

# PLANO MAN COLLECTS VINTAGE TOY STASH

By Shawn Floyd

Staff Writer

Some people might say Cason Pilliod is reliving his childhood.

Then too, there's the possibility that he never left it since he has collected approximately 2,000 action figures; down from the 4,000 he once had but has since sold.

He has so many action figures that the sheer numbers have earned him a spot in the eBay passionate collector of the month category.

His wife, Tonia Pilliod, tells him they need a bigger house to accommodate his hobby.

He says she's hardly one to talk.

"She collects action figures too," said Cason Pilliod. "She also helps me with my collection."

"So there should be no flack. If that were the case, we'd both be hypocrites."

“

Nobody knows what I have but me. And nobody knows what to get me.

”

Even so, the tendency for Pilliod to collect comes from another family member.

"I get this from my mom," said Pilliod. "She collects the blue and white Delft pattern from Holland. She also has thousands of cookbooks she collects. It's in the genes."

All these family members may have their own collections but no way can they keep pace with Pilliod.

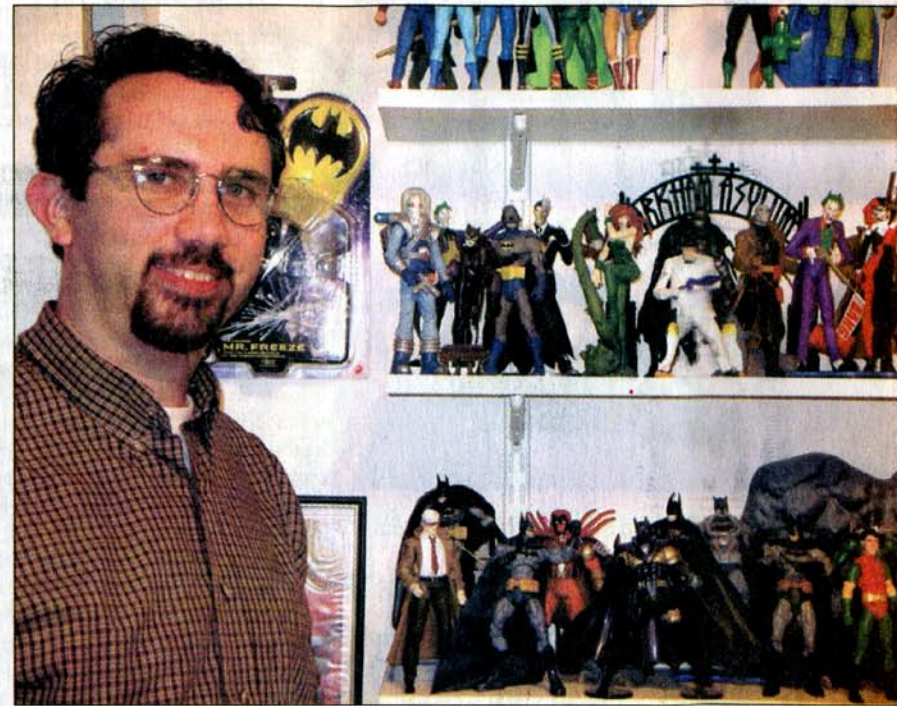
"Nobody knows what I have but me," he said. "And nobody knows what to get me. They get me other stuff such as clothes and DVDs."

Sometimes he buys action figures for others such as his nephew. Other times he buys them for himself. Over the Christmas holidays he bought the new Justice League series at Target.

Officially he's been collecting action figures way before he started buying and selling on eBay in 1998.

"When I was a kid I remember having a dream of living in a giant toy

See PLANO, Page 7A



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Cason Pilliod with just a few of his action figure collection.

# PLANO MAN COLLECTS VINTAGE TOY STASH

Continued from Page 1A

store," said Pilliod.

Even though he's not about to hazard a guess as to how much money has been spent, he did give one small hint.

"I can't count that high," he said. "I've done it all my life if that's a help."

Right now he works as a graph-

ic artist laying out newsletters and publications for an association of utility contractors.

When he's not at work he's seeing to his action figure collection. And that means any number of things, including making new ones.

"It's called customizing," he said. "We make our own from

other parts. It's a time-consuming hobby like making model planes and cars. But in this case we can't buy a kit so it's even more intricate.

If he could change anything about the hobby it would be to have manufacturers listen to what consumers want.

"Retailers and manufacturers

think that little boys won't want action figures of girls but they do," said Pilliod. "And then it creates a shortage of that one character and nobody can get it and they're out of luck."

Contact staff writer Shawn Floyd at 972-398-4267 or [Shawn.Floyd@scentx.com](mailto:Shawn.Floyd@scentx.com).