

**Hobby**

(continued from page 1)

"I grew up with farm equipment and loved to play with toy tractors," Owen recalled. "My father worked our farm here in Franklin Township and my grandfather had a farm in Plains."

Between gifts and purchasing toys from flea markets and auctions, it hasn't taken Owen long to build up his collection.

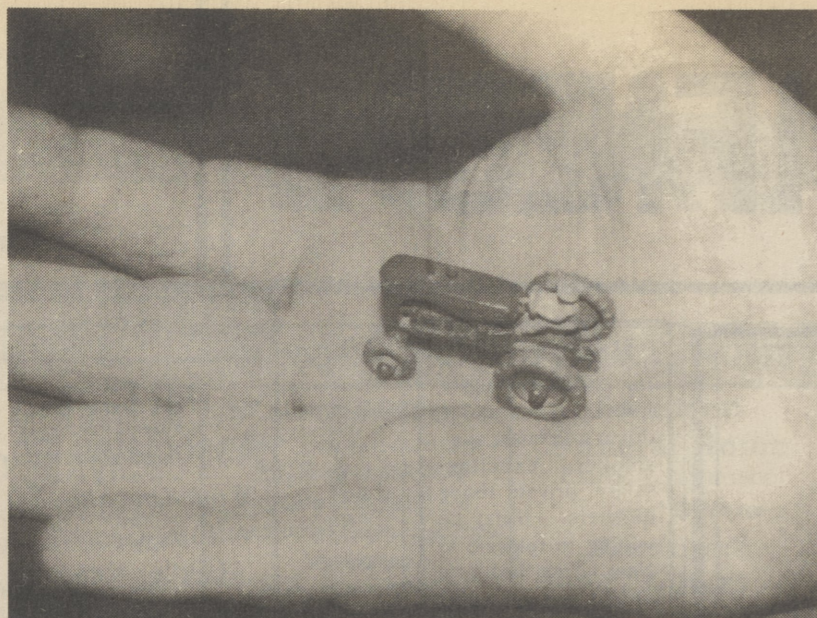
His oldest model is a corn planter manufactured by Arcade in the 1920's, while the seven newest models were Christmas gifts this year. The smallest measures less than two inches long, while the largest is a pedaled model which grandson Art, III, loves to ride. Perhaps one of the most unique of Owen's tractors belonged to his son, Art, Jr. An Allis-Chalmers 200, the toy had seen many years of hard play in the sandbox and needed extensive restoration.

"When I saw an ice cream dish that a family friend was selling through the Tupperware plan, I knew that it was just what I needed to finish the tractor," Owen laughed. "It made perfect fenders for the rear wheels. Many collectors are fascinated with my bright orange Allis-Chalmers with the Tupperware fenders."

Some of Owen's toys are original; others are reproductions or restored models. If he has more than one of the same model, Owen will repaint and customize one of the group to make it more authentic, adding details including decals, mufflers, hand clutches, lights or a grille.

"I order the custom decals and some parts from a man in South Dakota. Others I make myself from old nails, bits of screen or whatever I have handy. Some parts I can kitbash," he explained.

Owen has created an 8x16-foot farm scene, which won first prize last year at a competition at Hugh-



**TINY TRACTOR** - The smallest tractor in Art Owen's collection sits in the palm of his hand. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

esville. Built to 1/16 scale, the layout includes a farmhouse with smoke coming from the chimney, a tree with a tire swing, barn, outbuildings, a working windmill and farm equipment working in a real dirt field, complete with sound effects. The people and animals—right on down to the mice by the barn—are also to scale.

"My display was the first one to include model people and to use sound effects," he said. "Although we can set the entire layout up in less than an hour, I have to work on it constantly, making changes and improvements. Everything is made by hand from authentic materials." Owen has won nine trophies in model and scale layout competitions.

Friends Richard and Mary Anne Warner and their mother Ruth Smith have helped Art and Donna Owen transport the layout to competitions. It is so large that two pickup trucks are needed to move it. Mary Anne also keeps a detailed log of each piece, including information on the make, model, year,

where it came from and who gave it to Owen.

Although farm toys were popular when Owen was growing up during the early 1950's, toy collectors are uncommon in the area. The nearest two collectors are in Tunkhannock; Owen knows one personally. However the hobby is becoming more popular across the country and has its own magazine, *Toy Farmer*, with a circulation of more than 20,000.

Owen has two "dream" tractors, models which he might like to have some day. The eye-catching Case "Black Knight" tractor has flashy gold trim. And the rare John Deere made by Vindex is especially interesting because the manufacturer is no longer in business.

Art Owen's love of tractors and farm equipment is shared by his two-year-old grandson, Art Owen III. The little guy loves to play with Grandpa's models and pedal the John Deere around the house. And Grandpa is proud that the child's first word was "tractor."



**CHEWING THEM UP** - Kingston Township is chipping the Christmas trees it collects to turn them into mulch for residents to use. Shown operating the tree chipper are from left are Robert Chamberlain, road department superintendent, and Chuck Woolbert. (Post Photo/Eric Foster)

**Kingston Twp. mulches Christmas trees**

Kingston Township will be chipping the Christmas trees it collects and making the mulch available to township residents for their gardens.

According to township manager Jeffrey Box, the township formerly burned the Christmas trees which were collected.

For more information, call the township office at 696-3809.

**Municipal building policy**

At their meeting January 8, the Kingston Township supervisors adopted a policy for groups that want to use the municipal building.

If a group is interested in using the building when no township official is present, the group must pay the township \$25 to have the building opened. The building will not be opened on

Sundays. The policy was made after the Back Mountain Taxpayers Association, which had protested the exclusive garbage hauling pact made by DAMA, asked to use the building for meetings.

In the past, according to Box, groups who met in the building always did so when someone was working in the building, or a township official was part of the group.

The supervisors also had the first reading of an amendment the township's animal ordinance, requiring all animals to be kept under control by their owners. Formerly, the ordinance only applied to dogs.

Box said the amendment came after a resident complained about cats this past summer.

**Obituaries**

**WILLIAM BOBACK**

William E. Boback, Jr., Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, died Jan. 12, 1992 at his residence.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was the son of the late William and Josephine Pacovski Boback. He was a member of Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Wilkes-Barre.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Annette Maksimik; brothers, Joseph, Michael; sister, Carolyn Skokan.

Surviving are sons, Michael W. Cincinnati, OH; James B., Hagerstown, MD; daughter, Mary E., Oko, Bear Creek Township; brothers, John, Ashley; Bernard, Wilkes-Barre; sister, Mrs. Anne Boyle, Dallas; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Interment, parish cemetery, Dallas.

**GORDON BOICE**

Gordon Boice, 74, of RR 2, Mehoopany, died Jan. 12, 1992 at Tyler Memorial Hospital, Tunkhannock, after being suddenly stricken.

Born in Noxen, he was the son of the late Charles and Bessie Clark Boice.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Dorothy Mead; brothers, Charles and Dean.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Wednesday from Harding-Litwin Funeral Home, 123 W. Tloga St., Tunkhannock with Rev. Margaret Lynn Snyder, pastor, officiating.

Interment, Sunny Side Cemetery, Tunkhannock.

**LOUIS LINKER**

Louis Linker, 95, formerly of South Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, died Jan. 8, 1992 in Wyoming Valley Health Care Center, Plains Township, where he had been a guest for the past four years.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was the son of the late John and Catherine Linker.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sue G.; several brothers and sisters.

Surviving are a son, Donald, Shavertown; daughter, Doris Atherton, Wilkes-Barre; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Interment, Oak Lawn Cemetery, Hanover Township.

**IVAH MITCHELL**

Ivah M. Mitchell, 90, of Elm Crest Drive, Dallas, died Jan. 11, 1992 at her home.

Born in Hoganburg, NY, she was the daughter of the late Alpha and Margaret McAlteer Hall and was a graduate of Messina, NY High School and Syracuse Business School. She had resided in Dallas for the past 40 years. Prior to her retirement she had been employed as a legal secretary in the Syracuse and Wilkes-Barre areas.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Byron, April 1969.

Surviving are nieces and nephews.

**IGNATIUS CIKOTA**

Ignatius Cikota, of Meyers Court, Kingston, died Jan. 13, 1992 in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, shortly after admission.

A resident of Kingston, he was the son of the late Andrew and Antoinette Cikota.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Helen Kovaleski, in 1981. Surviving are a daughter, Irene Michaels, Dallas; sons, Chester, Scranton; Richard, at home; eight grandchildren; sisters, Blanche Junice, Old Bridge, NJ; Mary Wilson, Detroit, Mich.

Funeral services will be at 9 a.m. Thursday from Kopicik Funeral Home, Zerbey Ave., Kingston, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30 a.m. in St. Hedwig's Church.

Interment, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Carverton.

Friends may call 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday.

**BLANCHE MASAITIS**

Blanche Masaitis, 81, of Chestnut Street, Larksville, died Jan. 10, 1992, at home.

Born in Plymouth, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Viola Letukas.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Andrew; son, Charles.

Surviving are sons, Andrew, Hanover Green, Hanover Township; Robert, Shavertown; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brothers, John and Peter; sister, Elizabeth; several nieces and nephews.

Interment, Lithuanian National Cemetery, Wyoming.

**JOYCE PHILLIPS**

Joyce Phillips, formerly of Dallas, died Jan. 4, 1992, at the Masonic Home, Elizabethtown.

Surviving are daughters, Mrs. Robert Ray, Santee, SC, and Mrs. Donald Naylor, Dallas; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be January 25, at 11 a.m. at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas. Rev. John S. Prater, officiating.

**MICHAEL SHAFFER**

Michael Shaffer, infant son of Ronald and Angel Kreidler Shaffer, of Wyalusing, died Jan. 7, 1992, at Children's Hospital, Philadelphia.

He was born in Philadelphia on Dec. 23, 1991.

Surviving in addition to his parents are a sister, Jessica, at home; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kreidler, Lake Silkworth; maternal great-grandparent, Frances Steidinger, Kunkle; paternal grandparents, Patricia Shaffer and Dan Klein, both of Kunkle; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Shaffer, New Albany; paternal great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clay Harris, Black Walnut; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Shaffer, Towanda; Mr. and Mrs. Frances Rahill, Kunkle; paternal great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard MacMoran, Towanda.

Interment, Bradford County Memorial Park.

**MARY SMITH**

Mary H. Smith of Parrish Street, Wilkes-Barre, died Jan. 13, 1992, in Leader East Nursing Center, Kingston.

Born in Ashley, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Victoria Daukszis Dauzowicy.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James P.; sisters, Mrs. Nellie Augusta and Mrs. Agnes Stanave; brothers, Walter and Frank Bozzy.

Surviving are daughters, Mrs. Jean Olszewski, Fort Pierce, Fla.; Mrs. Maargaret Bazourek, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Ruth Phillips, Crofton, Md.; sons, John E., Dallas; James J. Courtdale; 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Mrs. Pauline Clarke, Orange, NJ.

Funeral services will be 9 a.m. from Mamary-Durkin Funeral Home, Inc., Parrish St., Wilkes-Barre, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30 a.m. in St. Patrick's Church.

Interment, St. Mary's Cemetery, Hanover Township.

Friends may call 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday.

**PAUL LAUER**

Paul H. Lauer Jr., 60, of Mount Airy Road, Shavertown, died Jan. 11, 1992, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was the son of the late Paul H. Lauer Sr., and Helen Steinhauer Lauer of Wilkes-Barre. He was a graduate of St. Nicholas High School, attended King's College and was a graduate of St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia. He was a noted local commercial artist and active in community affairs. He was former president of the Wilkes-Barre Junior Chamber of Commerce and served as an advisor to the art department of Luzerne County Community College. For 16 years he served as the executive director of the Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Agency, and was a member of the executive office of the Pennsylvania State Board of Travel. He organized the Luzerne County Convention Bureau and was the chairman of the board of Cultural Heritage Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He was co-owner of Midway Garden Center, Laffin, and in 1988 was appointed to the Pennsylvania State Board of Landscape Architects. He resided in Shavertown for the past 30 years and was a member of the Knights of St. George and the Knights of Columbus. He was a member of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown.

Surviving in addition to his mother, are his wife, the former Mary Whalen; daughters, Marilyn Devlin, Dallas; Carolyn Chamberlain, Shavertown; sons, Paul H. III, Tunkhannock; Raymond M. Pittston; Robert L. Shavertown; sister, Doris Zumpano, Old Bridge, NJ; brother, Ralph, Clarks Summit.

Interment, St. Nicholas Cemetery, Shavertown.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice St. John, 665 Carey Ave., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702.

**ARTHUR CREGLOW**

Arthur E. Creglow, 73, of Bradley Street, Plymouth, died Jan. 7, 1992, at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

Born in Nanticoke, he was the son of the late Edward and Ellen Abicker Creglow. He attended Luzerne and Dallas Township Schools.

Prior to retirement, he was employed by Joyce Pipeline Co., formerly working as a coal miner at Woodward Colliery. A Navy veteran of World War II, he was a survivor of the Knox Mine Disaster of 1959.

Surviving are brothers, Leo, Hairs, Alaska; James, Atlanta, GA; sisters, Betty Gosart, Fernbrook; Emma Fronczek, Falls; Dolores Miskiel, Loyalville; Mildred Smith, Luzerne; Myrtle Weber, Lehman; companion, Jane Murray, with whom he resided.

Interment, Idetown Cemetery. Memorial donations, if desired, may be made to Kunkle United Methodist Church.

**LANSFORD NORRIS**

Lansford C. Norris, 94, of Chase Road, Jackson Township, died Jan. 13, 1992 at home.

A lifelong resident of Jackson Township, he was the son of the late Charles and Eunice Wolbert Norris. He was a graduate of Coughlin High School and Penn State University. Prior to his retirement, he was self-employed as a poultry farmer. He also served as a school bus driver for 25 years for Emmanuel Bus Lines in the Dallas School District. He also operated Norris Glen, Jackson Township. He was a member of Trucksville United Methodist Church. He also was a 50 year member of George M. Dallas Lodge, 531 F&AM and its oldest living member. He also served as a member of the Selective Service Board, Plymouth, for many years.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ruth Pembleton; sons, William L. Sr. and Robert P., both of Chase; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one step-great grandchild.

Graveside services will be at the convenience of the family in Cedar Crest Cemetery, Trucksville, with the Rev. Claude Colightly, pastor of First Valley Baptist Church, officiating.

There will be no calling hours.

**GLADYS SICKLER**

Gladys D. Sickler, RD 5, Tunkhannock, died Jan. 12, 1992 at Tyler Memorial Hospital, Tunkhannock.

Born in Vernon, she was the daughter of the late James and Nellie Wall Dailey.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Giles.

Surviving are sons, Glen and James, Dallas; daughters, Phyllis Proctor, Tunkhannock; Betty Whispell, Beaumont; sister, Ruth Wenger, Wyalusing; 13 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Interment, Vernon Cemetery, Vernon.

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