

U'MISTA CULTURAL CENTRE NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 1982



*U'masta
Culture
Centre
Newsletter
November 1982*

The Latest Word on THE FILM

During the week of November 22nd, Chuck Olin and Judy Hoffman will be returning to Alert Bay to complete additional shooting for the film. Chuck spent a week with us in August, talking to various people and meeting with a group of members, to get some idea of the direction we want the film to take.

While she's here, Judy will conduct another class in video recording techniques for interested members. She's a great teacher, so please let us know if you would like to join her class.

MEMBERSHIP

Our thanks to those who renewed their memberships -

Rita Alfred	Christina Cook
Margaret Lalear	Roy Cranmer
Peter Macnair	Janet Wasden
Bruce Alfred	Peggy Svanvik
Jay Kw. Gw. Powell	Phil Nuytten
Ethel Scow	Malia Southard
Elisabeth Weigold	Patsy Wilson
Svea Svanvik	Anna Hollbeck
Clara Marie Tervo	George Rasmussen
Helen Willie	Butch Leslie
Denise Cranmer	Lily Alfred
Charlene Alfred	Flora Cook

We also want to thank and to welcome our new members -

Yvonne Gesinghaus	Bernice Wilson
Jim Borrowman	Kay Bullock
Bill McKay	Elizabeth A. Campbell
Mabel Knox	Pat and Sandy Slobodian
Lilac Fehlauer	Betty M. Lindberg
Emily Baker	Harold Alfred
Frederic Grunfeld	Gloria Peters
Yvonne Dunlop	Jamie Gunther
Sharon Laughlin	Caroline Wesley
Catherine McNeill	Forbes Blyth
Emily Feffer	Ruth Cook
Chuck Olin	Verna Ambers

A special welcome to Caroline Wesley, who is now a member of the Skidegate Band, but is originally from Alert Bay. Her family (including other new members Kay Bullock and Catherine McNeill) is descended from Tlakwudkas (Joe Harris) a hereditary chief of the 'Nangis. The housefront design of the U'mista Cultural Centre is based on the original design of the traditional big house of Tlakwudkas.

Frederic Grunfeld, another new member, is a writer for CONNOISSEUR, a magazine published in New York. He visited the Centre in August and has written an article about us and the Kwakiutl Museum, which will appear in the January issue of the magazine. Mr. Grunfeld has the distinction of being the only member of the U'mista Cultural Society living in Spain.

FUND-RAISING

Buntu's Bake Sale was held on July 31, and realized \$358.00. Our thanks to members who supplied the delicious goodies, which sold out very quickly.

On October 31st, we operated a Bingo and made \$455.26. Thank you, Patsy, Donna, Denise, Davina, Tony and Lorraine for your help.

Speaking of raffles, as we were on Page 3, we are now selling tickets at \$1.00 each, with the following prizes:

- First: Blanket donated by Christine Nancarrow, valued at \$500.00.
- 2nd: Painted, round rattle by Fran Dick
- 3rd: Basket by Axu

The draw will be made on December 15th and tickets are available from T.D. Nelson, Patsy Wilson and Centre staff. Get your tickets soon - they're going fast!

While some bigger museums may look on our fund-raising efforts as small, mickey mouse activities, these are ways of involving our members and the fact is, we live in a small community, in which it is not possible to raise thousands of dollars at any one time. The smaller amounts we do manage to raise, begin to add up and help to pay for paper and postage, among other things.

OUR SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Our official opening was held on November 1, 1980 - a truly memorable day and a great beginning for us. Many of us still remember the joy, the sadness, but most of all, the tremendous feeling of pride we all felt that day.

During the past two years, we have accomplished many things we can be proud of, among them, the completion of our language book series, which stands as a model for other Indian groups across Canada, because no one had ever produced such material before. We will complete our second film soon, which will be as good, if not better than our first. Our yearly calendar is unique. The letters and articles which have been written about us demonstrate that visitors are very impressed with what we have to offer. Students, teachers, artists use our archives, library and collections for study, in increasing numbers.

So, how can we become even better in the future? Perhaps members should be reminded of the objects of the Society, as stated in our constitution:

- a) to collect, preserve and display Native artifacts of cultural, artistic and historical value to the Kwagu'it people,
- b) to promote and foster carving, dancing, ceremonials and other cultural and artistic activities engaged in by the Kwagu'it people,
- c) to collect, record and make available information and records relating to the language and history of the Kwagu'it people for the use of the Kwagu'it people,

