There's Magic At The Village

Christmas action is really "live" at the Acadian Village where mechanical figures work and play in a series of animated yuletide tableaux. Live, nightly entertainments, which include chorals presentations, nativity plays and special Santa programs performed by community groups, are part of the festival activities taking place this week at the Acadian Village.

"Christmas Comes Alive," "He's Magic at the Village" is presented by the Junior League of Lafayette and other fun-filled family entertainment for the holiday season. The show opened to Lafayette crowds on Dec. 7 and will continue through Sunday, Dec. 13. The hours of the show are 5 p.m., weekdays, 8 p.m., weekends.

Costumed elves and old-fashioned lamp posts guide visitors through an Acadian Village which has been transformed by hundreds of holiday lights, decorations and sounds into a Christmas fantasy land. The presence of Santa, himself, enhances the enjoyment of the occasion.

The perch of each historic house provides the setting for a life-like animated scene. As visitors wander through the Village and view the animation, a story of Christmas preparations and fulfillment unfolds. Industrious elves can be seen in a variety of activities -- trimming the elves Christmas Tree with handmade ornaments, sorting the mail at "Santa's Mailbox," making toys in "Santa's Workshop" and helping "Santa Checking His List." Then, of course, there is the joy of "Christmas Morning" where delighted children play with their toys. Imaginative sets form the backdrop for the moving figures in each tableau and enhance the magic of the scene.

Visitors have the opportunity to purchase unique Christmas gifts at the Village store which will be open throughout the event. Handmade items from the Mother's Club of the Lafayette Association of Retired Citizens and collector-type Christmas ornaments can be bought.

Tickets are $1 each and may be purchased at the gate or from any Junior League member. All proceeds from this event will go to support the community projects and programs sponsored by the Junior League.

Costumed elves guide visitors through "Christmas Comes Alive." Photos by P.C. Piazza

Carolers proclaim the joy of the season.