive mood?*

## Peppermint Martini

### Ingredients

Candy canes  
2 1/2 ounces vanilla vodka  
1 ounce peppermint schnapps  
Lime  
Fresh mint  
Ice



### Directions

Crush your choice of candy canes to rim the martini glasses. If you don't want to rim with crushed candy canes then just dangle a miniature candy cane on the rim of each glass.

Chill the martini glasses by filling with crushed ice and cold water.

Remove the water and ice from martini glasses. Wet glass rim with lime wedge and coat with crushed candy canes.

Pour vodka and schnapps in a shaker over crushed ice and shake well.

Strain peppermint martini into glass and add mint sprig.

Cheers!



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# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

by Ralph Meiers

Some tips on how to protect yourself and others:

- Always keep your windows and doors locked
- If you own a car – keep your doors locked at all times and ensure you have no valuables visible
- If you live in a semi/semi-detached – install motion-sensor exterior security lights to startle any un-wanted trespassers on your property
- If you live in an apartment/condo don't open doors for strangers
- If you go on vacation get a neighbour you trust to pick up your mail and those annoying flyers that tend to pileup on your doorstep, always make your house or apartment looked lived in.

You can report a crime to the non-emergency police line (905) 546-4925 or to our community officer:

- Jason Drobnich #53
- Div. 1, Squad B, Patrol
- Hamilton Police Service
- 905 546 4771
- [jdrobnich@hamiltonpolice.on.ca](mailto:jdrobnich@hamiltonpolice.on.ca)



Alternatives to calling the police do exist:

- Crime Stoppers encourages the public to submit tips on crimes that have been committed, are being committed or are about to be committed. They pay up to \$2000 per successful arrest.
- Tips phoned into 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submitted online <http://www.crimestoppershamilton.com/> are guaranteed anonymous by the Supreme Court of Canada. They will NEVER ask for your name.
- Police will NEVER ask you to appear in court.



**Elizabeth Den Hollander, R.M.T.**

Registered Massage Therapist



"Healing Hands"

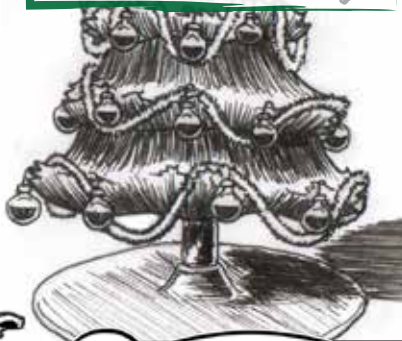
905.529.5659

148 Emerald St.S. Hamilton ON L8N 2V5



# Zoe

*On Holiday*



meowaaan!!!



AND FOR NEW YEARS,  
MAY I SUGGEST WE  
ALL RESOLVE NEVER TO  
'GET DOWN & BOOGIE'  
ON MY 'FUNKY SOUL  
TRAIN' AGAIN?!



## THE STINSON CREATIVE LAB

CLEAR ART  
STUDIO GALLERY

stinZine

Hamilton  
Creative  
Community  
Outreach  
Education  
Promotion  
Communication



<http://thestinsoncreativelab.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/767109143350358/>



# YOUR COMMUNITY

**Next Meeting Thursday, December 11th,  
starting 7PM at Central Memorial Rec Centre**



## **1. NEW TERMS of REFERENCE**

To kick off the SCA's October 2014 Annual General Meeting (AGM), members voted in a new and improved SCA Terms of Reference (ToR). The new ToR was generated because we all agreed that a new ToR was needed, and could be a valuable tool for community engagement. Following steps involved invitation for the community to attend a one-day summer ToR planning session and pot luck. The newly created ToR was reviewed at the September SCA meeting, and was formally ratified at the AGM. To read the new ToR, please contact [info@stinsoncommunity.ca](mailto:info@stinsoncommunity.ca) to get your copy, or visit [www.stinsoncommunity.ca](http://www.stinsoncommunity.ca).

## **2. SCA EXECUTIVE TEAM 2014-2015**

At the SCA Annual General Meeting, the following Stinsonites were acclaimed as the SCA Executive Team: Ralph Meiers (Co-chair), Erika Morton (Co-chair), Joanna Millions (Secretary) and Katherine Dymkowski (Treasurer). At this meeting, changes were also introduced to the Executive Team structure, as the positions of President and Vice President became Co-chairs.

## **3. STINSON SMALL PROJECT GRANT IDEAS**

This is an eager reminder that you can apply for one of Stinson's Small Project Grants. We are looking to support residents who have a great idea for a small project (funding is up to \$1500). We encourage you to go to <http://www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca/smallgrants/> to read about Small Project Grants, and to download and complete the application form. Your project will be reviewed by a funding review team (Stinson residents) to ensure that it is the right fit for the neighbourhood.



# Katherine's Korner

As much as my family and I LOVE the Christmas holidays, it can also be a very overwhelming time of year. With baking, decorating, writing Christmas cards, finding an ugly Christmas sweater, and the number one reason for seasonal stress... SHOPPING! This year, I'm taking a different approach, far away from the malls. I'm going to set up an assembly line in my living room, turn up the Christmas beats, and put my kids to work making personalized coasters. That's right, coasters! Now, unless you live in a frat house, everyone uses coasters. These ones are VERY inexpensive to make, easy, useful and personal! Making them the perfect guilt-free, handmade gift to give anyone on your list.

## SUPPLIES

Newspaper to protect your work surface  
4x4 ceramic tiles or tumbled marble \* I got mine at Lowes for pennies  
Photos or pretty scrapbooking paper  
Mod Podge \*Walmart  
Felt sheets or tabs, even cork works well \*Dollarama carries both  
Glue \* I used my trusty hot glue gun  
Clear, acrylic, water resistant spray \*Also picked some up at Lowes  
Foam brush \*Dollarama  
Ribbon \*Dollarama



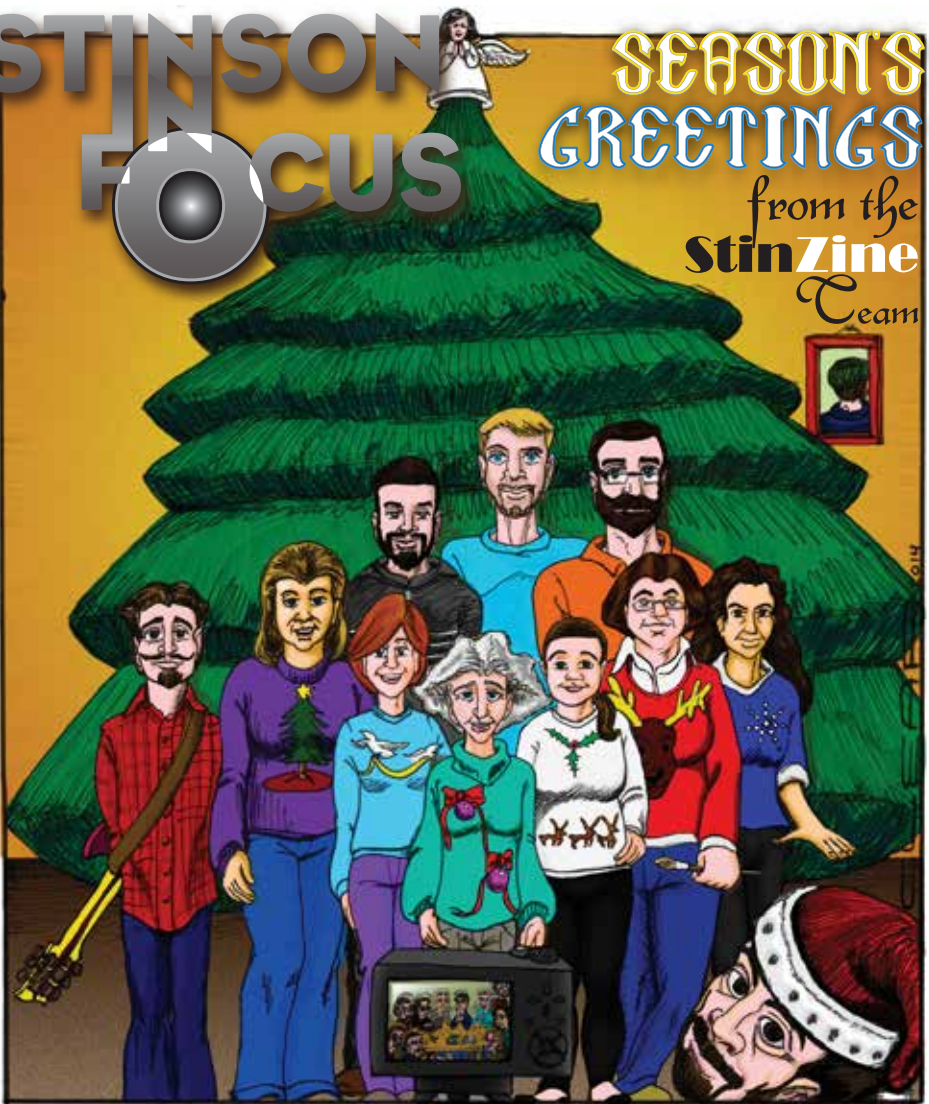
## DIRECTIONS

1. Mod Podge the actual tile. This helps the photo adhere better to the tile.
2. Place the photo on the center of the tile IMMEDIATELY after the tile has been 'mod podged' so the photo adheres better. Then, cover the photo with mod podge. The mod podge will dry clear, just make sure you have an even coating and that all of the photo is covered. Again, this will help it adhere better and stay 'glued' to the tile. I did several coats but waited for each coat to completely dry before adding another coat to make sure it didn't get all 'gooey' on me.
3. Apply felt to the back of the tile. This will make sure the tile doesn't slip around on a surface or scratch it. I used hot gun on the felt and just stuck it to the back of the tile.
4. Last and finally, 'waterproof' the coaster by spraying it with clear, acrylic, water resistant spray. This will make sure the coaster is water proof and will keep the photo protected. Again, I did several coats of this but waited for each coat to dry before applying a new one.
5. Allow to completely dry for at least 24 hours. Stack 6 tiles to a set and tie with ribbon. TA-DA That's it!! I told you it was super cheap and easy :)  
I'm so excited to make these for Christmas for our friends and family!

Merry Christmas, Stinsonites ;-)

# STINSON FOCUS

SEASON'S  
GREETINGS  
from the  
**StinZine**  
Team



## CARTER PARK AUTUMN CLEAN-UP



StinZine #005 WAS PRINTED THANKS TO A GENEROUS GRANT FROM THE:



**FootPRINTFund**