

Shows at Scarab

An exhibition of oils by Sue Dean, a new member of the Scarab Club, is being shown on the second

floor of the club in Detroit. Mrs. Dean is a resident of 1895 Willow Lane, Birmingham. A group of Birmingham area friends will attend the show Friday as her guests.

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Potpourri

By JULIE CANDLER

When Andres Segovia plays, one six-string guitar can become the full orchestra striking up the overture. Or it may soften to a single string, plaintively singing.

Segovia performed this magic with his Spanish guitar Saturday night, after first puzzling the near-capacity audience of 900 at Pontiac Northern High School.

We're glad we got to meet the great classic guitarist after the concert of the Oakland University Community Arts Council. Not only did we enjoy talking to him, but also we learned the answer to the puzzle of his first strange exit.

As the distinguished, white-haired aristocrat appeared onstage and walked to the round piano stool in front of the footlights, he looked more like a bank president than a guitarist. Someone said, "He looks like he ought to have a cigar in his mouth."

THE HOUSE LIGHTS had darkened, the audience had applauded his entrance and was hushed. Segovia flipped his formal coat with the dignified gesture of a concert musician and sat on the piano stool. He tugged each trouser crease neatly and leaned over to play.

Then he waved the international gesture for "whoops, wait a minute!" and walked offstage. Five minutes later he returned. Without a word of explanation, he began to play.

His music was magnificent. It was almost incredible for all that versatility of tone to sound from six masterfully handled strings.

Our chance to question the master came after the concert, at a party in his honor.

He sat beside the dark-eyed Spanish beauty who is his wife.

THEY WERE in the living room of the Robert F. McLean's livable, striking contemporary home at Wing Lake, where members of the Community Arts Council board of directors gathered to honor him.

Right away we asked what everyone around us was asking earlier, "Why did he leave the stage?"

"It was because I could hear the whir of the air conditioning," he said in Spanish-flavored English. "It would be hard to talk against a whirling sound all evening and just as hard for me to play against it."

He had the whir turned off. Segovia never uses loudspeakers or amplifiers, even before audiences of up to 5,000, because "it would distort the sound."

He seemed proud of the fact that he began teaching himself to play the guitar at the age of six and had his first concert at 16. That was in 1909, admits the amiable gentleman. Which by a poor Potpourri brand of math makes him 71.

HE DRANK A little champagne but later asked for water. And that reminded him of being in New York City in speakeasy days.

"Everybody was always trying to sell me some liquor," he said. "One day I said to my landlady, 'Can you find me a bootlegger somewhere who can get me some water?'"

One of the last to leave the beautiful party in his honor was Andres Segovia, about 1:30 a.m., carrying in his right hand his well-cased guitar. From Pontiac he was heading the next morning for New York City to record another LP for Decca.

Then comes more concerts and a tour that will take Segovia, his wife and his versatile guitar to India.

Punic Wars' Story Focuses on 2 Men

THE COIN OF CARTHAGE by William Bradford Huie. World: New York: 1963; 240 pp.; \$4.50.

Reviewed by MARIAN TRAINOR

An enormous tapestry could be woven depicting the events covering the Punic Wars. That strife stretched over two centuries, involved Ancient Rome and Carthage's Africa and was a struggle where victor and vanquished changed positions like pawns in a chess game.

However, Winifred Bryher, an English noblewoman who chooses to write under the name of Bryher and who is a poetically-evocative, historical novelist, chooses to narrow her focus to portray, in depth, two grubby Greek traders who were neither part of the war nor were much concerned with it.

They sold their wares to Carthaginians and Romans alike, depending on which one was occupying the village at the time. But in their small adventures the wide world of an ancient era is portrayed with artistry and grace.

ZONAS IS THE first who is presented. He is prudent and practical and achieves by a series of compromises with life a humble

security of warmth and food and companionship, which is so much more than he has ever known. "If the sun shone, I was glad not to be cold," he says, "and my stale bread was as tender as a chicken's breast when I was hungry."

Darius, the second of the two, longs for little in worldly possessions but he is too restless, too much the idealist, to sacrifice his spirit of adventure to the choking smudge-pot of security.

THE TWO MEN were unlike in nature, yet there was a kinship born of the hardships of the road which bound them unwillingly to each other. Each one complemented the other's cunning. Together they had survived the dangers of the Carthaginian victors in one sector and the Roman victors in another.

Yet there were differences in their innate values which prevented the forging of the bond of true friendship.

Unimportant in the panorama which surrounds them, it is through them that the author conveys the details and texture of history without intersecting dates, battles or generals.

THE "FEELING" of the time is

there, but the story told will not, supplant or even supplement that section of the Ancient History course which deals with the Punic wars.

Her theme is universal—the devastation and futility of wars, the endurance and renewal of natural phenomena; man's dissatisfaction with himself and his proneness to take the wrong step and then wonder where another course might have led.

Although the characters whom we meet are inconsequential in the shaping of historical events, they are vividly drawn and the reader does not easily forget Sybilla whose entire life has been guided by duty; nor Karus, her son, who is misguided by a misplaced friendship; nor Mago, ambitious, unfeeling, distrustful; nor Verna, a slave-girl by birth but possessing an elemental oneness with all things free in nature.

A PATCHWORK of vivid scenes create a backdrop for the personal dramas which make up the forceful whole.

There is the gaiety of festival day; Zonta rushing out to save his most precious possession, a half-starved donkey from the crushing feet of Hannibal's elephants; Darius, hacking his way with a knife

through a bramble of poisonous bushes to free Mago from a Carthaginian prison camp. Interspersed are homely sketches of family life and the little events which in the end make life precious even as they do today. There is much in this small, shapely classic. There is character and feeling and historical essence and a universality that recognizes the brotherhood of man no matter what his century.

Troop 1013 Chooses Court of Honor

Boy Scout Troop 1013 held its Court of Honor at the First Presbyterian Church recently. The nine boys awarded tenderfoot badges were Mark Henry, Brad Smith, Steven Vanderveer, Randy Bryant, Tom Gorman, S. David Rainey, Tom Zimmer, Charles Shook and Dennis Link.

Scoutmaster Anthony J. Cote announced the appointment of Jack Collins as Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. Fourteen merit badges were awarded.

A Father and Son breakfast was held at Uncle John's Pancake House last Saturday and a two-day camp-out is planned Feb. 28 at the Orionville Recreation Area.

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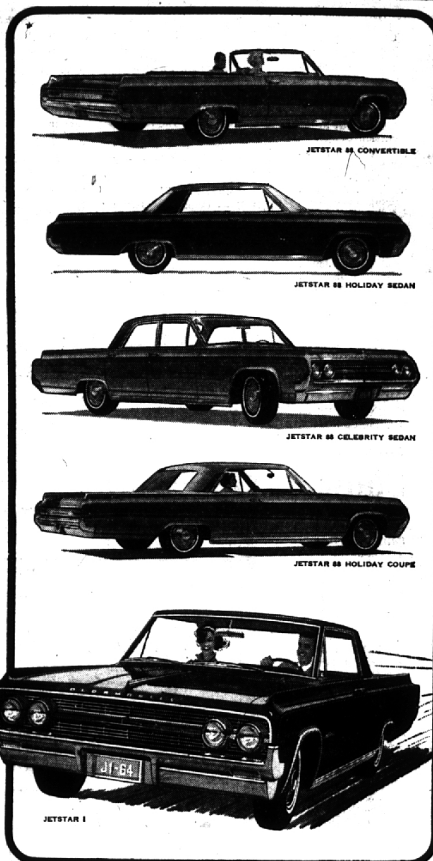
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Women Preview '64 Torch Drive

Leaders of women's organizations previewed a full-scale advertising campaign designed to recruit 10,000 women volunteers for next fall's Torch Drive.

Among local women who attended the presentation at J. L. Hudson Co.'s downtown auditorium was Mrs. Ray Johnson, 647 Purdy, Birmingham.

The campaign was outlined by Joseph G. Standart Jr., vice president of Young & Rubicam, an advertising firm which is donating its services to help the United Foundation Women's Organization launch the campaign.

Scheduled March 1 through April 15, it will be boosted by 20 billboards and 1500 bus cards, as well as newspaper, radio and TV advertising.

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