



China painters gather

Michigan Porcelain Art Teachers host the international convention and show of quality work that is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, July 2-5, in the Detroit Plaza. A highlight of the convention is an auction of painted porcelain that begins with a preview at 6 p.m. Thursday in Renaissance Ballroom conducted by DuMouchelle Art Gallery. Pieces from renowned artists will come from about 12 countries. Among the artists in this area invited to show are Florence Monk from Farmington, Delors Petchenko from Farmington Hills and Dolores Moorehead from Birmingham.



m.m. memos

Margaret Miller

Really off on my own?

The man of our house and I made a big joke last year about taking separate vacations.

We were moving from one house to another and it made more sense to take different weeks off to accomplish all the transitional work. That way, too, we both had the chance to enjoy the other one's vacation. Like having an extra week off.

But this summer, after 37 years of doing all our traveling as a team, I'm heading off without him for a group tour of Great Britain.

And despite months of planning, we find ourselves just a mite surprised that we're really going to do it.

It's a most-practical thing plan. The tour with a group of friends is going to all the places I especially want to see. They aren't places high on his list. He urged me to go, and I didn't take much urging. He'll much enjoy some long weekends during the football season this fall.

STILL, THE preparation for lift off gets me a little jumpy.

He had a list of questions ready last weekend about my usual share of the household responsibilities. How did the coffee pot operate? I gave him a quick lesson. How often should the cats' box be cleaned? Every other day with two of them around. When did the African violets get watered? Each Sunday. How about the wash? Let No. 4 daughter take over.

I've been in training for his usual share of travel responsibilities. I have a notebook page full of instructions on using the camera and a few admonitions to be sure to hold on to it.

I've mapped out a spot for passport and traveler's checks, and I'm working on my mental alarm clock to be sure to be on time for the bus that will get me to the plane. Being on time is never a worry for anyone traveling with my spouse. He always is early enough for two of us.

WE BOTH LAUGHED, only slightly nervously, over our college student daughter's report on responses from her friends when she has mentioned our plans.

"I tell them you're going to England and Dad isn't," she said, "and everybody asks me if you are separating."

Her answer, of course, is "just for two and a half weeks."

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