

ACTON Fall Fair

Ted Tyler and Mike Hedley photos



Homecraft exhibits are a highlight of the Fair

By Mike Hedley

This year's Fall Fair had over 2,200 entries in the Homecraft exhibits which includes everything from baked goods, knitted and crocheted goods, quilting, photography, antiques and of course vegetables and flowers and plant exhibits.

According to Kathryn Lynch, co-ordinator for this year's Homecrafts Exhibits, it took over 100 volunteers and over 20 students earning community service hours, to setup the display boards and shelves, register exhibitors and prepare the tickets, and then judge the exhibits.

Many of the volunteers are Fair Board or Junior Fair Board members, but quite a few are friends or family of Fair Board

members who volunteer to keep the Acton Fall Fair alive and a tradition in Acton.

Exhibitors can earn the honour of winning a prize ribbon, cash prizes for first, second or third place and best of show in the many exhibit categories.

A couple of exhibitors explain why they enjoy entering the Homecraft exhibits and encourage others to enter and enjoy the fun of Fall Fair.

Sue Bennett of Acton, has been entering the Root Vegetables and Preserves categories for three years. This year she had 18 entries and won 15 ribbons, five first place, seven second place and three third place for her organic vegetable, canned beets and salsa entries, and a 'best in show'

prize for her Swiss Chard entry.

Sue says she found the Fair staff extremely helpful, providing guidance for which categories to select for her entries, and helping setup her vegetable displays. She particularly wants to thank Mary Walsma for her help and encouragement. She really enjoys entering the Homecraft exhibits and uses her prize money 'to perpetuate the garden for next year'. She can't wait for next year's fair.

Bev Badley, a long time Acton resident, has been entering the Homecrafts exhibits for the past four years. She knits all year long, preparing Premie Hats and pneumonia vests which go to the local hospitals, and prayer shawls. Bev says 'it's not the prize money, but the ribbons' which encourages her to enter the Fall

Fair exhibits and she's pleased the hats and vest go to the local hospitals and church. Bev entered in four categories and won ribbons in all four.

She also says she's "really pleased to see many younger people entering the Homecrafts exhibits" and "helping out as volunteers" at the Fair to keep the Fair going. Bev especially wants to thank Trish Somerville, Marg Aitken and Katherine Brown from Knox Presbyterian Church for their volunteer participation in the Homecrafts exhibitors building.

The exhibits, events and fairgrounds setup itself takes many volunteers and hundreds of hours to pull off the Acton Fall Fair and this year's volunteers did an amazing job making this year's fair a fun and wonderful event.