

Antique dealer—glad she made commitment

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

Marcia Petrella likes the antique show at the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. At this year's show next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, she will be among the 30 dealers from this area.

Petrella knows the show from two perspectives — as volunteer and dealer. Her husband, Ron, has worked on the committee ever since it started and she, too, was a volunteer several years back. He even designed the logo for the publicity. And for the first time last year, she was involved as a dealer. "I enjoyed being in it last year. It's such a pretty show and the preview is done beautifully."

The Petrellas have been buying and collecting antiques ever since they were married. About seven years ago she asked Lowell Mullins, who started and still runs Troy Corners Antiques, if he needed any help. Indeed he did and she's been there a couple of days a week ever since — a good part of the time debating whether she wanted to be a dealer. "Finally, my husband said, 'Why don't you make a commitment or forget about it!'"

PETRELLA still works several days a week in the old church converted to an antiques mart at the corner of Square Lake and Livernols in Troy where 11 dealers share space, except that now she's one of the dealers.

"My husband enjoys it, too, because he loves to buy, but he doesn't enjoy selling," she said. Consequently, they go on buying trips together "out east, to Indiana and around here."

She said she worried how she would find things to sell as she considered becoming a dealer, but it's fallen into place without too much planning.

They've made friends with many of the people they buy from and from those have come other contacts — and the circle widens.

Saying, "You have to find where you fit in," she

added that American country furniture was always her special interest and continues to be the largest part of her inventory. "I've found I sell a chest of drawers in almost every show."

Although Petrella used to say she would never get up at 5 a.m. Sunday morning to make the big monthly show at Saline which opens at 5 a.m., she now does and says "it's fun." So much for resolutions.

And while there's really no way to categorize antique buyers, says Petrella, she's noticed that a lot of her customers for those chests of drawers are young women, college age or just beyond.

"They will spend a good amount of money (\$500 to \$700) on a chest of drawers. It's a good investment and they can put it in a lot of different places."

ONE YOUNG client who spends part of every pay check on antiques and other young marrieds are regular customers, much as she and her husband were a while back.

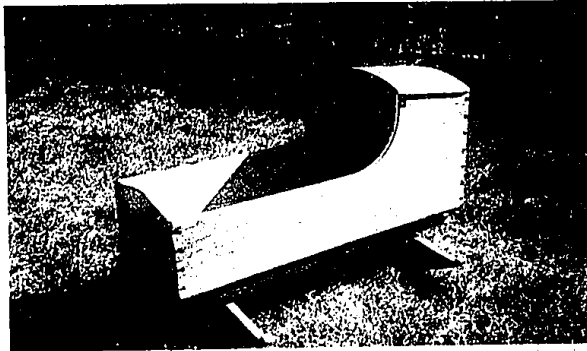
"It's been a lot of fun. I'm spending a little more time at it than I meant to, but it's something you can do as much or as little with as you want to."

She said she'd never want to make the time commitment to owning her own shop — the cooperative way Troy Corners Antiques operates suits her just fine.

Among the things she'll have at the First United Methodist Church show next week are a cherry drop leaf table, a pine baby cradle, a painted doll cradle, a schoolmaster's desk, a pine blanket box, a kiddie-car, a chest of drawers, tole and ironstone.

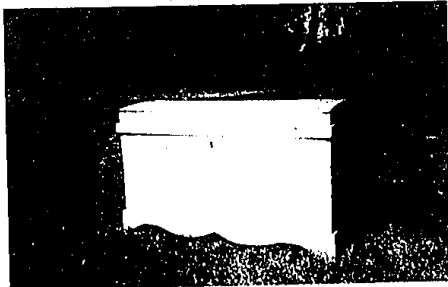
The preview, with refreshments and entertainment, is 7-10 p.m. Tuesday with the show running 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday.

Proceeds go toward the support of the Methodist Children's Home, an educational loan fund and two Methodist retirement homes, Chelsea and Boulevard Temple of Detroit. Lunches will be served on Wednesday and Thursday.



A pine cradle with dovetail corners is one of the pieces Marcia Petrella will have in the antique show at United Methodist Church of Birmingham starting next Tuesday.

A pine blanket chest is the type of country furniture which Marcia Petrella particularly likes. She will have this and similar antiques in the upcoming show in Birmingham.



HOWARD T
Keating
ASSOCIATES, INC.

"THE PRESTIGIOUS HOME EXPERTS"

800 S. WORTH STREET
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48011
646-1234

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 PM



343 FERNDAL, B'HAM.

IN-TOWN CHARMER! Walk to shops. Extensive use of crown mouldings. Cedar Deck front and back. New driveway and garage. 9' ceilings. Unusually good storage and closets. Three bedrooms, 1½ baths, Den plus sun room. A MUST SEE!



SUPER CONDO/WEST BLOOMFIELD

3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, ½ bath. Deck off living room, circular stairway, nicely decorated in neutral tones. Late Model, many extras, A MUST SEE! \$184,800



QUARTON LAKE ESTATES

Beautifully landscaped, family home with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths upstairs, master bedroom and bath downstairs. Cathedral ceilings, patio/barbecue, den, much more! \$219,800



ATTRACTIVE CAPE COD

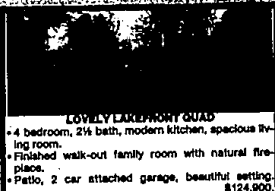
With separate breakfast room and dining room. Oversized lot on rolling terrain. Walnut Lake privileges. Schools within walking distance. Much updating of interior. 3 bedrooms, 1½ baths, family room. \$114,900.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING: LAKE LOTS—
NEW CONSTRUCTION—ACREAGE—CALL 646-1234



LAKEFRONT ON PRESTIGIOUS EMERALD LAKE

• 4 bedroom, 2½ bath, formal dining room plus breakfast nook.
• Family room with fireplace, patio overlooking large sandy beach.
• Maintenance free exterior, 2 car attached garage. \$109,900.



LOVELY LAKEFRONT QUAD

• 4 bedroom, 2½ bath, modern kitchen, spacious living room.
• Finished walk-out family room with natural fireplace.
• Patio, 2 car attached garage, beautiful setting. \$124,900.



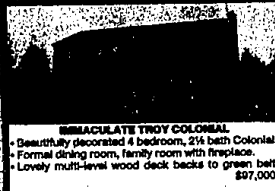
LAKEFRONT COLONIAL

• Well maintained Colonial features lovely landscaped yard.
• Finished walk-out basement to patio, 2 car attached garage.
• Large wood deck overlooking Sandhollow Lake. \$157,900.



NORTH TROY RANCH

• Spacious 4 bedroom brick home, formal dining room.
• Large full bath plus 2 half baths, family room.
• Large private country lot, circle drive, garage. \$22,000.



IMMACULATE TROY COLONIAL

• Beautifully decorated 4 bedroom, 2½ bath Colonial.
• Formal dining room, family room with fireplace.
• Lovely multi-level wood deck backs to green belt. \$97,000.



BARBARA'S
HERE
AND
QUARTON
REALTY'S
PROUD
OF
IT



QUARTON REALTY ASSOCIATES