

Room for Design

Collectible plates grow in value



by
Gloria
Cohen

The amazing care and artistry that goes into Delftware elevates these designs far beyond the realm of mere gastronomic utility. To eat from a Delftware plate would be akin to commuting in a 1930 Bentley. Indeed, Delftware is among the elite genre of plate "collectibles" which are admired, traded and auctioned by 4.5 million collectors worldwide. Unlike stamps and coins, most collector plates are original works of art issued in limited editions and meant to be prominently displayed rather than stored.

Like stocks and bonds, there are many different types of collector plates to serve a wide range of purposes. But unlike stock certificates, these decorative objects d'art are meant to be hung and admired.

Plate collecting is likely to be a prime investment in the 1980s. Plates will continue to go up regardless of what happens to the dollar, the yen or the price of gold.

PLATES ARE quite affordable, starting at approximately \$19 and going up to thousands of dollars. The investment is safe because no matter how many new plate issues are produced each year, thousands of new collectors entering the market annually offset that increase.

Collectors crave both the investment and aesthetic satisfactions of plates. An intriguing aspect is the fact that each plate is part of a limited edition. Plate collecting is as old as 17th century Florence, where honored dinner guests often

received the handcrafted plates from which they had eaten as a token of the host's esteem.

Plate prices rose rapidly as the number of collectors and dealers increased. By 1971 the plate collector's market was booming. In fact, the Wedgwood Christmas plate which retailed for \$25 when issued in 1969 was selling for \$200 after only two years.

European plate manufacturers have, in the past, traditionally struck plates with holiday themes or nature motifs to suit all occasions.

More recently, however, American designers have introduced popular new "fashion plates" featuring the works of such well-known American artists as Norman Rockwell, James Wyeth, Dong Kingman and Edna Hibel.

PLATES RUN the gamut of styles ranging from the traditional to the contemporary, in materials, embracing virtually every natural and manufactured substance — porcelain, terra cotta, crystal, cut glass, sterling silver, alabaster, silver, gold and even wood.

Traditionally, collector plates are made of ceramic and/or porcelain or bone china. Although they come in many sizes, most are round. Nearly all are handmade, struck in tightly controlled numbers and, like Delftware, are hand-painted.

The initial public demand for plates as collectible investments actually began in 1969 when Bing & Grondahl issued its now famous "Dog and Puppies" Christmas plate which became an immediate best seller.

Later that year Wedgwood issued its first Christmas plate which also sold out and began to climb in value. Following the lucrative example set by the Christmas plates, Jensen, Haviland, Spode,

Pickard and other plate manufacturers began to issue plates that quickly began selling for many times their original price.

The plates can be displayed in a china cabinet, or hung individually on the wall over the buffet.

Still another way is to install a plate rail in the dining area, usually about 14 inches from the ceiling, the length or width of the room. This display will be the focal point of the room and insure safe-keeping.

A limited offer: Burial Space for Two \$295

In order to ease the financial strain that death inevitably places on the surviving members of the family, we are offering—for a very short time—on a pre-need basis—double burial plots from as low as \$295. Less than \$150 each. Monthly payment plan available.

Send Coupon Today

Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens

17840 Middlebelt Road
Livonia, Mich. 48152 Ph: 522-2200

Gentlemen: Please furnish more information on your limited pre-need property offer.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____



The Sharrett Brothers

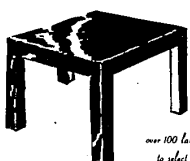
in concert

Sunday, April 29, 6:30 p.m.
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
30623 W. 12 MILE RD.
FARMINGTON HILLS



May Special!

parsons games/dining table



\$165
36 x 36 x 29

over 100 laminated
to select from
other styles & sizes available

Creative Tables, etc.

Muriel Wettsman 354-4126 Vicky Leebowe 851-0789

THE PINCHED PLEAT presents.
35% OFF
levolors, verticals
& woven wood blinds
INSTALLATIONS • IN HOME SERVICE
624-5503

If you're not wearing it, Sell it.
You can't enjoy your jewelry if it's sitting in your safe deposit box. Sell it for immediate cash. We purchase fine gems, Diamonds, and Gold jewelry.
A service to private owned owners, banks and estates.
Norman Allan
Gemologist • Diamondologist Established 1919
30400 Telegraph Road Suite 134
Birmingham, Michigan 48010 Call 642-5575

Advice to Bead Lovers
You'll find everything you need to put it all together at
Bead Store
325 S. Woodward (Corner Division)
in Birmingham Tel: 624-5500

celebrate your birthday at
Alfred's RESTAURANT
• DINNER AND CAKE FREE •
Call For Further Details
643-8865
Somerset Mall Troy

State College of Beauty
2165 S. TELEGRAPH
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
NOW PRESENTS OUR NEW LINE OF
MAKE-UP CALLED "JAMIE"
Find out how to make money
in your spare time by selling "Jamie"
Call 777-9000 Collect
Ask for Kathy

The Fit

Child Life
your youngster's feet deserve...
...and the comfort styled into every pair of Child Life shoes... a fitting combination!
Come see us soon.

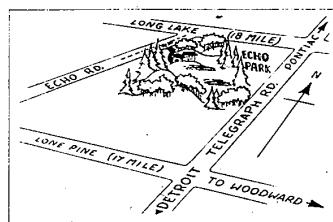
West Bloomfield Plaza 6734 Orchard Lake Rd.
KID POWER SHOE WORLD

echo park day camp, inc.

NOW ACCEPTING SUMMER DAY CAMP ENROLLMENTS FOR SUMMER, '79

This summer give your child the wonderful experience of Echo Park Summer Camp.

- Three lakes on 112 acres
- Swimming, boating, archery, nature study, crafts, fishing, cookouts
- Children 3½ to 14 years old
- Experienced camp counselors
- Four Week sessions
- Family memberships available



APPLICATIONS AND INFORMATION
AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
PHONE 646-5590

ECHO PARK DAY CAMP, INC.

4275 Echo Road, Bloomfield Hills



Today's log home owner doesn't look like Daniel Boone.

A growing number of very contemporary people are choosing Boyne Falls Log Homes as the type of home that makes sense for them.
Boyne Falls homes are custom-made from Northern White Cedar, a nearly perfect building material. A superior natural insulator, it's fire-resistant and maintenance-free.

Each home is built literally one log at a time. Skilled craftsmen hand-peel each log twice, pre-cut and pre-fit difficult angles to insure exacting fit on your site.

Send \$4 for our colorful portfolio, or write for our free brochure.



Carol Mock
29451 Greenfield Road Dept. 80
Southfield, Michigan 48076 • 313-557-0103

Name	_____
Address	_____
City	_____
State	_____ Zip _____
Phone	_____