

# Spinners meeting

FEB 6, 1985

After a highly successful conference in Beaverlodge, with over 100 people in attendance, area fibre artists are once again looking forward to attending the Peace Country Spinners and Weavers conference on Saturday, February 23. This will be held in Fairview at the Fine Arts Centre starting at 9 a.m.

There will be two guest instructors for the day. Paula Gustafson, author of "Salish Weaving" and an accomplished craftswoman in clay and fibres, will lecture on Pacific Northwest Coast Indian Textiles and conduct workshops on Salish weaving.

Originally from the Fraser Valley - the centre of the aboriginal Salish weaving industry - Paula Gustafson has researched the history of West coast Indian weaving in museums on three continents and has worked with the living practitioners of Salish and Chilkat weaving. Her pottery and weavings have been presented in major exhibitions in several countries.

Paula is also president of the Alberta Crafts Council, a province-wide organization funded by the Western Canada Lottery (Alberta Division) and Alberta Culture.

Ann Marie Scott, from Fairview, will conduct workshops on the spinning of wool fleece. She is a graduate of the Alberta College of Art where she majored in textiles, specializing in tapestry weaving techniques with study in dying and spinning. Her tapestries are landscapes based on the Peace River country.

She is presently working on a tapestry to be entered in the Alberta Handweavers competition for exhibition at Convergence '86 in Toronto next May.

# Spinners and weavers celebrate new season

The beginning of the second year of the Peace Country Spinners and Weavers was celebrated on Oct. 26 and 27 in Fort St. John.

Seventy crafts people came together from all areas of the Peace Block of Northwest Alberta and Northeast British Columbia for a two-day workshop given by Jean Farrington of Victoria, B.C.

Thirty looms were set up and samples were woven for clothing fabric or the Saturday and rug techniques on Sunday.

Two commercial exhibitors, Spin and Weave Shop from Grande Prairie, and Talisman Fibres from Prince George had booths with yarn, books, and weaving and spinning

supplies.

A special feature, which was greatly enjoyed, was the Saturday luncheon with Greek and Turkish food. The Sunday luncheon was thick homemade soup and sandwiches. Saturday evening 40 people gathered for dinner and socializing at a local hotel.

The new executive for the '85-'86 year was elected. They are:

Ruth Cuchanan, McLennan, Alta. President; Jean James, Grande Prairie, Vice-President; Jill Sutton, Baldonnel, B.C., Secretary; Gerda Anthony, Fairview Alta, Treasurer; Sue Miller, Goodfare, Alta., Past President and Publicity; and Margaret Allan of Pouce Coupe, B.C.,

Newsletter Editor.

The members are already making plans for the Spring two-day sessions to be held March 15-16 in Falher, Alta. Topics for this session will include beginning spinning, fleece preparation, spinning wheel maintenance, basic loom warping methods, computer drawdowns and drafting, and demonstrations in Cenure Fleche belt weaving and Ukrainian pattern weaving.

For more information on the P.C.S.W. write to:  
Jill Sutton  
Secretary P.C.S.W.  
Box 60 Baldonnel  
B.C. VOC 1C0

# Potters workshop set for Oct. 25, 26

If there is sufficient interest, Sculptor Barry Cogswell from Vancouver will be coming to Fort St. John on October 25, 26 to present a two-day workshop in design.

The North Peace Potters Guild has requested that Barry visit here as part of the Emily Carr College Outreach Programme; but the workshop should, by no means, be limited in interest to potters. The workshop will enable participants to explore and learn about the different elements involved in three dimensional design and would benefit sculptors, teachers, weavers, wood carvers, metal workers etc.

Working with a variety of materials participants will produce maquettes for reference and future projects. Individual projects will be en-

couraged.

Barry graduated from Hammersmith College of Art in London, England in 1964 and has taught sculpture, pottery, ceramic design and drawing during his time in B.C. His work has been exhibited widely in British Columbia and he was one of two B.C. artists invited to participate in an international sculpture symposium in Edmonton in 1978.

While there is limited enrollment it will take 10-12 participants to make this workshop a reality. The chance should not be missed to bring local artists working in different media together with an artist who can benefit them all.

Please enroll by Friday, October 18 at Northern Lights College. The fee for the 2 day workshop is \$45.00.



# Weekend conference for spinners, weavers

OCT 25, 1985

The North Peace Spinners and Weavers Guild are off to a busy start for the 1985/86 season.

They are organizing and hosting the fourth Conference of the Peace Country Spinners and Weavers (an organization consisting of spinners and weavers from northwestern Alberta and northeastern British Columbia).

The conference will be held in Fort St. John at the Elks Hall on Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The guest

speaker will be Ms. Jean Farrington of Victoria who is a master weaver and designer.

This will be a "Hands-On" Conference with the use of 30 four-harness looms on which 15 fabric and 15 rug samples will be woven by rotating groups of weavers.

Anyone interested in attending the conference can obtain further information by calling Chris at 789-3598.

The North Peace Spinner and Weavers Guild began their 1985/86 season on Saturday, September 21 with an introduction to spinning. The Guild has taken up residence in the basement of Central School located 10215-99th Avenue in Fort St. John and meets the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in spinning and weaving is most welcome to become a Guild member or just come and see what the group is all about.

The Guild is planning workshops on felting, chemical and nature dying, weaving on 4-harness looms, tapestry weaving and knitting with home-spun wool for this coming season. For further information call Chris at 789-3598 or Suzanne at 785-0877.

APR 29, 1983



ROBYN DORIE, Valerie Unruh and Lisa Coutts are Grade 10 textile arts and crafts students from Dr. Kearney Junior Secondary School. The three used their needlework to win top awards in the Fort St. John Needlecraft competition, sponsored by the Fort St. John Needlecraft Guild and held at the Artspace.



# Craft sale set

The Peace Country Craftman's Association will be holding their annual spring show and sale at the Co-op Mall on March 22nd and 23rd during store hours. We thank the Co-op management and staff for their generosity and assistance in making this event a success.

Currently we have 25 members, mostly local residents but also some

who reside in Dawson Creek, Upper Cache, Buicke Creek and the Prespatou area. Our crafts people are involved in 14 different crafts including all the needle arts, woodwork, leather craft, silk flowers, dough art, stained glass, quilting and lapidary. Finished products range from toys and clothing to imitation wedding cakes, floral arrangements,

linens, jewellery and other items. Quality is the prime objective of all our crafts people, and many of the items we make have gone around the world to Britain, Continental Europe, Australia and New Zealand, Japan and the United States, and through Canada.

The Arts Community in Fort St. John generated about half a million

dollars of revenue during 1984, most of which remained in our own community. The Peace Country Craftman's Association is proud of its contributions to the Arts Community and the community at large, the financial contribution as well as bringing recognition to the community.

We hope to see you all at our craft show and sale!