

AMISH ACRES
Historic Farm & Heritage Resort
Nappanee, Indiana
Arts & Crafts Festival

Press contact
Becky Cappert
Amish Acres, LLC
1600 West Market Street
Nappanee, IN 46550
(574) 773-4188
BeckyCappert@AmishAcres.com
www.AmishAcres.com

The 54th Arts & Crafts Festival is “Crazy for Art”

NAPPANEE, Indiana, - July 05, 2016 – Nearly 300 booths from 30 states and 200 cities will be converging for the 54th consecutive Amish Acres Arts & Crafts Festival. The festival continues to garner national recognition. For the eighth time in ten years, Amish Acres has been selected by the American Bus Association (ABA) as a TOP 100 event in North



America. In addition, the festival was recently recognized by "The Culture Trip", a London based website highlighting events from around the world, as one of Indiana's 10 Summer Events and Festivals “You Shouldn't Miss”, solidifying the festival’s standing in the top echelon of America’s festivals dedicated to the creative arts. The event opens on Thursday, August 4 and continues through Sunday, August 7.

From North Dakota to Louisiana and California to New York, art truly does make the world of Amish Acres go round during the Arts & Crafts Festival as artists and craftsmen ply their trade and sell their wares around the historic farm’s pond. From its modest beginnings in front of the Pletcher Furniture Village, the event grew until it eventually filled the streets and alleys and remained downtown for seven years before moving to Amish Acres Historic Farm. The festival’s iconic gazebo has moved locations six times over the decades to accommodate the ever growing marketplace. Now 54 years later, Richard Pletcher who founded the event, and his family continue to produce the festival.

Among the freshman class, Susan Toney of nearby Fort Wayne, Indiana, brings her wheel thrown pottery to the marketplace. Brett and Cindy DeWall of Grand Meadow, Minnesota, introduces DeWall Brothers Metal Creations; garden art made from different styles and colors of metal spoons. Cynthia Diamond from just down the road in South Bend creates quilts, wall art, pillows, bags, aprons and more. From Kansas City, MO, Randy Spangler introduces Whimsical Fantasy featuring his original drawings.

Bringing back some southern charm, Linda Tong, creates stunning pieces such as boxes, statues, plates, and hair pins from polished lacquered wood. WaaDee Hudson of Sherman Texas returns with his Five Star Creations/Southwest Pepper Grillers, and from neighboring Kentucky, Loreda Reinhart brings her braided rugs for the 15th year.

Area artists include Matt Williams of Warsaw whose photographs include Indiana State Parks. Rebecca Haverstock of Rolling Prairie returns for her 20th year with Never Enough Time. Rebecca creates primitive folk art with birdhouses, garden stakes, and other seasonal items, and from South Bend, Indiana comes Julie Jerzak and Linda Bennet. Ms. Jerzak brings her rustic country décor with Crafts from the Country and Ms. Bennet returns for her 29th year with original oil paintings.

For the 27th year, Joanne and John Foley make their way to the festival from Montour, Iowa with hand-crafted wood jigsaw puzzles. Delores Quint has been exhibiting for 35 years; she is part of three generations making hand painted Pennsylvania Dutch Hex Signs. Vincent Fleming of Alton, Illinois is back with distinct oil paintings for the 28th year. And celebrating a quarter century at the festival, Pam Wayne Shaeffer of West Bend, Wisconsin will be personalizing her hand-made Christmas ornaments.

Renowned watercolor artists Lu Fuller of Maysville, Kentucky and Kim Foster from Fenton, Missouri return. Lu received “Best of Show” in 2012 for her transparent and opaque watercolor paintings of landscapes and florals, and Kim received “Best of Market Place”, the most popular booth award, for her custom water colorings of architecture, landscapes and nature.

The Nappanee Countryside Shoppes Pavilion showcases handmade goods representing over 250 cottage industries surrounding Nappanee, many owned by Amish and Mennonite families.

The pavilion, which doubled in size in a single year, now features Rentown Store and Homestyle Furniture.

Festival hours are Thursday-Saturday (August 4-August 6) 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday (August 7) from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission price is \$7.00 for adults; \$6.00 for seniors, , and youth ages 12-17; active military personnel and children under age 12 are free. Parking is also free. No pets are allowed on the festival grounds. Amish Acres is located at 1600 West Market Street, (U.S. 6), one mile west of downtown Nappanee. For more information, call 800-800-4942 or visit online at www.amishacres.com.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Richard Pletcher, founder and CEO, is available for interview. Coverage invited. CONTACT: Becky Cappert of Amish Acres, (574) 773-4188 ext. 213, or BeckyCappert@AmishAcres.com.