

# Collector wants to share hobby

Story: CORINNE ADATT  
Photos: STEPHEN CANTRELL

Like many other areas of antiques, cut glass is enjoying a booming popularity. One of the local boosters of cut glass is Elsie Janisse and she'd like to form a group of local collectors and would-be collectors to add to the enjoyment.

Mrs. Janisse, a stockbroker with A. G. Edwards, said her interest in cut glass started when she inherited a few family pieces.

She shares both this interest and a career interest with her husband, Gerald, also a stockbroker with A. G. Edwards.

Like all antique buffs, Mrs. Janisse finds the hunt is almost as exciting as the acquisition.

"I look all the time," she said, "I don't go anywhere that I don't look. I go to all the antique shows and I talk to all the dealers, and when we travel I try to get off the expressways and visit the antique shops along the way."

Mrs. Janisse is actively involved in the national group, American Cut Glass Association, which holds yearly conventions, and is a member of the Toledo group formed because she is well aware of the growing interest in glass and the steadily increasing number of local collectors.

In addition to the sheer beauty of these elaborate, brilliant cut pieces, there is a certain satisfaction in knowing that from 1870-1918, the United

States led the world in the quality of cut glass being produced.

"This is called the 'brilliant cut period,'" said Mrs. Janisse, adding, "ours was better than Europe's because most of the European cutters had migrated here. They came because the demand was so great. And our glass blanks were better quality."

While little cutglass came out of Michigan, the Midwest was recognized as a center for cut glass — Pennsylvania and Ohio, particularly — and much cut glass was produced on the East Coast.

While candlesticks and vases were rarely signed, bowls and other pieces often were. One of the most sought-after signatures is Hawkes, whose signature was a cloverleaf with two little hawks in it. Other well known names among the many are Fairpoint and Sinclair.

Signatures on cut glass, however, are harder to find than on a check, for instance.

Mrs. Janisse smiled and said, "I owned a piece for 30 years and I didn't find the signature until five years ago."

The individual pieces have to be moved carefully from one angle to another under a good light to discover the location of the signature — and Mrs. Janisse knows what she is looking for when she does this.

She once found a pair of cut glass candlesticks in a resale shop, a piece of colored Steuben in a barn sale, and occasionally has luck at garage sales.

"It's a great hobby," she said. "That's why I'd like to start a collectors club around here."

In national glass-collecting circles, there are millionaires as well as middle-income people, and as many men as women, Mrs. Janisse said.

The 1980 national convention of the American Cut Glass Association will be held in Atlanta, Ga., next July. Museums and dealers and individuals can be members. The dues, \$10 per year, includes a subscription to a monthly newsletter.

Louise Boggess, who has written books on cut glass, is a creative writing teacher and TV personality on the west coast, is the newsletter editor.

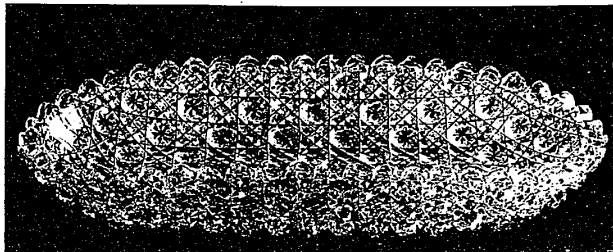
## MTU posts honors list

Michael L. Jurosek of Farmington Hills is among 88 Michigan Technological University students who have been named to the dean's list for the summer term.

Jurosek is a senior majoring in mechanical engineering. He is the son of Ruth Allaben of Farmington Hills.



ELSIE JANISSE



Dish by Egginton in the trellis pattern was a rare find. All black when Mrs. Janisse found it, her collector's eye was keen enough to recognize its value, dirt and all.

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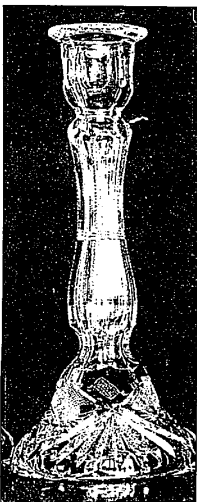
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Candlestick is one of a pair.

## Gypsy Doyle joins Witt!



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