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A C MOORE ARTS & CRAFTS INC
Form 11-K
June 30, 2003

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

/x/ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002

or

/ / TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 000-23157

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of
the issuer named below:

A. C. MOORE ARTS & CRAFTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of
its principal executive office:

A. C. MOORE ARTS & CRAFTS, INC.
500 University Court
Blackwood, NJ 08012

A. C. MOORE ARTS & CRAFTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

In 1999, A. C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. (the "Employer" or the "Company")
established the A. C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"). The
name of the issuer of the securities held pursuant to the Plan and the address
of its principal executive office is A. C. Moore Arts & Craft, Inc., 500

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University Court, Blackwood, NJ 08012.

Contributions Under the Plan. Employees may elect to contribute up to 20 percent of their annual compensation, not to exceed \$11,000 for 2002. The Company made a matching contribution of 25 percent of the first 6 percent of the employee compensation contributed as an elective deferral subject to a maximum of \$1,500 for 2002.

Administration of the Plan. An officer of the Company at its principal executive office administers the Plan. Certain administrative functions may be delegated to employees of the Company. Officers and employees do not receive compensation from the Plan.

Custodian of Investments. The assets of the Plan are held in trust and managed by the Plan's trustee Frontier Trust Company. BISYS Plan Services provides record keeping services for the Plan's trustee.

Reports to Participating Employees: Each participant in the Plan receives quarterly statements of their accounts each plan year.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the administrator has duly caused this annual report to be signed on behalf of the Plan by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

A. C. MOORE ARTS & CRAFTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

Date: June 27, 2003

By: LORI LUCENTE-MCKEAGE
Lori Lucente-McKeage
Administrator

A.C. MOORE
ARTS & CRAFTS, INC.
401(k) PLAN

Financial Statements

December 31, 2002

A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan
December 31, 2002

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Trustees

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan
Blackwood, New Jersey

We were engaged to audit the financial statements and supplemental schedule of the A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and for the years then ended as listed in the accompanying table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and supplemental schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and supplemental schedule are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and supplemental schedule referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. 401(k) Plan as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2002, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Stockton Bates, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 21, 2003

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan

Statement Of Net Assets Available For Benefits

December 31:	2002	2001

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ASSETS:

Cash	\$ 23,025	\$ 1,483
Investments, at fair value:		
Corporate stocks - common	2,108,410	2,043,514
Common/collective trusts	699,079	508,714
Registered investment companies	2,690,934	2,443,226
Participant loans	213,203	94,427
Total investments	5,711,626	5,089,881
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	3,983	14,935
Employees' contributions	25,395	84,801
	29,378	99,736
Total assets	5,764,029	5,191,100

LIABILITIES

	-	-
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$5,764,029	\$5,191,100

See Accompanying Notes

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan

Statement Of Changes In Net Assets Available For Benefits

Year Ended December 31, 2002:

ADDITIONS:

Additions to net assets attributable to:

Investment income:

Net depreciation in fair value of investments (See Note 4)	(\$1,067,441)
Interest and dividends	88,765

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	(978,676)
Contributions:	
Employer	273,192
Participants	1,802,611
	2,075,803
Total additions	1,097,127

DEDUCTIONS:

Deductions from net assets attributed to:	
Benefits paid to participants	523,416
Administrative expenses	782
Total deductions	524,198
Net increase	572,929

NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:

Beginning of year	5,191,100
End of year	\$5,764,029

See Accompanying Notes

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan

Notes To Financial Statements
December 31, 2002

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN:

The following description of the A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. 401(k) Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

The A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the Plan) was established in 1999 by A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. (the Company) to provide for retirement income and financial protection in the event of death or retirement of covered employees and to provide for the financial protection and compensation of employees in the event of permanent disability. The Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement

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Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Substantially all administrative expenses are paid directly by the Company.

All employees of the employer and participating affiliates who are at least 21 years of age and have completed 1/4 year of service are eligible to participate in this Plan, except non-resident aliens, and employees who are members of a union who bargained separately for retirement benefits during negotiations. Employees will become a participant in the Plan on the entry date coincident with or next following the date they meet the participation requirements. The entry dates for the Plan are the first day of each month.

Employees may elect to contribute up to 20 percent of their annual compensation, not to exceed \$11,000 for 2002. The Company made a matching contribution of 25 percent of the first 6 percent of the employee compensation contributed as an elective deferral subject to a maximum of \$1,500 for 2002.

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's and employer's contribution and related plan earnings, transfer contributions and rollovers. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's account.

BISYS Plan Services provides record keeping services for the Plan's Trustee. During 2001, the Plan changed trustees from Merrill Lynch Trust Service to Frontier Trust Company, FSB. The employees' and employer's contributions were deposited in a fund held by the Trustee during the year.

Participants may direct the investment of their account balances among alternative investment funds provided under the Plan.

Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions and any transfers or rollovers plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the remainder of their accounts is based on years of continuous service. A participant is 100 percent vested after 3 years of credited service.

On termination of service, the normal form of payment to a participant is a lump sum. An optional form of payment is installments payable in cash or in kind, or part cash and part in kind over a period not to exceed the participant's expected lifetime, or the joint future lifetime of the participant and spouse.

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan

Notes To Financial Statements
December 31, 2002

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2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Basis of Accounting:

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Valuation of Investments:

The Plan's investments at December 31, 2002 consist of shares in pooled investment funds and common stock of A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc. (plan sponsor) held and managed by Frontier Trust Company, FSB. Security transactions in these funds and common stock are recorded on a trade date basis. The value of the funds and common stock fluctuate to reflect the fair market values of the securities held in these funds.

Use of Estimates:

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported revenues and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Forfeitures:

Employer contributions for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001 were reduced by \$8,716 and \$15,451, respectively, from forfeited nonvested accounts. At December 31, 2002 forfeited nonvested accounts totaled \$26,442.

Loans:

Loans are available to all participants in the Plan on a uniform and nondiscriminatory basis. Loans must bear a reasonable rate of interest and be adequately secured. A participant may borrow any amount up to 50% of their vested account balance, subject to a maximum of \$50,000 minus their highest outstanding loan amount during the prior twelve months. Repayment of a loan must be made at least quarterly, on an after-tax basis, in level payments of principal and interest, and repaid within five years, except for the purchase of a primary residence.

3. TAX STATUS:

The Plan has not yet received a determination letter. However, the plan's administrator and advisors believe that the plan and trust are currently designed and are operating in compliance with the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, they believe that the plan was qualified and the related trust was tax exempt as of the financial statement date.

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Notes To Financial Statements December 31, 2002

4. INVESTMENTS:

Investments that represents 5% or more of fair value of the Plan's net assets are as follows:

December 31:	200
-----	-----
A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.	\$2,108
ML Retirement Preservation Trust	682
GM ML Bond Fund Intermediate Term Class A	565
Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Fund	617
ML Basic Value Fund Class A	483
ML Basic Value Fund Class D	
State Street Research Aurora Fund	585
ML Core Bond Fund Inter Term Class D	
ML S&P 500 Index Fund Class A	

During 2002, the Plan's investments (including gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year) depreciated in value by (\$1,067,441) as follows:

Registered investment companies	(\$631
Common stock	(435
-----	-----
	(\$1,067
=====	=====

5. PLAN TERMINATION:

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event the Plan is terminated, participants will become 100 percent vested in their accounts.

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
401(k) Plan

Notes To Financial Statements

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December 31, 2002

6. RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500:

A reconciliation of net assets available for benefits as reported on the financial statements to that reported on the Form 5500 follows:

December 31:	2
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$5,
Receivable employer contributions	
Receivable employees' contributions	
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS, PER FORM 5500	\$5,

A reconciliation of net increase in net assets available for benefits as reported on the financial statements to that reported on Form 5500 follows:

Year Ended December 31, 2002:	
Net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$
Difference in employer contributions	
Difference in employees' contributions	
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS, PER FORM 5500	\$

The above differences are attributable to the financial statements being reported on the accrual basis of accounting, while certain items on Form 5500 are being reported on the cash basis, namely contributions. In addition, unrealized appreciation (depreciation) and dividend income are combined for Form 5500 reporting purposes.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.
 401(k) Plan
 Plan 001 EI# 22-3527763
 Attached to Form 5500, Schedule H, Part IV, (i)

Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes At End of Year

December 31, 2002:

(a)	(b)	Par Va Unit
Identity of Issue		
(c) Description of Investment		
Common Stock:		
A.C. Moore Arts & Crafts, Inc.		165,8
Common/Collective Trusts:		
ML Retirement Preservation Trust		682,3
GM ML Retirement Preservation Trust		16,7

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Registered Investment Companies:

ML International Equity Fund Class A	21,4
GM ML Basic Value Fund Class A	3
GM ML Bond Fund Intermediate Term Class A	47,8
GM ML International Equity Fund Class A	3
Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Fund	66,8
ML Basic Value Fund Class A	20,7
ML S&P 500 Index Fund Class C	20,3
PIMCO Innovation Fund Class A	6,0
State Street Research Aurora Fund	22,7

Participant Loans (71 loans at interest ranging from 4.75% to 10.5%):

Loan Fund

TOTAL
