

Turkey Fair bigger than ever!

BY SALLY SMID

The attendance at the Turkey Fair in Lyndhurst was proclaimed to be bigger than ever this year, which would mean that there were perhaps more than 7000 visitors. Maybe it was due to the perfect weather or maybe because of the growing reputation of this amazing event. Patrons included faithful attendees as well as those who visited for the first time and many from great distances. The car show had the largest registrations this year and there was a variety of music, vendors and food items that lined the main and side streets. In celebration of Canada 150 there were painted

canoe paddles on display throughout the village. An important highlight was the inclusion of an amazing local history undertaking. Lyndhurst, formerly known as Furnace Falls, was once home to an Iron Works.

Historian Art Shaw was available with a display which included a large artifact that was recently discovered in an archaeological dig. The picturesque waterfront area was very busy with Voyageur Canoes, skiff rowing, hunter retriever demonstrations and more. Many visitors commented that they come especially for the music which included everything from country to blue grass to rock and more.

The free bus was helpful in many ways as parking stretched for about a kilometre in either direction of the village and the wagon and helicopter rides were popular as well.

The event is noted for the "Turkey Tracks" which involved having a ballot stamped at 6 locations in order to be eligible for a VIA Rail Prize.

This year's winner was Arianna Tedford. The 50/50 draw winner was Jason O'Quinn winning a prize of \$1489.50.

The quilt draw was won by David Wing. The Children's Draw winners were Zak Kirkby, a \$25 first prize, Iris Giannakouras, winner of the \$15 second prize and Emma Brophy who won a \$10 third prize.

Of course there were free children's rides and games, a petting zoo with pony rides, Bry Magic, paintball, and Ray's Reptiles. There was a huge quilt exhibit in St. Luke's Church near the new site for the Thrift Shop which donates proceeds to the needs of the local community.

And what would a Turkey Fair be without live turkeys who were the focus of the "turkey calling contest" or the sold out turkey soup lunch provided by the United Church? Organizer Martha Harvey was



Kirk Francois as Elvis brings home a rendition of Sweet Caroline at the recent Lyndhurst Turkey Fair.



The 1000 Island Quilters displayed an extraordinary collection of quilts at this year's Turkey Fair. Photos: Sally Smid

thankful to all participants. "Volunteers worked tirelessly to plan and prepare including those who came to physically make it happen and then take it

all away," Harvey commented. "Seeing so many people come to enjoy the fair and having our village seen and loved by so many is a great reward!"

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