

Experts discuss yesterday's treasures

Want to learn more about antiques, art and gemstones? In a valuable opportunity to hear the experts share important information about these special items you may have tucked away in an attic or basement, picked up at an auction or rescued from a neighborhood garage sale, or that may have caught your eye at a special gallery or been passed down to you from a caring relative, an important program series is being offered to help you identify and evaluate each item.

Sponsored by Schoolcraft College, two professional appraisers will be on hand to share their expertise. Frank Boos, owner of the Frank H. Boos Gallery in Bloomfield Hills, and James Krol, owner of Birmingham Gemological Services, will discuss what's "out there" in the marketplace as well as what items to look for and how to determine the value.

Art work, furniture and accessories and fine jewelry (both new and antique) will be discussed. The four-session, Wednesday program series begins May 16, with the focus "Antique Furniture." The program will feature "Art, Paintings and Prints" May 22, "Silver, China and Objects d'Art" May 29 and "Jewelry and Gemstones" June 12.

The classes will take place 6-8 p.m. at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Cost is

\$100 for all four sessions or \$30 for individual sessions. Senior class rates are available upon request. For a descriptive brochure or to register, call Schoolcraft College Continuing Education Services at (313) 482-4448.

Boos will lead the class on "Antique Furniture," from dining tables and armchairs to sideboards and torchieres, providing information about auctions for buyers and sellers of antique furniture. He will discuss appraisals, authenticating pieces, what's on the market and more.

In the next session, "Art, Paintings and Prints," participants will learn what to look for in discovering valuable works of art, methods of appraisal, art types, periods and origins. In the third class, Boos will cover what is important to collect today, significant history and value, and techniques to determine both.

Closing the series is Krol discussing "Jewelry and Gemstones." Students will learn about the four C's of the business: carat weight, color, clarity and cutting. Krol will discuss both antique and period pieces, including precious and semi-precious gemstones, and buying jewelry for today and tomorrow. He will also discuss how to evaluate what one already owns. Krol will share his unusual expertise, answer questions

and appraise individual pieces brought in by class participants.

Boos was the first U.S. agent for London's famous Christie's Gallery and handles appraisals for local, national and international markets. The Boos Gallery has been involved with numerous famous collections, including Robert Hudson Tannahill, Charles Gershenson, Alfred Glancy, Elizabeth Warren Sheldon, Nathan and Ruth Shapiro, Francis Robinson, W. Hawkins Ferry and Herbert Trix.

There is a vast regional auction market for antiques, collectibles, art, furnishings and other items, Boos said. As an auctioneer, Boos is considered matchless. He conducts regular auctions in his modern facilities, and mails more than 12,000 descriptive brochures

describing the items in each auction.

Krol is a past regional governor of the Accredited Gemologist Association as well as the International Society of Appraisers, of which he is past-president for the state chapter. He is a member of the International Society of Appraisers and the American Society of Appraisers, and a senior member of the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers.

Krol was selected to be included in the Who's Who of the Jewelry Industry by Jeweler's Circular-Keystone. One of numerous highlights of Krol's professional career was his work in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, when he was chosen to travel there to appraise a vast array of jewelry.

Show House opens doors

More than 30 of the area's top designers have transformed various rooms and areas of a distinctive residence to make the 1986 Designers' Show House for the Junior League of Detroit.

The house at 340 Lakeland, Grosse Pointe, will be open for public viewing May 4-26. A boutique stocked with unusual items ranging from fine jewelry and art work to cookbooks and food-stuffs will be featured, along with a cafe serving gourmet fare, a greenery complete with special garden accessories and plants and a raffle with prizes including a two-year lease on a 1986 Jaguar.

Tickets are \$12 advance, \$16 after May 3. Groups of 25 or more who buy tickets (\$10 per person) may arrange

for a tour guide to accompany them for an additional \$25 fee. With a minimum of six people, a private, pre-arranged tour is available for \$20 per person, which includes admission to the house. Both of these opportunities are available only through May 17, arrangements must be made in advance. Call the Junior League of Detroit at (313) 881-0040 for more information.

A debut cocktail party will take place Friday, May 3. Cost is \$50 per person; call for information.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday. No children under 8 admitted. Call Ann Watkins at (313) 684-9554 or Fran Miller at (313) 882-6758 for information.

House tour set May 11

Six of Birmingham's finest residences will be featured in the Birmingham Spring House Tour sponsored by Pierce Community Education, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 11.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of the tour, subject to availability. Tickets can be bought at Birming-

ham Community Market, Mills Pharmacy and Astrein's Jewelers through the day of the tour, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday at Pierce School.

All proceeds from the house tour will go toward building a community recreation park on the north side of Pierce School.



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