



# **Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild**

## *May 2011 Newsletter*

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### **Message from your President**

*Mandy Heggveit*

My tulips finally decided to break through the cold earth and the calendar tells me that spring has arrived and that our Guild's fiscal year is coming to an end on April 30. The 2011 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> and will consist of reports by members of the Executive and from Coordinators. As you know, several positions will need to be filled and I encourage all members currently not committed to a position to let their name stand. I am particularly appealing to those of you who have been members for several years but have up to now not felt sufficiently confident to take on the one or other responsibility. It has been my experience that we tend to overestimate the time required to complete the tasks required in a volunteer position, often as few as 1- 2 hours per month depending on how involved you want to be. The OVWSG is your Guild and it is up to not only a small group of individuals but to all of us to make it a success and ultimately benefit you.

This brings me to the next point. You will find attached to this Newsletter the 2<sup>nd</sup> survey. Whereas the previous survey focused on the Guild and your opinion of how the organization meets your needs, the objective of the 2<sup>nd</sup> survey is for the Guild to know more about you. This information will assist the Executive to shape its programs and activities. If, for example, the survey's analysis reveals that most members are unable to take a workshop in September, it makes little sense for the Guild to schedule many classes during that month. Right now we are guessing most of the time in the hope that our presumptions of what meets your circumstances are correct. Since the participation rate in the previous survey was rather low we will make it easier for you by setting about 10 minutes aside

during the May and June meetings so that you can complete the survey and hand it in right away. The preparations for the 2013 OHS Conference are beginning to take shape and I will keep you informed as things progress.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 9<sup>th</sup>!

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### **Next Meeting: Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Come and join us for the next Guild Meeting on Monday, May 9th at 7:30pm at Heartwood House at 153 Chapel Street in Ottawa.

#### **Program:**

The program for this meeting will be your Annual General Meeting.

Our next meeting is Monday, June 6th, 2011!

## General Announcements

### 10th Annual St. Distaff's Day Celebration

Saturday, June 4th, 2011 The 10th annual St. Distaff Day will be at the Almonte Agricultural Hall, Almonte Ontario. This event is returning to its roots and will be hosted by the West Carleton Fibre Guild in the Agricultural Hall at the Almonte Fairgrounds, Almonte, ON. Registration packages will be available April 1 at <http://wcswh.blogspot.com>, or can be requested at [stdistaffsday@gmail.com](mailto:stdistaffsday@gmail.com) or from Mary-Ellen at 613-256-8073.

## Resource Centre: Library

The library may be opening a bit late this meeting. Because of the change of date, I will be coming in from Kanata after work, so I will have the library ready for you as soon as i can. As always if you cannot make the meeting please let us know and we will renew your material. Only members can take books out over the summer so remember to renew your membership. Please keep watching for stray Guild Library materials as you do your spring cleaning! Come in and check out all the new books from the 2010 and 2011! Jan Scott  
[jsrmt@hotmail.com](mailto:jsrmt@hotmail.com), 613-828-3256

## Heartwood House

### OC Transpo Unclaimed Items Sale

It was a beautiful day on Saturday April 30th. It rained so often in April that such a lovely, warm Saturday was sure to reduce the number of bargain shoppers from attending the sale. And it did, as attendance was down by approximately 100 people.

Just over 300 people waited patiently in the sunny, warm weather for their opportunity to dash in and scoop up the bargains. And the result was excellent as **we raised \$3,639.00 despite the reduced numbers of shoppers.**

Many thanks to the following volunteers who did a fantastic job including Ann, Liz, Anne, Amanda (OVWSG). The Unclaimed Items Sale is a grand example of how we work BETTER TOGETHER! Many, many thanks! Moe

## Membership

### Membership Renewals Reminder for 2011-12

All memberships expire on April 30. ( Unless, you joined as a new member in 2011, then your expiry is April 30, 2012.)

I will be sending reminders to unpaid members after the May meeting, since I know we all forget sometimes.

If you sent your membership renewal with your Ex and Sale booth application, I will be receiving those at the May meeting and will record you as paid, and send out your receipt and membership card at that time.

Cut-off date. The June 6 meeting will be the cut-off date for renewals. If we have not heard from you, we will have to assume that you do not wish to renew. I would appreciate if you could please let me know either way, to be more efficient.

Thank-you to everyone who has renewed promptly already. Much appreciated, it makes my job much easier.

Laurie Harkin-Chiasson, Membership convener  
OVWSG [membership@ovwsg.com](mailto:membership@ovwsg.com)

## Guild Exhibition & Sale 2011

The deadline for booths is now May 9<sup>th</sup>; if you need an application form please contact me

[sooniequinn@yahoo.ca](mailto:sooniequinn@yahoo.ca), and I will send you one.

This year, we want to focus the exhibition around the unique, special one of a kind, quality of our work as weavers and spinners and textile artists. We want everyone to be able to show off their work, either as booth-holders, or as exhibitors. Please remember there will also be a co-op booth, for members who wish to offer a few items for sale. There are lots of ways to join this annual event, keep this in mind as you plan your summer's projects.

For further information, if you have any questions please contact me. Sue Quinn 613-837-1619

[sooniequinn@yahoo.ca](mailto:sooniequinn@yahoo.ca)

## Upcoming Events

### Support the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum while seeing a great play in Perth!

What could be better than attending the Classic Theatre Festival in Perth? Supporting the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) while you do. Buy your tickets at the MVTM and see "The Fourposter" by Jand de Hartog on August 24th, and you'll be doing just that. "The Fourposter" is one of the most enduring portraits of a marriage in the 20th century theatrical canon. This chronicle of a couple through 35 years of marriage, from a nervous wedding night through to child birth and parenting, mid-life crisis, and the final realities of aging - is both a tender and a times hysterically funny masterpiece. It will be shown at The Mason Theatre 13 Victoria St. Perth. If you would like tickets please call 613-256-3754 ext. 7, email [curator@mvtm.ca](mailto:curator@mvtm.ca), or drop by the museum. The MVTM is open from Tuesday to Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.

## Costume Society of Ontario Event - An Invitation

The Costume Society of Ontario Eastern Branch has been absorbed into the main body of the CSO. To commemorate the 25 years of its existence and close the Eastern Branch in style, we are hosting a Closing Event in Kingston, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. John Vollmer, curator & scholar of Asian textiles and costumes, decorative arts, and design will present "Patches from Old Cloth" at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre from 12:00 to 4:00.

We extend an invitation to members of the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild to attend this event. There is an optional visit to the Handweaving Museum, Clayton NY June 5<sup>th</sup>. 2011 marks 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Dorothy Burnham. To commemorate this, we are hosting a 'Dorothy Burnham Tribute Display Table'. For more information contact:

Eva Burnham 514-767-8950

[evaburnham@aol.com](mailto:evaburnham@aol.com)

Julie Hughes 819-776-8416

[Julie.hughes@rogers.com](mailto:Julie.hughes@rogers.com)

## Interesting Websites

### Free Stuff, Cool Websites, Daily Inspirations, Newsletters.

Go to <http://www.interweavepress.com>

On the home page you will see tabs to several other aspects of fibre related arts and more. I signed up for daily newsletters on spinning (<http://www.spinningdaily.com>) and weaving (<http://www.weavingtoday.com>). Yes, there is some advertising included, which fortunately is all related to the subject. Also check out: or <http://www.handwovenmagazine.com>

**Free eBook** on “Weaving terms, warping a loom and more” when you sign up for the weavingtoday newsletter.

**Free eBook and 3 free knitting** patterns from “Knitting Scarf Patterns” from Spin-off, when you sign up for the spinning daily newsletter. Follow the tabs across the top of the interweavepress home page to find more **FREEBIES** and newsletters on:

Beading daily

Jewelry making daily

Crochet me

Knitting daily

Cloth paper scissors – for mixed media

Artist daily

Quilting arts

Sew daily

## **Guild Meeting Minutes:**

### **Monthly Meeting, April 4, 2011**

Gallery, Heartwood House,

(Written and Recorded, by Marilyn Mulligan)

Meeting brought to order at 7:30 by Mandy Heggteit

Guests were introduced.

Announcements: The Program next month will be the AGM. If anyone wants to do any job either as a coordinator of a member of the executive please contact Shirley Browsky. The yearend reports are needed for next meeting. There is now a comment box in the resource centre-let us know what you want. Ann Sunahara needs hockey stick shafts to make an 8 shaft loom out of a 4 shaft. Helen McGregor suggested a new survey of self evaluation of members to help up to organize and plan for our future. (SWOT) Strength, Weakness,

Opportunities and Threats. Francesca advised that we may have more mannequins from a store in the Rideau Centre Judy Kavanagh volunteered to pick

up. Jan Scott – need volunteers for demonstrations – Quilt show – RA centre May 6, 7, and 8, 10-5, Marilyn and Francesca for Friday, Jan to weave on Sunday. Sue Quinn – X and Sale need help with layout of bookmarks and need vendors. Mary Morrison-rug workshop-different techniques. The Workshop schedules for the spring is complete. Need to start on the fall schedule.

Program: “Louisiana Blues – Acadian Textiles” by Judith Rygiel. A very interesting and entertaining description of her experiences through her connection with Elaine Bourque an Acadian Weaver and Spinner in Lafayette La. In her search Judith found massive amounts of impressive patterns and fabrics. Working her way through ledgers and account books belonging to the Christian Women’s Exchange Judith found that fabrics were requested by samples of swatches and were mailed all over the Northern United States and Overseas (Italy).

8:25 Break, 8:40 Resumed

Show and Tell: Judy Kavanagh – alpaca fleece spun bouclé. Jan Scott - Fibre Focus Magazine – article written by Laurie Harkin-Chiasson about the In-Depth Studies. Laurie H-C has the meridies for Kumahimo braiding-ordered by the guild – 2 are now in the resource centre. Janet Kiff-MacAluso - a new weaver with a pillow cover and bed throw. Genevieve Noel - small bags with weights to hold notions, machine washable, and sells in shop Turtle Pearl. Robin Woods – weaver - Samples for door mat.

Adjourned 9.25



### 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](mailto:melanie_overduin45@hotmail.com)

### For Sale:

Wee Peggy spinning wheel.

Good working order.

Comes with three bobbins. \$100.

Info Dorothy Sheppard, 613.632.1430

### FOR SALE:

LECLERC NILUS 45" FOUR HARNESS, SIX PEDAL JACK  
LOOM PLUS ACCESSORIES - \$500.00.

ASHFORD SPINNING WHEEL \$400.00.

BOTH IN GOOD CONDITION.

TEL. # 613-836-9776

### For Sale

Dorothy table loom with stand.

\$350.00 OBO

Contact Marsha [Zimmerman.m@sympatico.ca](mailto:Zimmerman.m@sympatico.ca)

Ph. 613-692-0009

### Wanted

Looking to buy a used drum carder,  
preferably one with a fine carding cloth

Contact Maria

[mkungurov@yahoo.ca](mailto:mkungurov@yahoo.ca)



**2011 Woodstock Fleece Festival**

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 22ND**  
8:30AM - 4:00PM

EXHIBITION BOOTHS WILL BE SELLING EVERYTHING  
FROM RAW FIBER TO QUALITY FINISHED GOODS

**INSTRUCTOR LEAD WORKSHOPS**

TO REGISTER:  
CALL US OR VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE

Free Demos

Free Kids Activities

Phone: 519.539.2575  
Email: [fleecefestival@yahoo.com](mailto:fleecefestival@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.fleecefestival.com](http://www.fleecefestival.com)

**WOODSTOCK FAIRGROUNDS**  
875 Nellis Street  
Woodstock, Ontario, N4S 4C6

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$6.00 / 15 & UNDER FREE!!!

[www.fleecefestival.com](http://www.fleecefestival.com)



*A Common Exploration*

Art and Artifact

Inherit, Inform, Inspire  
by Cynthia Jackson

Composing with Fibre:  
Releasing Meaning from Common Threads  
by Jo Fowell and Sara Rockingham

Vernissage: Thursday, May 12, 7:00 pm.  
Exhibit: May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011.  
Location: Mississippi Valley Textile Museum  
3, Rosamond St. E.  
Almonte, ON  
K0A 1A0

Museum hours:  
Tuesday – Saturday  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Phone: 613-256-3754

### Applications are being accepted for the Ontario Handweavers & Spinners position of Fibre Focus Editor

#### The ideal candidate would:

Have a working knowledge of spinning and/or weaving.  
Be well connected in the community.  
Be able to find articles of interest for the magazine.  
Have editing and computer skills, including word processing and photo handling.  
Have a computer and reliable high speed internet access.  
Have good interpersonal and problem solving skills.  
Have the ability to work with the "publication team": Publisher, Graphic Designer and OHS Publications Chair.

This is a contract position with a letter of agreement outlining expectations to be signed by both parties. The successful candidate should be a member of Ontario Handweavers & Spinners, be creative, innovative and willing to volunteer a portion of the required hours. An honorarium of \$600 will be paid for each published issue of Fibre Focus.

#### Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

Planning future issues, soliciting articles and working with authors to develop material.  
Approve and edit all articles and reports accepted for publication.  
Organise the contents of each issue and create the dummy for the graphic designer.  
Write the Editor's Column.  
Work with the Publisher and Graphic Designer to meet deadlines.  
Program publication material to reflect the aims and mandate of the OHS.  
Provide support as required to members of the "publications team".

Interested candidates are invited to submit a letter of application and resume to the Publications Chair:  
Jean Park,  
24 Jones Cries, Tilsonburg, ON N4G 5X6  
519-842-6856  
[ajp.mrp@sympatico.ca](mailto:ajp.mrp@sympatico.ca)

Deadline for applications is May 15, 2011



## Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild

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1) Which of the following best describes your primary interest? Check (✓) one.

- |             |                                    |             |                                    |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Weaving  | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> | d) Knitting | <input type="radio"/> <sup>4</sup> |
| b) Spinning | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> | e) Basketry | <input type="radio"/> <sup>5</sup> |
| c) Felting  | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |             |                                    |

2) How would you describe your level of expertise in your primary area of interest? Check (✓) one.

- |                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Beginner     | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| b) Intermediate | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> |
| c) Expert       | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |

3) What is your primary reason for pursuing your craft? Check (✓) one.

- |                         |                                    |                          |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) The creative process | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> | d) The final product     | <input type="radio"/> <sup>4</sup> |
| b) General interest     | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> | e) Other, please specify | <input type="radio"/> <sup>5</sup> |
| c) Income               | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |                          |                                    |

4) Which of the following best describes what you do with your creations? Check (✓) one.

- |                       |                                    |                          |                                    |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Keep them          | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> | d) Other, please specify | <input type="radio"/> <sup>4</sup> |
| b) Sell them          | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> |                          |                                    |
| c) Give them as gifts | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |                          |                                    |

5) In the past 24 months, have you attended a Guild sponsored workshop? Check (✓) one.

☐<sup>1</sup> Yes ☐<sup>0</sup> No

*If you answered "No" why did you not attend? Check (✓) all that apply.*

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| a) The workshop topics did not match my interests.                         | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| b) The workshops were at the wrong time of year                            | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| c) Could not be away from my family or work for an extended period of time | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| d) The locations were inconvenient   | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| e) The workshop fees were too expensive                                    | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| f) Other reason, please specify  | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |

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## Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild

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6) The Guild is trying to plan future workshops. Which of the following are your three preferred topics? Check (✓) three.

- |                          |                       |                               |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a) Weaving, the basics   | <input type="radio"/> | h) Basketry                   | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) Weaving - advanced    | <input type="radio"/> | i) Dyeing                     | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) Spinning - the basics | <input type="radio"/> | j) Colour theory              | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) Spinning - advanced   | <input type="radio"/> | k) Designing weaving projects | <input type="radio"/> |
| e) Felting               | <input type="radio"/> | l) Designing yarns            | <input type="radio"/> |
| f) Knitting              | <input type="radio"/> | m) Other, please specify      | <input type="radio"/> |
| g) Braiding              | <input type="radio"/> |                               |                       |
- 

7) Using the letters associated with your three preferred topics, which topic is your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> most preferred topic? Write the letters in the blank spaces.

- |                                   |       |                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| a) Most preferred                 | (   ) | c) 3 <sup>rd</sup> most preferred | (   ) |
| b) 2 <sup>nd</sup> most preferred | (   ) |                                   |       |

8) Which months are convenient for you to attend workshops? Check (✓) all that apply.

- |             |                       |           |                       |              |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| a) January  | <input type="radio"/> | e) May    | <input type="radio"/> | i) September | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) February | <input type="radio"/> | f) June   | <input type="radio"/> | j) October   | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) March    | <input type="radio"/> | g) July   | <input type="radio"/> | k) November  | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) April    | <input type="radio"/> | h) August | <input type="radio"/> | l) December  | <input type="radio"/> |

9) Which workshop formats are convenient for you? Check (✓) all that apply.

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| a) 4- or 5-day workshops given on consecutive days                | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) 4- or 5-day workshops given over several weekends              | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) 4- or 5-day workshops given during the week over several weeks | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) Short evening workshops given on consecutive nights            | <input type="radio"/> |
| e) Short evening workshops given over several weeks               | <input type="radio"/> |
| f) Short daytime workshops given on consecutive days              | <input type="radio"/> |
| g) Short daytime workshops given over several weeks               | <input type="radio"/> |
| h) 1-day weekend workshops  | <input type="radio"/> |
| i) 2-day weekend workshops  | <input type="radio"/> |
| j) Other, please specify  | <input type="radio"/> |
-





## Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild

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10) The Guild charges approximately \$50 per day for its workshops. Do you feel this is too expensive, about right or too little for this training? Check (✓) one.

- a) Too expensive ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- b) About right ☐ <sup>2</sup>
- c) Too little ☐ <sup>3</sup>

11) If the Guild had a certification program, which program would you be most interested in pursuing? Check (✓) one.

- a) Weaving ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- b) Spinning ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- c) Felting ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- d) Basketry ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- e) No interest in a certificate ☐ <sup>1</sup>

12) What general issues would you like to hear discussed during our regular monthly meetings? Check (✓) all that apply.

- a) Textile history ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - b) Aboriginal traditions ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - c) Textiles from other countries ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - d) The projects of other Guild members ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - e) Textiles as fine art ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - f) Textile conservation ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - g) Contemporary issues in fibres and textiles ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - h) Fashion and design ☐ <sup>1</sup>
  - i) Other, please specify ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- 

13) What are the first three digits of your postal code?             /        /       

14) If you have a rural postal code, e.g., K0A, J0V, what is the name of the nearest town?

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15) What kind of Internet access do you have? Check (✓) one.

- a) Broadband or broadband light ☐ <sup>1</sup>
- b) Dial up ☐ <sup>2</sup>
- c) No Internet access ☐ <sup>3</sup>





## Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild

16) What is your age? Check (✓) one.

- |                |                                    |                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| a) 30 or under | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> | c) 50 to 64    | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| b) 31 to 49    | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> | d) 65 and over | <input type="radio"/> <sup>4</sup> |

17) What is the highest level of education you have successfully completed? Check (✓) one.

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| a) Less than high school                         | <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup> |
| b) High school                                   | <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup> |
| c) Bachelor degree, college or CEGEP certificate | <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup> |
| d) Graduate or professional degree               | <input type="radio"/> <sup>4</sup> |

18) Have you received formal post-secondary training in art or fibre arts? Check (✓) one.

☐<sup>1</sup> Yes      ☐<sup>0</sup> No

*If you answered "Yes", please describe.*

19) The Guild is run by volunteers. For members in your work and family situation, how many hours a month do you feel they could reasonably give to the Guild?

(      ) Hours a month

20) If you have any other suggestions or ideas, please use the space below for your comments.

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Thank you very much for completing this survey. Your input will help us to design new programs for the Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild.