



Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild

December 2009 Newsletter

Message from your President

The OVWSG annual exhibition and sale is now a memory but I think all who were involved agree that the recession seems to be nearing its end and people were buying fine quality items again. It is a wonderful thing for our craft to have it appreciated by a discerning public. Many thanks go to Nancy Ingram and her crew who pulled this off and made it the excellent sale that it was. Nancy is stepping down from chairing this committee this year and we thank her for all her hard work in making our sale the success that it has become. Regarding the fund raising at the sale, we made a gross income from the raffle of approximately \$2078.00 and about \$525 from the sale of those wonderful cards and donated items from the vendors. Your executive will be examining ways to effectively spend some of this money to the benefit of all our members. If you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me sbrowsky@sympatico.ca. These could be ideas in equipment, special workshops and guest speakers, renovating the resource centre to function more efficiently, etc.

The raffle winners are:

3rd prize – Janice Noseworthy – a beautiful afghan
2nd prize – Cheryl Canning - a basket containing \$500 of handmade items
1st prize – Maggi Van Winden – the overshot coverlet woven on the 100" loom
Congratulations to our winners and thanks to all our members for getting out and selling those tickets.

We need a couple of people to step forward to do a few things that would benefit the guild and won't take too much time.

One is to contact all the Ontario guilds and propose we exchange newsletters so we know what's going on in the province as well as possibly get in on a "tour" of a notable instructor or visit other guilds to take workshops.

Secondly, we would like someone to act as Fibre Convenor and contact suppliers, order samples and file them in such a way that all the members can see them on meeting nights. They might possibly also manage bulk orders as some suppliers do give discounts. Again, please contact me for details.

Third, we would also like a Shepherd/ess- primarily to greet people at the meetings, but could also contact people we haven't seen for awhile to let them know we miss them and need them, send out cards to members who have special/sad events in their lives (congratulations, sympathy, and so on). Please contact Shirley at sbrowsky@sympatico.ca

Debra Turnbull was voted in as interim treasurer until the AGM in May. Welcome aboard, Debra.

We have received funds from the City of Ottawa Facilities Fund for renovations to the storage area of the Resource Centre. This will involve removing the doors and all shelving inside and installing a wire rack and bin system. Hopefully this will take place early in the new year.

As this is the last newsletter for 2009, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and may all your warps be true and your wefts glide effortlessly through them, your wheels spin and your fibres slip, your felt felts and your dyes produce what you envisioned.

Shirley Browsky

Inside this Issue ...

- 1 President's Message**
- 2 Next Meeting**
- 2 General Announcements**
- 3 Resource Centre – Studio**
- 3 Resource Centre – Library**
- 3 Heartwood House**
- 4 Exhibition & Sale**
- 6 Article: Adirondack Pack Basket**
- 7 Article: Notes from Moon Rain Centre**
- 9 Workshops & Courses**
- 10 Other Upcoming Events**
- 14 Meeting Minutes Nov 2nd**
- 15 Marketplace**

Next Meeting: Monday, Dec. 7th

Come and join us for our mysterious and intriguing **CHRISTMAS CHINESE AUCTION**. If you have any weaving or spinning paraphernalia that is no longer needed, please bring it to the meeting to be auctioned off. Remember the proverb that one person's treasure...

For those of you who have not been to a Chinese auction (aka penny social, tricky tray, pick-a-prize or chance auction) it is, according to Wikipedia, a type of raffle combined with an auction that is typically featured at a charity, church festival and OVWSG.

Here is how it works: Bidders buy tickets, as many tickets as they like, and bid them on any item(s) they want by placing the tickets in the yoghurt container in front of the item(s) they are trying to win. At the conclusion of bidding, the winning ticket is drawn from the tickets bid on each item, and the item is given to the owner of that ticket. A bidder may increase the chance of winning by buying and bidding more tickets on a specific item. So be sure to bring some money to buy your lucky numbers for bidding.

As to why it is called 'Chinese Auction', it is more likely that the term derives from "chance auction," than actually originated in China. Having said that, "Chinese" may have been used to convey an auction full of mysterious, intriguing, or secretive.

IN THE NEW YEAR we have a poker night, an embellishment night, rug hooking ... and much more.

Our next meeting is Monday, January 4th!

General Announcements

A huge THANK-YOU to all guild members who contributed to the wonderful selection of cards which we had for sale at the annual Ex and Sale. The Guild table made over \$500!! We still have many wonderful cards remaining and you can still contribute by purchasing one or more. They will be on sale at the December meeting. So come early for the best selection. The prices range from \$2.50 - \$7.50 /card. See you there!

Anne Middleton

Rose Haven Farm Store Update

Rose Haven Farm Store just wants to remind members that some of the fabulous weaving work done by Francesca Overland uses the crepe overtwist yarns that we stock. Already in the wool version we have at least 8 colours.

For those who are felters, spinners or fibre artists, we will be stocking Treetops Colour Harmonies fibres from Australia by early next year. Along with our Treenway & Pat's Colours items, this will increase the range of choice, when it comes to fibre projects.

Please let us know if there is anything specific you would like us to consider carrying - we are open to suggestions. And remember we do ship!

And congratulations on an excellent Sale & Show! Nice to see everyone.

Linda, Rose Haven, www.rosehavenfarm.net
613-476-9092.

Moon Rain Centre Announces

A Call to emerging and established textile/fibre artists for: ***"When thirteen moons entwine"*** an international textile arts event autumn 2010 *integrating textiles, the environment and the mythologies of the lunar calendar.*

Artists are invited to propose outdoor textile/fibre art installations, workshops and artist talks.

See attached document.

Deadline for submissions is January 15th 2010.

Information: **Moon Rain Centre** info@moonrain.ca;
www.moonrain.ca; 819-457-9711

Resource Centre - Studio

There are a lot of Linus Blankets in the studio, approximately 40 and these will be turned over to Wool-Thyme before Christmas to be handed out to children at CHEO during the holidays. The deadline for blankets is the December meeting. If there is a demand for more, there will be a spring deadline so you can still get in on this worthy project. Thanks to all those who donated their time and materials and made such a varied collection of blankets that Linus would be proud of.

Resource Centre - Library

Guild Library Night

Wed. Jan. 13, 2010 will be the next LIBRARY NIGHT. This is held on a non-meeting night, to facilitate a quiet atmosphere for research and perusing the shelves. The OHS (Ontario Handweavers and Spinners) In Depth Study collection will be available to look at, in the room (borrowing privileges to OHS members only).

Two "library nights" were held in Oct. and Nov. There will **not** be a Dec. library night.

The library night (second Wed. of the month) experiment will be assessed in the new year to determine if there is sufficient interest for it to continue.

Heartwood House

Heartwood House Reception Desk Christmas Operating Schedule:

Thursday December 24th - close at 2:00p.m.

Friday December 25th -Christmas Day - closed

Monday December 27th - closed in lieu of Boxing Day (Sat. Dec26th)

Tuesday December 28th to Wednesday December 30th - 8a.m. to 4p.m.

Thursday December 31st - 8a.m. to 2p.m.

Friday January 1st - closed

Heartwood House Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon

All welcome.

Thurs. Dec. 17, 2009. noon to 1:30 with caroling to follow the lunch.

Moe brings her guitar to accompany everyone in the caroling. She is very good and a delight to hear.

Heartwood House Liaison - Volunteer needed

I am finding it increasingly harder to get to the monthly HH members meeting. If there is someone who would be willing to take over this position for me, I would be very appreciative.

Commitment: 1 hour per month for a lunchtime meeting, plus 1 AGM (annual General meeting) attendance.

Generally the first Thurs. of the month there is a HH Members meeting from noon to 1pm in the HH Gallery.

There is 1 representative from each HH group in attendance. You are required to represent the guild and bring forward, to the Guild Executive, any items that may involve/effect the guild. As this is a lunch meeting, which ends promptly at 1 pm, many participants bring along their lunch to eat during the meeting. You are also required to attend the HH AGM meeting, which is approx. 1 hour long.

Sell Your Work at Heartwood House

It has been suggested that the Guild hold a sale of donated and members' work at Heartwood House, Dec. 7 to 11. In order for this to happen, we need sale items and volunteers. In the past, Heartwood House members have been very appreciative buyers. The public would also be welcome and members may invite friends and clients.

SALE TIMES: Monday, Dec. 7 to Thursday, Dec. 10 from 11 am to 3 pm.

All work for sale must be properly labelled as to content, care, price, member's name.

10% of the selling price will go to Guild fund-raising.

Volunteer time: We need a minimum of three people a day, for at least, two hour stints.

Interested members, please **contact** either Mary or Sue **by Nov. 25**, so planning may proceed.

Mary Morrison morrmy@sympatico.ca 613-830-9992
or Sue Quinn sooniequinn@yahoo.ca 613- 837-1619

Slippery parking lot problem during winter months

Beth Shalom synagogue is responsible for snow maintenance in the parking lots. Snow is only removed when 5cm accumulates. The problem is that snow could be removed in the morning and another heavy snowfall happens later in the day. This causes ice buildup.

Beth Shalom is also responsible for sanding the lot, which will happen only when the lot is in its worst condition.

Moe, Executive director of HH suggests that the best action is our own. Beth Shalom will fill the sand boxes as needed. We need everyone to help with sanding the lot to keep the conditions safe out there. Sand boxes will be at top of the hill leading into the parking lot and at the entrance to the walkway from the parking lot. If it's slippery grab a can of sand from the box and throw it around. If we all take action the results will be safer for everyone.

Exhibition & Sale Update

Another Great Year! Yes, the 29th annual Exhibition and Sale was a resounding success – thanks to the efforts of a number of members.

My membership in the Guild has spanned 40 years and I have seen many changes in the fibres we use, the techniques we apply, the tools we use to create our products and the locations of our meetings. Even the exhibition hall at the Glebe underwent extensive renovations -- it is so nice to plan the space on a floor at one level! The hall provides the perfect setting for our event.

Our Exhibition and Sale has undergone many changes as well. We have had many interesting exhibitions over the years from the weavers/spinners studio to the study of various fibres, weaving on a medieval loom and more. There have been guest speakers and artists, silent auctions, book and yarn sales and the oh so famous fashion show – the hall was crowded for that event! Vendors were juried according to Guild standards but a new clause in the standards has opened the Guild to a broader range of juried fibre artists. Today I believe we have a balanced group of vendors, a blend of fibre artists and weavers and spinners. Their displays and the exhibitions also reflect change to include felted work, basketry, and surface design, wire woven structures and more.

The Exhibition this year was full to the brim. The Guild Information Table had all the necessary information to attract new members and I hope that we did. I was pleased that there was a Co-op booth. The co-op is for members with a few items to sell and encourages them to participate in the Sale. For planning purposes it would be wise to identify participants earlier in the process so that

space can be allocated outside of the exhibit area if a large number of members wish to participate. The fundraisers are so important at this event to raise money for the Resource Centre and special projects. It would be helpful to stimulate sales by having a selection of photos from the Resource Centre to illustrate the work that takes place there (i.e. workshops, study groups, the library etc). In the past, the raffle was always a good source of income which paid for the rental of the hall. Now the proceeds go directly to the Guild. (booth fees from the vendors pay all of the expenses for the event). In the past, the raffle gifts were assembled together at the ticket selling area so that clients could see them together – and be enticed to buy tickets! It might be something to consider in the future. The Exhibits were many: 60th Anniversary Challenge, 100” coverlet display and linus blankets. Again, it would be wise to follow the rule “less is more” and earlier planning would have allowed more space for these very fine exhibits – i.e. if we had relocated the co-op booth. The demos are always a hit and again it was great to have people demonstrating their technique not only in the Guild exhibition area but also in the vendor booths.

The overall look for the Vendor area was well balanced. Some of the vendors made a special effort to create a unique space: Denise Atkinson’s garland canopy; Ruth Mills’ special millinery boutique; Mary Morrison and Francesca Overend used artifacts to enhance their products; Ellen Good had her high tech video; Studio Three looked great in their new location; and Judith Rygiel purchased some special screens to use as booth separators which worked well. Some suggestions for general improvements are to use more lights and better signage; also, please try to screen yourself from your neighbours.

Some statistics from the Exhibition and Sale:

Number of vendor booths: 24 plus co-op booth (2 new vendor members; 6 new booth participants; number of vendors 29 + 6 in co-op booth. This represents an increase in participation).

15 booths exhibited traditional weaving and spinning; 8 booths exhibited fibre arts etc.

(i.e. felting, rug hooking, wire weaving, basketry and surface designed goods); 1 supplier who also had fibre art products.

Number of vendors who have given or are slated to give programs, workshops, and study groups in the past year and next year – 13.

All of the vendors contribute time to promote and to help to organize the Exhibition and Sale; the booth fees pay all of the costs of the event.

All in all it was a fine Guild event: high quality exhibition work, a wide variety of products of excellent quality for sale by vendors and a clientele that appreciated fibre art and was very complimentary about the event. The Glebe staff once again was very helpful. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful venue which is so reasonably priced and centrally located. Now, thanks to Sue Quinn, who has arranged for parking at Corpus Christi School, our parking problems are a thing of the past.

Many people contributed to the success of the event by performing their tasks identified in the “job jar” and more. The work of Cindy Jackson on the web-site has been particularly effective in the promotion of all aspects of the Exhibition and Sale. I would also like to extend my personal thanks to Melanie Overduin who worked alongside me from January to November, creating the photo file, collaborating on the design of the bookmarks and

ads and submitting the ads and press releases; she was my right hand and fun to work alongside.

Over the years we as a group have worked hard to present to the public a fibre art event which is now well represented by members in exhibitions and in vendor booths and much appreciated by the public as they learn about our craft.

For me personally it is time to pass on the duties of organizing the Exhibition and Sale to a younger demographic who is skilled in computer use and can bring a fresh approach and ideas to this special Guild event. I am preparing a binder of notes to use as a guideline and will file it in the library.

To everyone who has assisted me in organizing this special event and who has served with me on the executive, I offer my sincere thanks and wish everyone success as you move forward with the plans for next year's Exhibition and Sale.

Finally, George and I would like to extend our thanks to the Guild members for your gift in recognition of the time spent over the past three years to organize the Exhibition and Sale. It was much appreciated.

Nancy Ingram

60th Anniversary Challenge

The Ex and Sale was the final stop for the Challenge and the exhibit was again well received by the public. The winners of the Peoples' Choice award of a \$50 gift certificate from The Silk Tree are Laurie Harkin-Chiasson and Judith Rygiel for their natural shawl with kumihimo braid trim. Congratulations, ladies. Thanks to all the participants in this challenge and hopefully you will work with other members in your own projects.

Shirley Browski

Article: Adirondack Pack Basket

During the 60th Anniversary's Exhibition and Sale, I was cornered by two members of the Guild who asked if I would teach a basket-making class on how to make an Adirondack Pack Basket. I said I might be able to do so once I had found out what such a basket looked like. They then said I should go and see Judy Kavanaugh who had such a basket there at the sale. How could I refuse such a request, put so politely?

I checked out the basket, and it looks doable. Judy's pack is made from ash splints of about one inch in width. If I could find a supplier of such material, I could teach myself how to make such a basket, and then teach others. Alternatively, it could readily be made from one inch wide rattan cane. And I know where I can get that.

On reaching home, I had an epiphany. One of the blogs I follow is from a basket-maker in New Mexico, Nancy Jacobs. Her blog at <http://basketmasterweavings.blogspot.com/> contains references to basket pattern sites and links to the same. From my blog site, www.JohnToftBasketryatetsy.blogspot.com I visited Nancy's blog and found a link to a basket pattern site: www.BasketPatterns.com. I used that link, found a pattern for an Adirondack Pack Basket, and phoned in an order for it. I also searched for Ash Splints and found that the same company supplies that too. Stay tuned for my new adventures in making such a basket as I phone in a new order for ash splint once I receive the pattern

(For people interested in learning how to make baskets, Nancy's blog has video tutorials in which she shows, step-by-step, how to make simple baskets. I watched one of these videos where she shows how to make a solid base from flat cane for a small market basket. It was great. Check her site for these and other videos as well as lots of good information on the art of basket-making.) *John Toft*

Article: Notes from Moon Rain Centre

I'm sitting at Heathrow Airport waiting for my return flight to Ottawa, Canada. The Big Weave community tapestry project is launched. The pilot project, which Moon Rain Centre was invited to direct during the month of July 2009 is a huge success. The finished tapestry is about to have its first of several public exhibitions in England, accompanied by the photographs that document its process. Later, the tapestry will be permanently installed in Reading, where it began.

The Big Weave project was initiated by Moira Diane Wood, a professional flax spinner and weaver who draws personal inspiration from Japanese textiles. When Diane made the decision to fuse art, tapestry weaving and community, she contacted Moon Rain Centre and invited me to travel to Reading to direct the pilot project. That was 18 months ago. During the interim, Diane and I consulted by email on almost every aspect of the project.

Diane developed the Big Weave in collaboration with Maiden Erlegh Community Arts School in Reading. Diane had previously organized a very successful series of outdoor community weaving workshops in neighbourhood parks in Reading. The School's dynamic community arts coordinator, Val Bowman, became interested in Diane's ideas and The Big Weave became a reality.

Moon Rain Centre was invited to guide the project from beginning to end, and to enable Diane and the weavers of Maiden Erlegh School to continue to develop the community tapestry medium. What evolved during the month of July was a wonderful mixture of weaving and teaching that included the project's participation at arts festivals, schools and workshops.

Another aspect to the success of the project was the participation of Reading photographer, Joanne de Nobriga. Joanne specializes in photographing hands and has worked on projects all over the world. Her sensitive and telling photographs document the story of the complete community tapestry process from warping the loom to cutting the tapestry off and finishing the edges.

The unbridled enthusiasm for tapestry and community tapestry that was unleashed by The Big Weave was extraordinary and continues to amaze me. Everywhere the project went in Reading, Henley and Oxford generated overwhelming positive response and enthusiasm. Everyone who participated wanted more weaving, more tapestry weaving instruction, and access to yarns and to looms. Copies of Moon Rain Centre's recently published weaving manual, *The Living Tapestry Workbook* are in demand. The time is ripe for tapestry and for hands-on community tapestry weaving in England.

We never stopped. It was intense and challenging yet very rewarding work personally for everyone involved. One of the joys of community projects is that firm connections are made and trust is established. Early mornings involved travel, transporting and setting up the loom in a new location. The day proceeded with often more than one hundred community participants of all ages. The Big Weave project provided hands-on creative activity at the Henley Festival and at Art in Action near Oxford, one of the largest and best known arts festivals in England. Some members of the public stayed with the project and kept weaving for several hours, then returned another day to continue weaving, while others were happy to

weave in a short length of weft. A number of young people were definitely “hooked” on tapestry.

I feel that one of the most remarkable achievements of community tapestry projects is that they are creating a new generation of weavers. These projects are literally putting the word “weave” back into the vocabulary. This is essential, and is feeding the present day renaissance in textile arts that we are beginning to experience. To my immense delight and pleasure, the textile arts and tapestry are “in” in England.

A decade or so ago, announcements of textile department closures rang a death toll among practicing professional textile artists and students who wished to explore textile arts. Today a new era is unfolding and tapestry and textile arts are accepted as art. The work of pioneers like Judy Chicago have changed perceptions. It took a generation.

I’m on the plane and a wave of appreciation sweeps over me as I begin to assimilate what the Big Weave project accomplished in collaboration with participating communities. The plane begins to descend into Ottawa airport and the momentum of Moon Rain Centre’s future projects fills my mind.

Summer tapestry workshops will begin in several weeks when students arrive and studio residencies begin. Moon Rain has become an active tapestry and textile arts workshop centre and a place for quiet creative retreat and renewal. People come to Moon Rain to explore and expand their own creativity, while surrounded, protected and inspired by the natural beauty of the Gatineau Hills in West Quebec.

In September 2009 Moon Rain Centre is presenting Fibres Boreales / Northern Fibres a group exhibition of members’ works at the Centre d’Action Culturel in St. Andre Avelin, Quebec. The group has grown out of a very interesting three year professional development programme, designed to encourage professional practice in textile arts, that I taught at Moon Rain Centre between 2005 and 2008.

Moon Rain Centre is in the process of co-ordinating a very exciting textile arts event for summer/fall 2010 called When The Thirteen Moons Are Woven Together/ Quand les treize lunes s’entrelacent. This festive event will include outdoor textile art installations, workshops in a variety of textile techniques and exhibitions. The feature exhibition will be the 9th International Triennale of Mini-Textiles, on tour from Angers, France’s Musee de la Tapisserie Contemporaine, which will be presented in Galerie Montcalm in Gatineau from August 26th to October 10th 2010.

Moon Rain Centre’s project co-ordinator and emerging young textile artist, Gabriel Ewen Phillips, developed the concept for this textile festival in order to promote and encourage textile arts in the region and beyond. Gabby based it on the thirteen moons of the indigenous lunar calendar, to reflect and affirm Moon Rain’s connection to nature, the environment and the Earth.

Weaving is linked to the mystic. It is the creative first principle in legends and myths from around the world telling how the earth was created. Since its mythic beginnings, weaving has provided a threaded text, a crafted record of the clothing of human cultures around the world, throughout human time.

Weaving has a symbolic new role to play in contemporary society. Joining together is the infrastructure of collaboration, it is the configuration of community. This is an image that is so easy to understand, and so fitting, and so necessary for the future.

The very essence of the structure of weaving –of interconnections - is a new contemporary metaphor for the inter-relationship of all living systems in the biosphere. Weaving provides us with a symbol for the future.

Moon Rain Centre's vision is to share the beauty and mystery of weave. Through it's exhibitions, workshops, community tapestry projects and artists-in-the-schools projects, Moon Rain makes tapestry weaving accessible, contemporary and alive.

Tapestry weaving has been my personal creative vehicle for 35 years, and the longer I weave, the more profoundly interesting weaving becomes. This is the sacred work and the biggest gift of craft – it leads, it reveals and it always teaches.

Moon Rain Centre is a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to integrating creativity and harmony in the community through the creation, exhibition and teaching of tapestry weaving and textiles arts. The name Moon Rain refers to mystic connections in indigenous cultures between the moon, weaving and the cosmos. The vision of Moon Rain Centre is to share the beauty and mystery of WEAVE. Located in the Gatineau Hills north of Ottawa/Gatineau, in the Outaouais region of Quebec, Canada, Moon Rain Centre is known for its unique approach to inter-weaving art and community. Canadian tapestry artist Thoma Ewen is artistic director of Moon Rain Centre. She has

exhibited her visually radiant tapestries nationally and internationally for more than 35 years, and her works appear in corporate, private and public collections. Inspired by the natural environment of the Gatineau Hills that surround the Centre, and by ancient indigenous weaving wisdom that recognizes weaving to be a sacred path, Thoma's workshops teach how weaving transmits the energy of Peace. Thoma was recently awarded Le Grand Prix d'Excellence IVem Jeux de la Francophonie for her contributions to the cultural community. copyright©Thoma Ewen August 2009 www.moonrain.ca; info@moonrain.ca

Workshops and Courses

Most of the workshops up to January are full.

There is still space in: Intro to Spinning (Dec 5), Intermediate Weaving (Jan 10, 17, 24 and 31), Intermediate Inkle (Jan 23) and Painting Roving (Jan 30). The schedule to April 2010 is up on the website with some new offerings. It will be updated over Christmas to include offerings to the end of May.

The executive is considering offering the OHS Spinning Certificate Course beginning next year. If you would be interested in taking this program please let me know soon so that we can gauge whether we would have sufficient numbers to make the program feasible. Information on the program can be found at <http://www.ohs.on.ca/> (click on "Education" in the sidebar").

Summer intensive workshops are still being considered. If you would like to either instruct or be a student please let me know as soon as possible.

Elizabeth; workshops@ovwsg.com

Other Upcoming Events

Mary Lettner Textile Research Center

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum has recently launched the Mary Lettner Textile Research Center. The research center is entirely dedicated to all things textile. The collection of over 2,000 books, magazines, journals, videos and more is now easily accessible. They have four main sections of textile books; industrial dye books, industrial textile industry, history and cottage industry/home craft. The industrial dye books are quite interesting and probably the most unique aspect of the collection. They contain fabric swatches that were used by the industry to compare dye compositions of various concentrations and combinations, sometimes on various fabrics. They are fascinating to peruse through to see the different shades and fabrics used.

The industrial textile books range from everything from the engineering of weaving and spinning to managing a mill, dyeing techniques, industry manuals and much more. A couple highlights in this section is the *Journal of the Textile Industry* and the *Manual of the Textile Industry*. Both series start in the 1930s or 40s and continue until the 1990s.

There is a growing history section, which contains histories of fashion and textiles, as well as local and mill histories. A large amount of the historical research done at the textile museum is available in this section, as well as copies of primary documents concerning the Rosamond Family and local mills.

Then, there is the more cottage industry or home crafts selection of books. This section has books on a little bit of everything. We have books on quilting, loom and hand weaving, lace making, dyeing, weave patterns, crocheting, knitting, loom construction, just to name a few. A highlight of this section is the weave pattern books, which are quite old and apparently quite unique.

The Mary Lettner Textile Research Center is open

from 10am-4pm, Tuesday-Saturday at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, 3 Rosamond Street E, Almonte Ontario. Please call ahead if possible at 613-256-3754 x15. You can also reach them via email at mvtm@magma.ca if you have any questions.

Mr. Fezziwig's Victorian Christmas Celebration at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

Merriest of Greetings to one and all!

Mr. Fezziwig has stepped out from the pages of beloved storyland to help us celebrate this most convivial of all winter festivals with a wiley scheme in mind:

He will present a party to rival all parties to help our most wonderful Museum warm itself against the dark days of winter. We will pre-warm the museum in anticipation of this insulating renovation with your help and a great party!

Please create for us a Seasonal Wreath of utmost delight and imagination to be auctioned at the party. You will receive a ticket to the event and a big hug.

Email or send a carrier pigeon to cswain@storm.ca to confirm your participation: I await with bated breath your response!

The wreaths will be needed by Thursday Dec 10th at the Museum or I will picketh them up.

All materials and designs, traditional or not are welcome.

We are planning a party of unreckoned fabulousness so please help add to the merriment by contributing a few hours of your creative genius to this project,

With deepest gratitude: your faithful servant and intrepid co-organizer of Mr. Fezziwig's Victorian Christmas Celebration at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

Chandler Swain of the hamlet of Blakeney

Call for Nominations

RBC Emerging Artist Award

The Council for the Arts in Ottawa is pleased to announce the establishment of the RBC Emerging Artist Award for Ottawa area artists of all disciplines. This award will recognize and encourage the achievements of Ottawa artists who are founding careers in the arts and are working towards becoming recognized professional artists while engaging with the community.

RBC welcomes the opportunity to be involved with the CAO in establishing this award. RBC is providing the \$5,000 cash prize for the recipient and \$1,000 each for two short listed artists.

The award recipient will be announced at the CAO Arts Awards Lunch in mid-April 2010. RBC is recognized as the Founding Partner for this event. In addition to the RBC Emerging Artist Award, this occasion will also showcase the presentation of the CAO Mid-Career Award and the Victor Tolgesy Arts Award.

RBC is committed to supporting emerging artists. Currently RBC supports over 25 organizations across Canada that have programs that assist young artists, such as dancers, painters, musicians and singers, develop and progress along their career paths - from academic excellence to professional careers.

The application deadline for the RBC Emerging Artist Award is December 15, 2009 and is by nomination only.

Full information can be found on the CAO Website at www.arts-ottawa.on.ca.

Call for Nominations

The Victor Tolgesy Arts Award

The Victor Tolgesy Arts Award was inaugurated in 1987 by the City of Ottawa and the Council for the Arts in Ottawa to recognize the accomplishments of residents who have contributed substantially to

enriching cultural life in the city. It is named in honour of Ottawa artist Victor Tolgesy who died in 1980.

The Victor Tolgesy Arts Award is presented as a joint venture of the City of Ottawa and Council for the Arts in Ottawa. A cash prize of \$5,000 is associated with this award. The award recipient also receives a bronze casting special edition version of the late Victor Tolgesy's 1963 sculpture entitled "Seed and Flower" provided by the City of Ottawa.

Three finalists will be announced at the CAO Sweetheart Cocktail for the Arts with the final award presentation taking place at the CAO Arts Award Lunch presented by RBC.

The application deadline for the The CAO Mid-Career Artist Award is December 15, 2009 and is by nomination only.

Full information can be found on the CAO Website at

www.arts-ottawa.on.ca.

The Ontario Crafts Council's Eastern-Ontario Feature within the 2010 Spring One of a Kind Show

Deadline for entry: Tuesday, December 1st, 2009

Following the success of the Ontario Crafts Council's (OCC) Growing Ontario's Craft Community Initiative in eastern Ontario during 2008-09, the OCC will feature eastern craft artists for its new section within the choice market of the 2010 Toronto One of a Kind Show and Sale. Not only will this section highlight and provide sales opportunities for vendors, each participant will grow through professional development experiences and will have fewer burdens than solitary exhibitors—see show details!

CALL FOR ENTRY

The Ontario Crafts Council invites applications for exhibitors/vendors for premium space as housed within the OCC section of the spring One of a Kind

Show. 20 applicants will be approved for participation through a juried process.

About the Show: The One of a Kind Show and Sale (OOAK) in Toronto is Canada's largest and most prestigious retail show featuring the work of artists and craftspeople from across Canada. OOAK spend \$1 million in the greater Toronto area for the combined promotion of the winter and spring shows. The five day spring show attracts 50,000 visitors.

www.oneofakindshow.com

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Applicants must be craftspeople working and residing in eastern Ontario. This includes all rural eastern areas as outlined at www.ontcfdc.com, as well as urban eastern areas.
- Each applicant must be the designer, creator and producer of all works as included in the application and as intended for display and sale at OOAK.
- Objects must be made from traditional or contemporary craft media, including but not limited to: wood; clay; metal; glass; fibre; stone; leather; resin.
- Eligible applicants include both emerging and more established craft artists; however, all applicants must clearly justify how this would be a new experience and advance their career/business. This is especially important for exhibitors who have previously exhibited at OOAK in the past (see jurying details.)
- Submissions must include DIGITAL files of all documents and images, as detailed in the submission checklist.
- Submissions grant the OCC and OOAK with permission to use accepted works for all promotional purposes.
- All accepted applicants will be asked to provide a portrait image at a later date for OCC and OOAK promotional purposes.
- Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted.

JURYING INFORMATION

- Jurors will assess work according to excellence of design, technique, originality, concept, and salability.

Geographic diversity will be imposed to some degree (for example, not all participants can come from the same town/city.)

- The OCC will conduct the first round of jurying and supply a shortlist to OOAK.
- The OOAK will approve/select the final applicants from the OCC shortlist. Applicants with prior OOAK exhibitor experience will be considered, yet preference may be given to first time applicants.
- The OCC will notify all applicants of the final decision by December 14, 2009.

SHOW DETAILS

- The OCC section will encompass just under 1000 square ft of space displayed in a gallery-like setting.
- The OCC will design, arrange and supply all major exhibition display furniture and lighting. The participants will supply support displays if needed in collaboration with OCC curation.
- All participants must be present for the duration of the show, but will not be burdened by sitting within the OCC booth 100% of the time. Shifts outlined in the acceptance agreement will allot selling time and development/market research time (to be completed by walking the show) to participants.
- An OCC representative will be present within the section the majority of the time.
- All sales will be processed through a central OCC payment desk which will accept visa, mastercard, amex, debit, cash and cheques.
- Participants will recuperate 100% of the sales, minus any merchant servicing fees associated with the sale, for all works sold at the exhibition.
- All works must be for sale, and be labeled on an inventory list. A SKU# will be applied to all products to ensure that correct vendors are credited for all sales.
- All participants will be encouraged to attend OCC regional workshops if applicable, covering topics such as *Copyright*; *Photographing Your Work*, and one additional topic. Details to be announced.

FEES

- There is no cost to apply.
- All confirmed participants will pay a vendors fee: OCC members will pay \$300, and nonmembers will pay \$380. This is a highly subsidized rate, as the cost for the smallest 5" x 10" regular booth at the OOak spring show costs \$1,466. For all additional booth sizes and costs for the OOak show, please visit their website.

TIMELINE

- Entry Forms must be received no later than 5pm, Tuesday December 1st, 2009. Late entries will not be accepted.
- All applicants will be notified of a final decision via e-mail by Monday, December 14, 2009.
- The show will take place at the following locations and dates:

Wednesday, March 31st to Sunday, April 4th
Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place
100 Princes' Blvd, Toronto ON M6K 3C3 Canada
Weekdays 11am-10pm, Saturday 10am-9pm, Sunday 10am-6pm

ENTRY FORM

Download the entry form and other submission file templates at:

www.craft.on.ca/OCC_News/Eastern_Update

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- ☐ Digital files on cd, or sent via email*
- ☐ Entry form (.doc .txt or .pdf)
- ☐ Biography, from OCC template (.doc .txt or .pdf)
- ☐ Image List, from OCC template (.doc .txt or .pdf)
- ☐ 10 images representing work similar to what you will be selling at OOak (.jpgs)
- ☐ 1-2 images of your studio/workspace (.jpgs)

IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Images of work must be saved as high-quality JPGs with a minimum width or height of 3375 pixels, and a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

- CMYK colour profile is preferred.
- File names should follow the naming conventions: First 3 letters of your first name followed by the first 3 letters of your last name, then a dash and the letter "p" (which indicates it is a print ready file) and the number of your image. Example for John Smith: johsmi-p01.jpg, and johsmi-p02.jpg

DELIVERY

All entries must be sent through mail or email to:

Sara Washbush, OCC Eastern Regional Coordinator
277 Reynolds Drive
Brockville, ON K6V 1X8
swashbush@craft.on.ca

*IMPORTANT NOTE FOR EMAILED SUBMISSIONS:

Do not attempt to send any files until all of your files are complete. Incomplete or late submissions will not be processed. Once all files are complete, send each file immediately after the other in the following manner:

1. Attach all three document files as listed in the submission checklist and send as one email.
2. Attach several of your images, limiting the total sending size to 5MB per email.
3. Attach remaining images, repeating step 2, until all images have been sent.

Questions go to: Sara Washbush,
swashbush@craft.on.ca, 613-204-1391

En français: valerie@oneofakindshow.com,
416-960-4514

This project is made possible with the support of funding from the Eastern Ontario Development Program and the Eastern Ontario Community Futures Development Corporations, private foundations, and eastern Ontario municipalities. For an up to date listing, visit

www.craft.on.ca/OCC_News/Eastern_Update
Sara Washbus; Eastern Regional Coordinator
Ontario Crafts Council; Phone: 613-204-1391;
Brockville, ON; swashbush@craft.on.ca;
www.craft.on.ca

Guild Meeting Minutes –Nov. 2nd, 2009

Gallery, Heartwood House

(Written & Recorded by Merilyn Mulligan)

Meeting called to order by Shirley Browsky 7:30 pm

Announcements

Exhibition and Sale went well

We had advertised for a new treasurer and Mandy moved that Debra Turnbull be appointed Treasurer. Elizabeth Watt seconded the motion. Mandy made a motion to amend the above motion to read Debra Turnbull be appointed acting Treasurer, Elizabeth Watt seconded the motion. The Raffle took in \$1,200.00 unofficially. Winners were announced, First the Coverlet to Maggie Van Windam, Second the basket of woven articles to Cheryle Canning, and Third the Afghan donated by Janet Wittam to Janice Noseworthy.

Linus Blanket donation deadline is Nov 31. The display was well received at the Exhibition and Sale. Yarn and Fibre Convenor required, we need someone to find suppliers, compile lists and samples for our members. We could buy in bulk and cut costs for our members.

Mary Morrison suggested we set up a co-op shop for Heartwood House to buy items we produce – we need a co-ordinator to help Mary.

Challenge is over- People's choice award went to the white and cream coloured shawl, Judith Rygiel and Laurie H-C

Debra Turnbull – response was very positive and suggested the community centre could use an ATM Greeting cards made about \$500.00

We need to buy our own display equipment.

Workshops

We have 5 new members and lots of people signed up for workshops, the workshops are full and overfull and we need to hold more. Need one more person for the basket making (sewing basket) Library night – Laurie advised 2nd Wednesday of the month. 4-8

Show and Tell

John Toft – a basket he made on Saturday during the Sale

Mary Bowing – a woven hat using a circle of cardboard as a form

Elizabeth Watt – a sweater

Program

Annie Jackson introduced Elizabeth Watt a member since 1992, a spinner and now a weaver Dyeing and Colouring fibre with both Synthetic and Natural Dyes. Kool Aid, Tintex dyes are very easy to acquire other chemical dyes can be purchased through the web, sites such as Pro-Chem and other wool and yarn shops around town.

Safety was stressed, use particulate mask to keep the powder from entering the lungs. Plastic or vinyl gloves should be worn. Some other requirements to be kept separate from the cooking utensils are a measuring cup, syringe, weigh scales and either a stainless steel or enamel pot or roasting pan, plastic sheets and newspaper, canning sealers (jars) brushes and sponges.

Elizabeth had several books on Colouring textiles and we have several books on colour in our library.

Meeting adjourned at 9: pm

Marketplace

Members can now advertise for free!

The Marketplace portion of the OVWSG Newsletter is used to promote and assist its members. Current members of the OVWSG can advertise at no charge. Some restrictions may apply as to space availability and file restrictions.

Weaver Wanted – Fleurette would like to make an arrangement with a weaver to make her a wrap with some of the very fine mohair yarn, and then perhaps keep the rest towards the some or all of the labour. She can be reached at 613-744-3027 anytime evenings and weekends or at fleurette1320@yahoo.com

CANAAN MOHAIR

SHIRLEY BROWSKY

430 DU GOLF ROAD

HAMMOND, ONTARIO K0A 2A0

613-488-2898

WWW.CANAANMOHAIR.CA

POLWARTH FLEECES, SHEEP, YARNS &
KITS, WORKSHOPS, LESSONS, CLINICS,
HANDWOVEN FABRICS

VISIT BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT

FOR SALE: Drum carder, with bench, chain drive made by The Spinning Wheel Factory in Milton. Is motorized or could be handcranked. \$125.00
Contact Shirley at
sbrowsky@sympatico.ca.

Mark IV drum carder in good condition. Instruction booklet included \$200.
Cindy O'Gorman
613-832-9316
cgo244@yahoo.ca

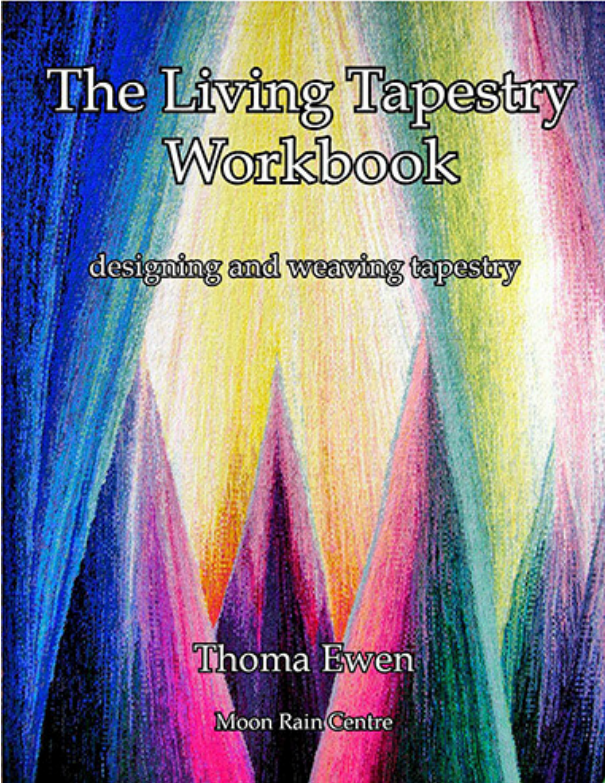
45" Leclerc Nilus loom for sale with all related equipment (many shuttles, various reeds, warping board, etc.) and many excellent reference books. Very good condition. Asking \$1400. Call Marilyn @ (613) 924-9910 or e-mail to marilyncrummey@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: Dorothy 15 3/4"
4 shaft table loom by Leclerc Looms includes an assortment of yarns (mostly wool/linen blends) What a deal at \$350!
613-841-1415 or
n.malboeuf@rogers.com

GUILD FLOOR LOOMS for SALE

Leclerc 36" jack-type "Artisat"
with bench \$500
Leclerc 36" counter-balance
"Mira" \$250

"Glimakra" Swedish Loom
4-Harness Counter Balance 36" Wide Weaving Width 29"
Collapsible loom with own stand
\$400
(613) 932-1611 near Cornwall
winookpeachey@hotmail.com



The Living Tapestry Workbook

designing and weaving tapestry


Thoma Ewen

Moon Rain Centre

The Living Tapestry Workbook

is an introductory guide to designing and weaving tapestry

The step-by-step instructions simplify tapestry weaving, making it accessible and easy to do. The Workbook covers all the basics needed to get started and serves as a companion to further explorations in tapestry weaving.



photograph © Joanne de Nobrega

The **Living Tapestry Workbook** introduces the philosophy of Canadian tapestry artist Thoma Ewen, and shares her technical insights and knowledge developed over 35 years of weaving and teaching tapestry. Ewen communicates the ancient indigenous understanding that weaving is a sacred path. She illustrates how tapestry's vital contemporary role is to transmit beauty, harmony and Peace.

Moon Rain Centre
www.moonrain.ca
ISBN 978-0-9691147-3-4

Beautiful 45" Maple Clement Loom



whole kit and kaboodle

\$750

contact anne.wilson@sympatico.ca

