



## Christmas 2017

Retired. RETIRED! Oh my goodness. Oh my God!  
“How does it feel?” So far, quite odd.  
The week after Thanksgiving, panic set in.  
“I have less than two weeks!” I thought with chagrin.

I had hoped to accomplish a few more things...  
Policies, meeting minutes, and debriefings.  
I suppose it’s like housekeeping, never quite done.  
Can’t finish one project before another’s begun.

But I’m moving on. I’m charting my course.  
The Great Loop Adventure will be our source  
Of excitement and adventure. What a thrill...  
Our learning curve will be a steep uphill.

In about four months we will pack our bags,  
Including our “Great Loop” and “American” flags.  
We’ll move aboard “Reverie,” our motor yacht,  
And put into practice all that we’ve been taught.

I’ll be returning home every few weeks  
To check on the home, to visit my “peeps.”  
To get the mail, to mow the lawn,  
To remind our posse to keep an eye on

Our beautiful homestead, to which we will return  
In early fall, for by then we will yearn  
For the comforts of home, to be on firm ground,  
Where love, laughter, and great food abound.

While the journey of a lifetime is on our mind,  
I’ll bet you are wondering who you’ve been assigned.  
Yes, I know, I’m late. I regret. I repent.  
Your Secret Santa recipient

Was carefully selected, by double-blind pick.  
The formula involved complicated arithmetic.  
Remember, always, it’s the thought that counts.  
Don’t overspend! Consider modest amounts.

So here it is... the name you got.  
Safe travels to you until you land at our spot.