

Quiet Valley Announces Its 31st Annual Old Time Christmas

By Deborah DiPasquale

Stroudsburg – Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm will present its 31st annual Old Time Christmas event on December 4, 5 and December 11, 12 with candlelit tours leaving every 15 minutes beginning at 2:30 p.m., with the last group going out at 7:00 p.m.

More than any other holiday, Christmas celebrations center on the traditions of our families and our heritage. Begin a new tradition with your family this year during an outing to Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, where the Christmas customs of the past are brought to life. From the softly glowing lantern light to complimentary hot chocolate and cookies, Old Time Christmas is sure to become a favorite holiday pastime for many years to come.

Gather around a bonfire while you wait for your visit to the 1800s to begin. Guides in period clothing will lead guests on their journey into the past beginning with this year’s Victorian skit. Glimpse an 1890s Christmas as the family reminiscences and makes new holiday memories. Before you leave take a peek at their Christmas Putz, a homemade nativity and village scene, that was a custom the Moravians began and was soon enthusiastically adopted by the Pennsylvania Germans.

Afterwards it’s on to the living Nativity located in the barnyard which includes the Quiet Valley farm animals and offers a look at the foundation of this special celebration including a soloist and scripture readings. Then off to a simple log cabin where visitors experience the rustic Christmas of the early 1800s. At the one room schoolhouse it is a jolly time as the school marm leads both the musicians and guests in singing their favorite seasonal carols. There is plenty of nervous excitement in the cellar kitchen as folks await a visit from the Belschnikel, a traditional Pennsylvania German character who made his rounds during the Christmas season. He is the one who really knows if you were naughty or nice. While on the farm be sure to vote for your favorite Xmas tree donated and decorated by sponsors!

The final stop is in the Engel Education Building for complimentary refreshments which adds a final festive touch to the visit. As you leave be sure to stop in the Holiday Gift Shop which is stocked with heritage crafts handmade by Quiet Valley artisans. It is the place to find unique gifts at reasonable prices.

We recommend pre-purchased tickets at <https://quiet-valley.ticketleap.com/old-time-christmas/> Those looking for a truly meaningful way to start their Christmas season will discover it at this very special event.

Old Time Christmas is held annually the first two full weekends of December. Admission is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children ages 3-12, with those under three admitted free. You will be outside part of the time so remember to dress warmly. Please no pets or smoking. Group of 12 or more with reservations, receive a discounted price any of the four days, when going out between 2:30pm through 3:30pm. Perfect for scout troops, church groups and large families that want to go together. It takes about an hour and a half to two hours to see all of Old Time Christmas. All funds raised support the farm museum and its educational programming.

For more information contact Quiet Valley at 570-992-6161, farm@quietvalley.org, or consult the website at www.quietvalley.org. Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, educational corporation dedicated to the preservation and presentation of 19th century agricultural history. Quiet Valley is located 3 ½ miles south of Stroudsburg, Pa. off of Business Route 209.



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