

The “Branson Experience”

5-24-13



These are the two people responsible for my being in Branson. **Jim Adam**, on the left, is the person who taught me the skills and the techniques of scroll saw. **Art Reed**, on the right, is the person who had enough confidence in me, and what I do as an instructor, to invite me to become a part of the Branson Experience starting last February.



Jim Adam, as you may have read about in “My Story”, was the Master Scroll Saw Cutter at Silver Dollar City in front of the Toy Makers Shop back in 1991. He convinced me I **could** scroll saw even though I thought I could not. With his guidance, as well as a number of vacation trips to Silver Dollar City, he instructed me in the skills and techniques needed to be successful. He also instilled in me the desire to excel at making my work look professional. He has become a true friend.

His wife **Nancy** has become a great friend as well. She is the ‘great communicator’ via e-mail between Jim and myself. My wife Karen and Nancy have become close friends as well, and never seem to run out of something to talk about.



Art Reed is the person most instrumental in my being a part of the Branson experience. I met Art for the first time at the Engler Block about 10 years ago. We were visiting in Branson, and as Art is always happy to talk with everyone, he and I struck up a conversation. I found him then, as he still is today, a person that is genuinely interested in everyone he meets. It is because of his confidence in me, and my scroll saw skills, that he invited Karen and me to Branson to be a part of this special experience.



Faith Reed is Art's wife. She is a unique person that keeps everyone on their toes, and makes all who know her a better and more productive person. She, as well as Art, promote, and keep alive what Branson is all about. Along with helping Art make the beautiful acoustic music instruments, she has a special love for Vintage Wooden Toys, which she has in her Toy Shop at the Branson Mill Craft Village. It is a pleasure to know her because both she and Art exhibit a love for what they do and the people they work with, as well as everyone they meet. Karen and I truly appreciate them as newly found friends.