

1500 attend first Summerfest



Georgetown high school senior band members under the direction of leader Harry Hamilton entertained crowds awaiting the arrival of the dignitaries for the official opening ceremonies at the Fairgrounds Saturday.



Georgetown Little Theatre member Ron Hunt donned greasepaint and fancy sult and blew up balloons to entertain the younger set at Summerfest. Leanne Greenwood, Lisa Jacobs, and Suzanne Robertson received a sample of his wares Saturday afternoon in the Fairgrounds.

Perfect day for Halton Hills Arts Council Summerfest

Story and photos by

Maggie Hannah

Summerfest organizers are well satisfied with community response to the day-long program at the Fairgrounds Saturday. Although numbers were difficult to assess because of the area over which the crowd could scatter, it is estimated that 1,500 people attended the event.

"It was a perfect day," says Ralph Ursel of the organizing committee "and those who came seemed to be enjoying themselves. We learned a lot we can put to use for next year, like starting earlier and getting more publicity. A number of people we wanted to come were already booked for the day at something else before they found out about Summerfest. If we get the word out earlier next year maybe they'll be here."

No one had any expectations, says Brenda McNeil, another member of the organizing committee. It was a

first time for the joint effort by groups of the Halton Hills Art Council and no one knew what to expect. Although people were coming and going constantly the crowds seemed fairly constant in numbers. Gate receipts were estimated at \$800, she says.

Connie Karlson of the Credit Valley Artisans says members were pleased with the response to their work.

"Attendance could have been better, I suppose," Mrs. Karlson says, "but it was only the first year for this. I hear we made over \$250 and that's not counting commissions. We did okay."

Members of the Georgetown Little Theatre were "very pleased" with the response to their offering, *Love is Like a Summer Stream*. They put out 100 chairs for the show and people were standing for their second and third performances, says GLT member Pat Joyes.



Mayor Tom Hill was presented with a Summerfest T-shirt during the opening ceremonies for Summerfest Saturday afternoon.

Summerfest organizers have a number of unclaimed door prizes they want to give to their winners. Anyone holding a ticket stub from the following list is asked to write to the Halton Hills Arts Council, Box 7, Georgetown including their name, address, telephone number and ticket stub and the council will arrange for collection of their prize. Winning tickets are:

1135, 1359, 1386, 1015, 1367, 1387, 1069, 1682, 1686, 1058, 388, 982, 1179, 952, 1123, 472, 1278, 1997, 1334, 1672, 1576, 983, 1637, 58, 340, and 1567.



Joe Delgudice plays the caveman carrying off Kelly Crawford after he wins her acceptance with a ravishing fur coat. The antics of the cave couple interspersed acts in the GLT play *Love is Like a Summer Stream* produced for Summerfest. Watching the cave couple and their modern counterparts left one wondering just how far man has progressed over the centuries.



Halton MPP Julian Reed brought along his banjo and conducted a singalong during the opening ceremonies for Summerfest Saturday afternoon.



Phil Sykes was the star of the evening concert at Park school which ended the Summerfest activities Saturday. He was joined by winners from Georgetown high school's Folk VI festival and its organizer Jim Houghton.

Trial of Limehouse priest underway

The trial of a 56-year-old Georgetown area man who allegedly posed as a Roman Catholic priest in order to solicit funds began Monday in Milton with intimations that the authority of so-called renegade priests may become a central issue in the proceedings.

Wearing the black garb and clerical collar of the priesthood, Dennis Edward Scallen was brought before County Court Judge Alan Sprague and a jury of six men and six women. Halton regional police charged Scallen with three counts of fraud last June after searching a metal-sided industrial building near Limehouse where he allegedly ran a "convent" for teenage girls training to be nuns.

Inside the single-story shed police found an altar and the trappings of religious rituals similar to those seen in Roman Catholic churches.

Assistant Crown Attorney Larry Owen told the jury that Scallen defrauded two Brantford families of nearly \$4,000 by pretending to be a Roman Catholic priest whose church was about to be closed because of his inability to pay the rent.

Mr. Owen named three young women, two of them members of a defrauded Brantford family, who moved to the RRI, Limehouse convent with the intention of becoming Roman Catholic nuns. The Fifth Line shed became known locally as the residence of "the Benedictines of Mary Immaculate".

Owen introduced Father Harvey Roach of Hamilton, who worked with police on their six-month investigation of the "Benedictines", to provide background to the crown's allegations that Scallen is a renegade priest, legally ordained but, contrary to Catholic law upholding doctrines that have been abandoned by the church.

According to Owen, Scallen and his alleged victims, the William McDonald family, the Daniel Kennedy family and

John Tonelli, were among the Roman Catholics upset by the Vatican's decision early in the 1960's to update the mass format and to have the mass spoken in the native languages of countries, rather than Latin.

Owen said that when Scallen's initial attempts to join the priesthood in 1972 were frustrated, he took steps that resulted in his ordination by the Syro-Antiochian rite, which is not recognized as a legitimate part of the Roman Catholic church by the Vatican.

The ordination was reportedly performed by Bishop Joseph Rauber, a former Benedictine priest whose ties with official Catholicism were severed following the groundbreaking decisions of the second Vatican Council in 1965. Scallen opted to join the splinter group of which Bishop Joseph was a member after visiting an American woman referred to by Owen as Veronica, whose religious "visions" have failed to win Roman Catholic endorsement, according to Father Roach.

Owen said that Scallen claims to have communicated with the Virgin Mary through Veronica and was advised to seek entry into the priesthood via some alternative route.

When Scallen's prayers for a second sign to confirm the message went unanswered, Owen said, he assumed the advice was sound.

Mr. Owen suggested that Scallen was aware of the invalidity of his ordination early in 1975, when a monk friend of Scallen's wrote to him explaining that Bishop John holds no such authority within the proper church.

Nevertheless, the Limehouse shed where Scallen had lived and worked as an agricultural technician, became his convent during 1975. Owen said, after Theresa McDonald, 13, her sister Corretta, 16, and Patsy, 15, moved in to begin their training as nuns.

The arrival of the latter girl in August, 1976, followed Mr. Scallen's receipt of a donation

from her parents amounting to \$3,200 to cover his rental debts. Later that year, John Tonelli gave Scallen \$80 as an offering for a mass said for his deceased parents.

According to the crown, Scallen told the girls just before police searched the convent last June that he was anticipating their visit but would avoid legal trouble by refusing to admit he was a Roman Catholic priest.

Father Roach's preliminary testimony outlined the current structure of the church in comparison with its state since

the 16th century Ecumenical Council, which established the Latin-dominated Tridentine mass format.

In photographs taken by police at the Limehouse convent, Father Roach identified religious paraphernalia used at the altar by priests following the Tridentine format, abandoned by the Vatican in 1965. Parishioners who adhere to the old format, he said, are committing a sin of disobedience against the church.



TOGETHERNESS

Danian Hagger, left, 2, and Jenna Hagger, tried out a hammock at the Rotary Club Auction Monday night. Items offered for sale ranged from radios to dishes to trees to furniture.

Ratepayers group to form June 21 in Georgetown

A ratepayers association is to form in Georgetown.

"The reason is fairly apparent," Lawrence Duggan of Stockman Crescent told Halton Hills council Monday. A need for feedback into the political process other than that of councillors' was needed, he said.

As spokesman for the 12-member steering committee which is trying to set up the ratepayers association, Mr. Duggan said the group's objective is to foster and encourage a continuing interest in municipal affairs.

"The group will contribute to the maintenance of the community, maintain a non-political, non-partisan position and try to influence council to build a town for all the citizens," he said.

"We'd try to act as a forum for issues as they develop," he said.

"The main concern is that a number of our people have felt that sometimes we need more information," he said.

Asked if the press was not informing the public, Mr. Duggan replied that the press

is doing a job for a specific purpose. "... and the citizens do too."

As a gesture of support Halton Hills council proclaimed June 15 to 21 as Ratepayers Days in Halton Hills.

A public meeting will be held June 21 at Howard Wrigglesworth school and once the association is established, it wants access to planning board agendas and attendance by town staff at ratepayers meetings, Mr. Duggan said.

Coun. Roy Booth said that the provincial government is aiming at one tier government.

"Your group may be a step in that direction," he warned. If the provincial government felt that local council was taking direction from a ratepayers association, they might think that local government was not necessary, Mr. Booth added.

Coun. Les Doby complimented the people for the interest shown in municipal affairs. "But one problem in an amalgamated community is that other groups may form. Council is having problems enough dealing with pressure groups."



Sylvia Graham and Luc Bertrand were busy over the barbeque getting hamburgers ready for hungry Summerfest crowds Saturday afternoon. The food concession was operated by St. Alban's church, Glen Williams.