

Finds puzzles perfect pleasure

Slocum set on solutions

Hughes engineer Jerry Slocum has puzzles-a-plenty. His collection of puzzles is one of the largest in the world—more than 8000—and his 2000-volume library of books about puzzles may also be the world's largest.

His collection contains a remarkably wide array of mind teasers made of wire, wood, and ivory in addition to mechanical and three-dimensional puzzles. Some are rare antiques and others are state-of-the-art mind bogglers.

A 19th century Chinese box contains 16 small but exquisite puzzles of carved ivory. And there are drawers full of Rubik's cubes and its many variations.

Jerry's collection continues to grow through trading puzzles with other collectors around the world and by purchasing puzzles from antique dealers and puzzle manufacturers. "A couple of times a week I get a package from a fellow puzzler in the states, or from some foreign country," he said.

"Most new puzzles and puzzle ideas today come from Japan," said Jerry, "but finding antique puzzles is a real challenge."

The annual puzzle mini-convention at Jerry's house this spring brought together approximately 40 puzzle collectors from America, Japan, Great Britain, Canada, Finland, and Holland.

Jerry is more than just a collector. He is also an authority on the history and principle of his puzzles and was the key expert witness in a Rubik's Cube puzzle patent trial held earlier

this year in Wilmington, Del.

At Radar Systems Group, Jerry is assistant division manager and manager of the Avionics Engineering Laboratories in the Engineering Division.

Jerry demonstrates an "elegant puzzle" when he challenges visitors to form the letter "T" from four simple wooden geometric shapes.

"Even the simplest of puzzles can seem impossible for someone locked into a rigid

view of the world," he said.

"Puzzles often take advantage of people's habits and experiences. Ten-year-olds are great at puzzles because they are not locked in by convention."

Part of his collection will be the main source for a puzzle exhibit at the Craft and Folk Art Museum next year. Jerry is also writing a book about puzzles that is scheduled to be published in German, Dutch, and English.



ENGINEER JERRY SLOCUM is surrounded in his home by collection of thousands of diverse puzzles and volumes of books about puzzles. Jerry is one of the foremost experts in the field of puzzles in the U.S. and internationally. (Photograph by Bill Haney)

Schurr career began with unsure start

"I cried all night," she said. did, just like the other workers,

Leisure life

Hughes Aircraft Company salutes its service and wishes them continued success

Ground Systems Group

- Mary Addy June 29
- Jack Asher June 29
- David Hunt June 29
- Doris Smalley June 29

Radar Systems Group

- George Beaton June 1
- Frank Brock Jr. Aug. 1
- Paul Gilliland July 1
- Julian Lascrain June 1
- Charles Malara July 1
- Shirley Mogil July 1
- Yas Murayama June 1
- Margaret Roberts June 1
- Warren Slover July 1
- Victor Snow June 1
- Clinton Strain July 1
- Pete Valez July 1
- Justa Velasco July 1
- Dorothy Winn June 1

Support Systems

- Hortensia Doctors June 1

Anniversaries

30 years

Ground Systems Group

- Albert Nemsgern

Space and Communications Group

- Duane Miller, Donald Marriage.

Radar Systems Group

- Helen Berry, Clifford Derrham, Harold Hayes, Ruth Banks, Ronald Nelson, Don Devendorf, Michael Hershberger.

Industrial Electronics Group

- Frank Albertson, Burton Brickman, Clement Quella Jr.

Electro-Optical and Data Systems Group

- Robert Wooddell, Richard Kingham, Sylvio Desjardins, Howard Smith, Justin Oien, Lee Bateman.

