

Acton's Santa soars as children cheer



While some shepherds watched their flocks by night, others like these two in Acton Saturday, took part in the annual Santa Claus parade. Wet weather couldn't dampen the spirits of residents and parade participants. Everyone enjoyed themselves, but probably not as much as jolly old St. Nick, who said that Acton is where he does lots of his own Christmas shopping, buying leather boots and jackets for Mrs. Claus and the elves back up in the North Pole.



Santa Claus returned to Halton Hills Saturday afternoon and among the participants on hand to welcome him as he marched down Acton's Mill Street were the Georgetown Legion Branch 129 Pipe Band. There were eleven floats in this year's event, which attracted youngsters from well beyond Acton's boundaries, many coming from Georgetown for a second glimpse at the jolly fellow who visited that community a week earlier. Now it's a matter of wait and see for the youngsters as Santa spends the next three weeks toy building in the workshop. After the parade, Acton High students managed to raise about \$200 with their bazaar for 'The Mug' coffee house; that's their space shuttle flying overhead, named best float in the parade.



From somewhere in the lofty heights of a float in the Acton Santa Claus parade Saturday, this cherub could get a good glimpse of the approaching St. Nick himself. This year's parade was one of the more colorful ones in years, featuring eleven floats. The youngster in the float above was part of the St. Alban's (Acton) carollers' entry.

*Herald photos
by Dave Rowney*

Good things come in small packages, and even better things come in packages that are gift-wrapped and ready for the Christmas tree. These gaily garbed youngsters participated in the Acton Santa Claus parade Saturday.



With his reindeer taking a break on the back of the Lions Club float, Santa hitched a ride in the Acton Santa Claus parade with Bert Robertson, who appeared in last week's Georgetown Santa parade. Following the Acton event, a number of participants retreated to the Acton Fire Hall or the bazaar to raise money for 'The Mug' coffee house in the community centre.



Returning us briefly to those grand early autumn days of the Acton Fall Fair, 1981 fair queen Cindy McGilloway (right) and princess Kymm Laklo joined the Santa Claus parade entourage in Acton Saturday afternoon. The best float overall in the parade was created by the students of Robert Middle School.



If there were dozens of youngsters in the parade, there were hundreds more watching enthusiastically, like these fellows. Acton's Santa Claus parade began at McKenzie-Smith Middle School and wound its way into downtown Acton through Mill Street, never having any problem attracting a crowd.

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Christmas present meets gift wrapping at the Acton Santa Claus parade Saturday. Costuming like this is probably a good reminder that shopping days are rapidly dwindling before the big event. Meanwhile, Santa left Acton with another armful of Christmas lists to work on and a handful of promises that he and his reindeer will be well looked after everytime they visit another home.

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