



## Carolyn Hall 'crafty' again

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not, so they liked to come here," Hall recalled.

"Once the stepstool was finished, I had got into the spirit of the thing, and other pieces came to mind. It seemed to me that they had commercial potential. Glen and I had kept in touch over the years, so it was natural for me to contact Glen and talk to him about making the pieces."

"The Pieces" are collectively known as the Pet Set. They include: an elephant table, a baby elephant bench, a toadstool (sides are frogs), a teddy bear chair and the bunny stepstool. Each piece is scaled to fit the small child.

Collaboration at a distance can be complicated. . . .

"We have horrendous phone bills," she said, with a smile.

Hall designs the piece, cuts a template out of cardboard, draws schematics on a separate template, and sends the package to Elvig. He makes a mod-

el, sometimes suggesting modifications from the artisan's point of view, and the finished product is presented to Hattie.

"WE HAD USED glass eyes on the teddy bear chair, but they protruded, and were uncomfortable on Hattie's back," explains Hall. "So we set them into the wood for greater comfort."

Hall claims to be allergic to sawdust, varnish, and production. "I just want to design," she insists. "Glen is welcome to the production end of it. The one thing we both want is to remain craftsmen, and offer a well-designed, quality line that we can be proud of and that will last for years."

The "That's Mine" line of children's furniture will debut at the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association's annual Holiday Sales show opening Sunday, Nov. 27.

All pieces are available in either natural clear pine or oak, and can be varnished or painted. Prices range from \$40 for the Toadstool to \$150 for the Teddy Bear Chair.

## Break-the-budget gifts

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lian Dancer or elegant Spanish Senorita, just \$218.

For those who are star-struck, try "Big's" melodious vision of a Walking Piano, created by the designer Remo Suraceci, for just \$3,500. (Of course, Bobby Short is dancing in tux in the catalog, dahling.)

And if you like your music to tinkle like the ice cubes in your highball, order the Concert Grand Marnier, a walnut, rosewood, ivory and brass piano that's a bar, for just \$6,600.

Well, if you can't visit your family during the holidays, why not consider a little something you can find in your home electronics department? The Sony PCT-15 picture phone lets everyone see your holiday goose — and you.

Of course, your fantasy gift may not come close to the catalogs and books we've discovered.

**POLLING OUR** friends for their wish list, we found a cornucopia of Christmas ideas that range between practical and prohibitive, but fun nonetheless:

• Send your loved one to a spa for the weekend. Whether La Costa or the Greenhouse, she or he can recover

from the holiday eating binge in peace.

• Buy season's tickets to the theater/football/opera for the person who saves up to buy passes for one event.

• Have paper and calling cards engraved with the person's initials or name in gold type. Be sure the lining on the envelopes is gold as well. Add a gold Thesauri fountain pen and commemorative stamps for the complete writing gift.

• Hire a maid to clean the house of a friend on a bimonthly basis. Throw a champagne fest the night before the first visit to celebrate freedom from dirty dishes.

• Fly to Paris. There's nothing more elegant, more romantic than two tickets on the Concorde.

• Give a \$500 gift certificate. That's a shopping spree one will never forget. Be sure to choose a favorite store and bury the certificate under mounds of tissue paper in progressively smaller gift boxes.

Can't afford any of the above? Plan for the future by giving your loved one a list of what the 12 days of Christmas will bring in the year 1995 when you are rich and famous. And open the list while watching Robin Leach show you the places you'll visit that year.

**WEST OAKS**

- BOOK'S CONNECTION
- FASHION BUG & BUG PLUS
- INACOMP
- K-MART
- KROGER
- LORI'S HALLMARK
- MACAULEY'S
- PAYLESS SHOE SOURCE
- PERRY DRUGS
- SERVICE MERCHANDISE
- UNITED PAINT
- YOUR HAIR & US

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
 NOV. 25 9AM-10PM  
 MON.-SAT. 10AM-9:30PM SUN. 11AM-7PM  
 CHRISTMAS EVE 9AM-5:30PM  
 NEW YEARS EVE 10AM-5:30PM

**WEST OAKS II**

- AL HARRISON LODGING
- ARTISAN JEWELERS
- BEA WORLD
- BOXICA
- BUDGET FRAME
- BUILDERS SQUARE
- CHRISTINA'S
- DRESS SHOP
- DRESS BARN
- ELBEE SHOES
- HAPPENINGS
- HARMONY HOUSE
- HITOMISS
- HUNTER'S RUN
- JIM CHUCK'S BOOT SHOP
- KERRY'S CONEY ISLAND
- KID'S 'N' US
- LINDA'S 'N' THINGS
- MAIL BOXES, ETC. USA
- MAIN STREET
- MARSHALL'S
- MATERNITY LTD.
- PHONES, GADGETS & THINGS
- PICTURE PERFECT
- RIKSHAW
- RUSSELL'S FORMAL WEAR
- RIK GREENE & THINGS
- SUBWAY, SANDWICHES & SALADS
- TAPPLER
- TOYS 'N' US
- TRAVEL AGENTS INTERNATIONAL
- WOLVERINE SPARTAN SHOP
- YOUR CHOICE

**TWELVE MILE AT NOVI ROAD NOVI**

West Oaks → 12 Mile → 12-Oaks → Grand River