

Whatcom Weavers Guild Newsletter



Celebrating 40 years!

September 2011

September Meeting – Wednesday September 14th, 6.30.p.m.

This is going to be a great start to our new Guild year. Come early and catch up! And don't forget, as well as a great program, we need your participation!

Bring your mug-rugs! For the past couple of years, the guild has presented gifts of handcrafted mug-rugs and coordinating mugs to women at the local YWCA. The gifts have been very gratefully received, and we're hoping to make this kind of gift once again, maybe to the Y, maybe to one of the other local shelters or transition homes for women. These small gifts are genuinely uplifting for someone who is going through a tough time and help convey our loving concern.

The mug-rugs can be made with any technique: woven, felted, crochet, whatever you prefer. The mugs can be from your own cupboard or something you find at a thrift shop - there's no need to spend a lot of money. Bring your completed mug-rugs and coordinating mugs to the September guild meeting. We'll have supplies - packets of tea, coffee, cocoa - to fill the cups and wrapping materials to make a pretty present. Keep making those mug-rugs over the summer and help brighten a woman's day!

Stash Reduction Project!

HAVE YOU REDUCED LATELY? Bring your stash reduction projects for Show & Tell at the September meeting – especially those based on the “Stash Reduction Placemats” free pattern from Webs (yarn.com). See several interpretations of a versatile design!

Fibers & Beyond publicity stuff! Be sure to pick up your postcards, posters, handouts and inventory tags.
Pat Fisher, Newsletter Editor

WWG Board Minutes Summary – Meeting August 3, 2011. Submitted by Karen Perry, WWG President

Programs:

This year is all about wearables and programs will reflect that theme. Presenters range from guild members to Seiko Purdue, Pat Spark, Linda Kubik, Teresa Rouch and Nadine Saunders with a twist from Ron Snyder, a broom maker.

Treasurer:

The Guild is solvent and we currently have 101 members.

Education/Outreach:

Fiber Arts at the Lightcatcher, Saturday, November 19. Guild is looking for volunteers to prepare items for show or sale.

Board discussed purchasing Richard Harvey's loom and equipment. The proposal will be presented to Guild members for a vote in September.

Workshops:

Pat Spark—Pattern lace felted scarves

Robyn Spady—Inkle weave inlay and jewelry

Linda Kubik—One Pattern, Many Variations

Anita Meyer—Vested Interest with embellishments

Fibers & Beyond:

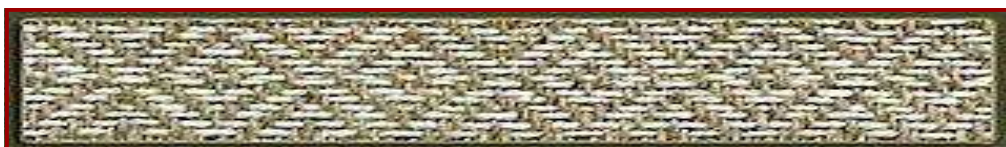
All planning is on track, but only 29 members have signed up so far.

Additional discussions:

ANWG plans for the conference in Bellingham 2013

Wool Show at the Northwest Washington Fair in Lynden

Creation of a scholarship committee





Programs for 2011/12: Focus on wearables. Submitted by Sheri Ward, VP, Programs Director

We have an exciting program year coming up. One of our own, Marilyn Olsen, will be in charge of the fashion show at ANWG 2013, which will be held here in Bellingham. In anticipation of this, and hoping for great participation from our guild, we have focused this year's programs and workshops on wearables.

September's program will highlight the many ways we can approach wearables. Sondra Rose will talk about wearables made from hand-woven fabric for which little shaping is required once the fabric leaves the loom. Barbara Snow will go through some ideas about sewing with your precious hand-woven fabric and getting good results. Donna Hunter will discuss and show us some of her wonderful wearable felt. Bring your own approaches as well, and your questions. It should be fun!

Our programs will continue with several well-known fiber artists who specialize in wearables, as well as a smattering of other topics.

Oct. 12: Seiko Purdue from WWU's art department will talk about ikat

Nov. 9: Nadine Sanders on wearables for every body

Dec. 14: Ron Snyder will show us how he makes brooms as he tells stories

Jan. 11: TBA

Feb. 8: TBA

March 14: Linda Kubik on how to sew with handwovens

April 11: Teresa Ruch on achieving great color and drape for wearables

May 9: Partner projects

June 13: Stash sale

Pat Spark at the Whatcom Museum

The Whatcom Museum is bringing Pat Spark, one of the founding members of our guild, to Bellingham in November. While she is here, Pat will give two workshops and a talk about her fiber adventures over the past 40 years.

Pat is well known for her work in felting, and has published several books and articles on the topic. She started her textile career at WWU, went on to earn an MFA at the University of Washington, and was a professor of art for 16 years. She is a partner in the publishing firm Fine Fiber Press and Studio. The Studio holds workshops, publishes books on fiber arts, and sells equipment for felt-makers and tapestry weavers. She has taught around the world, including a recent trip to Kyrgyzstan where she taught contemporary felt-making.

Her talk and slide presentation will be on Saturday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Whatcom Museum Old City Hall Building. Admission is free to museum and guild members, with a \$3 suggested donation for non-members.

Pat is also offering two workshops, one sponsored by the Whatcom Museum, the other by our guild. The guild-sponsored workshop is on Friday, Nov. 4, and details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

The museum-sponsored workshop will be on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. titled Optical Color Blending for Feltmakers and Spinners. It will be held at the Lightcatcher Studio.

Here's a description of the workshop:

Why do those beautiful, brightly colored fleeces look so great alone but turn to mud when they are blended together? Because most of us use the same color mixing theories when mixing fiber as we do when mixing paint. Highly respected felt-maker, teacher, and author, Pat Spark will teach and demonstrate optical blending theories needed for mixing fibers in felt-making and spinning. Pat has been studying color theory, as it pertains to fiber, for 36 years. This workshop is geared for people with a little textile experience, such as spinning or felting. Participants should bring hand cards if they have them.

Cost: \$80 for museum and guild members or \$90 for non-members, plus a \$25 lab fee for a merino variety pack of colors, felting needles, foam pad, and handouts. Maximum number of students, 12; minimum number of students, 5 to 6. To register, contact the Bellingham Parks & Recreation Office at 778-7000, or www.cob.org.





Workshops and Shows (cont.)

WWG Workshops

Whatcom Weavers Guild is offering four exciting workshops during the 2011 - 2012 calendar year. Each class is designed to focus on "wearable" handwovens, and all will enhance our weaving, felting, and embellishing skills. If you are interested in any of these workshops, please contact Judy Blount (jimblount@comcast.net) and plan to reserve your space with a \$25 deposit. A sign-up sheet for each will be circulated during future Guild Meetings.

Patterned Lace Felt Scarf -- Friday, November 4, 2011

Instructor: Pat Spark

Our instructor says of this one-day workshop: "Some types of wool make a wonderful lacy felt without much effort involved. The unique felting properties of Wensleydale wool will be used to create a beautiful but strong lace felt scarf base. Motifs will be added into the lace base to create areas of solid design."

This workshop will be held at the Cordata Co-Op in the Roots Room, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Approximate cost: \$85/6 participants; \$45/12 participants; plus \$10 supply fee paid by each participant directly to Pat Spark.

Inkle Weave Trim Techniques/Inlay Techniques and Beyond -- Saturday, February 4, 2012

Instructor: Robyn Spady

Robyn tells us: "This will be a 1/2 day inkle weaving hands-on workshop, with an emphasis on trim techniques, combined with a 1/2 day class on 'inlay techniques and beyond' as a way of embellishing fabric as it's woven. These two informative workshops will be followed by a short jewelry class to learn techniques to use yarns and fabric to make jewelry to coordinate with the 'fabulous garments they are going to make.'"

WECU Holly Education Center will be the venue for this all-day workshop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Approximate cost: \$55/10 participants; \$35/15 participants; plus \$9.00 supply fee (\$4/inkle weave section; \$5/inlay section) to be directly to Robyn.

One Pattern/Many Variations Using Handwoven Fabric -- Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16, 2012

Instructor: Linda Kubik

Linda says: "Is there ever a "perfect" pattern? What if you don't have enough fabric or need to add a piece? How about changing the collar, adding pockets? Using Linda's Elements 008 pattern, we'll explore fit, fashion, individual style and customizing a pattern. Bring your handwoven fabric and frustrations and learn how to think creatively as a sewer." Three yards of at least 36 inch width handwoven fabric is required for this class. An additional one yard of coordinating fabric for trim and binding is needed, but something from Robyn's class might be appropriate. Participants must provide their own sewing machines.

Squalicum Harbor Clubhouse will be our venue for this two-day workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Approximate cost: \$110/12 participants; \$125/10 participants; plus \$25 lab fee to be paid by each participant to Linda Kubik.





Workshops and Shows (cont.)

Vested Interest/Embellishing the Surface -- Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6, 2012

Instructor: Anita Luvera Mayer

This two-day workshop will present an overview of how to transform one generic vest pattern into a wide variety of designs. The lecture/demonstration will cover such topics as weaving with sewing thread, recycling shoelaces, lining methods, making vests reversible, modular knitting, and more. Everyone will receive a basic vest pattern, learn how to size it and will have the opportunity to try on a variety of vest styles with patterns available to copy. Inspiration will be provided through books, ethnic examples, and the instructor's personal collection of vests. It includes a hands-on exploration of simple yet dramatic ways to individualize clothing and accessories using mirrors, creative stichery, innovative beading, couching, and wrapped rings. Each participant will begin a reference notebook of samples and be on the way to creating a wearable work of art.

WECU will be the venue for this two-day workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m..

Approximate cost: \$90/10 participants; \$75/12 participants; plus \$20 lab fee to be paid by each participant to Anita.

New WWG Show this year – Fiber Arts at the Lightcatcher. By Sheri Ward.

The event at the Whatcom Museum's Lightcatcher building will be a new endeavor for us this year and part of our growing relationship with the Museum.

The Museum will host the show and sale, entitled Fiber Arts at the Lightcatcher, on Saturday, Nov. 19 from noon to 4 p.m.

We will demonstrate and provide hands-on opportunities for weaving and spinning for the public; hand-crafted fiber work of the guild's membership will be available for show and sale.

This show comes only a month after Fibers & Beyond, and many of the same procedures and committee members will be involved. Items that were at F&B can be in this show, as can items you didn't quite finish in time, along with things that are strictly for show, not sale. We will use substantially the same décor as for F&B, transforming the Lightcatcher into a weaver's studio for a day. Acceptance criteria will be the same as for F&B, as will the 15% commission for sales. There will be no additional fee for entering items in the show and sale. There will be more emphasis on demonstrations and hands-on activities, especially for children. Also, when you invite people, let them know there is an admission fee of \$3 for those who are not museum or guild members.

We will be setting up for this on Friday evening, Nov. 18, starting at 5 p.m. and going until approximately 7 p.m. If we need additional setup time, we can do that on Saturday morning.

We will tour the Lightcatcher Building on Thursday, Sept. 8, at 1 p.m. for those of you who would like to help with the show and see the venue ahead of time. (Note: this is a change of the meeting date, which was originally set for Wednesday, Sept. 7.)

We sincerely hope you will plan to participate in this show as well as Fibers & Beyond – this is a great opportunity to take advantage of the Museum's interest in partnering with us in promoting the history and continuation of weaving and related arts and crafts.





Fibers & Beyond Show and Sale – October 14-15th. Submitted by Yvonne Madsen.

Registration:

Remember, to participate in F & B, you need to get your \$10 check to the Guild. So far, only 29 people have signed up to participate. The list as of August 3:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Barnes, Julie | Barrett, Susan | Blount, Judy |
| Coombs, Jane | Cunningham, Joan | Dinus, Linda |
| Dudley, Joan | Fisher, Pat | Hartwell, Janice |
| Kinman, Megan | Krear, Vonda | Madsen, Yvonne |
| Nathon, Peg | Oates, Mary | Perry, Karen |
| Racich, Karen | Reid, Sheila | Rose, Sondra |
| Smith, Toby | Stewart, Diana | Taggett, Cathy |
| Tarleton, Leah | Thompson, Cathy | Turner, Betsey |
| Valum, Darlene | Vandermay, Tracy | Wade, Toni |
| Ward, Sheri | Young, Barbara | |

If you are not on this list, you haven't signed up yet. You will find all the information on our Guild website: http://whatcomweaversguild.org/annual_sale.html. Scroll down to the bottom of that page, and you will find links to all the forms and information you will need. Please print out the Entry Form and mail it with your check to:

WWG, P.O. Box 403, Bellingham WA 98227. THANKS!



History Display items wanted! By Donna Hunter.

Please contact Donna Hunter if you have interesting items to display on our History panels at Fibers and Beyond - rugs, mats, clothing, baskets, felt, etc. We would like to have representative items for each decade and even if you have something from the 50's or 60's - that's fine, too. She has heard from 2 people, so far, and it would be nice to have most items in hand by the September meeting to plan the display.

Contact: 332-5526 or gndhunter@telcomplus.net

Props wanted for the Show! By Jane Coombs.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Weaving benches | Table type looms | Spinning wheels |
| Wood ball winders, swifts | Spool and quilt racks | Screens |
| Grids | Small wood chairs | Shelves |
| Step stools – wood | Clothes racks (wood) | Floor and table lamps |
| Small trunks | Hat racks | Boxes and bowls (wood) |
| Large baskets | | |
| Vases, bowls, platters in red or clear glass | | |
| Large containers for branch arrangements | | |
| Red table cloths or fabric | | |
| Seasonal flowers in the red range (dahlias?) | | |

Please remember that our theme color is ruby red in honor of the WWG 40th anniversary, so items in that color would be especially nice.

Please email Jane Coombs -- djcmb@nas.com





Classified

Kathryn Kinnear has two looms for sale:

1. LeClerc "Tissart" tapestry loom 45" - \$400.
2. Free - Union Loom

Contact her at 966-2008 or at fisheye11@frontier.com.

She will send a picture.

Upcoming Calendar Dates To Remember!

September 1	Daytime Weavers, Roeder Home, 10.30a.m.
September 8	Planning walkthrough for November 19 th Fiber Arts Show at the Museum Lightcatcher Building, Flora Street. 1.p.m.
September 14	WWG September meeting, 6.30p.m., St James Church, Fairhaven
September 17	Ferndale Fiber Mill tour, 10-11.30a.m.
September 30	Deadline to register for Fibers & Beyond Show and Sale
October 12	WWG October meeting
October 14-15	Fibers & Beyond Show & Sale, Hampton Inn, Fox Hall
November 4	Pat Spark's Guild Workshop, Cordata Co-op. 9-4p.m.
November 5-6	Pat Spark's Museum Workshop and presentation
November 4-6	Arts Alive Show, LaConner
November 9	WWG November meeting
November 19	Fiber Arts Show at the Lightcatcher, Whatcom Museum



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