

OHIO

**June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, Spring Garden Fair, Wooster, OH.** Contact: Ginna or Dulcie 2810 Armstrong Rd. Wooster, Oh 44691. Email: [qcest@bright.net](mailto:qcest@bright.net). Website: <http://www.quailcrest.com/>. Space fee: \$100. Exhibitors: 50. Hours: 10-5p both days. Admission: \$2 for Boy Scout assisted parking

**By Kristina Malcolm**

Ohio Reporter

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Medium: Silversmithing

My show season was off to a great start at Quailcrest this past June. The weather cooperated and the sun was shining both days of the show despite a minor downpour during set up on Sunday. Temperatures that were in the mid-70s inspired gardeners to travel to Wooster with their checkbook in hand. And with the shows newly expanded primitives and antique selections; there was surely something for everyone.

Not all of the vendors were excited by the expansion. Fairy Gardens and primitives definitely have a place at a garden themed show but many noted that the antiques were not cohesive and trivialized the overall look of the show. I heard the term "flea market" tossed around a few times.

Most vendors I spoke to were having good sales. A copper yard art vendor beside me packed up Sunday morning because they sold out on Saturday and could not replace the stock overnight. On the other side of me, a steel yard art sculptor returned home with approximately 15% of the stock he set up with. Personally, I have been doing this show for eight years and this year, I had the most retail sales ever. Of course, there are always a few that are unhappy with their sales and I did notice a significant amount of artists that did not return although overall vendor numbers were up. Also, most artists would say it's normal to have lower sales on Sunday but this show is historically extreme with Sunday retail sales totaling less than a third of total sales.

I have been writing about this show for over three years and always find it a pleasant experience. The easy setup (available Friday) and tear down together with the beautiful grounds and great customers makes scheduling this spring show easy. With community tent spaces available and drive-up accessibility to spaces in the yard, this show is as easy as outdoor shows come. If you have nature themed or garden related artwork, the place to be the second weekend in June is Quailcrest Farms in Wooster, Ohio.