



President's Message

Laurie Harkin-Chiasson

The guild's Strategic Planning meeting is coming up on Sunday Mar. 9 (details on page 2). This is everyone's opportunity to shape the direction of the guild for the next few years. It is SOOOO important that we get input from as many members as possible. Ask yourself, is the guild providing what I was looking for? What is working? What isn't working? What improvements can be made to make it work? Do I have a new idea to bring forward? We will brainstorm ideas, possibly touching on structure, programs, services, outreach, education. This is YOUR guild....What do YOU want? We will meet in The Gallery at Heartwood House and will get to try out the brand new padded chairs. Lunch will be provided and being Sunday, the parking lot will be free.

Also a reminder that Membership renewals will start this month, as they expire on April 30.

I will be retiring as your President in April. There are lots of exciting things already in the planning stages, so I see an exciting term for whoever takes over the reins from here.



Drum carding demonstration by Gordon Moat at February's Guild meeting

March Meeting

Monday, March 3rd, at 7:30pm

Library & Resource Centre open at 5:00pm

Hostess will be Dolores Cyr. Greeter still needed!

Meeting Program: Needle felting a name tag.

Postponed program from foggy January. Ann McElroy will show us how to needle felt a name tag. Please bring in a large pin to sew your name tag to, and bring in yarn or wool to felt if there is anything in particular that you would like to use. Ann will bring lots of wool herself.

Things to bring to the March meeting...

- ♦ needle felting materials
- ♦ membership renewal form and payment
- ♦ workshop registration form and payment

Inside this issue...

- 1 President's Message
- 1 March Meeting Information
- 1 OVWSG Contact Information
- 3 Upcoming Guild Activities
- 3 Guild Courses & Workshops
- 4 Demonstrations
- 4 General Announcements
- 5 Other Upcoming Events
- 6 Marketplace
- 6 January & February Meeting Minutes
- 8 March-April Events Calendars

Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild

Meetings & Resource Centre:

Heartwood House, 153 Chapel St., Ottawa, Ont.

Correspondence: Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild
Heartwood House, 153 Chapel Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 1H5

General Information: info@ovwsg.com

Web Page: <http://www.ovwsg.com>

Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ovwsg/>

Newsletter Editor: Tuula Talvila (tuulat@gmail.com, 613-722-4808)

Upcoming Guild Activities

Strategic Planning Meeting: Sunday March 9th, 2007, 10:30 am to 3 pm

Please plan to attend the Guild's Strategic Planning Meeting (a fancy name for "What direction do you want the guild to take?"). This is YOUR guild....What do YOU want? Express yourself now, to mould this guild, improve services and provide direction for shaping the future. "A missing voice will never be heard" .

Questions to ponder:

Is the guild providing what I was looking for?
What is working? What isn't working, and why?
What improvements can be made to make it work?
Do I have a new idea to bring forward?
Is the guild fulfilling its mandate?

We will brainstorm ideas, possibly touching on structure, programs, services, outreach, education etc.

Plus it's also a really fun time. There will be a facilitator and a scribe, so you just have to sit back, relax and jump in with your comments when you're ready.

When: Sunday Mar. 9, 2008 (would normally be a Fun Sunday), 10:30 am to 3 pm

Where: Heartwood House Gallery, with NEW CHAIRS!

How: Use the usual side door facing Rideau St. Knock or signal through the window, to those of us in the Gallery, to open the door for you.

Who: All members invited.

Lunch: Will be provided.

Parking: Parking lot will be free for our use.

RSVP: In order to plan how much food for the lunch, please let Ann Sunahara know your intentions to attend: sunahara@magma.ca or 613 728-9691. You can also give your RSVP at the regular guild meeting on Mar. 3. We will make sure that there are a few extras for last minute-ers.

Exhibition & Sale

General Update

Nancy Ingram

At the January planning meeting for the Exhibition and Sale, a great deal was accomplished. Discussion centered on the budget, revisions to the application form, design proposals for the postcard and book-mark, and proposed advertising. We also discussed comments arising from last year's event.

Considerable interest has been shown in this year's event. Many have submitted their application forms along with cheques. If needed, we will have a selection process for booth spaces and when necessary the Standards Committee will jury work. Please get your applications in early so the postcard and other advertising can get underway. If you would like to receive an application form for a booth, please contact me at ingram@rideau.net. You may postdate your cheque to 1 May. If you wish to participate but not to the extent of having your own booth, keep the "Coop Booth" in mind - it allows Guild members to be involved by offering a limited number of items for sale.

There have been many offers of help to organize the event but we can always use more!

Ann Sunahara, the coordinator of the exhibitions for the Guild Exhibition and Sale, will report on developments in this area as planning for the event unfolds.

Guild Display: Select your best work!

Ann Sunahara

At the 2008 Exhibition and Sale, the Guild will feature its members' works. We want to show the public what we do. We want something made by every member, a work that shows the skills and interests that each brings to the group. It can be new work; it can be a few years old; but it must be your work, executed either alone or in collaboration. We will need your contribution by **September 2008** -- so we have time to build a display worthy of the work. Contact Ann Sunahara: (613-728-9691), sunahara@magma.ca.

Volunteers Wanted to Organize Guild Activities

Ann Sunahara

Volunteers are needed to help organize the Guild Activities at the "Ex and Sale". While the "Ex and Sale" is financed by the booth fees paid by the Exhibitors, the Guild gets space to promote its activities. This year the Guild's space will accommodate three activities:

- 1) a display of members' work;
- 2) a demonstration area where weavers can try spinning, spinners can try weaving and the public (especially kids) can be introduced to weaving, spinning and felting; and
- 3) a Co-op booth that will also promote the Guild and handle raffle tickets for some very good prizes -- first place being Jack's coverlet! To volunteer, contact Ann Sunahara: 613-728-9691, sunahara@magma.ca.

60th Anniversary Fibre Challenge
Entry Deadline June 1st 2008
Challenge Deadline April 1st 2009

Entry forms & record sheets will be available at the April & May 2008 meetings. Please complete and submit by June 1st along with a \$10 fee per entry to offset some costs.

There are already 6 teams signed up but the more teams, the merrier. We are hoping for 10-12 teams. If you don't know someone to pair up with, sign up anyway and we will find a way of getting you together. Teams can be more than 2 people (i.e. 1 weaver, 1 spinner, 1 felter, 1 knitter, 1 seamstress).

The Challenge is open to all members in good standing of the OVWSG. The aim is to foster teamwork and have members design and execute a project together and demystify the process.

Entries are to be finished items only - no yardage or skeins. Any fibre art and/or textile technique, or any combination, may be used - weaving, knitting, crochet, felting, basketry, quilting, lace, paper making, embroidery, etc. The finished piece may be wearable, functional, wall hanging, tapestry, soft sculpture, basket, etc. with unlimited degrees of freedom.

The Challenge entries will hang in the Heartwood House Gallery for the month of May 2009 and may be used at the Ex & Sale and other venues to create awareness of the OVWSG. There will be a Vernissage with cash prizes awarded at the Heartwood Gallery Opening, and a Peoples' Choice Award voted on at the Ex & Sale.

Let's celebrate 60 years of fun, knowledge & friendship!

**Don't miss this great opportunity to get to know your fellow members better.
Sign up today and have some fun.**

**For more information, please contact Shirley Browsky
email: sbrowsky@sympatico.ca or 613-488-2898.**

Guild Courses & Workshops

Get signed up now! If too many people wait until the last minute, the course may have already been cancelled due to lack of interest. Your cheques will be made out to one week before the class and not cashed until afterwards. Start dates are listed below:

Sun. Mar. 2 - Beginning Weaving (part 1 of 4)
Sat. Mar 8 or May 3 - Wheel Spinning
Sun. Mar. 30 - Basic Acid Dyeing
Sat. Apr. 19 & 20 - Felt Vessel (parts 1 & 2)

Sat. Apr. 26 - Overshot: Outside the Block (weaving)
Sat. May 17 - Gaining Control (spinning)
Sat. May 10 - Fibre Preparation
Pine Needle Basketry - no date set yet, probably April

For more information, descriptions, fees and times etc., for all the above courses see www.ovwsg.com or pick up a workshop brochure & registration form at the meeting. For additional information please contact Elizabeth Watt at elizabeth@wattfamily.ca or 613 692-6115.

Demonstrations

Cindy O'Gorman

Carlingview Manor Demonstration

We have been asked to demonstrate spinning and/or weaving at a seniors residence some Friday afternoon at 2:00pm for 1 hour. A touchy feely demonstration would be nice in a social kind of an atmosphere. They would like someone in March, but if anyone is available, they will fit us in where we can. If anyone is willing to volunteer to do this demonstration, it would be very appreciated especially for the seniors. Contact Cindy O'Gorman for further details at 613-832-9316 or cgo244@yahoo.ca.

Shakespeare's Birthday Demonstration at the NAC

The NAC will be celebrating Shakespeare's birthday on Sunday, April 27th, 2008 and will be holding a really exciting Renaissance Fair in the lobbies of the NAC. The following is what they would like...

"I would like to have contacts with artisans and craft people. I'm thinking of weavers and spinners. I don't think there are significant differences in the way these activities were conducted in the 1600s than in the 1800s, so there's a good reason to make contact to contact people with such talents.

Weavers/spinners who participate will be able to demonstrate and promote their crafts, sell their wares, and in general make people aware of the nature of their skills. They are expecting about 800-1000 people pass through the lobbies of the NAC on that afternoon.

I'd be grateful if you could put me in touch with people who you think might be willing to come out on that day. "

If you are interested in this wonderful and interesting opportunity either to help out at an OVWSG booth or to get in touch as an artisan/craftsman, contact Cindy O'Gorman for further details at 613-832-9316 or cgo244@yahoo.ca.

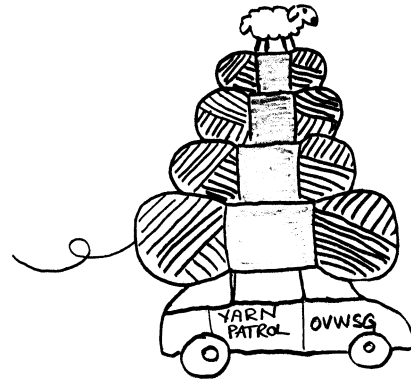
General Announcements

Membership Renewal Time Soon

Guild memberships expire on April 30th. Renew early with the membership form included at the end of the newsletter.

Free to a Willing Home...

Former Guild member Katherine Gunn is offering up for free some turquoise rug yarn, approximately worsted weight, 7 x 350 grams. If you're interested please call Katherine, 613-729-0504, to talk about transferring it from her house to yours.



Recent Library Acquisitions

The Guild's library has a nice selection of new books and books on CD. The titles and a brief description are listed below, but please see Jan Scott for full details and visit the library before the meeting to see the recent arrivals.

Eleanor Best Book Collection, on CD:

The CD includes a complete PDF copy of each of Eleanor Best's weaving books (with colour pictures) that can be read on any PC or Mac using Adobe Acrobat (Installer included on CD) plus all of the drafts in WIF format which can be used for weaving with a Computer-Dobby loom.

Exploring Multishaft Design, by Bonnie Inouye:

This new book guides you step by step as you make your own drafts for many different kinds of designs. The goal is to understand exactly how structures work, through drafts, so you can create the fabrics of your dreams (and a lot of samples).

Planned & Unplanned: Creative Handwoven Clothing, by Pat White & Isa Vogel:

Follow the design process from opposite viewpoints as two weavers with very different working styles (careful planning versus relying on serendipity) each design and produce four garment styles.

Weaving with Three Rigid Heddles, by Reverend David B. McKinney:

Explains how to weave four-harness patterns on a rigid heddle loom using 3 rigid heddles of the same size (dent), through the weaving of a sampler that uses all of the treadlings or "lifts" that are possible on a four-harness loom.

Design Collection 15 - Sensational Scarves, edited by Ann Walker Budd:

This out-of-print book includes detailed patterns for 17 beautiful scarves.

Hand Woven Designer Patterns:

The only patterns designed exclusively to showcase the unique qualities of hand woven fabric.

The Beginner's Guide to Braiding the Craft of Kumihimo, by Jacqui Carey:

Clear step-by-step photographs guide the beginner through six projects which show how to make a variety of different braids, including square, round, flat, honey-comb, hollow, and rounded flat braids.

Online Scarf Sources

At the last meeting's Show & Tell, Jan Scott presented some scarves she purchased from an online store on eBay. For anyone who's interested, the scarves were purchased from:
-the pashmina/silk blue paisley scarf was from <http://stores.ebay.com/scarf-tradinginc68> (its description was "Triple Layer Pashmina Wool Paisley Shawl-Blue#ZE"). Jan says it's a bit low in the EPI but very soft and well worth the .99, but the shipping was \$10.00 (still a good deal).
-the second scarf was from <http://stores.ebay.ca/Enchantment-4-All> (the description was "Handmade Triple Layer Pure Silk Scarf Shawl Silver Blue").

Other Upcoming Events

March Break Fashion Camp

Ages 12-19 March 10-14th, at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte (we are members) www.mvc.on.ca or 613 259-2421.

Annual Ottawa Lace Day

The Ottawa Guild of Lacemakers presents its 29th annual event:

Sun. Mar. 30, noon to 4pm
Clark room, RA Centre
2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa
Cost: \$3.00 per person
(children under 12 are free)

Rug Weaving Workshop with Jason Collingwood

Hosted by the Huronia Handweavers, Mar. 30 - Apr. 3, 2008, near Barrie, ON. For more information please contact Lyn Egsgard at lynegs@rogers.com or 705 326-3375. For more on Jason Collingwood (Peter Collingwood's son), please visit his website: <http://www.rugweaver.co.uk/index.html>.

Sheep to Sock - April 26, Vernon

April 26 at the Osgoode Township Historical Society Museum in Vernon, ON. The museum's sock making machine will be put into service. We have been asked to participate in this fun competition. Contact Pat Trudel (patsy@ncf.ca) for more information.

WASOON 2008 - May 23-25, 2008

The Weavers and Spinners of Ontario North will hold their semi-annual conference in North Bay this year. The theme is "Inspiration 2008: The Path to Creativity". Full details available at the OHS website: <http://www.ohs.on.ca/WASOON2008.htm>.

Art on Abbeyhill - June 7, 10am-4pm

New Guild member and basketmaker John Toft is the organizer of the "Art on Abbeyhill" juried art and artisan show and sale at Glen Cairn United Church in Kanata (140 Abbey Hill Drive). Guild members interested in taking part in this show and sale should contact John Toft at 613-836-3782 (phone and fax), or by email at anne.toft@sympatico.ca. Application forms are due by March 28th.

Textile Museum of Canada

The Textile Museum of Canada in Toronto has a variety of interesting show and talks occurring in the upcoming months. The OVWSG is a member of the Museum, so our members get a discount on admission (membership card was printed in the Dec. 2007 guild newsletter). Check out their current and future events at <http://www.textilemuseum.ca>.

OHS 2009 Conference: "Fibre Unleashed: Pushing the limits"

Next year's Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Conference will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, ON, May 1-3, 2009.

Marketplace

Currently no items advertised for sale.

Advertising rates:

Members: \$12 for first 25 words or less, + \$0.23 for each additional word.

Non-members: \$15 for 25 words or less, + \$0.28 for each additional word.

Business Card size: \$18/issue or \$150/year; ¼ or ½ page: \$30 or \$32/issue.

Commercial: \$15 for 20 words, +\$0.45/additional word, Full page: \$79/issue.

To place an advertisement, phone or email Tuula Talvila at 613-722-4808, tuulat@gmail.com. Announcements of special events carry no charge to members unless items are specified for sale or services for reimbursement appear in the event notice. Advertisements must be pre-paid.

Monthly Guild Meeting Minutes – Jan. 2008

**Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild
Monthly Guild Meeting
Monday, January 8th, 2007, Gallery, Heartwood
House**

(compiled by Tuula Talvila from comments from Laurie Harkin-Chiasson and Cindy O'Gorman)

There was no formal meeting, as attendance was very low (~12 members) due to extremely poor weather. Several members went to pick up a loom donation close by and Cindy O'G did a drum carding demo. Laurie made a few announcements which later made it into the Feb. Newsletter.

Monthly Guild Meeting Minutes – Feb. 2008

**Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild
Monthly Guild Meeting
Monday, February 4th, 2008, Gallery, Heartwood
House**

(Written & Recorded by Marilyn Mulligan)

Meeting called to order at 7.30 P.M by Laurie Harkin-Chiasson

-announced that Cindy O'Gorman is greeter at the door and Ann McElroy is providing refreshments.

-introduction of the executive members

-introduction of new members

SHOW & TELL

-Elizabeth Watt had made a sweater with Fatima's corriedale wool and coloured with 4 grades of colours, shades of yellow through green (photo below).

-Jan Scott had the finished sweater she made for her cat that likes to wear the article (photo next page).

-Jan also showed us a pashmina (shawl) bought on the Internet for \$0.99, the shipping charges were \$10.00

-We saw two felt scarves, very light weight, one made from Merino wool, both very attractive yarn worked through the felt.

-We saw some Qiviut (Musk Ox) carded, still contained some grade hairs

-Knit mittens were passed around, the yarn was a blend of Merino and goat hair, and embroidered deer

-A picture of a mystery item was passed around, possibly a textile form? This is an attempt to identify this article included in a job for Parks Canada Textile Museum.



Elizabeth Watt's corriedale wool sweater

BUSINESS MEETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The 2008 Grant request is done; it took 80 hours and the file is about 1 inch thick.
- We received an invitation for the Mississippi Valley Textile museum for February 2, 2008
- Larry O'Brien (Mayor) sent letter, invitation \$100.00 a ticket.
- Cindy O'Gorman asked for 2 volunteers for a demonstration and textile exhibition for the Girl Guides and a long term care centre for seniors at the Carling View Manor.
- Fun Sunday Feb. 10, 2008 from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m., everyone is invited to come in and play with the equipment and see what we have.
- Next Executive meeting Mon. Feb. 11, 2008, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday Feb. 20 Spin-in in Chesterville 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Elizabeth Watt announced the Clinic Day where a group of experienced members on a variety of topics will be available for us to bring in our questions and problems.
- Sun March 9, 2008 - we will have a workshop, brainstorming session - where is our guild going, The Gallery will be booked.
- Saturday April 26, 2008 at the Osgoode Museum in Vernon, Sheep to Sock.

Committee Report

- Post beginning weaving classes will be held in the Resource Centre: this is to look at patterns, strips, making tote bags & other articles.
- Sue Quinn and Mary are working on looms, if you want to use the Equipment you can go to the front door and they will let you in, Sue Quinn is usually here on Wednesday afternoon, the room is used by ESL in the mornings.
- Nancy Ingram Chair of the Exhibition and Sale sent in her report :
 - There was a huge response to her request for information, suggestions and expressions of interest.
 - a selection process may be required for the year 2008
 - a standards committee will oversee this choice
 - exhibitors should get their applications in early
 - if tickets are under a \$1.00 we do not need to meet legal requirements for a raffle

Challenge to celebrate 60th anniversary

- spinners and weavers need to sign up on a sheet provided or advise Shirley Browsky and then a team will match up a spinner with a weaver to create something to enter.
- Some space is available for the beginning weaving class
- The Workshop Brochure is posted on the Web, will print hard copies for our next meeting
- basic tapestry techniques will be advertised in May Program.

PROGRAM

Francine Deguire delivered a very interesting lecture on How Old Fibres Meet New Fibres. This history was based on her research on the creation, development of and process of using these fibres .

- Prehistoric vegetable fibres and wild plants, trafficking of peoples trading ideas and fibres and method of production.
- development of natural Flax, Cotton, Ramie (nettles), Bamboo

9:00 p.m. - Refreshment Break

9:15 p.m. - Program Continued

- man made fibres the new technology, Synthetics
- the product was melted and forced through spinnerets to create fibre
- Rayon/Viscose, Acetate, Tencel, polyester, Acrylic, Nylon,
- Metals
- Copper, Stainless steel fibres

Laurie Harkin-Chiasson thanked Francine and the meeting adjourned at 9:45pm



The Cat in the Hat - er, Sweater?!
Sweater made by Jan Scott for Evil
(shown with Elizabeth Watt)

March Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Beginning Weaving course (part 1/4) 10-4:00 RC	3 7:30pm Guild meeting	4	5	6	7	8 Wheel Spinning workshop 10:30-3:30, RC
9 Strategic Planning Meeting 10:30-3:00 HH Gallery	10 March Break Fashion Camp, Almonte	11	12	13	14	15
16 Beginning Weaving course (part 2/4) 10-4:00, RC	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30* Basic Acid Dyeing workshop 9:30-5:00, RC	31		*also Mar.30: Ottawa Lace Day RA Centre 12-4 pm	*Mar.30-Apr.3: Rug weaving with Jason Collingwood		

Please note that details about events and courses can be found in the newsletter, workshop brochure, or on the website.

April Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Intro to Spinning workshop 10:30-3:30, RC
6 Beginning Weaving course (part 3/4) 10-4:00 RC	7 7:30pm Guild meeting	8	9	10	11	12 Inkle weaving workshop 10:30-4:30, RC
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Felt Vessel course (part 1/2) 10:00-4:00, RC
20 Felt Vessel course (part 2/2) 10:00-4:00, RC	21	22	23	24	25	26 Overshot workshop 9:30-5:30, RC Sheep to Sock event, Vernon
27 Beg. weaving course (part 4/4) 10-4:00 RC Renaissance Fair. NAC	28	29	30 2008-2009 Membership renewals due			