

about people



Three of the owners of the Country Cousin antique store in Boring, Joan Flach, Signe Leeding and Joanna Meligan.

Of Boring antique shop

Six women share ownership

by GWEN BOGH
Post Correspondent

Collecting relics and throw-aways began as a hobby for six women, but evolved into a business when storage space ran out.

The owners of the Country Cousin in Boring have made the buying and selling of antiques (or "collectables") fun instead of work. As co-owner Joanna Meligan put it, "The most fun is coming into the store to see what the other partner bought."

For several years, the six have bought collectables. Prior to obtaining the building in Boring, they placed their relics in their homes, attics and garages.

After a while, however, room began to run out and husbands began to complain about an overabundant supply of collectables. So the wives got together, leased a store in town and began the business.

In the several years the owners have been together, no serious arguments have disrupted th friend-

ship. When one buys an item for the store, that person sets the price. The other partners may offer an opinion, but the final decision rests on the original buyer.

All attribute their success as partners to their flexibility. The store is open six days a week and each partner is responsible for holding the shop open one day each week. If one can't make it on her day, she can work out an exchange, which "has worked exceptionally well in the past."

"Garage and estate sales, as well as auctions and friends, are prospective sources for the six buyers. Meligan said that to her, buying the collectables is addictive. She said she had passed as many as 15 garage sales on the way to the store and it took "real strength not to stop. There just wasn't time."

Joan Flach refers to her buying as "treasure hunting." She said that "as an adult, it's fulfilling a fantasy."

While the business has prospered over the years, "It's not our bread and butter," Signe Leeding said. The

six split profits and pay equally on operating expenses.

Some of the items sold at the Country Cousin are more than 100 years old, but such treasures are becoming harder to find. Items such as pattern glass or carnival glass, once known as throw-aways, have now become collectable after just 20 to 25 years.

Older pieces such as a yarn holder, approximately 150 years old, are among some of the prized items. Others are a butter dish from the early 1800s and a wooden seed separator.

At least 50 percent of the items sold at the Country Cousin are bought by antique buyers who turn around and sell them later. People from as far as Washington and California have visited the store; some take just moments to find what they want and pay anywhere from 25 cents to \$500.

Regulars flock to the store frequently to check out the latest merchandise. One writer stops regularly on the way to his mountain retreat.

The store is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Gresham Elks honor Craig

A 1981 Sandy Union High School graduate was honored recently by the Gresham Elks Club.

Ben Craig was named one of the club's Students of the Month for May.

Others chosen were Debbie Annus of Corbett High

School; Grace Alexander, Columbia High School; Tracy Frasier, Reynolds High School; Jeff Maier, Lutheran High School; Valerie Gilges, Centennial High School; Michelle Reed, Gresham High School; and Brent Alm, Sam Barlow High School.

Knapp on Linfield honor roll

A Sandy student has been named to the Dean's List for spring term at Linfield College in McMinnville.

John Knapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Knapp of Sandy, qualified by earning grades in the upper 10 per-

cent of his class at Linfield. He compiled a perfect 4.0 grade point average spring term.

Knapp is a junior, majoring in business administration.

Third child welcomed by local couple

Jim and Toni Stanhope welcomed the birth of their third child recently.

Melody Delight was born May 30 at Portland Adventist Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces at birth.

Grandparents are Rick Toland of Boring, Nancy Toland of Wilsonville and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Oslin of Tacoma, Wash.

MOONLITE MADNESS



WATCH for details next week
Thursday, July 9

EXPERT APPLIANCE SERVICE & PARTS

Authorized Service For
• Amana
• Frigidaire
• G.E.
• Jenn-Air
• KitchenAid
• Maytag

RIEGELMANN'S
Sales and Service
301 E. Powell
665-4158

Pauline's SPORTSWEAR

Where Good Taste Is Not Expensive

NOW OFFERING A NEW CONCEPT IN FASHION ADJUSTABLE ATTIRE BY DeSilou. CUSTOM DESIGNED FOR LADIES ON WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMS AND MOTHERS TO BE

FASHIONS DIRECT FROM PAULINE'S EXCLUSIVE SPORTSWEAR OUTLET

Blouses... 6-52 Pants... 6-46

OPEN: Mon.-Thurs. 10-6, Fri. 10-8, Sat. 10-6

IN PIONEER SQUARE, Where Burnside & Division Meet, in Gresham.

PHONE 666-1670

4th OF JULY

CELEBRATION OF SAVINGS

3 BIG DAYS! This Friday, Saturday & Sunday!

JULY 3, 4, 5

FREE 12" TV

With Purchase Of \$750 or More (Limit One Per Customer.)

SAVE UP TO 50%

ON ALL IN-STOCK MERCHANDISE!

LEONETTI Slouch Couches

In Your Choice Of 3 Covers.

SAVE \$269

Regular \$1099, NOW \$830

Lamps.....	From \$19.00
Headboards.....	From \$39.00
End Tables.....	From \$50.00
4 Drawer Chest.....	From \$50.00
Cocktail Tables.....	From \$70.00
5 Pc. Dinette.....	From \$110.00
Loveseats.....	From \$190.00
Sleepers.....	From \$190.00
Sofas.....	From \$290.00
5 Pc. pine or Maple Dining Room Sets.....	From \$390.00

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

• EASY FINANCING • 90 DAYS SAME AS CASH • LAYAWAY TERMS

• NO COMMISSION SALESMEN, DEAL WITH THE OWNERS • ALL PRICES QUOTED ARE U-HAUL

BENSON'S

gresham furniture

PHONE 667-5800

In Gresham's Tri-Square Shopping Center, Next to Gresham's New Heidi's

Open Evenings Until 9:00, Saturday 9:00-6:00, Sun. 12-6