



January/February 2009

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

By Carly Brust

Elverson's first annual "Caroling in the Park" fell on a windy, snowy night in the beginning of December. The cold weather may have discouraged some carolers, but the temperature certainly inspired some whole-hearted singing and swaying for the carolers who made it. The line from the Christmas carol, "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas," certainly rang true!

Livingood Park offered an ideal setting for the caroling. Luminaries lit our path from the parking lot to the white tent set up in the grassy area below the gazebos, which shaded the carolers from the stinging wind. Hot chocolate and coffee with dozens of homemade cookies helped heat us up before the singing commenced. Fellowship with neighbors always helps to warm up a crowd.

When forty or so folks arrived, many of them with children in tow, we all gathered at the entrance of the tent to watch Cathy Daprile light the trees. Cathy and Donna Daprile had strung several trees in the park with Elverson's signature blue lights. The lit trees helped ease the chill in the air and put everyone in the "holiday spirit."



The Borough Parks & Recreation Committee invited Rev. Tom Hall, former minister of the Elverson United Methodist Church, and his wife, Dixie Hall, to accompany the carols. Dixie set up her electronic keyboard, Tom brought out his trumpet and the caroling began. We sang all the holiday favorites, from "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" to "Frosty, the Snowman" and every carol in between. We even sang a couple carols twice, just to make sure they were all covered.

After Dixie's hands had turned purple on the piano keys and Tom's lips froze onto his trumpet, the singing died down and folks slowly shuffled back to their cars. Several people were involved in coordinating the event, including Cathy Daprile, Donna Daprile, Diane Keen and members of the Elverson Borough Parks & Recreation Committee. A special thanks is reserved for the "Ladies of Parkside Drive" who graciously gave of their time and skill to bake delicious homemade Christmas cookies.



And for residents who may have been scared away by the freezing cold conditions and icy roads, we can always hope that next year brings a milder evening for caroling!



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