

relief society christmas activity ideas

Relief Society Christmas Activity Ideas: Meaningful Ways to Celebrate Together

relief society christmas activity ideas can transform the holiday season into a time of joy, service, and meaningful fellowship. As the Christmas season approaches, many Relief Society presidencies and members look for creative and heartfelt ways to celebrate together while embracing the spirit of giving and community. Whether you're planning a simple gathering or a more elaborate event, there are countless ways to bring warmth, laughter, and purpose to your Relief Society Christmas activities.

In this article, we'll explore a variety of ideas that can inspire your group to connect, serve, and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. From service projects to festive parties and spiritual experiences, these activities are designed to engage everyone and create lasting memories.

Incorporating Service into Relief Society Christmas Activities

Christmas is the perfect time to emphasize service and charity, core principles of the Relief Society. Incorporating acts of kindness and giving into your holiday plans not only blesses others but strengthens the bonds among sisters.

Organize a Community Service Project

One impactful way to celebrate is by organizing a community service project. This could include:

- Preparing and delivering care packages to local shelters or nursing homes.
- Volunteering at a food bank or soup kitchen as a group.
- Hosting a clothing or toy drive to benefit families in need.

Service projects like these foster a spirit of unity and gratitude, reminding everyone of the true purpose behind Christmas celebrations.

Christmas Card and Gift-Making Workshops

Another heartfelt activity is hosting a workshop where Relief Society members create handmade Christmas cards or small gifts for members of the community who may be isolated or in need of encouragement. This can be a fun and creative evening with:

- Craft supplies for making cards or ornaments.
- Instructions or templates for those new to crafting.
- Time set aside for writing personalized messages or scripture verses.

These personalized tokens of love often mean more than store-bought gifts and can brighten someone's holiday season greatly.

Festive and Fun Relief Society Christmas Party Ideas

Celebrating together with a festive party is a wonderful way to build camaraderie and holiday cheer. Here are some ideas to make your Relief Society Christmas party both joyful and memorable.

Themed Potluck Dinner

Invite members to bring dishes inspired by Christmas traditions from around the world. This not only offers variety and delicious food but also sparks conversations about different cultures and customs. You can enhance the experience by:

- Encouraging members to share stories or recipes from their heritage.
- Decorating tables with themed centerpieces reflecting the countries represented.
- Playing holiday music from various cultures during the meal.

This creates a rich, educational, and festive atmosphere that celebrates diversity within the Relief Society.

Christmas Caroling and Talent Show

Nothing captures the holiday spirit quite like music and laughter. Organizing a caroling outing to visit neighbors, shut-ins, or local care facilities can spread joy beyond the group. Follow up the caroling with a talent show where members can share songs, poems, or skits related to Christmas. This activity fosters creativity and provides a platform for members to share their gifts.

Spiritual and Reflective Relief Society Christmas Activities

While festive fun and service are vital, incorporating spiritual elements can deepen the significance of your Christmas gatherings.

Christmas Devotional or Scripture Study Night

Hosting a Christmas devotional centered on the birth of Jesus Christ helps focus the group on the season's true meaning. You can invite a guest speaker, or rotate members to share thoughts and testimonies. Incorporate:

- Scripture readings related to Christ's birth.
- Hymns and Christmas songs that emphasize faith and hope.
- Time for personal reflection or group prayer.

This thoughtful approach encourages spiritual growth and unity.

Nativity Display and Storytelling

Creating a nativity scene can be both a hands-on activity and an opportunity to reflect on the Christmas story. Members can contribute by bringing nativity sets or crafting figures together. During the activity, someone can read or recount the nativity story, perhaps adding personal insights or historical context. This makes the story come alive and helps everyone appreciate the humble beginnings of the Savior.

Creative and Interactive Relief Society Christmas Ideas

Sometimes a little creativity and interaction can make your Christmas activities stand out and keep everyone engaged.

Christmas Trivia and Games Night

Hosting a trivia night with questions about Christmas traditions, scriptures, and hymns can be a lively and educational way to celebrate. You might include:

- Teams competing in friendly contests.
- Prizes for winners such as homemade treats or small gifts.
- Incorporating games like “Christmas Bingo” or “Guess the Christmas Carol.”

This encourages laughter, learning, and friendly competition.

Cookie Decorating and Recipe Exchange

Baking and decorating cookies together is a timeless holiday activity. You can organize a cookie decorating party where members bring baked cookies and various icings and toppings. To add a meaningful twist, invite participants to bring a favorite holiday recipe to share, creating a recipe booklet that everyone can take home. This activity blends creativity, fellowship, and culinary tradition.

Tips for Planning Successful Relief Society Christmas Activities

To make your Relief Society Christmas activities enjoyable and smooth, consider these practical tips:

- **Plan Early:** Start organizing at least a month in advance to coordinate locations, materials, and invitations.

- **Delegate Responsibilities:** Share tasks among members to lighten the load and involve more participants.
- **Be Inclusive:** Choose activities that accommodate different ages, abilities, and interests.
- **Focus on the Spirit:** Incorporate moments of reflection and gratitude to keep Christ at the center.
- **Budget Wisely:** Look for cost-effective ideas that do not require expensive supplies or decorations.

By keeping these considerations in mind, your Relief Society Christmas activities will be more meaningful and enjoyable for everyone involved.

Christmas is a time to come together as sisters in faith, service, and celebration. With these relief society christmas activity ideas, you can create experiences that uplift, inspire, and strengthen the bonds within your group, while spreading love and light throughout the community. Whether you choose service-oriented projects, festive parties, spiritual gatherings, or creative workshops, the true joy of Christmas shines brightest when shared with others.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some fun Relief Society Christmas activity ideas for large groups?

Organize a Christmas-themed potluck where each member brings a dish representing a different country's holiday traditions. Include games like Christmas charades or a holiday trivia contest to engage everyone.

How can we incorporate service into Relief Society Christmas activities?

Plan a service project such as making care packages for the homeless, assembling Christmas cards for local nursing homes, or organizing a toy drive to donate to families in need.

What are some budget-friendly Relief Society Christmas activity ideas?

Host a Christmas cookie exchange, a DIY ornament-making night using inexpensive materials, or a Christmas movie night with homemade popcorn and hot cocoa.

How can we make Relief Society Christmas activities spiritually uplifting?

Include scripture readings about the birth of Christ, share personal testimonies related to Christmas, or sing Christmas hymns together. You could also have a devotional focusing on the true meaning of Christmas.

What are some interactive Christmas activity ideas for Relief Society meetings?

Try a Christmas-themed scavenger hunt, a 'Secret Angel' gift exchange, or a collaborative craft project like creating a Christmas tree decorated with handmade ornaments from each member.

How can we involve families in Relief Society Christmas activities?

Host a family-friendly Christmas party with games and crafts suitable for all ages, or organize a community Christmas caroling event inviting families to participate.

What are some creative Christmas service ideas for Relief Society?

Create handmade Christmas cards for shut-ins, organize a group to help decorate a local community center, or volunteer at a food bank together as a Relief Society group.

How can technology be used in Relief Society Christmas activities?

Host a virtual Christmas party with games and music, create a shared online playlist of favorite Christmas songs, or organize a virtual gift exchange using apps that facilitate Secret Santa.

What are some unique Relief Society Christmas party themes?

Consider themes like 'Christmas Around the World,' 'Classic Christmas Movies,' or 'Winter Wonderland,' and tailor decorations, activities, and food to fit the chosen theme.

How can Relief Society Christmas activities promote fellowship and unity?

Plan activities that require teamwork such as group service projects,

collaborative crafts, or team-based games. Sharing stories and experiences related to Christmas can also help strengthen bonds among members.

Additional Resources

Relief Society Christmas Activity Ideas: Fostering Community and Joy During the Holidays

relief society christmas activity ideas play a crucial role in bringing members together to celebrate the festive season with meaningful and engaging events. As one of the largest women's organizations within The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Relief Society emphasizes service, fellowship, and spiritual growth. During the Christmas season, selecting the right activities can enhance community bonds and provide an opportunity for members to express their faith and generosity. This article explores a variety of creative and practical Relief Society Christmas activity ideas, focusing on how they foster connection, service, and holiday cheer.

Understanding the Importance of Christmas Activities in Relief Society

Christmas activities within the Relief Society context are more than just social gatherings; they serve as vital platforms for nurturing spiritual development and community service. These activities provide opportunities to teach gospel principles, encourage charitable giving, and promote unity among members. According to various Relief Society leaders and coordinators, carefully planned Christmas events can significantly impact members' sense of belonging and satisfaction during the holiday season.

Beyond spiritual growth, Christmas activities also address the human need for connection, especially during a time that can be emotionally challenging for some. Incorporating service-oriented projects alongside festive celebrations allows members to shift focus outward, strengthening empathy and kindness within the community.

Key Considerations for Planning Relief Society Christmas Activities

When organizing Christmas events, coordinators must balance tradition, inclusivity, and practicality. Some of the essential factors to consider include:

- **Inclusivity:** Activities should accommodate members of various ages,

abilities, and schedules to maximize participation.

- **Spiritual Focus:** Incorporating gospel messages or scriptures related to the nativity and Christ's teachings aligns activities with Relief Society's core mission.
- **Service Orientation:** Integrating service projects, such as helping those in need, reinforces the spirit of giving inherent in Christmas.
- **Budget and Resources:** Selecting cost-effective ideas that utilize available materials and talents ensures sustainability and broader involvement.

Understanding these parameters helps in curating activities that resonate with members and fulfill both social and spiritual objectives.

Popular Relief Society Christmas Activity Ideas

Diverse and adaptable, Relief Society Christmas activities can range from traditional celebrations to innovative service projects. Below is an exploration of several popular ideas that have proven effective in various wards and stakes.

1. Christmas Service Projects

Service is at the heart of Relief Society Christmas activities. Projects such as assembling care packages for the homeless, visiting nursing homes, or organizing food drives enable members to express compassion tangibly. These activities often receive positive feedback for their direct impact on the community and the personal fulfillment they bring to participants.

For example, a ward might organize a "Gifts of Light" campaign, where members donate blankets, toiletries, and other essentials to local shelters. This approach not only helps those in need but also strengthens the Relief Society's mission to serve within and beyond the congregation.

2. Christmas Devotional or Spiritual Night

A spiritually enriching Christmas devotional can be a profound way to center the season on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Inviting speakers, sharing testimonials, or reading scriptures related to the nativity story can deepen members' understanding and appreciation of Christmas's true meaning.

In some cases, Relief Societies combine devotional nights with hymn singing or scripture study groups. These quieter, reflective activities appeal to members who prefer a more contemplative holiday experience.

3. Holiday Craft Workshops

Engaging members through creative craft workshops can be both fun and purposeful. Activities such as making Christmas cards, ornaments, or simple decorations allow participants to express their creativity and produce items that can be used for service.

Crafting sessions can be paired with letter-writing campaigns to missionaries, shut-ins, or military personnel, thereby blending creativity with outreach. This dual-purpose approach maximizes the value and impact of the event.

4. Christmas Potlucks and Socials

Traditional Christmas potlucks provide a relaxed environment for fellowship and sharing. Members contribute dishes, enjoy festive music, and partake in light-hearted games or gift exchanges. While these events focus more on community building than service, they remain a vital component of Relief Society's holiday celebrations.

To add a spiritual layer, some wards incorporate short devotionals or testimonies during the gathering, ensuring that the festive mood is balanced with meaningful reflection.

5. Family History and Heritage Nights

Given the LDS emphasis on family history, organizing a Christmas-themed family history night can be both relevant and engaging. Members can share stories, create family trees, or work on temple-related projects together.

This activity encourages intergenerational participation and allows members to connect their faith with personal heritage, enriching the holiday experience.

Innovative and Emerging Trends in Relief Society Christmas Activities

With evolving technology and changing lifestyles, Relief Societies have begun

incorporating new ideas to keep Christmas activities fresh and accessible.

Virtual Christmas Gatherings

Especially in recent years, virtual events have become increasingly popular. Hosting online Christmas devotionals, game nights, or service planning meetings allows members who cannot attend in person to remain involved. These virtual formats provide flexibility and can reach a broader audience.

Service Through Social Media Campaigns

Some Relief Societies leverage social media platforms to organize charitable initiatives, such as fundraising for local causes or coordinating donations for community needs. These campaigns raise awareness and encourage participation beyond traditional meeting times.

Inter-Ward Collaborative Events

Collaborating with neighboring wards or stakes for combined Christmas activities can enhance resources and diversity of ideas. Joint service projects or larger-scale celebrations foster unity across the church community and provide richer experiences.

Evaluating the Impact of Christmas Activities on Relief Society Members

Analyzing feedback from participants reveals that well-executed Christmas activities significantly enhance members' feelings of belonging and spiritual upliftment. According to surveys conducted among Relief Society presidencies, events that combine service and spiritual reflection tend to receive the highest satisfaction ratings.

However, challenges such as scheduling conflicts, limited volunteer involvement, and budget constraints occasionally hinder participation. To address these issues, successful Relief Societies often employ flexible planning, delegate responsibilities efficiently, and seek creative funding or donations.

Balancing fun with faith remains a delicate task but is essential for maintaining engagement and honoring the season's sacredness.

Pros and Cons of Various Relief Society Christmas Activity Ideas

		Cons
Activity Type	Pros	
Service Projects	Encourage charity, strengthen community ties, spiritually fulfilling	Require significant planning and coordination
Devotional Nights	Deepen spiritual understanding, inclusive for all ages	May lack social interaction for some members
Craft Workshops	Creative, fun, produce tangible items for outreach	Limited appeal to less crafty members
Potlucks and Socials	Foster fellowship and relaxation	Less focus on spiritual or service elements

Practical Tips for Implementing Relief Society Christmas Activities

To maximize the effectiveness of Christmas activities, Relief Society leaders can consider these practical strategies:

- 1. Early Planning:** Start organizing activities well in advance to accommodate members’ busy holiday schedules.
- 2. Member Involvement:** Encourage members to contribute ideas and take ownership of events to boost enthusiasm.
- 3. Flexibility:** Offer multiple activity options to cater to diverse preferences and availability.
- 4. Resource Sharing:** Collaborate with other church organizations or local groups to pool resources and expertise.
- 5. Feedback Collection:** After events, gather feedback to identify areas of success and improvement for future planning.

These approaches help create a dynamic and inclusive environment that celebrates the holiday season in a manner consistent with Relief Society

values.

Relief Society Christmas activity ideas continue to evolve, blending traditional customs with modern innovations to meet the needs of contemporary members. Whether emphasizing service, spiritual enrichment, or fellowship, these activities remain integral to cultivating unity and joy during the Christmas season. By thoughtfully selecting and executing events, Relief Societies can ensure that their Christmas celebrations resonate deeply, fostering a meaningful holiday experience grounded in faith and community.

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relief society christmas activity ideas: Ideas for Social Action Anthony Campolo, 1983 Contains over 200 activities for Christian young people in the areas of social action and service.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Missionary Story* Wesley Pound, 2025-02-05 Missionary Story Missionary Story ` Missionary Story: Marching with the Frozen Chosen is a book that, through journal entries, letters written in that timeframe, photographs, and other documents, reveals the thoughts, challenges, and successes of a typical missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in the 1970s. 462 462

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Good Girls, Good Food, Good Fun* Meghan K. Winchell, 2008-12-07 Throughout World War II, when Saturday nights came around, servicemen and hostesses happily forgot the war for a little while as they danced together in USO clubs, which served as havens of stability in a time of social, moral, and geographic upheaval. Meghan Winchell demonstrates that in addition to boosting soldier morale, the USO acted as an architect of the gender roles and sexual codes that shaped the greatest generation. Combining archival research with extensive firsthand accounts from among the hundreds of thousands of female USO volunteers, Winchell shows how the organization both reflected and shaped 1940s American society at large. The USO had hoped that respectable feminine companionship would limit venereal disease rates in the military. To that end, Winchell explains, USO recruitment practices characterized white middle-

class women as sexually respectable, thus implying that the sexual behavior of working-class women and women of color was suspicious. In response, women of color sought to redefine the USO's definition of beauty and respectability, challenging the USO's vision of a home front that was free of racial, gender, and sexual conflict. Despite clashes over class and racial ideologies of sex and respectability, Winchell finds that most hostesses benefited from the USO's chaste image. In exploring the USO's treatment of female volunteers, Winchell not only brings the hostesses' stories to light but also supplies a crucial missing piece for understanding the complex ways in which the war both destabilized and restored certain versions of social order.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Remember Who You Are* Robert R. Dunford, 2005
Love Clayton Dunford was born in 1913 in Logan, Utah. His parents were Carlos LeRoy Dunford and Eleanor Hazel Love. He married Elizabeth Bitner, daughter of Moroni (Roy) Halseth Bitner and Irma May Felt, in 1936 in Salt Lake City, Utah. They had nine children.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Oh, Our Fair Ones* LaVelle Holmes, 2020-07-07
Our Fair Ones is a story of a young girl who has the desire to know who she is, why she exists and if there is anything after this life. She and her husband learn to love the gospel of Jesus Christ. Their testimonies grow of him, but they are met with many challenges. She feels responsible for another woman's babies death. She tells how a trial is an answer to a church leaders prayer. Experience her feelings of peace when their home burns and there are financial set backs. Read how others gain strength from her as she battles cancer twice and receives a kidney after 7 years of dialysis. Learn of her dreams and how she receives instruction to do genealogy work in Finland, Czechoslovakia and Bohemia. She also shares encounters with the evil one and how he is rebuked by the power of God. You feel her love for the Savior, her optimistic attitude will bring readers tender emotions as her story unfolds.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Live Together in Love* , 1981

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Remaking Culture and Music Spaces* Ian Woodward, Jo Haynes, Pauwke Berkers, Aileen Dillane, Karolina Golemo, 2022-11-18
This collection analyses the remaking of culture and music spaces during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Its central focus is how cultural producers negotiated radically disrupted and uncertain conditions by creating, designing, and curating new objects and events, and through making alternative combinations of practices and spaces. By examining contexts and practices of remaking culture and music, it goes beyond being a chronicle of how the pandemic disrupted cultural life and livelihoods. The book also raises crucial questions about the forms and dynamics of post-pandemic spaces of culture and music. Main themes include the affective and embodied dimensions that shape the experience, organisation, and representation of cultural and musical activity; the restructuring of industries and practices of work and cultural production; the transformation of spaces of cultural expression and community; and the uncertainty and resilience of future culture and music. This collection will be instrumental for researchers, practitioners, and students studying the spatial, material, and affective dimensions of cultural production in the fields of cultural sociology, cultural and creative industries research, festival and event studies, and music studies. Its interdisciplinary nature makes it beneficial reading for anyone interested in what has happened to culture and music during the global pandemic and beyond.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *The Improvement Era* , 1962

relief society christmas activity ideas: *Reverend Dr. Thomas Nelson Baker* Linda Batty, 2024-12-17
The Rev. Dr. Thomas Nelson Baker was the first known African American to receive a Ph.D. in Philosophy in the United States. Born a slave in 1860 in Eastville, Virginia, Dr. Baker spent his youth and early manhood as a farm laborer, sporadically attending schools for freed people until he was 12 years old. Abbreviated as his education was, he nonetheless gained from it an unquenchable love of learning, dreaming of once more sitting in a classroom. The opportunity to do so came when he was 21 years of age at which time he entered Gen'l. George Chapman Armstrong's Hampton Agricultural & Normal School, graduating in 1885. After teaching for one year in Virginia's Dismal Swamp, he attended Mount Hermon Boys' School in Massachusetts, coming under the

influence of evangelist D.L. Moody. He thereafter entered Boston Univ (B.A. 1893), receiving the highest of honors. Three years at Yale Divinity (B.D. 1896) were followed by postgraduate work at Yale (Ph.D. 1903). While a student at Yale he was minister of Dixwell Congregational Church, the oldest Black Congregational church in the U.S. Called in 1901 to the pulpit of 2nd Congregational Church in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, he remained in that position until retiring in 1939. Published in national journals and local newspapers, an early advocate of Black Pride, woman suffrage and ecumenicalism, Dr. Baker died in 1941. This book will appeal to and be readable by readers of general African American biography, people affiliated with Dr. Baker's schools, those seeking inspiration for life. It will be of particular importance to historians and scholars of philosophy, religion, education, and African American life. Dr. Baker's connections to Armstrong and Moody, as well as a volatile relationship with W.E.B. DuBois, will, in addition, contribute meaningfully to the biographies of these men.

relief society christmas activity ideas: Boys' Life , 1963-11 Boys' Life is the official youth magazine for the Boy Scouts of America. Published since 1911, it contains a proven mix of news, nature, sports, history, fiction, science, comics, and Scouting.

relief society christmas activity ideas: Ensign , 2004

relief society christmas activity ideas: Glen Samuel Richardson, 2011-08-02 Biography of Glen Orrin Richardson, son of Justin V. and Hortense Earl Richardson, compiled by Hope R. Barrowes. Cover design and book layout by Samuel Richardson, owner of Silver Storm Imaging and Printing. Contains Glen's journal entries, letters he's written and his achievements. Also contains writing to or about him by his family and friends. Included is a scrapbook of his life.

relief society christmas activity ideas: Australia, the Recreational Society David Mosler, 2002-01-30 From its very inception Australia has been a derivative society: First as part of the British Empire and then, soon after World War II, what Mosler considers the American Empire and the new end-of-century Americanized global culture. This has meant that Australia has struggled to attain its own identity. Mosler explores that struggle for national independence, a struggle that seems to be doomed to failure. According to Mosler, the reasons for this failure lie in Australia's propensity to remain a recreational culture; a culture more attuned to pleasure and dependence than regimented hard work and the concomitant collective pattern of national assertiveness. The Australian economy, defense arrangements, culture, and psychology have been dominated by other nations and transnational forces. The prospects for the nation in the future appear to be somewhat grim unless this historical pattern of dependence and lack of respect, indeed almost contempt, for national institutions is reversed. A provocative analysis that will be of interest to scholars, students, researchers, and anyone interested in Australian history and contemporary life and culture.

relief society christmas activity ideas: Fun , 1885

relief society christmas activity ideas: Program Aid , 1959

relief society christmas activity ideas: Nature et progrès Pierre Lagayette, 2006

relief society christmas activity ideas: ThirdWay , 2003-12 Monthly current affairs magazine from a Christian perspective with a focus on politics, society, economics and culture.

relief society christmas activity ideas: Explorations in Ecocriticism Paul Lindholdt, 2015-04-09 A chief innovation of *Explorations in Ecocriticism* is to push ecological criticism beyond its focus on literary studies to engage with other arts and culture. One chapter closely examines the pictures commissioned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to valorize its big dam projects. Previously, no one has written about the large art collection that toured the nation under the auspices of the Smithsonian in the early 1970s, when the Bureau of Reclamation was under fire and new environmental regulations were becoming law. Another chapter, "An Iconography of Sabotage," previously published in France as part of a Paris symposium, looks at the pictorial dimension of saboteurs throughout American history, with a special emphasis on the IWW and Earth First! The book draws extensively on the social sciences. Ecology and environment are treated too often as technical topics that go over the heads of lay readers. Many Americans care about air and water quality, the extinction of species, and the unfortunate politicization of science. But they also find the

discourse daunting, the details exceedingly complex. By leavening such heavy subjects with current events, *Explorations in Ecocriticism* makes environmental issues accessible to lay readers and offers routes to sustainability in the United States today.

relief society christmas activity ideas: *New Old-fashioned Ways* Jack Santino, 1996 Every year, as each holiday rolls around, American popular culture is suddenly awash in images associated with that festivity. While Christmas has been the most obviously commercialized celebration, Halloween, Easter, the Fourth of July, Hanukkah, Thanksgiving, and Valentine's Day are also reflected in the offerings of the mass media and consumer products industries. This book is the first in-depth investigation of the myriad ways in which traditional holidays are both manifested and exploited in a commercial, consumerist society. Jack Santino's analysis encompasses everything from movies to romance novels, from television shows to comic books. One especially fascinating feature of this study is its examination of the packaged-foods industry and the manner in which soft drinks, beer, snack cakes, cookies, candy, and breakfast cereals are regularly repackaged to reflect particular holidays. In what becomes a central theme of the book, Santino shows how holidays give companies the opportunity to create an illusion of novelty for products that otherwise remain unchanged over time. For example, the holiday Chips Ahoy cookies or Halloween Oreos differ only in their appearance from the everyday products, but they assume a quality of uniqueness through their association with a special time of the year. Throughout the book, Santino examines the logic by which commercial culture and holidays are linked. Halloween, for instance, with its traditional symbolism of death, evil, and monsters, has served as a theme for heavy metal music and slasher films. This, in turn, has led to some interesting transmutations as one text borrows from another in the wake of a commercial success. When John Carpenter's pioneering 1978 slasher film *Halloween* became a box-office hit, it was perhaps inevitable that other holiday-based slasher films--*New Year's Evil*, *April Fool's Day*, and *Silent Night, Deadly Night*--would follow. Copiously illustrated, *New Old-Fashioned Ways* is at once entertaining and informative--a treat for general readers as well as an important work for scholars in a variety of fields, including communications, folklore, anthropology, sociology, and business

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