

Midas man pursues photography

Sees nature with an 'inner eye'

By MARY GNEWIK

There are two things that Monte Nagler knows well. One is the muffler business and the other is photography. Nagler is owner of Midas Muffler Shops in Farmington and Taylor. Away from the job, he spends most of his free time taking pictures or developing color prints in the darkroom of his West Bloomfield home.

"Everyone should have a hobby outside their job," he said. "A creative outlet is a great release."

Nagler is president of the Greater Detroit Camera Club Council, winner of several national and local photography contests and currently has an exhibit of 38 color prints at the Framery One Gallery in downtown Farmington.

The vivid color prints range in subject matter from animals and nature to city scenes and people. Nagler delights in various techniques, like shooting his subject through glass or thin tissue.

Cloudy or bright color filters highlight the photos in unusual ways, like "Magenta Sunset," which captures the Texas desert in purplish red splendor. "Tobacco Sky" shows layers of yellow and orange horizon in a misty fog.

"Half the fun is taking the picture. But the other half is processing the slides. I put slides together to get various effects. Sometimes I'll purposely overexpose one print and then use the subject matter from it with a different sky."

"I WANT TO convey a message with my pictures. Like in 'Desert Flower' a single flower in the foreground actually overshadows the mountains behind it. I wanted to show the importance of the small things in nature."

Nagler describes photography as going beyond seeing objects as surface things to seeing what he feels.

"Our inner eyes let us see with our hearts and minds, they enable us to appreciate the beauty in what we are beholding. Our photographs are a reflection of ourselves because they reflect our feelings."

"I pre-visualize pictures. I mix slides together to see what looks good. I might montage a tree with a sunset to get a stark contrast or sandwich a



Monte Nagler stands in front of his color exhibit at Framery One. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

silhouette of a building with bright colors.

"A lot of people say that photography is not an art. But there's so much more than just snapping a camera button. It's secondary to me if someone buys one of my pictures."

"I'd rather use an exhibit to promote photography as an art, to give people an appreciation of things that are visually pleasing."

In New York City, Nagler once leased a helicopter to get aerial views of the World Trade Center and the Hudson River.

"I WAS LITERALLY strapped in and hanging over the side to get the angle I wanted," he said. Nagler's interest in photography

sprung from a visit to Hawaii eight years ago, picture.

"I was 31 years old and up until then, I had never taken a picture. I just had an instamatic camera I used on birthdays or other picture occasions. I wasn't even going to take a camera on the trip, but my wife insisted."

"I think I took about three rolls of film. I really enjoyed taking them. Unfortunately, the camera was broken, and none of the pictures turned out. But my interest was already developing. I bought a photography magazine, then a book and it further stimulated my interest."

"I bought a Bell & Howell camera for about \$100. The camera shop owner, Herb Shapiro, critiqued my

first work and encouraged me to continue. Eventually, I outgrew the camera and purchased a Canon. Now I have about 15 lenses and 6 cameras."

Nagler's taught himself how to use a camera and darkroom. Next month he will be teaching a course in photography for the first time, though he has lectured in schools and for camera clubs.

"It's just something I love. And I go out of my way to keep it a hobby. This is my hobby. I've got my business. People have asked me to shoot weddings, but I don't want to make it a chore. Business and hobby are separate and should be kept that way."

"Every picture tells a story. Someday, I'd like to do a book of pictures. That's a goal of mine."

save energy

Most ovens do not need to be preheated as long as your recipe may indicate. The oven in your electric range can be turned off about ten minutes before the food is done; the residual heat will finish the job.

Custom Draperies & Upholstery

Inclusion and/or Delivery In Time for the Holidays!

• Free Estimates

• Free Pick-up & Delivery

Interiors by Frederick

Lobb Upholstery

30942 Grand River, Farmington • 477-5642

Philip B. Thomas, Inc.

Started in business, 1949, in Farmington

Specializing in Personalized Custom Designing & Creative Styling of Jewelry

We are proud to announce ROBERT F. WILLIAMS has joined our staff

Authorized Dealer.

Citizen Watch

RESTRING JEWELRY • REPAIR

WATCH • CLOCK REPAIR

478-9050

Mon-Sat 9:30-5:30

CLOSED WEDNESDAY



33425 Grand River Suite B1
Side Entrance
Township Hall
Masonic Temple

leona

Pre-Holiday Sale
14 kt. Gold Jewelry
30% OFF

Designer Handbags 20%-50% Off

AT ALL 3 LOCATIONS

December 14-17

Orchard Mall

Orchard at Maple

West Bloomfield, 851-4460

Orchard Mall

Sunday 12-5

La Pavilion

30820 Southfield Rd.

Southfield

Regency Programmable Police Scanner

10 channel
No crystals
to buy

149⁸⁸

Lafayette

12 Locations to Serve You



Glass-Top Cocktail Table

Gothic Jacobean "twisted rope" legs in fruitwood finish. Glass top rimmed with heavy scalloped brass. 28x48x17 h. \$649

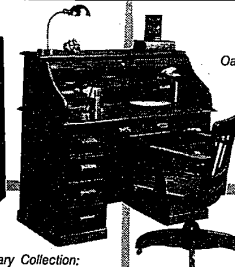
Television Stand

So handy...on casters for mobility. Plenty of room for book storage, and the TV. Fruitwood finish. 32x15x40 h. \$99



From our Apothecary Collection: Marble-top Chest

"Apothecary" Chest has smooth marble top, multi-faceted glass cover pulls. 33x20x20 h. Stock only, 2 units to sell \$249



Open evenings 'til 9 P.M.
Saturdays 'til 5:30 P.M.

Oak Roll-Top Desk

A beloved style desk...with loads of storage space. Has 5 lockable drawers including 2 tie drawers with pendulum lockers and pigeon hole dividers. Lighted interior, lockable top. 30x54x30 h. \$759

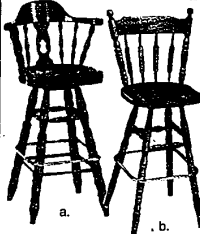
Oak Roll-Top Desk

English Tudor style has turned legs, bookshelves, two drawers and lighted interior. Writing surface covered in gold-tooled leather. 28x17x44 h. \$299



MOST ITEMS IN STOCK FOR DELIVERY NOW!

Four Great Bar Stools



A. Dark Pine Commodore Stool with memory swivel seat, brass foot rail. Choice of 18", 24" and 30" heights. \$99

B. Attractive dark oak Bar Stool has brass foot ring. Choice 18", 24" and 30" heights. \$79



C. "Kneepates" Golden Oak high panel Bar Stool has nostalgic detail carried out right in the embossed scrollwork on the back of the chair. \$119

D. Solid Hardwood Maple or Pine Early American Bar Stool has swivel with a memory, that can be locked in place by the turn of a hex nut. Choice of 18", 24" and 30" height. \$69



"Pop-up" Barcalounger

Hidden "pop-up" headrest makes extra comfort when stretched out. Wall Lounger style hugs the wall...never more than 3" away when fully opened. In rust, brown or beige. Hertzian cordonly. \$419

Genuine Leather Barcalounger



Oriental-style Chest

Raised Gesso decorations in gold and soft pastel accent the rich black lacquer finish, striped with gold. Has brass hinges. Sliding tray & adjustable interior shelf. 38x18x32 h. \$799

Folding Card Table & Chairs

Table matches any decor in fruitwood finish with beige upholstery or harvest finish with contrasting pad. 30x30x29 h. Table-back beige upholstered seat folding chair matches the table. Table...\$44 Chairs...\$26 each

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

Table

Chairs

this christmas, give his neck a break!

executive custom shirtmakers inc.

201 E. Woodward Ave. Farmington 642-0460

John Anhut of the Botsford Inn and a Director of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce urges you to Shop Farmington and Farmington Hills Merchants

4080 TELEGRAPH RD. (at Long Lake Rd.) BLOOMFIELD HILLS • 644-7370