

## TREASURE SEARCH

## Child's chair takes from many cultures



NANCY AND FRANK BOOS

Dear Nancy and Frank:

My grandparents came from Finland and I remember this chair as a small child. I'm now 55. Can you tell me about this chair?

Sandra Strubel, Romulus

Dear Sandra:

We don't believe this chair is of Finnish heritage. We think this chair is of the "Heinz 57" variety regarding heritage. We don't wish to hurt your feelings, but this chair has charm and whimsy in that it isn't purebred but a combination of many hereditary characteristics.

For instance, the legs appear English in style, the arms similar to country American or a variant of English William and Mary, the back reminiscent of a ladderback chair (although ladderbacks usually have at least three cross members), and the top backrest carved with a grotesque face reminds us of what's called "fantasy" or "grotesque" furniture.

Fantasy furniture is basically Vene-

tian in style and bears a profusion of grotesque masks, heavily carved evil-looking creatures and exotic sculptural motifs. Great fun!

But don't consider your chair as unwanted or unappealing because it's not aristocratic lines-wise. There is a specific market out there composed of

people who love the unexpected, non-conforming and less than traditional. This is also the kind of heirloom your family will enjoy.

We think your chair is newer, possibly turn of the century, and therefore not antique. The definition of "antique" for furniture is at least 100 years

old. We feel that it could possibly be found in a retail shop for around \$300 to \$400.

Nancy and Frank Boos are with the Frank H. Boos Gallery, an appraisal firm and auction house at 420 Enterprise Court in Bloomfield Hills.



Charming chair: This chair combines many characteristics, giving it charm and whimsy.

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Presented by Carl J. Crespi & Mark Aronoff

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When the original rules of kitchen design were established more than 50 years ago, they were based on the presumption that the average kitchen had three major appliances. Thus began the notion of the "work triangle" with its refrigerator area, sink/dishwasher area, and range/cooking area at each of its corners. Here studies show that typical kitchens today have six major appliances. These additional kitchen features have served to stretch the classic work triangle into a rectangle or double triangle. Where two work triangles are involved, one leg from each may coincide but not overlap the other. Secondary work triangles should also have adequate counter space, storage, a water source, and access to microwave oven or other cooking appliance.

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HKT: About 25 percent of today's kitchens have second sinks for greater efficiency.

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