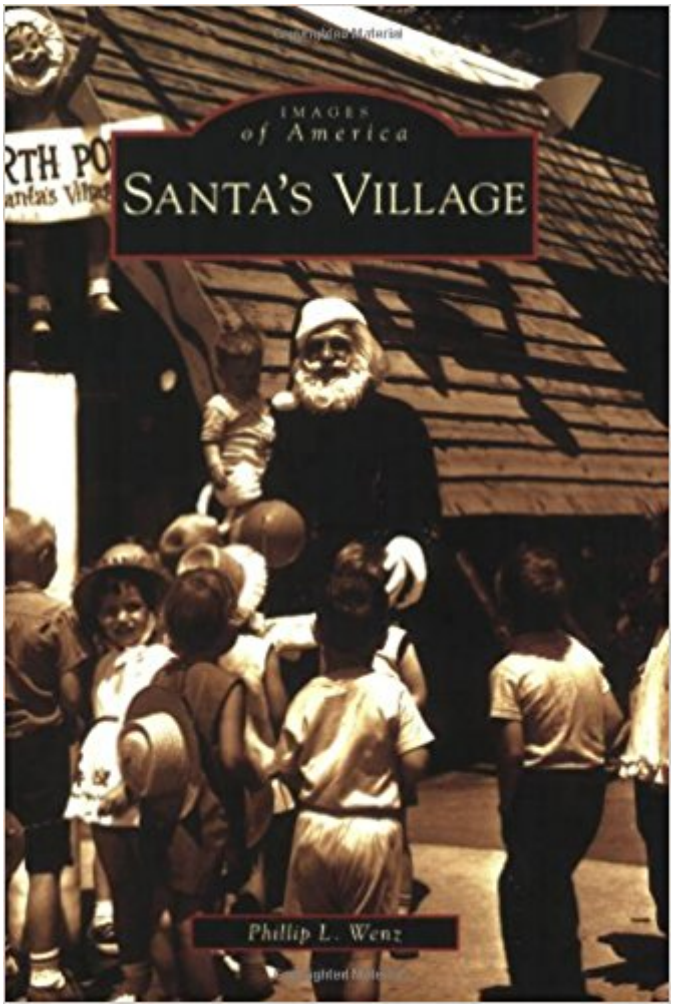
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Santa's Village (Images Of America: Illinois)



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Synopsis

Since 1959, SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Village in Dundee has entertained millions. The park was born of a man who as a child had no real Christmas. Glenn Holland grew up in California during the Great Depression. His parents died by the time he was 18 years old, leaving him to care for his younger sister. As a father, he tried to give his own children the type of Christmas that he only knew in his dreams. In the early 1950s, struck with inspiration, Holland sat at his kitchen table one day and started to sketch his idea for a Christmas fairyland where all the magic of the holiday would come to life: SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Village. Holland and general contractor Putnam Henck builtthree SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Villages, two in California and one in Dundee.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Phillip L. Wenz is the Dundee parkÃ¢â ¬â„¢s resident Santa Claus and official historian. Besides his duties at SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Village, Wenz has been seen in numerous televised parades and national holiday events. Utilizing his personal collection of pictures, memorabilia, and rare park photographs, readers can once again reminisce about the fun of SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Village throughout the years. It is all here, the Christmas Tree Ride, the twirling Snowballs, SantaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s House, and the Frozen North Pole.

If you grew up in Chicago during the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s (before the arrival of "Great America" caught on), you will want to read the history of this awesome landmark! AMAZING pictures that help

bring back a LOT of memories of this amusement park that entertain millions of families in the area. Made me miss the feel of a small amusement park.

As a former village employee I enjoyed all the pictures and Mr Wenz' s recollections. I didn't give five stars because I didn't think it was very well written. Any former employees or guests(of any of the three locations) would probably like the reminders of a magical time and place.

This book brings back so many wonderful memories of the Dundee Santa's Village!! The snowball ride to the Frozen ice pole at the North Pole! Love this book!

Very nicely done. Excellent photo selection throughout the book. The captions are very informative. Having been Santa at the park for many years, the author is an authority on Santa's Village and his expertise shines through.

I remember Santa's Village when I was growing up & wanted to bring back my childhood !!! Thanks for an enjoyable book !!!

I first heard about Santa's Village (near Santa Cruz) in the 1960's, from a children's magazine ("Highlights for Children"?), but - mom said it was too far too drive, so we never went there. We lived 1/2 hour from Disneyland, so of course I was (and remain) a monorail fan, and I never knew there was a Santa's Village much closer to us (Skyforest) with the same "BumbleBee" monorail ride as Scott's Valley.Unfortunately, this book is written by people from the Santa's Village in Dundee, IL., so there are no photos - or even mention of the BumbleBee, which I never got to see or ride. Other than that, it's a refreshing look at a bygone era; a simpler time, when Disney was NOT the only one with a vision of kids and parents having fun together.

This was a gift. I was told he loved it ;)

While this book was excellant in bringing back fond memories of the times I visited Santa's Village in Dundee in the 60's and 70's it was extremely disappointing to find not one single photograph in color. All the brightly colored shops and rides would have been such a joy to see again in all their splendor.

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