

New Furniture

by Natalie Lawson

When I decided to buy new furniture for my Windsor Gardens condo, I had to plan ahead what kind and what style of couch I wanted. I went to a store where I could pick the style and upholstery myself. My preference was French Country furniture. My primary colors were pink, mauve and forest green. These colors were popular at the time.

During the time we were raising our children, there was no way I could afford to be choosy. When I was growing up, one of my favorite pastimes was cutting out pictures of furniture I liked from the catalogs we received.

After a month, the doorbell rang. I was exciting because I would finally see what I had chosen. When I opened the door, the two young men asked, "Where?" "Right here," I said. And "Oh, isn't it pretty?" I noticed one of the young men rolled his eyes and the other one smiled. Definitely, it wasn't their style. Too fancy!

By the time everything was done, it was a beautiful room. Everything was coordinated. The verticals and French style drapes mostly completed the room. But I needed a painting to hang above the couch.

My friend Opal and I enjoyed looking through the antique stores. Sunday was my day to go with her, but she went to different ones quite often, so I asked her to be on the lookout for a painting that had a lake, river or pond with geese swimming and lots of greenery. If it had a pink flower or water lilies, it would be perfect. A few days later she called and said she thought maybe she found what I was looking for. "Great!" I said, "we'll go look at it on Sunday."

On Sunday when I saw it, my mouth dropped open. I couldn't believe it. It was as though I had ordered the painting myself, and the artist even had a French name. When Opal saw my face she started laughing, then I joined her and the sales lady came to see what was so funny. Then she laughed also when I said, "Sold, I'll take it!"

"It really is great to be able to obtain what you plan for, isn't it?"