

New Lecture Topic: "The History of Music Boxes in Michigan"



This lecture and multi-media presentation was developed by Al Eicher, who has been a music box collector for many years and frequented many auctions where the collectors gather. He and his son, David traveled throughout Michigan filming and recording the sounds of over 100 music boxes.

We cover the history of the music box, starting with the early chiming watches of the 1700 century, including the early barrel organs and carillons. The first music boxes were for the wealthy who liked to sniff snuff. The snuff box was just the right size to hold the small music movements. Vinaigrette boxes were also popular.



The lecture presentation follows a timeline where we find Geneva, Switzerland and Leipzig, Germany becoming the major manufacturing centers for the components of the cylinder, and eventually the disc music boxes of the 18th and 19th centuries. A segment of the program is devoted to the history of music which reveals the great music composers of the period. Music for many years was performed only for the European nobility. The advent of the music box would bring music of the great composers to the public. At the end of the 19th Century, some of the European music box companies came to the United States to set up manufacturing and distribution in the great American society.

Our presentations range from forty-five minutes to sixty minutes, with a question and answer session to follow. Please book 6-8 weeks in advance to ensure date and time. For more info and service fee, call Al or Dave Eicher at 248-333-2010 or email us at info@program-source.com.



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