



Here comes the Chessie

Remember last summer when the Chessie Steam Special rattled through Redford Township, Livonia and Plymouth? Those who rode the train may be interested in obtaining a copy of the above lithograph

made by Barton Davis, a Chicago artist. The cost, including postage, is \$5. The 16 by 20 inch lithograph may be purchased from the Twentieth Century Railroad Club, PO Box A3258, Chicago, Ill. 60690.

Storytellers meet for holiday

The Detroit Story League meets at noon on Saturday, Dec. 16 in the home of its president, Roberta Bullough, 1671 Park, Livonia. Mrs. Bullough and her co-hostess Linda Aldrich, of Plymouth, will supplement the bring-your-own sandwich lunch with beverages and dessert.

All meetings of the Story League are open to all persons interested in learning the art of storytelling. They are invited to contact Ruth Kroepel, 36639 Vicary Lane, Farmington, for membership information.

Following tradition of past December, the league abandons its business meeting to accommodate more stories of the Christmas season. The theme for the month is "The Weavers of Joy."

Storytellers for December are Ruth Kroepel, Westland, Lucille Lentz of Dearborn, Beverly Carstairs of Detroit, and Minnie Radtke of St. Clair Shores.

Another tradition for December is that impromptu stories are added to the formal program. Mrs. Kroepel began their December month of storytelling with a performance for the Westland Women's Circle.

Today, Mrs. Bullough and Violet Altschuler of Farmington Hills are doing a Christmas program in Farmington's Edgewood School while Mrs. Kroepel is in Saline High School, telling Christmas stories at Pook Corner, a pre-school class in the school.

Six storytellers team up for a Christmas program Dec. 21 in St. Scholastica School in Detroit, where they will perform all day in seven separate sessions for youngsters from kindergarten through fifth grade.

On Dec. 22, Mrs. Bullough will offer stories at a Christmas party in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Livonia Ward.

Persons desiring to have the services of Detroit Story League may contact its story bureau chaired by Donna Teichman, 26760 Lyndon, Redford, 48223.

Other story bureau members are Dorothy Nuttal of Farmington Hills, and Alyce Gltzboher of Dearborn.

The league is a non-profit service organization. There is no charge for its services.

The lively needle

Napkin rings brighten a table

By MARY KAY DAVIS

With holiday parties in the air, here's a recipe for needlepoint napkin rings to grace a festive table. If paper napkins are your thing, tie ribbons around rings and hang them on your tree for decorations. You can't get more versatile than that.

Cut a strip of No. 10 plastic canvas measuring 60 threads long and 15 threads deep. Trim away the nubs from the cut edge.

Fill the inside with whatever colors and stitches you like, but do not stitch the outside thread on either long edge, or the five threads at each end of the strip. Here are some design ideas.

Try a simple Bargello in red, white and green. The pattern will remain the same throughout a family, but the

position of colors will change with each member. For example, Father's has green on top while Mother's has red on the top edge of hers. Everyone can tell whose napkin is whose, and it's less boring to stitch each one a little differently.

This is a great opportunity to experiment with new stitches and different threads that you've never tried before. Try gleaming pearl cotton or mix glittery threads with your wool. Needlework shops are full of such goodies.

You might stitch a simple monogram in the center of the canvas. A single block initial or a monogram with three letters is attractive. Fill the background with basketweave, continuing mosaic, or mosaic in two colors. Monograms and stitch directions can be found and photocopied in your public library.

Why not stitch a simple Parisian stitch-around the napkin ring with each row a different color? The effect would be much like October's glasses case.

If your rings are to be Christmas presents, do what I plan to do for my 10 nieces and nephews. They're all busy marrying and starting new families. I'm sending monogrammed rings with a promise of matching rings when new family members appear.

They will be stitched in the Upright Milanese. It's a perfect Christmas pattern, for the small Milanese triangles form bells, and larger ones make Christmas trees. I plan to have rows of Milanese running around the rings with block initials in the center.

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