

Use your wiles to find time-filling presents for retirees on Yule list

Good health is usually the first thing asked for by senior citizens at Christmas or any other time.

But for a gift list, they include items that reflect their way of life as retirees. No longer employed, they have more time for cards, reading, travel and hobbies, and make their Yule choices accordingly.

A decided interest in looking their best is also revealed by their gift selections.

"I'd really like a mink coat," giggled Thelma Box, who quickly added that she was only kidding.

But she thought that gloves would be lovely and scarves, a good choice.

"A blouse would be nice, but they'd have to know the size," she

said. "A good book is always appreciated."

Mrs. Box observed that she would also enjoy receiving a box of candy.

George Eckenowiller noted, "I can always use socks, stretch socks half way to the knee," and added, "I play cards about three times a week so I usually need a deck of cards."

Edith Robb hopes to do some traveling now that she has retired from teaching school, so she expressed an interest in lightweight luggage and a travel clock.

She thought that anyone interested in gardening would appreciate a garden tool in his stocking.

to appear the tree, if it happened to be a take-or-leave.

She also made a suggestion that plant retailers might offer specially gift certificates for plant lovers. A reader she likes history books, and believes a magazine subscription would be popular with many senior citizens.

"I think many would be pleased to receive stationery," he added.

Richard Bowdler would appreciate many of the items already mentioned, but he is big on picking out his own belongings. So his opinion of what would make a good holiday was not the usual gift.

"More than anything else, I'd like to get a Christmas card with a note in it from a friend or relative I haven't seen for a long time," he stated.

A wristwatch was high on the list of Mariana Scharf. "I need one," she pointed out.

She would also be receptive to pinocchio cards, as that game is popular with her. She indicated that flowers and plants would add a decorative note to her home and jewelry to herself.

"I like long necklaces and earrings for pierced ears," she said. It seems like she is planning an active social year because an evening coat was on her list.

Arthur Barnett thought that a sports jacket would be happily received by most male retirees. "I'd like to get a good ballpoint pen that runs through ink all a year," he remarked.

As president of the Over 50 Club at St. Theodore Church, Westland, he recently went with club members to visit a bird sanctuary. This reminded him that a camera might be just the thing to fill the hours of retired citizens. A couple of rolls of film, perhaps some of the pre-paid film variety, would be appreciated.

Shirts, ties and socks seemed a good idea, and as a bowler he applauded the idea of gift certificates for the popular indoor activity.

Vice president of the same club, Gertrude Burrows shares the current interest in plants. New plants, small tools for working on them, and special foods to keep them bright and well would also be on her list.

"Teflon baking and frying pans would be acceptable," she said. "Also hosiery, underwear and hair spray. Jewelry is always nice, especially pendants and pins."

She thought that many older people would be thankful for lap robes and socks.

—LUCY R. KAHN



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