

Add a touch of luxury to gift list

Story: RUSTLE SHAND
Photos: DICK KELLEY

If the Christmas crazies are beginning to get to you and the practical side of your nature refuses to give in to fro-frou and frivolity, here are some gift ideas that will add a decided touch of luxury to even the most practical theme.

At Under-it-All, the lingerie boutique in Franklin Village, there are pure silk knit underthings with a true air of quality. Soft and silky, but very warm, the West German imports are sleek under wear for



'Sauggies' also in silk are from Under-it-all and can add a touch of whimsy, even glamour to your gift giving.

à la mode

ski apparel. There are also knit camisoles with matching snuggles that will keep her toasty warm under sensuous silks on holiday evenings.

For elegantly warm hands, Claire Pearce suggests imported French kid gloves with sable cuffs, \$100. For cuddling away the winter chill there are luscious hand-knit angora sweaters in the newest pastel colors as well as uplifting brights, \$200 to \$250. The practical Santa will love these items because they promise to be an important fashion accent now through the summer months ahead.

Even the most practical Santa knows a woman needs a belt to keep her jeans up. Linda Dresner's Somerset Mall shop has the ultimate in status belts — Berry Kisselstein-Cord's lizard Western belt with silver buckle, \$495.

Or, if milady needs a black leather handbag, Linda Dresner has handbags complete with mink tails. For a warm, practical gift that will be cherished through a lifetime, Lord & Taylor has cultured pearl chokers bearing a \$300 price tag.

Then there is the gift for the busy woman who really should carry her keys wherever she goes. Hattie's Birmingham shop has a practical answer for her dilemma. An appointment calendar and address book are both smartly zipped-up in a stunning snakeskin case that slips inside a tote or briefcase, \$76.

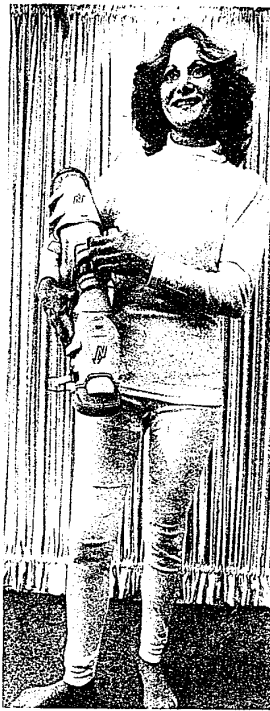
Or, how about a gift certificate for custom-made shirts to go with her jeans and status belt? Executive Shirtmaker on Woodward in Birmingham caters to the well-dressed woman as well as men.

Speaking of men who like to give practical gifts but really do enjoy receiving a bit of whimsy themselves, don't overlook the soap duckie that floats in the tub on a miniature wooden yacht. Aramis designed these Christmas goodies.

GIVE HIM a traditional V-neck pullover, \$95, from the Executive Shirtmaker shop. Or, if it wouldn't be Christmas with a tie for him under the tree, check out ties at the same shop where there is a series of silk ties labeled "The Culture of Man."

Authentic Chinese designs are reproduced on Italian silk with colors taken from ancient Chinese rugs, tapestries and vases. Each \$15 tie bodes well for the wearer, because the designs wish him such things as "lifelong health and prosperity."

If none of the foregoing gift ideas appeals to you, consider a gift for the house. At Saks Fifth Avenue, you will find a box of citrus scented incense sticks, \$17.50, and the refreshing scent of the red Rigaard candle, \$38.50. The Rigaard candle is also available at Janet Varner in Rochester.



Silk knit turtleneck with matching pants comes in bone or black. The longjohns may be non-essential but can be fun. They are at Under-it-all in Franklin Village.

fashion calendar

Monday, Dec. 17

Sak's Fifth Avenue — SFA Toy Shop has creations from Santa's Workshop for his favorite little people in the Children's Collection on the second floor.

Alfred's Restaurant — Fashions from Somerset Mall shops are modeled from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Alfred's Restaurant daily. Schedule for the week is as follows: Monday, fashions from Bonwit Teller; Tuesday, Lingerie; Wednesday, Don Thomas Sportswear; Thursday, Bonwit Teller; Friday, Rodier; and Saturday, Tennis Lady and Robert Furs.

Hudson's — Michigan residents will be given the opportunity to view for the first time the complete collection of

Royal Copenhagen Christmas Plates now on display in Hudson's Northland store through Dec. 26. The Plate Collection was flown in from the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Museum in Denmark. It will be displayed along with the first edition of Royal Copenhagen's new Christmas Cup and Saucer Series.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Cooper's Arms — Designer fashions from Janet Varner of Rochester are modeled informally from noon to 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday through May in the Cooper's Arms restaurant, 306 Main Street in downtown Rochester.

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Sak's presents Fancy Wrap, special holiday gift

wrapping service makes such pretty packages you won't mind waiting to open them.

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Christmas stockings in the shape of boots, ballet slippers and roller skates made of hand-sewn quilts in the Boutique Collections on the second floor.

Thursday, Dec. 20

Sak's Fifth Avenue — A cuisinart demonstration will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Boutique Collections on the second floor.

Friday, Dec. 21

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Culinary delights for the gourmet cook are available for

gift giving. Herb Oil Melange or Oregon Vinegar are featured on the second floor.

Saturday, Dec. 22

Sak's Fifth Avenue — The most opulent, extravagant gifts ever imagined are presented in The Ultimate Shop on the second floor.

Sunday, Dec. 23

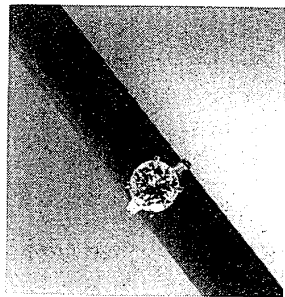
Chudik's of Birmingham — Chudik's opens its doors from 1 to 5 p.m. for holiday shoppers. Ceresale & Offen — The store will be open every Sunday until Christmas from noon to 5 p.m.

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Mime Time is presented from noon to 4 p.m. in the mall.



Diamondair 11™ — in all its dazzling clarity! A treasure produced by man that so rivals the beauty of nature's real diamond... that the two are nearly indistinguishable! Here, the pear-shaped ring: its 58-faceted cutting, the same as that of a real diamond, transforming it into a blaze of fire and ice! 5 cts., \$425. Everything in weights of over 3 carats, \$85 per carat. In Fine Jewelry Collections — where we are all the things you are... gifts just right for you. Photograph enlarged to show detail.

Saks Fifth Avenue



Diamondair 11™ — in all its fiery brilliance, is man's most spectacular simulated jewel today! Incredibly hard and diamond-like in its resilience, gloriously radiant — as it is but with the same full 58-facet technique used in cutting the real gemstone. Here, the round-shaped ring, 4 cts., \$340. Everything in weights of over 3 carats, \$85 per carat. In Fine Jewelry Collections — where we are all the things you are... gifts just right for you. Photograph enlarged to show detail.

Saks Fifth Avenue



Diamondair 11™ — in all its dramatic depth! It's as if man captured all the brilliance of the heavens and the intimacy of the heart for a stone that would almost duplicate the diamond! Here, the ultimate simulated jewel: the marquise cut ring, set with tapered baguettes. 3 cts., \$255. Everything in weights of over 3 carats, \$85 per carat. In Fine Jewelry Collections — where we are all the things you are... gifts just right for you. Photograph enlarged to show detail.

Saks Fifth Avenue

Saks Fifth Avenue, Detroit, Second at Lothrop, open Monday through Saturday, 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge, open Monday through Friday, 10:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M., Saturdays, 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Sundays, Noon to 5:00 P.M.

Short cuts help cooks

Every holiday cook finds there aren't enough hours in the day to accomplish all the cooking and baking.

So here's a list of handy hints for saving time and money from the Oakland County Co-operative Extension Service, courtesy of home economist Lois Thielcke.

- Buy candles ahead of time on sale. Freeze them; they keep their shape, burn with a bright flame and are not as likely to drip.

- When you need extra ice cubes for the holidays, instead of buying them or buying extra ice cube trays, use your muffin tins.

- Cut leftover toast into cubes and fry them in garlic butter to use as croutons for soups or salads. (They're much better than the kind you get in a box and are cheaper.)

- After the holidays, use up leftover hard candy by adding to applesauce. Heat thoroughly. The candy gives the applesauce a spicy flavor.

- Buy bananas when they are cheap. The ones that are over-ripe, mash and freeze in portions for banana breads, cookies or cake.

- When a recipe calls for softened butter which you forgot to take out of the refrigerator, measure the correct amount and shred it as you would a carrot. The small pieces will be soft enough.

- Make use of your freezer. A couple of weeks before Christmas, freeze cooked squash in a casserole. Make cranberry relish, pie, or pie crusts, etc., and put them in there too.

- To get Brazil nuts out of the shell unbroken, freeze them until the shells crack.

- To shell walnuts, soak them overnight in salt water before cracking gently to get the walnut meats out whole.

- Cranberries grind very neatly when frozen.

- Perk up soggy lettuce by adding lemon juice to a bowl of cold water and soak for an hour in the refrigerator.

- For a quick salad, freeze a can of unopened fruit cocktail. Open both ends, push out the frozen fruit and slice. Top with mayonnaise or fruit salad dressing and serve on lettuce.

Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON

Top crust

Whether or not you like spinach is immaterial. These spinach pies don't taste like spinach at all; they just taste great. The filling which consists of spinach, onion, cheeses and seasonings is enveloped by layer upon layer of paper-thin crisp and flaky phyllo dough. You can buy them uncooked to keep in your freezer and bake when needed or you can buy them precooked and reheat them. Sold by the strip for \$3.60, one strip will yield either six large pieces or 12 hors d'oeuvre-sized pieces. One day's advance notice is requested.

Oiga's Kitchen: 210 S. Woodward, Birmingham, 647-2760; Northland Shopping Center, Southfield, 557-5555 and Twelve Oaks Mall, Novi, 349-5520.

Going home

Jim Cutler will create a pen and ink drawing, 8-by-10 inches, of any home in the Oakland County area (\$15 to \$25 depending on the architecture of the home). He can work from any photo you supply or, if necessary, he will visit the property himself and take photos to work from. If you place your order by Thursday, Dec. 20, chances are excellent that Mr. Cutler can get the drawing completed and delivered to the recipient by Christmas day. If not, he will provide the recipient with a gift card explaining that the gift is on its way.

Jim Cutler, 354-1771.

Bottoms up

Talk about getting behind Christmas, here's a sensational stocking stuffer for the young or young-at-heart females on your list. LuLu's Lingerie has a group of white cotton underpants (\$2.50 each) with Christmas related words and symbols stenciled on the rear. For example, the word "joy" is written in blue lettering but the letter "o" has been replaced by a drawing of a round Santa's face. Other versions feature the words "HoHoHo," "love" or "peace."

LuLu's Lingerie, 3615 W. Maple at Lahser, Birmingham, 644-4576 or 28805 Evergreen, Southfield, 355-5599.

Trunk showing

1980 being an election year, these wraparound skirts would make darling gifts for any staunch Republicans you know. Hand-made by volunteers of the Traub School Parent Teacher Organization in each white skirt features a gray elephant appliqued on the front plus colorful calico-print appliqued trim. The elephants have one floppy ear, a button eye and a red cord tail that is tied with a green bow. Priced at \$45 (\$40 of which is tax deductible), the skirts can be delivered anywhere in the

Oakland County area. Schoolhouse Productions: Nancy Fleischman, 647-1787; Vi Hegg, 646-0454 or Nancy Jaycox, 338-0883.

