

Local couple gears up for Turkey Festival crafts show

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When you check out the arts and crafts at the Turkey Festival this month, you may see a tall, curly haired man operating a mechanical boxing puppet.

If so, do stop by his booth. No, he isn't selling puppets. That's just something that he picked up at an auction sale which he loves to go frequent.

What Morris and Barbara Rozier will have for sale will be country crafts, in abundance.

The Roziers have been turning out these wooden creations for

about a year now with no end in sight. The enjoyment they derive from their joint ventures accounts for their devotion to a craft that has, lately, started to saturate the craft market.

Country crafts and a love for these wooden teddy bears, sheep, geese and ducks have possessed the South for several years now and many people do create the little objects.

So many, in fact, that craftsmen find turning a profit very difficult. "We don't do this to make

Hoke Arts Scene

By Sonya Falls

money," explains Barbara. "There are too many people doing the same thing. We just enjoy making them." Barbara was instrumental in get-

ting her husband into craft production.

"I love to go to craft shows and finally I got Morris to go with me. Everything he saw, he'd say, 'I can do that!'"

Now, Rozier, a shop employee at Burlington Industries, is fully devoted to the cutting, sanding and staining of the wooden crafts. Barbara paints and adds decorative touches to the finished products.

It is an arrangement which has produced some very unique country items.

The Roziers have readied for the festival a lovely basket with slatted bottom and goose-necked handles. Beautifully stained and delicately painted, it would suit anyone's country home at fireside or on a table, filled with flowers.

Other items to look for are teddy bears, small reindeer, beehatted geese and small slatted baskets complete with bread slices. All are perfectly cut and smoothly sanded. Although Barbara modestly protests that her painting is basically

"trial and error," each item is neat in detail and accenting colors.

For the many folks who enjoy the country look in decor, a stop at the Rozier's booth at the Festival will be a must.

And just for the Festival, they have planned a surprise cutting, so be sure to catch this family act during the arts and crafts exhibit on September 21.

While you're browsing, look out for that puppet. He's got a mean left hook.

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