



R u s t i c

FURNITURE MAKERS

R A L P H K Y L L O E

Jerry and Jessica Farrell

JERRY FARRELL is one of many unique characters in the rustic-furniture business. He has been building rustic furniture since 1972, and his efforts are now almost legendary. A number of the best collections around the country maintain a piece or two of his products.

Jerry approaches art with an overt passion and intensity that is evident in both his work and personality. He is a man of many opinions, and converses quite comfortably about a variety of subjects. In recent years, his wife, Jessica, has joined in the business, and she handpaints the scenes that embellish the many clocks, frames, and case pieces produced by Jerry.

In the late 1960s, after the Kent State incident, Jerry left college and hitchhiked north to Alaska. There, he supported himself by playing honky-tonk piano in several Yukon taverns. After his Alaskan stay, he worked with a traveling circus, playing an antique pump organ for the puppet sideshow.



ABOVE: Detail work of a clock by Jerry Farrell.

Having always worked with wood, Jerry began one day to build furniture out of local stands of yellow birch trees. "The materials were free, and I needed very few tools to get started," he comments.

The mosaic work on Jerry's pieces is superb. His craftsmanship is exceptional, and his designs are often quite original.

Jessica's paintings are well executed and rich in natural colors. The scenes usually include moose, bear, and natural settings.

The Farrells sell their artwork around the country through a number of galleries and to private customers. They also exhibit at the Rustic Furniture Builders show that is held in the fall of each year at the Adirondack Museum in upstate New York.



LEFT: Mantle clock by Jerry and Jessica Farrell.

BELOW: An assortment of exquisitely crafted pieces by Jerry and Jessica Farrell of New York, recently exhibited at the Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain, New York.

