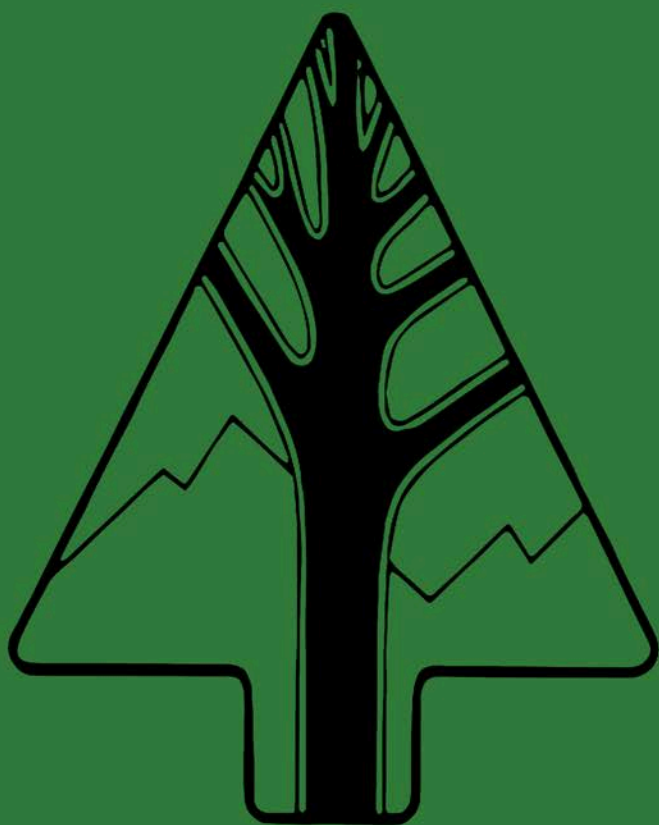


*The  
Bragg Creek  
Artisans*



*Members Booklet*



# A HISTORY

By Joan Baumer 



In a crook of the Elbow River, where Bragg Creek ends its tumble down Moose Mountain and through the Foothills, the hamlet that takes its name from the creek, nestles. Spectacular Kananaskis Country is minutes away. The immutable jagged profile of the Rockies, colours ever-changing, defines the western horizon. Over 40 years ago, the region, beyond the few houses clustered along the river, was mostly wilderness and ranching country. Such an idyllic spot was bound to attract artists. The Sheep Creek Weavers were active further south, and potters and painters were already being drawn to its beauty and freedom.

In the 1970s, Bragg Creek had become a focal point for artists and crafts people from many fields of endeavour. By 1976, some saw advantages of consolidating the loose assembly in a more formal way. Such an organization could provide a forum to exchange ideas and inspiration. It could seek recognition at the government level, making it eligible for grants to support teaching programs. It could provide links to the larger artistic community beyond.

A nucleus of like-minded individuals, consisting of Kim Agnew, Sig Bradshaw, Ursula Beckedorf, Doug Grant, Mary Neufeld, and Bob Treacy met in February of 1977. Doug Grant, a lawyer, greatly helped in the details of structuring the fledgling group. A formal meeting was held on March 29, 1977 and initial executive installed: President Sig Bradshaw, Vice President Ernie Stapleford, Secretary Bob Treacy, Treasurer Rich Majury. Their interests and those of the other founders, embraced painting and drawing, photography, ceramics, stained glass, leatherwork and fibre art (weaving, needlework, knitting). Thus the variety that would continue to characterize the group was already represented. Indeed, the Bragg Creek Artisans Association, as it came to be called, has always been stimulating and rewarding — eclectic in scope, eager to learn, willing to share knowledge and experience.



The heady early days were times of discovery: of the fellowship with other creative people, of the opportunities opening for artists in Alberta, and of the distinction and dedication of talent centred in the area. A dance was held in the fall of that first year, and for several years thereafter the dances were an annual event in the community.

They were gala affairs - costume balls and gourmet feasts, drawing on the members for their lavish and creative settings. As the organization grew, the direction of its energies shifted and the dances disappeared.

That inaugural year, one further dimension seemed logical. The first annual Fall Exhibition and Sale was held in the old (Pioneer) Community Hall November 19 and 20, 1977, with an opening night November 18 to which members of the community and notables from the arts, media and government were invited. Successful from the start, the Sale has gained an impressive reputation as a mecca for shoppers anxious to acquire quality items at reasonable prices. Its festive Preview for invited guests and its imaginative displays and features have set it apart and made it more than just a sale.

The Sale and the Artisans have continued to survive the birth and growth pangs. In its present role, separated from the regular activities but very much a part of the whole, the Sale is a valuable asset as a source of recognition, as a creative impetus, and of course, financially.



The general membership has more than quadrupled since its beginning. The area from which members are accepted has expanded from Bragg Creek and environs to include neighbouring communities. The Bragg Creek Artisans Association remains an important and vital focus for the artistic community as a whole.



## Memberships

Memberships are due and payable as of the first of January.

Adult \$20.00 (18-55 years of age)

Family \$25.00 (includes spouse & children)

Senior \$10.00 (over 55)

Address: Box 33, Bragg Creek, Alberta T0L 0K0.

Website: [www.braggcreekartisans.com](http://www.braggcreekartisans.com)

Email: [braggcreekartisans@braggcreekartisans.com](mailto:braggcreekartisans@braggcreekartisans.com)

Artisan Members are expected to do the following:

- a) serve on at least one committee each year,
- b) attend at least two meetings each year,
- c) generally help with the work of the organization,
- d) should be a current member of the Bragg Creek Community Association.

Ten regular meetings a year are planned, consisting of a short business meeting followed by hands-on demonstrations, films, speakers, and presentations by members, with the purpose of providing enjoyment and education. Day to day business will be handled through Executive meetings at which members with a concern are welcome to attend. There will be an Annual General meeting, for year end business, election of Officers, etc. at the scheduled December meeting. As well as these meetings, there will be separate sales meetings as deemed necessary by the sale committee to organize and run the sale. The Artisan group as a whole will provide the umbrella structure and resources for both areas.

Membership will be closed for the Christmas Sale on July 1.



## Special Events & Programs

Bragg Creek Artisans: The Artisans meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Bragg Creek Centre. A formal executive meeting takes place at 6:00pm to review last month's minutes and also have the financial report given; any members are welcome to attend. New business or any other concerns members may have at the beginning of the meeting is discussed.

Members are also encouraged to bring their current works of art or craft to show to the group. Hands-on activity programs to learn a new technique is then offered which varies from month to month. Members are notified in advance of the meeting either by phone or by email as to what the program will be at the next meeting. The Artisans break for the summer months of July and August.

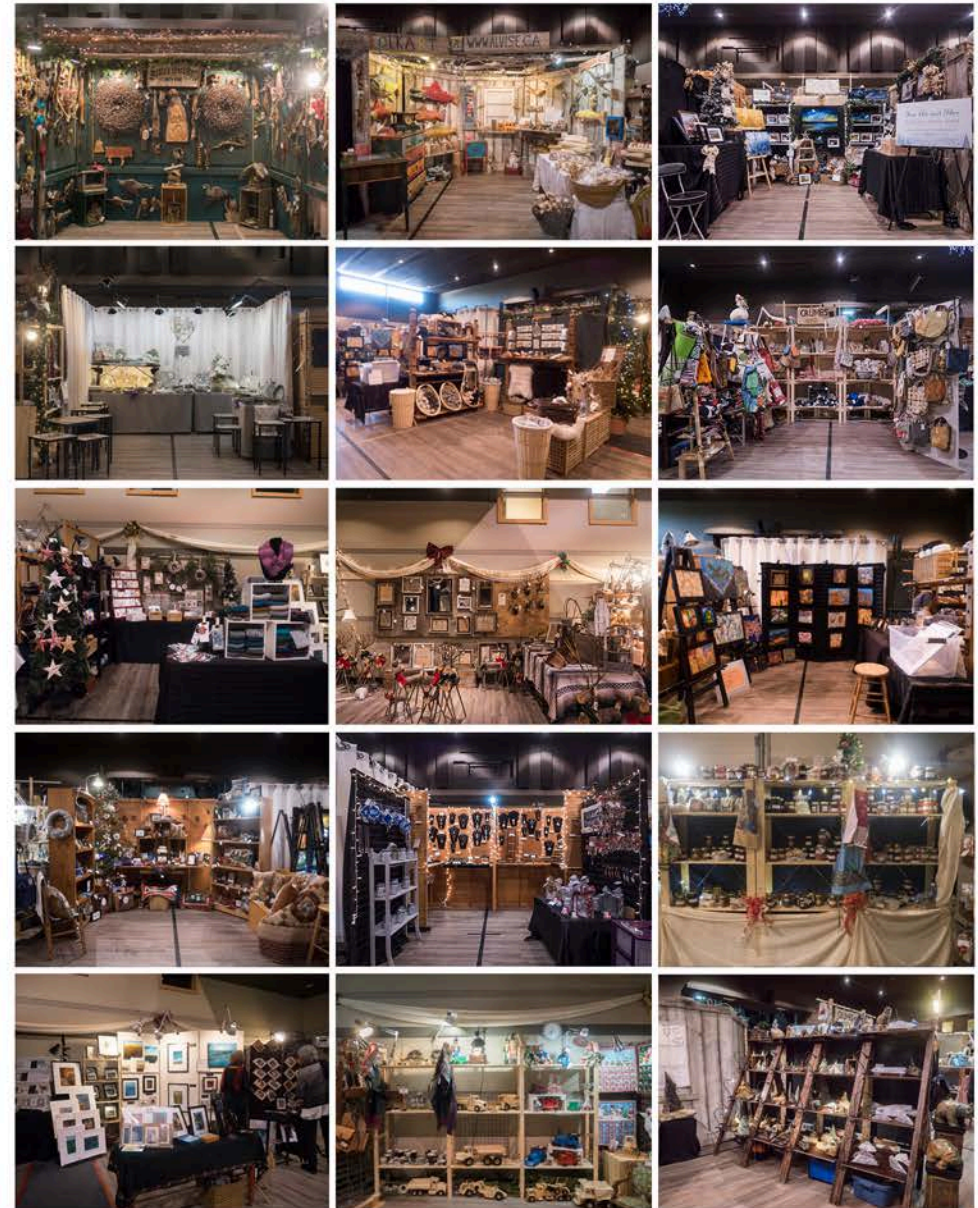
The Mural is located in the front foyer of the Bragg Creek Centre  
"Reflections of our Home"

In Memory of the Pioneer Hall and Celebrating the Spirit of the Community  
25th Anniversary Project created 2003 — 2005 by The Bragg Creek Artisans



## Sales & Exhibitions

Annual Sale: Our annual sale is held in November. The Friday evening before features a preview and sale of work for Artisan members and guests. Our member's talents cover all disciplines of fine arts and crafts.



## Christmas Sale

In September planning begins for the event. As usual, there will be a General Store, a Soup Kitchen, a Pantry, Private Booths, and the Gallery for the Painter's Group. All participants in the Sale are required to help with the set up, running of, and cleanup of the Sale.

We are excited and enthusiastic about the Sale and convinced it will be another success, but it cannot be done without the assistance of every participant.

The sale acts as a celebration of the talent within the group. We come together to display and show what we have created. It is inspiring that our work is displayed in the homes of people being enjoyed.

There is a lot of competition out there at that time of year. We have to present a unique event to the public. We certainly have the talent and the ability to do this. We have the ability to draw large crowds through our advertising program, provided we have the product to support our claims. It is the Annual Christmas Sale that brings us all together with a common cause.



## BRAGG CREEK ARTISANS "Arts and Crafts Organization"

### Article 1.

The name of this organization shall be "Bragg Creek Artisans".

### Article 2.

Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be to foster and encourage the development of Arts and Crafts among the members of the Bragg Creek community. This shall be accomplished through the formation of groups of persons having common interests who will work together, encouraging and helping each other, and through the organization of exhibitions and sales of the works of the members.

### Article 3.

#### Section a) Membership:

The Bragg Creek Artisans shall be an autonomous organization which will operate out of the Bragg Creek Community Association. Therefore, in order to become a member of the organization, a person should be a current member of the Bragg Creek Community Association. In addition, individuals must qualify under at least one of the requirements listed below:

- i. have a Bragg Creek, Redwood Meadows, Millarville or Priddis area mailing address,
- ii. reside in Bragg Creek, Redwood Meadows, Millarville or Priddis area,
- iii. own property in Bragg Creek, Redwood Meadows, Millarville or Priddis area.

Section b) Once a membership is obtained, for the purpose of renewal it must be kept active by:

- i. attending two meetings a year,
- ii. participation in the study groups or on committees,
- iii. attending workshops.



## Bylaws (Continued)



Section c) If membership lapses it may be reinstated at the discretion of the Executive.

Section d) Membership will not be denied an active member regardless of where he or she moves.

Section e) To participate in sales, Artisans must have been members prior to July first of the current year.

Section f) No current member's status will be changed by the implementation of these Bylaws.

Article 4. Membership Dues: Upon joining the organization and at the beginning of each fiscal year, members will be asked the following dues:

Adult (18-55 years) \$20.00

Family (spouse & minor children \$25.00

Senior (over 55 years) \$10.00.

Article 5. Executive:

Section a) The Executive of this organization will be made up of the following Officers:

President

Past President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Directors (one Director of each Craft and Art group).

Section b) Each Officer will be elected for a term of one year and may be re-elected for not more than two additional terms.

Section c) In the event that the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director can no longer serve, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve for the balance of the term.

Section d) Elections shall be held once each year, in December. Voting, accomplished by a show of hands, shall take place at the Annual General Meeting of the Membership.



## Bylaws (Continued)



Section e) Prior to the election of new Officers, the Executive shall appoint a nomination committee of three to draw up a slate of Officers for the coming year. This shall be supplemented by the nominations from the floor during the Annual General Meeting held to elect the new Executive.

Section f) The duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

i) The President: The total program of the organization is the President's responsibility. The specific duties are:

- 1) to attend and preside at all executive and general meetings and event sponsored by the organization during the tenure of office,
- 2) to call regular Executive meetings to discuss business which can be handled by the Executive
- 3) to coordinate the work of the Executive and the committees so that the organization will operate smoothly.

ii) The Vice President:

- 1) to take over the President's duties temporarily when the President is unable to attend a meeting,
- 2) to cooperate with and help the President, sharing the responsibility

iii) The Secretary:

- 1) to take the minutes of each meeting,
- 2) to handle all the correspondence of the organization.

iv) The Treasurer:

- 1) to handle the finances and banking of the organization,
- 2) to submit financial statements at each Executive meeting and a year-end statement at the year-end General meeting,
- 3) to pay all bills of the organization using cheques signed by two of these three Officers: President, Vice President or Treasurer.

v) The Directors:

- 1) to function as the leaders of the groups they represent,
- 2) to be liaisons between their groups and the Executive.



# Bylaws (Continued)



## Meetings:

1) Meetings of the Executive shall be held as often as the Executive deems necessary. There shall be at least one General meeting of the Membership each year.

## Quorum:

1) A minimum of four members will be considered a quorum for the regular Executive meetings.

2) Those present at a general meeting will be considered a quorum provided the meeting and the subjects to be voted on have been properly advertised two weeks in advance.

## Amendments:

1) The bylaws may be amended by advertising the changes to be made to the general membership two weeks in advance. A simple majority vote will be sufficient to effect the advertised changes.

## Parliamentary Rules:

1) This organization shall be governed by the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, revised in all cases where they are applicable.

