



Autumn 1998

Neighborhood Caroling....Sunday, December 20, 4 PM

For all Griswoldville neighbors, friends and family!

SINGERS:

Experience not necessary...you don't even have to sing on pitch...but you must possess a joyful spirit and a willing heart! We will gather at the Griswoldville Chapel promptly at 4 PM. Hopefully we will have enough carolers that we can break into three or more groups. That way we can cover more of the Griswoldville community! (So please bring friends and family...let's get a great BIG group of singers together!) Please call Peg D'Amato (529.8132) and let her know if you plan to sing.

LISTENERS:

If you would like the Carolers to stop by, please be sure your outdoor lights are on – so mark December 20 on your calendar with a note to put your lights on! The past two years we have caroled on part of Griswold Road, Burwood, Golf and Country Club. We will certainly carol these roads again...but hope to reach more of you if we get a good turn out of singers. If we don't make it to your home, please forgive us...we do as much as we can.

DONATION:

Last year we filled many bags of canned goods for the Wethersfield Food Bank. This year we hope to do the same. So if you would like to "tip" the singers, they will accept your donation of canned items for the Food Bank.

RECEPTION AT THE GRISWOLDVILLE CHAPEL:

All who would like can plan to gather after the caroling in the hall of the Griswoldville Chapel. Hot and cold beverages along with sandwiches will be provided...if you would like to bring along some dessert goodies, please do so!

REMINDER TO CAROLERS:

It has been cold, cold, cold when we have caroled in the past. Dress warm, warm, warm. Sneakers have not proved to be especially warm for the toes. Winter boots with good insulation are probably best...even if it's not snowing. Mittens are a must...and hats are helpful. If you have a wagon that we can use to collect the food donations, let Peg know when you call.

Looking forward to our Third Annual Neighborhood Caroling time together!



1998 to date:

Thornbush and Highland Street Planting: In cooperation with the Wethersfield Beautification Committee, we purchased and planted perennials and bushes around the Welcome to Griswoldville sign. Vincent Vitaliano has volunteered to be the superintendent of the beautiful plantings that will continue and bloom for years to come.

Griswoldville's Giant Tag Sale: The GPA sponsored its first tag sale on September 12, 1998. Approximately 20 families participated. Many have indicated they hope we will sponsor another sale. The next tag sale is scheduled for September 18, 1999. The Association will again pay for all advertisements. If you wish your address to be included on our map of participating members, call Janet Zimmerman @ 563.7853.

1998 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the GPA was held on April 21st. Guest speaker was Griswoldville's very own Celia Goodale. She spoke of the "Water and I's Ties to Griswoldville's Past, Present and Future."

The Association also held elections for executive board members. The following individuals will be serving terms this year:

Executive Board Members 1998-99

Honorary Mayor : Dick Lasher - 529.6158
Chairman : Peter Gardow - 257.1925
Vice Chair : Damon Herring - 563.6494
Secretary : Martha Mayer - 257.1705
Treasurer : Janet Zimmerman - 563.7853

Griswoldville's Shepherd's Pond Is No More

Today's children swim in Millwoods Park's cement pool with life guards and chlorine treated water. Back during the Depression, children growing up in Griswoldville did their swimming in Shepherd's mud hole pond. Dairy farmer, Sam Shepherd, dammed up the brook so his cows would have a place to drink water. Shepherd's pond is no more, it just disappeared one November morning in 1933. This is what happened -

Canadian Geese used Shepherd's pond as a way station on their annual flight South. Late November a large flight of Canadian Geese landed on the pond to spend the night. Overnight there was a severe unexpected drop in temperature. Shepherd's Pond froze over gripping the feet of all the geese causing them to become icebound. Early the next morning Emma Lord was walking her black Labrador dog down to the pond. The sight and barking of the dog scared the geese into the air. The geese flew up in unison with the ice still frozen around their feet. Emma Lord said it was a sight to behold as all the Canadian Geese flew South with the large sheet of ice. The dam split open the next spring which ended Shepherd's Pond forever.

Honorary Mayor Dick Lasher

We would like to wish everybody and there families a safe happy Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year!! Hope to see you all on Sunday, December 20th for Neighborhood Caroling.