

POLEMIC

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Alpena Community College

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THE THIRTIES-- ART DECO

Art Deco, the newest collector's craze, was totally ignored for many years. It began at the Paris International Exhibition of 1925 -- reaching its peak in the 1930's -- and fading away in the early 1940's. Celebrities, such as Barbara Streisand and Andy Warhol, are avid collectors of Art Deco objects --- and many others are quickly becoming lovers of items produced during the Art Deco Movement.

The Art Deco movement represented a rebellion against tradition -- and particularly against the Art Nouveau era with its sinuous curves and over-elaborate lines. This new art movement came under the influence of the arts of the American Indian and of Egypt. Cubism, Expressionism, Futurism, and even the set design for the Russian Ballet were influential in the Art Deco movement. Art Deco objects express the restless vibrancy of the roaring twenties and torrid thirties. A mood of flippancy prevailed in most objects. Zig zag lines resembling lightning bolts were popular decorative accents. Step designs were widely used. Combining sharply contrasting colors, such as black and white, were extremely popular. Several new materials came into use -- such as chrome and tubular steel for furniture. Sharp lines and stark designs were characteristics of the Art Deco movement also.

Art Deco was everywhere. Designers of jewelry, glass, ceramics, silver, and other metals reveled in the new art. Painters, sculptors, fashion and furniture designers all fell under its spell. Even architects were enthralled by the streamlined, geometric, cubistic, and abstract designs. A fine example of Art Deco architecture is Rockefeller Center in New York City.

Tastes change rapidly, and many of the Art Deco objects were consigned to the trash pile -- for many of the items were far ahead of their time to be completely accepted by the general populace. Only now, with the popularity of nostalgia, is Art Deco becoming so collectible.

-- By Robert E. Haltiner, Curator Jesse Besser Museum

Besser Museum Schedule

DECEMBER

East Gallery - China and Porcelain exhibit. Snow of Royal Bayreuth, R. S. Prussia, R. S. Germany and other superb examples of China done at the turn of the century.

West Gallery - Graphics by Emil Weddige - University of Michigan has a series of Museum Collections.

Lower Gallery - Annual Artist Show and Sale -- American Artists are encouraged to exhibit three original pieces of work.

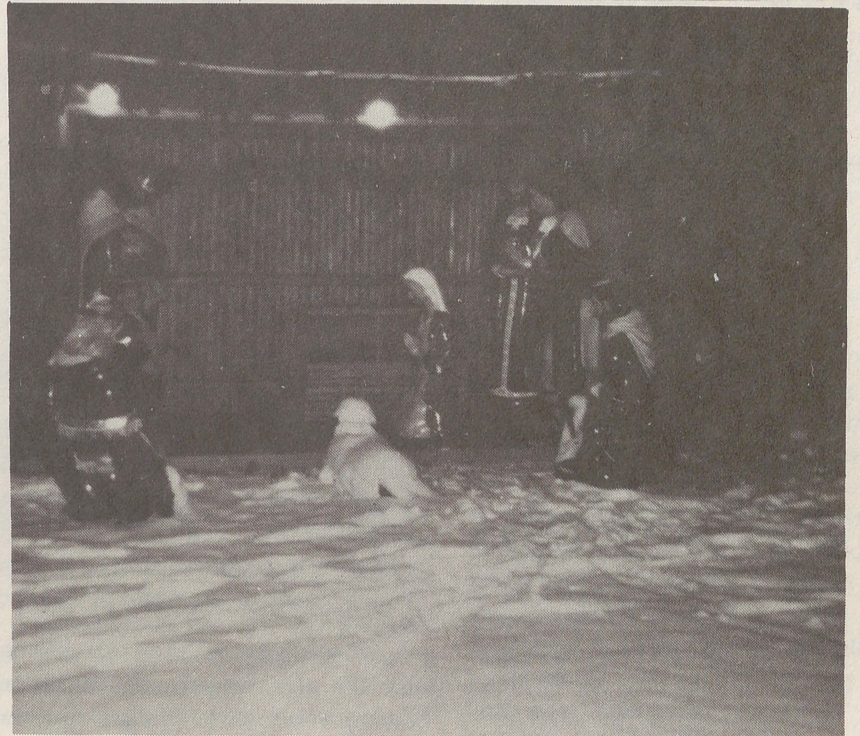
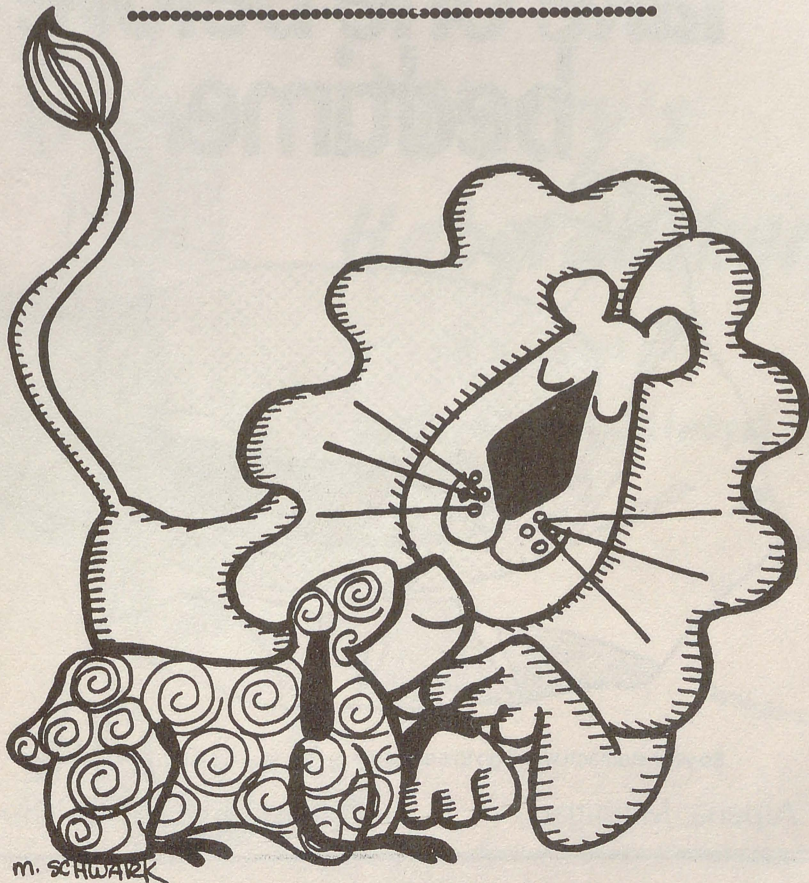
JANUARY

East Gallery - Vienna Secession - January 9th. to February 6th. -- Collections of Graphics only exhibited once before in the country; a very important exhibit.

West Gallery - January 6th. through February 28th. -- Space Paintings by Chesley Bonestell. The artist's conceptions of the planets and planetom landscapes by the father of Space Art. This will be the first showing of the Paintings as they begin a tour of the Great Lakes Region.

PLANETARIUM PROGRAM

January - The great Comet - January 6th. through February 17th. General program on comets and information on the comet KOHONTEK. Sundays the showings are 2 and 4 p.m.



Manger scene at City Hall

A.C.C. Hosts M U S I C

The Alpena Choral Society along with Alpena's Civic Orchestra and Collegiate Singers presented George Frideric Handel's MESSIAH on Saturday, December 8, at Alpena High School Auditorium. The director of this program was Robert Hein. Within the program, several individual parts were performed. The following includes those soloists participating:

- Ashley Putnam - Soprano
- Marie Gagnon - Alto
- James Fennimore - Tenor
- James Hart - Bass
- Winnie Gunn - Alto
- George McKay - Tenor
- Mary Hart - Accompanist

Many of the soloists in Handel's MESSIAH have quite a background in the music field. Ashley Putnam was a senior voice major at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She has performed with Van Cliburn and also was a winner of the Concerto Scholarship at Interlochen. Ashley has also performed with various opera companies in the U.S. Others participating were, Winnie Gunn, who is a graduate of N. M. U., where she was a music minor; James Hart, who is a graduate of Drake University, where he was a voice major; and George McKay, who is a senior at Alpena High School, Marie Gagnon, and James Fennimore who were also part of the music talent.

Veni Emmanuel
Second Lesson: Genesis xxii

A Great And Mighty Wonder
Third Lesson: Isaiah ix

Unto Us Is Born A Son
Fourth Lesson: Isaiah xi

Veni Emmanuel
Fifth Lesson: St. Luke i

The Linden Tree Carol
Sixth Lesson: St. Luke ii

Once In Royal David's City
Seventh Lesson: St. Luke ii

Away In A Manger
Eighth Lesson: St. Matthew ii

O Men From The Fields
Ninth Lesson: St. John i

Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Susan Armstrong was the piano accompanist. Robert Voight played his guitar for the program, and Sue Burnham accompanied on the flute.

Lesson readers for the program included Dr. Stoutenburg, Mr. Miesen, and Mr. Donajkowski.

CHRISTMAS CONVOCATION

Another music program under the direction of Mr. Robert Hein was the presentation of a Christmas Convocation by the A.C.C. Collegiate Singers, on December 12, at 8:00 p.m. in Van Lare Hall.

This program consisted of the following selections:

- O Come All Ye Faithful
First Lesson: Genesis iii

Continued in next column

Ski Club

Coming in January
Drink beer and watch ski movies at the Tap Room

Coming in February
On the 8-9-10, Ski trip to Timberlee and Schuss

"Win a free ski trip"