

# BRITISH CRAFTSMEN'S

published by - the craftsmen's  
Association of British Columbia



March, 1975

Temporary offices of the Craftsmen's Association of British Columbia  
315 West Cordova Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1E5

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> Newsletter

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Craft Contacts is published almost monthly and is distributed free of charge  
to members of the Craftsmen's Association of B.C.

## MEMBERSHIP TIME ONCE AGAIN

The Executive is happy to report that membership in the Association is  
growing rapidly as it becomes clear to Craftsmen in B.C. that the way to  
help themselves is to help one another and thus keep in contact with what  
is going on - which is what the Craftsmen's Association is all about.

It is time though, for old members to renew - and it is a great time for  
new people to join! Membership fee has been raised very slightly to \$8.50  
to cover our group membership in The Canadian Craft Council from which much  
good will flow. Please fill out the attached form and send, together with  
your cheque to: C.A.B.C. 315 West Cordova Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1E5

## AND NOW FOR THE GOOD NEWS

> We have received word from the Provincial Government that the Craftsmen's  
Association has been awarded a grant of \$15,000. While this amount is  
considerably smaller than the amount originally applied for by the financial  
committee, it is on the other hand a very useful sum of money. The executive  
held a Program and Budget Analysis meeting on Saturday March 1st to discuss  
the best ways in which to apply these funds. But don't forget - feed-in  
from the general membership is most important at this time.... All thoughts  
and ideas are very welcome!

> Meanwhile, special thanks are due to Stan Sadgrove for all the work he did  
> in making the original application to the Cultural Fund.

## WHAT ELSE HAS BEEN HAPPENING?

The Valentine's Party at Aberthau House was a great success, thanks to  
inspired effort on the part of Richard Specht and his helpers. Great Food!  
(until you've tried Richard's kelp-ginger-sour cream dip you ain't tried  
nothing!) Great punch! And an interesting gathering of congenial people.  
"lets do this more often!" seemed to be the general feeling. Thank you  
Richard!

> Entries have been coming in for the Logo Competition however there is still  
time to send in yours! A prize of \$50.00 will be awarded the winning entry.  
Drop your entries off at 315 West Cordova Street as soon as possible. Contest  
closes March 15th. Phone 683-4358 for further information.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I will be reporting more fully on matters concerning B.C. Craftsmen in the  
next newsletter, but would briefly like to mention the results of recent  
C.A.B.C. executive meetings.

- 1) We are looking for office space, convenient to downtown with some  
exhibition and/or sales space.
- 2) We are concerned about having top quality crafts available for the new  
shop to sell - any ideas on how we select some would be appreciated.
- 3) The office/shop would be open 4 hours a day, five days a week and handled  
by a part-time secretary during these hours.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.....(continued)

- 4) Perhaps there are those in the Vancouver area who could form a "Friends of the Crafts Organization" as a volunteer group to keep the place open the other hours, assist with displays, promotion etc.
- 5) The executive is working hard, it just takes time to get these major steps going.

Think about a Fall Provincial Crafts Show - we are! - get ready!

We are still looking at the idea of regional C.A.B.C. organizations with a representative of each on the Provincial Executive. It looks like it will work. Perhaps we should try one or two "satellite" groups in major centres in the Province first! We shall look at the constitutional issue before we go at it full tilt.

Next Executive Meeting will be held on March 20th at 7:30 p.m., House of Ceramics, 565 Hamilton Street, Vancouver.

-John Charnetski  
UPCOMING SHOWS, FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

To March 8th at the Royal Centre Mall. Fibres - A large exhibition of work in most textile media from across Canada.

To March 14th - Simon Fraser University Gallery, Burnaby - Vehicle Art - seven Montreal Artists.

To March 16 California Crafts IX-Ninth Biennial at the Herald Wing of the E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, 216 O.St. Sacramento, California. There will be 150 craft pieces on display.

To March 22nd Vancouver Guild of Fabric Arts, in co-operation with the Greater Vancouver Weavers and Spinners Guild - Exhibition at the Vancouver Public Library. This is a juried show presenting a wide range of items from the many branches of the Fabric Arts.

March 1 - 31st - Community Arts Council Gallery, 315 W. Cordova St. Vancouver Etchings by Diana Bailey. 10 am to 4 pm weekdays.

March 11 - April 4th Simon Fraser Gallery, S.F.U. - "Pacific Rim Consciousness" an exhibition of forty-five works in a variety of printing media by contemporary B.C. artists. It will become a touring exhibit to major museums and Universities in the Pacific Rim Countries.

March 27 - April 15 - Centennial Museum, Vancouver - "The Magnificent Leonardo and his flying Machine" Sketches and models.

April 7th - Opening of "Ceramics '75" - House of Ceramics, 565 Hamilton St. Vancouver. For information call 684-4019

April 19 & 20th - Terrace, B.C. Tenth Annual Arts & Crafts Show will be held in the Caledonia Senior Secondary School. Open to any craftsman who is willing to set up his own display. For registration forms write: Terrace Art Association, Box 82, Terrace, B.C.

Contemporary Crafts of the Americas: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Opening of the Exhibition to the general public May 11, the show will continue until May 30th. The pieces will then be sent to the Organization of American States, Washington D.C. for display during the summer. From there the Crafts will travel to the Smithsonian Institution and two travelling shows will be composed for Latin America and to tour Canada and the States. It is expected that eventually the touring section will visit Vancouver probably in 1976. The standard of crafts included in the show are of a high quality. The promised workshops have been cancelled. Should anybody from B.C. intend going to Colorado please contact Deirdre Spencer, c/o C.A.B.C. office, and their names will then be forwarded to Prof, Getty who is organizing it all and they will be received and welcomed when they arrive.

UPCOMING SHOWS, FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS.....(continued)

Third Annual Fibres Festival - A celebration, a market, and exhibition of fibre crafts will be presented at the 3rd Annual Fibres Festival, sponsored by B.C. Textile Centre. Due to the enormous success of the past two festivals in Victoria, this year the fair is expanding to Vancouver as well. Fibres Festival will be held in Victoria: May 15 - 19, Open Space/Circle Craft Centre, 510 Fort Street, Victoria, and in Vancouver: May 23 - 27, Vancouver East Cultural Centre, 1895 Venables, Vancouver.

The Fibres Festival has been created as part of an ongoing effort to establish a cottage craft industry in B.C. The Festival will bring together craftspeople from all over the province to exchange ideas, information and enthusiasm. It will also offer the public an opportunity to view and purchase top quality fibre crafts. Seminars in specialized craft techniques are being planned to serve as an exchange between craftspeople.

There will be performances offering music, dance, and informal presentations by craftspeople modelling their wares. The theme this year will tie in with the heritage-historical theme of Victorian Days, drawing on such illustrious past periods as Victorian fairy tales, Indian spinning, carding etc. The final theme will be determined by your ideas, your work, your feedback. For more information please contact Ms. Barbara Lees, 510 Fort St., Victoria.

Late May 1975 - Kootenay Crafts '75 - A juried exhibition. For further information contact Eleanor Cailes, R.R. 1, Boswell, B.C. VOB 1A0

Arts & Crafts Showcase, May 22 - 24th at the Community Hall, Campbell River, B.C. Sponsored by the Campbell River Community Arts Council, this display features work of local artists and craftsmen including painting, pottery, weaving, sculpture, rugs, carving, etc. Several guest exhibits are shown and demonstrations are given during the 3-day multi-media show.

July 21-August 31st - Agassiz International Festival of the Arts needs craftspeople. Contact Allan Edwards, 2228 Marine Dr., West Vancouver, B.C.

Late August - The Annual Juried B.C. Craft Show sponsored by the Craftsmen's Association of B.C. Plans are underway for this show which will be held during The Pacific National Exhibition. Full details will be in next months Craft Contacts.

WORKSHOPS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

March 15 & 16th A beginning Weaving Workshop will be held in the Terrace Library, Arts Room. Eileen Shannon of Lac La Hache will be the instructor. Course will include: construction of simple looms; basic weaving techniques. Fee \$10.00. Registration forms can be obtained from Terrace Art Association, Box 82, Terrace, B.C.

Mr. S.D. Richardson, Secretary of the Association of British Craftsmen, has sent a letter and brochure announcing the establishment of country crafts workshops. Instruction in crafts from weaving and batik to painting and silversmithing takes place in country villages by competent craftsmen in Suffolk, Wales, Sussex and Devonshire. They are looking for fairly competent Craftsmen, but basic instruction is also offered. You may choose the time and level at which you wish to study. For an application form and information write to Mr. Richardson at "Quartet", Noyes Ave., Laxfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk, England Lp13 8EB

The Learning Exchange may be able to help you if you want to teach your craft or skill - or if you want to take an apprentice.

Call 253-8113 or visit 1320 Commercial Drive, Vancouver. They encourage the free trading of information - but they also list those who make a living with their services.

Embroiderers take note! May 5 - 9th Winnipeg will be the site of a seminar of The Embroiderers Association of Canada. A roster of most distinguished teachers from Britian, U.S.A. and Canada will present workshops on all aspects of the Craft. Pre-registrations are now being taken. For information write: Embroiderers Association of Canada, 90 East Gate, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2C3.

WORKSHOPS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

May 16,17,18 Kamloops, B.C. "Uses of the Past" A Weaving Workshop with Nel Znamierowski. A course in creativity and history, stressing objects of past and primitive cultures and how they influence weaving of today. Part design and part doing - on any type of loom. For further information and registration forms write to: Leslie Wright, Kamloops Arts & Crafts Club, Box 522, Kamloops, B.C.

HOT GLASS WORKSHOP - Dept. of Continuing Education, UBC in conjunction with Handcraft House will present Bob Held, May 24,25,26 & 27 at Handcraft House, North Vancouver. Fee \$80.00. A limited number of places still available Call 228-2181, local 254 for details. Students will learn basic off-hand glass blowing, sketch formulas, colour series and application; furnace and anaeler construction and hot glass work. A good knowledge of equipment and process will be learnt. Bob Held is Glassmaster at Sheridan College, Mississauga, Ontario.

Okanagan Summerschool of the Arts, Penticton B.C. - July 7 - 26th Weaving with Angela Horrow, Pottery with Dave Toresdahl. Detailed calendars available from P.O. Box 141, Penticton, B.C. Phone 493-0390

Sheridan College Summer catalogue is ready. Write Sheridan College of Design 1460 South Sheridan Way, Mississauga, Ontario L5H 1Z7

GENERAL EVENTS

March 1 - April 30 "Designed to be Used" an exhibition at the National Museum of Science and technology, 1867 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa.

In the Olympic Spirit, a competition is being held for the design of four sets of coins, which will be sold prior to 1976. Prizes of \$1500 will be awarded for each set chosen. A rather detailed presentation is required. Information kits are available from: Coin Design Competition, P.O. Box 6323, Montreal, Canada, H3C 3LZ.

3rd Biennial Lake Superior International Craft Show - March 30 - April 20th  
Tween Museum of Art, Duluth, Minnesota.

Guatemala Weaving - A short Course from Native Weavers, Lake Atitlan, Guatemala July 6 - 19th. For information write Ann M. Lambert, School of Home Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta.

1975 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Crafts Council will be held at the Banff Centre, Banff Alberta, June 20 - 22nd. For information or membership write: CCC, Suite 16, 47 Elgin St., Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5K6

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Vancouver Guild of Fabric Arts reports that a conference for teachers of textile Arts is being planned for May or June. More information next issue. New President of The Guild is Mrs. Jean Affleck, 4549 West 2nd Ave., Vancouver V6R 1K7.

Del Field is currently in Hall Beach, North West Territories where she is teaching weaving. Del reports that her food and supplies arrived after she did however friendly people helped out with Arctic char, etc. Since no looms could be built without the imported lumber she started with finger weaving, a great success with the mothers who came to class with their babies in their hoods.

Going to Montreal? The Visual Arts Centre invites you to visit the Gallery of Contemporary Crafts and The Craft Shop, 350 Victoria Ave, Westmount. The Visual Arts Centre also operates as a school and resource centre, offering a wide variety of adult and childrens classes.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE.....(continued)

Report on The Surrey Art Show

The Surrey Art Centre is the focal point for many art events in Surrey. The Director, Stephen Chitty, has greatly assisted the development of the arts within the area. With proximity to Vancouver - but more freedom to live in a semi-rural setting, Surrey has become a residence for craftspeople- particularly potters.

The Group Show from February 4-17th was therefore mainly the work of local potters. Such names as Lance Olsen, David Gobin, David Torresdahl, Adele Samphire, David Zawduk, Irene Berchenbreiter, Walter Dexter, Fred Owen, Wayne Morrison and Danny Kostyshin showed their entirely personal and creative approach to ceramics.

A group of them recently demonstrated their abilities at the World Fair, Spokane.

The drive and determination of Surrey artists has resulted in the building of a new Art Gallery adjacent to the Centennial Centre.

-submitted by Deirdre Spencer

THIRD CRAFTED ARTS LECTURE: sponsored by the Community Arts Council of Vancouver will be "iconography of NW Indian Art: Studies in adaptability in form and function." Madeline Bronsdon, anthropologist will explain the use and meaning of crests, figures and supernatural beings. Vancouver Public Aquarium on Thursday March 20th at 8 p.m. Slide illustration. No charge. Coffee.

Kootenay Activities:

from Eleanor Cailes

In the past two weeks three new groups of craftspeople and artists have been formed in The Kootenays - Craftspeople with a common desire for communication in their own fields joining together to plan activities for mutual benefit. Recently shown at the Kootenay School of Art was a joint exhibition of work by potter Al Bains and painter Jack Campbell. Boxes and bags of the materials for his Craft appeared to add to the strong unpretentious teapots, lidded pots and uniquely shaped platters of Al Bains. The very original and satisfying way in which handles and knobs were pulled out and the extended clay used for ornamentation was interesting and served to pick up the lights of the basic stoneware glaze. A solidly satisfying first show by a new-corner to our area.

One or two more suggestions:

That itineraries of travelling exhibits of crafts be published.

That when shows are sent out on the road they have information on the crafts-people who created the work shown, and some basic information about techniques and materials used, etc. Half the satisfaction in viewing an exhibit is gained from seeing something different and learning about it. This is still more important when there is no one in the community to explain and the layman, interested enough to attend, doesn't really understand what he is looking at.

Place des Arts - 166 King Edward St., Coquitlam, B.C. V3K 4T2

Currently has a wide variety of Craft Classes underway, including a class in Jewellery Making with Terry Mooney. Place des Arts also offers exhibition space for artists and craftsmen and will assist with organizing, setting up and publicizing exhibitions. Telephone 526-2891.

Craftsmen who wish to sell their work on a consignment basis are asked to contact The Vancouver Arts Exposition Gallery, 3310 Dunbar St., Vancouver Telephone 738-0028.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE.....(continued)

The recent FIBRES EXHIBITION at the Royal Centre Mall in Vancouver was a mixed exhibit: some highly professional work, and some quite naive. One suspects it should have been more strictly juried. The wall hangings in most textile media came from across Canada, but the bulk of the work was from B.C. Certain persons' work stands out, of course, but not all can be mentioned here. Elaine Potter's batiks, although in a window, showed more knowledge of the medium than what hung in the regular display area. The weavers stood out the most, both in naivete and in sheer artistry. Eujane Taylor is beginning to understand the artist in herself with her piece "Gestalt Triangulation" which is the culmination of years of working on her loom, until recently with only traditional techniques for fabrics. Maria Svatina and Madeleine Chisholm are in the same league of fine weavers. Jane Kidd has a strong sincere attitude about her materials and uses them in an interesting way to express herself. The more sophisticated artists were there too: Barbara Shelly and Carole Sabiston (applique & stitchery); Marie McGill and Bob Polinsky (off-loom weaves); Don Stuart of Ontario (weaving) and Danel de Courval of Quebec (silk painting). There was also a lovely all-white hanging, the label of which I could not find.

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QUILT SHOW, Circle Crafts Co-operative

This was a well-advertised exhibition which turned out to be somewhat of a disappointment. Naturally lots of time went into the hanging of the show, but it was not enough. Sometimes highly prized quilts were hung against rough walls, wrapped around pillars, or merely piled on top of one another over a bannister. The cavernous room was the scene of an amateur play, rather than the promised demonstrations, and viewers had to stumble over actors, audience and chairs to see things properly. Organizers of such nationally-advertised events should be warned that others knowledgeable in the field should be consulted, and they should do no less than a museum or art gallery would do. Unfortunately, as in the making of crafts themselves, just because a person has put in some time on the project and calls it "handmade" doesn't mean it is a good product. In spite of this, it WAS good to see old and contemporary quilts together, some of them quite lovely. This show definitely pointed to the need for all communities to have a good public showplace for visual arts groups.

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> The latest juried exhibition by the VANCOUVER GUILD OF FABRIC ARTS, with some contribution from members of the Greater Vancouver Weavers' and Spinners' Guild is being held March 4 - 22nd in the Vancouver Public Library. This is perhaps the largest show by the guild so far, and like the concurrent Fibers exhibit at the Royal Mall is slightly uneven. However, it shows a good cross-section of styles from students through to full-time artist-craftswomen.

> The juror for the show was Penny Gouldstone of U.B.C., and as she stated, batik as a medium has come a long way. There are fine pieces by Rohana Laing, who is also doing screening experiments, Elaine Potter with a freer approach, and up-coming Kirstie Shoobraid with a fresh representational style. Interesting exploratory work is being done with macrame by Patti Fiedler, and Truus Scott is represented by a nice work smaller than her current architectural-sized knotted rope hangings. The stitcheries improve every year, and especially notable are those by Marie McGill and Ruth Kozakewich. There are some highly imaginative woven pillows and theatre pieces in the show as well.

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-submitted by Peggy Schofield

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

Just a dollar a line!

Peg's Place Pottery School - Session on teapots with Nancy Star  
March 17,18,19,20 & 26th, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Room for 12 students only.  
Fee \$35.00, includes 50 lbs. clay, glazes & firing...Regular classes  
starting April 7th and completing June 10th. Morning and evening classes  
and children's afternoon classes. Phone 738-2912.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

(continued)

22 inch table loom, 4 harnesses, Jack-Type Large shed. Beautifully hand-crafted. \$100. Phone David or Kathy Jones-Cook, 926-1780

For Rent - space in large fully-equipped pottery workshop (gas kiln) for one or two full-time potters. Call Michael Huyghe, 228-0123 or 228-9879

Glass-blowing shop for sale. Located in Vancouver, equipment only.  
Call Greg Mooney 437-6600 or write 3478 Euclid St., Vancouver, V5R 5G4

House of Orange Importers Ltd. is pleased to announce new locations for its wholesale and retail operations in the lower mainland. Our retail store is located in Vancouver at 1172 Davie St., telephone 689-0322. Our warehouse and wholesale operations are in Victoria at 553 Hillside Ave., telephone 384-1117. Requirements for wholesale purchases are a current SS & MA number and a \$50.00 minimum purchase. Our new colour catalogue should be out in April and will be available to craftsmen for one dollar. We supply beads and findings to the trade. Please address all mail enquiries to the Victoria address.

LATE ADDED INFORMATION

Thursday Evening Special Events - 8:00 p.m. Centennial Museum Auditorium  
Admission \$1.00 VMPA members, \$1.50 non-members

March 6 - This Museum Has A Fine Shell & Fossil Collection

Mr. Brian Barrett, staff Palaeontologist, is identifying and cataloguing the extensive shell and fossil collections. He will give a slide-talk featuring many shell examples from the Pacific and other oceans.

March 13 - MIME: A Glance Behine The Mask

Mr. Phil Wildbaum, professional actor, will give a performance/workshop on pantomime and improvisational theatre. Entertainment, satire, melodrama and group therapy all can be achieved through the time-honoured dramatic medium of mime.

March 20 - Thirteen Salish Moons: Rated G

Mrs. Irene Gibbs, School Programs Coordinator on staff, with a group of volunteer docents will guide you and your family through the fascinating steps of a school ethnology program. Enjoy a gallery tour, slide talk and demonstrations of basic skills of the Salish Indian traditions. Cooking in a bent box or basket, weaving wool and trulle-rush mats, cedarbark textile and basketry techniques and examples of Xwai-Xwai ceremonial equipment will be included.

March 27 - River Rafting: A New Challenge

Mr & Mrs. Rob Sims, free-lance expedition guides, will present a slide talk and 20-minute film on the recently popularized pursuit of river rafting. Scenes from the Fraser, Thompson, Chilcotin and Colorado rivers will be featured.

April 3 - Macrame and Sea-Faring Knots - Dorothy Rubin - Guild of Creative Fabric Arts. An illustrated history of this ancient seafaring craft with examples will lead to a showing of slides featuring contemporary innovative uses of the basic historic techniques. Experiment with macrame knots yourself at this workshop.

April 10 - The Disapperance of the Kashmiri Shawl Industry -

Deirdre Norman, Education Department, Centennial Museum. Many European weaving and design influences were imposed on the traditional goat wool weaving industry of the province of Kashmir. Eventually, the competition from England, Scotland and France proved fatal to this ancient craft. This lecture/demonstration will trace the history of the shawl industry and trade using many examples to illustrate the stages of this development.

Deadline for next issue of  
Craft Contacts is March 20th.