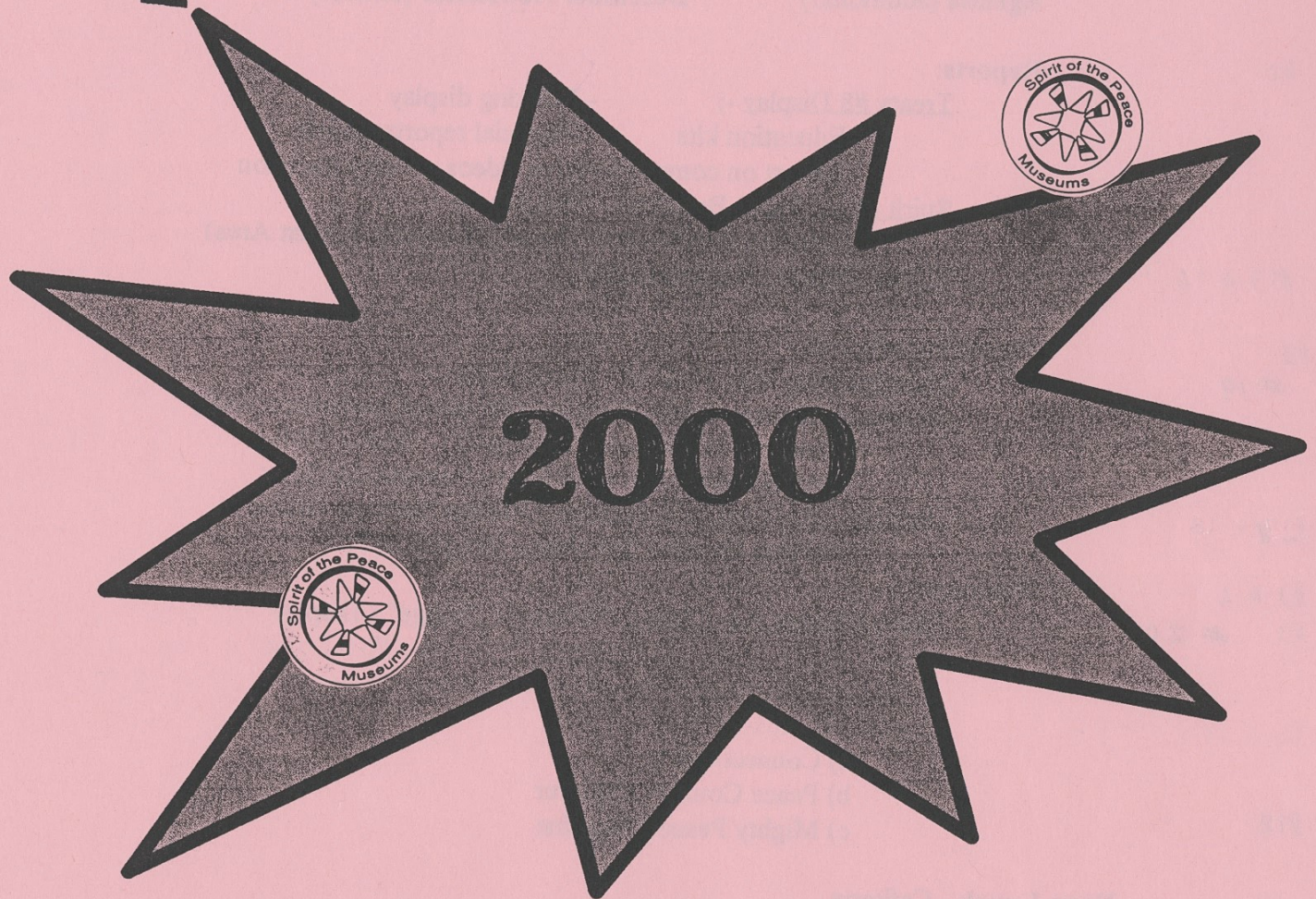


# Spirit of the Peace



Looking to the future - may we be brave enough to blast into this new era with solid ideas and bright new beginnings, but wise enough to remember the lessons from our past, lessons from our history.



Newsletter # 41 - March 6, 2000

Reminders On The Back







# Spirit of the Peace

## Newsletter 41

## March 6, 2000

Spirit of the Peace: Museums Network

Meeting, March 6, 2000 - Native Cultural Arts Museum, Grouard, Alberta

When we first arrived the small meeting room was set up for our meeting, but it didn't take long to know that we would need a bigger room. So we became a moving company and moved to the east side of the cafeteria. This is lovely spacious room, but was a little too warm. We were provided with coffee, water or pop and muffins or Nanaimo Bars for the whole day. Thank you to Vicky and to the college for this great hospitality.

- **Welcome:**

Dan Vandermeulen, College President, welcomed us to Northern Lake College (what used to be called A.V.C. Grouard). He was glad to see the great attendance and told us about changes in the college. He said that they have about a third of their students there at Grouard, and that the rest are at 23 different communities around the area. He told about their reinvestment in the museums area, at least doubling the space, and that they also hired a professional curator, Vicky Barsalou, showing their commitment in keeping the museum, local history and native cultural arts as a high priority with the college.

Mr. Vandermeulen stayed with us until our coffee break, to get acquainted with what we are doing and to be able to have coffee with and visit our members.

Taken last June, Buffalo Bay, Grouard looked a little different when we drove in for the meeting - covered with ice & snow.



Vicky enjoying her new job

- **Introductions:**

We went around the room doing quick introductions, with 25 persons present from 15 communities (13 museums). This is most impressive, so thank you to all who made the effort, and in some cases, made a long journey today. Those present were as follows: Louisa Rich and Maxine Werner - High Prairie, Vicky Barsalou - Grouard, Barbara Turner and Fran Moore - DeBolt, Stan Sather - Wanham, George Lewchuk - Spirit River, Paul Charest, Terry Paradis and Helene Couillard - Girouxville, Colin & Muriel McKeachnie, Ida Philips and Basil Cooper - Grimshaw, Marshall Rolling and Vi Evans - Fairview, Fred Napier and Pauline Gervais - McLennan, Art Thorburn and Wendy Robinson - Kinuso, Sam Lowe - Grande Prairie, Mary Jaeger - Manning, Diane Gayton - Peace River. Also present was member Ed Carlson from Dawson Creek, and a guest from Valleyview - Sandra Whittaker.

**Speedy Recovery.** Here we would like to wish Jean Bartlett of Fairview a speedy recovery from recent surgery. We hope to see you in Grimshaw in June.

- **Agenda:**

Again a very long and full days work, ahead. An addition of one item onto the agenda presented was "Grande Prairie Tourist & Interpretive Centre" by Sam Lowe.





## Reports:

### ● Treaty #8 Project Report:

Discussion included: a) the Education Kit (video/lure card), b) display loan form, and c) the Oral History tapes. With Peter Goertzen and Monika Kirtley-Wark away we could not have a full report.

a) The video to accompany the education kits is being made at Grande Prairie College. A draft text has been sent out and David Leonard had responded with so corrections, we hope that they will make. A new lure card has been ordered and will be ready to accompany the kit and the display.

b) The display is currently at Grande Prairie Regional College. When sites get the display there is a nominal charge that is being kept for expenses against the display in the future. So when you get the display, expect to sign a form and to pay a small fee (museum members fee is less than non-members).

c) Oral History tapes that were made as an add on to the regional project have been turned over to the Grande Prairie Museum archives. Some are also with display/or at Dunvegan.

### ● Regional Project - Brochure Report

Fran reported that Marilee Toews from Fort Vermilion informed us of an opportunity to have our brochures distributed in all of central Alberta (35 locations). She faxed us the information and we (Peter & I) have now shipped boxes of brochures to central Alberta for this program. There was a cost involved of \$240.75, which was paid for out of the regional grant.

### ● Treaty #8 - Symposium Tapes

Vicky has looked at all the videos from the Treaty #8 Symposium and said that they are a great source of information for those working on projects to do with native affairs and native history. They could be useful, but have some sound quality problems. The workbook that goes with them is excellent.



### ● Y2000 - Regional Quilt Project

Alice Fortier sent along a note and three possible quilt 'lay-outs'. She and her committee, chosen in Grande Prairie in December, met last week to plan and get ready for when the squares come in. Part of her note is, as follows:

*'Hello, Spirit of the Peace!*

*Here are some sketches Lynn did after our meeting so you the 'crafty ones' can visually see what the quilt will look like when completed.*

*I have been in contact or left messages wherever possible and 16 have confirmed they will do a square. Hopefully a few more will make the effort to be included on this a very special memento.*

*Just a review of our telephone call: - please use flour or sugar sack, square 12" x 12" - hand embroidery - logo or something unique to your museum or historic site - name of same - return finished square to Alice Fortier, #39, 9640 - 92 Ave., Grande Prairie, Ab. T8V 0H4. 532-6662.*

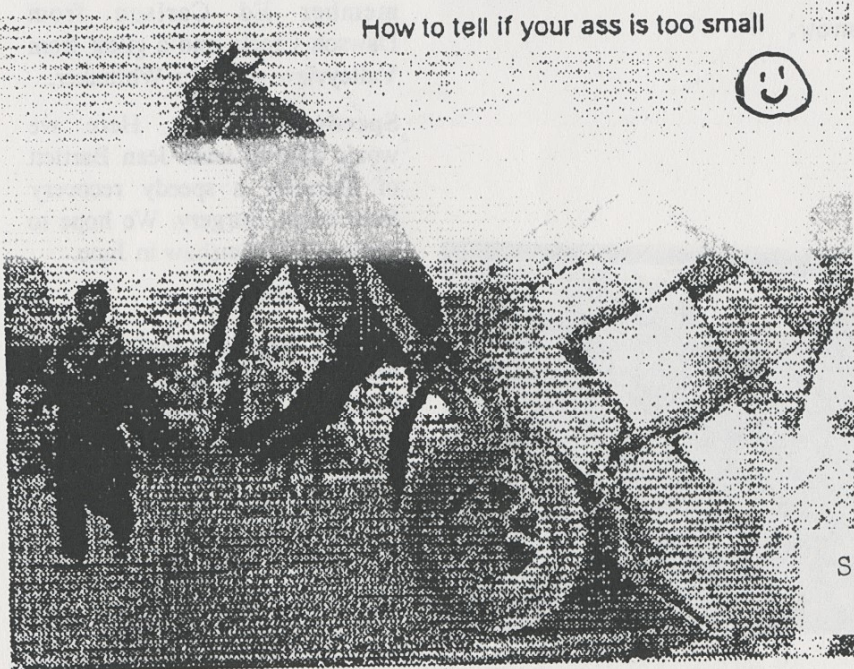
*Quilt back will be black broadcloth or sheet. I have a red sheet for the front. Just how it will look finished depends on you (whether you do a square). If you get real rambunctious, and all do a square we'll do two quilts or some cushions so get to work as it.*

*Enjoy your project! I'd love to be with you today but I'm at the election poll!*

*Always, Alice''*

**Notes:** There were three squares turned in at the meeting and they were as follows: 1. from Kinuso - a replication of their logo - with a bear, 2. from DeBolt - their Mehlum barn, and 3. from Manning - an antique tractor and a moose. Diane from Peace River said theirs would probably be the D.A. Thomas. - Now isn't this going to be a great keepsake quilt to celebrate the Year 2000. We will have more discussion on what we should do with this quilt, but what I believe the initial goal was, was to circulate it around to all the various museums and then have a draw, between these museums to see who gets to be the 'keeper of the quilt'. (I have shrunk the lay-out sketches and will include them later, here.)

How to tell if your ass is too small



Some members brought along some humor!  
Where did you get this, Mary?





## Museums Alberta

### ● **Museum Grants - coming to the Peace**

Fran brought out the list of grants made by Museums Alberta last year, marked with green spots for the 'green stuff' that came to the Peace. It looks a lot better than it did a few years ago, when we were not applying for and not getting many grants. The workshops must be paying off for our members. Way to go!

### ● **Heritage Fair - Peace River, May 12 & 13th, 2000**

Brochures were passed around and both Vicky and Diane spoke about this special event to encourage students to become interested in 'history'. We should all be encouraging our schools and our museums to be involved. (all should have received the brochures).

Along with this years fair there will be a contest - *Design a Northern Alberta T. Shirt Logo*. This contest is open to anyone. Just send them in to Diane at the Peace River Centennial Museum.

### ● **Program Committee - Museums Alberta Conference**

Vicky told the meeting about the annual M.A. Conference and that the theme will be on *Multiculturalism*. They will be offering two pre-conference workshops: a) interpretive programming, and b) 'the jokes on us' - incorporating humor in our history. The conference will be in Red Deer this year and be earlier than usual, in late September, early because of availability of accommodations. She said the venue this year will be less expensive, also. They are planning more networking opportunity, longer nutrition breaks. More time for the trade show, not enough time last year. She will tell you more in June, and the materials should be out about then.

Conference is always worth attending, so keep this in mind.

### ● **Research Workshop**

A Research Workshop will be held on May 5 & 6 in Grouard. The author of the book on Fort Dunvegan is one of the presenters. A computer lab will be available for research on the internet. Lunch will be available. Sign up now - we want this opportunity for our Peace members to be 'a go'.

It was discovered that a 'springboard workshop' on conservation was scheduled on the 6th of May for Beaverlodge. Vicky will look into this - as there should not be two workshops on the same date - it would split our group and neither would have great attendance. (Note: Vicky contacted Audrey and oops, she goofed. Word has it that the springboard will be held later in May - so, watch for the date, and try to attend.)

### ● **Heritage Community Foundation**

A fact sheet from Adriana Davies on "Alberta Heritage Online" was presented to the meeting. Part of this will be *later in this newsletter*. Opportunity for our online information to be linked, is offered.

### **Business:**

### ● **Peace Country Classic Ag-Show March 9, 10 & 11, 2000**

The theme of this years show is 'Winds of Change'.

We had asked to be in Clarkson Hall, along with the Grande Prairie Museum. This wish has been granted and they will now use the Old Timers Cabin for workshops. We will share a space in Clarkson Hall and are setting up the display on Wednesday, Mar. 8th from 3 to 5 pm. Treena, Fran and Ed will be there.

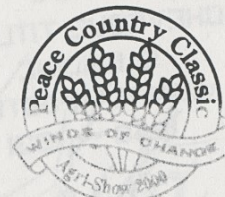
Grande Prairie Museum is going to have a raffle and will have a volunteer on duty. We were asked to also have a volunteer on duty. Ed Carlson has been working on this and talking to various members.

From a suggestion from our December meeting, Peter has asked Lars Loberg of Valhalla Centre to do some 'winds of change cartoons' for the booth. These are cartoons of activities early and late - an activity in 1905 - and that comparable activity now. These cartoons will be accompanied by artifacts.

The 'Spirit of the Peace' will have its video being shown, our brochure will be passed out, and members have been asked to offer their brochures. Maxine brought along a flail to be used in the display. Thanks Maxine.

Ed Carlson was able to get a 'Spirit of the Peace' Banner made by "Busy Bee Signs & Graphics" in Dawson Creek, and at no cost to us. Thank you, Ed, for all your good work. He has us in on a large booth in Dawson Creek, later, so the banner will be used again. It can also be used by others throughout the year, just contact Ed to get it.

**Report:** now that it is over. First, thanks to all the volunteers who manned the booth, from Grande Prairie Museum and from around the Peace. We appreciate your dedication and enthusiasm. There were a few problems, however, as there was not enough room to do all we all wanted to do. The result was that the 'cartoon display' ended up at the back and could not be appreciated by the public. *Another year we should have two spaces, one for display and one for promotion.*



15th Annual

# PEACE COUNTRY CLASSIC AGRI-SHOW



- **Grande Prairie Tourist & Interpretive Centre**

Sam Lowe from the Grande Prairie Museum brought along an opportunity for our museums to be involved in a regional historic presentation. The Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce are looking to the Grande Prairie Museum and the Spirit of the Peace to help with the planning and the overall display for their new interpretive centre. They will have some space upstairs and 'the whole lower area' to tell the stories of our Peace Country.

There will be a sod turning in April - 'A Barn Raiser' and the building will be of timber (wood) because of our connections with these local products.

A committee was asked for to represent all Spirit of the Peace museums and historic sites in working with the Grande Prairie groups. Two volunteers came from this meeting: Vicky Barsalou of Grouard, and Diane Gayton of Peace River. If your museum has someone who would like to serve on this committee, contact Fran (957-3957)

Look later here in this newsletter for more information.

- **Finances & Ads**

Fran provided the meeting of a brief financial statement, with a balance of \$622.00. Look for it later in this newsletter. In it you will see that we have done our three ads, decided at our December meeting: a) Mighty Peace Ad - most museums have paid their \$30 (those that haven't paid will get a bill with this newsletter), b) Connections ad has been purchased for \$204.64, and c) Peace Country Explorer for \$308.96.

A copy of the *Mighty Peace Ad* and the *Peace Country Explorer* are copied here, in this newsletter. The other one is not yet out, so we'll include them in our June newsletter.



Grouard, the Catholic Cemetery. Photo taken last June. Vicky said there has been some vandalism since then in the cemetery. right: college from the cemetery--.

- **Computers, Software - Possible Regional Grant**

Fran informed the meeting that there is a possibility of us getting a regional grant for the software, hook-ups and education components of getting our museums records on computer.

She had phoned a number of the museums who have computers and are getting computers and asked about what programs they were thinking about getting and got quite a remarkable positive answer of 'Virtual Collections'.

She had then talked to Charlene Garvey at Museums Alberta, who sent along a grand package of information. In their conversation they also came to the conclusion that if so many museums were trying to do the same thing, at the same time that it might be financially prudent to purchase the program in quantity and take the training and such together - getting a better price.

It is important that the museums wanting to get in on this do a 'needs assessment' in preparation for doing it. This package is available through Charlene.

A committee was struck to study these possibilities, and to do it right away as a regional grant would have to be in by the end of April. The committee includes: Maxine, Vicky and Peter (picked in his absence). There were eight museums present who thought that they would be interested in doing it, and a few others that weren't sure.

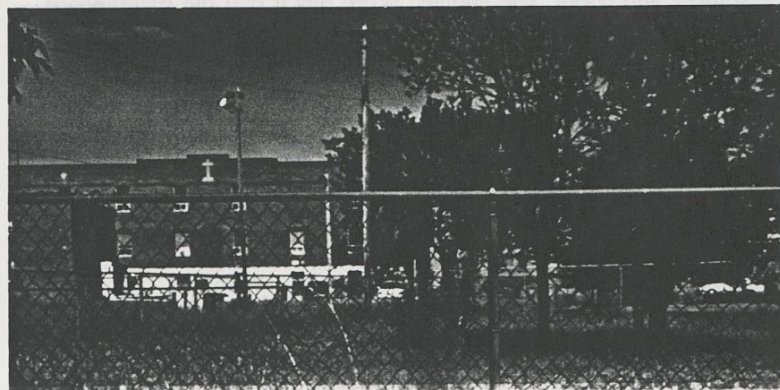
Maxine has already ordered the Virtual Collections software and had done a lot of studying on it. She brought along the introduction disc from that program and from Past - Perfect which is from the U.S. She said that Virtual Collections is very adjustable, and adaptable to different collections and needs. (She showed these two programs in the afternoon to those interested, while the rest toured the museum.)

- **Visitor Statistics**

Wendy Robinson has been keeping track of our visitor statistics over a number of years, and even with the few replies she has had, it is very interesting. If you haven't sent in your 1998 and 1999 visitor stats, please do, and we will then include them in a later (June) newsletter for all to see.

Looking at the sheet she has sent in there are a few things that are obvious: a) that no other museum in the Peace will ever have as many people stop as Dawson Creek does, wow! - we're envious, and b) Fort Vermilion gets a lot of school tours.

- **Lunch and Tour of Historic 1902 Church**





We all went to the cafeteria, a few minutes before noon, to get our lunch. The pizza was great! They had great looking pork chops on the menu, also! Everyone got what they wanted and be went back to our meeting room.

St. Bernards at Buffalo Bay. At 12:30 we all met outside and Vicky took us to the church for a tour. It is a beautiful old church. The paintings, the architecture, the teepee on the alter, the back room with it's precious collection (robes and alter equipment). Some paintings were by Father Grouard, as were some of his robes on display.

When we were there in 1990, the roof was in bad repair and we were fearful of it's life. It is good to see that restoration of the roof and in the foundation has saved this building from being only rubble.

For those who had never been there before it was especially interesting and eye opening. Whow! a church built in 1902 - almost 100 years old.

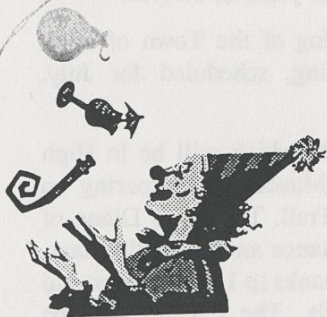
● "Museum Careers"

Vicky presented a book entitled "Museum Job Shifts" which was the basis for a pre-conference workshop in 1998. It was presented by one of the authors, Lynne Teather. Vicky said that it is a great source of inspiration and guide to museum fields for persons working in the museums area. It includes - how to keep pace, strategic planning, management and maintenance of your career. Helps you to understand a variety of skills useful to keep you in line with your goals. Mentoring, advisory!

Vicky said she used this book and it helped her in her career move to Grouard.

Would be good also for interested students and young volunteers who may choose museums as their field of interest.

The copy of the book was given to Spirit of the Peace, for our use.



Important to the idea of the learning organization and communities of learners is that of the learning individual. We must all take responsibility for our own career development. We may hope that the museum sector and museums will invest heavily in the career planning of its workers; however, you, as the professional cultural worker, must take the responsibility for your development.

Each of us will be the bricks that will build our learning organizations. Hence, this fieldbook and workshop model will emphasise the work of career development. We will also touch issues along the way of learning organizational cultures, ending with the communities of learners' idea for our sector.

Materials Distribution

At this point in the meeting, Fran offered that there were a number of materials that were available for members to either work on or take advantage of. She presented them and asked 'who is interested?'

1. "Museum Job Shifts" - Wendy Robinson took this book. Girouxville and Fairview both are interested in having it after Wendy is done. Also, Maxine from H.P.?
2. "Treaty #8 Symposium Videos" - Paul from Girouxville asked for them.
3. "Memorial and Honors Scrapbook" - Stan Sather took them to have Wanhams Grizzley Bear Prairie Museum included.
4. "Elevators/Railroads Scrapbook" - Peace River took this book to include their story in this area.

**III. Some Assumptions Underlying This Fieldbook:**

**1. The Learning Organization and the Learning Individual**

**"...we speak of the learning organization, but organizations do not learn-- the individuals within them do. In the final analysis, all our efforts at change are about learning. This means learning from experience, learning from people, learning from successes and failures, and learning from leaders and followers."**

**- Dr. Robert Janes<sup>5</sup>**

Tour of Native Cultural Arts Museum

Vicky took the group on an in detail tour of the museum display area. Her presentation was great and everyone learned a lot about the aboriginal costumes and customs. Thank you, Vicky, great job!

While she was doing this, a number of members were in her office where Maxine was showing what the Virtual Collections program can do. There were a number of interested people who were able to see first hand and to ask questions. Thanks, Maxine!

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Robert Janes. Museums and the Paradox of Change: A Case Study in Urgent Adaptation. (Calgary: The Glenbow Museum), 1996, p 77.



# Happenings: Around

## the Peace

### ● Dawson Creek Station Museum

- faxed in by Marilyn Howard

(We've known her as Marilyn Croutch but now she writes Howard - 'her real name'.)

We have applied for one museum worker through the Federal Government Student Programs. If successful the person who is hired will be developing a program for tours of the Historical Society's Heritage Buildings at Walter Wright Pioneer Village. The successful applicant will also catalogue any new acquisitions as well as work in the new archives under the direction of the Archives Committee.

Our Heritage Week for B.C. was February 20 - 26. We had our display down at the Dawson Mall, all day on Saturday, February 26th. As well as a display of historically significant photos, we showed the 'Spirit of the Peace' video to rave reviews. I have to tell you that the enthusiasm for the film (by the public) really surprised me. Next year for our Heritage Week display I would like to book the Treaty #8 display for that week - third week in February.

We'll be going to Grande Prairie to help in the booth at the Grande Prairie Ag Show and also we are working with Ed in the Dawson Creek Trade Show. A big thanks to Ed for taking the initiative to get our "Spirit of the Peace Museums" out to the public.

Sorry that other commitments prevent me from being with you this time, but will see you in Grimshaw in June!!

### ● David Leonard - phoned Sunday night, March 5th

David can't make the meeting but will try to be here in June.

Asked him if he will be having the bus tours with the Monkman group again this summer and he said, "Yes, they will try it again".

Asked him what new he is working on, and he said, 'the first Grande Prairie fur trade out post' (- before Lake Saskatoon and before Monkman). It was at LaGlance Lake, was a HBC outpost and was still a post in 1880. It was expanded in 1896. It was closed when Lake Saskatoon became the centre of importance and Monkman had a post. He said that then Tom Williams used the building as a home. This outpost building is still standing, on land owned by Brian Fast. A neighbor, John Henken, wants to see it restored. So, here starts another project in 'saving a heritage building'. We wish you and your associates "good luck" in this venture.

He said that the 'oral histories' from the regional project were

sent to Grande Prairie Museum and some to Monika at Dunvegan.

He also said that he made some notes of correction on the script for the Education Kit. (Note: we received a note from Grande Prairie College and the people working on the video and the word is - "I made some major changes to the script many of which were based on advice from Dr. David Leonard, who was able to review it." Thank you, David, for all your help and advice.

### ● Kirstin (Clausin) Gilbride - a Christmas Note

I have shared this note with the March meeting:

*"Hi Fran. Just a quick note to wish you the best of the season and all the best for year 2000.*

*I appreciate the 'Spirit of the Peace' newsletter arriving every once in a while. You and your dream have done some great work. Congratulations.*

*I am well and very happy. I am enjoying being Past President for the B.C. Museums Association. Not so much responsibility.*

*We had a quick trip up to Peace River this past summer, but not much time to tour around. I did manage to show my husband, Andrew, the P.R. museum.*

*Take care and have a great year 2000. Love, Kirstin."*

### ● High Prairie & District Museum & Historical Society

- points taken from paper submitted by Maxine Werner

Busy first quarter - 422 visitors, including four tours and two education programs. In 1999 the museum had a total of 4220 visitors, accessioned 120 artifacts from 26 donors.

On February 8, 2000 the museum had its annual meeting. Maxine Nordin was elected Chairperson for another term. Jamie Babcock, Town Councilor was elected to Vice-Chairperson, Linda Taylor - Secretary, Judy Smith - Treasurer. Louisa Rich, Jack Burley and Jean Reid - directors. Thank you to Erwyn Marx & June Badiuk for their years of service.

I was asked to assist with the planning of the Town of High Prairie's 50th anniversary homecoming, scheduled for July. (Note: details in June)

I have been busy with the Relay 2000 which will be in High Prairie on the 16th of March. The Museum is preparing an exhibit on the Grouard-Peace River Trail. Thanks to Diane of the Peace River Museum for her assistance and to Willie Marx, the author of the book on the trail. Thanks to Linda Taylor and June Badiuk for their painting skills. The display will be unveiled at the Relay 2000 exhibition and B.B.Q. at the Agriplex. Exhibit will then be available to other museums and schools.



I have been working on grant applications and applying for summer work positions. By the time these individuals are employed we will have our collections management software installed and setup ready to be used. Thanks to a grant from the Community Lottery Board, we were able to purchase a second computer, specifically for data entry and research. The computers are all set up and ready.

The museum has not only an internet website ([www.inetnorth.net/org/museum](http://www.inetnorth.net/org/museum)) but an e-mail address as well. By taking advantage of the CHIN membership, the Museum received an internet account at no charge. Our e-mail address is [hpdmchin@telusplanet.net](mailto:hpdmchin@telusplanet.net). Please feel free to contact me in this manner. I use the e-mail account to communicate with Museums Alberta regarding grants and training opportunities.

The Board of Directors is busy revising our bylaws and personnel policy.

Good-luck to everyone in the 'Spirit of the Peace'. Through co-operation and professionalism may we make the heritage of the Peace Country memorable and must-see activity!

● **Native Cultural Arts Museum, Grouard**

- faxed by Vicky Barsalou, March 7th.

Thanks to everyone who attended the recent meeting. I apologize for all the moving and the heat in the room. I was just in so much agony from my back it was nice to have so many extra hands! After a trip to the Chiropractor I am on the way to recovery. Maybe even tap dancing, although I couldn't before ....?

We have been very busy since January creating an edu-kit on the history of the Cree. Thanks to a Museums Alberta Grant and a donation from Telesat we were able to hire an additional staff person to gather the information together in the kit. The kit covers transportation, food gathering and production, life style, etc. They combine hands on materials, videos, photos and activities suitable for a large range of learners. We will have them available for use by this September.

I want to remind everyone that the Citation 1 workshop on **Research** happens here in Grouard May 5 and 6. On the 6th I have arranged for the use of the computer lab so we can all try our hand at researching on the Internet. I spoke to Audrey about the Springboard session in Beaverlodge conflicting with the Research course and she will try to get another date. Just be sure to go to that Springboard workshop too. Audrey said it would be later in May.

Our visitation continues to climb. In 1998 the museum hosted 1300. We had 1993 by December '99. Our year runs June to June and to date we have 2200 visitors. I am finding myself almost getting upset that there are so many visitors and I can't get my paperwork done! Isn't that a silly thing? But here is hoping, with any luck, we will be adding a work study student

to the museum. This will provide me with some much needed assistance and give me someone to talk to besides the four walls.

We are working with the University of Albert in the hopes of bringing up they're recent display "Treaty 8 and the Northern Collecting of Dr. O.C. Edwards". This would be exciting to have with our Treaty 8 display, but the final dates need to be confirmed. Also, planning to change our displays. We will be placing better lighting in the tall free standing cases. That should improve viewing.

Conference planning is going well. We had our first meeting and will be together again March 10 to discuss speakers and sessions in greater detail. I will have much more information by our next meeting in June. See you all at Lac Cardinal!

● **Historical Photos, Valleyview**

- information by Sandra Whittaker

Sandra told the meeting of collecting old photos from a number of sources in Valleyview and having them enlarged, mounted and framed, with 4 or 6 to a frame. They have had these framed picture collections on display since last summer. They are trying to get more information about each of the photos. They are currently at the Red Willow Lodge in Valleyview. (Note: during the meeting she had a chance to talk to George Lewchuk from Spirit River who has some early Valleyview - 'oil boom' pictures for her.)

● **Truckers Rodeo in Grimshaw**

- as told by Ed Carlson

There will be a Truckers Rodeo the long weekend in May for two days. There will be one of Lorenzen's trucks on display, special events for young and old. For the 'old kids' they are going to test two engines, one with real oil and one with synthetic, and then drained and see which one lasts the longest. For the 'young kids' there will be a bike rodeo and swimming passes.

There will also be a Truckers Rodeo on August 12 and 12th.

● **Grizzly Bear Prairie Museum**

- submitted by Stan Sather, (694-3933) Wanham

The winter has been fairly quiet, but work carries on. Getting barn (Prevost) ready to move and applying for a Heritage grant for same.

Sorting out and storing parts and collections in storage bins with shelves for them.

Some restoration of various items, ie: spinning wheel, buggy, arm chair (rocking type).

Doing grants evaluation. Applying for new grants (student & operations). Applied for County Rec. grant.



Planning on a surplus auction sale in spring (April?) to raise funds.

Homecoming at Plow Match. Planning our part in Plow Match; Friday, Saturday and Sunday, third week of June.

- **Spirit River & District Museum**

- presented by George Lewchuk

Over the past several months we have six old one cylinder motors, restored, painted and in running order.

As a millennium project for the museum we have made a sign out of an old plank from the 40's. It is sixteen feet long and sixteen inches wide, and as soon as the ground is thawed out, it will be put up on high poles. Several other signs have been made for the Clay Oven, the Blacksmith Shop, and about to start on one for the Old Reed House. The unique thing about these signs are that they are made out of planks from an old bent tree that was cut years ago.

Many display stands have been made inside the museum. One is like a large upright photo album for pictures that have been in boxes for years. Ladies have done a fabulous job of cataloging them.

The amount of small projects done is enormous and too many to mention.

In 1999 we had 76 volunteers do 8,013 hours of work at the museum. There were 851 visitors in 1999. The last function was a winter tea and lunch as a fund raiser. The ladies are busy pricing items for the next fund raiser, the May yard sale.

- **Girouxville Museum**

- submitted by Terry Paradis & Helene Couillard

We are rolling along and will be advertising for a student helper next week. We're anticipating a busy summer, even though our winter season was quiet. We will be open on May 1st.

We have booked the Treaty #8 Display for middle of May.

We are looking at acquiring a computer.

We have a few projects in the works on the local history of our area.

Please feel welcome to come and visit soon.

- **Lac Cardinal Regional Pioneer Village Museum**

- as reported by Bazil Cooper

They are building a replication of the Grimshaw Railroad Station. They have the logs out and most are ready to plane.

They are getting water into the grounds this summer.

They have sold 13 cords of wood, as a fund raiser.

Their Pioneer Days will be August 12 & 13 this summer.

- **Northern Alberta Railway & Historical Society, McLennan**

- Pauline reported.

While doing the section for the 'Memorial-Honors Scrapbook' for Spirit of the Peace it inspired her to do a history of their museum, for museum and Town book.

They have applied for students through STEP and Human Resources.

R.C.M.P week is a museum instruction day for the schools, when they work with the R.C.M.P. and the OORP serve Hot Dogs for the kids.

- **Kinosayo Museum, Kinuso**

- submitted by Wendy Robinson

Received keys to site formerly occupied by Forestry, in mid February. Have been busy with renovating building and moving lower level (displays) over to new site with mega volunteer help.

Have applied for SCPP position as well as two STEP positions.

Have warned AMA that we will be submitting grant applications to them, also.

Hope to be open by May with Grand Opening Celebration tentative for Mid-August, during the Kinuso Homecoming.

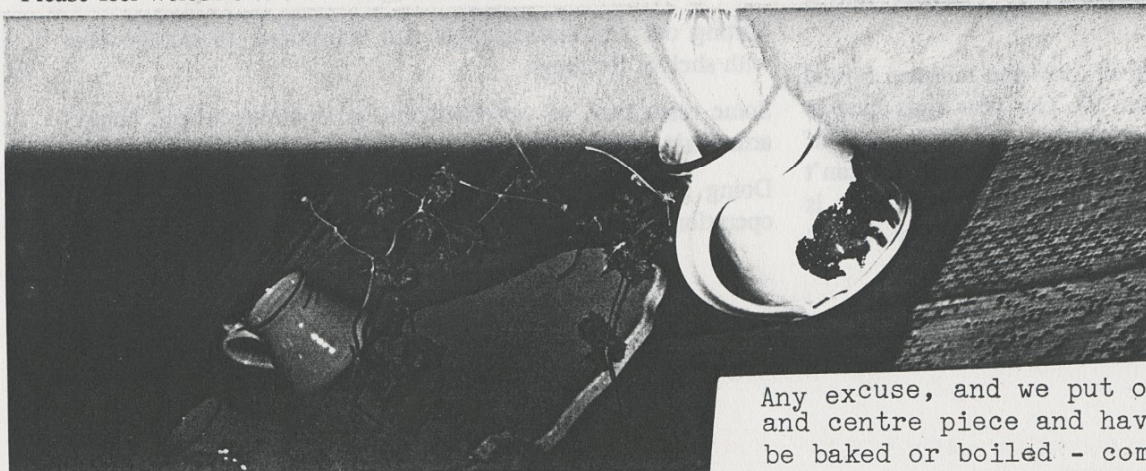
- **Battle River Pioneer Museum, Manning**

- report from Mary Jaeger

They are working on a Massey 25 tractor.

Have completed quilt block for Year 2000 project of 'Spirit of the Peace'

Applied for a STEP person and a summer student.



Any excuse, and we put on a new tablecloth and centre piece and have a gang in. Could be baked or boiled - come on in. F.M.



● **Fairview Pioneer Museum**

- reported by Vi Evans

Applied for three students through Human Resources program.

Looked into cost of putting a concrete flooring in the 60 x 120 Quonset building, which would cost \$28,000.00

Going to start working on the kitchenette and wash room in the basement of McDonald School - Using the \$3,000.00 grant from Agriculture Society.

They have applied for a night at the Casino in Grande Prairie.

They have applied for a millennium grant, but there wasn't any money left for their grant - March, 2000.

Plan on building a fireproof storage room for manuscripts and documents in the basement.

Have ad in the Mighty Peace Circulation Bulletin for the museum.

● **Peace River Centennial Museum & Archives**

- submitted by Diane Gayton

The Peace River Centennial Museum and Archives has had a busy winter. Now with spring upon us, displays are being changed, the summer programs are in the making, and grants are busily being written.

The Displays for the spring include: Spring Bonnets, Easter Eggs, Coins from 1886 (when Parliament buildings were burned), Summer Sports, and the various telephones from the past.

The new staff member, Angie Davidson, started this past January and is helping to complete the accessions and displays. With the help of a work experience student the museum is actually on time as far as scheduling the events coming up.

Heritage Fair is coming together and students from the area and surrounding districts are starting to send in their applications. Looks very promising. The eyes of the young look at things so differently.

Arlene has offered to embroider the quilt square for the Museum, this is appreciated as at the moment she is very busy with the Heritage Fair.

As with all museums, the busy season is just starting. Good luck to everyone with their projects for this coming summer.

● **DeBolt & District Pioneer Museum**

- reported by Fran Moore and Barbara Turner

Barbara said when asked what we are doing, "making quilts". And, she says this with 'that look' on her face as she doesn't really like to quilt. She does quilt some weeks, however, if Fran doesn't give her some other job to do. Right now, Barbara and Gladys Dievert are working on recording the photos for our history book "sequel", which we are working hard to get finished and to the printers by June. Volunteers from across the community have been gathering these stories for years, but now it is time to put it together. Other volunteers involved in this right now are: Corene Morrison, Elaine Moore, Karen Harder, and Irene Riding, as well as the 'area volunteers'.

We are selling tickets on a very nice spring quilt (I forgot to bring them out at the meeting - darn). It is pale blue and creamy white with squares of lovely roses. It will be raffled in May (want a book to sell or want to buy a ticket - let me know).

We have embroidered squares for our next quilt project. We will be putting it together soon and getting it quilted, to be raffled at our Heritage Festival and Fair on August 12. We are planning a homecoming for that date also, more about that in June.

We are doing a special area 'Photo Display' that is to be ready for August 12 also. It will be portable and can be moved around the community after the celebration.

Georgia (nee DeBolt) Stevenson has embroidered our Spirit of the Peace quilt square with the Mehlum Barn. (The Mehlums and DeBolts came to the area together in 1919.)

There is so much to do - some mornings I feel like I'm meeting myself both coming and going. Will be glad when the book is printed and the display is up.

We have many more things going on, too many to mention here.

**South Peace Centennial Museum** - received a report by fax from Gord McLean

We will include it all, later in this newsletter, - as we haven't heard from them in quite some time. Thank you, Gord!



Back of our home, the trees had cut off our light, lawn wouldn't grow and was a fire hazzard. Now we are in the logging business (cut about 500 at the back of the quarter too)

7.11



## Next Meetings:

**June 5, 10am - Lac Cardinal Regional Pioneer Village Museum, Grimshaw.** The museum site is west of Grimshaw, out by Queen Elizabeth/LacCardinal Park. If the weather is at all nice we will have the meeting in the Strong Creek Hall on the site. We really are looking forward to seeing all the progress that has been made over the last ten years. Thanks for inviting us.

September 11 - **Grizzley Bear Prairie Museum, Wanham.** (details in June)

December, 2000 - (should it be south or west, we are open for invitation, please contact Fran - 957-3957)

### ● Finances:

#### Financial Report - February 28, 2000

Balance Forward \$915.90

#### Receipts:

Memberships 19 @25	475.00
Subscriptions 9 @ 10	90.00
Acc.Pay-Reg. Brochure	312.00
Mighty Peace Ad	570.00
Brochure Dist. (Reg.Gt)	<u>240.75</u>
	1687.75
	\$2,603.65

#### Payments:

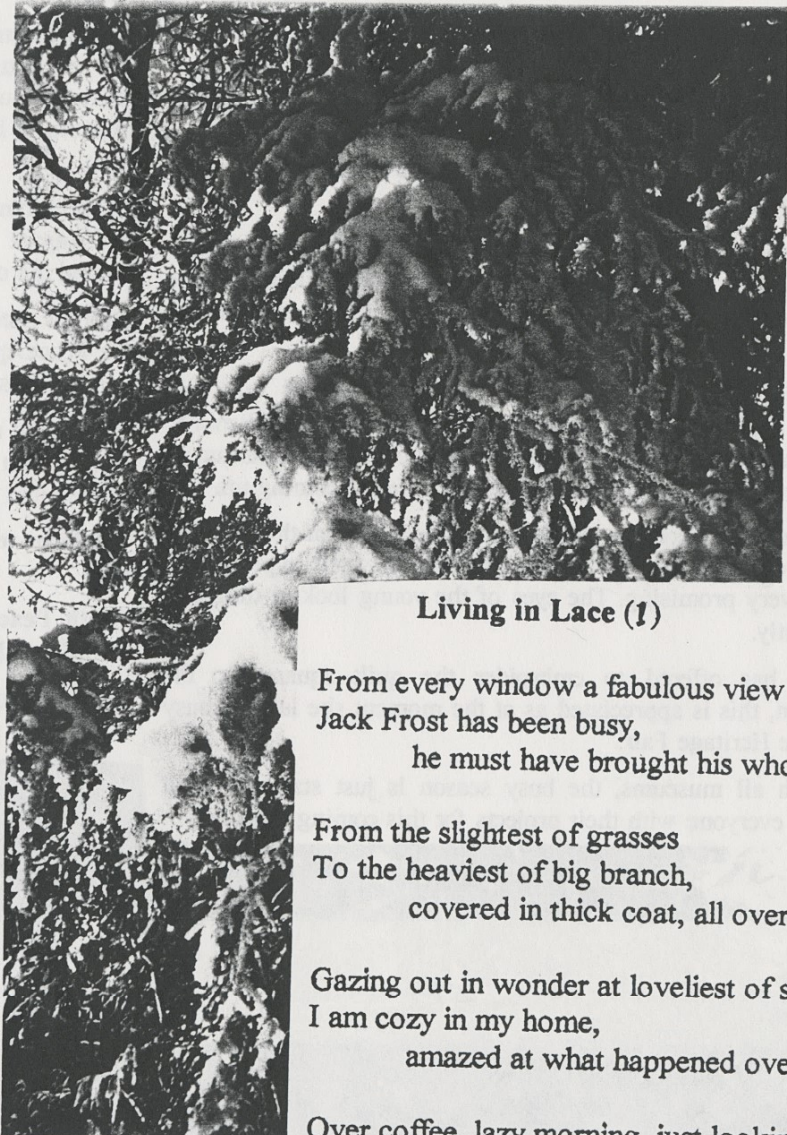
Dec. Newsletter	198.60	
Brochure Dist. (Reg Gt)	240.75	
Acc Pay - Reg. Brochure	312.00	
Mighty Peace Ad	716.10	
Connections Ad	204.64	
P.C. Explorer Ad	<u>308.96</u>	
	1,981.05	\$622.60
4 Museums to pay Mighty Peace Ad	<u>\$120.00</u>	
		\$742.60
Set aside - Treaty #8 Display fund	<u>200.00</u>	
Accessible Funds -----		\$542.60

- **Memberships paid, to March 6,  
for Year 2000 (since meeting \*)**

Battle River/Manning, DeBolt & District, Fairview Pioneer, Friedenstal Historical, Girouxville, Grande Prairie, Grizzley Prairie/Wanham, High Prairie, Kleskun Hills, LacCardinal, LaCrete, Mackenzie Crossroads/High Level, Native Cultural Arts, N.A. Railroad/McLennan, Peace River Centennial, Pouce Coupe, Sexsmith & District, South Peace Centennial, Spirit River Settlement, G. P. Regional College (new), \*Sir Alexander Mackenzie Historical Society/Peace River . Total - 21

- **Subscriptions paid, to March 6,  
for Year 2000 (since meeting \*)**

Ed Carlson, Helen Couillard, Marilyn Howard, Pauline Gervais, Alice Masee, Terry Paradis, Wendy Robinson, Marshall Rolling, Steve & Beth Tachet, Aurelia Vangrud, \*Margaret Mann. Total - 11.



### **Living in Lace (1)**

From every window a fabulous view  
Jack Frost has been busy,  
he must have brought his whole crew.

From the slightest of grasses  
To the heaviest of big branch,  
covered in thick coat, all over the ranch.

Gazing out in wonder at loveliest of sight  
I am cozy in my home,  
amazed at what happened over night.

Over coffee, lazy morning, just looking  
The trees, could they stay this way all winter:  
could they, could they, please.

*J.M.*