

Santa Cruz Woman Is Horse Art Collector

By Ron Reeves

Collecting, the pack-rat urge which hits most people in one form or another, often results in garish butterfly-covered walls, bottle-cluttered shelves and complete boredom of guests.

Mrs. Edward A. Ducker has nursed a hobby of more than 35 years of collecting objects connected to boredom, but her home has no overtones of a museum or second hand store.

She refers to the collection as "antique objects of use, with a horse motif," and that seems to sum it up well.

Mrs. Rucker and her husband, who is a supervisor for the county welfare department, in decorating their home at 451 Granite Creek road have found a way to use horses on practically everything, from the doormat to andirons.

The china cabinets are quietly subdued, but inspection reveals antique English Staffordshire plates, with horses in the design; pottery and art objects from all over the world, again horses are involved. Separately they are intriguing, collectively they are subtle.

But the collecting urge has expressed itself fully in the upstairs recreation room of their rebuilt, but old-appearing barn... there are horses everywhere.

Under the room two horses, a registered thoroughbred and a quarterhorse, move in their stalls. The walls are hung with horse pictures, antique horse equipment, bottles with horses on them, horse statuary, horseshoes, selected horse blankets and riding attire.

The Ducker collection ranges from a tiny wooden horse, which is the knight from a chess set, purchased for a dime from a bargain table, to works of art valued at several hundred dollars.

Prize of the collection is a cigar holder carved for a Czechoslovakian nobleman more than 100 years ago depicting eight rearing circus horses and the ringmaster. It was purchased at an antique store in Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Ducker haunt junk, second-hand, antique and specialty stores hunting for additions to their collection. However, Mrs. Ducker is definite that nothing is purchased unless there is a place for it.

"I find fewer and fewer pieces coming from rummage shops. They are coming up in the antique shops," Mrs. Ducker explained.

The reason is that more and more people are collecting, and the time when fine pieces could be located under the dust is long gone. Also, the spurt of commercial decorating of restaurants and cocktail lounges with antiques has narrowed the private collector market.

However, there is still the fun of the hunt.

"You just don't know what will turn up, where or when," Mrs. Ducker said with the glint that only the seasoned collector can radiate.

Scattered through her collection are samples of her horse portrait work which she has done for many years.

She had always painted and had always had horses, but didn't combine the two until she was about 25. A friend wanted her horse painted, and Mrs. Ducker figured she would try it.

Her attempt was so bad she was shocked. So she started an intensive study of horses, which included trips to rendering plants to study bone structures and plenty of on-the-scene experience.

Within 10 years she was being

19th Century Art Work



Mrs. Edward A. Ducker is restoring a Rogers statuary piece which was circulated during the late 19th century and is the most recent addition to her extensive collection of art works involving horses. The piece

commissioned to paint the finest stallions in the nation.

She did the work commercially, with most of the proceeds going to purchase pieces for her art collection. She also painted horse portraits in exchange for choice art pieces.

Although the Duckers have moved around quite a bit from the east to west coast, she has finally indicated her determination to stay at Santa Cruz.

This she shows by cementing into the ground a piece of her collection, an iron horse-head hitching post. At other residences the post was merely stuck into the ground or lightly attached for ease in moving.

"I've decided to stay hitched to Santa Cruz," Mrs. Ducker declared.

Del Monte Train Schedule Is Changed By SP

The Del Monte train, running between Monterey and San Francisco, will operate on a new time schedule starting Wednesday, the Southern Pacific railroad office has announced.

The northbound Del Monte will arrive at the Watsonville junction at 7:34 a.m. and depart at 7:36 o'clock. It will arrive in San Jose at 8:34 a.m. and leave at 8:40 o'clock.

The southbound train will arrive in San Jose at 6:05 p.m. and leave at 6:10 o'clock. It will arrive at the Watsonville junction at 7:07 p.m. and depart at 7:09 o'clock.

Changing of the schedule will find the northbound train leaving Monterey at 8:45 a.m. and arriving in San Francisco at 9:55 a.m., 45 minutes earlier than at present. The southbound leaves San Francisco at 4:50 p.m. arrives in Monterey at 8 p.m., one hour and 26 minutes earlier than at present.

was found in a Santa Cruz antique shop. It was covered by layers of paint and gold gilt. Behind Mrs. Ducker on the studio wall are portraits of some of the great stallions of the nation she has painted. Most of the proceeds from her painting have gone directly into additional pieces for her collection. Although the studio is a hodgepodge mass of items, her home has no overtones of a museum. She collects pieces for the house which are practical, usable and have a place, but inspection shows incorporation of horses in nearly every item.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS No. 17049

In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Santa Cruz.

In the Matter of the Estate of CALVIN P. FAUNCE, also known as C. P. FAUNCE, deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given by the Undersigned, executrix of the estate of CALVIN P. FAUNCE, also known as C. P. FAUNCE, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, or said estate, to file them, with the necessary vouchers, in the office of the Clerk of the above named Court (which said office is situate in the Court House in the City of Santa Cruz in said County and State), within six months after the first publication of this notice made on the 1st day of January, 1961, or present and exhibit them, with the necessary vouchers, within said period, to the said executrix at the office of JOE THOMSON, Attorney at Law, 2267 Encinal Ave., in the City of Alameda, County of Alameda, State of California, which said last named office, the undersigned selects as the place of business in all matters connected with said estate.

Dated: January 1, 1961.

PHYLLIS G. COMBS,
Executrix of the Estate of said deceased.

JOE THOMSON,
Attorney for said Executrix
2267 Encinal Ave.,
Alameda, Calif.
Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22 (4011)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS No. 17,059

In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Santa Cruz.

In the Matter of the Estate of VICTORIO BASSO, also known as VICTORIO BASSO, deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given by the Undersigned, CHARLES H. JOHNSON, Administrator of the estate of VICTORIO BASSO, also known as VITTORIO BASSO, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, or said estate, to file them, with the necessary vouchers, in the office of the Clerk of the above named Court (which said office is situate in the Court House in the City of

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