

Hydraulic Unit Designed For Chainsaw Carvers

Chainsaw carver Barre Pinski built a prototype hydraulic-powered saw 18 years ago. "I was in my mid-20's and my fingers were going numb, working three to six hours a day," Pinski recalls. "My arms and clothes were permeated with exhaust and a chainsaw gas smell. I drove people crazy with noise from the saw. I wanted to eliminate that, plus I didn't want to work outside in the cold."

After years of refining the design, and getting requests for units from other carvers, Pinski recently started building units for sale. It has a 20-gal. hydraulic tank and a 7 1/2 hp motor. An adjustable flow control gives the carver the option of running everything from the smallest carving bars up to 28-in. bars. The unit is designed to run Husqvarna bars or bars with similar hole patterns.

"I invented a dual sprocket system so you can run 1/4-pitch chain and you can run 3/8-in pitch chain," Pinski says.

With a straight handle and direct drive instead of a clutch, it takes a little time to get

used to the feel of the saw. For example, when the saw kicks back it blows a pressure relief valve. However, Pinski notes that when he's let other carvers try it, they catch on quickly and enjoy the high torque. Another benefit is the saw's light weight, which is similar to a small gas saw. It comes with two 15-ft. hoses.

Pinski convinced his father Tom Pinski in Plato, Minn., to manufacture the units.

At \$6,500, the electrical unit and chainsaw is a long-term investment.

"This is an industrial tool that's meant to last," Pinski says. He has used the same unit and saw for 18 years and the same hoses for 12 years. Because a variety of bars can be used, it's like replacing four saws, he says. The 391-lb. unit requires a 220-volt plug-in. It has pneumatic casters to move easily, and has temperature and pressure gauges and a push button start-stop switch.

For carvers in remote locations, a gas model is available for \$7,300.



Barre Pinski's hydraulic unit is designed to run Husqvarna chainsaw bars or bars with similar hole patterns. It lets chainsaw carvers do their work inside without the noise and gas smell of conventional saws.

"The biggest advantage for me is I can work anytime with this tool," he says. "If I want to carve at night, no one's going to care. Also it takes care of health issues, not affecting my hearing and there's no finger numbness."

A video of the unit can be seen on the Pinski website (www.illanajoffrey.com/

www.ustream.tv/channel/barre-pinske-studio).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pinski Power Units & Chainsaws, 119 Main St., PO. Box 68, Plato, Minn. 55370 (ph 320 238-2562; www.pinskepower.com).

Egg Carver Creates Custom Designs

For \$5, Alan Rabon will carve your initial into an eggshell. After 8 years of "egg art" experience, the Plainville, Georgia, artist does them quickly enough to offer them at such a low price.

"I used to break one out of three, now it's more like one out of 50 chicken eggs," he says. "Carving chicken eggs is like carving hardened paper. They are fine and delicate, but I enjoy the challenge."

They aren't as delicate as the seashells his mother brought him to carve several years ago when he was a jeweler in South Carolina. When his jeweler's tool didn't work he bought a power carver, an air-driven turbine tool that spins at 450,000 rpm's without vibration. It came with an egg carving video, so Rabon experimented on an ostrich egg, which is the hardest to work with because of its thick shell. When he later tried a goose egg, Rabon "hit the jackpot."

"Most of my work is on goose eggs," he says. "But I carve in all kinds of eggs. If you give me an egg I'll try to carve it."

Located in Georgia, "Egg Capital of the World," the owner of Great EGGsPectations Studio drills a hole in the bottom and uses a large syringe and needle to push air in the hole and force out the contents. He sanitizes the eggs with vinegar or bleach and water.

"I just freehand most of the carvings. When it's a very detailed egg with a defined pattern I mark the egg," Rabon explains.

Three of his eggs have made it to the White House. He is proudest of the one commissioned by the American Egg Board for Laura Bush with a library theme.

Detailed, custom-carved eggs start at \$35. Shipping and handling costs are \$7. Rabon also sells stands and globes, but adds that inexpensive candleholders also work well for display. He recommends protecting them in a curio cabinet or under some kind of glass.

"Anything can be carved, such as a company logo, but the image needs to translate well," Rabon says. He carves many memorial eggs from photos of family members or pets. You can view his work on his website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alan W. Rabon, Great EGGsPectations Studio, 707 Riverbend Road S.W., Plainville, Ga. 30733 (ph 706 232-1208; www.greateggspexpectations.net).

Photos show just a few of the egg carvings made by Alan Rabon. Clockwise from upper left: initial carved into egg; gazebo with couple; celtic knot; and roses and lattice goose.



Horse Cookie Treat Business Catches On

Back in 2007, Carrie Budde of Florissant, Mo., had a sudden inspiration to make some cookie treats for her horses. They loved them and she enjoyed making them so much that she started making extras for her friends, and they loved them, too.

Then late in 2008, her friend Connie Smit told Carrie it was time to share her popular treats with other horse owners outside her stable.

Connie has a background in marketing, so the two friends formed a partnership.

Carrie applies her natural talents developing and making the homemade treats, and Connie uses her marketing skills to make the products available to anyone.

The treats make great gifts. You can order from their website or by phone. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sweet Feed Crunchers, 3 McNulty Drive, Florissant, Mo. 63031 (ph 314 504-2358; sweetfeedcrunchers@sbcglobal.net; www.sweetfeedcrunchers.com).



Carrie Budde's homemade cookie treats for horses turned into a thriving business.