



Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild

November 2010 Newsletter

Message from your President

Mandy Heggveit

I recently met a woman who retired not long ago from a professorship in psychology at a major Ontario university. When I told her that I retired as well and am now back being a weaver again her eyes lit up and she revealed that she, in collaboration with her daughter, writes knitting books that are selling all over the world. But what I found most interesting during our conversation was how she described how working with our hands benefits us in terms of intellectual and psychological well being. In other words, we are definitely on the right track!

I don't know if any of you receive Weaving Today, a weekly e-letter published by *Handwoven*. If not, you might want to check out the weavingtoday.com website where currently a wild battle rages. The focus of the discourse is the answer to the question of what is the best way to warp a loom. There are literally hundreds of comments and if you wish you can add your own 10 cents worth. Reading all the opinions I was fascinated by how passionate some people are about their preferred warping method, all black and white. But, complementing our program on warping last spring, there is also good advice and I already picked up several useful tips. If you know of websites that deal with equally valid spinning topics, please let me know or, even better,

write something about it for the newsletter.

Preparations for the Exhibition & Sale are in full swing and I ask all of you to continue to sell raffle tickets for Jack's coverlet (bring your sold booklets and the money to the November meeting) and free-up a few hours during the November 5-7 week-end to help staff the guild tables.

If you have not sent me your completed 2010 Guild Survey please do so. Your assessment of the Guild and suggestions on how it can serve you better are extremely useful. I will be analyzing the surveys later this year and get the results to you no later than January.

As you were informed at the last meeting, we hope to exhibit the results of the next Guild Challenge at the Mississippi Textile Museum in Almonte in late 2011 or spring 2012. The purpose of this initiative is exactly as its name suggests: the challenge for you to go beyond your comfort zone and/or overcome the confines of your givens, as – for example – the limitations of a narrow loom. The parameters for the next Guild Challenge's weaving segment are stated further on in the Newsletter and I encourage spinners, felters and basket makers to provide Aurora Richard with suggestions so that she can finalize the guidelines for the spinning/felting/basket making segment of the challenge

Inside this Issue ...

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Next Meeting
- 2 General Announcements
- 3 Exhibition & Sale
- 3 Upcoming Events
- 4 Meeting Minutes: Oct. 4th, 2010
- 5 Marketplace

Next Meeting: Monday, Nov. 1st.

Come and join us for the next Guild Meeting on Monday, November 1st at 7:30pm at Heartwood House at 153 Chapel Street in Ottawa. John Toft and his wife Anne will be giving a presentation on Etsy, an internet marketing/sales tool for homemade items.

Our next meeting is Monday, December 6th!

General Announcements
Guild Fund-raiser

Please remember to bring your cards to the November meeting so that they can be priced and prepared for sale by Friday. If you are unable to make the meeting, please give me a call and we can make arrangements to ensure that your contributions are available for sale. Thank you all for taking the time to join

in this activity.

Anne Middleton, (613) 728-0941

2011 – 12 Guild Challenge**Weaving Component Directions for Handwoven Yardage**

1. Inspiration: Any weaving draft published before 1970
We suggest that you consult publications such as *Warp and Weft* or *Loom Music* where a wealth of interesting weave structures can be found. The challenge is for weavers to use the weave structure and re-interpret it in a contemporary aesthetic.
2. Materials: Any yarn in any fibre
What is important to consider is the suitability of the materials for the purpose of the yardage.
3. Minimum Length: three (3) yards
Three yards are the absolute minimum but weavers may wish to weave considerably longer warps.
4. Minimum width: 28 inches
28 inches are the minimum requirement but any width wider than 28 inches is eligible. The minimum width can be achieved by sewing yardages of several narrower widths together.
5. Assessment:
Submissions will be evaluated based on the level of their

- a. Aesthetic appearance
- b. Technical mastery
- c. Suitability of fabric for intended purpose

Please advise Mandy Heggtveit (heggtveit@rogers.com) of your intent to participate in the Weaving Component of the 2011-12 Guild Challenge .

Exhibition & Sale

Ex & Sale Update

Well, it's crunch time... All the pieces have to start coming together. Monday November 1st is the next guild meeting; and that Friday is the start of our Ex & Sale. We still have a few outstanding details:

Door Prizes

I need one volunteer (or two), per day, to gather up the door prize stubs from the vendors and conduct a draw (or draws). Please see me during November's meeting.

Re-cycled Items for Display

I am still looking for items made out of recycled materials - for the "Low Carbon Footprint" display. If you have made something out of something else, and are willing to loan it out for the duration of the show, please bring the item to November's meeting. Thank you.

Setup and Tear Down

I require a team of individuals to assist

me in the setting up of the Exhibition displays and the hall (Friday); as well as tear down of the displays and hall clean-up (Sunday). There will be a sign-up sheet at the next meeting.

The Glebe Centre

We only have access to the hall starting at noon on Friday November 5th. There is a class, organized by the city, using the facility until that time. From noon until 1:30p - only the Setup Team members will be permitted access to the hall. Vendors may NOT make deliveries during this time - there are no "safe corners to stick my stuff in". Kindly wait until we are finished.

Vendors may begin delivering their materials and setting up their booths as of 1:30p on Friday. The Glebe Centre would like to remind everyone: NOT to block the downramp leading to the entrance. You are permitted to park temporarily while unloading, however, once unloading is complete - park your vehicle on the street. There is plenty of parking along 3rd and 2nd Avenues.

Reminder: please avoid using pins for joining items together. Pins can get dropped and lost in the carpets - which is extremely dangerous to the pre-schoolers that use the hall. There are safer alternatives.

Theme Days

Finally, I would like to add a little fun to the event for us non-vendor types. Friday will be extremely busy, however I

would like to propose:

- Sock Saturday, and
- Wrap Up Sunday

Sock Saturday - wear your hand-made socks... show them off! And don't forget the "Green" theme of this year's show.

Wrap Up Sunday - wear your: wraps, shawls, scarves... anything comfy & cozy as part of your outfit. If they're hand-made - flaunt it!

Above all - come out to your Exhibition & Sale... and have fun!

Join the Fun on Exhibition and Sale weekend

Glebe Community Centre

Helping out at the Sale is more like a social outing. Get to know some of your fellow guild members in an inspiring setting of wonderful fibre exhibitors. Plus the guild's Exhibition area has the theme of "Going green – Low carbon footprint" this year. We should all be able to learn something from this exhibit.

Bonus: There's a great little Pantry serving food there too, so when you are ready for a break, join your fellow guild members in a bite to eat as well. Plus Free parking in the school parking lot, adjacent to the Glebe Community Centre.

Sale times: Friday Nov 5, 4-8pm, Sat. Nov. 6, 10-5pm, Sun Nov. 7, 10-4
Volunteers are needed for

- Exhibit Demonstration area "Low Carbon Footprint" – spinning, weaving, felting, tapestry, etc. Bring your favourite fibre interest and show the

public how it's done. From Beginner level to advanced. - Jan Scott

Coordinating

- Guild Information Table – hand out brochures on the guild, upcoming workshops etc. Basically bring your enthusiasm and talk about the guild. – Laurie Harkin-Chiasson Coordinating

- Fundraising area – All the fantastic cards that have been made in recent weeks will be on sale, as well as raffle tickets for the Extraordinary Overshot Coverlet, woven by Jack Lane – Anne Middleton Coordinating

Volunteer a few hours (even 1 or 2 hours is great). It is a really fun time.

SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE POSTED AT THE NOV. 1ST MEETING

or e-mail lauriehc@magma.ca and I'll add your name to the sheet.

****Indicate the day and which hours you can commit to.**

Co-op Table

There is still space at the Co-op table. If you have only a few things to sell it's a great way to participate in the Sale.

Requirements:

- each type of work you do must pass through the standards committee. bring an example of your items to the Nov 1 meeting so that we can check it. The standards committee is looking for things like finishing, appropriate materials, and labeling. This only has to be done once unless you have substantially changed the type of item you are making so if you passed last year you don't have to repeat it this year.

- items must be labeled with the maker's name, fibre content and washing instructions. Stuffed items require stuffing labels (available from the guild). Price should be clearly marked.
- you must be available to help man the table during the sale, including set up and take down.
- The guild takes 10% of the selling price of each item sold.

Workshops

I've had to cancel a few workshops for October due to lack of interest. In order for workshops to run a minimum of 3 participants are needed. If members have ideas that would improve registration I'd love to hear them - is it scheduling? The type of workshops offered? There were some glitches in getting the schedule up on the website over the summer but it is there now with many and varied offerings in weaving, spinning and felting.

Elizabeth Watt

elizaeth@wattfamily.ca

Guild Meeting Minutes - Oct. 4th

(Written and Recorded, by Merilyn Mulligan)

Meeting brought to order at 7:30 by Mandy Heggteit

Announcements:

We need a representative (liaison) for HH meetings.

Debra Percival – drop spindle group meets Wed, 11-2. Rentals will be recorded on our web site.

Debra Turnbull – bookmarks are available and there are 5 vendor spaces are available-contact Judy Kavanagh or Debra Turnbull. For the vendors, looking into atm machine and their request for the survey.

Jean Sharp – Set up Display at Wabi Sabi – need more items.

Ann Middleton – Card Making, need to make more and will have 2 more card making sessions.

Shirley Browsky-need to sell more tickets.

Jan Scott – need volunteers for Spencerville Christmas craft sale.

Challenge- Weavers – to produce yardage, style to research and reproduce draft and weave prior to 1970. Min length to be 3 yards, finished 28' wide, any colour, any fibre, can submit up to 3 items. Spinners – will be given 5 different fibres, 500 gms total must make something out of it. Can have 2 or 3 people working together.

All to be completed 2011 or 2012 to be exhibited at mvtn.

Shirley Browsky motioned to discuss purchase of multi shaft loom. Mandy is selling a 12 shaft loom 2000.00 or best offer. (We offer to purchase and sell 2-45' looms. Mary Morrison seconded Motion. All in favour and motion carried. All voted to purchase from Mandy and all agreed.

Show and Tell

Ann McElroy-made wet beads.

Debra T. Dye pot sample book, with plants. Aurora, Amanda, Debra P. - Many Different colours from plants. Judith Rygiel – hand spun, hand woven and quilted samples from Louisiana.

Aurora – made dishcloths from linen picked up from some of Shirley B's De stash.

Judy Kavanagh – cedar hedge clippings died wool and spun with roving.

Jan Scott found some Sari silk on the internet and showed a belt woven on the Inkle loom.

8:35 Break

8:45 Resume

Karen Hendrickson - video of Exhibition displayed by the group Weavers Unlimited (Wow)

Mandy gave an explanation on how to price items we wish to sell. Consider production cost, overhead, profit, rental

and whole sale prices. Formula- material cost, samples, items used to finish, die products, loom waste, labour, and profit.

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. Contact: Melanie Overduin: melanie_overduin45@hotmail.com

LOOMS for SALE

To make room for different models

Two floor looms: 45" wide, 4 shafts --older models in good working order
\$350 each or best offer.

Contact Mary Morrison

morrmy@rogers.com 613 830-9992

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 \$225!
613-841-1415 or ljohnson2010@rogers.com

