



Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild

February 2010 Newsletter

Message from your President

I have been thinking of things like "gratitude". One of the lists I belong to has been having a lively discussion about guilds and what they mean to people.

It came to me that this is a very good time to be weaving. The internet is an incredible resource, allowing people with diverse interests in far-flung corners of the globe to actually discuss in, not exactly real time, but much faster than 20 years ago when you had letters (and a sometimes 6 week wait for a response) or expensive long distance telephone as communication tools.

Now we have the ability to post information on whatever we like to a website and anyone who has access to the internet can go and take a look, make comments, give help

Ralph Griswold did an enormous service to the weaving community by gathering "rare" or just plain informative books, scanning them and posting them to a website. After his death, a group of people took on the job to continue his work so that these books will not be lost or even particularly difficult to find.

<http://handweaving.net> is one place you can find these pdf files.

Thinking about this project got me thinking about the (mostly) women who, during the middle and late part of the 20th century learned as much as they could, then wrote and taught anyone who was interested, about weaving. They also did an enormous service to the weaving community for without them, there would not likely be the guild organization that exists (in North America) and very probably, I would never have discovered the joys of weaving cloth.

At any rate, I have spent much of today cultivating an attitude of gratitude - something we sometimes forget to do in our hectic daily lives.....

You will notice at the meeting that our closet end of the room has been renovated. We hope that this will help in ease of finding materials for our students as well as a neat, efficient way to store seldom used items for

demos, displays, etc. Come take a look. We are also looking into purchasing some display equipment to be used for shows and demos. We will be refurbishing the existing equipment, selling off excess things and purchasing some new items, namely, another spinning wheel and a multi-shaft loom. Mandy Heggveit has completed the grant application for the City of Ottawa, and hopefully, we will receive news soon in order to accomplish some of these changes.

Stay warm - weaving will help! And if you can't get to the loom, your stash is good insulation, anyway! I am immersed in a fine silk warp with a homework sample warp waiting in the wings.

Shirley Browsey

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Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 1st

Come and join us for the next Guild Meeting on Monday, February 1st at 730pm at Heartwood House at 153 Chapel Street in Ottawa.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 1st!

Resource Centre - Library

The library opens before the meetings at 5pm. If you need access earlier please let me know. Circulating books are available to be taken out by members from one meeting to the next. If you are unable to attend the next meeting or require an extension, contact the librarians. Otherwise late return of books allows you to donate to the library new book fund (\$1:50 per book per month). To reach one of the librarians (Jan Scott) call 613-828-3256 or email her at jsrmt@hotmail.com

When filling out the library card it is important to **print** in the date it is due (the next meeting) and your name. (if you write in the date you took it out, it means the book is already late!). The executive has continued the open mid-month library night. Both the Guild library and the in-depth studies will be available for perusal. The next one will be in mid February.

GOOD NEWS - NEW BOOKS (shown last meeting at show and tell)

Intertwined: The Art of Handspun Yarn, Modern Patterns, and Creative Spinning by Lexi Boeger.

This is a book on art spinning. It goes beyond the even perfect yarn that has been long aspired to and embraces many ways to make textured yarn. There are many wild yarn suggestions in the book. Some may even inspire a weaver to create something new and wonderful! This book was generously donated by Heather Orpana of Ottawa Valley Fiber Arts.

Weave your wardrobe by Ankaret Dean.

This is a book on weaving for garment construction and simple patterns well suited for the loom. She has a chapter on special techniques including instructions on paddle warping, finger weaving, four strand braid and ikat. This book was donated by Jan Scott who purchased it from Siobhan Baker.

Temari: How to Make Japanese Thread Balls by [Diana Vandervoort](#)

This is a book all about making tamari balls! It may inspire you to do something new and exciting with your thrums from weaving or little bits of samples of exotic fibers you have spun but can't think what to do with (since your fibre sample binder is full!) We did not previously have any books on this topic and I had previously had inquiries for information about how to make them. I was able to get this book very cheaply on E-Bay for us.

Come in EARLY to the Guild meeting and Welcome the new books to their new home!

Resource Centre - Studio

Our studio is undergoing a revitalization ,with new storage arrangements and an upgrading of looms, wheels and other equipment, either by purchasing or refurbishment. To effect these changes, we are selling the equipment listed below. Prices are modest so here's a chance for a good deal.

FOR SALE

- 3 x 36`` Artisan Jack-type floor looms \$250 each
- 36`` Counter-balanced floor loom, solid frame \$150. At present, this loom has on it a warp for Linus blankets. In reasonable working order, but needs some refurbishment
- Benches - small, adjustable \$ 50
- small, rocking, adjustable \$ 60
- small, with storage \$ 60
- Reeds - # 12, 8, 6 \$ 25 each

SPECIAL FEATURE - STUDIO TOUR

If you haven't yet visited the Resource Centre, take a GUIDED TOUR at the February meeting, between 7 and 7:30 pm. There are two looms set up ready for weaving, either tea towels or Linus blankets. Come and try your hand.

Please see Mary Morrison or Sue Quinn.

USE of STUDIO LOOMS

To use a loom, members may contact Mary Morrison or Sue Quinn. We can help you. A loom can be reserved for a month at a time for a special project.

There is no charge for use of looms in the Studio, but a monetary donation to the Guild would be appreciated.

COURTESIES OF STUDIO USE

- PUT 50 CENTS IN THE BOX PROVIDED, PLEASE: if enjoying coffee, tea or hot chocolate that is provided this helps replenish supplies.
- CLEAN-UP - wash cups, utensils used, wipe counter, coffee pot, etc.
- PUT GARBAGE BAG IN HALL, FOR PICK-UP LATER

- SWEEP FLOOR and/or USE SWIFFER-----EVEN IF IT LOOKS QUITE CLEAN.

- DO NOT ENTER WITH WET BOOTS - Bring shoes or slippers

The Studio is maintained by member volunteers, there is no paid help. Do your part to keep it clean.

Resource Centre Convener , Mary Morrison

613 830-9992 morrmry@sympatico.ca

Co-convener, Sue Quinn 613 837-1619

sooniequinn@yahoo.com

GONE ASTRAY

Small accessories: wooden lease sticks for table looms, reed hooks, key wrenches

Former weaving students - please check to see if these items are hiding unnoticed in your work area.

Exhibition & Sale Update

Nancy Ingram has submitted to the Guild a detailed manual based on the 2009 Exhibition and Sale. Placed in the OVWSG library, it is for the use of the Chairman and Committee members in the organization and promotion of the 2010 Exhibition and Sale

Workshops and Courses

We have some space in workshops scheduled for the next month or so. To register contact Elizabeth 613-692-6115, elizabeth@wattfamily.ca. The schedule for April to June should be available shortly.

Colour Theory and its Application to Textiles Part 1

Through lectures on colour theory and practical exercises the students will familiarize themselves with the many fascinating elements of colour as it applies to textiles. NB part 2 will be offered in Fall 2010

Dates: Sunday Feb. 7, 2010 and Sunday Feb. 28, 2010

Time: 9:30 - 4:30 both days

Instructor: Mandy Heggteit

Cost: \$120 members/\$140 non-members

Materials Fee TBD

Beginning Weaving II Follow-Up to Beginning Weaving.

Plan and weave a project of your choice on a floor loom.

Part 1: Saturday February 6, 2009 Part 2: Saturday February 13, 2009 Part 3: Saturday February 20, 2009

Time: 11:00am-4:00pm

Level: Beginner. No previous experience necessary.

Instructor: Mary Morrison

Cost : \$110 members/\$140 non-members.

Materials cost: TBA

Needle Felted Pin Cushion

Learn the basics of needle felting and make a pincushion of your own design.

Date: Saturday March 8, 2010

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Instructor: Ann McElroy

Cost: \$35 members, \$45 non-members

Introduction to Spinning

Beginners will learn to spin and ply wool fibre on a handspindle.

Date: Sunday February 21, 2010

Time: 10:30am-3:30pm

Level: beginner

Instructor: Elizabeth Watt

Cost: \$40 members, \$50 non-members

Materials Fee:\$12 (include fibre, spindle and instruction booklet).

Beginning Weaving I: Parts 1 to 4

Create a fabric! Learn the basics of setting up and weaving on a loom, including colour- blending of yarn, how to read and interpret a weaving pattern and how to plan a project. Table looms are provided, subject to a refundable deposit fee

Part 1: Sunday March 7, 2010 Part 2: Sunday March 14, 2010 Part 3: Sunday March 28, 2010 Part 4: Sunday April 11, 2010

Time: 10:00am-4:00pm

Level: Beginner

Instructor: Mary Morrison

Cost: \$180.00 members, \$220.00 non-members

Materials fee: \$15

Introduction to Rigid Heddle Weaving

Students will learn the basics of weaving on the Rigid Heddle Loom while weaving a scarf in plain weave. More advanced techniques will be demonstrated and discussed.

Date: Saturday March 14 2010

Time: 10:00am -3:00pm

Level: Beginner

Instructor: Elizabeth Watt

Cost: \$40 members, \$50 non-members

Materials Fee: approximately \$20

Gaining Control

You have learned to spin and ply on the wheel, now take control and learn to make the yarns you want. Techniques to control twist from kinky to soft and diameter from lace to rugs. Drafting techniques to control a variety of fibres.

Date: Saturday January 16, 2010

Time: 10:00am – 4:00pm

Level: Intermediate

Instructor: Elizabeth Watt

Cost: \$50 members, \$60 non-members

Materials Fee: \$10

Upcoming Events

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION: THE WINTERLUDE URBAN COZY PROJECT

This February 2010, Spins & Needles, in collaboration with the National Capital Commission (NCC), is calling on artists, crafters and the public, individuals and groups, of all ages, and all creative levels to be part of the Winterlude Urban Cozy Project.

Various warm coverings, or cozies, wrapped around trees, lampposts, and other urban elements will be installed on two major festival sites. The intervention will remix warmth, cold, art, craft, music and the city, and also play with traditional images and conceptions associated with a country known around the world for it's cold weather climate.

Makers from the Ottawa region, across Canada, and beyond are invited to contribute cozies.. They can be traditional sewed/knitted/crocheted ones or also more novel creations. Once we receive a cozy, it will be labelled with the maker's name(s) and city or residence, and installed at one of the two Winterlude sites. Photos will be posted on the Spins & Needles site and Flickr so that cozy makers can connect with one another. Plus if the cozy is something to talk about, we'll profile it and the person on the Spins & Needles blog as well!

Cozies must be received by February 10, 2010.

Other ways of participating include: cozy installation, photography, social media, workshop assistance, and donation of cozy-appropriate materials.

For more information, how to submit and FAQs you can visit <http://www.spinsandneedles.com/winterlude2010> or e-mail spinsandneedles[at]gmail[dot]com.

Melanie Yugo and Jason Pelletier
spins & needles™
craft + DJ night co-organizers
www.spinsandneedles.com

Ottawa Craft Organizations Network

Paul Portelli will be presenting his Booth Design and Marketing Workshop on Saturday, February 6th at the Ron Kolbus Centre in Britannia Park. A flyer for the workshop is attached.

This workshop is hosted by the Ottawa Guild of Potters, and that anyone wishing to participate should contact the workshop co-ordinator Arthur Petch at artpetch@sympatico.ca. Cost is \$35 for members of the Ottawa Potters Guild, or \$40 for non-members.

The Chesterville & District Historical Society

invites you to celebrate Heritage Week at its Annual Spin-In: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Held in the Nelson LaPrade Centre, 9 William St. (in the Park) Chesterville. William St. is on the East side of Main St S, south side of St Mary's School

Theme for 2010 – Celebration

We all have things to celebrate in lives – especially in our fibre lives! New skills learned, new friendships formed, old friendships renewed. Come and share your experiences with other spinners and fibre enthusiasts!

Vendors: Debbie Etherington, Elisabeth Kaufmann, and Lise Noakes will be attending – you can restock with supplies!

Please respect our vendors! They have paid to sponsor the Spin-in. Other attendees must not sell in competition to them and will be asked to remove product from the venue.

Door Prizes will be won.

Bring your lunch or treat yourself to a meal at one of the village restaurants. For more information contact Margot Dixon 613-984-2880 email: margotdixon@sympatico.ca subject heading: Spin In

Jacquard Workshop with Louise Lemieux Bérubé

Schedule for 2010

Advanced jacquard workshop with a six-color warp (tapestry warp) :

A one-week workshop : from July 5th to 9th, 2010
Cost : 400\$ cad (material included). Study of tapestry weaves and other complex weaves using a six-color warp. Additional instruction for special case issues pertaining to personal projects. Designing and weaving different samples. Possibility to leave complete designs to be woven after workshop.

Introduction (1) to Jacquard weaving:

A one-week workshop : from August 9th to 13th, 2008
Cost : 400\$ cad (material included). Introduction to Jacquard weaving. Study of simple and some complex weaves. Adaptation of a scanned image into a usable form for a woven interpretation. Designing and weaving different samples. Possibility to leave complete designs to be woven after workshop.

Intermediate (2) to Jacquard weaving:

A one-week workshop : from August 16th to 20th, 2008
Cost : 400\$ cad (material included). Study of complex weaves, including different ratio wefts, mixing two complex weaves, etc. Additional instruction for special case issues pertaining to personal projects. Designing and weaving different samples. Possibility to leave complete designs to be woven after workshop.

General information :

- Jacquard weaving is done on two fully computerized Jacquard handlooms and Pointcarré software is used. Photoshop is also used for special design effects and composition.
 - The warp on our loom consists of 1728 threads set at 40 epi for the Introduction and Intermediate workshops and at 84 epi for the Advanced six-color warp workshop.
 - The computer lab and the weaving workshops are accessible at night and during weekends.
 - one Macintosh computer per student.
- To reserve a place, contact Nicole at MCCT - <mailto:nicole@textiles-mtl.com>.
You will be asked to send as soon as possible a deposit of half of the registration fee.
We will accept participants on a base of first come/first serve. Payments can be made with a VISA or Master card number. Visit MCCT website to get all the information.

http://www.textilestl.com/index.php?option=com_event&Itemid=72

Introducing Eastern Ontario Professional Development Workshops, in partnership with the Ontario Craft Council.

CARFAC Ontario and the Ontario Crafts Council present two essential workshops this winter for professional and emerging artists! Registration will commence January 9, 2010. Visit:

www.craft.on.ca/OCC_News/Eastern_Update for registration information.

Pre-registration is required.

Photographing Artwork and Basic Lighting Techniques

Instructor: Janice Van Dijk (notes in French can be provided if requested in advance)

Date: Friday, February 26, 2010

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Location: St. Lawrence College, 2288 Parkdale Avenue, Brockville ON

Price: \$25 + GST OCC or CARFAC members; \$30 + GST non-members; refreshments included

Course Description: Image is everything! Learn how to reproduce the full range of colours, textures and tones in your two- dimensional and three-dimensional artworks by harnessing lighting and photographic techniques. This course will provide: key tips; equipment options; demonstration scenarios; hands-on practice. Learn how to attain the high-quality digital files necessary for your artistic and marketing needs.

Questions: contact Sara Washbush, OCC Eastern Regional Coordinator, 613-204-1391,

swashbush@craft.on.ca

CARFAC Ontario

www.carfaontario.ca

phone: 416-340-8850

toll-free: 1-877-890-8850

Bayeux Tapestry at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is celebrating its twenty – fifth anniversary this year! To start off the celebrations we are revisiting the most popular exhibit that the museum has hosted during the past twenty –

five years. The Bayeux Tapestry by Raymond Dugan is back!

A replica of the Bayeux Tapestry by artist Raymond Dugan will be visiting the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum at 3 Rosamond St. E, Almonte. from January 12 – April 25, 2010. The piece was created over eight years by artist Raymond Dugan and is done in the original eight colours. This world class replica of the famous 70 meter tapestries embroidered in the 11th century celebrates the conquest of England by William, Duke of Normandy. See the legendary animals, ships, Vikings, Norman and Saxon's calvarias illustrated in exploits of William and Harold without the expensive trip to France.

The museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday between the hours of 10 am to 4 pm. Admission: \$5.00. For more information: 613-256-3754 ex. 15,

www.textilemuseum.mississippimills.com or mvtn@magma.ca

Guild Meeting Minutes - Dec. 7th

Gallery, Heartwood House

Monthly Guild Meeting December 7, 2009, Gallery Heartwood House

(Written and Recorded by Marilyn Mulligan)

Meeting called to order by Shirley Browsky at 7:55 pm
Announcements

John and Ann Toft won the Scotia bank advocacy award
If there is enough interest a spin in will be held in the resource centre once a month.

The Card makers were thanked; they brought in over \$ 500.00, and advised that we will do this again next year. Suggestions were requested on how to spend the money.

Raffle money and the grant from the City of Ottawa will be used to buy cabinets to replace the old ones at the door. Possibly replace a spinning wheel and buy an 8 or 12 shaft loom.

Nancy Ingram has provided a Book of instructions for the Exhibition and Sale, Debra Turnbull has offered to

organize the event and has asked if another person would co-chair with her possibly a vendor.

The guild will hold an X and Sale for Heartwood House Dec 7 to Dec 10 from 11 until 3

Show and Tell

Ann MacElroy took a course in Inkle weaving and created a case for scissors

Mary Bowring created many different patterns on a 2 shaft rigid heddle, on an 8 shaft bound weave rose path threading , made baby bibs with bunnies, sheep, flowers -knitted mitts made with hand spun yarn

8:15 to 8:30 break

Chinese auction

Many treasures changed hands very efficiently, quickly and professionally by Ann Middleton and Anne Jackson

Guild Meeting Minutes - Jan. 4th

Gallery, Heartwood House

Monthly Guild Meeting January 4, 2010, Gallery

Heartwood House

(Written and Recorded by Debra Turnbull)

Meeting called to order by Mandy Heggveit

Announcements

Debra Turnbull – requests to guild members collecting monies for the guild or submitting expenses, to kindly use new forms created for that purpose.

Mandy – announced the preparation of the Guild's Operations Manual.

Show & Tell

- Elizabeth Watt – presented dishcloths out of hemp.
- Alison James – took E.Watt's course – presented a woven scarf and a hand-spun, knit scarf.
- Anne Middleton – presented a knit scarf spun from llama rolags.
- Judy Kavanagh – on-going search for indestructible socks -> presented a 3 ply hand-spun yarn from Mr. Weather; and demonstrated her own built, and fully functional, charkha out of Leggo™.
- Jan Scott – presented the new books added in the library.

- Ann McElroy – presented spun wool/ rayon & dyed yarn.
- Cindy O'Gorman – presented woven, overshot table runners. Also presented shetland & alpaca samples.
- Heather Orpana presented hand-spun wool from rovings. Crochet hat with soy/silk hand-spun yarn.
- Yolantha presented a hand-woven, hand-spun, brightly coloured scarf.

Demonstration – Weaving Tips: Warping a Loom

- Laurie Harkin-Chiasson - trapeze warping
- Mary Morrison - front-to-back warping
- Mandy Heggveit - back-to-front warping
- Christine Turnbull - rigid heddle; direct warping.

Course Reminder

Mandy's Colour Theory workshop (Sun Feb. 7th & 28th) > sign-up deadline is February 1st.

Elizabeth's Rigid Heddle course (Sat. March 13th) > sign-up deadline is March 6th.

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.

Free carding wheel to good home

Frequently dusted and occasionally polished carding wheel ready to live up to its potential. Would like to make yarn with compatible soul, but may or may not have all the necessary parts. If you have been waiting for a wheel to complete you, call Janice 613-234-5275 or j_manchee@sympatico.ca

Wanted: 3 lbs. each clean **raw** border leicester and Corriedale fleeces. Needed by May 31 for Handspinning Seminar. If you have some in your stash or know where I can get these please let me know. Shirley Browsky sbrowsky@sympatico.ca

Spinning Lessons near Kemptville

Anyone interested in giving spinning lessons in the Kemptville area, please contact Heather at heather@ottawavalleyfiberarts.ca

CANAAN MOHAIR

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WWW.CANAANMOHAIR.CA

POLWARTH FLEECES, SHEEP, YARNS & KITS, WORKSHOPS, LESSONS, CLINICS, HANDWOVEN FABRICS
VISIT BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT

Dreamspin Fibres has a 20% to 50% sale on Merino, Corriedale, Teeswater and Masham tops, bombyx and tussah tops and Angelina, starting January 15th to end of February. Orders over \$100 shipped free, go in with a friend and save even more!

For details and colours:
www.dreamspinfibres.ca click on "sale items."