



Long-lasting joy

Long after the Christmas tree is just a memory and the decorations are packed away for another year, your gift of an M.I. Hummel figurine by Goebel of West Germany will continue to bring joy. This holiday, two figurines, "Hear Ye! Hear Ye!" and "The Skier" have been packaged for holiday giving. Each is boxed with a sprig of spruce and bell design and comes with its own "Happy Holidays" greeting. Hummels are available in fine gift departments throughout the area.

Display those ornaments

AP — For those whose closets and attic trunks are stuffed with holiday ornaments, think of Clara Johnson Scroggins.

She has a personal collection of more than 30,000 ornaments.

"Each ornament has a special meaning for me," said Scroggins, author of "Hallmark Keepsake Ornaments: A Collector's Guide."

Holiday ornaments have come a long way since the standard glass balls, tinsel, angel hair and garlands. Many now are crafted in acrylic, bone china, wood and porcelain.

Scroggins, a former fashion model and broadcast journalist who now lives in Houston, Texas, with her husband

and son, says ornaments aren't for the Christmas tree alone and need not be packed away after the holiday.

She offers some ideas for decorative ways to use ornaments throughout the year:

- Display them on bookshelves or mantels, in a printer's box or shadow box.

- Hang crystal ornaments in the window to create holiday prisms when the sun shines through.

- Adorn your house plants.

- For a dinner party, mark place settings with ornaments to be taken home after the party.

- Hang ornaments from curtain rods, window shade cords or tie-backs.

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