



By Carolyn Lee

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You step through a regular garage, push open a heavy wooden door with an elaborate handle and enter what surely is Santa's workshop.

Wait a minute—it's actually Ron and Bonnie Moritz's work room, and it's inhabited by Pixie Dust Creations.

According to Chelsea Zuege, one of the original pixies, Pixie Dust Creations is a nickname at present, as it is not an official business yet.

She and her extended family are busy filling orders for unique door signs. Busy means every available minute not spent working, sleeping or attending children's events.

When Chelsea, her sister Jill Fiedler of Imperial and sister Darcie Boman of Clay Center went to craft shows, they would see something and exclaim "We can do that."

Boman took that a step further when she purchased several door signs. Ron Moritz studied them, refined them and "made about 20 before I even knew it," Zuege commented.

The sisters are planning a sister trip later, needed extra money and decided to make some signs. They posted results on Facebook and "it exploded," Zuege said.

"It's more than we ever thought it would be. It's become an every night thing," she said.

Zuege, a secondary art teacher at Chase County Schools, said her parents have stepped in during basketball season, when game attendance is required.

There are many variations of cowboy boots, Santas, mittens, Longhorns, angels, trees, baby signs, Nebraska Huskers, crosses, snowflakes, initials and more available. They can be customized, such as a red and white snowflake, or a family name on a cross.

Some of the signs are ones the sisters have seen made before, so they tweak the design.

The cost is between \$30-40, depending upon the complexity and customization.

Zuege recommends that people visit her Facebook or stop by the garage to see the signs in person.

People ask how long it takes to make a sign, which is difficult to determine, Zuege said. Jill, Ron, Bonnie, Chelsea, Peyton Fiedler and Ashley Boman (and anyone who spends any time here, Zuege laughed) can work on 15-20 signs per night, but may only finish one.

Zuege explained that each sign needs to be cut out from a pattern, primed, sanded, painted with two coats of paint, painted with details, glittered and tied with a ribbon.

Zuege's husband Carl, she said, has declared that "the more glitter the better" is the sisters' signature.

After the glitter is applied a clear coating is spread over the sign. That helps protect it from weather.

However, Zuege said she doesn't recommend leaving the signs out in bad Nebraska weather. She suggested that signs can also be hung inside the house.

The demand for the signs surprised the sisters. They painted their first one Oct. 27, and by Thanksgiving had delivered 80. As of Sunday they had completed about 100 signs.

Signs ordered after today (Thursday) most likely won't be completed by Christmas. However, Pixie Dust Creations is offering gift certificates.

"We will try to do something for each holiday," Zuege said of the future.