



Filled with a wide variety of treasures, the Maumee Antique Mall offers nearly three acres of floor space to explore. Pictured is a Coney Island Tunnel of Love roller coaster car, circa 1915.

MIRROR PHOTO BY LAURA KILISCH



Displayed is a section of the large collection of neon signs and other bar necessities available for the beer, sports and car lovers.

# Maumee Antique Mall Celebrates Its First Anniversary

BY LAURA KILISCH  
MIRROR REPORTER

Coming off a recent celebration of the Maumee Antique Mall's first anniversary, managing partner Carl Schmidt admits that the response over the past 14 months has been even better than he first anticipated.

Since the mall's opening in November 2004, countless antique collectors from all over the map have chosen to "Come spend the day the old-fashioned way," which happens to be the antique mall's slogan.

"Business is better than we expected it to be," Schmidt said. "We have seen mostly people from the tri-state area, but we have had visitors from both coasts as well."

Crediting the Maumee Antique Mall's billboard on the Ohio Turnpike for much of its business success, Schmidt says the mall has done a large amount of advertising that has proven to be very worthwhile.



Located at 1552 South Reynolds Rd., the Maumee Antique Mall first opened its doors in November 2004. Managing partner Carl Schmidt credits the mall's location, along with advertising efforts, as the main reasons for the success of the business.

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"In less than a year, we filled the place," Schmidt said. "We started with 40 dealers, and have now grown to over 400 dealers."

Schmidt explains that the

large size of the mall, paired with its location, are definite factors in its popularity.

"Many people like our facility because it is over two and three-quarters acres under a roof on one floor," he said.

With the majority of the mall's clientele between the ages of 40 and 70, Schmidt said the one-floor aspect has proven to be important.

Also catering to the customers' needs is an eat-in delicatessen and TV lounge, which provides visitors with an opportunity to re-energize before getting back to their browsing.

"It usually takes people

four to six hours to go through here," Schmidt explained.

The idea for the antique mall came about when Schmidt's fellow 1960 Libbey High School graduate Bob Mix bought the 120,000-square-foot building adjacent to the Maumee Sportsmall, which Mix already owned.

"Bob bought the property for parking for the Sportsmall," Schmidt said. "But he couldn't think of anything to do with the building."

After some deliberation, Schmidt came up with the idea to turn it into an antique mall.

dealers are always bringing in new things daily, too."

The Maumee Antique Mall also offers a bargain section in the rear of the store, designed especially for the do-it-yourselfer not afraid of a little refinishing or gluing.

Even with all of the growth the mall has experienced, there is plenty of room for new dealers.

Schmidt indicated the partners are always looking for high-end, good quality dealers both for the showcases and the booths.

In the "Buy My Antique Program," the Maumee Antique Mall is willing to sell any item approved by management for a fee of \$10.00 for showcase items and \$15.00 for large items.

Professionally equipped to handle related specialty shows of all types and sizes as well, including auctions, estate sales and charitable fund-raising functions, the Maumee Antique Mall is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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