

Local carvers turn boards into birds

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

After Joseph Drust retired nine years ago, he began whittling small pieces into crude animals shapes for something to do.

His friend Richard Disque saw Drust's work and suggested he take a carving course.

"The only thing I regret is I didn't get involved a lot sooner," said Drust of Dallas, who in those three years has become president of the Keystone Carvers Club and won competitions for his carvings of ducks.

Drust began his carving education by taking classes with Ronald Ushing of Plains Township.

"After carving three or four birds, Mr. Ushing told me you better start hollowing them out and entering competition," said Drust. "The first time I even entered, I took first place in the roating decorative duck."

This year, Drust entered a black duck in competition in New Jersey, and won second place, and received an honorable mention for a green-winged teal.

The reason for Drust's success?

"I think it's patience," said Drust. "It's time consuming and patience and trying to accomplish something that looks natural."

Using bass wood or tupelo, another relatively light wood with an even grain, Drust and his fellow carvers begin to make a wooden bird by cutting out the rough shape with a saw. From there they use knives, small chisels, sand paper, and sometimes a hand-held electric grinder designed for wood to give the wood the sleek form of a bird.

"What we're doing now. We're learning technique, making it more realistic," said Drust.

"That's what you have to strive for, authenticity," said Harding.

One of the prime areas judges look at in competitions is a wooden duck's bill. In his shop, Harding has models of duck bills and measures them with calipers to make his models perfect. To burnish a carving to a shine without sanding, Harding learned a trick from a man in Louisiana of rubbing the wood with a deer antler.

Once the carving has its rounding form, the texture of the feathers is burned into the wood with a hot metal iron.

"Anybody can carve, the most difficult thing is painting," said Drust.

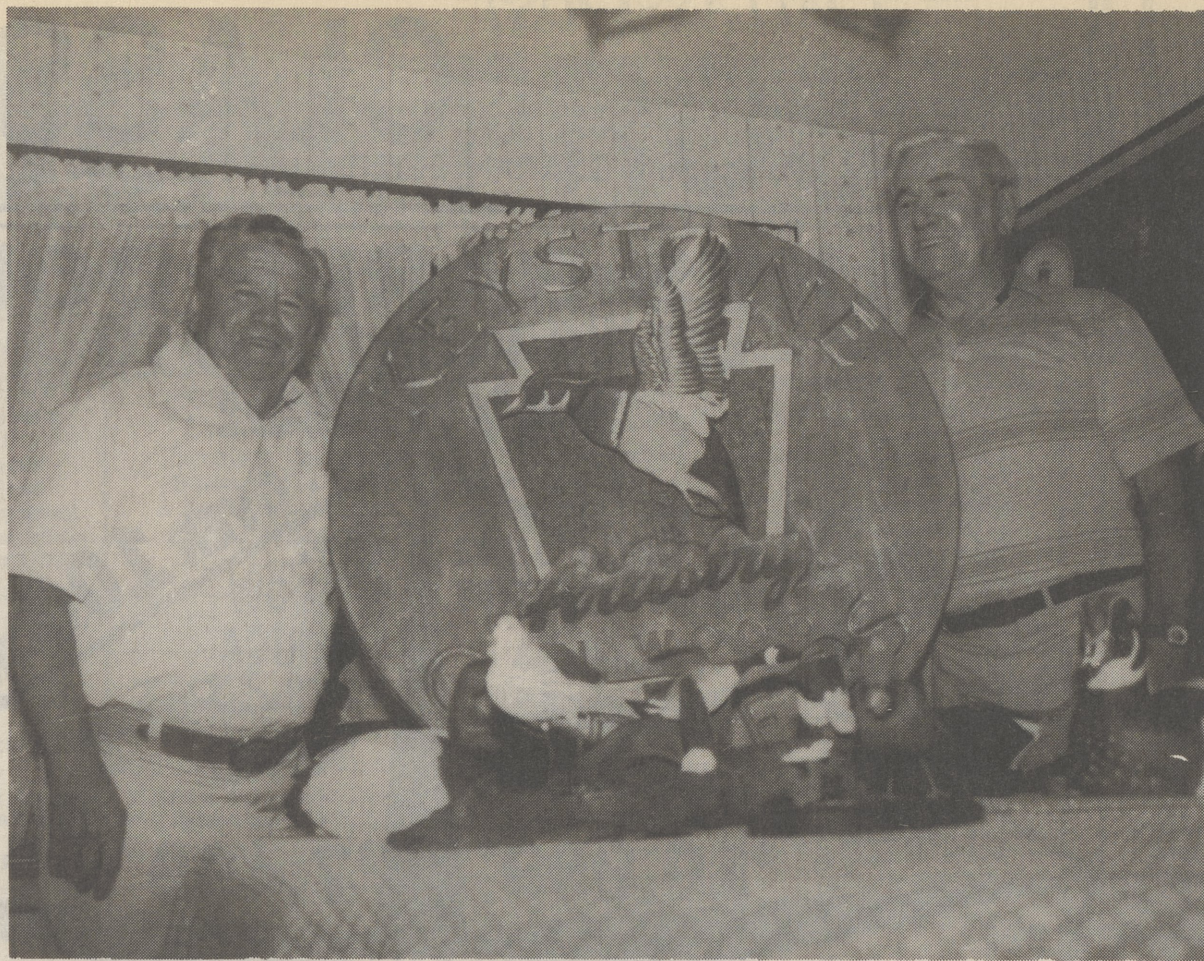
Fellow carver Richard Harding of Dallas agrees.

"Painting, that's the hardest part," said Harding. "I try to get my wife to paint but she won't."

"Once you start to work on these things, time can go by so quickly," said Drust. "It keeps you occupied and it's a lot better than watching TV."

Anyone interested in joining the Keystone Carvers can call Drust at 675-5861. The club meets at the West Side Vocational Technical School the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. If there's a holiday on the first Monday, the carvers meet on the second Monday. Club dues are \$6 a year.

In September, the club will start meeting twice a month. The club will make a class project out of carving a mallard duck. For \$14.50, anyone interested in the classes, taught by Ronald Ushing of Plains, will receive a cutout of a Mallard Duck. Each class will be \$10.



KEYSTONE CARVERS—Shown above are Joe Drust (left) and Richard Harding with the Keystone Carvers Club sign. Members of the club all pitched in to carve a part of the sign. In the foreground are some of the birds that Drust and Harding have carved. At left, Richard Harding holds a partially completed carving of a woodcock, which shows the various stages a carving goes through before its complete. The legs are very roughly cut out with a saw, the body has been carved to the proper general shape, while the head is complete.

(Post Photos/Eric Foster)



In Our Service



RACHAEL A. TONEY

RACHAEL TONEY GRADUATES FROM AIR FORCE BASIC TRAINING

Airman Rachael A. Toney has graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

During the six weeks of training the airman studied Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Sally N. Toney and granddaughter of Rebecca Grey, both of Harveys Lake.

The airman is a 1991 graduate of E.L. Meyers High School, Wilkes-Barre.

Toney, a material storage and distribution helper has arrived for duty at Incirlik Air Base, Adana, Turkey.

AIRMAN ALFRED MAY ARRIVES FOR DUTY IN FLORIDA

Air Force Senior Airman Alfred C. May has arrived at Tyndall Air Force Base, Panama City, Fla.

May, a general purpose vehicle mechanic, is the son of Eart T. and Carol L. May of RR 1, Noxen.

His wife, Lisa, is the daughter of Sally Garrett of 11 Howard St., Massena, NY.

Young

(continued from page 1)

ability in an adult," Pope said. "He was always there ready to drop everything to help out whenever he was needed."

Councilwoman Marie Eyet, one of Young's swimming students at Greater Nanticoke Area High School, remembers her former teacher as a very personable man who brought out the best in everyone.

"My youngest sister, Marilyn, was afraid of going off the high dive, although she was a very strong swimmer," Eyet said. "Ken helped her conquer her fear by placing another swimming teacher in the water underneath the high dive as he coaxed her to jump."

Shirley Breymaier recreation director in 1976, recalled that Burndale Park was not as elaborate as it is today. The new recreation building didn't even have restrooms yet. "Ken Young was a great guy with lots of enthusiasm for life," she recalled.

Chuck Wilson, owner of The Field House sporting goods store, worked as a recreation counselor approximately 15 years ago, his first summer job. "Ken and my

dad, Harry Wilson, grew up together," he said. "As the guy in charge of recreation, Ken didn't want us to sit around; he insisted that we interact with the kids. I love many sports, something which Ken capitalized on while I worked at the playground."

Located on Luzerne Ave., the park occupies part of the old Machell family farm, whose barn was behind the present Dallas Family Practice building. Mrs. Young said. People rode horses through the area, which adjoined fields belonging to the old Weiss family farm.

A new sign with hand-chiselled letters, "Kenneth A. Young Memorial Park," was installed Thursday, July 23, on the corner of Burndale and Luzerne Avenues, below the jungle gym and monkey bars. Made by Scott Key of Tunkhannock, the sign was designed to withstand many years of bad weather.

The sign committee included Mrs. Young, Jay Pope, Marie Eyet and Pat Peiffer.

A formal dedication ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, at 6 p.m. at the park.

Steven's Town & Country Cleaners

Country Club Shopping Ctr. • 675-0468



Settle For More.

Our promise is simple. The best. And nothing less. Here you'll find the ultimate in drycleaning. Your clothes will feel like new again with bright colors, comfortable fit and perfect shape. We're your clothes best friend -- guaranteed!



Check Out Our New Store Hours
Mon. - Fri. 7 A.M. - 7 P.M. • Sat. 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
The Professional Edge, The Personal Touch



A member of the International Fabricare Institute, the association of professional drycleaners and laundries.

"One Good Doctor Leads To Another"

Dallas Family Practice

- Open 365 days a years
- Convenient office hours, including Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Services include venipuncture, X-ray, a staff dietician and much more

Call for an appointment at 675-2111 and meet our physicians

Thomas M. Campbell, D.O. Diane A. Lowe, M.D.

Jane E. Durkin, D.O. Gary Nothstein, D.O.

Irvin Jacobs, M.D.

Sterling and Machell Avenues, Dallas

A division of Wilkes-Barre General Health Corporation.

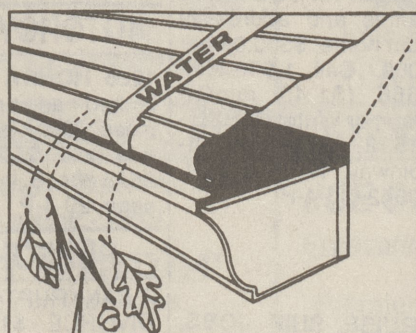
Why hit the roof?

Install Gutter-Helmet® and never clean your gutters again. Guaranteed.

No more ladders to climb, no more risk of dangerous falls, in fact you may never be on your roof again. Gutter-Helmet® is a gutter protection system guaranteed to keep your gutters clean and free-flowing.

Gutter-Helmet®. An affordable gutter add-on with a unique, patented design that works on your existing gutters.

- Totally eliminates the cleaning chore
- Prolongs gutter life
- Ideal protection for winter climates
- Installs over existing gutters
- Colors to match your roof
- Amazingly simple and it works



For a free estimate and demonstration call:

Drew Yerger
Seamless Gutters



1-800-870-0207 or 735-1702

... You're Invited to the Lite 105/WICK

Wedding Show

Featuring...
A bridal and formal wear show of all the latest styles presented by *Barbini Bridal* and *Metallo's Formal Fair*.

Free Admission...
Everyone welcome. Complimentary refreshments. Music by *Rosewood Productions*.

Sunday
August 2nd at...

NUMBER 5

BALLROOM & RESTAURANT
Franklin & Mulberry St.,
Downtown Scranton

Register to win...

A three-day honeymoon at one of the fantastic *Pocono Mountain Honeymoon Resorts* as well as more than a dozen additional door prizes. The Pocono's-Honeymoon Capital of the World!

Free Consultation...
Visit our many exhibitors for ideas on planning your wedding.

Doors Open
at 1 P.M.

Exhibitors Include:

- METALLO'S FORMAL FAIR • BARBINI BRIDAL
- NUMBER 5 BALLROOM • CLARKS SUMMIT HOME DECOR
- CLASSIC IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHY
- INVITATION IDEAS BY DONNA AT SCHAFFER PRINTING
- ROSEWOOD PRODUCTIONS • SUGAR AND SPICE BAKERY
- PARTY EXPRESS • THE FLOWER SHOP AT MERMELSTIENS
- POCONO MOUNTAINS VACATION BUREAU