

MY LIFE BARTLETT

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FOCUS | HOBBIES

Family floats a big idea

Special to My Life

What can you do in a weekend? The Buckner family of Bartlett built a boat.

It had been a long-held wish of Ken Buckner's to build his own boat, so when his wife, Jennifer, came across an article in Southern Living magazine about the Tennessee Boat Building School in Big Sandy, Tenn., they decided to make the trip.

"They hold the school a few times a year, and it just so happened that the one in October was when the boys had a day off," said Jennifer. "We drove up on a Friday, and started building at 8 a.m. on Saturday. By Sunday around 3 p.m. we were in the boat on the water."

The class isn't just for adults. The Buckner children, Alex, 10, and Jack, 8, helped with the construction as they were determined to get the boat into water.

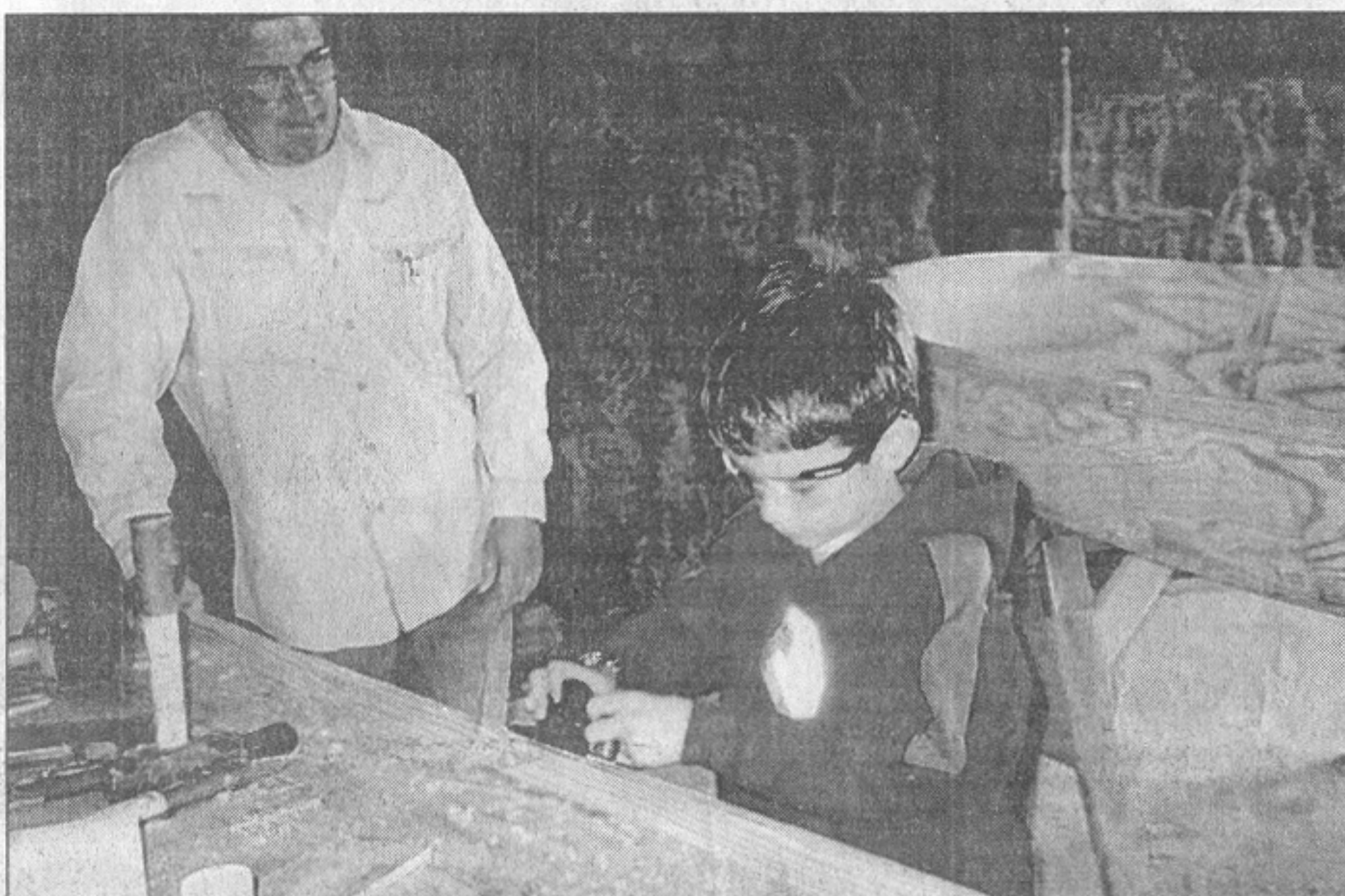
"The boys helped a lot," said Jennifer. "there are no power tools used to build, just old-fashioned hammering and planing the edges."

If you'd like more information about the Tennessee Boat School, contact Karl and Debi Weinert at tennesseboatschool.com.

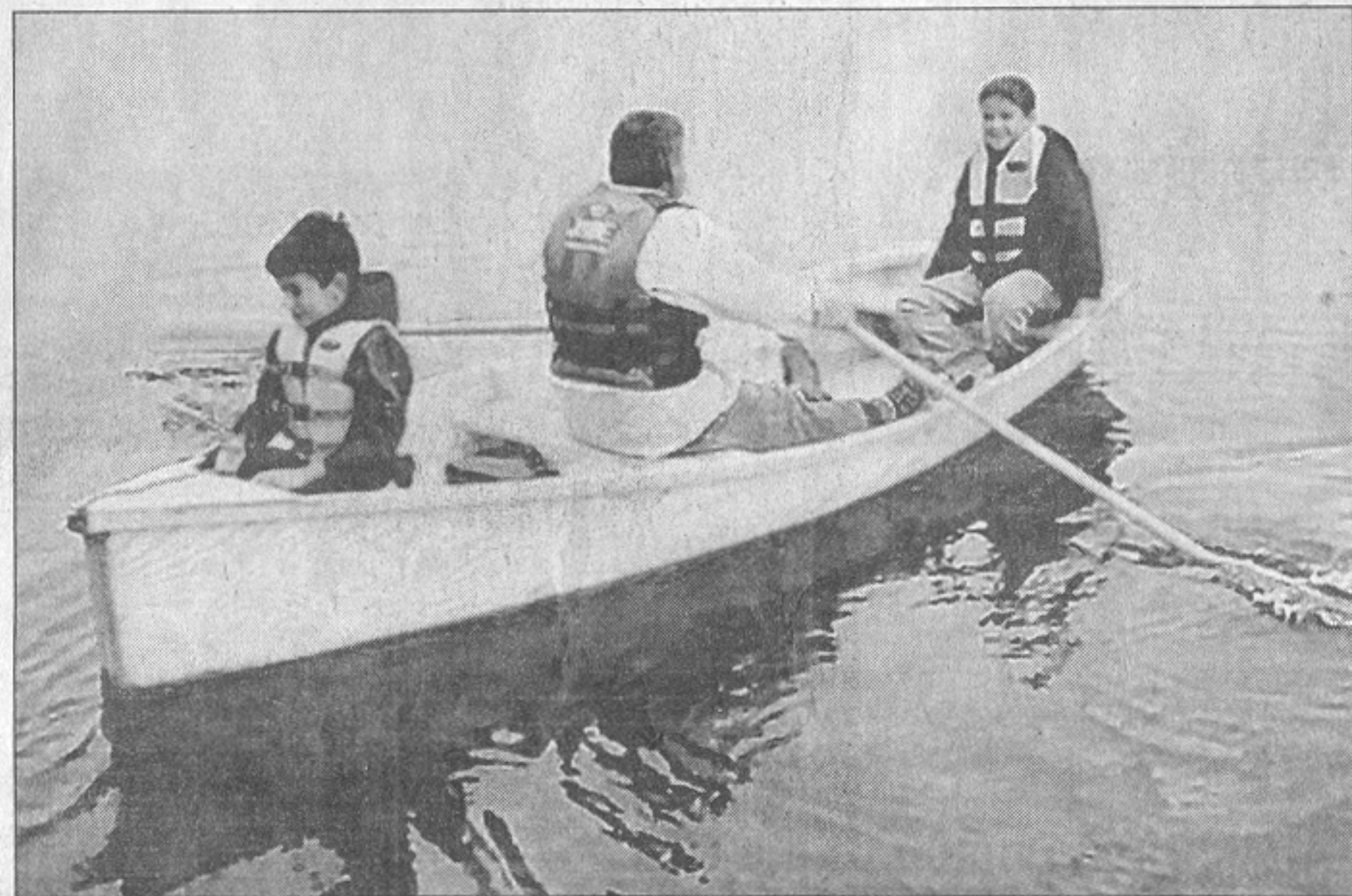
With a little teamwork the Buckner family was able to create their very own boat.



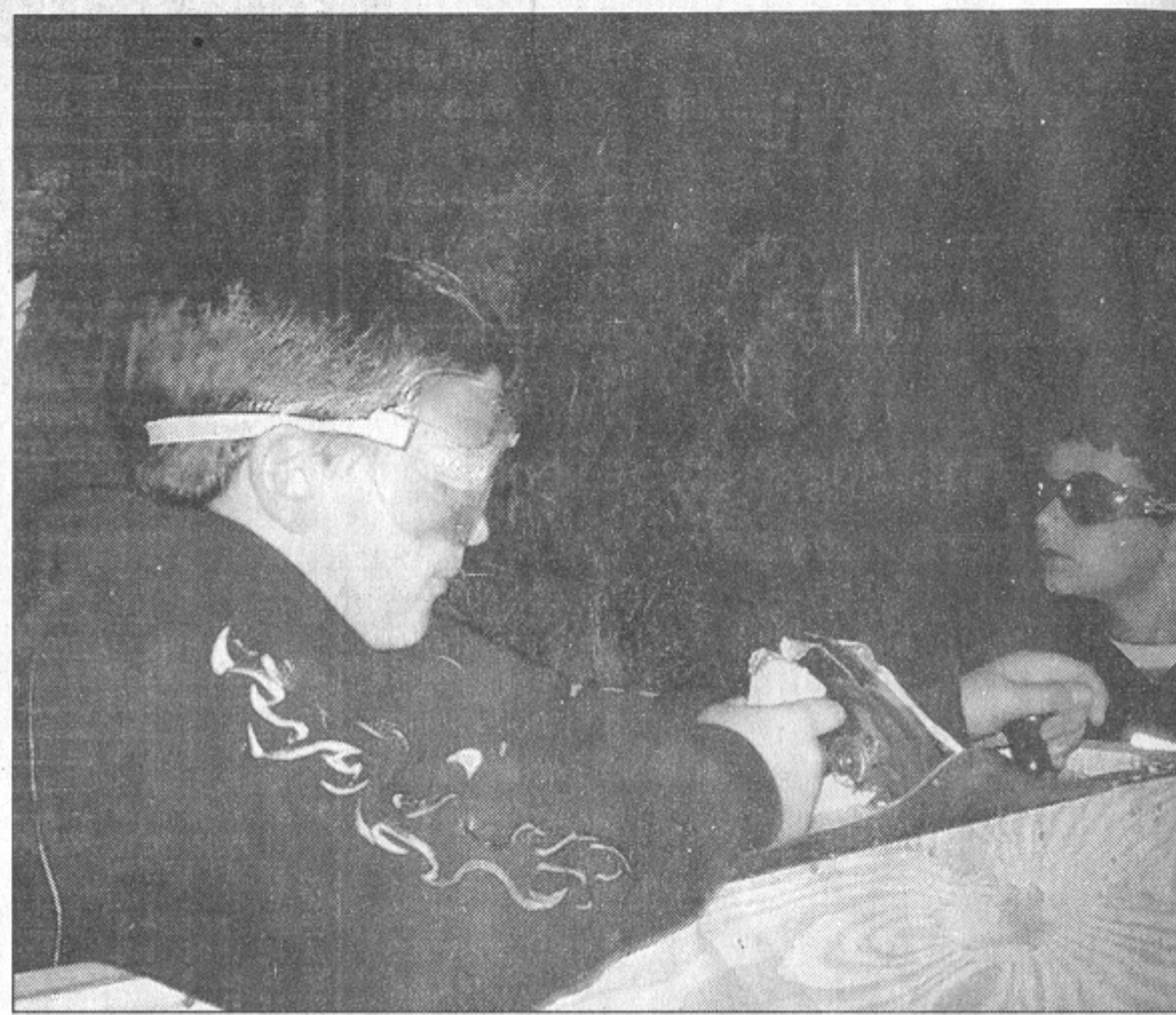
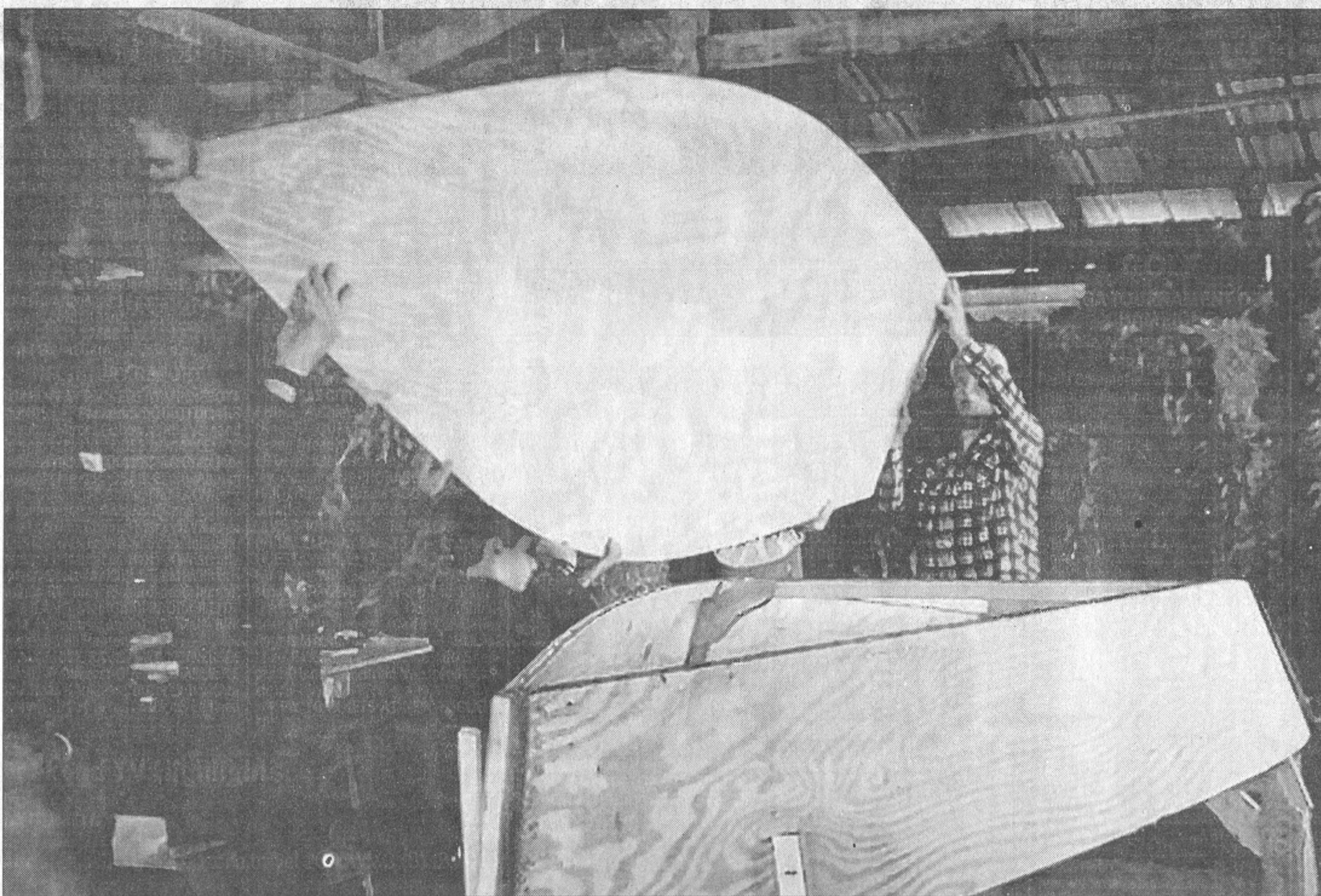
Ken Buckner works on sealing up his boat. The Buckner family traveled to Big Sandy, Tenn., to attend the Tennessee Boat Building School.



Jack Buckner tries his hand at sanding under the watchful eye of dad Ken.



It floats! The Buckners' handcrafted boat is ready for a trip around the lake.



Alex Buckner takes his turn sanding down the boat.

The guys get ready to put the bottom on their boat.

It was a dream fulfilled for Ken Buckner of Bartlett, who always had wanted to build his own boat. Buckner, along with wife Jennifer and sons Alex and Jack, visited Big Sandy, Tenn., to attend the Tennessee Boat Building School.



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My Life is a page filled with reader-submitted photos and stories by folks like you.

Did you get some great pictures at a recent party? Send 'em in.

Planning an event at your church or school? Jot down a few lines about it.

E-mail photos and stories to mylife@bartlettappeal.com or mail to My Life Bartlett, 2965 N. Germantown Road, Suite 116, Bartlett, TN 38133.

Questions? Call Stephanie Norton, 529-5270.



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