



Welcome Mat – Rebecca MacKellar, left, vice-president of the Prince Edward Arts and Crafts Association, and Carol Quinn, president, put out the welcome mat for new members and guests.

PEC Arts and Crafts Association celebrates 31 years of socializing

By John Chambers
Gazette Staff

For 30 great years the Prince Edward County Art and Craft Association has been providing local residents with a fun social, and educational, experience once a month making various crafts.

Now in this, their 31 year, the Association is looking for and welcoming new members to their monthly meetings.

"We really try to encourage women to become involved with the group," said President Carol Quinn. "Each month we have a dif-

ferent craft and teacher or instructor – it's really a beginners class so people don't need to have the experience in order to participate."

Currently the group has about 30 members, and meet the last Monday of every month. The meetings are held in Benson Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m., except for January and February when the group meets at 1 p.m. With only a \$3 annual membership fee, the association tries, and succeeds, at keeping costs to a minimum to allow as many people as possible to participate.

"You don't have to be an expert craftsperson," explained Rebecca MacKellar, Vice President of the Association. "We like to offer everybody a fun, and different, social experience, that they might not otherwise get."

"We're not making tables and chairs here, we're making hand crafts, and we try and purchase the material in bulk orders so as to keep the costs to an absolute minimum," Quinn continued.

Enjoying an abundance of success during their first 30 years, Quinn and MacKellar suggested they would

love to see some new members, of any age, become involved in the association.

"It really is a tremendous social activity," stated MacKellar. "We provide snacks and refreshments at each meeting, and the outing really gives people a chance to try something new and talk with different people."

"There are many things we do that don't cost anything, and some things that do cost money cost very little," reiterated Quinn. "This is meant to be fun, and with the way the economy is we are starting to look at ways to make these sorts of activities accessible to everyone."

Already planned for the spring is a picnic and a tour of the County's many local attractions.

"We would love to see some new members come out and I think anyone who tries this will really enjoy themselves and learn something new in the process," said Quinn.

Anyone who is interested in joining the group, or attending one of the meetings is welcome to attend the Prince Edward County Art and Craft Associations next meeting on September 29 at Benson Hall at 7:30 p.m.

White Rose planning for May start

White Rose Crafts and Nursery Sales Limited has begun green house construction on their 130 acre site at Huyck's Point in Hillier township.

"We hope to start operations the second week of May, with about 30 employees," said Farm Manager John Dempster.

The facility's initial construction consists of two acres of greenhouses. This fall another two acres of greenhouses will be built and again next spring and

fall for a total eight acres of heated greenhouse space, as well as about 50 cold frames. The facility will employ about 150 staff by fall 1996.

"This is very labour intensive work, as most of our supply will be perennials. We will also be growing flowering shrubs to supply all of our 34 stores in Ontario and Quebec," said Dempster.

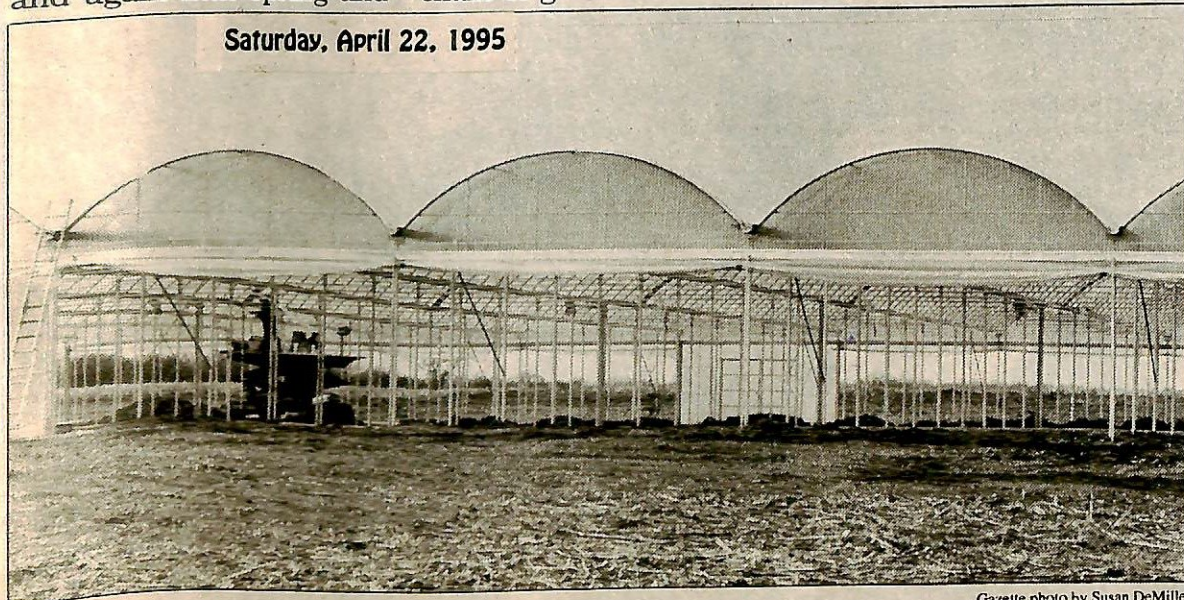
The new greenhouses and farm will be growing plants to supply the White Rose chain of garden stores, and

there is no retail planned for the county.

"We will be so busy what we are doing have time for any soon as a shipment and off to the store success of restocking said Dempster.

There will be a farm from the main office at our Sandoon farm, located in Goodwood Ontario, coming to the new facility to train new staff and begin operations.

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Gazette photo by Susan DeMille

White Rose, Canada's largest retailer of nursery and craft products have begun development on the first phase on their property at Huyck's Point Road. The company is planning to begin operations in mid-May.