



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

## *October 2011 Newsletter*

### **Message from your President**

*Mandy Heggveit*

September and October are usually one of our busiest months with the beginning of a new season and preparations for the Exhibition and Sale. This year is no exception and if anything it is even more intense than in past years. The Bonnie Inouye workshops are approaching with lightening speed and the 2011 – 2012 workshop schedule will be available very soon.

The reason why I keep mentioning the Guild's education program is to emphasize that the OVWSG has the mandate to advance and promote knowledge of textile crafts in the region. The Guild is in fact the only organization in the National Capital Region that has the venue, capacity and knowledge base to fulfill this function.

I used the term 'textile crafts' earlier very deliberately in an effort to celebrate the fact that the spinning, weaving, felting, basket making or knitting crafts have their roots in longstanding traditions but are practiced today in a contemporary context and aesthetic.

Generally speaking, I consider the fine crafts and the fine arts different yet parallel and equal practices. To illustrate this concept I like to draw comparisons with other art forms such as classical music and jazz or painting and photography. What ultimately matters is how good, or how not so good, we are within the context of our chosen practice and not be compared with the standards of a different milieu. What is important is being true to and having faith in oneself.

It is the OVWSG's objective to raise the technical and aesthetic standards within its membership and the upcoming workshops and courses will help to achieve this goal. As soon as the new schedule is out I encourage everyone to look through it carefully, select the workshops or courses you feel will help you to become more proficient in your practice and widen your horizons. And mark the dates in your calendars. The raffle booklets are ready and will be distributed shortly. As I mentioned at the September meeting every member of this Guild is expected to sell one booklet (four 'three-ticket tickets' worth a total of \$20.- each) between now and November 5th. The tickets will be ready for distribution at the October meeting and are expected to generate up to \$2,500 in total.

As announced in the last Newsletter, Bonnie Inouye will give a talk on "The Big Ida" at the meeting on October 3. This is a 2-hour presentation and for this reason there won't be a business meeting. Should anything of great urgency arise please let me know and I can send an email to the membership.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 3rd.

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### **Next Meeting: Monday, Oct. 3rd, 2011**

Come and join us for the next Guild Meeting on Monday, October 3rd at 7:30pm at Heartwood House at 153 Chapel Street in Ottawa.

#### **Program:**

A really exciting program this month – Bonnie Inouye will be speaking on "The Big Picture", how she conceives and produces her great woven pieces. Bonnie is an American who creates scarves, afghans, clothing and textiles on AVL compu-dobby looms, designing on the computer. She specializes in woven images, shaded curves and the most complex weaving. She now concentrates on teaching weaving skills and will be giving workshops to the Guild during October. Come and be tempted to use new technology in your art.

**Our next meeting is Monday, November 7th , 2011!**

## General Announcements

### Weavolution

Weavolution is seeking to reach beyond our cyber world of over 8,500+ members and invite weavers who participate in Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild to join our robust online community. There is no cost to participate, but the benefits to your members and organization can be tremendous.

By joining Weavolution now, you and your guild mates have the opportunity to participate in our new and exciting Weavolution Community Event, HalloWeave. As a community, Weavolution has over 2,000 projects posted by members with the collection growing daily. You'll also find a section of user drafts along with Forums discussing equipment, materials, techniques, and weaver-to-weaver recommendations. Specialized groups can easily be created specifically focused on your guild and updated as frequently as needed. These groups would be a way to reach new, internet-savvy people, for members who have very busy lives and have trouble attending monthly meetings, and to stay in touch and still interact with other weavers, on their schedule. Feel free to email [contact@weavolution.com](mailto:contact@weavolution.com), and a member of the Management Team will be in touch.

### The Fiber Challenge

If you need more fiber towards The Fiber Challenge please let me know and I will bring the right amount. Also for those who would like to join The Fiber Challenge there is fiber available. Email me for details: [aurora.richard@gmail.com](mailto:aurora.richard@gmail.com)

### Resource Centre: Library

Due to the Multi-harness classes scheduled on either side of the meeting date, we will have extra looms in the Resource Centre. This means we do not have access to the library this month (oh....); but on the other hand it will give everyone a further opportunity to read or watch the library materials you signed out last month.

Everyone is getting their books, DVD's and magazines renewed for one more month (Yahhh!!!!).

So please remember to return your library books at the November 7th meeting (right after the Ex and Sale). If you cannot make the meeting please let us know and we will renew your books. If you have discovered any stray library books please bring them with you to the meeting, we will all be very glad to see them again. The library contacts are Jan Scott 613-828-3256 or [jsrmt@hotmail.com](mailto:jsrmt@hotmail.com).

Remember to print your name and the date the book will be due back (that will be the next meeting eg; Dec 2011). if you need to access the library at another time contact the librarians to arrange access.

Have fun! Sign up for demos, see you soon, Jan  
[jsrmt@hotmail.com](mailto:jsrmt@hotmail.com)  
613-828-3256

## Guild Exhibition & Sale 2011

**November 4,5, & 6; Fri.4-8, Sat.10-5, Sun.10-4**

This is the 31st annual Ex and Sale and we have 21 booths sold, as well as the co-op booth and the Guild booth. There will be a wide selection of weaving, spinning, felting, fibre arts and suppliers, a not to be missed opportunity to see the work of these artisans. Admission is free and there is free parking at Corpus Christi School across the street.

This is an important event for our guild, so please help us get the word out. There are bookmarks available at the Resource Center. [In the storage wall on your left as you enter, in the top wire drawer of the center unit.] Please hand out these bookmarks, take them your local library, shops and workplace.

I was also wondering if someone on Facebook could help get the word out about our event.

There are other areas where help is needed

- Offer to commit an hour or two at the Ex and Sale to help at the guild booth
- Demonstrate weaving and spinning.
- Help with the set up and take down of the guild booth.

If you can help, or have any questions please contact Sue Quinn [guildsale@hotmail.com](mailto:guildsale@hotmail.com)

## Demonstrations

Thank you to all the demo volunteers! You have been very generous with your time and patient with my trying to get everything organized. Demos are a great way to show the public what we do and maybe interest them in doing it too. They are also lots of fun. Sometimes they even feed us! At present we have our own demo to get ready for.

It is time to start scheduling ourselves for the demo at the Exhibition and Sale for the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild! They are a really nice group, and we should really support them (ourselves!!!) Choose a half day to demo and the other half to shop!!! We will require demo people Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. You can bring your wheel, drop spindle, charka or use the demo table loom. If you have another demo activity suggestion let's check with the sale coordinator and see if we have enough space! (I here we are fully booked with booths this year so I'm looking forward to good shopping but not too much demo room).

If you don't want to bring spinning or weaving equipment with you to the demo, you can also help out at the guild booth selling raffle tickets or at the Co-op booth selling cool stuff!!! Remember there is The Pantry Restaurant in the Glebe Community Center as well as lots of restaurants along Bank Street.

So bus, drive, walk, bike, to come join us demoing for ourselves!! (I wonder if we will feed us? - I will likely have some form of chocolate! Mmmm ... chocolate for lunch.....)

Let me know what day you want to demo and if its morning, afternoon or both you would like.

2011 Annual Fall Exhibition and Sale at the Glebe Community Centre

Friday, November 4 (4pm-8pm)

Saturday, November 5 (10am-5pm)

Sunday, November 6 (10am-4pm) (Check your watch time change occurs on the Sunday)

If you want to help with the Co-Op booth contact Elizabeth Watt [elizabeth@wattfamily.ca](mailto:elizabeth@wattfamily.ca) or the guild table is Sue Quinn [guildsale@hotmail.com](mailto:guildsale@hotmail.com)

Have fun see you at the meeting!

All for now, Jan. [jsrmt@hotmail.com](mailto:jsrmt@hotmail.com) 613-828-3256

## Upcoming Events

### Show Us Your ART (2011 Call for Artists – Community Galleries)

The City of Ottawa holds an annual call for emerging and established artists interested in exhibiting their work at one of three Community Gallery Exhibition spaces. This opportunity is open to artists currently residing within 150 km of Ottawa. A peer jury selection committee will review submissions. Exhibitions will be held at:

- **The Atrium Gallery** - situated in the Atrium at Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepoin Drive.
  - **The Centrepoin Theatre Gallery** - situated in the Centrepoin Theatre foyer, 101 Centrepoin Drive.
  - **The Trinity Gallery: Salon A & Salon B** - situated at the Shenkman Arts Centre, 245 Centrum Boulevard.
- Submissions must include a completed application form and 6 (six) digital images on CD. Works in all media will be considered.

Artists wishing to apply for an exhibit in a community gallery for the period between April 2012 and March 2013 must apply by Friday October 14, 2011 at 4:30 pm

For more information on the Call to Artists: Community Galleries Selection 2011 application procedures and eligibility visit

[https://ottawa.ca/rec\\_culture/arts/resources/opportunities/community\\_galleries/index\\_en.html](https://ottawa.ca/rec_culture/arts/resources/opportunities/community_galleries/index_en.html)  
or contact Penelope Kokkinos at 613-596-5783 or [penelope.kokkinos@ottawa.ca](mailto:penelope.kokkinos@ottawa.ca)

## Editor's Note

You will notice a change in how the OVWSG Meeting Minutes are presented in this newsletter. Kelly MacGregor, our secretary, has formatted them in a table to clarify what issue was discussed, any decisions made, responsibilities assigned, and any deadlines. Also, they are now much easier to read and navigate! Thank you, Kelly!

## Minutes of General Membership Meeting

12 September 2011, 7:30 p.m. Heartwood House

**Chair: Mandy Heggteit**

**Present: General Membership**

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	DECISION	RESPONSIBILITY	DEADLINE
1. Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A warm welcome to new members and visitors: Nancy wants to learn about weaving, while Donna used to weave and needs a refresher. Karen wants to learn to spin and dye. Melanie is a returning member who spins and knits.</li> </ul>			
2. City Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As stated in a recent email, the Guild has received a 3 year operating grant from the City. Annual reports will be due to the City by January 16<sup>th</sup>, so committee persons will be asked to submit their statistics for the City report.</li> <li>The increase in funding allowed for the recent renovations and changes in the Resource Centre (RC).</li> <li>In future we may be able to offer scholarships for those who cannot afford the cost of classes and workshops.</li> </ul>			
3. German visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently a delegation from Germany toured Heartwood House and included the equivalent of a provincial premier. Although the RC was not officially on their tour, they stopped by. They had many pertinent and precise questions. They were very interested in the RC, the guild, and Heartwood House. Their tour was videotaped.</li> </ul>			
4. Raffle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Raffle is the primary fundraiser that takes coincides with the annual Exhibition and Sale. Funds are essential for our workshops.</li> <li>Mandy will get license on Wed and get the tickets printed.</li> <li>Cost is simplified this year at 3 tickets for \$5.00.</li> <li>Everyone is required to sell one booklet of \$20 worth of tickets.</li> <li>Prizes include the beautiful blanket woven by members on the 100-inch loom; a crib blanket in overshot created by Jack L; and a finely spun triangular shawl created and donated by Ann M.</li> </ul>			

5. Survey Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A final report is underway and will be shared with all when complete</li> <li>▪ There is a great deal of interesting information, for example, advanced weaving was the top choice for workshops</li> </ul>			
6. Vice President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The position of Vice President continues to be vacant.</li> <li>▪ Mandy, the current President, will not continue in her position beyond the end of her term.</li> </ul>			
7. October Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The entire evening of the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will be a special 2 hour presentation by Bonnie Inouye: "The Big Picture"</li> <li>▪ There will be no business portion to this meeting.</li> <li>▪ There will be no access to the RC as it will contain workshop equipment.</li> <li>▪ RC items signed out in September can be returned in November.</li> </ul>			
8. Resource Centre update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The cubby holes were removed and library cabinets put in their place along the long wall.</li> <li>▪ Francesca donated kitchen cupboards that were installed above the sink.</li> <li>▪ Please date whatever you put in the refrigerator</li> <li>▪ An Assistant Resource Manager is needed as back up for Ann S. and to generate ideas for further improvements.</li> <li>▪ October 29th, 10:30 - 2 is the OC Transpo Lost &amp; Found sale. All users of Heartwood House are obliged to help. Helpers get advanced shopping! Contact Ann Sunhara.</li> </ul>		Ann S.	
9. Workshop Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A schedule has been struck through to Dec 2012 to provide more advanced notice. It will be posted on the web site.</li> <li>▪ There is less course repetition, for example, drafting will be offered once every 2 years.</li> <li>▪ A brochure will be ready for the Exhibition &amp; Sale.</li> <li>▪ Nov-Dec 2011 dates are firm and the draft is available for member review.</li> <li>▪ A brief course list will be emailed to all by the end of the week, including new members attending this evening.</li> </ul>		Jan & Elizabeth Watt	
10. Demonstrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrations in May and June included the quilt show, Fibrefest, Dickenson Days, the Navan Fair, and Pinhey's Point.</li> <li>▪ September so far has included the Metcalfe Farmer's Market, North Gower Farmer's Market. Next we have the Carp Fair, Dickenson House, Richmond Fair, International Plowing Match and Navan's 150<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>		Jan Scott	

	<p>Anniversary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If you can assist in any way at this busy time, contact Jan Scott.</li> </ul>			
11. Exhibition & Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The OVWSG's 31<sup>st</sup> Exhibition and Sale to take place November 4 (4pm – 8pm), 5 (10am – 5pm) &amp; 6 (10am – 4pm) at the Glebe Community Centre (on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at Lyon). Theme: "Simply Unique".</li> <li>▪ This is our premier event, our showcase to the public.</li> <li>▪ Volunteers are needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At the Guild Booth – contact Ann S.</li> <li>○ At the Co-op Booth – you can put your sale items at the Co-op Booth and the guild receives 10% of sold items only; all contributors must assist with operating this booth, including set-up and take-down; deadline is Friday – contact Elizabeth W. or Christine Turnbull; the next newsletter will include guidelines for the Co-op Booth since, like other vendors, there is a jury process.</li> <li>○ Denise volunteered to write the article for The Wrap</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ There is additional parking at the Corpus Christi School across the street from 4:30 Friday throughout the weekend.</li> <li>▪ Jean Sharp is overseeing the display in the Wabi Sabi window. If you have items, contact Jean; the items will be returned by the sale.</li> <li>▪ Francesca Overend is organizing the central display at the sale. Eight to 10 clothing items are sought, not necessarily items for sale.</li> <li>▪ Membership agreed that Elizabeth Williams, Heartwood House Liaison, ask if leftover Co-op items can be included in the sale that takes place in December at Heartwood House.</li> <li>▪ A reminder about cards for the Guild fundraiser which are sold at the Guild Booth. Last year card sales earned us over \$500! There will be an organized evening in October for card making. Many members have been given cards so please complete and give to Ann M or bring to the October meeting.</li> </ul>	Agreed for follow up	<p>Sue Quinn</p> <p>Elizabeth W &amp; Christine T</p>	<p>Oct newsletter</p> <p>Oct meeting</p>
12. Show & Tell of Summertime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jean Sharp: colourful sweater, in progress, hand-dyed, hand spun, alpaca, silk, angora, Shetland, kid mohair – each colour a different fibre</li> </ul>		Elizabeth Williams	

e Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ann Middleton: (1) hand spun alpaca different colour at either end of the fibre (2) hand-woven vest, 100% hand spun, alpaca merino silk; vest constructed by Francesca.</li> <li>▪ Judy Kavanagh: (1) backstrap loom, leftover cat and dog hand spun made into a purse (2) finger weaving ceinture fleche, several in different colours and designs; teaching a finger weaving class Jan 8<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>▪ Christine Turnbull: (1) hand spun and plied on a spindle, handknit lace scarf (2) “weave-it” made by husband, hand-woven squares made into a scarf using up acrylic stash (3) small felted square case</li> <li>▪ Marcia: mystery fibre, blue dyed hand spun; knit shawl</li> <li>▪ Iwonna: From Nuno felting course – silk and wool scarves, cheesecloth samples; Ann McElroy teaching Nuno Felting November 22<sup>nd</sup>.</li> <li>▪ Mary Morrison: Hand-woven scarves, products of a dying workshop.</li> <li>▪ Francesca: scarf collaboration with Iwonna who spun the silk merino warp; weft is silk.</li> <li>▪ Melanie: hand spun on spindles, a shawl in progress</li> <li>▪ Kelly: merino hand spun, Navajo plying.</li> <li>▪ Bernadette Quade: new wheel with double treadles, “American Traveller”, looking for information about wheel; has a new Ashford drum carder and producing lovely hand spun</li> <li>▪ Jan: Nuno felting class products including cheesecloth sample, experiments; likes the open spaces.</li> <li>▪ Elizabeth Williams: hand-woven all natural cottons, 2/10; placemat based on last Hand-woven but in a cotton fibre instead.</li> <li>▪ Robert: sampler from Mary Morrison’s rug workshop.</li> <li>▪ Laurie H-C: scissor’s holder from inkle loom class</li> <li>▪ Alison James: (1) Kool-Aid dying hand spun (2) pinwheel pattern runner based on multi heddle loom lessons.</li> <li>▪ Shirley B: scarf, “ribbons” pattern, 16 shafts, 3/1 plus plain.</li> <li>▪ Mandy: Nuno felting workshop scarf; dip dyed scarves on 16 harnesses.</li> </ul>			
Next Meeting	Next General Membership Guild Meeting, Monday, October 3 <sup>rd</sup> with Bonnie Inouye: “The Big Picture”			

## 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)



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



**BE PART OF THE NEW *FIBRE FOCUS* CREATIVE TEAM!**

**An exciting adventure awaits:**

- Help produce an influential fibre magazine*
- Work with authors to develop articles*
- Choose the stories that make the pages*
- Organise the layout of the magazine*
- Plan future issues*
- Write your own column*

**SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!**

**A letter of application and résumé may be sent to:**

**Jean Park**  
**Publications Chair**  
**24 Jones Cres,**  
**Tillsonburg, ON**  
**N4G 5X6**  
**519-842-6856 [ajp.mrp@sympatico.ca](mailto:ajp.mrp@sympatico.ca)**

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This is a volunteer position for which an honorarium of \$600 will be given for each published issue.

Depending on experience, it may take up to 150 hours over three months for the first issue. The time requirements should reduce to about 100 hours over three months for succeeding issues. The successful candidate should be a member of OHS, be creative and innovative.

A DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.OHS.ON.CA](http://WWW.OHS.ON.CA).

**Deadline for applications is November 15, 2011**



Ottawa Valley  
Weavers' and Spinners' Guild  
Exhibition and Sale  
*Simply Unique*



Nov. 4, 5, 6, 2011  
Fri. 4-8, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 10-4  
Glebe Community Centre  
175 Third Avenue, Ottawa  
Free admission and parking  
[www.ovwsg.com](http://www.ovwsg.com)



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*The OVWSG gratefully acknowledges the  
financial support of the City of Ottawa*

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L'Association  
des tisserands et  
des fileurs de la vallée  
de l'Outaouais  
Exposition et vente  
*Simplement Unique*

le 4, 5, 6, novembre 2010  
Vendredi 16h00 à 20h00,  
Samedi 10h00 à 17h00,  
Dimanche 10h00 à 16h00  
Centre communautaire Glebe  
175 Ave. Third, Ottawa  
Entrée et stationnement libre  
[www.ovwsg.com](http://www.ovwsg.com)

*Nous remercions la Ville d'Ottawa  
de son soutien financier*

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