

- September
- 2007

- Next Meeting
- Sept 12, 2007

- 07-08 Theme ~
- *Reaching Out*

whatcom Weavers guild

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

REGULAR MEETINGS ~

September through June ~ Second Wednesday of the month

7:00p social time ~ short business meeting
show & tell ~ scheduled program

St. James Presbyterian Church (west side, lower level)
910 - 14th Street, Bellingham, WA

New Look ~

Newsletter Transition

You are reading the first WWG newsletter featuring a new look. Like most "new" things this look will be in transition throughout the year as new ideas are attempted and bad ideas are quickly dropped!

This "new look" will hopefully feature your input. Your articles, photos and clever ideas will be an important part of the newsletter and its ability to reach out to our guild and community of friends.

Send your newsletter suggestions and submissions to the newsletter editor. Newsletter deadlines are now available online ~

www.whatcomweaversguild.org/deadlines.htm

Julie Barnes, newsletter editor
info@whatcomweaversguild.org

Fibers & Beyond~

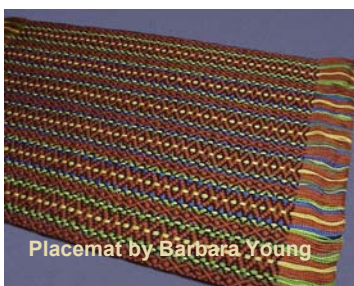
Forms & Tags

All people participating in the *F & B* fall sale need to attend the September meeting to pick up their packets of tags, inventory sheets and instructions. If you are unable to attend, you need to contact me to arrange to pick up on your own. This year I am including an option of having the inventory sheet online for you to enter your info in a Word document and then print out. There will be hard copies of this same form in your packets also - so don't panic! You can find the forms online here www.whatcomweaversguild.org/sale.htm Clear as mud? Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Nora Weisenhorn, tag committee
360-384-0974



Dee Dee O'Connor wearing a poncho she made for Fibers & Beyond.

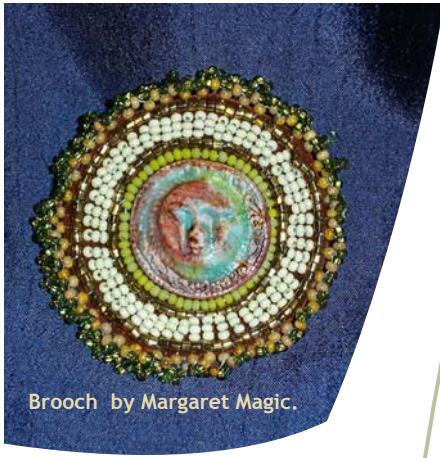


Placemat by Barbara Young

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Take time for tea! We're having a tea party, so bring your favorite tea to enjoy while catching up with old friends and making new ones (*bags recommended or bring your own infuser for your loose tea*).

At this meeting we'll unveil our summer projects (be sure to bring yours), distribute *F & B* materials/sale tags and deal with other sale information along with a fun program in keeping with our *reaching out* theme. See you on Wed., Sept. 12th at 7:00p.



Brooch by Margaret Magic.

President's notes

~ Pat Fisher

Dates & Details ~

The Daytime Weavers:

Thursday, Sept 6th

10:30a

Hostess: Diana Stewart

2126 Sunrise Street

Ferndale, WA 98248

(360) 384-8064

~ The Daytime Weavers focus group meets year round on the first Thursday of every month.

Annual Membership Dues:

Adult: \$20.00

Family: \$30.00

Student: \$15.00

Checks should be made out to the Whatcom Weavers Guild and mailed to Whatcom Weavers Guild, P.O. Box 403, Bellingham, WA 98227.

It's time to renew! Remember, your dues need to be paid by November 1st of each year to remain an active member.

Well, here we are, summer is almost gone, and a whole new year of wonderful fiber and related arts lies ahead.

Firstly, I am very excited to be chosen to lead the Whatcom Weavers Guild. The Guild has a long history of bringing the wonders of the ancient arts of weaving and spinning to the local community, and I am proud to be a member.

Since joining in 2004, I have been constantly amazed and delighted by the diversity and quality of the group's work. I have been in love with the art of creating from yarn and other fibers since my mother first sat me down with knitting needles and wool, at age 7, and my grandma initiated me into the fun of embroidery shortly after. Twenty-plus years later, came weaving and spinning, unfortunately to be interrupted by family and career. But now! Thanks to the Guild, I found the impetus to return to the ancient art - what bliss!

Secondly, your new Board has met over the summer and I hope that you will be as excited as we are with the directions and programs which we have been discussing. But more on that later. Come to the Guild meetings, hear for yourself, and give us your feedback.

Thirdly, a theme for the year. "Reaching out" - to our local community, to our fellow guilds, and internally to our own members. We are a growing organization, with many long-time members who are proud to have formed the group and steered it to where we are today, and an increasing number of new members, like myself, who have much to learn from those who have brought the Guild this far. We will be talking about ways to continue to be a recognized part of the growing arts and cultural world of NW Washington, how to encourage the knowledge of our arts in the community, how to add to the enjoyment and knowledge of our new members. We need your ideas!

Thank you to Marcia Ford for her very effective management of the Wool Show, and thanks to all who supported her by demonstrating spinning and weaving to the many visitors. Thank you to Mary Ann Miklich for representing us at ANWG.

The next Guild meeting is on Wednesday, September 12th, 7pm start. It will be great to hear everyone's adventures, meet old friends, greet new members and see what's been created over summer in our Show and Tell. For Fibers and Beyond participants, it's a must, to pick up instruction and tag packets, postcards, posters (if appropriate) and help the committee finalize volunteers and what you can loan for fixtures to display our products.

My best summer memory? Finding the Latimer Quilting and Textile Center in Tillamook, OR and spending several hours talking with the spinners and weavers there.

So come one, come all to the first meeting of the new year. See you on the 12th!



Marathon for Music ~ October 7, 2007 Whatcom Symphony Orchestra

Mary Kay is raising \$26,200 for music education!
Donate \$1.00 per mile to help her meet her goal.

*"I'm running for music education so all children can experience the joys of music."
~ Mary Kay Robinson, WSO Executive Director*

Support the WSO and its music education outreach program by making your pledge today!
Follow along Mary Kay's marathon training in the Sunday Sports Section of the Bellingham Herald.
Call or e-mail the WSO to donate. Whatcom Symphony Orchestra is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization.



P.O. 28895, Bellingham, WA 98228 ♦ 360-756-6752 ♦ fax/360-756-6455 ♦ info@whatcomsymphony.com ♦ www.whatcomsymphony.com

Handweavers Guild of America

~ Marie Lorgen, Washington HGA Representative

"The mission of the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc., is to encourage excellence, to inspire creativity, and to preserve fiber traditions through education." That is the mission statement of HGA. To that end, there are several programs available for HGA members.

Among them, there is *Convergence*, an international conference that is sponsored and organized by HGA and hosted by a local guild. The next one is hosted by the Florida Tropical Weavers and will be in Tampa Bay, Florida on June 22 - June 28, 2008. This is the one event most people associate with HGA and it includes seminars and workshops by accomplished teachers, a vendors' hall which is a dream come true for anyone involved with the fiber arts, world class exhibits showcasing the work of fiber artists from around the globe, and a fashion show which is always well received. I encourage everyone who can to attend. More information will be coming out soon along with registration forms and class schedules.

HGA also has some very accessible programs available to everyone from the convenience of home. There is a *Teaching and Learning through Correspondence*, a one-on-one study program tailored to meet the member's needs. In this program, a student is matched up with a mentor. And then there is the *Learning Exchange*. This is a program featuring correspondence study groups for handweavers, dyers, spinners, and basketmakers. In this program, you exchange samples and receive suggestions from a mentor. I will tell you more about these programs in future articles, but if you can't wait, go to www.weavespindye.org. While you are there, be sure to check out the *eShop* where you will find books and merchandise for the fiber arts. (One of the perks of being a HGA member is a 10% discount on purchases.)

Among the many other member perks and programs, there is the wonderful magazine called *Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot*, published four times a year (also included in your membership). And for use by individuals or group studies, there is the *Slide Kits* and *Textile Sample Kits* available. Check them out at the above web link.

The Handweavers Guild also run the *The Certificate of Excellence* programs, the *Fiber Trust*, and has several *Grants* available.

If you are already a HGA member, be sure to take advantage of what the organization has to offer. If you want to find out more or need a membership form, you will find the information at the above web page or you can contact me, Marie Lorgen, at myggmark@verizon.net or by phone at 360-629-9270.

Education & Outreach~

I would like the guild's assistance in compiling an on-going roster. Those people listed in the roster would be available to discuss and demonstrate weaving or other fiber arts in order to educate the public. Requests might come from historical, farm, home school or other such organizations. The roster would not be available to the general public. Requests would be made to the education chairperson who would then, in turn, contact you to make further arrangements. If you feel strongly about the perpetuation of our craft and educating the public, this is one way you can contribute. Please contact me if you are interested in being in the roster. Pamphlets will also be made available to guild members about this service if you should receive inquiries from the public.

Margaret Magic
360-733-3312
margaretmagic@hotmail.com

Workshops, Festivals & Exhibits ~

Skagit Valley Weavers Guild

Swedish Rag Rug Workshop ~ Space is still available!
Skagit Valley Weaver's Guild is presenting a workshop with Joanne Hall. The workshop is 2 days, September 15 and 16. It will be held at the Edison-Bow Firehall. The cost is approximately \$60 (dependent on class size). It is a round-robin format and Joanne will provide the warp at a discount. Learn Swedish rag rug weaving from the expert!
For information, directions, and to reserve a spot, call Liz Colombi at 360 826-4143 or e-mail egcolombi@valleyint.com

Wearing Propaganda ~ WWU's Western Gallery

Julie Sapin (specialist in Asian Art History) and Seiko Atsuta Purdue (fiber artist) have been working with Sarah Clark Langager (director, Western Gallery) on *Fabrics of Identity* an exhibit opening Oct., 1, 2007. The historic component of the exhibition will be drawn from the traveling exhibit *Wearing Propaganda: Textiles on the Home Front: Japan, Britain, and the United States, 1931-45*. An additional component focuses on contemporary artists in relationship to issues of personal identity and issues of war and peace.

In conjunction with the exhibition a symposium is scheduled for Oct. 18 (4-5:30pm). Jacqueline Atkins the curator of *Wearing Propaganda* and a few more people will speak at the symposium. www.westerngallery.wvu.edu/schedule.shtml#fall

Indigo ~ Mysterious Blue

A Group Exhibit of Studio Weavers to Celebrate the Year of Craft 2007
September 6 through October 6
Opening September 6, 6-8pm
Silk Weaving Studio
#15 - 1531 Johnston Street
Granville Island, Vancouver, BC
www.silkweavingstudio.com
silkweave@telus.net
604-687-7544

North Olympic Fiber Arts Festival ~ Sequim, WA

October 5 through October 7, 2007

An interactive fiber arts event connecting to the community with activities like a museum exhibition, educational demonstrations of fiber processes, hands-on projects with children and adults, sale of local artists work, and information about local fiber activities, groups, businesses, and instructional resources. For more information visit www.fiberartsfestival.org

Notices & Classified Ads ~

Artist in Residence Opportunity

I was contacted at work by someone looking for an "artist in residence" this year for one of the elementary schools. The focus is fiber and could include felting, spinning, knitting and weaving. (It may also be a paid position!) If interested, please contact me for more details. Margaret Magic, 360-733-3312

Looking for Weavers to Demonstrate

I am looking for a weaver or two who would like to demonstrate at my fiber fest on September 29th, 10a-4p. That day is National Alpaca Farm Day, and we will be celebrating with demonstrations of everything you can do with alpaca fiber. Vendors & refreshments will be there too. Contact: Linda Bylsma, Lost River Alpacas and Country Store, P.O. Box 4156, 601 W. Third St., Nooksack, WA 98276

NW Handspun Yarns Anniversary Sale!

NW Handspun Yarns anniversary sale weekend is September 28, 29, and 30. 20% off all yarns, fibers, books & patterns all 3 days.

You are invited to Saturday's events -

- **"Waulking"** of 16 yards of wool fabric that was woven by your friends and local weavers! This event will take place at 2:00. Come sing along with us as we waulk (full) this wool fabric!
- **Invitational Spin In** 10a - 4p
- **Blue Flower Knits** creator, Karen Agen will be here with her showcase of felted bags and patterns to share. Patterns will be for sale! Karen will show her bags and share her story!

Come and share in this fun day with us and your friends, and be sure to shop for the special savings during the Anniversary Sale!
1401 Commercial St., Bellingham
360-738-0167

www.nwhandspun yarns.com

Apple Yarns Opens in Barkley Village

Visit Apple Yarns at 2915 New Market St., Ste. 104, located between Starbucks & the Little Tokyo - the newest addition to yarn stores in Bellingham. www.apple yarns.com



Spinners at the Fair.



Mystery Item from August ~

It's a **nostekrok** - also called a waisthook!

The nostekrok pictured in the last newsletter was brought to the US from Norway in 1881.

The nostekrok/waisthook was used by knitters who attached a ball of yarn (a center-pull ball wound on a nostepinne, of course!) to the nostekrok's loop and clipped it to their belt, waistband or pocket.

Emily Citron identified its use and got very close to its country of origin. Thanks to all of you who took a guess!

Check out <http://www.norskfjordfiber.com/> to buy a working reproduction.



Photo from Norsk Fjord Fiber

Northwest Washington Fair~

The 2007 Fair Wool Show was a smashing success due to the efforts of Superintendent Marcia Ford and those who submitted items for judging and display. Thanks also go out to the many weavers and spinners who volunteered their time to demonstrate "cutting edge" technology....drop spindles, spinning wheels and weaving looms.

The Best in Show prize went to Guild member Nancy Bjerke for her lovely handspun and hand knit poncho. Other members to receive ribbons for their finely crafted pieces include Margaret Magic, Linda Dinus, Linda Blysmá and April Muegge.

Visit the Guild's website for more photos of the event - look in the **Gallery** page.



Ease of Navigation ~

To help you navigate the WWG's website, a new directory page containing links to the different pages has been added. Just go to the website's main page (www.whatcomweaversguild.org) and look at the bottom of the left-hand link list and click on **Directory**. Hopefully this will help you get where you are going and let you find what you need.

More Photos ~

Images of items for the F & B show and sale have been added to the website - take a look!

www.whatcomweaversguild.org/sale1.htm

Also, see the fun at the fair with Wool Show photos along with weaving and spinning demonstrations!

www.whatcomweaversguild.org/fair1.htm

Display Ads ~

We are attempting something new by selling display ads in our newsletter. See www.whatcomweaversguild.org/adrates.pdf for more information (members receive a discounted rate). Note that this does not change the previous policy of \$5.00 donation for non-members wishing to place a text/classified ad.