

**April 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

**APRIL MEETING:**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2011**

**6:30pm**

**APRIL PROGRAM: TAPESTRY ARTIST BARBARA HELLER TO SPEAK**

Barbara Heller, a noted tapestry artist based in Vancouver, BC, will present our program on April 13.

Barbara will speak on her work in tapestry, which has been exhibited widely over the past 30 years. Her current work, the Future Reliquaries Series, explores the interface between computers and textiles, including a golden hand harkening back to the reliquaries of the Middle Ages that held the bones of saints; future reliquaries will contain the bones (the computer chips) we worship today.

In her artist statement, she says, "Tapestry is a deceptively enticing medium. I can give reality to my inner visions without unduly alienating the viewer. First they are enticed by the tactile beauty of the yarns, then the image itself, then the message behind the image. I hope to engender a dialogue between the tapestries and the viewers, to make them pause for a moment and contemplate the ideas."

Her tapestries have been featured in several book, magazine and newspaper articles. Barbara is an avid promoter of the art of tapestry. She founded the Canadian Tapestry Network and the British Columbia Society of Tapestry Artists (B.C.Stars).

**Our programs for the rest of the 2010/2011 year are:**

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

June 8: Stash sale

### **Message from the President:**

Here is the Slate of Officers put forward by the nominating committee for the May elections. Thank you to Joan Cunningham, Linda Dinus and Pat Fisher for their successful efforts in filling the positions and to those who stepped forward to contribute to the Guild.

President - Karen Perry

Vice President/ Programs - Sheri Ward

Treasurer: Barbara Young

Secretary: Karen Racich

Education: Joyce Noordmans

Past President: Donna Hunter

Workshops: Judy Blount, Joan Dudley assisting

Membership: Toni Wade, Carol Henry

Librarian: Betsy Turner, Megan Kinman assisting, Emileigh Kinnear history project

Newsletter: Pat Fisher

Member at Large: Jenni Jimmerson

Wool Show: Marcia Ford

Fibers and Beyond Chair: Yvonne Madsen

Webmaster: Maggie Weyer

### **Tour of the proposed Jansen Art Center in Lynden:**

Last week, Heidi Dornenbal, the driving force behind the proposed Art Center, gave us a tour of the old City Hall that has been donated and the building next door. This building is not yet acquired but is in the architectural plans. The Jansen Foundation is donating one million to the renovation.

The space in City Hall will be divided as follows - Wood's Coffee with a terrace on the sidewalk, gift shop and recital space on the main floor. Upstairs, Heidi is reserving a good sized room for weavers and other fiber arts (there will be storage for wheels and table looms and room for 8 floor looms). The other space upstairs is fine arts and a classroom for any use (fits 10 tables). All the lighting upstairs is great. Storage and small space in the basement.

The other building has room for reception and dance studios on the main floor and a private dance studio that has a confirmed renter. The basement has room for a large pottery studio, soundproof music rooms and a room with a garage door opening that could be used for dye workshops, felting, metalwork or glass blowing. It opens to an outdoor concrete area. There are a couple of apartments on the top floor.

At this point, Heidi would like a representative to keep connected with the weavers and I have asked Joyce, as the Education Chair, to represent us. Heidi has no definite plan for how the fiber space will be used but has several looms donated, would like programs for children and would like some classes that make a bit of revenue. The project is still in the proposal stage and we will keep everyone informed.

Donna

**\*NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Next Board Meeting:

Hi, everyone. I'm announcing the next board meeting in the newsletter as **April 20th.**

**\*THE DAYTIME WEAVERS:**

Day-weavers are now meeting at the Roeder Home on the first Thursday of each month. 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](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](mailto:doinkness@yahoo.com) and Barbara Snow – [snowdyer@comcast.net](mailto: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**

Workshop with Janet Thomas of Lark Textile Design

### **Color and Design : Exercise for Our Brain, Candy for Our Eyes**

**DESCRIPTION:** For this workshop you get to leave your list making, linear, product oriented selves at the door. We are going to learn about basic color concepts and design elements, then play with yarns, fabrics, paper to start actually seeing how these concepts work for us as textile artists. This workshop is all about giving yourself some freedom, being relaxed to observe what is actually going on with color. We will do some exercises together and then you will explore these more on your own. It would be very hands on, no end product, just experimenting with color, having fun, learning to see.

**WHERE:** The workshop will be at Janet Thomas's studio, No. 2 - 720 Sunset Pond Lane, Bellingham.

**WHEN:** Saturday May 21st, 1-4:30 pm

**SUPPLIES:** Materials list will include magazines we can cut up, miscellaneous small pieces of fabric and yarns (a couple yards of each color is fine) for yourself or to share. Scissors, double stick tape or glue stick. Janet will have many many colors in yarns and fabrics also to work with.

**COST:** \$30.00 per person.

**IF INTERESTED:** Contact Janet directly at 527-0305 , or, [janet@larktextile.com](mailto:janet@larktextile.com)

Learning Curve

### **Journal Making with Barbara Snow**

Learn to make a small hardbound journal, about 6 by 8 inches. You will learn how to sew signatures [groups of pages] create a cover that has been made from book board and fine papers, and assemble everything into a handsome book that you will be proud of.

The cost...\$30...will include all materials. However, you can bring a special paper for the cover if you like. The paper must be flexible, but not thin. The class will be held on March 21 from 9:30 to 2:30. Bring your Lunch. Coffee, tea and snacks will be there. There is room for FIVE people. If there are more than 5 people interested a second session will be scheduled. If you are interested and this is a bad day for you and Barbara will look at alternate times. If you are interested in one on one book classes, she is open to that also. Contact Barbara at 676 - 4379 or [snowdye@comcast.net](mailto:snowdye@comcast.net)

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 for anything—bags, books, curtains, 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: Community Room, Cordata Food Coop

WHAT TO BRING: Scissors, paper and pencil, clipboard

COST: \$15.00 to be paid directly to the instructor by March 26th.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED: Send your cheque for \$15 directly to Linda Dinus at  
2490 Goshen Rd.  
Bellingham, 98226

## RAG-CUTTER NOW SHARP & READY TO USE

As you may know, the guild library has a rag-cutter available for lending to members. If you've tried to use it in recent times, you may have found that it was dull beyond any ability to actually cut rags. I borrowed this item not long ago and asked my husband to see if he could sharpen the cutters, and he had good success. The blade on the rag-cutter is a little bagel-shaped device with the cutting edge on the perimeter of the "bagel," the place you would normally slice the bagel. He put this baby bagel on his drill press, held sharpening stones up to the cutting edge, and voilà, a vastly improved rag cutter. Enjoy!

Sheri Ward

## 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

## **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](http://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](http://www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com), organized by the local spinners guild.

Thanks.

Sheri Ward, 961-4956, [sheriward@clearwire.net](mailto: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!!

## **\*CLASSIFIED ADS:**

For Sale: Used Weaving, Spinning, and Knitting Equipment

Ashford inkle loom with cards and instructions: \$25.00

Glimakra table model tapestry loom, 24" weaving width, (40" x 33"): \$75.00

Montana Looms 10" table model 8-harness sampling loom, used twice: \$100.00

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

Salish table model tapestry loom, 13" weaving width, (16" x 24"): \$10.00

Ashford Traveller spinning wheel with accessories: \$100.00

Studio Brand knitting machine, 40", 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

**Office or Art Studio for rent**

232 sq. Ft. Unit, with sink  
Month to month lease,\$250-  
2020 Franklin St., unit 211  
Call for information  
Crystal,  
647-0702 or 224-2829

**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

**Additional Guild Meetings**

Whidbey Weavers Guild Meeting Thursday April 7

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

Madelyn van der Hoogt, editor of Handwoven magazine, will be our speaker in April. Her topic will be, What's Hot: Current trends in handwoven textiles and the electronic resources available to help achieve these designs. Please note that the program will begin at 10:30. In the afternoon, computers will be set up to demonstrate weaving software: Pixeloom, WeavePoint and Fiberworks PCW. Sweater Wizard, a knitting design and charting program will also be demonstrated.

The current issue of Spin.Off has an electronic survey available at [www.spinningdaily.com](http://www.spinningdaily.com). Here is the question: Do you learn new spinning techniques on YouTube.com? A. Yes--it's a great resource for spinners. B. Sometimes--but I prefer more polished DVDs or videos that I can watch on my TV as I spin. C. No, I prefer learning in person in a class or at my guild. D. What's You Tube?

Whatever ones fiber passion, electronic resources are available to help create that special design. Come prepared to share your favorites. . . .and there are spinning techniques on YouTube? Really?

Please bring your favorite shawls and your pillows for the ANWG booth for show and tell.

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.

**Welcome to an updated electronic press release for April!  
Included are upcoming events at the  
La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum!**

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!

### **Quick Peek Exhibits - Events**

· March 30 - June 26

**"What Remains: Japanese Americans in Internment Camps"** with Quilt Artist, Cathy Erickson and Poet, Margaret Chula. In the 1940's over 120,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned in internment camps. From the newborn baby to the aging grandfather, all their lives were changed dramatically. Now only photos, stories, and rock rubble remain of the time. The art quilts and poetry in this series attempt to capture the spirit of what remains over sixty years later.

>Meet Erickson and Chula Reception: April 2, 2011; 2-4pm

March 30 - June 26

**"Story Quilts"** by Mary Lou Weidman. Mary Lou discovered Story Quilts quite by accident. It was through this discovery that she realized that quilters have the opportunity to tell the world who they are and what and who they love. These quilts will surely be the ones to be studied in the future as they tell about people today and the details of their lives.

>Meet Mary Lou Weidman, April 2, 2011; 10-12.

>Workshops scheduled May 16-19.

"Innovation/Restoration Challenge Quilts" for sale thru April!

>The work of fifteen talented fiber and mixed media artists on display and for sale.

### **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 now \$7.00 per person, members and children under 12, free. Open daily 7 days a week 10-5 during April.

Call or check our website for complete details:  
360-466-4288 or [www.laconnerquilts.com](http://www.laconnerquilts.com)

**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. 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

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[whatcomweaversguild.org](http://whatcomweaversguild.org)