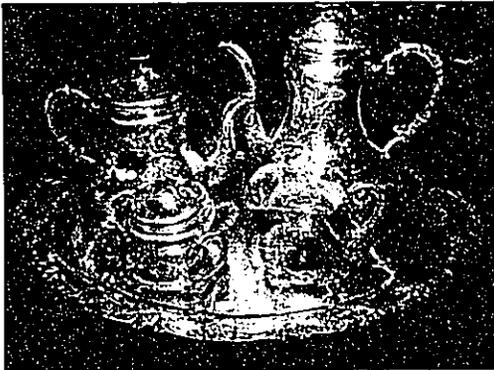
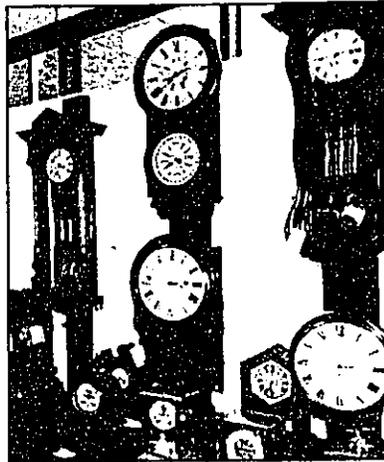




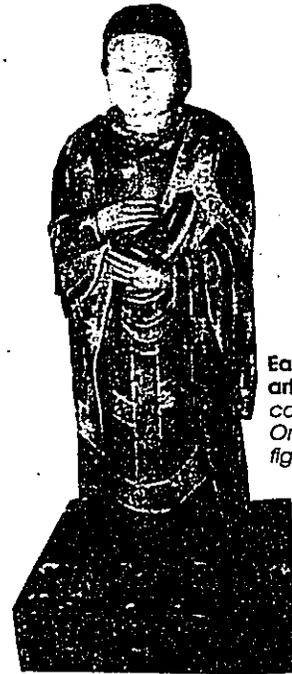
cover story



Tea Time: 19th century sterling German tea set.



Timely: Exquisite collections of clocks and timepieces.



Eastern art: Fine carved Oriental figure.

Into the past: Now's the time for antiques

BY MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

"Don't stop thinking about tomorrow ... Yesterday's gone" a popular song warned a few years ago.

But it's likely you're more in tune with the refrain of another song, "Everything old is new again," when it comes to antiques.

Antiques enthusiasts come in all ages; and if you'd like to get started collecting, there's no time like the present. Area dealers encourage novices to take that first step of finding out about the antiques they like.

"They're going to have an interest in certain things," said Doris McElmurry, owner of Dobbin House Antiques in Clarkston, which specializes in silver-plated flatware. "What they really need to do is they need to learn about the business ... Learn about the category."

The library is a good place to start, she said - "There's a plethora of books on antiques."

Also, "The best way to learn is go to shows ... talk to dealers."

McElmurry is one of more than 100 nationally rec-



Oriental beauty:
19th century Chinese vase

ognized exhibitors who will be at the Southfield Pavilion Antiques Exposition Friday-Sunday, Feb. 21-23, at the Southfield Civic Center, Evergreen at 10-1/2 Mile.

The show, in its 17th year, will feature a wide selection of American, European and Oriental antiques and fine art. Antiques dealers from across the country, noted authors and nationally known experts will display and sell collections.

If you're feeling intimidated, the answer "is to plunge in and buy what they like," said Joe Rumford, owner of Joe Rumford Antiques in Troy, another exposition participant. "Do a little comparison shopping."

Classes are available on antiques, said Rumford, who taught one such class at a Livonia high school.

"They need to do a lot of reading, a lot of research, a lot of looking," said Jack Gunsaulus, owner of Gray's Gallery and Jack's Corner Bookstore in Plymouth, which carries out-of-print books and jewelry and has been in the Southfield exhibit every year. "There are so many reproductions on the market right now, they really do have to do a lot of asking."

There always has to be a reason behind a collection, dealers said. It's something personal.

A history major, McElmurry started with Civil War items. Usable items such as furniture are always popular, she said.

"A lot of times they're collecting their childhood," McElmurry said.

"They like what they collect," said Rumford, whose shop features eclectic collections.

"With the new baby boomers the trend is going into modernism. A lot of people are collecting the '40s, '50s and '60s. (But) a lot of people want the 17th, 18th and 19th century."

A love of something old, something that has already been established, motivates many collectors.

"They feel safe, feel good," Rumford said.

Hours for the Southfield Pavilion Antiques Exposition are 2-9 p.m. Friday, noon to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$6 regular, \$5 with ads or listings of the event, free for age 12 or under. One paid admission is good for all three days of the show. Parking is free. Luncheons and dinners will be served daily.

ON THE COVER
A collection of Cottage Ware and miscellaneous country items.