

Apsley Artisans Christmas Market

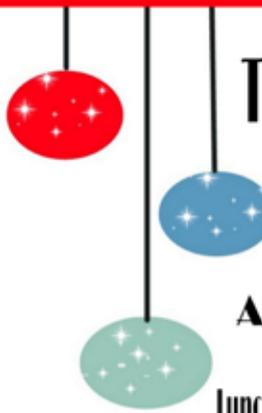
by Rachel Conlin

Each autumn my husband and I like to go for a drive and visit another town. We play at being tourists for the day, checking out quaint shops, taking a scenic walk and having lunch in a local establishment. It's always an enjoyable day. I often find it inspiring too. I pay attention to what's selling, who's buying and all the little details. Although each year we notice the same unfortunate, repetitive pattern ... different town, same pattern. But on this year's excursion, the pattern was much more predominant. Perhaps, it was because the town was that much more 'touristy'. The pattern is ... *what* is being sold. We drifted in and out of a dozen little shops, many of them side by side and yet they were all selling the same items. All were displayed in wonderful settings that made you wish your home looked like that. Many items had maple leaves on them, or "Canada". Many depicted the traditional black and red plaid we associate with a cold Canadian winter. And yet these same items, made in India and China not Canada, are available in Walmart, Costco and a *jillion* places online. It came down to how the item was displayed. But that was it, no story, no personal touch, just something that was mass produced in a far-away country. It is difficult in most shops to find items that were local, let alone Canadian.

Enter: *The Apsley Artisans Christmas Market*

This is the kind of quaint, local, touristy place that we would love to see on our outings. The Apsley Artisans Christmas Market is like a combination of little shops all under one roof for one special day. The hall is decorated for Christmas and each vendor makes their table inviting, displaying items that they, themselves have created. If you wish, just ask, and there will be a story on how it was made. They can tell you the care and thought that they used making the item. Below is a list of the Artisans. Keep in mind that words alone cannot describe the quality of these wares.

- Rachel Charlebois, Metal Art; ArcNSawCanada on 
- Sandra Grant; Sewing & Knitting
- David Smith, www.DavidMSmithCreative.ca; Painting
- Susan Rankin, www.SusanRankin.com, Glass Art
- Lisa Mace, www.LisaMace.com; Painting
- Cathy Pennaertz, Pottery; Tallan Creek Pottery on 
- Sandy McQuat; Folk Art
- Brenda Drennan; Folk Art
- Bet Pitts; Scrubbies and such
- Crystal & Joanne Lowe; Sewing
- Lois Lane & Juanita M.; Painting on Wood
- Connie H.; Dried Flowers, Preserves, Jams & Jellies
- Shirley Shaver; Preserves, Jams & Jellies
- Jane Sanderson; Chocolates
- Rachel Conlin, Irish Hills Farm, IrishHillsFarmApsley.com; Baking, Lamb, Wool, Maple Syrup
- Janet McCann; Baking, Wool Socks, Preserves
- Debbie Robinson, Apsley Country Bakery, www.apsleycountrybakery.weebly.com; Luncheon Host



**The Apsley Artisans
Christmas Market**
Nov 17, 2018
At The Legion Hall
9am to 4pm
Luncheon hosted by Apsley Country Bakery

Locally Crafted Artisans work.... Elown Glass, Metal Art, Chocolate, Paintings, Folk Art, Pottery, Sewing, Knitting, Baking, Preserves, and Irish Hill Farms

The Apsley Artisans Christmas Market is set for Saturday, November 17th, 9am to 4pm at the Legion Hall in Apsley. It is the place to enjoy a refreshing change from the 'pattern', purchase locally made goods, eat local and *be inspired!*

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