

Cloyne Arts and Crafts show another huge success

By Scott Pettigrew

EMC Lifestyles - Cloyne

The Cloyne Arts and Crafts Show is an amazing display of variety in the creative world of arts and crafts and there are surprises around every corner as you tour through the North Addington Education Centre.

This year, the show was organized by Ted Sparling who said that the people who set up to sell come from all over southern Ontario.

"We have approximately 80 exhibitors this year which is about average and each year there are those who drop out but they are quickly replaced by others who are on our waiting list. This year we have had a lot of compliments on the quality of the crafts which so early in the show pleases us. We have craft-

ers from the other side of Hamilton, Ottawa, Toronto and many others from distances. As far as those who attend the show as customers, we have a large number of Americans and people from Ottawa and Toronto and a lot of people who attend, plan their vacation around the show. We actually had people from Europe last year who heard about the show and came over to attend."

The Cloyne show is in the 39th year of having the arts and crafts exhibits and Ted has been running the show for the last two years.

"I have been very lucky when it comes to setting up the show and marking the spaces out; about 14 people showed up to help me out. The janitors at the school are incredible; they go out of their way to help

us out with whatever we need."

Ted said that after the show ends each year they start planning for the next year and they are always looking for people willing to help. The applications go out in January of each year and the exhibitors from this year have until April 1 to get their applications in and if there are blank spaces they go to the waiting list. This year they had 27 exhibitors on the waiting list and Ted said he was thankful because it helped fill in the empty spots.

As far as attendance numbers Ted figures that they see well over 2,000 people wander through the exhibit.

The Mazinaw Lake Swim Club use the exhibition each year as a fund raiser and have a barbeque, bake sale, and they supply all the food for the exhibitors and visitors. "They have home-made soups and sandwiches, salads and cakes and wonderful things that we shouldn't eat but we do anyway."

The entry fee is \$25 plus ten per cent of the sales.

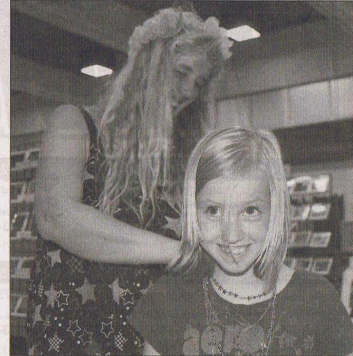
"The funds go to the arts department in the school and it helps them out because they don't get a lot from the government. On average we have been able to give them approximately \$5,000 which shows how good the overall sales are at over \$50,000 each year."

"It is wonderful to come here every year and after not seeing seen any of the other exhibitors for a year so you get lots of hugs and find out what people have been doing over the year. The camaraderie among exhibitors here is second to none," said Dee Hardy, who has been attending the show for over 15 years.

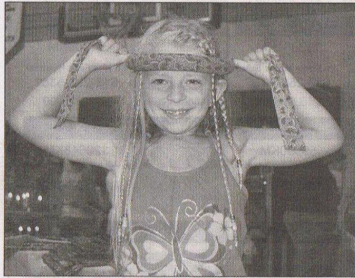
Jack Smalldon is a wood carver and is in his third year attending the show.

"The show is very well organized and there are lots of people that come through. I really enjoy watching the children play with the toys I have made."

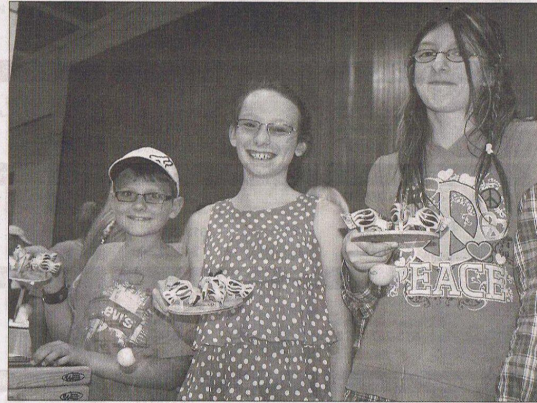
For information on next year's show contact Ted Sparling at 613-336-0995.



Dee Hardy has been an exhibitor at the Cloyne Arts and Crafts show for over 15 years and is seen here helping Norah Cunningham from Trenton with a necklace she said she liked. Photo: Scott Pettigrew



Emma Alea Toddle is from Brantford and is seen here trying one of the more interesting items; a "cooling scarf" at the Cloyne Arts and Crafts show. Photo: Scott Pettigrew



From left to right Rowan and Madi Lemke and Arissa Grant from Northbrook are seen here trying out a toy.