While you’re in the area, check out the University Museum Shop, Sundries: Peruvian ocarinas—wooden animal whistles—($7-$15) and South African medicinal rainsticks that sound like rain when turned upside-down ($20-$85).

For the baby born with a silver spoon in his/her mouth: Native American sterling baby rattles ($48) and baby bracelets ($15-$25).

Gifts for the precocious child: Giant Book of the Mummy, a book about Egyptian life ($24) and Exploration Kit produced by Museum professors, such as “Lost Civilizations” by Christopher Jones and “Pyramid Explorer’s Kit” by Lee Horne.

At the opposite end of campus, The Bookstore has more than just books for kids. It has a wide variety of stuffed toys ($10-$35)—some wearing Penn shirts. Especially merry: the teddy with santa hat, t-shirt and holiday greetings from Penn.

Activity kits for hands-on fun: kids can build their own kaleidoscope ($16.95) or telephone ($25) or have Fun with Hieroglyphs ($19.95), using the guidebook, rubber stamps, and ink pad.

For the musical and artistic child: Lion King songbook, and stickers to play with; sticker books, stained glass coloring books, and fairy tale books (all just $1). Also available: activity kits for making African trading bracelets or American Indian moccasins.

In the Netherlands, children put carrots and hay in their shoes for St. Nicholas’ horse, on December 6, St. Nicholas Day. If they’ve been good, their shoes will be filled with candy and presents.

Clothing

The Gap offers classic clothing with an unmistakable style. In addition to the standard jeans, khaki’s and sweaters, it has more eye-catching mistakable style. In addition to the standard jeans, khaki’s and sweaters, it has more eye-catching Returns ($45); Thomas Kuhn’s The Structure of Scientific Revolutions ($9.95); Douglas Hofstadter’s Godel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid ($18) and Milton Friedman’s Economics in Theory and Practice ($34.50/hardback; $18.95/paperback).

The Bookstore has an excellent selection of books on campus for the neurologist, Secrets from fields dealing with every aspect of medical practice ($5).

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The Bookstore is the only source of good used books on campus. This store offers classic clothing with an unpretensious look, for the best in fashion and comfort. It carries both new and used books, providing a wide variety of subjects and authors.

The store’s tomes address many intellectual fields. As well as an impressive selection in literature, with separate sections for Random House, Oxford, and Viking Penguin publications as well as their regular alphabetical section, the Book Store also has the latest from various academic fields. One can buy Frank Brady’s Citizen Welles: A Biography of Orson Welles ($12.95); and Gentleman Spy: The Life of Allen Dulles, by Peter Grose, or Lenin: A New Biography, by Russian aristocrat Dmitri Volkogonov ($30 each).

When it comes to textbooks, Dolly’s Medical Book Store is the place to be. This store not only has books, but also PennMed paraphernalia, lab coats, and office/school/lab supplies. Books from fields dealing with every aspect of medicine fill the shelves: for the surgeon, Surgical Secrets, by Charles Abernathy and Alden Harken ($32.95); for the veterinarian, Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine, by John August ($80); for the neurologist, Textbook of Pain, by Patrick Wall and Ronald Melzack ($225); for the budding anatomist, The Anatomy Coloring Book, by Wynn Katz and Lawrence Elson ($16). — Z.M.

The Islamic world celebrates Muhammad’s birth during Maulu Al-Nabi, in early December, with firecrackers, new clothes, and shoes filled with hay in their shoes for St. Nicholas’ horse. — Z.M.

For Children

The University Museum’s The Pyramid Shop has international gifts, all under $40, for kids.

The shop offers knick-knacks to delight any child. Colonial animal figurines from Mexico ($11-$34), Stocking stuffers: change purses with animal designs ($1.25) and hand-made flutes from recycled materials ($2.50), both from India.

Games and activities: wooden pyramid puzzles in small ($18) and large ($32) varieties, Tangoes®, an ancient Chinese puzzle game ($10.25), or Curiosity Kit ($12.18), for making American Indian pottery, stone carvings or an African mask.

The shop also carries books about life in different countries, such as a giant jungle pop-up book of endangered rain forest animals ($28).

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shoes for every sport, and athletic wear like Fila sweats. Yet its offering of clothing goes beyond sportswear, and is not to be missed: earth-toned “wool blanket” coats ($64.99), nylon-shell jackets and leather-collared barn jackets (from $100), turtleneck sweaters ($49.99), and plaid shirts (from $17), Columbia brand “Sauvie” sweaters ($49.99), backpacks ($22.97), and athletic team caps (from $8.97).  

— L.B.

In Mexico, Posadas mark the eight days before Christmas. As Joseph and Mary seek shelter a singing procession accompanied by drums makes its way to the next village. People dressed in their finest clothes and carrying gifts for the poor celebrate the festival in崎岖的乡村。Shoppers can find a variety of gifts and souvenirs at the Museum Shop, including regional handicrafts such as carved wood figures, pottery, and textiles. The shop also carries unique treasures such as that Haitian oil drum art, colorful wall ornaments shaped like different houses ($30-$40). Egyptian hand-made bracelets with inlaid mother of pearl ($12-$60). Tea sets from China and Japan ($15-$40) and saks from Japan ($22) are also popular. A unique stocking stuffer is a set of Ym-Yang fortune telling sticks featuring eight numbered sticks that tell your fortune for one week depending on the combination picked ($9).

Gifts for men include hand-carved and painted wooden boxes from Poland (from $30). Smallreyon mask boxes made from soapstone ($16), and world music from a mixture of different cultures ($15.95/CDs; $10.95/cassettes). Gifts for women: more than twenty colorfully patterned silk scarves from India ($8-$20) and jewelry from 25 different countries ($3-$90)—French enamelled jewelry ($30-$55), amber jewelery ($12-$90), and African jewelry mainly from Kenya ($10-$50) are especially popular.

— J.T.

**Music & Videos**

*Classical Choice*, Discovery Discs’ former neighbor, is now at 38th and Walnut with an expanded listening bar and selection of new and used jazz and classical CDs. The store still honors the membership it shares with Discovery. Holiday sales (ending December 24): 10% off Christmas CDs, $1 (regularly under $10) and $2 (regularly over $10) off Billie Holiday and Beethoven CDs. Popular new choices: Benedictine Monks of Santo Lis, $90), and African jewelry mainly from Kenya ($10-$50) are especially popular.

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videos, and classic, kids’ and popular movies (many $14.95). Bela Lugosi is alive and well on the $9.99 video rack, in “The Corpse Vanished”; also on this rack: Elvira’s Two-Tape Set with “The Brain That Wouldn’t Die” and “The Crawling Hand.” Members of “Replay,” the frequent-buyer program ($9.95/year), earn a $15 award certificate when purchases total $150.

Like the name says, Spruce Street Records and Tapes/Decorscary vinyl (now on sale at 50% off) — and is one of the only places that does not. Not heralded in its name is the very extensive selection of CDs, both new (starting around $12.99) and used ($1.99-9.99). During the holidays, purchases of new CDs are $1 off for Penn faculty and staff with ID. A current popular pick: rap music, including Black Sheep’s latest, “Non-Fiction.” Customers can check out music before buying it at the listening bar. Can’t find the right music? Give tickets to a show at the Trocadero or Khyber Pass.


To celebrate the holidays, this month rentals from Mega Video’s new releases, $3.20/night; regular ($2.50), are three for the price of two, Mondays through Wednesdays. The Christmas catalog lists videos for sale, including new releases “Snow White” and “Speed.” Relive Christmas Past with videotape transfer service: movie transfers start at 30¢ per foot, slide transfers at 30¢ each, and transfers at 50¢ each.

The Video Library’s holiday videos make it more fun to watch the Grinch and Charlie Brown Christmas specials — no commercial breaks. Feature-length Christmas videos: “Nightmare Before Christmas,” “The Nutcracker” and “The Muppet Christmas Carol.” Rent Christmas videos ($1.75/night) or regular stock ($2.25 and $2.75/night). Videos for purchase can be special ordered in time for holiday giving if ordered soon. — M.S.

One of the most joyous days of the Christian year is Christmas, December 25. North Americans celebrate the birth of Jesus with a number of customs from around the world.

Penn Paraphernalia

The Bookstore keeps cropping up in this review because it is the most complete shop in the area and is the premiere outlet for “Penn” gifts to fit any budget. Frugal shoppers will have no problem filling stockings with insignia pins ($4.50) and keychains ($4.95). If you need a stocking, the Bookstore has them ($7.95). Maybe a mug with a Penn scene ($3.95-11.95) or a picture frame with the shield ($7.95).

More luxurious: a Waterford crystal vase ($225), stained glass shield ($99.95), leather and glass coasters ($125), or Penn chair ($335).

The Sweeten Alumni Center has a small case of Penn paraphernalia; a handsome viewbook of Penn ($39.95), a Penn dictionary ($25), and notecards ($8). The Center also has infant sweatshirts, mini-versions of the traditional red and blue ($39.95) and bow-ties ($25.00). Seiko watches with the Penn seal on a 14 kt. gold-finished dial in a wristwatch ($500) or bracelet strap ($200) or pocket watch style ($245).

Shopping on the eastern end of campus? The Penn Tower Hotel Gift Shop has many Penn Bookstore items, including sweatshirts. — K.N.

On the traditional Scottish holiday Hogmanay, December 31, pieces of oat cake are handed out to poor children, who go from door to door calling out “Hogmanay.”

Sundries

Smiles may be small but the selection surely isn’t. Crammed from ceiling to floor with an eclectic assortment of goodies, something from this shop can accessorize everything from an outfit to your mantel. Handpainted roses adorn frames ($20) to display treasured photographs. Earrings of all styles, shapes and sizes ($18-30) are invitingly displayed under glass, yours for the asking. For the verbally inclined, fabric covered blank books ($9) to record all your wishes and dreams. Add a candle to decorate corporate or candle-holders ($24) to light up holiday nights. The breeze through wind chimes (large, $65; small, $12) will remind your loved ones of your thoughtfulness.

Despite the name, University of Cards has more than cards. Drive your friends crazy with Magic Eye 3-D posters ($14.95), or a mesmerizing lava lamp ($30). Lion King figurines ($19) are made to melt anyone’s heart. Crystal figures, including a rose ($35) are among the more delicate treasures here. Asher candy ($9/lb.) is always popular, as are the Far Side cards ($10).

Shopping for an ecological bunch? The Black Cat has gifts ranging from the wildly sophisticated to the mildly absurd. Inlaid wood marquetry frames ($13-40) have classic good looks and reflect impeccable taste. Handblown glass, wood, papier mâché, or ceramic ornaments ($5-10) dress up the dullest of trees. Who can resist silly stocking stuffers like cat toys ($5) or plastic frogs ($3)? If you want to give the bare basics, try socks and boxer shorts ($10-20) in designs from ships to tears and wireless ($8). On the “brighter” side, dragonfly globe ($49.95) and Joy to the World bouquet ($32.50) as well as an array of holiday plants and several cappuccino makers, 2-piece bamboo steamers and photo transfers at 50¢ each. Delicious delicacies are found all around campus (and for those living suburbanites, on the way home at 30th Street Station where a careful selection of bakeries, delis, fishmongers and grocers bring the best of Philadelphia’s goods to within walking distance of East Campus shoppers).

At the Bookstore: a new twist to everyone’s favorite—pizza—a Grand Chocolate Pizza ($7.50) or any of the other tempting tidbits ($22); stocking stuffers: marzipan fruit ($3.15) or an assortment of Gummies—bears, dinosaurs, penguins or the Gummy Zoo ($1.65). Also available: Rainforest cashew and Brazil nut crunch ($12.29)—proceeds benefit Rainforest preservation. Around the corner, the Flower Emporium (like the Penn Tower Flower Shop), carries not only Christmas Cactus plants and poinesselts but fruit, snack or gourmet baskets. If you know who someone adores panda bears in a big way, they have the biggest one around, 50" tall and selling well I’ve been told ($135). The Seed has cappuccino makers, 2-piece bamboo steamers and teas and coffees.

In Houston Hall, Roses has mistletoe ($2.50), as well as an array of holiday plants and several special FTD bouquets like the Starlight bouquet ($49.95) and Joy to the World bouquet ($32.50) that can be sent anywhere. The Card Shop has bananas ($1.99), $2.59 and little packets of teas, hot chocolates, and apple cider—perfect stocking stuffers or basket-fillers. Something new is nearly something old—a Russell Stover tin from the 1931 Collection filled with chocolates and hard candies ($6.95). Burger King has a collector series of eight glasses (featuring Disney classics, $89 each with purchase). Annie’s fills a box with a dozen hand-rolled pretzels in gourmet flavors for $15.60.

On Sansom Street are snug shops bulging with good things. The new Bucks County Coffee Co., a plastic mug, comes along the Cargo, for the really thrifty on your list, as well as festive ceramic mugs for the holidays. Plus 24 varieties of coffee beans ranging from French roast ($8.50/lb.) to Costa Rican ($11.95/lb.), and chocolate-covered espresso beans ($11/lb.). Their neighbor, The Black Cat, has organic fruit spreads ($6), gourmet olive oil and pasta sets ($21) and food for those with less of an appetite or who are watching their weight—wooden apples, bananas made in Haiti ($5) and a truly unique set of, yes, Bacon-n-eggs lights ($25)—no cholesterol.

If someone you know needs a night out, why not a gift certificate to The Palladium, Le Bus, The White Dog, and right at the heart of things, The Faculty Club? Even Cinnabon sells gift certificates for those who would rather have a treat at home, and bottles of their special cinnamon ($4.95) for bake-it-yourselfers. — M.F.M.
Presents from the Penn Press

The University of Pennsylvania Press catalog of Forthcoming Books for Fall 1994-Winter 1995 highlights an array of new titles and some of their previously announced popular titles. A number of their offerings are books by Penn authors such as the Sentimental Twain: Samuel Clemens in the Maze of Moral Philosophy, by Dr. Gregg Camfield, assistant professor of English ($34.95 cloth); The Archaeology of Garden and Field, edited by Naomi F. Miller, research specialist in archaeobotany at the Museum-Applied Science Center for Archaeology, University Museum and Dr. Kathryn L. Gleason, assistant professor of landscape architecture and project director of the Penn excavations at Caesarea Maritima, Israel ($28.95 cloth); The Graduate School Funding Handbook, by April Vahle Hamel, with Mary Morris Heiberger and Julie Miller Vick both of Career Planning and Placement Center at Penn ($13.95 paperback). An especially colorful choice is A Burst of Brilliance, Germantown Pennsylvania and Navajo Weaving, the catalog of an exhibition organized by the Arthur Ross Gallery, on view through February 12, edited by Dilyes Winegrad, director and curator of the Gallery ($19.95 paperback). There are many other titles to choose from—some of general interest and some for the specialists. To obtain a catalog from the Press call 898-6261 or to order a book call 800-445-9880.

Gifts Ideas for Special People Who Love . . .

...Antiquities: A University Museum membership, $45 for the year for a household, comes in a mummy tin that can be sent by the Museum to the recipient. Membership includes free admission, free guest passes, discounts on parking, publications and non-credit classes, 10% discounts in the Museum Shop and Pyramid Shop, Expedition Magazine, and special events listed in a members’ newsletter. Memberships can be charged over the phone: 898-4026.

...Art: Institute of Contemporary Art members get a year of free admission, previews, talks, films, performances, and discounts on catalogues, prints, symposia, and lectures. Artists, students, senior citizens and Penn faculty and staff pay $20; individuals, $30; families or households, $50. A Participating membership costs $100; Contributing, $300; Director’s Circle, $500. Information: 898-7108.

...Books: A membership with the Friends of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania includes a subscription to the newsletter Bibliotheca, free admission to the Library’s lecture series, and invitations to cultural tours, exhibit openings and social events. Give a $10 student membership, a $35 regular membership, $100 Sponsor membership, $250 Patron membership, $500 Benefactor membership, $1000 Benjamin Franklin Society membership, or $1500 Life Membership. Benefactor, Ben Franklin and Life members get a year of free book borrowing privileges. Information: 573-3609.

...Cinema: A $20 discount film pass for any five movies shown by the Neighborhood Film/Video Project at International House throughout the year (a $10 savings over the regular ticket price). Information: 895-6542.

Members ($25; $15 for students) of the Philadelphia Independent Film/Video Association at International House take part in workshops, discussions and screenings and have access to the group’s library and database and Philadelphia Equipment Bank. Information: 895-6594.

...Flora: Give a plant lover something that’s guaranteed to bloom: Holland bulbs from the Association of Alumnae. Choose from: nine purple crocuses in a blue delft bowl ($13); scarlet, white, or pink amaryllis or four paperwhites in a white delft bowl ($16); miniature red amaryllis in a white delft bowl or five tete-a-tete narcissi in a wicker basket ($18). Shipping/handling charges and taxes (for shipments to Pennsylvania addresses) are additionally. Order by December 10 for holiday delivery. Information: 898-7811.

Or, give a membership to the Morris Arboretum, the state of Pennsylvania’s official arboretum. Members receive benefits at over 100 public gardens and arboretum nationwide. Morris Arboretum guest passes, a quarterly newsletter, and discounts on Arboretum classes, the spring plant sale and invitations to lectures and other events. Membership plans: Student ($20), regular ($40), Franklimia ($60), Chestnut ($125), Holly ($250), Oak ($500), Laurel ($1000). For information: 247-5777, Ext. 147 or 155.

...Food: For convenient meals on campus, try Dining Services’ ten-meal memberships are $10 for students, $20 for faculty and staff, $35 for alumni. Court fees and lessons are available for an additional fee.

...Sports and Fitness: The Class of 1923 Ice Rink has a 10-pass booklet to the rink for $30 for those with a PennCard and $45 for those without. For the budding figure skater: seven weeks of group lessons for $70. For information: 898-1923.

...The Stage: This year, why not satisfy the cravings of a theatre-buff, or introduce someone to the magic of the stage, with tickets to a play or dance performance at the Annenberg Center? Coming this season: David Mamet’s Oleanna, Hansel and Gretel (December 16-20), and Chekhov’s The Cherry Orchard. Call the box office at 898-6791.

...The World: International House members get discounts on international films, concerts, workshops and Bazaar Shop purchases and learn about other cultures by meeting I-House residents and participating in cultural programs. Members also receive discounts to stay at International Houses in Australia, Korea, the U. K. and U.S. Membership fees: $25 (students), $30 (individuals), $50 (family), $100 (contributing), $250/sustaining member, $500/world member, $1000 or more (international member). Information: 387-5125.