

WHITE BIRD, INC
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NEW LONDON, NH
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BOB HECHTEL · ASST TO T. DEPAOLA

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PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



Tomie dePaola

pronounced Tommy daPOWla

Tomie dePaola is best known for his works for children.

Mr dePaola has been published for 30 years.

Over 5 million copies of his books have sold worldwide.

His books have been published in over 15 different countries.

This school year he's received nearly 100,000 fan letters.

Tomie dePaola has received virtually every significant recognition for his books in the children's book world.

Caldecott Honor Award from American Library Association

Smithson Medal from Smithsonian Institution

US nominee in illustration for Hans Christian Andersen Medal

Regina Medal from Catholic Library Association

University of Southern Mississippi Medallion

Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, Colby-Sawyer College

Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa, Saint Anselm College

Tomie dePaola has illustrated 191 books and written the stories for 79 of those books.

Most popular character is "Strega Nona" (in Italian, "Grandma Witch"), a wise, loving and gentle woman who possesses magical powers. There are five "Strega Nona" books.

Fall '96, **Strega Nona: Her Story** will be published. It is an "as told to" autobiography.

Also popular are Mr dePaola's autobiographical stories and stories based on his life as a youngster.

Watch Out For the Chicken Feet In Your Soup

Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs

Now One Foot, Now the Other

Oliver Button Is a Sissy

The Art Lesson

Tom

The Baby Sister (Spring '96)

Tomie dePaola, page two

Tomie dePaola is a popular speaker.

Each year, Mr dePaola receives nearly 1000 speaking engagement invitations.

This fall, Mr dePaola will travel to over a dozen major metropolitan areas to promote his books and his new merchandising line. Included in the tour are promotional events at **Walt Disney World** and **Disneyland**.

Tomie dePaola has been interviewed and profiled by many print, TV and radio media.

The Today Show, NBC-TV

The New York Times Book Review

The Washington Post

All Things Considered, National Public Radio

Much has been written and said about Tomie dePaola.

"one of the most famous and gifted in the field"

The Today Show, NBC-TV

"very well known"

Good Morning, America, ABC-TV

"one of the best read authors in America"

The Minneapolis Tribune

"the children's choice"

The Reading Teacher

"great contemporary picture-book writer"

The New York Times Book Review

"international star"

Publishers Weekly

"tough and tender storyteller"

Instructor

"creative visionary"

The Boston Globe

"one of the best known and loved authors in the world"

New Hampshire Public Television

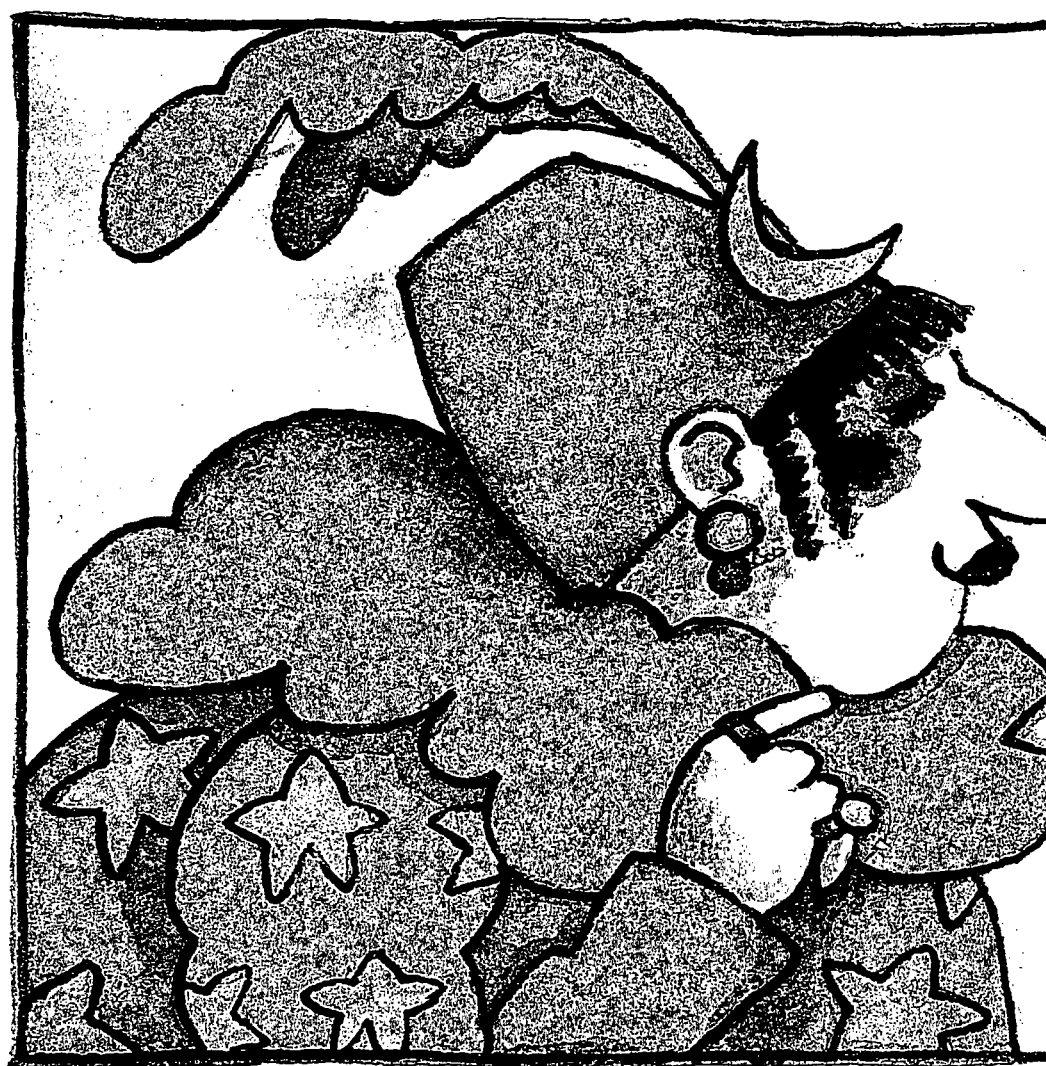
Tomie dePaola was born in Meriden, Connecticut of Irish and Italian parents on September 15, 1934. He now makes his home in New London, New Hampshire. His studio is in a large, renovated 200-year-old barn.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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Tomie o
STREGA

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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© The Children's Book Council, Inc. Photo Credit: Jon Gilbert Fox

Smile

Nancy Aronie on belated hippiness
Karen Mamone's advice for panicky party-goers

THE HARTFORD COURANT SUNDAY MAGAZINE / DECEMBER 25, 1994

Northeast

TOMIE'S

THIS COVER IS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR YOU FROM TOMIE DEPAOLA, THE LITTLE BOY OF 60

TOMIE'S

Gift

TO CREATE
AND
TO ILLUSTRATE

IS TO APPRECIATE THAT "THE OLDER I GET

THE MORE I REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT CHILDHOOD IS."

BY NANCY COBB

Tomie dePaola is a tireless collector. Of hearts and hightops. Welsh terriers and Viking ovens. Sets of pens, boxes of brushes and a plethora of people. This past summer he threw his own 60th birthday party for 400 long-time friends and tap danced his way through the festivities with Carol Morrissey, his recital partner from childhood, recreating their routine of "Señor and Señorita Swing" without a misstep. For those of us who can barely *remember* our fourth-grade classmates, Tomie dePaola's 3D memory bank is a marvel to behold.

"Memory is my thermometer," he says, and

Nancy Cobb is the host of the radio program "Connecticut Voices" and the author of the books "How They Met" and "The Letter Writer Book for Kids." She lives in Guilford.

given the feverish output since his days at Pratt Institute of Art — 5 million books in print in 15 different countries — dePaola's mantra, "practice, practice, practice," has been scrupulously exercised over the past 40 years.

The diversity of his work ranges from murals, paintings and posters to greeting cards, album covers and theater sets, and has been exhibited in churches, monasteries and several major museums, including the Art Institute of Chicago. But unquestionably, Tomie dePaola is best known and loved as a writer and illustrator of children's books. His drawings are



Continued on next page



"That little boy that I once was is still a big part of me. I hope I never lose that voice."

PHOTOGRAPH BY SHERRY PETERS

TOMIE'S *Gift*

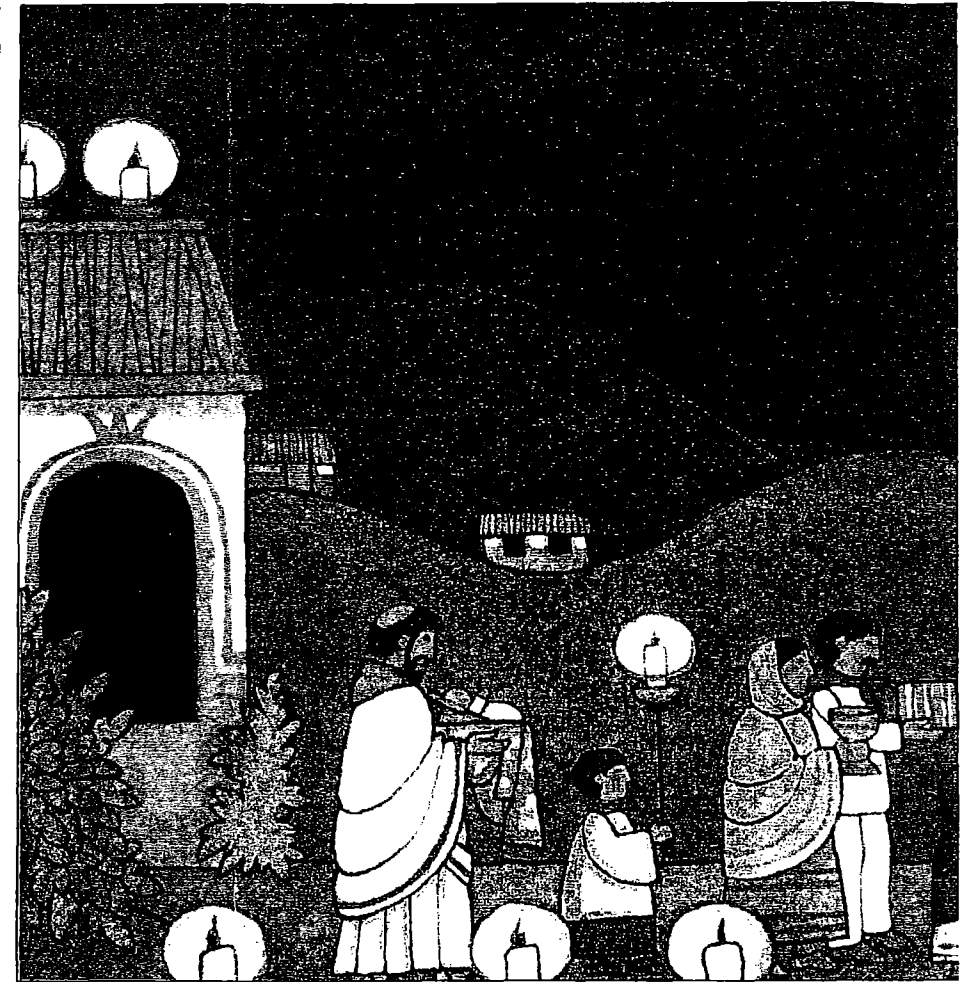
Continued from previous page

universal and instantly recognizable. His stories are simple and accessible, with a tender and innate understanding of what children need. "I write my books from my heart," he says. "The older I get the more I realize how important childhood is."

His began Sept. 15, 1934, in Meriden, and to idealize it might be to sell it short. Half Irish. Half Italian. Wholeheartedly loving. The combined family of the dePaolas and the Downeys feathered the creative nest for the fledgling Tomie and allowed him to soar at an age when most of us still only dream of flying. He was encouraged to draw and to read — books as well as tea leaves — from the time he was tiny. As a result, the entire extended family at 26 Fairmont Ave. — mother, Flossie; father, Joe; Tomie's three siblings, grandparents, neighbors, cronies and teachers have all become part and palette of many dePaola classics. "Now one Foot, Now the Other," "Charlie Needs a Cloak," "Bill and Pete," "Andy, That's My Name" and "Oliver Button Is A Sissy" all include autobiographical elements from his formative years in Connecticut. Teachers Rose Mulligan and Beulah Bowers are credited for fostering his grade-school artistry in "The Art Lesson." His Irish grandmother and great-grandmother are immortalized in "Nana Upstairs" and "Nana Downstairs," as is his Italian grandfather in "Tom" and his Italian grandmother in "Watch out for the Chicken Feet in Your Soup."

But of all the dePaola characters that people the shelves of bookstores and libraries around the world, none is more popular than Strega Nona. Tomie says she suddenly appeared one day on his doodle pad and has been talking to him ever since. "It's just my telling of the old porridge pot story. I set it in Italy with Strega Nona, Big Anthony and later Bambolana and am delighted when people tell me their mother or grandmother is Italian born and remembers the Strega Nona stories, too."

Tomie promises a "prequel" of Strega Nona's early life in 1996, and his latest in this series, "Strega Nona Meets Her Match," is the one he has chosen to read on the radio for "Connecticut Voices." And whether it is the Irish or the Italian side, his thespian leanings are undeniable. He becomes his characters, creating an authentic and individual voice for each, and seems to delight in the reading as much as in the writing and illustrating. His eyes dance. He gestures, takes dramatic pauses, hams it up. His enthusiasm is infectious.



This megawatt energy ignites every part of Tomie dePaola's life. He often takes time out from his studio, a 100-year-old converted barn in scenic New Hampshire, to tend to his gardens, his bread-baking, his fan mail (60,000 letters a year!), and his animals (four dogs, two cats, several woodchucks and a visiting fox). Seemingly indefatigable, Tomie travels internationally some portion of each year for book signings and readings. In addition to fans of all ages in every country, he has acquired virtually every prestigious award in children's literature, including the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, the Smithsonian Medal from the Smithsonian Institution and the Caldecott Honor Award for Strega Nona.

Under his own imprint, Whitebird Books, Tomie has developed a host of original fables as well as adapted folk tales from around the globe (his own as well as those of other writers and illustrators) that

celebrate the spirit of multiculturalism.

Tomie dePaola seems to create celebrations wherever he goes and — Christmas being his favorite season — he takes great care to fill his airy house and studio with flowers, fir trees, candles, and hundreds of tiny, twinkling lights. In his most recent book, "The Legend of the Poinsettia," he has retold and illustrated the Mexican legend of a little girl who offers weeds to the Christ child as her gift. "I was touched by the story as only Christmas can touch me," he says.

After meeting him, it is easy to understand why this artist, writer, and illustrator is beloved by so many. His anecdotes captivate listener and reader alike, most particularly and importantly, children. "That little boy that I once was is still a big part of me. I hope I never lose that voice. I want the kids to listen, to hear me and understand that they are



heard, too."

And Tomie dePaola, true to his own voice, is the manboy with a message. Part showman, part shaman, his work entertains as it comforts. The message of connecting heart to brain, boy to man was sparked by a Jungian therapist Tomie sought out in his early 20s. Because Tomie had no money, she asked him for a weekly drawing as recompense. It was with her that Tomie began to trust his inner voice.

"There was always a little boy in every one of those pictures, full of questions and ideas," he says with a smile, "actually, quite like the little boy in 'The Art Lesson.'"

"There are so many ideas that I still want to do. I hope I will live a very long life." It seems as if he has already lived many lives, and yet only just begun. ■

DEPAOLA READS SATURDAY NIGHT



Our fourth season of "Connecticut Voices" concludes Saturday at 8 p.m. as Tomie dePaola reads "Strega Nona Meets Her Match" and discusses the literary life with interviewer Nancy Cobb.

A project of Connecticut Center for the Book, in cooperation with Northeast, "Connecticut Voices" has during the past three years featured — in print and on the air — almost 50 notable authors

from our state.

"Connecticut Voices" is broadcast on Connecticut Public Radio stations WPKT-FM (90.5, Meriden), WNPR-FM (89.1, Norwich), and WEDW-FM (88.5, Stamford).

"The Legend of the Poinsettia," Tomie dePaola's newest book, is the author-illustrator's retelling of the "flower of the Holy Night," whose star-shaped blossom lit up the countryside on the night of Christ's birth. "The Legend of the Poinsettia" is published by G.P. Putnam's Sons.

HOLIDAY 1995



DE PAOLA

MIDWEST
OF CANNON FALLS

Designed in the Heartland, Crafted Around the World



Dear Friends,

Wishes can come true.

We accepted your challenge to deliver Midwest's Holiday 1995 Catalog in January. By successfully accomplishing this goal, we're pleased to provide one more benefit to help strengthen your business.

But this is only the beginning.

In 1995, you'll discover a whole new world of opportunities at Midwest. As the retail environment changes, we're introducing innovations in giftware to help set your store apart from the competition.

In a truly novel approach to giftware, we're bringing Tomie dePaola's newest storybook to life. Published in over 15 countries, Tomie is one of the most gifted illustrators and writers in children's literature today. In 1995, we've developed over 25 exclusive partnerships with best-selling artists to help you expand into profitable new markets.

For 40 years, you've recognized Midwest as a seasonal giftware leader. Now we're setting future directions in home fashion. In cooperation with C.A.R.E., Midwest is unveiling a contemporary blend of year-round decor and cause-related marketing. This exclusive collection celebrates cultural diversity and awareness of our global world. And it positions your store as a trendsetter.

Exclusivity has always been our specialty. At Midwest, we offer a "distinctive" advantage with thousands of original designs unavailable from any other source. For Holiday 1995, we've designed over 75% of our newest collections! You'll find over a dozen new themes plus hundreds of additions to all your favorites. If your customers are looking for "something special," you'll find it at Midwest.

Start the new year at Midwest.

In 1995, we're doing more than just wishing you success. We're providing you with the tools to help guarantee it.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Brekken
President / CEO



Cover art and product
© Tomie dePaola.
Designed exclusively for
Midwest of Cannon Falls.

Color Tabbing Key

Our Holiday catalog is divided into five easily identifiable sections to assist you in quickly locating product. The corners of each page are color coded as follows.

- Themes
- Product Categories
- Ornaments
- European Collectibles
- Halloween/ Harvest

Symbol Key

© - Product is an exclusive design of Midwest of Cannon Falls.

M - Indicates minimum order quantities for each product.

Ⓜ - Products with this gift symbol are complete with packaging suitable for gift-giving.

Δ - Indicates Midwest is the exclusive U.S. distributor of this product.

All prices subject to change

● Themes

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Tomie
DEPAOLA

The three smallest
Angels
started up the hill
with the Bright Star
above them.





13945-5 Resin & Fabric Santa with Angels Figure set/3. 8 1/2",
52.50 set M-1 set;
47.25 set M-4 sets. © TD



13546-4 Tin and Resin
Angel Bookmark
Ornament (2 asst).
3 1/2" x 3 1/2",
3.75 ea. M-6;
3.40 ea. M-72 © TD
15706-0 "A Country
Angel Christmas" Book
by Tomie dePaola.
10 1/2" x 10 1/2",
8.50 ea. M-1. © TD
Available for delivery
after September 1, 1995.



13569-3 Resin Children and Animal Door Arch. 16" x 5 1/4",
20.00 ea. M-2;
18.00 ea. M-12. © TD



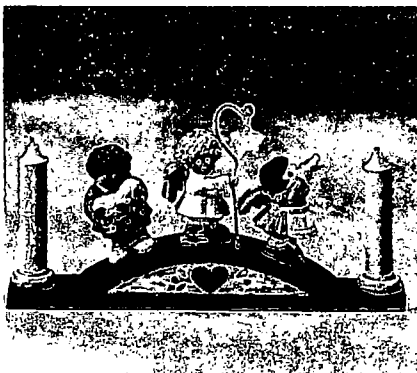
13564-8 Resin Angel with
Jointed Legs Roly-Poly.
3 1/2" x 2 1/4" x 6 1/4",
6.50 ea. M-3.
5.85 ea. M-36. © TD

Published in over 15 countries around the world,

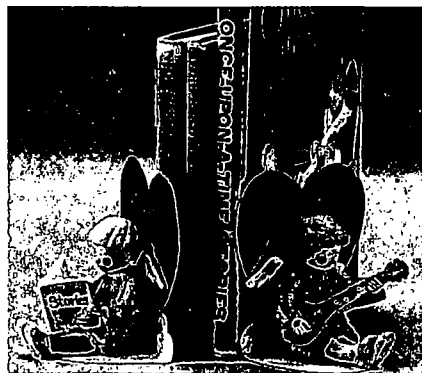
Tomie dePaola is considered one of the most gifted writers and illustrators in children's literature today.

Best known for his works created for children, Tomie has illustrated nearly 200 books and written the stories for many of them. For Holiday 1995, Midwest is pleased to present an exclusive collection created from one of Tomie's storybooks.

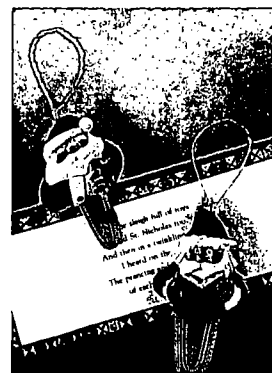
A Country Angel Christmas comes to life as its characters are brilliantly sculpted in three dimensional images. Choose from over 70 ornaments and giftware...and share the magic of Tomie dePaola.



13573-0 Resin Angel Processional
Candleholder (holds 2 candles 03600-6 or
03599-3). 7" x 1 1/4" x 4 1/4",
12.50 ea. M-2;
11.25 ea. M-18. © TD



13567-9 Resin and Metal Angel Bookend
Pair. 4 1/2" x 6" x 4 1/2",
17.50 pair M-2 pair;
15.75 pair M-18 pair © TD



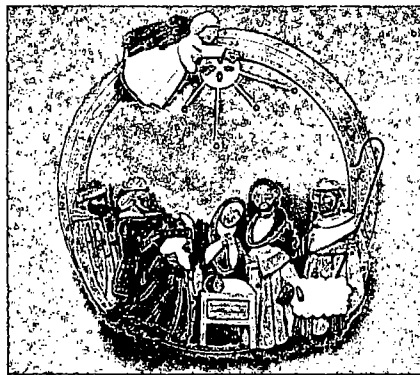
13545-7 Tin and Resin Santa
Bookmark Ornament
(2 asst). 2 1/2" x 4 1/2",
3.75 ea. M-6 asst;
3.40 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13578-5 Resin Santa Figures
(2 asst). 4" x 3" x 6",
7.00 ea. M-4 asst;
6.30 ea. M-36 asst. © TD



13943-1 Acrylic Needlepoint Santa with Children Pillow. 12¼" x 9½" x 12½",
16.00 ea. M-2;
14.40 ea. M-18. © TD



13795-6 Resin and Metal Nativity Wreath. 10" x 11",
29.50 ea. M-1;
26.55 ea. M-6. © TD



13561-7 Resin Nativity with Stable set/9. 7¼",
37.50 set M-1 set;
33.75 set M-6 sets. © TD



13941-7 Acrylic Needlepoint Santa with Children Stocking. 18½" x 12" x 18",
17.50 ea. M-2;
15.75 ea. M-18. © TD



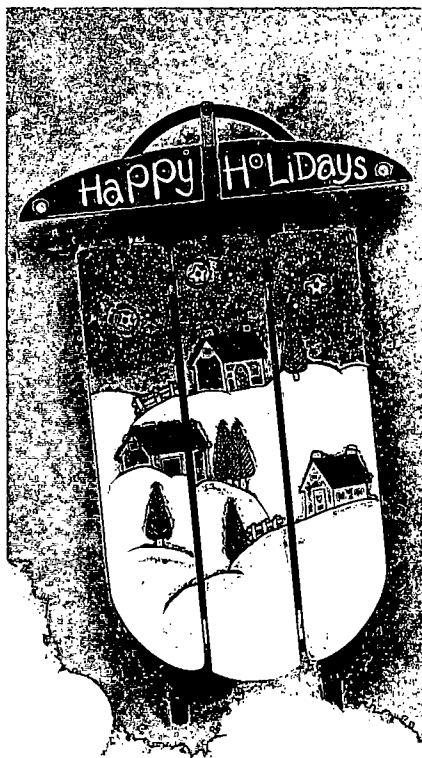
13316-3 Large "Happy Holidays" Paper Bag. 9½" x 13½" x 5",
1.50 ea. M-12;
1.35 ea. M-144. © TD



13867-0 Tin "Happy Holidays Medium Rectangular Tin. 8¼" x 6" x 2",
4.50 ea. M-6;
4.05 ea. M-72. © TD



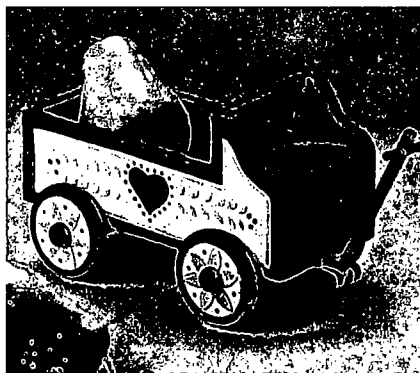
13944-8 Resin Happy Holidays Framed Print. 10",
20.00 ea. M-2; 18.00 ea. M-12. © TD
13866-3 Paper Tomie dePaola Christmas Cards set/10 (blank inside). 6½",
3.00 set M-6 sets; 2.70 set M-72 sets. © TD



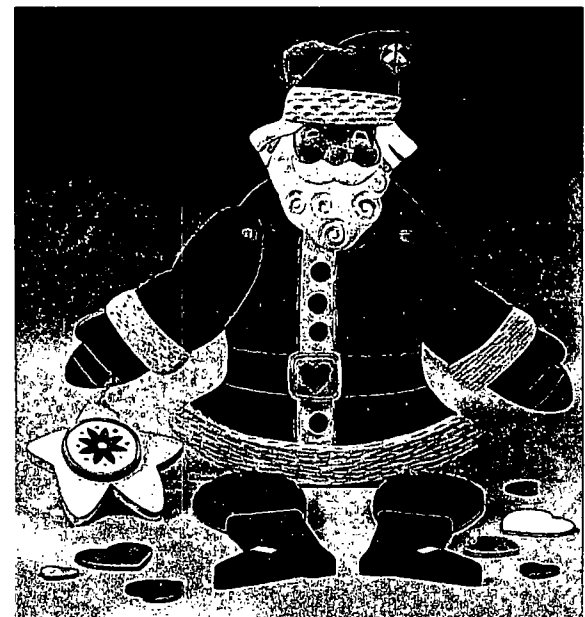
14009-3 Wood Sled Display Piece. 13¾" x 19¼" x 20½",
26.50 ea. M-1;
23.85 ea. M-6. © TD



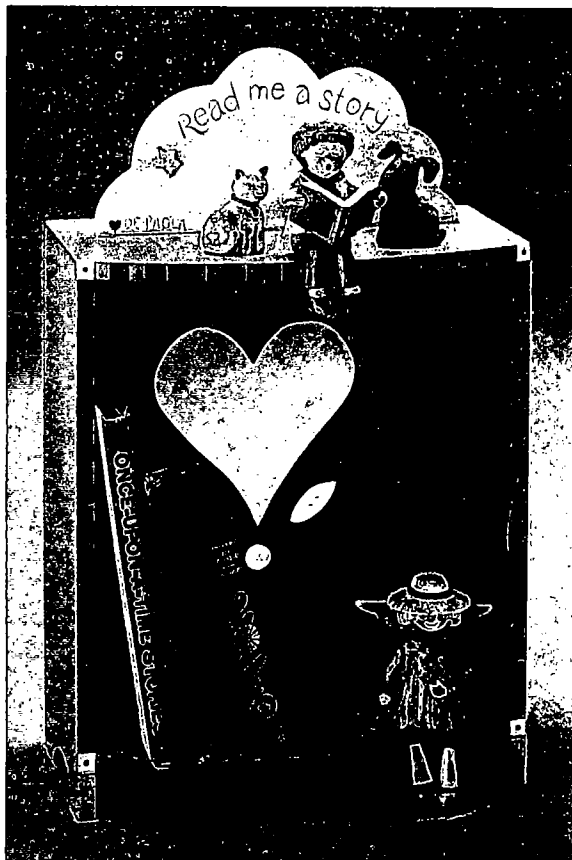
13574-7 Resin and Tin Graphic Pattern Photo Frame (opening: 3" x 5"). 7½",
12.50 ea. M-2;
11.25 ea. M-18. © TD



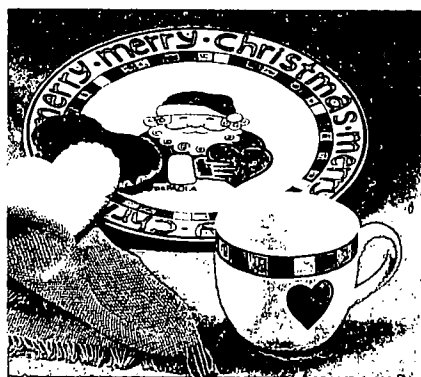
13576-1 Wood Wagon Display Piece. 13½" x 5¼" x 5½",
13.50 ea. M-2;
12.15 ea. M-18. © TD



13570-9 Wood Jointed Santa Display Piece. 20",
20.00 ea. M-2;
18.00 ea. M-12. © TD



13577-8 Resin and Wood Book Shelf. 12" x 7" x 19½",
32.50 ea. M-1;
29.25 ea. M-4. © TD



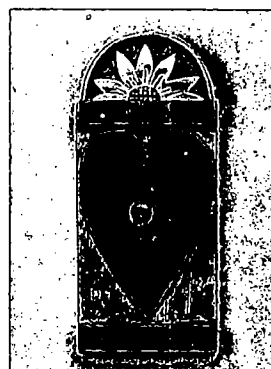
13875-5 Porcelain Tomie dePaola Cup.
DWS/MWS. 2½", 6 oz.,
4.50 ea. M-4; 4.05 ea. M-48. © TD
13876-2 Porcelain Tomie dePaola Plate. 8" dia.
5.50 ea. M-4; 4.95 ea. M-48. © TD



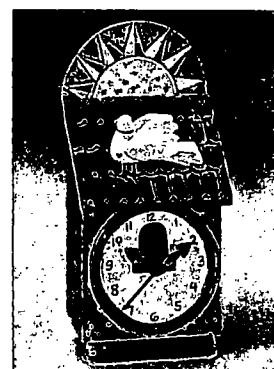
13579-2 Wood Accordian Village Piece.
8" x 3" x 2½",
7.00 ea. M-3;
6.30 ea. M-36. © TD



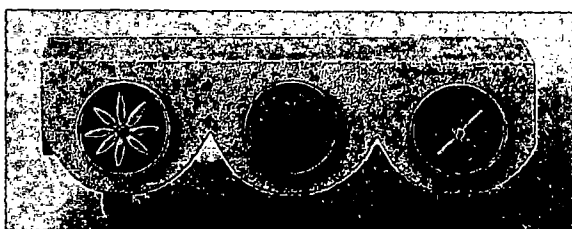
13565-5 Rusted Tin Bird in
Hand Light Switch Cover.
4½" x 8½",
4.50 ea. M-6;
4.05 ea. M-48. © TD



13566-2 Resin Heart Wall
Hook. 2¼" x 6¼",
5.00 ea. M-6;
4.50 ea. M-48. © TD



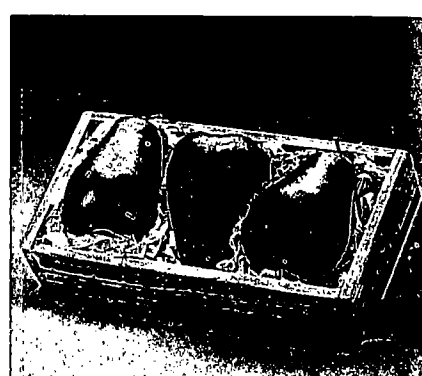
13571-6 Wood Folk Style
Coo-Coo Clock (uses 1 AA
battery). 4¼" x 4" x 9½",
22.50 ea. M-2;
20.25 ea. M-12. © TD



13568-6 Wood Folk Scalloped Shelf.
12½" x 3¼" x 5¼",
13.50 ea. M-2;
12.15 ea. M-18. © TD



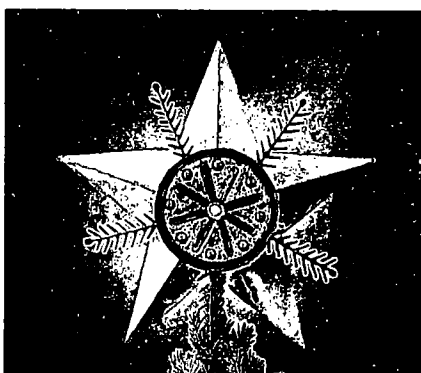
13575-4 Iron and Metal Bird and Pears Folk
Candleabra (holds standard taper or votive).
13¼" x 5" x 16",
31.50 ea. M-1;
28.35 ea. M-6. © TD



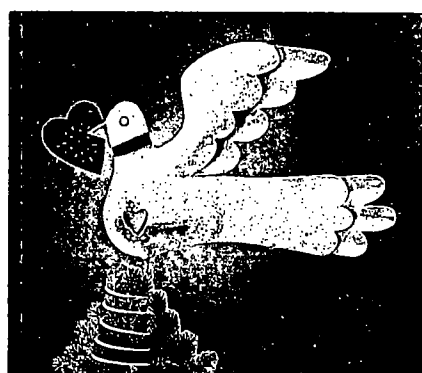
13580-8 Wax Pear Candles in Wood Crate
set/3. 5",
10.00 set M-3 sets;
9.00 set M-24 sets. © TD



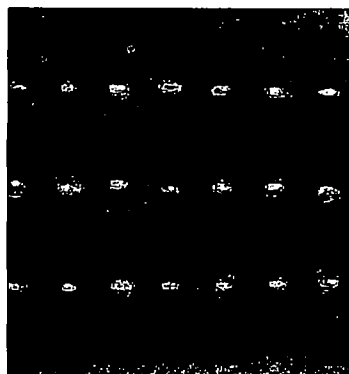
13942-4 Wood Display Chair. 10¼" x 7" x 22½",
55.00 ea. M-1; 49.50 ea. M-4. © TD
14008-6 Wood Child Size Table. 16¼" x 16¼" x 17",
85.00 ea. M-1; 76.50 ea. M-4. © TD



13562-4 Tin Graphic Star Treetop.
7½" x 2½" x 9",
9.50 ea. M-3;
8.55 ea. M-24. ©



13563-1 Tin Dove Treetop. 11" x 2½" x 12",
11.00 ea. M-2;
9.90 ea. M-18. © TD



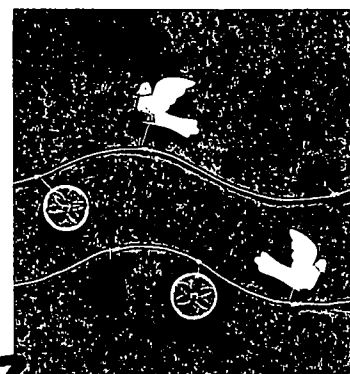
02045-6 Wood Red Bead Garland. 8',
1.85 ea. M-6;
1.70 ea. M-72.



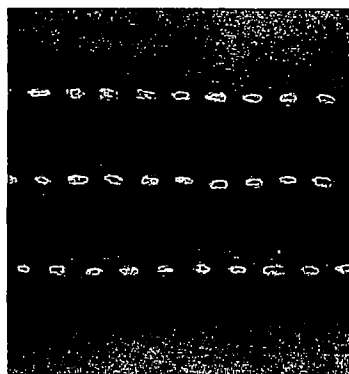
11251-9 PVC Pine & Berry Garland. 8',
6.50 ea. M-3;
5.85 ea. M-36. Δ



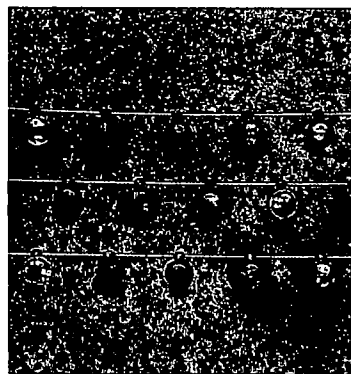
15498-4 Poly Floral & Berry Garland. 8',
8.00 ea. M-3;
7.20 ea. M-24. Δ



13572-3 Metal Doves & Hearts Garland. 50" x 4",
7.50 ea. M-3;
6.75 ea. M-36. © TD



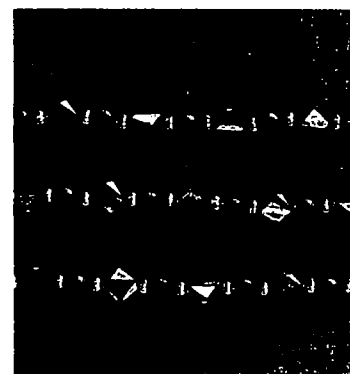
02047-0 Wood Cranberry Bead Garland. 8',
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1.70 ea. M-72.



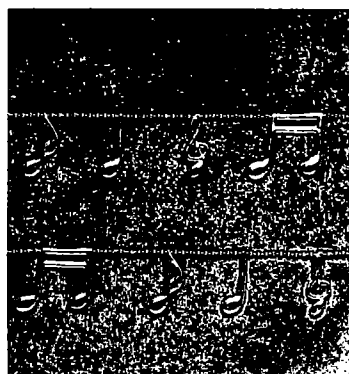
11681-4 Plastic Colored Bead Garland. 8',
2.00 ea. M-12;
1.80 ea. M-72.



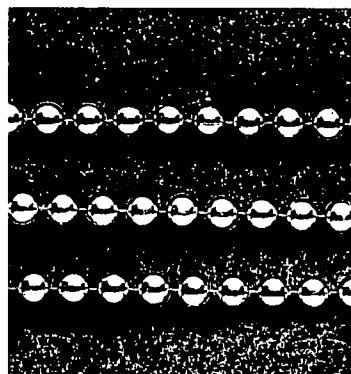
09342-9 Plastic Red 12mm Round Bead Garland. 9',
1.65 ea. M-12;
1.50 ea. M-144.



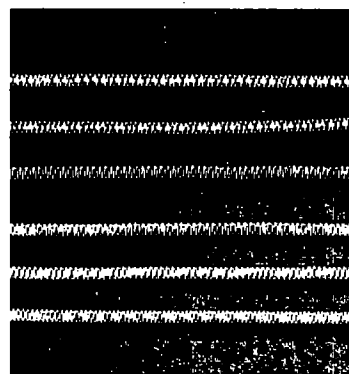
13054-4 Plastic Jewelry Bead Garland. 8',
6.00 ea. M-3;
5.40 ea. M-36.



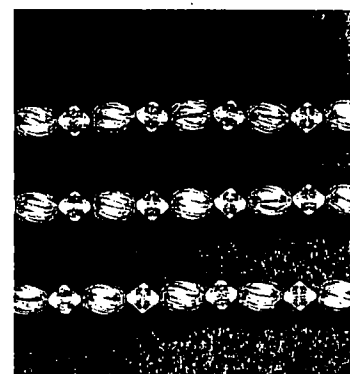
08291-1 Plastic Musical Symbol Garland. 9',
1.50 ea. M-12;
1.35 ea. M-144.



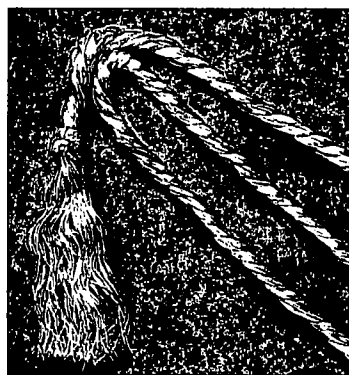
09343-6 Plastic Gold 12mm Round Bead Garland. 9',
1.65 ea. M-12;
1.50 ea. M-144.



11448-3 Gold Wire Bouillon Garland. 25 grams, Germany, 3.25 ea. M-12;
2.95 ea. M-72. **11449-0 Silver Wire Bouillon Garland.** 25 grams, Germany, 3.25 ea. M-12; 2.95 ea. M-72.



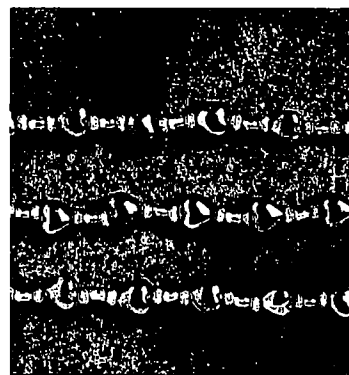
11365-3 Plastic Gold & Clear Bead Garland. 9',
6.75 ea. M-3;
6.10 ea. M-36.



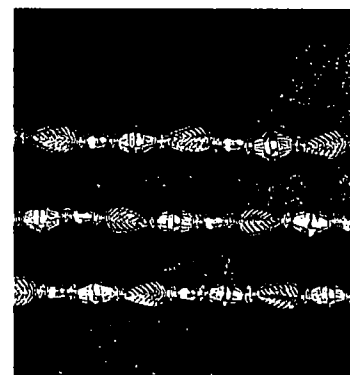
08234-8 Mylar Gold Rope Garland. 8',
3.00 ea. M-6;
2.70 ea. M-72.



13095-7 Mylar Red, Green and Gold Garland. 9',
2.50 ea. M-12;
2.25 ea. M-72.



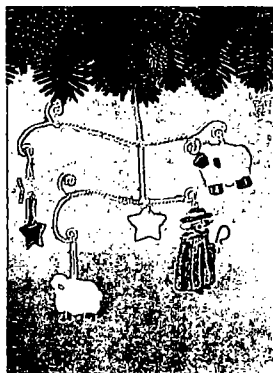
13126-8 Glass Jeweled Heart Garland. 8',
7.50 ea. M-3;
6.75 ea. M-36.



13000-1 Glass Gold Bead Garland. 8',
6.00 ea. M-3;
5.40 ea. M-36.



13556-3 Resin Santa and Angels 1995 Dated Ornament. 5",
8.00 ea. M-3;
7.20 ea. M-36. © TD

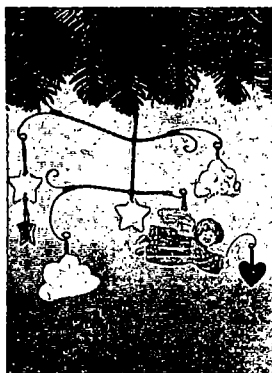


13544-0 Resin and Metal Shepherd with Sheep Mobile Ornament. 5",
4.50 ea. M-6;
4.05 ea. M-48. © TD



13547-1 Resin Sculpted Nativity Ornament. 4 1/2",
5.00 ea. M-6;
4.50 ea. M-48. © TD

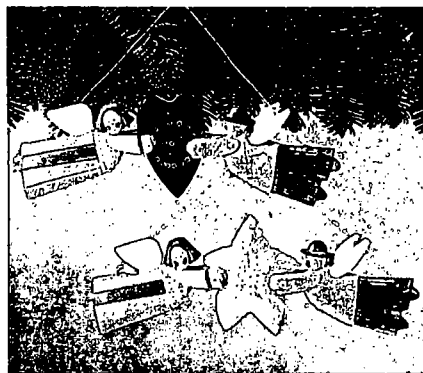
♥
**Tomie
dePAOLA**
Ornaments



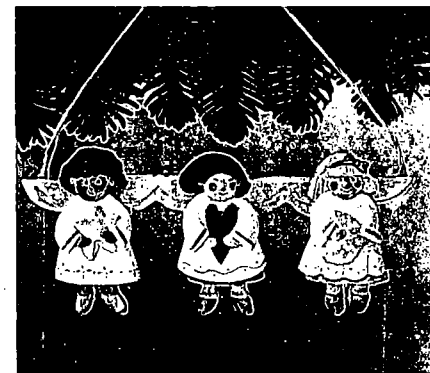
13911-0 Resin and Metal Angels & Cloud Mobile Ornament. 4",
4.50 ea. M-6;
4.05 ea. M-48. © TD



13552-5 Resin Sculpted Angel Photo Frame Ornament (opening, 1 1/4" x 1 1/2"). 4",
6.00 ea. M-6;
5.40 ea. M-36. © TD



13557-C Resin Folk Double Angel Ornament (2 asst). 8 1/4" x 3 1/2",
8.00 ea. M-4 asst;
7.20 ea. M-24 asst. © TD



13548-8 Resin Chain of Angels Ornament. 5 1/4" x 2 1/4",
5.00 ea. M-6;
4.50 ea. M-48. © TD



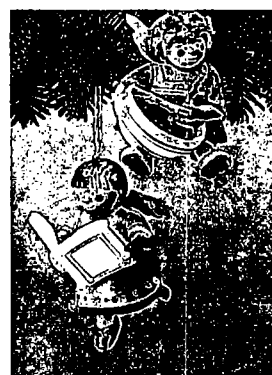
13545-7 Tin and Resin Santa Bookmark Ornament (2 asst). 4 1/2",
3.75 ea. M-6 asst;
3.40 ea. M-22 asst. © TD



13558-8 Resin Angel Holding Cat Ornament. 4",
5.00 ea. M-6;
4.50 ea. M-48. © TD



13546-4 Tin and Resin Angel Bookmark Ornament (2 asst). 3 1/2" x 3 1/2",
3.75 ea. M-6 asst;
3.40 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13551-8 Resin Angel Ornament (2 asst). 4",
5.00 ea. M-6 asst;
4.50 ea. M-48 asst. © TD



13543-3 Resin Sculpted Wafer Flying Angel Musician Ornament (2 asst). 5 1/4" x 4",
5.00 ea. M-6 asst;
4.50 ea. M-48 asst. © TD



13725-3 Tin Punched Cornucopia with Santa Ornament. 6 1/4",
4.00 ea. M-6;
3.60 ea. M-72. © TD



13555-6 Wood Santa Pull Toy Ornament. 8",
7.50 ea. M-3;
6.75 ea. M-36. © TD



13553-2 Resin Santa in Sleigh and Wagon Ornament (2 asst). 5 1/2" x 3 1/4",
5.50 ea. M-4 asst;
4.95 ea. M-36 asst. © TD



13549-5 Resin Santa Riding Animal on Wagon Ornament (2 asst). 4",
5.00 ea. M-6 asst;
4.50 ea. M-48 asst. © TD



13554-9 Resin Sculpted Santa Ornament (3 asst). 5",
5.50 ea. M-3 asst;
4.95 ea. M-36 asst. © TD



Resin Animal Angel Ornaments
13542-6 Dog. 4" x 3 1/4",
 4.50 ea. M-6; 4.05 ea. M-72. © TD
13810-6 Cat. 4" x 3 1/4",
 4.50 ea. M-6; 4.05 ea. M-72. © TD



13550-1 Wood Animal with Jiggly Legs Ornament (3 asst). 4",
 4.50 ea. M-6 asst;
 4.05 ea. M-48 asst. © TD



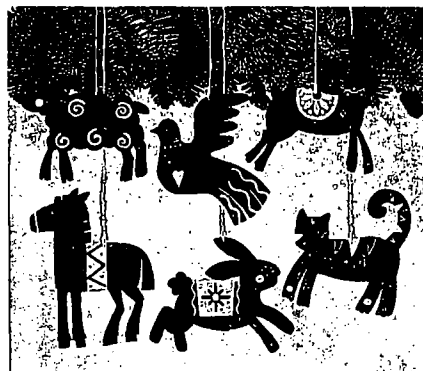
13651-5 Resin Barn with Animals Ornament.
 4" x 3 1/2",
 4.75 ea. M-6;
 4.30 ea. M-48. © TD



13541-9 Fabric Cat with Pocket Holding Mouse Ornament. 4 1/4",
 3.50 ea. M-6;
 3.15 ea. M-72. © TD



13558-7 Resin Deer with Antler Bells Ornament. 5 1/4",
 4.50 ea. M-6;
 4.05 ea. M-48. © TD



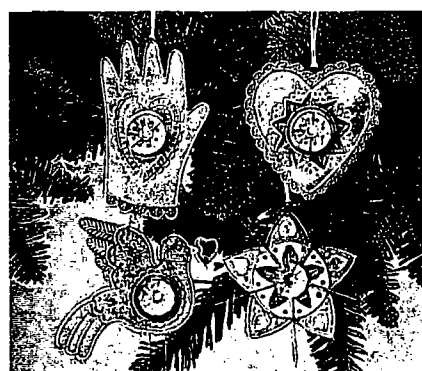
13535-8 Rusted Tin Flat Animal Ornament
 (6 asst). 3 1/2" - 5 1/4",
 2.25 ea. M-12 asst;
 2.05 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



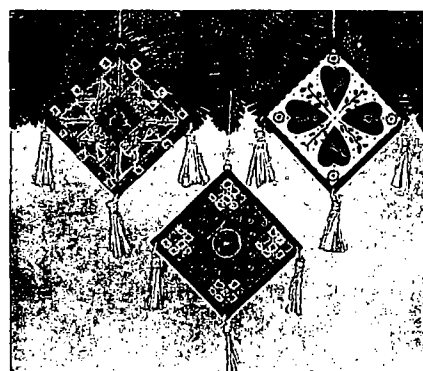
13537-2 Wood and Tin Santa and Deer Swag Ornament
 (2 asst). 7",
 2.75 ea. M-12 asst,
 2.50 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



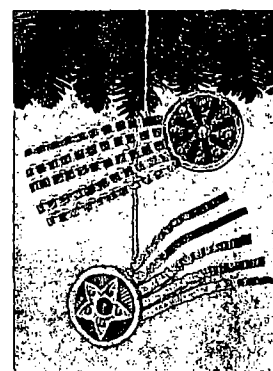
13534-1 Fabric Stocking Ornament
 (2 asst). 5",
 2.00 ea. M-12 asst;
 1.80 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13538-9 Tin Light Jacket Ornament
 (4 asst). 3 1/2" - 4 1/2",
 3.50 ea. M-8 asst;
 3.15 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



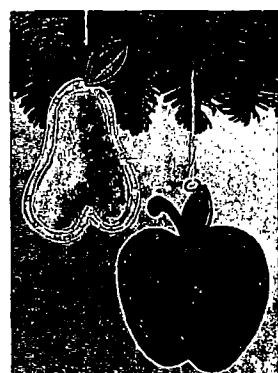
13536-5 Tin Quilt Square Ornament
 (3 asst). 3 1/4",
 2.50 ea. M-12 asst,
 2.25 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13533-4 Metal Shooting Star with Long Tail Ornament
 (2 asst). 5 1/2" x 2",
 2.00 ea. M-12 asst;
 1.80 ea. M-144 asst. © TD



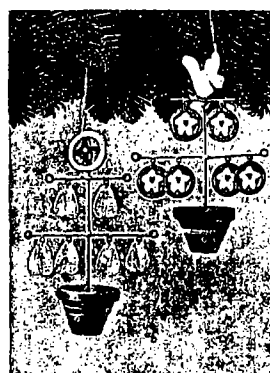
13560-0 Tin and Wood Birdhouse w/Birds Ornament
 (2 asst). 2 1/4" x 2 1/4" x 6",
 6.50 ea. M-4 asst;
 5.85 ea. M-36 asst. © TD



13540-2 Tin Puffy Fruit Ornament (2 asst). 4",
 4.00 ea. M-6 asst;
 3.60 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13539-6 Tin Bird on Branch with Fruit Ornament (2 asst).
 4 1/2", 5",
 4.00 ea. M-6 asst,
 3.60 ea. M-72 asst. © TD



13559-4 Resin and Wood Decorated Tree Ornament
 (2 asst). 5 1/2",
 6.00 ea. M-4 asst;
 5.40 ea. M-36 asst. © TD



13621-8 Tin "Under the Tree" Ornament. 5" x 5",
 4.50 ea. M-6;
 4.05 ea. M-48. © TD



13711-6 Wood and Resin Dove Ornament (2 asst).
 5" x 5" x 4",
 4.50 ea. M-6 asst;
 4.05 ea. M-72 asst. © TD

The house is in
New London,
New Hampshire

—

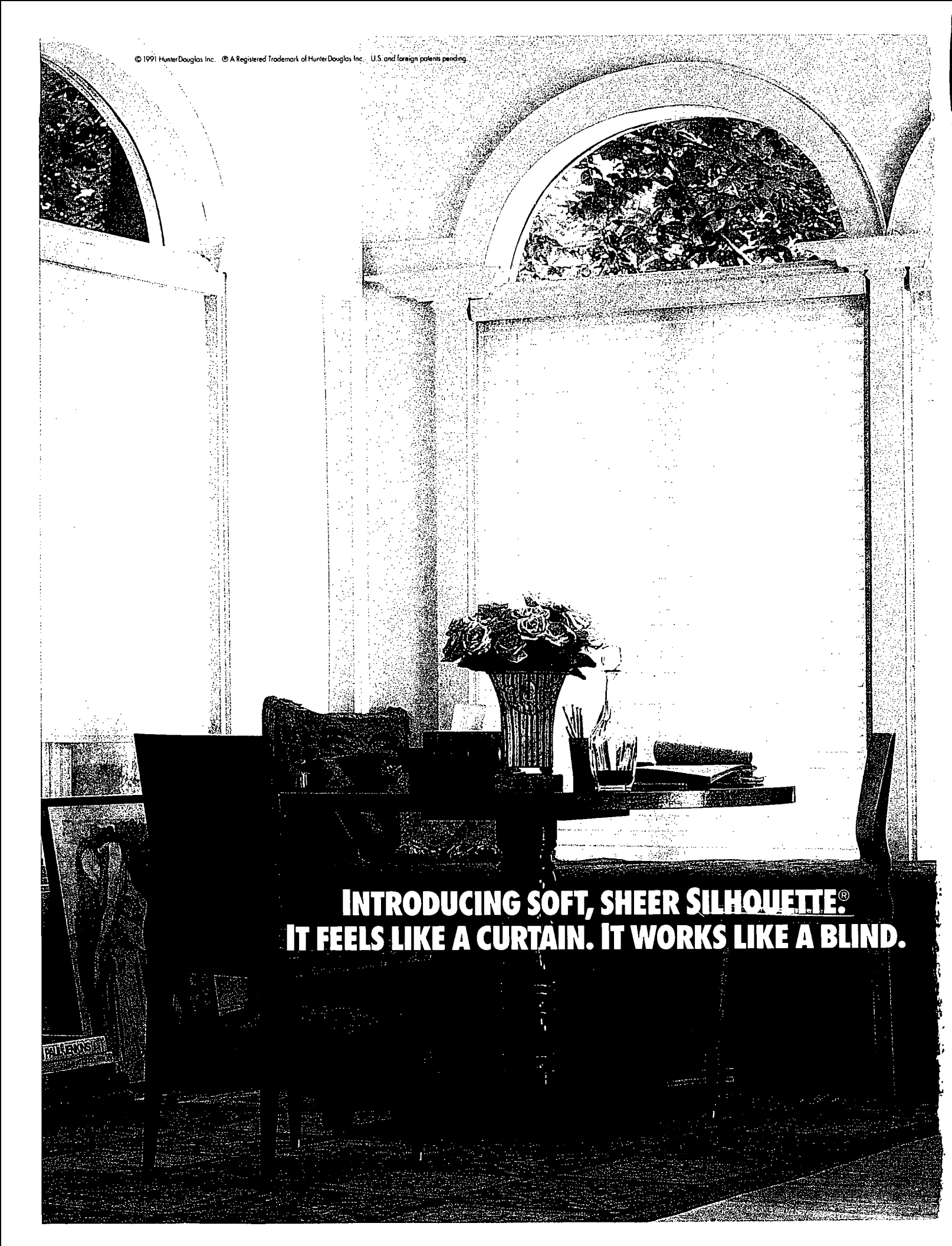
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HEARTWARMING IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATING,
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INTRODUCING SOFT, SHEER SILHOUETTE.[®]
IT FEELS LIKE A CURTAIN. IT WORKS LIKE A BLIND.

an extra \$2.50 at the end of the year was meaningful at a time when the average worker's salary came to \$12 a week.



Merkel Landis's creation soon had many copycats—one of which was the worker's essential Vacation Savings Fund, begun a few years later in New York City. It was established to help the working girls of that city afford modest vacations, and from that group grew a club whose stance helped spark a popular movement.

Protest against purchasing

Administrators of the fund discovered that female



workers had difficulty saving money because they were constantly asked for contributions from their small personal coffers to buy Christmas presents for a plethora of already-privileged bosses. Resentment over this led to the creation of a club, clear in name and purpose: the Society for the

Prevention of Useless Giving, or SPUG.

The organization was created in November 1912 at an event celebrating the Vacation Fund's first birthday. The founder, Mrs. August Belmont, was a former actress whose address was sweeping and dramatic. "Is it not true that these evils do exist, and that you must give many useless Christmas gifts simply because it is the custom?" she implored her audience. Within minutes, nearly a thousand women had joined.

The issue of hypocritical giving was hotly debated all over the city, and a prominent clergyman praised the movement as a proper action "against this whole spirit of misusing Christmas." By mid-December, more than 2,000 women called themselves Spugs. Formerly mousy workers suddenly summoned up the courage to refuse contributions to gift funds for "higher-ups."

The movement's popularity rose beyond the

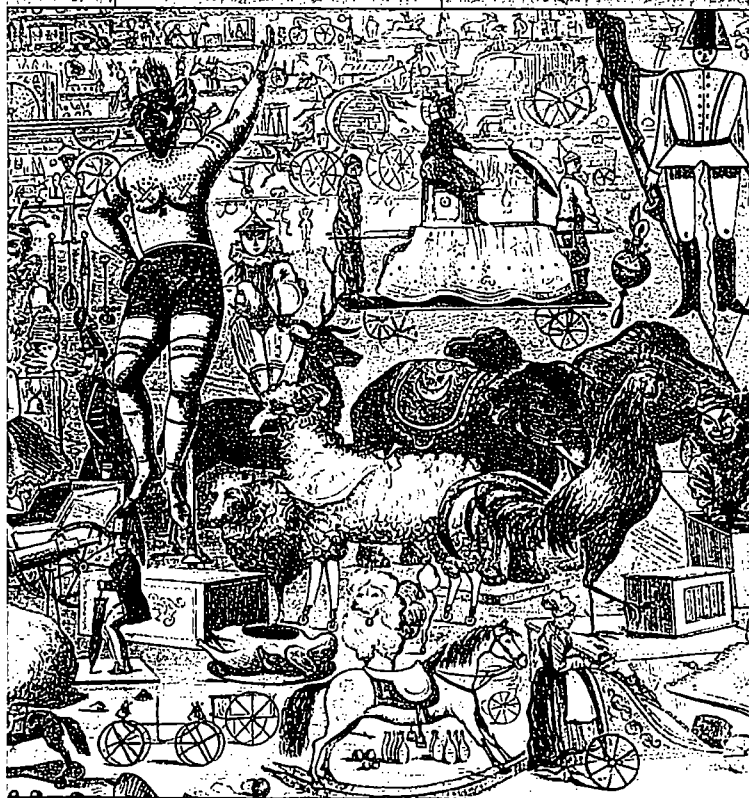
Children's 19th-century Christmas gifts, such as animal toys, left, and the racing game and 'Old Homestead' blocks, right, were simple ones that reflected a simpler time.

workers in offices and shops. Anne Morgan, daughter of banker J. P. Morgan, became a group leader. *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* author Kate Douglas Wiggin was another supporter. Even former President Teddy Roosevelt got into the act. Proudly sporting the club button, he became the first "Man Spug."

The movement struck a blow against the



coercion of custom. As a wildly popular cause in its day and place, it expressed the sentiments and captured the emotions of its adherents—flaring briefly but virtually forgotten today. □







TOMIE'S CHRISTMAS STORY

*Children's book illustrator and author
Tomie dePaola adorns his New England home
with exuberant whimsy come Christmas.*

Tomie dePaola's wry blue eyes crinkle then widen as an image only he can see springs to life from imagination's slumber. Something good, perhaps delicious, is astir in Tomie's mind, and it's turning his entire visage into one of happy animation not unlike the children's book illustrations that have made him famous.

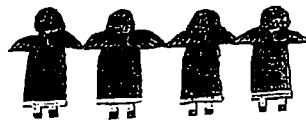
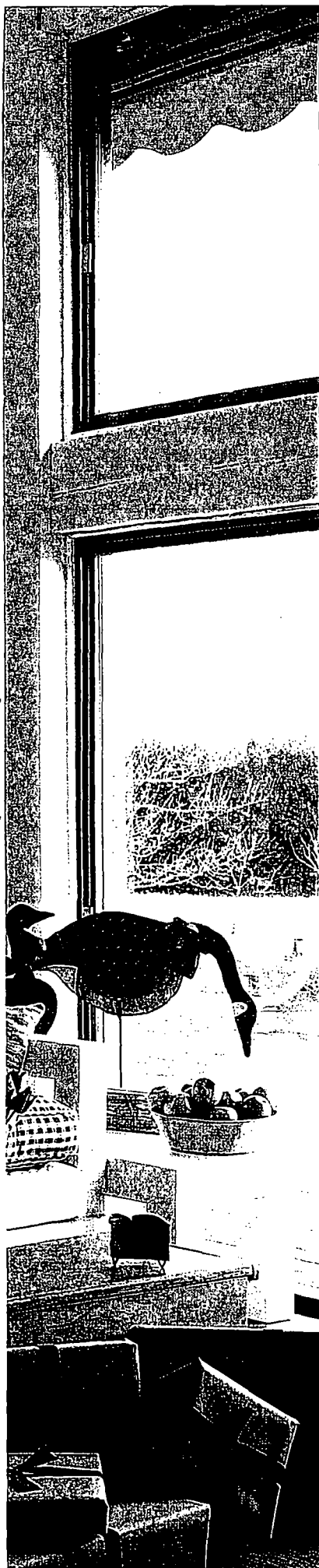
What's animating Tomie might be an idea of a new character to draw, or it might be what he's going to have for dinner. Anyone familiar with his books (*Bonjour, Mr. Satie*; *Tattie's River Journey*; and *The Quilt Story*, among others) would know at a glance that the ebullience Tomie brings to his art is identical to that which he

Above right: Tomie dePaola uses candles and folk art to bring holiday cheer to his barn-style New England home, right.

BY CANDACE ORD MANROE
PRODUCED WITH PEGGY FISHER
AND ESTELLE BOND GURALNICK







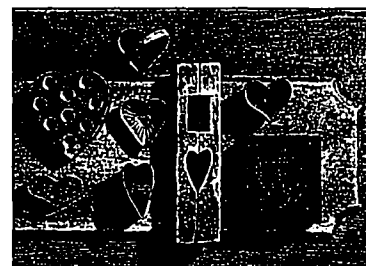
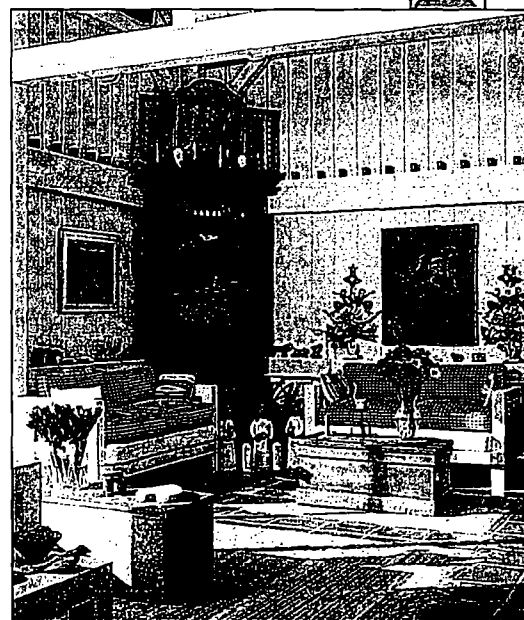
TOMIE'S STORY

lives by. The same liveliness, tempered when appropriate by a more serious grace, informs all aspects of his life. Tomie may be cajoling friends one minute, somberly listening to classical music the next. Nothing epitomizes these diverse dimensions better than his home—and no season better than Christmas.

Like a good story, Tomie's home has the right setting, resting on the outskirts of New London, Connecticut—one of New England's most picturesque villages of white steeples, snowy lawns, and 200-year-old buildings. Tomie's house isn't old, but it does have a place in history. Built in the 1970s, it's the prototype for Yankee Barn homes—contemporary interpretations of classic New England barn architecture.

Beginning with the lavender exterior paint trim, the abiding mood is exuberant. Festoons of tiny glittering lights and fragrant greens enliven every nook and surface of the house, and mammoth trees are decorated both indoors and out. Petite vases of amaryllis outline the windowsills like a border illustration from one of Tomie's colorful books.

Yet amid all the festivity there runs a more serious undercurrent. Certain rooms or portions of rooms are massed with votive candles and religious folk art in an almost altarlike manner, making silence the most appropriate response.

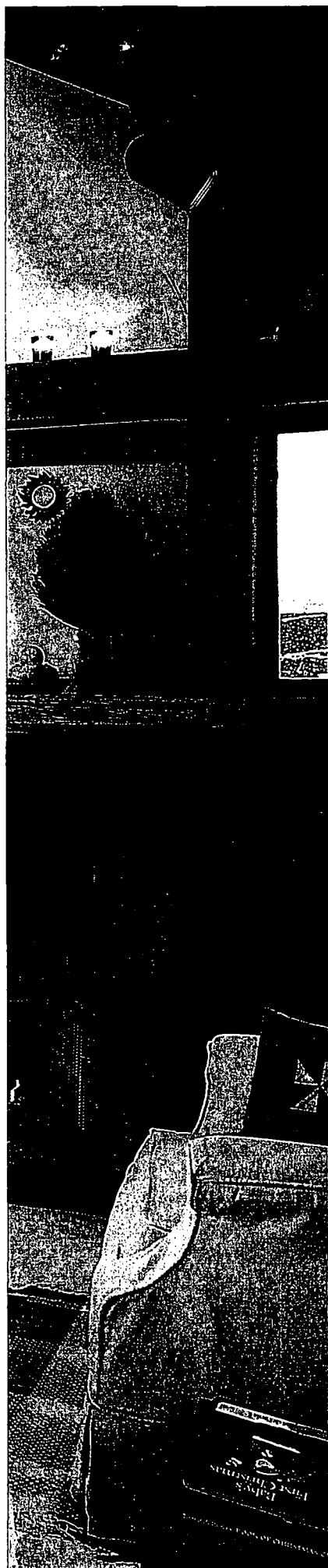


Left: Since the 1950s, Tomie has decorated one tree with paper roses, a Middle Ages symbol of Mary.

Top: The family room's crisp white walls and barn architecture allow the eye to soar to a votive border.

Above: Hearts, a trademark of Tomie's art, also are a favorite collectible.





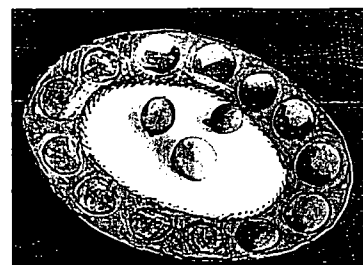
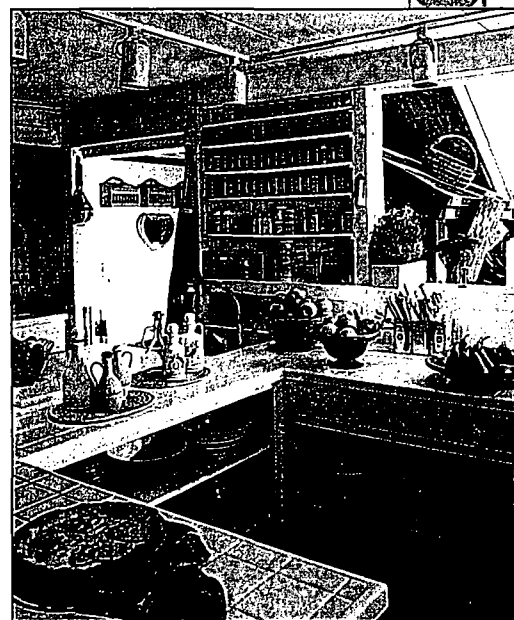
TOMIE'S STORY

There's nothing hushed about the big Christmas party at Tomie's, however. Nearly the entire town attends. A tradition for the past 15 years, Tomie's gala is an event most people look forward to all year long—and talk about till the next. (In fact, we learned details about Tomie's last party from waitresses at the restaurant where we stopped our first night in town.)

"I grew up in a very dramatic family, which always had a Christmas Eve party that would last till two or three in the morning," says Tomie, who sees himself as simply continuing his Irish-Italian family's tradition. "It never dawned on me until I was older that my parents' Christmas party was one of the few ways people could celebrate during the war years. Both parents had such a joy of life. I'm not at all sure that's not hereditary."

The social bustle that occurs in his own home during the holidays points to the importance of the season in other areas of Tomie's life. Christmas is a dominant theme in his professional repertoire, and indeed much of his reputation comes from his Christmas books.

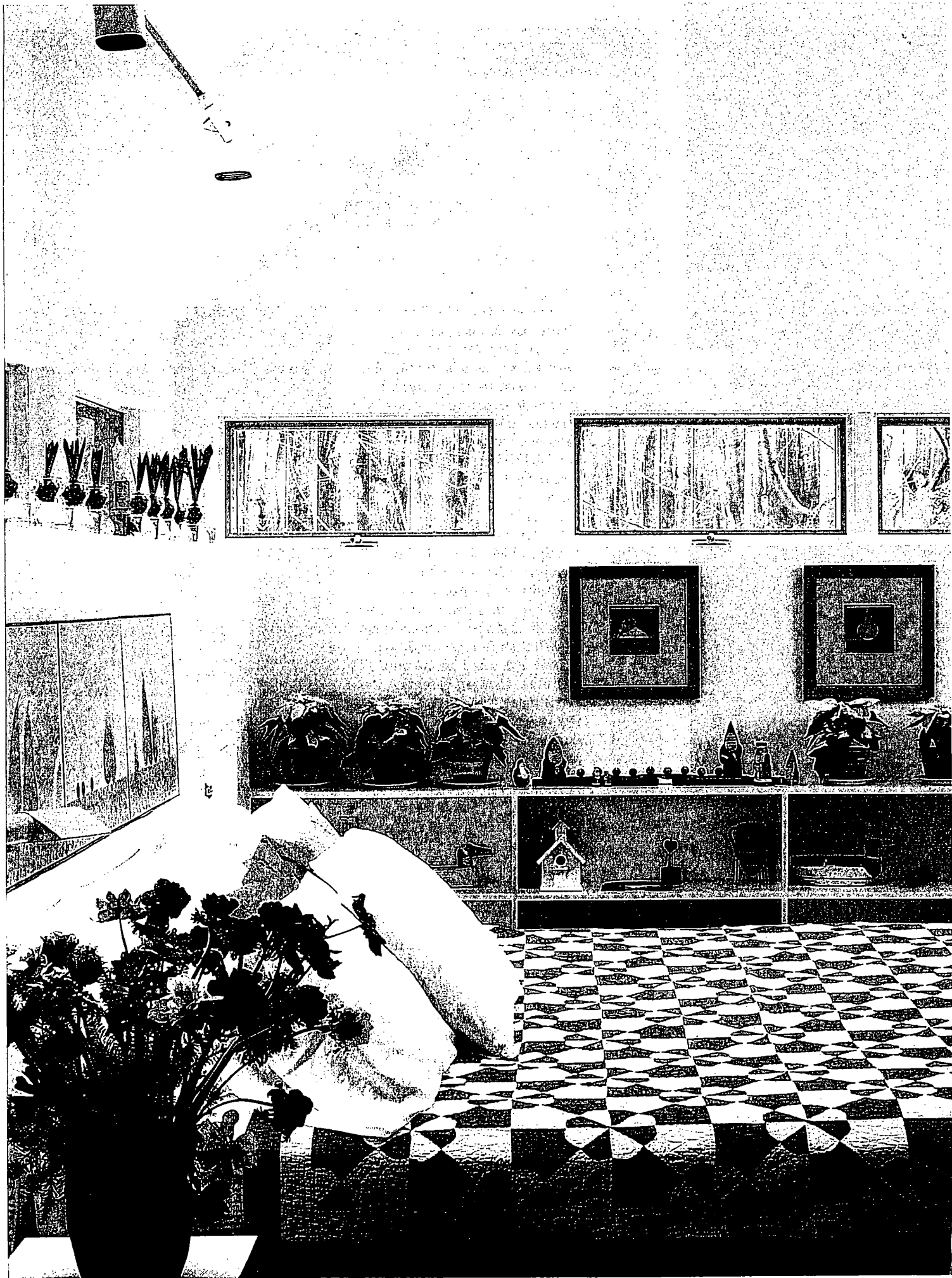
It's also a season that Tomie personally holds in quiet awe as a time for contemplating life's mysteries and wonders. That's not surprising, considering that Tomie's background, after art school, included time in a Benedictine monastery—on several occasions.



Left: Like an altar, the living room mantel, with its religious folk art, evokes a quieter spirit of Christmas.

Top: A gourmet cook, Tomie has six ovens (out of view to the left) in his kitchen, all of which are used to prepare holiday foods.

Above: Tomie adorned this plate with dried fruits.





TOMIE'S STORY

"My first time in Weston Priory, I stayed six months," says Tomie. "When I entered again, it was for only six weeks. After that, it was for six weekends. A Baptist friend of mine said, 'Next time, just call it in.' " Tomie's humor ensures against *too* much somberness.

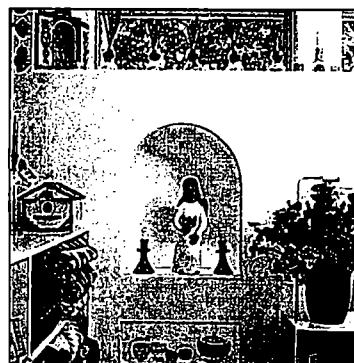
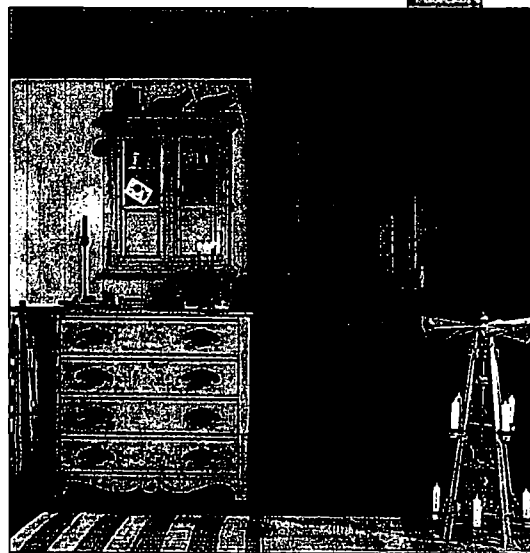
After the monastery, Tomie spent five years creating liturgical art, and he says the Benedictines' enthusiasm for the arts benefited him. But the monastic influence most evident at Christmas is votive candles—a part of every room.

"I knew from the early days that the best place to buy votives was the cathedral store. I was buying so many that the clerk asked if I was a church," Tomie recalls. "She said, 'Well, sir, you're buying more than the cathedral, so I'll give you the church discount anyway.' "

Another important Christmas decoration is Tomie's collection of religious folk art. These pieces inject bold color and warmth into Tomie's pristine, all-white rooms. "Some kids tell me white's not a color. I say, 'Sure it is—I can show you my tube of white paint.' You can never have too much white," he says.

At Christmas, white becomes the perfect canvas for the joyful story Tomie never tires of telling, year after year. □

Editor's note: Look for Tomie's new holiday book, *Jingle*, the Christmas Clown, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons.

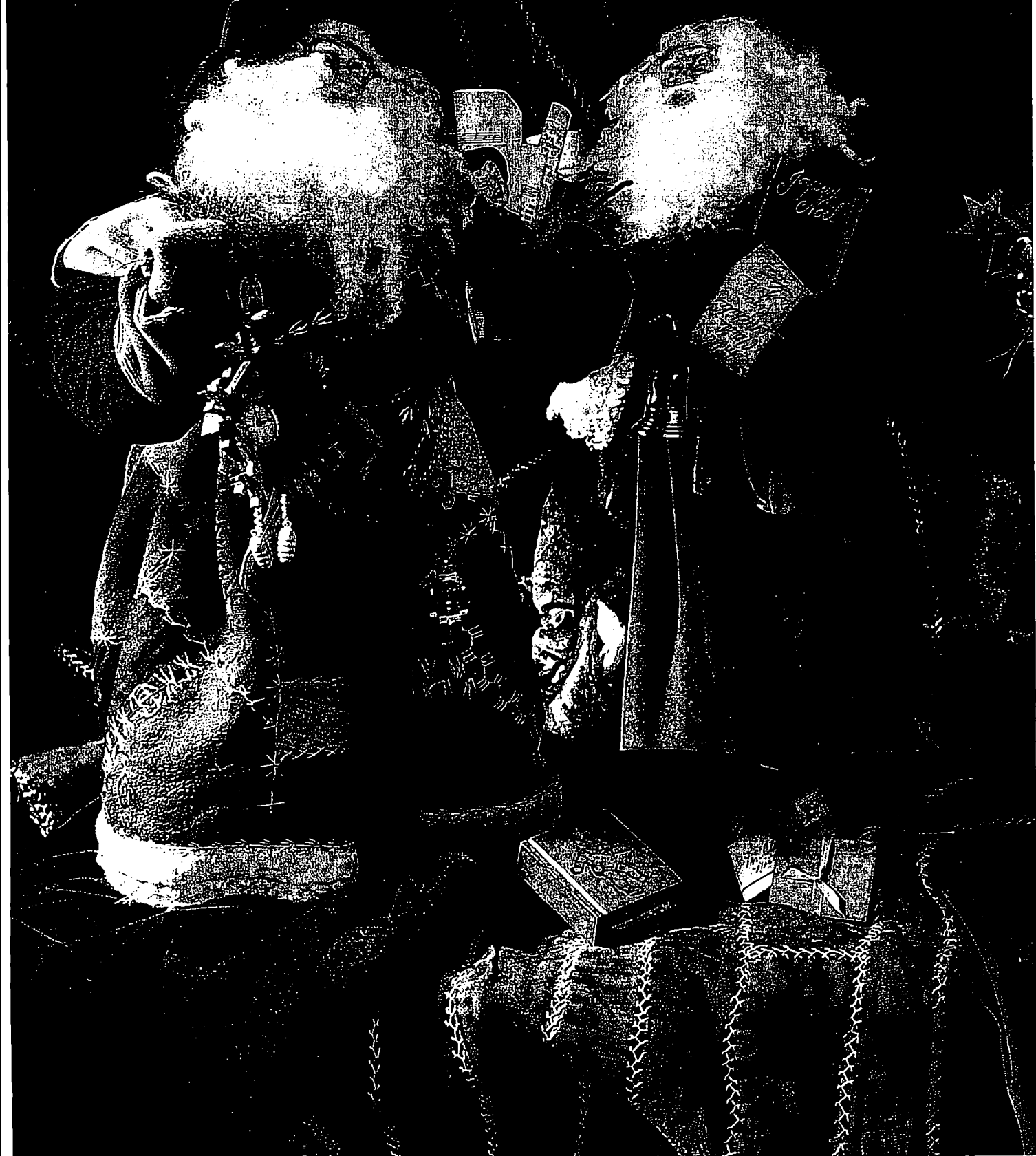


Left: Vases of hyacinth and pots of poinsettias, plus Santas add artistry to Tomie's bedroom.

Top: Antiques in their original painted finish brighten a corner of the master bedroom.

Above: Religious folk art fills architectural niches.

Santa's





NEW HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY NEWS

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48th YEAR, NO. 51

130 PAGES — 11 SECTIONS

MANCHESTER, N.H. — DECEMBER 24-25 1994

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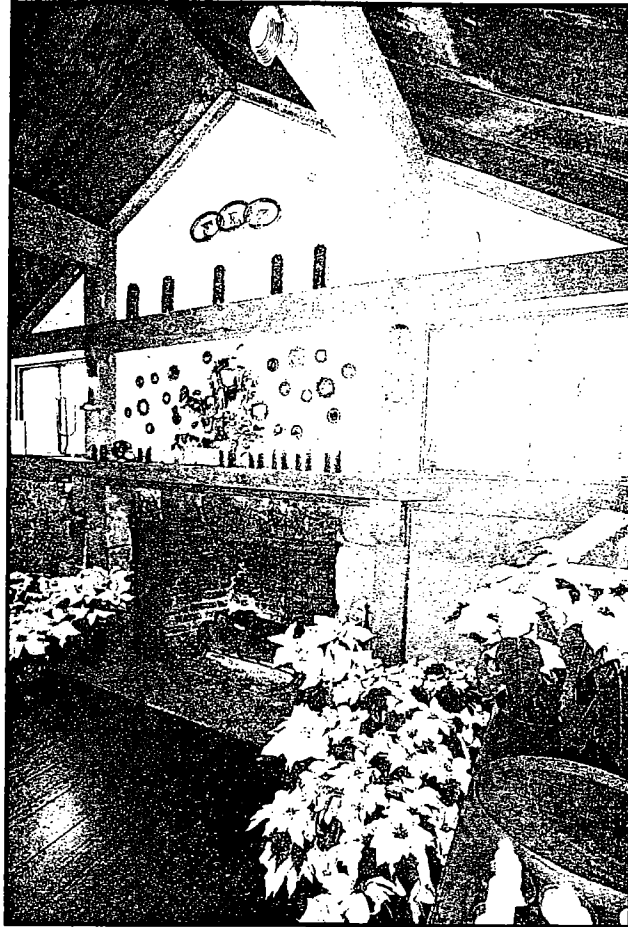


Christmas With dePaola ▲

How does author and illustrator **Tomie dePaola** celebrate Christmas? With lots and lots of poinsettias as one would expect from the New London gentleman whose latest book, "The Legend of the Poinsettia" was released this season. Don't miss his lush home decorations and delightful Christmas tree.

Page 1F, FAMILY

Christmas With dePaola



▲
DINING ROOM, decorated with white poinsettias, features a gas fireplace. Red votive candles, a Madonna and colorful mir-



By ELLIE FERRITER
Family Editor

This is Tomie dePaola's favorite time of the year. It's Christmas, and every inch of his sunlight-washed, barn-style home and adjoining studio in New London say it's so.

Three trees are decorated inside and seven more wear twinkling lights outside on the grounds. Poinsettias — more apropos this year with the release this season of his latest book, "The Legend of the Poinsettia," bloom throughout, red in the foyer, white in the dining room.

Holiday decorations purchased on dePaola's many travels create multiple interest areas throughout the house: a colorful wooden shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe sits atop a bookcase, while three wooden angels stand below; two Mexican painted tin trees flank a self-portrait of dePaola's, painted while in art school; a painting of Madonna and Child done in the '60s hangs above a mantle and is decorated with holly.

Candles glow from all corners: red votive candles, white tapers, heavy cylindrical candles, candles in wrought iron candleabra. He buys them in bulk — he bought so many at a church supply store in Manchester that he was asked, "Are you a church?", and based on the sheer quantity of his purchase was offered a "church discount."

He became such a steady customer that when he spent two Christmases away from home, the clerks noticed his absence and called to be sure he was in good health.

The host of some of the most memorable Christmas parties that New London has seen, dePaola has foregone parties the



TOMIE dePAOLA's Christmas tree is a feast for the eyes.

The tree in the foyer is decorated predominately with



roed ornaments from Mexico decorate the mantel.



MADONNA and Child is an early dePaola painting.

last two Christmases, choosing to spend the holiday away from home. A favorite spot for celebrating is Santa Fe, and decorations throughout the house carry out that Southwest theme.

Bob Hechtel, dePaola's assistant, says it's easy to know when dePaola's been vacationing or promoting his books in Santa Fe. The UPS truck pulls up — frequently — leaving large cartons filled with Native American and Mexican art.

The ornaments on dePaola's indoor Christmas trees all have special meaning. Some are gifts from friends. Some have been purchased on his travels. Some he has made himself. The treetop angels were made by a friend, using dePaola's drawings as a model.

hearts. Denim blue hearts, sewn by one of dePaola's sisters, were made from his old work shirts. Others were needlepointed by friends. Also on the tree are a number of white birds — what Tomie has considered his own personal "symbol" for more than 30 years. (dePaola says the doves have "always shown up" in his drawings and paintings. Even his company bears the name White Bird Inc.)

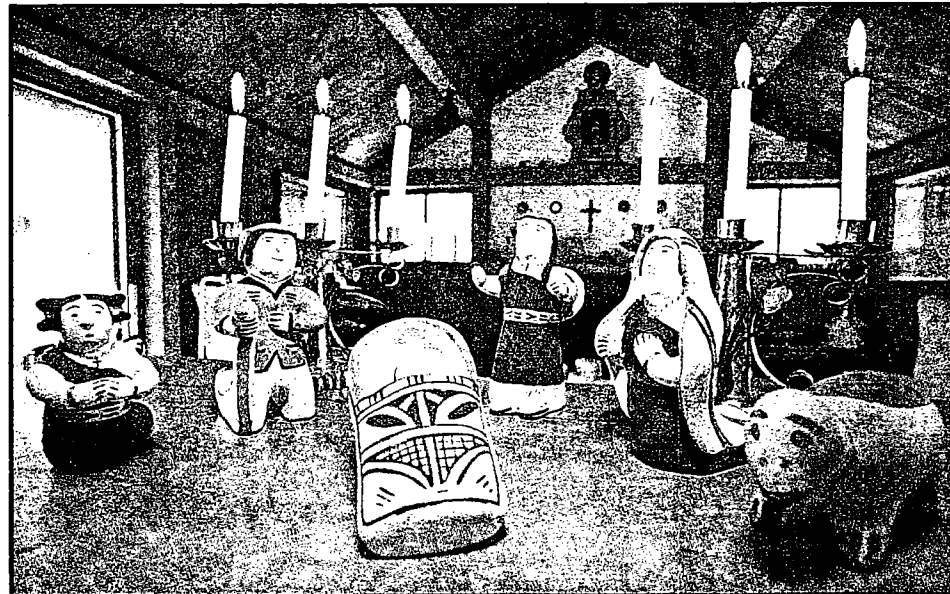
The living room tree is a beautiful melange of color. There are gilded hearts from Bali — "I bought out the shop's whole supply" — mirrored, multicolored tin ornaments from Mexico, purchased in Santa Fe; wooden hearts from Sweden; Pennsylvania Dutch style paper ornaments depicting Biblical

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CONTENTED CAT rests on the loveseat in front of a dePaola self-portrait, painted during the art school years, and a tin Mexican Christmas tree.

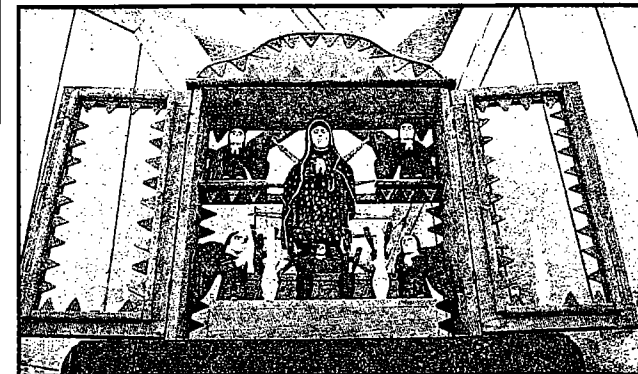
Photos by Bob LaPree



PUEBLO INDIAN nativity greets visitors to the den, which dePaola says his friends call "the chapel". A massive stone fireplace is the centerpiece for the room, all rustic wood and windows, with conversation area of facing off-white Queen Anne style chairs and a coffee table with multi-level large white candles.



SUN FACES, tin ornaments from Mexico, wooden hearts from Sweden, paper ornaments made by friends, tissue paper ornaments by dePaola — all make for a very personalized tree.



SHRINE to Our Lady of Guadalupe sits atop a bookcase.



"... any gift is beautiful because it is given. Whatever you give, the Baby Jesus will love, because it comes from you."

From Tomie dePaola's "The Legend of the Poinsettia"

For dePaola, It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

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symbols; strawberries and sun faces, and pink and red paper roses made by dePaola himself.

Next year, there will be a "Tomie Tree," decorated strictly

with a new line of Christmas tree ornaments based on dePaola's storybook characters.

The indoor trees take 10 to 12 hours to decorate — at times, thousands of lights have been used, though this year, the living

room tree has "only 700."

Dismanteling takes almost as long — about eight hours — because each ornament needs to be removed and packed very carefully.

dePaola traces his love for

Christmas entertaining to his childhood. Neighbors were welcomed to his home for an open house every Christmas Eve at 10 o'clock. Midnight mass was not held, because it was the war years and blackouts were imposed.

He recalls his father's famous seven course seafood dinners on Christmas Eve — "I only ate the shrimp," he said. Decorating the house for Christmas was also a big family tradition, though Tomie and his father parted company when it came to the Christmas tree. Tomie, it seems, was one who placed the icicles on the branches; Dad was a "thrower."

When dePaola completed art school and moved to Vermont, rather than return to his family home for Christmas celebrations, he chose to start his own Christmas traditions. He went to midnight mass at the Weston Priory, then invited people back to his home for sweet rolls, coffee and cocoa.

This year, dePaola will share Christmas with his sister, Maureen, who has recently moved to New Hampshire from New York to work for her brother. Her children and grandchildren will also partake of the celebration.

Christmas dinner will be served to about 16, dePaola said,

and he will be the cook. On the menu are roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, peas and onions in a cream sauce, plum pudding and mince pie. That, and "whatever my sister tells me the kids will eat!"

During this week, brother and sister "she was *my* baby . . . my mother brought her home just for me" planned to bake Christmas cookies — Mooravian spice cookies, cut with traditional heart shaped antique cookie cutters that Tomie has from his family.

When not in use, the cutters serve as a decoration in the living room. Nearby on one wall is an old set of blocks from dePaola's childhood, each decorated with an animal and on another side, a letter. dePaola uses the letters to leave messages. "Welcome" may be spelled out when a special guest is expected. This week, "He Is Coming" is the message. Chances are, this weekend the letters will be changed to "He Is Born."

While a festive party for several hundred to celebrate his 60th birthday earlier this fall has taken the place of dePaola's annual holiday to-do, he remains heavily involved in New London's Christmas observances.

As he does every year, he has designed the non-traditional Santa Claus costume worn by St. Nick to kick off the town's festivities (this year it was red and black plaid with green plaid leggings). He designed new figures to add to the Christmas village display near the town library, where local children mail their wish lists to Santa.

And this weekend, the author/illustrator will read "The Legend of the Poinsettia" at Our Lady of Fatima Church, where poinsettias will decorate the altar and the Rev. Richard Lower will wear a robe hand-painted with the flower of the season by his friend, Tomie dePaola.

That's Tomie dePaola. He loves Christmas.



Bob LaPree/Union Leader

ANGELS THREE — Wooden angel figurines, nearly two feet in height, stand beneath a colorful Mexican shrine in dePaola's living room.