



MINDY BAUNDERS/staff photographer

As a researcher, writer and collector of memorabilia, Willy Sword of Bloomfield Township is committed to promoting an appreciation and understanding of history.

## Author finds old scandal

By Corinne Abatt  
staff writer

It was the late Gen. S.L.A. Marshall who put local writer Willy Sword on to the material for his newest book, "President Washington's Indian War: The Struggle for the Old Northwest, 1790-1795."

Sword recalls Marshall telling him, "That war was important to the destiny of the nation and nobody's written about it."

Sword, author of "Shiloh, Bloody April," judged one of the 100 best books written on the Civil War, picked up the general's challenge. A dedicated historian, who works from primary materials — letters, records, diaries, personal papers, Sword uncovered a lot of information including "a major scandal that had never come to light until this book."

This was a land-speculation scheme involving Henry Knox, secretary of war (for whom Fort Knox is named), and William Duer, friend of President Washington and private contractor for the army.

Sword sensed something was wrong as he read about the lack of supplies for the armies fighting the Indians in the Old Northwest, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan. It was an unpopular cause, often tragic and bloody.

SWORD said the army had a contract system. The government relied on private contractors to supply the army and Knox was in charge of procurement. Duer, a speculator, wound up with the army contract.

But he and Knox had signed an agreement. Duer was to take the supply money and buy land at \$0.50 an acre and sell it to the French, who were reportedly eager to buy, at \$1 an acre.

Sword found all of this documented, even to the agreement between the two in Knox's papers, on microfilm at the University of Michigan Library.

"History is nothing more than the lives of people," Sword said. "Circumstances may change, but human nature doesn't change." Knox was a capable general and was looked upon as a good stalwart administration official.

Another scandal, which is part of the book, concerns James Wilkinson, a double agent who became commander in chief following the death of Mad Anthony Wayne.

Sword said Spain, a strong power in the south, wanted to get Kentucky settlers to come under Spanish allegiance. The Spanish recruited Wilkinson as a secret agent.

"When General (Arthur) St. Clair was defeated following the tragic massacre at Fort Recovery, Ohio, Anthony Wayne replaced him and James Wilkinson was second in command. Wayne distrusted Wilkinson, Wilkinson had arranged to have Wayne killed by having a tree fall on his tent. Wayne was prepared to have Wilkinson court-martialed, but Wayne died and Wilkinson became commander in chief."

"The book talks a lot about the occupation of Detroit. It has a lot to do with the local region," Sword said. Sword said he tried to be "as objective as possible" in telling the story of this conflict, which involved the British, the Indians and the Americans.

HE IS acutely aware of "the tragic story of how the Indians were treated. Tribes like the Miami and the Shawnee were virtually wiped out."

Many times he said there was a notable lack of communications, treaties with the Indians were good only until the settlers moved in, there were misunderstandings on land ownership and the Indians were unable to organize a strong confederation.

Yet, the result was that "once the Indians were pushed West of the Mississippi, they couldn't be dominant. The Indian Wars of the 1800s were really anti-climatic."

Originally titled, "Wounded Earth," it was completed three years ago, but Sword said it needed three revisions "to get the bulk out of it," to the publisher's satisfaction.

"I don't expect it to be a best seller, but it's an important story," Sword said. "I enjoyed doing it. It was a labor of love. I hope it will be helpful to future generations. The idea is that we are responsible to understand what went before."

Sword, collector of weaponry, historical papers, diaries and letters, has an idea for another book simmering. He may soon move it up to the front burner.

He earns his living as a manufacturer's rep. He earns respect from his family, friends and readers as a dedicated historian.

"President Washington's Indian War: The Struggle for the Old Northwest, 1790-1795," by Willy Sword, a Bloomfield Township resident. Sword is published by University of Michigan Press.

## Recycling Creating a secondary art market

By Corinne Abatt  
staff writer

The why-didn't-I-think-of-that syndrome may be sweeping through the local art community. If it is, blame Lois Pincus-Frank who recently opened ArtSpace, a resale gallery for fine art at 574 N. Woodward, Birmingham.

"I'm so pleased with the quality. I wasn't sure I could pull it off, but I've got wonderful stuff," said the attractive, brown-haired, first-time art entrepreneur.

At that time (there's a steady turnover) there were several works by Pearlstein, pieces by Nadler, Agam, Held, Sonia Delaunay, Elvarg, Johns, Calder, Chai Gail, Guttus, Annasiewicz, Nesbitt, Steinberg, Picasso and two oils by Banks on the wall.

In the window was a painted, wooden circus wagon by Appel, built to hold his suite of lithographs. Along one wall was a beautiful Inuit French art-deco buffet. A metal horse weathervane and several African masks, although from different parts of the world, looked disarmingly compatible in the clean, well-lit setting.

Saying that her inventory, all on consignment, comes from collectors who may be reducing or changing focus, galleries and museums, Pincus-Frank said brightly, "A gallery in New York is sending me a consignment of 19th-century architectural drawings."

SHE ADDED that she plans to have a large selection of relatively inexpensive prints, so there will be good art available starting at about \$30 and running into the thousands.

"Organizing the secondary market gives people a chance to change their art. People have a lot of reasons for changing their art or changing directions — moving to Florida, needing money or they bought too much."

Certainly one of the gallery's claims to fame is Pincus-Frank's statement, "Everything is below established market value. The consignee sets the price with me."

She said the contract is for three months and at the end of that time the consignee is obligated to pick the art up. If there is a lot of interest in the work, she may ask to extend the time.

"I'm really careful about where things come from and making sure I have the real thing." Saying that there are only a few resale galleries of this quality around the country, she added, "The organization of the secondary art market along these lines is a new concept."

She said one of the early entrants in the field, her sister Claire Carlevaro, has been very successful at it in Berkeley, Calif., and urged Pincus-Frank to start a similar business in Birmingham.

"My background is communications. But I've been a collector for a long time. I found this space, and I knew it was right. I'd never had my own thing until now and I love it."

In keeping with the changing art, Pincus-Frank had all of the gallery fittings put on wheels, so she can change the configuration of exhibition spaces as easily as she changes her shoes.

"It's recyclable space for recyclable art," she said.

ALTHOUGH she's only been in business about a month, a search file is already heavy with names. "We're doing a networking thing for people," she said, flipping through the pages of a notebook with names followed by items they're interested in acquiring.

She'll follow up with a phone call as soon as she has something coming in they might like or at least has a photograph to show.

It is a benefit for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation (MPF). It will feature the music of esteemed French composer, Maurice Ravel, and soloist David Hardy, cellist, who was the top American prize winner in the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1983.

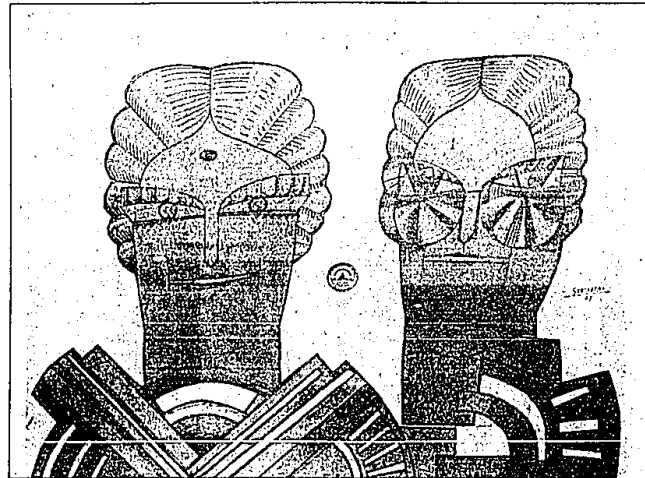
Hardy, born in 1958, assistant principal cello with the National Symphony, Washington, D.C., is a graduate of Peabody Conservatory. He made his solo debut with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at age 16.

Hardy will be joined by Lyric Chamber Ensemble members and Detroit Symphony Orchestra musicians Geoffrey Applegate, Stacey Woolley and



Lois Pincus-Frank is delighted with the response and positive feedback she's had so far concerning her gallery, "ArtSpace." Pictured below is

Saul Steinberg's collage on canvas, "Two Sisters," 1967, one of the works in the gallery the owner is particularly enthusiastic about.



She has already turned down a substantial amount because she knows it won't sell or isn't right for ArtSpace.

"Eventually I hope to get more 19th- and 20th-century oils and more 19th-century representative art," she said.

So far the response from the local

galleries, collectors and arts organizations has been positive and heartwarming. She provides options, which they appreciate.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment. For information, call 258-1540.

## Concert aids Parkinson's sufferers



David Hardy

The Lyric Chamber Ensemble's concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in Orchestra Hall will be a special occasion in several respects.

It is a benefit for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation (MPF). It will feature the music of esteemed French composer, Maurice Ravel, and soloist David Hardy, cellist, who was the top American prize winner in the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1983.

Hardy, born in 1958, assistant principal cello with the National Symphony, Washington, D.C., is a graduate of Peabody Conservatory. He made his solo debut with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at age 16.

Hardy will be joined by Lyric Chamber Ensemble members and Detroit Symphony Orchestra musicians Geoffrey Applegate, Stacey Woolley and

Marguerite Deslippe-Andrews, violinist; Vincent Leonti, violinist; Haden McKay, cellist; Kerstin Allvin and Pat Terry-Rose, harpists; Shaul Ben-Meir, flutist; Douglas Cornelien, clarinet; Joseph Gurt and Fedora Horowitz, pianists; and Ernestine Nimmone, soprano.

Gurt has appeared as soloist for the Detroit Symphony and is professor of music at Eastern Michigan University. Horowitz is artistic director of the Lyric Chamber Ensemble and Nimmone is a member of the Bransford Demand Choir.

Ravel's famed choreographic poem for orchestra, "Le Valse," as transcribed for duo-piano by Ravel, will be performed along with Introduction and Allegro for harp, flute, clarinet, and string quartet; "Chaz Melodies" by Georges Goussier; "Sonata for Violin-Cello

and Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano."

"This is a wonderful opportunity to hear an outstanding musical presentation and to assist MPF in developing support for groups for sufferers of Parkinson's Disease," said Betty Gorchak of Bloomfield Hills, chairwoman for the program.

"According to Dr. Raymond Bann, president of the MPF and professor of neurology at Wayne State University School of Medicine, nearly 25,000 persons in Michigan suffer from Parkinson's, a debilitating disease that causes tremors, weakness and muscle rigidity."

A portion of the seats for the Ravel Festival have been reserved for the benefit of the MPF. Box seats for four are \$100. Legs seats are \$50, middle floor seats \$17.50 and \$10 and balcony \$2.50. For information, call 494-8914.