

Bop the blues

Give go-go fun for Christmas

Not only are Americans doers, they are also goers and joiners.

If you keep this in mind as you make out your holiday gift lists, your problems could be solved in record time.

Some of the things we are about to suggest could run to large amounts of money, others will barely edge out the price of two pounds of coffee.

As in all gift giving, the challenge here is to choose something the person would truly enjoy. In this tennis and racquetball-oriented society, club memberships, or some of the special lessons series, may engender warm responses.

While there are tennis and racquetball clubs in all of the suburban areas, a check with one, the Square Lake Racquet Club in Bloomfield Hills, will give an idea of costs involved. Family memberships there are \$225 a year, individual ones \$95 and junior memberships for 18 and under, \$35.

If there are skiers in your family

the go-and-do gifts are almost limitless. Ski week or weekend packages often include accommodations, meals, lifts and lessons.

For instance, there's hot promotion right now by the Ski East people. This is a five-member mountain complex located an hour east of Montreal straddling the Quebec-Vermont border—Bromont, Mont Orford, Owl's Head and Mont Sutton in Quebec and Jay Peak in Vermont.

Five-day ski weeks there for about \$150 include accommodations, meals, lifts and ski lessons—lift tickets are valid on all lifts in the complex.

There's plenty of good skiing closer to home if time is a factor and you are a 'boost Michigan' fan. In such case, check out the local and Boyne-area packages.

Since cross-country skiing is catching on like all outdoors, many local organizations are offering lesson packages for this sport. You can call your local Y or recreation department to find if they have cross country.

The Cranbrook Educational Community, that great complex on Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills, has excellent response to its tidy cross-country package. The orientation session (indoors) and two lessons in the snow costs \$12 for a single and \$20 for two. Skis are available to rent through the instructor, giving you a chance to decide if this rigorous sport is really for you.

No age limit for cross-country skiers, it's as popular with seniors as it is with the youngsters.

Indoor sports will welcome tickets to their favorite team events—Red Wings, Pistons. Those whose favorite outdoor activity is walking slowly through sand bordered by surf, would welcome a delightful remembrance like a couple of tickets for a long weekend in Jamaica, Bermuda, or any of the lovely Caribbean islands.

If you prefer, by dint of either time or wallet, to fly armchair, the Community House of Birmingham

travel series continues after the first of the year with six films. They are: Jan. 21-22, "Angola—A Different Africa;" Feb. 4-5, "Germany;" Feb. 18-19, "Winter in Mexico;" March 4-5, "A New Norway;" March 18-19, "In Search of Singapore;" and April 8-9, "Lumberjack in Alaska."

There is also an excellent travel series at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

And if your gift recipients are of a scientific turn of mind—even if they just enjoy—a membership to the Cranbrook Institute of Science is something to consider. Student memberships to this are \$10 a year, individual adult memberships are \$15 and family, \$25.

Your gifts to your go-and-do friends and relatives may be enclosed in very small, flat packages—just keep in mind the old adage about "good things come in small packages" and enjoy the enthusiastic response your tailored to personality gifts will evoke.

—CORINNE ABATT

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