

March 2011

WHATCOM WEAVER'S GUILD

Promoting community interest and education in textiles, and communication among fiber artist, with an emphasis on weaving

Regular Meetings:

September through June, 2nd Wednesday of the month

6:30pm- -Social time

7:00pm- -Short business meeting, Show & Tell,

7:30pm- - Scheduled program

St. James Presbyterian Church (Westside, lower level)

910-14th Street, Bellingham, WA. 98225

MARCH MEETING:

Wednesday, March 9th, 2011

6:30pm

MARCH PROGRAM: MADELYN VAN DER HOOGT, HANDWOVEN EDITOR

Madelyn van der Hoogt, renowned hand-weaving teacher and editor, will present our program on March 9.

Madelyn will discuss hand-weaving today: a look at who we are, where we've been, and where we're going.

Madelyn became editor of Prairie Wool Companion in 1986, of Weaver's magazine in 1988, and Handwoven magazine in 1999. She is author of The Complete Book of Drafting and editor of The Best of Weaver's series. She recently produced a video, Warping your Loom. Madelyn has lectured and taught workshops in a wide range of weave structures and techniques for over 25 years throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia. She is the founder and principle instructor at the Weavers' School in Coupeville, WA. Of her four major life-long activities – weaving, teaching, writing, and editing – she does not know which she loves most.

Message from the President:

For those of you who missed the financial report at the last meeting, I will summarize the information. We are in good shape with savings - \$10,000 in the bank. This was also the amount in 2005 and since then we have purchased a power point projector, several display units and racks for the annual sale and have had great library acquisitions and programs for our meetings.

Income is down and was only from membership dues last year. Investment interest is drastically reduced and Fibers and Beyond did not realize a profit for the Guild last year

(but still very successful for the members). On the expenses side, rent has increased from \$150 to \$500 annually, insurance from \$175 to \$350, our storage locker from \$500 to \$730, program speakers are charging more, as well as other increases.

As slim as we tried to trim the budget, we will have a \$1500 deficit over this next year.

There will be no increases in membership dues or Fibers and Beyond fees this year but will likely be necessary next January. Other guilds are apparently facing a similar picture and increasing dues accordingly.

Library Orientation: There will be a brief tour of our Library for new members (or anyone else) at the March 9 member meeting. Meet with Donna at 6:30 in our usual meeting room. A complete listing of our library holdings and equipment for rent or loan is on our website.

Raffle: Barbara Snow is initiating a raffle draw at the March meeting. Donated items will be on display, perhaps several small items in a basket. For those who wish to participate, place an amount in a jar (.25 or .50 - Barbara will let us know) and your name on a slip of paper. There will be one draw after the break. Proceed go towards programs.

WWG 2010-2011 Programs

Programs for the rest of the year

Apr. 13: Barbara Heller, tapestry artist

May 11: Anita Mayer, noted clothing artist, speaking on "The Creative Journey"

June 8: Stash sale

***NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Next Board Meeting:

Hi, everyone. I'm announcing the next board meeting in the newsletter as **April 20th**. If anyone feels that we should have one in March, please let me know (we can also change this later if anything comes up).

Also, I'll have the Slate of Officers from the nomination committee listed in the April newsletter in preparation for the May election. We are still needing a Librarian. Let us know if you have any ideas. I'll send the list to all of you as soon as it is complete.

Thanks

Donna

***THE DAYTIME WEAVERS:**

Day-weavers are now meeting at the Roeder Home on the first Thursday of each month @ 10:30am.

Daytime Weavers will meet Thursday, March 3rd at 10:30 a.m. at the Roeder Home. Bring a sack lunch, a project to work on and show-and-tell if you have any. This group is open to all and you don't have to be a guild member so bring a friend or two. Questions? Call Joan Cunningham 733-8820.

FIBERS & BEYOND 2011 News

Please mark your calendars with the sale dates & location:

October 14, 6 – 9 p.m. And October 15, 10 – 4 p.m.

at Fox Hall behind the Hampton Inn, Bellingham.

Through the winter months, the acceptance committee has been gathering information from other guilds about standards for their sale items. Our guild standards, most recently updated in 2009, can be found online at: http://www.whatcomweaversguild.org/acceptance_criteria_for_ent.html If you would like to offer input to the acceptance committee, please email your suggestions to: Dee Dee O'Connor – doinkness@yahoo.com and Barbara Snow – snowdyer@comcast.net We hope to have the revised standards set and on our website by April, so please submit your comments ASAP. Thanks!

Our goal in clarifying the acceptance criteria is to avoid disappointments the day of the sale, with items that are deemed inappropriate for our venue. That is upsetting on both sides of the table. We would also like to invite any members who are making new creations (which have previously not been in the sale), to bring them to the regular meetings in May, June and September, at the social hour (6:30 p.m.). Also, any new weavers who have not participated in the sale previously should bring a few items to show. There will be a panel of experienced weavers & guild members to take a look at the items and make any determinations or offer suggestions that would allow them to be accepted for the sale. We want to encourage creativity & maintain the high quality our customers have come to expect.

Last year, we were short about \$200 in covering the expenses for the sale. In looking at past F & B sales, the figures show that our highest year was 2005, with a decline since then. Last year, we had significantly fewer items, and thus lower sales in dollars. We can also credit the recession & decreased publicity. Your F & B committee would like to encourage all of you to participate in the sale. If you are weaving towels, put on a longer warp & add a couple for the sale. Same with scarves, rugs or whatever you're crafting. This is our venue – and a very economical one at that. So come, be part of the sale, and with that, consider what you will be able to offer in help the day of the sale. This is your sale!

Design Committee news.....

The theme for F and B 2011 will be "Whatcom Weavers-- A 40th Anniversary Celebration". We will transform Fox Hall into a weaving studio to carry out this theme,

using warping boards, spinning wheels, benches, spool racks, quilt racks, table looms, etc. found in all of our weaving studios. We will also have a guild weaving "history" section, where we will display your woven items (garments, scarves, blankets, rugs, etc.) made in the past 40 years, hopefully things from each decade. Please be thinking now about what props and woven items you can contribute. In addition, we will expand on last year's Art Gallery to create a more inclusive Boutique Art Gallery. We will display artistic and finely crafted items which can be for sale or not, to showcase our members special talents.

So, please keep your shuttles flying and hands creating.. How about making something new this year, or using some lively colors from the 2011 color forecasts?

Please contact Jennie Jimmerson, Donna Hunter, Cathy Thompson, or Jane Coombs with your suggestions or questions.

WORKSHOPS

Learning Curve

Braiding with Linda Dinus

WHAT: The emphasis for this workshop will be on braids – these can be used to finish handwoven warps, to use as ties, eye-glass strings, curtain tie-backs, button loops, trims for bags, books, clothing, etc. We will learn how to make ties or cords for various projects. An introduction to slentre braiding is included. This is a type of braiding of Medieval Danish origin. Linda will bring examples of the braiding she will teach to the March meeting.

WHEN: Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 1:00 – 4:00pm

WHERE: The Community Room, Bellingham Food Coop, Cordata branch.

WHAT TO BRING: Scissors, paper and pencil, clipboard

COST = \$15.00

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED please send your cheque for \$15 directly to Linda Dinus by March 26th. Her address is 2490 Goshen Rd., B'ham, 98226.

Or you can sign up at the March 9th guild meeting.

Learning Curve Workshops:

Donna Hunter is holding 3 different felting workshops on the following Tuesdays:

March 1 - felted hat

March 8 - felted purse

March 15 - felted scarf

Location: Donna's studio near Blaine. She will send directions.

Time: 10 am to 2 pm

Bring: a sack lunch. All equipment and materials are supplied.

Cost: \$25 for first time and \$15 if you have made the same item before.

If you prefer other times, let her know as she holds classes frequently.

OUTREACH /COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Walk-in weaving and spinning

The guild's PROGRAM AT THE ROEDER HOME to provide walk-in weaving and spinning opportunities has been a rewarding experience for guild members and helpful for people who have attended.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION-

Hi Everyone

There is now a Ravelry.com group for the Whatcom Weavers Guild. All you need to do is to go to

<http://www.ravelry.com>

Click on groups and search for Whatcom Weavers Guild. Once there, they click on "join this group". If you're not on Ravelry yet, it's easy to join.

Thanks,
Dee Dee

Generous yarn and library donations

The guild recently received a generous donation of yarn, a warping board and weaving magazines from Lee Taylor. Lee has visited several of our guild meetings over the past year, and you may have met him. He and his wife Marilyn are moving to Keene, NH in the spring. To lighten their load, they donated about a dozen boxes of yarn, a warping board, and three boxes of weaving magazines.

Lee himself was a weaver when he lived back east. When he moved to the west coast, his mother took an interest in the loom he had left behind and became an enthusiastic weaver. She lived near Harrisville, so she accumulated quite a stash. When she moved west, the yarns came along with her.

The warping board is now in one of our storage cubicles and available for loan to members. The weaving magazines will soon be cataloged and made available in the guild library. The yarns will be sold at the guild's stash sale in June with the proceeds going to the guild.

Many thanks to Lee, and best wishes to him and Marilyn in their move east!

Mission Mill Museum in Salem

by Toby Smith

The biennial conference of the Association of North West Handweavers Guilds (ANWG) will be held in Salem, Oregon this year. If you are going, I recommend a visit to the Mission Mill Museum. This weaving mill, which closed in 1962 was owned by a family related to the Pendleton Mill folks. The Mission Mill was a major force in its heyday with one-fifth of the non-farming population working there. The Museum has several buildings open to viewing: the great weaving mill itself, a machine shop, a church, and some 19th century homes. I was struck by the plethora of handmade textile items in the homes. While this would have been normal for 19th century houses, it is often hard for museums to manage this kind of detail, as everyday items such as curtains, rugs, quilts, tea towels, table cloths, tea cozies etc. have often not survived because of their constant use and because of their domestic status (not many tea towel and pot holder museums around, as opposed to, say, war museums). But these modest homes are cozy exactly because of these domestic items. The handmade quilt sewn out of the worn scraps of old clothing, the woven lace curtains of simple white cotton, the braided rag rug: all these things along with the wooden furniture and the cast iron stove contribute to an atmosphere of homemaking in the true sense of the word. It is for good reason that we have come to use the term Homemaker instead of "housewife". The making of a home is not the construction of a house. One is not the wife of the house, but the maker of the home. Women have traditionally done this invisible but powerful work. We know who built the house and what the house owner did for living, but I doubt if it is known who braided the run or crocheted the dish rag. This is women's history and although feminist historians have contributed greatly to historiography as an academic practice, they have not for the most part had an interest in elevating craft. So it is good to see this attention to detail in the mill museum and we are the very visitors to notice. The grounds are beautifully kept, from tidy gardens to sparkling white curtains. There is a great collection of historical coverlets and some lovely furniture. As well, there are many displays of apparatus for the mill such as picker and blending equipment. The mill wove new wool fabric but it also recycled old woollen clothing, shredding it and spinning it into new yarn. The dyeing process is also explained and reminds us of just how toxic the textile industry was and continues to be in many parts of the world. The big mill itself is very fascinating. Every part of the cloth production process is presented: picking, carding, spinning, weaving, fulling, napping, and even fixing. Here is everything we hand weavers know, only supersized, mechanized, and industrialized. There are a couple of hand looms set up with items being woven, which illustrates well the giant gap between hand and machine cloth production. Looking at the scale of the factory made me realize how many people were put out of work when the mill closed down. This must have been devastating for the whole community. It also reminds us that this wasn't very long ago, and I do hope there has been an oral history project to collect the stories of the people who worked there. The Museum is a working one and is very interesting throughout, so go see it. It is located at 1313 Mill St. in Salem. Their website is www.missionmill.org.

Check out the GUILDS'S BLOG

If you like to surf the web from time to time, be sure to check out the guild's blog at www.whatcomweavers.blogspot.com. Julie Barnes got this going about a year ago, and we've used it primarily to describe official guild happenings – programs at meetings and workshops. But is open to any guild members who want to post fiber-related cool stuff that would be of interest to other members. So your latest project, a small mini-workshop or a gathering of the Daytime Weavers would all be great things to post and let everyone share in what's going on. Be sure to take some photos!

If you need help getting started, contact me or Julie (and I'm a novice, Julie's the pro).

While you're surfing, you might also have a look at the Spindrifter's blog at www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com, organized by the local spinners guild.

Thanks.

Sheri Ward, 961-4956, sheriward@clearwire.net.

***WWG BUSINESS:**

Your renewal now – at the very reasonable cost of \$20 – will support the guild's existence and will ensure that you remain an active member of Whatcom Weavers Guild. Only paid members will be listed in the latest directory, will continue to receive the newsletter, and are eligible to participate in Fibers & Beyond and to attend the excellent line-up of programs we have planned for 2011.

RENEW NOW – YOUR GUILD NEEDS YOU!!

From the Treasurer:

Membership Dues are Past-Due! Pay your \$20 dues now and support your Guild all year long! Seventy-five Guild members have renewed their memberships for 2011 – which means that at least 25 of you have not yet renewed your membership. The Guild plans the annual budget based on the historical average of 100 members.

A presentation at the February meeting showed the breakdown of “where your dues go” – based on 100 members at \$20 each, the dues you pay support the costs of the meeting room, insurance, post office box, storage, website, hospitality supplies, memberships in ANWG and HGA, postage and miscellaneous supplies. These items keep the Guild running as an organization. Not covered by dues are the costs of programs, ANWG representation, education and library – in other words, we dip into our savings to fund our mission. While this is feasible in 2011, it is not sustainable, and dues will need to be raised in future years.

***CLASSIFIED ADS:**

For Sale: Used Weaving, Spinning, and Knitting Equipment

Ashford inkle loom with cards and instructions: \$25.00

Glimakra table model tapestry loom, 24² weaving width, (40² x 33²): \$75.00

Montana Looms 10² table model 8-harness sampling loom, used twice: \$100.00

<http://www.montanalooms.com/catalog.php?category=19>

Salish table model tapestry loom, 13² weaving width, (16² x 24²): \$10.00

Ashford Traveller spinning wheel with accessories: \$100.00

Studio Brand knitting machine, 40², includes radar attachment plus accessories and pattern books and magazines: \$75.00

All equipment lightly used and in perfect condition, 12-15 years old.

Call Gladys: 360-647-9024

The Guild is now on a calendar year (January-December) schedule for dues. We will collect dues for 2011 in January.

Whatcom Weaver's Guild

Annual Membership Dues:

Adult: \$20-- , Student: \$15.--, Family: \$30--

Make checks payable to Whatcom Weaver's Guild, mail to Whatcom Weaver's Guild, P.O. Box 403, Bellingham, WA 98227

From your ANWG Representative:

ANWG's Silent Auction will take place during the Salem conference on Saturday. We plan to open the tables for your auction bids at the same time as the Vendor Hall opens (check your conference booklet for opening times.)

I will plan to be at Registration to accept auction items, I will also be IN the Vendor Hall all day on Friday to accept donations. I will have additional forms available if you, your guild, or your fav vendor sends on another item with you ton conference. The more, the merrier!

Do you have a large item which needs to be shipped before conference? Please call or e-mail Alison Addicks 509 738 6998, addicks@centurytel.net to make arrangements.

The Silent Auction will close all bids at 7 PM on Saturday and winners can pay and collect their items immediately in the Vendor Hall.

A few of the exciting items donated so far:

A designer vest by Anita Luvera Mayer (donated by Anita, thank you!)

A complete set of Weavers Magazines
Handwoven wool sofa throw
Custom printed posters of a original work by Sheila O'Hara
VHS tapes on various weaving and spinning topics

I'll update this list as more items are donated - and thanks! for your support of the Auction. It's a fun event, and the income is needed to support the ongoing educational programs of ANWG.

A THANK YOU from the person collecting goody bag items for the 2011 ANWG Conference:

"What creative cards! I am going to make sure one goes into my bag. We appreciate all the good work and weavings that went into your project. Be sure to thank your guild members."

and a BIG THANK YOU from me too (Gloria).

2011 ANWG Conference:

Because there were no volunteers to set up the WWG Booth at the 2011 ANWG Conference, the Booth has been canceled. Thank you to all who had volunteered to make items for it.

All Guilds have been asked to submit item/s for a Silent Auction at the 2011 ANWG Conference. Monies accrued will be used for Grants and Scholarships.

2013 ANWG Conference:

As mentioned previously, Linda Davis, current ANWG President, has contacted representatives of the lower BC and upper Western WA Guilds to ask if they or a volunteer from the Guild would be on a steering committee to investigate whether it is possible to do a collaborative conference in 2013. Linda will be coming to the area sometime in March to meet with the steering committee and discuss possibilities.

Jenni Jimmerson has volunteered to be on the steering committee and to attend that meeting. She will keep you posted about the outcome.

The Board of the Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds (ANWG) is conducting a survey related to future ANWG conferences and to obtain other information that can help the organization plan for future activities. You can access the survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ANWGConferences>. DO NOT click on the survey link until you intend to take the survey, which will take about 5 minutes, or otherwise you will be counted as having taken the survey. Even if you do not go to ANWG conferences, it will be helpful to have this information. You do not need an account or password, your email/IP address is not collected and your responses are totally anonymous and private. The results of the survey will be made available after they have been analyzed. The survey closes on February 25, 2011 or after it reaches 1,000 responses, whichever occurs first, so please respond as soon as you can.

After you have finished the survey, please copy this entire message and paste into an email and send to all of your fiber friends within the ANWG region (AK, WA, OR, MT, WY, ID, BC, SAS, AB) regardless of their affiliation with guilds or other organizations. We want broad distribution of this survey.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. If you have any questions about this survey including its authenticity, please contact webweaver@broadband.com.

PRESS RELEASE

Dear Whatcom Weavers Guild,

Welcome to our first electronic press release about upcoming events at the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum! We hope you will enjoy reading through our upcoming events. We have attached a pdf for your use. Please pass on this information to your members.

Thank you,

Press Contact
Kathleen Kok
Curator, La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum
360-466-4288
curator@laconnerquilts.com

Call for Entry

2011 Quilt Festival

We invite you to enter our first International Juried & Judged Show, sponsored by the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, to be held September 30-October 1, & 2, 2011. We are looking for pieces in the following categories: Traditional, Non-Traditional, Wearable Art, and Eco-Green. [Click here for Call for Entry pdf.](#)

Winning entries will be featured in a special exhibit at the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum titled "AWE: Award Winning Entries" from October 5 -December 30, 2011.

Deadline for entry is June 15, 2011.

La Conner in Bloom Tulip Festival Challenge

Do the tulips and other flora of Washington inspire you? Here's your chance to create a quilt or fiber art piece AND benefit the Museum! We invite you to create and contribute a small piece that will hang on the first floor from April 1-30, 2011.

Help us reach our grant match! These pieces will be priced at \$200 or less and 100% of proceeds from the sales of these works will go towards the Capital Campaign. This event will be promoted in the official Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Guide.

Please keep the piece at or below dimensions of 24" x 30" and add a 2" hanging sleeve when appropriate. Affix a permanent label on back of your work with the title and your name. Please include a note with your name, address, and phone number for our records. We encourage you to be creative and experiment with a variety of fabrics, fibers, and textiles. You can help us quilt, knit, weave, stitch, cut, dye, and embellish our way to our grant match!

Shown above: 2010 Tulip Challenge Quilt by Phyllis Hammatt

Quick Peek Exhibits - Events

· Jan 12-Mar 27, 2011 "Four Embroiderers" with Marjorie Bachert, Maura Donegan, Lisa M Harkins, and Sandra L Little. Our first floor features "Crazy Quilts and Other Fancies." \$5 (Museum members are free)

Call for Entry

· 2011 Quilt Festival, an International Juried & Judged Show. Check our website for details. www.laconnerquilts.com Click the 2011 Quilt Festival menu tab. Or pick up an entry form at the Museum. Deadline June 15, 2011.

La Conner in Bloom

· a Tulip Festival Challenge - April 2011. Create a small quilt or fiber art piece and donate it to the Museum. Help us meet our matching grant.

Artists and Their Creative Lives

· Sunday, March 13, 2011, 2-4pm; a Panel discussion with the Four Embroiderers, moderated by Anita Luvera Mayer Cost \$15, (\$10 for Museum members) includes admission to exhibits.

Bringing the Historic Peruvian Textile Tradition

· to Contemporary American Décor, Tuesday, March 29; 6:30-9 pm. Melanie Ebertz, Artist discussion and trunk show sale of Peruvian textiles Cost \$15, (\$10 for Museum members) includes admission to exhibits.

Needlework

· A Visual Anthology of Art and Literature, April 30, 2011, 1:00, with art historian Susan Olds. Join us for an armchair adventure exploring the needlework theme in art and contemporary fiction. Cost \$10, (\$5 for Museum members) includes admission to exhibits.

About Us

La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum

703 South 2nd St., PO Box 1270, La Conner, WA 98257.

General Museum admission is \$5.00 per person, members and children under 12, free.

Call or check our website for complete details:

360-466-4288 or www.laconnerquilts.com

Additional Guild Meetings

March 3 Whidbey Weavers Guild Meeting

Our meeting runs as follows:

10:00 - 11:00am Business Meeting

11:00 - noon Show & Tell and other fiber presentations

noon - 12:45pm Brown Bag Lunch

12:45 - 1:45 Program

1:45 - 2:00 Wrap up/clean up

2:00- 3pm Uncommon Threads planning meeting

March program- Norma Smayda discusses Weaver Rose

<http://www.weavezine.com/reviews/weaving-roses-rhode-island> A link from Weavezine to more than you ever wanted to know about Weaver Rose and his sister. He was born in 1839, a descendant of 5 generations of settlers in the New World.

Norma Smayda is a teacher and founder of the Sanderstown Weaving School and a co-author of Weaving Designs by Berta Gray Hayes: Minature overshot patterns.

Pacific Northwest Art School
(formerly Coupeville Arts Center)

15 NW Birch Street

Coupeville WA 98239

The Pacific Northwest Art School is the first street on the left off North Main Street as you enter Coupeville from Highway 20.

Important parking information! Parking on the street can only be the side opposite the School and the additional space at the end of the street in the unpaved area. There are only a few spaces in the Art School lot itself so you need to drop off items or people please do then park elsewhere. Do not park on the street on the same side as the Art School as this is a tow away zone.

2010/2011 BOARD

President: Donna Hunter

Past President: Pat Fisher

Vice President and Programs: Sheri Ward, Julie Barnes assisting

Secretary: Cathy Thompson

Treasurer: Barbara Young

Workshops: Toby Smith, Donna Hunter. We would like a third person to be on the team.

Membership/Hospitality: Toni Wade, Carol Henry

Library: Emileigh Kinnear

Member- at- Large: Gloria Lebowitz

Newsletter: Tracy Vandermay

Education: Joyce Noordmans

Wool Show: Marcia Ford

Fibers and Beyond Chair: Yvonne Madsen

Webmaster: Maggie Weyers

Newsletter Editor- Tracy Vandermay

Contact information:

E-mail: TracyLeeArt@gmail.com

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