

Rosie the Christmas Spider at the Plainville Historical Society

We hope that your family will enjoy this fun, free, virtual, and safe holiday activity for elementary children! Information is given below. It is followed by the full story of Rosie the Christmas Spider. The story should make for a great read aloud.



Rosie is searching for Christmas at the Plainville Historic Center. She can be seen by perhaps peeking inside the front door or spotted while she is looking out a front window. She does move around so children can track her as she keeps searching for Christmas. We invite you to come down and take a look!

Feel free to park briefly in front of Historic Center at 29 Pierce Street. The brick piazza provides a safe place for looking into the building. Children can then “file a report” telling us where and on what date they have spotted Rosie. This can be done by emailing plvhistorical@gmail.com or dropping it into the mail slot at the front of our building. We plan for Rosie to send a special response to each child. *Therefore, please include names(s) and mailing address.* (Rest assured that personal information will not be shared or archived by the Historical Society.)

Rosie the Christmas Spider

By Gertrude LaCombe
Plainville Historical Society

Christmas time at the Historic Center is always our busiest time of the year. Preparations for the holiday season are the talk of the day as decisions are made on what activities we should have to entertain the families of Plainville. All the rooms are cleaned and dusted, decorations are put up in the hall, and are readied to show off the joy of the season.

This year has been very different from past years and only a few people have been in the building because of the pandemic. So I began to think of a tiny living creature that comes to visit us every summer. It slips under our front door and make its home under the table at the entry way. Her name is Rosie the Spider and we love her very much but she is determined to make this spot her home no matter how many times we try to sweep her out the door. Now she has grown a bit, taken up residence and is wondering what is going on here this year. Where's Christmas?

Rosie now finds herself trapped in a very strange situation. She moves from room to room lost and lonely. She tries the grand staircase (such a big drop), hangs from the ceiling and looks out the windows trying to find Christmas. The dollhouse is not decorated for the holiday and there are no colored lights or dressed up trees to curl up in. Sure, it's warmer than outside, but not cozy--not without her friends.

She must be really sad that there haven't been any children coming through the door to find a cup of Lion's Club hot cocoa waiting to be sipped, then sitting down to decorate some cookies, or make a gingerbread house and visit with Mrs. Santa Claus. She wishes that she could do something to make Christmas come back.

Now it seems that she has disappeared and we are so worried about her. I think she needs your help. Perhaps when you are about town, to Gnazzo's, the bank, church, or maybe the gas station, Mom or Dad might swing by 29 Pierce Street and stop for a minute in front of the building to see if you can spy Rosie through the front door. It would be a big help for us to know that she is still nearby because she does move around. It is very important to report to us at our e-mail address and let us know where you saw her and the date. You can drop off a message with your name and address at the mail slot in the door. She just might send you a surprise. Rosie will be so happy to know that you helped her to find Christmas.

The staff and members are waiting for the time when we will all be able to get together again at the Historic Center. We miss serving the people of our town at this time. We are looking forward to a Happy New Year without the pandemic.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE PLAINVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY