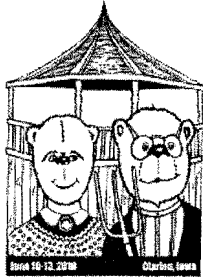


TEDDY BEAR REUNION



2010 logo by Denis Shaw

Heartland Happenings

March 2010 Newsletter
Teddy Bear Reunion in the Heartland
PO Box 382 • Clarion, IA 50525
www.teddybear.clarion-iowa.com
email: TBRH2010@yahoo.com

FROM THE COMMITTEE: The Festival in the Park committee is busy getting ready for a special event for our community and our returning Teddy bear friends. A large number of volunteers are working to set up the pancake breakfast, the parade and entertainment in the park. We have planned a juried craft show and vendors have been told they cannot sell bears or bear making supplies. Musical entertainment has been arranged from noon through the evening hours.

Our community is anxious to have you return to enjoy a weekend of reunions with old and new friends. Phone calls and emails are coming in daily from people interested in the Teddy Bear Reunion. The registrar reports that we have participants so far from 26 states and five foreign countries.

The community enhancement committee is already at work planning to make our community look its best for your arrival. With over 50 inches of snow this winter there is concern that there might still be snow piles in June. If so, this committee will put flower pots on top.

The school board has devised an ingenious way to make up eleven missed days due to bad weather and the students will be out of school a week before you arrive. It's going so fast. In less than four months we will all be together.

Travel plans...

Clarion's Travel Connection is the official travel agency of TBRH2010. Please note that they charge a booking fee for their services. Their telephone number is 515-532-6691. Please call them regarding travel arrangements only. They do not have any information about the festival itself.

They are arranging the bus transportation from the Des Moines Airport to Clarion on June 10 and the return trip on Monday, June 14. You may make your own flight arrangements and still ride the bus. You will need to arrange the bus transportation through The Travel Connection. If your flight arrives on Thursday by 3 or 3:30 p.m you can probably make the bus to Clarion which will leave the airport about 4:00. The return trip on Monday will be EARLY morning. It takes about three hours to get to Des Moines and clear security. The bus will leave Clarion four hours before the first conventioneer's return flight. If you are making your own arrangements, book a morning return flight to avoid hours of sitting at the airport.

PLEASE NOTE: If you checked the need for bus transportation on the housing form, you still need to contact the Travel Connection directly to make your bus reservation by MAY 1. Phone 515-532-6691. The Des Moines airport is small and has been known to run out of rental cars. Book early.

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Steve Schutt, Clarion's resident Teddy bear artist has been organizing and scheduling the full day of workshops planned for Friday, June 11. Four types will be offered. **Lecture/demonstration workshops** cover a wide range of topics. The presenters will share information and allow time for questions and answers in these moderate sized classes. **Historical workshops** are designed for the needs of our vintage bear collectors and anyone curious about the history of the artist Teddy bear movement. These workshops are very popular and draw large crowds. **Panel discussion workshops** combine several experts from a defined Teddy bear field (example: miniature bear artists) who will share tips and answer audience questions. The final group of workshops we call "**Make 'N' Take**" workshops. Participants actually make something in the class and must pre-register and pay the required fee that covers the presenter's expenses and class supplies.

THE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE WILL BE PLACED ON THE WEBSITE ON MARCH 15.

<http://teddybear.clarion-iowa.com>. All conventioners will be able to access the schedule at the same time to give everyone a fair chance to get the Make 'N' Take workshop/s of their choice. **Click on the workshop tab and follow the directions.**

Note that there are four workshop periods. The lecture, historical and panel discussion workshops are generally one period in length. The Make 'N' Take workshops may use one, two or four periods. The complete workshop schedule will be posted to help you plan your activities on workshop day.

<http://teddybear.clarion-iowa.com>

The website is the one thing that has sort of fallen by the wayside in preparation for the Reunion. Artists who sent digital photos to TBRH2010@yahoo.com have had them uploaded to the website. (Click on auction pieces) The remaining auction pieces will be photographed in March and uploaded to the website. Workshop registration will be through the website and will be available on March 15.

Still room for collectors...

There is still room for about 100 collectors for TBRH 2010. Help us spread the word so that others can enjoy the excitement of this unique Teddy bear collecting adventure. If you need registration forms or other information, contact the committee at TBRH2010@yahoo.com or send a letter to TBRH2010, PO Box 382, Clarion, IA 50525.

ATTENTION BOYDS BEAR LOVERS

Circle Sunday, June 13 on your calendar and head to the Heartland Museum to attend their SEVENTH CELEBRATION OF BOYDS event. The Museum's Celebration Committee has rearranged the format for this event to allow visitors ample time to also take in the Teddy Bear Reunion in the Heartland's salesroom and displays.

Gretta Bauman, director of the event explains, "This event will be open from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Three certified Boyds dealers will be showcasing current inventory. Secondary market dealers will be on hand selling retired and first edition pieces for those collectors looking for items to complete their collections. Several area collectors will also be on hand selling and trading their duplicate pieces."

The celebration committee is excited to announce that David Miller will be one of the people on hand to sign your purchases. You are also encouraged to bring a favorite piece from home to have signed as well. Local Teddy bear artist and part time Boyds designer Steve Schutt will also be on hand to sign Boyds bears made with his designs. The Heartland Museum has several of Steve's designs for sale in their gift shop.

Boyds/Enesco will be setting up a display of their 2010 Fall line. There will two or three programs for the public with Dave talking about the new products. The first program is scheduled for 11 a.m. Of course, there will be door prizes as in the past, generously donated by Boyds/Enesco.

The Heartland Museum was recently given a huge Boyds collection. The collection's former owner is downsizing. Yet to be opened, the over thirty moving boxes will be put out for sale.

Come browse the salesroom, check out the fall collection and door prizes, meet David Miller and Steve Schutt who will both be happy to sign your event purchases or a favorite item you might want to bring from home.

Spectacular Artist Teddy Bear Event

This is the public's hands down favorite event of the weekend. Each artist selling in the Artist Teddy Bear Sales Room provides one of their most spectacular Teddy bears for the display. Many of the pieces are offered for sale, while special sentimental favorites on display could not be purchased for any price. TBRH conventioners are given an early bird viewing of the display on Friday afternoon. It is a lively time as most of the available displays are sold. But the buyer has to wait until Sunday evening to pick up his/her treasure. The bears remain on display the entire weekend.

Housing...

The housing committee has nearly everyone housed who has returned the housing form. If you have not received the name of a host family, please let us know. If you indicated that you would make your own hotel/motel or B&B arrangements, we assume you have done so. Anyone who still needs housing should download a housing form from the registration tab at <http://teddybear.clarion-iowa.com> and send it immediately to PO Box 382, Clarion, IA 50525. We will find a host family for you.

Free bear appraisals

Four of America's top Teddy bear authorities will be on hand to appraise and identify vintage Teddy bears. Dottie Ayers and Barbara Lauver will be traveling from the East to be at the event and John Paul Port and Lisa Vought will travel in from the West. More information will be given in a future newsletter and/or the convention program book.

Colonel Mustard, in the Conservatory

We are pleased to announce that the famed Teddy bear murder mystery author John J. Lamb will be investigating all the fun at the TBRH2010. He will join us for the full convention venue. You can catch him at the Friday evening "Authors' Signing Party" and off and on in the showroom on Saturday and Sunday. Be sure to bring your copies of his books to have signed, or add more titles to your collection while you are here.

A new addition to the Author's Signing Party for 2010 is the Swap and Sell. If you have Teddy bear magazines and books that you want to trade or sell, bring them along. There will be a couple tables set up so you can pass them along to new readers. Just remember, you are responsible for bringing them to the convention and also for taking them home if they do not swap or sell.

Charity Bear Raffle

The Charity Bear Raffle (formerly the Galaxy of Bears) was a big hit at both our 2000 and 2005 TBRH events. It will take place on Friday after the evening meal and the Authors' Autographing Party, but before the Auction Preview and the Charity Auction. If you snooze, you lose on this fast moving event. It never lasts more than fifteen minutes. This event offers collectors alternative ways to help raise funds to benefit the Teddy Bear Reunion's charities and a chance to get a new Teddy for an unbelievable price.

Collectors can help in two ways. Do you have a bear or two (or more) that no longer fit in your hug and need a new home? Donate them to this event. Or if you love bears but the auction bears are a little out of your price range, get in line and you will be taking a bear or two home with you for unbelievable prices.

Check over your hug for possible relocation candidates. If you want to ship your donations to Clarion for this event, please send them to PO Box 382, Clarion, IA 50525 or ship them to Wright County Monitor, 107 2nd Avenue NE, Clarion, IA 50525. Please mark the outer box clearly--Charity Bear Raffle and make sure they arrive by May 15th.

Friday's Charity Auction

Registrants are in for a treat! The artists contributing to the auction have produced outstanding pieces. Each work is created around the theme: Holidays and Celebrations.

Artists have been asked to stand with their pieces from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. on Friday, June 11. This will give you a photo opportunity and a chance to speak with the artists.

Photos of some of the auction pieces can be seen at <http://teddybear.clarion-iowa.com>. More photos will be uploaded as photos become available. Click on the photo to see a larger picture.