

**Ag  
World**



**"Totem pole" is topped off by Piper Cub airplane that's also carved out of wood. LIKENESSES OF ALL 10 MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARVED ONTO FACE OF 32-FT. CEDAR LOG**

**Family "Totem Pole"**

We couldn't believe our eyes when we first saw this family "totem pole" in the yard of Sig Jorstad, who farms near Pullman, Wash. The faces of all 10 members of Jorstad's family are carved into the face of a 32-ft. tall cedar pole, topped off by a Piper Cub airplane that's also completely carved out of wood.

Jorstad's gigantic work of art was created by California chainsaw artist Jonathan La Benne who works all over the country making wooden sculptures. Jorstad got the idea when La Benne came to a nearby town to carve a large monument that consisted of five poles with the faces of 51 former football players. After seeing how well it came out, he decided to contract with La Benne to put his family on a pole.

It took La Benne 3 months to complete the "Siggie Pole", which is 2 ft. in dia. and set in concrete in Jorstad's farmyard. Sig and his wife Carol are at the top of the pole with the kids down below them. Sig's head at the top of the pole is 3 ft. high. The carvings get progressively smaller going down the pole to the bottom head which is 20 in. high. Each head is intricately detailed, including glasses and teeth. Once he finished, La Benne used a special stain he makes up himself to color in highlights on the heads. "I try to use the color of the natural wood as much as possible," he says, noting that all facial features are left in natural wood while teeth are colored white and hair is darkened or lightened, as needed. He mostly worked from photographs of family members, although in some cases they were available to sit for him during carving.

The Piper Cub on top of the pole was carved separately and then attached to the



**Each head is intricately detailed, including teeth. Bottom head is 20 in. high.**

top of the pole. Jorstad has been a pilot for 40 years and at one time owned a flying service.

La Benne says the "Siggie Pole" was one of the more unusual projects he's created. "I had tremendous interest from other people in the area while I was carving it. People just couldn't believe it," he says, noting that he's had many requests for similar projects but notes that there aren't too many individuals willing to pay the approximately \$15,000 it costs to carve a pole like Jorstad's.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jonathan La Benne, P.O. Box 2163, Pine Cove, Calif. 92349 (ph 714 659-6158).



**This wagon carries up to four wheelchairs and several other people in bucket seats.**

**WHEELCHAIR BUGGY RIDES,  
HOT AIR BALLOONING**

**Camp Gives Disabled  
A Chance To Rough It**

A rustic rural camp that's designed to give disabled people a chance to rough it has come up with some new equipment that allows people in wheelchairs or with other serious disabilities to really get outdoors and enjoy it.

Camp Freedom was founded by Canadian Andy Stone several years ago. He got the idea after attending a sportsman's show where he noticed a number of people with disabilities looking around the show with disappointed looks on their faces because they couldn't take part in many of the activities. As an accomplished welder, he felt there ought to be a way to put a wheelchair behind a horse and make other outdoor activities accessible to the disabled.

He established the camp on acreage just north of of Bowden, Alberta and this year nearly 800 people attended from June 1 through early October. Unlike other camps for the disabled, the camp is rustic and doesn't have all the conveniences of home. It's designed to give people a close brush with nature, while still keeping safety in mind. The camp has 15 cabins and can sleep 40 people.

One of Stone's most popular creations is his specially-built wheelchair wagon that'll

carry up to four wheelchairs and several other people in bucket seats. Two independent platforms carry the riders who are carried smoothly over rough ground by flotation tires mounted on walking beam axles.

Probably the most popular event is hot air ballooning. Stone designed a basket with a bucket seat in it. A person with a disability is strapped into the seat and there's still room for two more people - an attendant and the pilot.

Other activities include motor-boating, fishing and rafting. "Or, if people just want to stay in their cabins, they can do whatever they want," Stone says.

He estimates 15 to 20 percent of his clients come from nursing homes. The camp is funded in part by the campers, who pay about \$150 per day, and also by a yearly fund-raising effort which last year raised almost \$500,000. It costs nearly \$600 a day per camper to run the camp. Stone says they never turn anyone away, whether they have any money or not.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Andy Stone, Camp Freedom, Suite 103, 339 50th Ave. S.E., Calgary, Alberta Canada G2G 2B3 (ph 403 299-2888).