

Illiana News

December 2019

Christmas in the Village

Christmas in the Village was wonderful! The weather was not bad. The kids were amazing. The grounds looked like a Christmas Village. Our goal in beginning Christmas in the Village was to give the community a gift, one they could make into a family tradition. It has happened!

This year was so much fun...it makes those hours of work seem worth the effort. There were so many great stories with this year's event. I am going to share a few. Santa was wonderful with the little kids and the big ones too. He got several notes. One was especially neat. One little girl had drawn a map of her house showing exactly where her bedroom was and where her little brother's was, as well as a path to their Christmas tree. He also surprised several grown up kids with a seat on his lap as well!

The canned food drive was overwhelming. Gary York reported it took two pickup trucks to deliver it to the food pantry. Thank you everyone.

Lori Austin and her Dad ran Santa's Post Office this year. There were 82 letters mailed to Santa. Lori delivered them to the Macy's box. Macy's donates \$1 for each letter to the Make a Wish Foundation. So Illiana Antique Power donated \$82 to that cause.

(continued on page 2)



(Photo by Margo Fry-Schutt)

Next Meeting - MARCH 2020

There will be no club meetings during the months of December, January and February. The next meeting of the Illiana Antique Power Association is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Assembly Hall.

The strolling carolers are always amazing. Benton Central's choir and Mr. Malchow schedule our event before any others...even basketball games! Mr. Mori from Seeger had to cancel at the last minute but twenty or so members of his choir came anyway! The singing just sets the tone for the season. Thanks kids!

This year the big red wagon from the Fry Family was a centerpiece of the family picture taking spot. Thank you to Jim and Margo Fry-Schutt and to Bill Fry for bringing it to the grounds and setting it up.

Karen Ames and her wool work were in the clubhouse on Saturday night and we cannot forget the popcorn folks, Art and Helen Petty, Terry Bodine, and new club members Diane and Keith Gretencord! The trains were running outside, thanks to Charlie Lupinek and his crew. Trains were running inside too. Thank you Jaimie and Donnie. We can never forget Doris and Jim Manlief. They keep things running! Thanks to you all.

A new generation of Illiana Antique Power Assn. members were working this year. Charley Fry and Courtney manned the gate on Friday night. Jason and Andi Hetrick and their kids helped greet visitors on Saturday. Scott Price helped at his regular spot too. Kelsie Muller helped in the milk house hot chocolate spot. Eli and Courtney Munson were the servers along with Jim Cunningham on Saturday night.

The toymaker, David Dalton and his helper Lydia, made over 100 toy cars and trucks. Kids were thrilled to get one. The toys were so cute and the toy shop had such festive decorations. Thank you so much.

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Town of Pine Village who donated some large decorations for the light poles. We must say "thank you" to Warren County REMC and Tippecanoe Arts Federation for all the help they have given us so that we have electric power where we need it. God bless the folks that knew what to do when most things went dark on Saturday night.

The chili boys, Denny Olin, Kenny Campfield, and Keith Saylor were kept busy and ran out of chili both nights. I know folks enjoyed the chili. I had lots of empty chili cups in the school house wastebasket. Thanks guys. The kitchen was serving up cookies and hot cider. Thank you if you made cookies or helped Ginny Saylor and Kathy Olin. Kim and Kenny had the store open. It was crowded most of the time. The quilters made lots of kids happy with homemade ornaments they could take home. The Blacksmiths were at it again. It is always amazing to see them working, no matter the weather. I heard there were some beautiful things made. I don't have names of those guys but I know Brad McCormick can tell you if you ask him. Their decorations were simple but right in the spirit of Christmas. Can't leave out the bonfire guys, the people mover drivers and the luminaria folks. It takes effort and it just adds so much to the whole show - we say "thanks" to all. I want to say a special thanks to Pat Grubb and Jessie Hedrick who helped out in the school house. The Rader family brought a decorated International tractor. It was perfect! And finally, Christmas in the Village is not complete until you visit the cabin. Carolyn and Tom have done a super job giving us a peek into the past with the decorations there. Thanks to everyone.

The best Christmas gift of all is that we all came together to get the job done. I think this one was the best one yet, thanks to all of you! Merry Christmas!

- Joan

Illiana Quilters News

Submitted by: Kathy Kyle

The Quilters had a great crowd at the Christmas in the Village to collect the tree ornaments that we had made for the children attending. The weather was great and I'm sure each and every young person and old alike had a great time!

The quilters met on Mon. Dec. 9th at Joan Fry's home for our Christmas luncheon, a delicious meal was served and enjoyed by 11 members. The gift exchange is always a good time with games being played and much laughter! Plans were made for the next meeting in the new year and also for our gift exchange for next year.

Everyone left with a full tummy, a bag of goodies and wishes for a Merry Christmas and A Happy, Healthy New Year!

Illiana Quilters also wish to extend a very Merry Christmas to all our Illiana friends and family!



Photos by: Margo Fry-Schutt

