

# Former Dallas resident Henry Schiowitz sculpted Jewelcor's centerpiece

By SARA J. LUNDBERG  
Managing Editor

Driving by Jewelcor in Wilkes-Barre it would be almost impossible not to notice the large bronze sculpture of a Curvex watch outside the company's headquarters. The 16 foot high watch is the creation of former Dallas resident Henry Schiowitz, and the piece is currently the subject of a Jewelcor photo contest.

Henry Schiowitz donated an entire year to the creation and construction of the expansive bronze watch which marks Jewelcor's headquarters. Schiowitz heard about the project two years ago from an executive at Jewelcor to whom he had sold some art work.

Schiowitz approached Jewelcor executives and asked for a chance to construct a rendition of the sculpture. Jewelcor executives liked his model and commissioned Henry for the piece, according to his mother Rosemary Schiowitz.

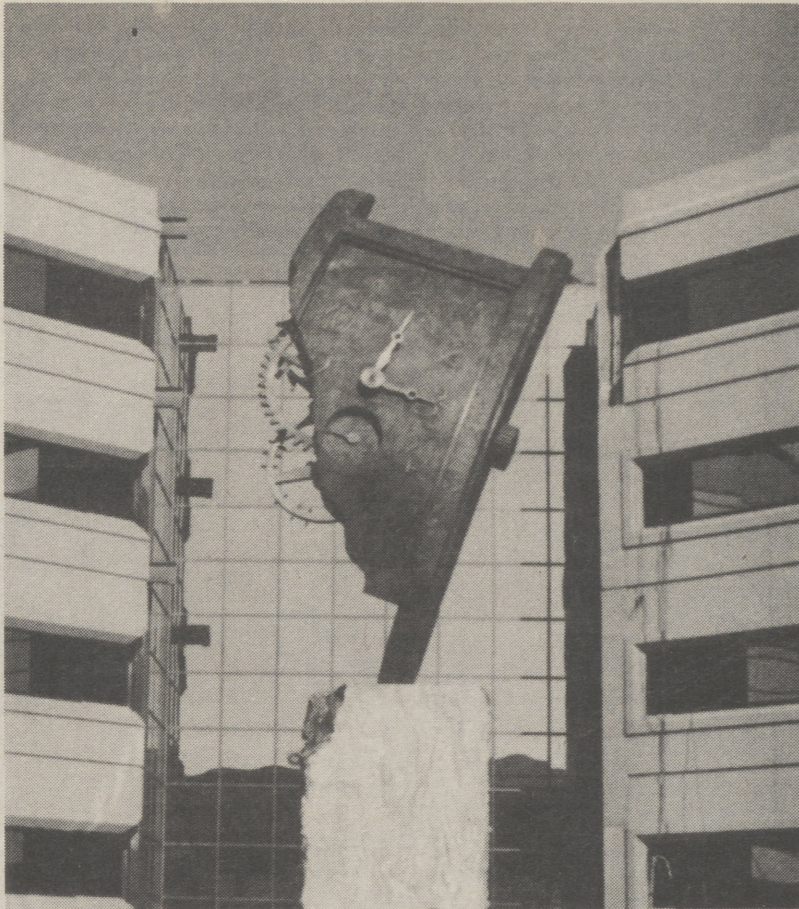
"The watch sculpture is particularly meaningful to Henry because he was anxious to get a piece commissioned in his hometown. He had tried before and was unsuccessful," said Mrs. Schiowitz.

Perhaps the most noticeable part of the sculpture is the jagged line on the edge of the face of the watch leaving part of the inside mechanism open to display.

"I guess being an artist he couldn't do just a plain watch. Henry doesn't set out to make a statement as to why his work takes the form it does," said Mrs. Schiowitz.

"For Jewelcor the idea was to do something representative of the Gruen Curvex watch, but the interpretation was his alone. Jewelcor executives were familiar with Henry's work and wanted the commission to go to a local artist," said a spokeswoman for Jewelcor.

The marble for the sculpture was quarried more than 50 years ago near Carrera; it is white with flamboyant veins of green to violet and is called 'fantastico'. The bronze watch is 16 feet high and weighs approximately 2 and one half tons. The work was fashioned in successive steps - first in wood, then plaster, silicone rubber, wax and finally bronze. The sculpture contains two clock movements, one for the hour and minute hands, and one for the second hand. The hands are hand-fashioned copper.



**POWERFUL FORM**—Sculptor Henry Schiowitz created this impressive sculpture for Jewelcor's new headquarters in Wilkes-Barre.

It took about 250 people to produce the work, including masons, foundry workers, carpenters, the marble cutters and many others.

The home on Glen Riddle Lane where Henry grew up is effused by the presence of his work. In the front foyer is a bronze sculpture of the artist holding his head in front of himself in his hands. Smaller bronze representations of animals, human forms and other art pieces are displayed throughout the home.

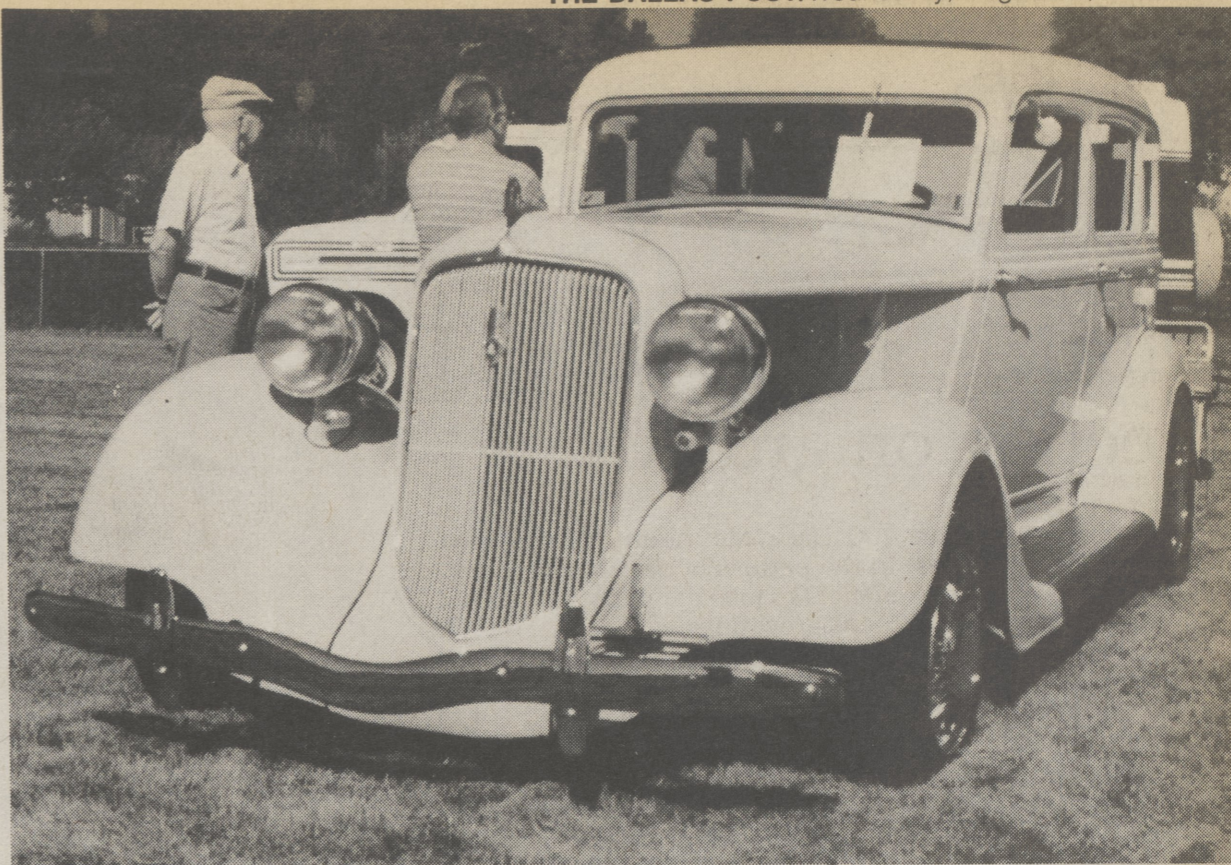
Henry graduated from Valley West high school in Kingston in 1973. After studying at the Philadelphia College of Art, he headed for Europe to pursue an apprenticeship in marble work. He apprenticed in Pietrasanta, Italy an artistic community that survives on the marble industry.

"He said that the first few weeks of his apprenticeship in Pietrasanta they laughed at him, and all he had was bruised fingers. After six months they stopped laughing," said Mrs. Schiowitz.

Henry bought a ticket around the world recently to broaden his artistic scope and get viewpoints from different cultures that he could bring to his work. He is currently in Madras, India completing an apprenticeship in the difficult art of granite carving.

Jewelcor is offering \$1000 in cash for first place winners and Gruen Curvex watches for second and third place winners of the photography contest. The contest includes four separate categories for photographic representation of Schiowitz's sculpture: professional color, professional black and white, amateur color, and amateur black and white. An amateur is defined as anyone who earns less than 5 percent of his or her income from photography.

Entry forms are available from Jewelcor headquarters, 100 North Wilkes-Barre Boulevard, Wilkes-Barre. Entries may be mailed or hand-delivered and must be received by Jewelcor no later than August 26th.



**ANTIQUE CARS**—will be on display at the fifth annual Back Mountain show and flea market this Sunday.

## Back Mountain antique car show Sunday

The fifth annual Back Mountain Antique Car Show and Flea Market will be held at the Lake-Lehman High School grounds on August 21. (Rain date is August 28). This year's festivities will once again be held in conjunction with the Penn State Lehman Campus Craft Show and the annual Open House at the Barn in Lehman Center. Hundreds of cars from early 1900's to the late 1970's will be on display including trucks, hot rods, custom cars and motorcycles. The area's three local

entrants in the Great American Race, Durland Edwards, Don Wesley and Tom Maransky and the McManus Brothers are expected to have their cars on display.

This year's show, chaired by Jeff Fritzen, has expanded to 46 classes. Chief Judge, Spence Holmgren, has formulated these classes to accommodate different types of cars, including custom, classic and original. There will also be a car corral for cars to be sold. The flea market will have many different articles,

including car parts and crafts.

The car show is one of several projects sponsored by the Lake-Lehman Band Sponsors to fund the band's activities throughout the year. The flea market opens at 8 a.m., while all cars to be judged must be on the field by 12 noon.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day, including hot dogs, pizza, halushki, sausage sandwiches and hand dipped ice cream. Admission to the car show and flea market is \$1.00 per person.



### Alumni meet

College Misericordia's Alumni Association recently met for its third quarterly board meeting. The board approved recommendations of the Nominating Committee for five new board members when the five out-going members complete their three-year terms in October. Shown are the members of the Executive Board. From left, seated, Judith Gardner-Price, Esq. '77, Alumni Association president; Kathleen Lukatch Clemente '74. Standing, Agnes Conway Williamson '29, treasurer; Sr. Carol Gallagher, RSM '66; Margaret Neff Burke '74, secretary; Deborah Fries '81, Alumni Relations director.

## Sister Suzanne Thoma professes vows

Sister Suzanne Thoma's first profession of vows as a Religious Sister of Mercy was one of the special events highlighting the recent session of the Scranton Province Assembly held at Mercy Center and College Misericordia in Dallas.

Sister Suzanne is a daughter of Frank Thoma, a former Truckville resident who now makes his home in Wilkes-Barre, and the late Patricia Thoma. Her father, other family members, relatives, friends, leagues and students from Mount Aloysius Junior College in Cresson, PA joined the Mercy Community for the Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated in Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

The Rev. Michael Delaney, of the Immaculate Conception Parish of Scranton, presided. Sister Marie Parker, formation director, offered introductory remarks and a reflection.

Participants in the Liturgy of the Word included Sisters Dorothy Hagan and Virginia Bertschi of the local province, Sister Helen Marie Earns, assistant administrator general of the Religious Sisters of Mercy of the Union, Silver Springs,

MD, and Brother Christopher Higgins, TOR. Sister Conchetta Lopresti, OSF, interpreted the liturgy in sign language for the deaf participants.

Sister Mary Denny, provincial administrator, received Sister Suzanne's vows and welcomed her to membership. Witnesses for the Rite of Profession were Sister Mary Eleanor Thornton of the local province and Sister Theresa Marie Osborne, a member of the Cincinnati Province.

Music was provided by the Sisters of Mercy Assembly Group, along with Judy Thoma, Barbara Dolny, Brother Rey Ramon, TOR, and Brother Michael Petroni, TOR. A buffet supper followed in the Rivers Room at Mercy Center.

Sister Suzanne began her education at the Grant Street Elementary School in Wilkes-Barre and was graduated from Dallas High School with the class of 1975. A 1979 graduate of College Misericordia,

she is currently enrolled at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, pursuing a master's degree in math education.

Before entering the Sisters of Mercy on Aug. 7, 1984, Sister Suzanne taught at Holy Saviour School in Wilkes-Barre. Since then she has been a math and religion teacher at Bishop O'Hara High School in Dummore and Bishop O'Reilly High School in Kingston. She was also a participant in the Mercy Collaborative Novitiate in Cincinnati, OH.

Last year, Sister Suzanne made her residence at Our Lady of Loretto Convent in Loretto, PA, while working in campus ministry and teaching at Mount Aloysius Junior College. This year she will be a full time instructor in the Natural Science Department and will also serve as faculty advisor for BACCHUS (Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning Health of University Students.)

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