

Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild February 2012 Newsletter

Message from your President

Mandy Heggtveit

While reading Bill Bryson's At Home I recently came across the following passage in the chapter where he talks about the Dressing Room:

"....and that among these new people was some ingenious soul who came up with one of the greatest, most underrated inventions in history: string. String is marvellously elemental. It is simply two pieces of fibre placed side by side and twisted together. That achieves two things" it makes a cord that is strong, and it allows long cords to be built up from short fibres. Imagine where we would be without it. There would be no cloth, clothing, fishing lines, nets, snares, rope, leashes, tethers, slings, bows for shooting arrows and a thousand other things more."

I wanted to share this insightful text with you to think upon and feel pride in knowing the impact on society our crafts of making and interlacing string had throughout history and how it is up to organizations like ours to maintain and develop this knowledge for future generations.

And while I am bragging I should tell you that, according to the information gathered for the Statistical Report for the City, our guild accomplished, among other, the following during 2011:

- 100 person days of demos
- 28 workshops/classes
- Approximately 350 members attending the monthly meetings
- Approximately 980 visitors to the Exhibition and Sale
- 107 members or non-members attended workshops
- The total number of volunteers (demos, executive, coordinators, etc.) is 116; this number reflects the fact that many of the volunteers act in more than one capacity), and
- Guild members contributed approximately 2500 volunteer hours.

For an organization of 122 this is quite an accomplishment and I sincerely thank all who contributed to this remarkable success.

We are now well into a new year and it will be a busy one. We are anticipating a change of location for the Resource Centre, pour our efforts into making the 2013 OHS Conference a success and continue our ongoing programming. I am happy to report that Anne Middleton has come forward to accept the responsibility for coordinating and overseeing the 2012 Exhibition & Sale in November. Anne will be supported by Francesca Overend and Jean Sharp and I am certain by many more of us; a meeting for all the vendors will be called shortly.

As a reminder please note that the following really interesting workshops are planned for February and March:

- Intermediate Kumihimo (February 5)
- Felted Pictures (February 5)
- Clear out your stash mixed media warps (February 11)
- Small Loom Weaving (February18)
- Inkle Too (February 19)
- Introduction to spinning on a Wheel (February 25)
- Cotton and Charka Spinning (March 11)
- Intermediate Weaving (March 10, 24, April 14 and 21)
- Gaining Control (March 17)
- Plying (March 31)
- Wet felted Birdhouses (March 25)

If you are interested in finding out more about these workshops please contact Elizabeth Watt (<u>elizabeth@wattfamilly.ca</u>) or the workshop instructor (you can find their contact information in the membership list).

The program of the February meeting promises to be very interesting. The *Quilt of Belonging*" is a uniquely Canadian initiative and I encourage everyone to come to the meeting and learn how this amazing project came together.

See you on February 6!

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Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 6th, 2012

Come and join us for the next Guild Meeting on Monday, February 6th at 7:30pm at Heartwood House at 153 Chapel Street in Ottawa.

Program:

February's program is a slide presentation and display by Esther Bryan, Director of the Quilt of Belonging/Fibres du monde. This is a 120 foot long collaborative textile art project portraying the cultural legacy of all the First Peoples of Canada and every nation of the world at the dawn of the millennium.

Our next meeting: Monday, March 5th, 2012.

General Annoucements

*IMPORTANT *ALL MEMBERS MUST READ/FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES with

"Accessibility Standard for Customer Service"

The guild and its members have a legal obligation to be familiar with the above standards. Whether you are an instructor, Ex. and Sale Exhibitor, or just running into other people at the Guild Resource Centre or Heartwood House, this document teaches us some basics on:

(From the document's introduction)

Ontario's new accessibility standard aims to give people with disabilities great customer service. This guide will help you do that. It will help you learn about:

- The Accessibility Standard for Customer Service and how it will help you welcome customers with disabilities
- How to serve customers with different kinds of disabilities
- How to help customers who use assistive devices, like wheelchairs or oxygen tanks
- Service animals, such as guide dogs, and how to welcome customers who use them
- What a support person does and how to help customers who are accompanied by a support person
- What to do when a customer with a disability needs help accessing your goods and services
 Those in attendance at the guild January meeting were taken through the document by Kelly
 McGregor, so they have now met the requirement.
 This document will now be included in the "New Member Handout Package".

NOTE: All members who did not receive the "walk-through" at the Jan. meeting should familiarize themselves with the document.

A copy of the document is included with this newsletter. It can also be found on the guild Yahoo group page, under Files

To learn more about Accessibility, follow the link www.ontario.ca/AccessON

Yahoo Group –Documents available of interest to members

Were you aware that you can access the following documents through the guilds' yahoo group? Click on "File" on the left hand menu box, after you have logged in.

Membership, etc. – Membership List = Current membership lists

- <u>Exec</u> = Current Executive and Committees, contact list
- Old = Archive of previous membership lists
- Keys & Parking = Listing of members who are holding sets of keys (HH side door and RC door) and Parking regulations for Heartwood House parking lot

<u>Newsletters</u> = Archive of Guild newsletters Accessibility Standard for Customer Service = Document which all Guild members must familiarize themselves with.

<u>History & Intro</u> = Handout document given to new members, indicates all the services the guild offers to members and how to access them.

<u>OVWSG Standards</u> = Handout on the standards expected for items to be sold at the annual Exhibition and Sale or similar show.

<u>RC Brochure</u> = a single, 3-fold sheet with general information on what the guild's Resource Centre is. Attachments Reminder = how to properly share files with the yahoo group. Specific do's and don'ts

Basket Repair Enquiry

The guild has received an enquiry for anyone willing to help repair a bassinet. It is a "coil" style basketry. Some members have already been approached but we have failed to find someone willing to help this person. Here is her e-mail message.

Looking to hire a weaver:

I have attached photos of a 32 year old bassinet that I had used with my Son. He and his wife are now expecting and I am hoping to have these minor repairs done in order to gift it to them. It would be great to have it repaired/reinforced in order that they can use it.

I was directed to your Association from a gentleman who does wicker & rattan repairs; he

believes this is some type of leaf or corn stalk and would require weaving.

If someone would be so kind as to let me know if this is possible ... or not, I would appreciate it. I can be reached anytime via email

<u>ileanen@adarhl613.com</u> or on my cell at 613-255-7254 Res Tel:613-836-6829 Regards, Ileane Nolan Note: If you are interested, I (Laurie H-C) can forward the photo of the basinet to you.

Yarn Gossip

Announced at the last meeting that "Knit Knackers" (299 Bank St.) is now carrying Brassard yarns and can also order from Brassard for you.

Membership

Membership Reminder

Just a "heads-up" that all memberships expire on April 30. Starting with the MARCH 5 meeting, I will begin to accept renewals for the 2012-13 year. Up-to-date Membership lists can be found on the guild's YAHOO GROUP page

Exhibition & Sale 2012

November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th

The annual Ex and Sale is a major fund raising and outreach activity for the guild. A meeting to discuss the 2012 Ex and Sale will be held on February 11 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm at our Resource Center, Heartwood House, 153 Chapel St. We will go over last year's event, and then turn our attention to the planning for 2012. If you have any ideas, suggestions, comments or criticisms we would welcome them, by email if you cannot attend this meeting.

I would like to thank Anne Middleton who will be taking over as convenor for the Ex and Sale this year. During Saturday's meeting we will be developing the theme for this year and incorporate new ideas and ways of doing things. This is your chance to help shape the event this year. Please bring a lunch and we will provide drinks and a dessert. To ensure we are prepared, please RSVP to guildsale@hotmail.com or sign the volunteer sheet

at the February meeting.
We look forward to seeing you on the 11th.
Sue Quinn sooniequinn@yahoo.ca
Anne Middleton 613-728-0941

2013 OHS Conference

Call for program submissions to 2013 conference CALL FOR PROPOSALS

OHS CONFERENCE 2013:

"Fibre Optics"

to be held in the NavCan Centre, Cornwall, Ontario May $2-5\ 2013$

is requesting submissions from

- keynote speakers and
- leaders for 2-day, 1-day and 2-hour workshops or seminars
 The theme is: What is your fibre future?
 Deadline for submissions: April 16, 2012
 Send proposals, CV and fee schedule to
 Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild,
 153 Chapel St, Ottawa ON K1N 1H5
 If you have suggestions of people for speakers or workshop leaders you can send those in an email as well.

fibreoptics@ovwsg.com Ann McElroy (613) 282-1686

Calling all artists - LOGO needed

As you know our guild is hosting the OHS (Ontario Handweavers and Spinners) conference in May of 2013. The theme of the conference is "FIBRE OPTICS". We are looking for a logo for the conference based on this theme. Turn on the creativity and come up with a logo. Please bring your submissions to the Feb. meeting or by Feb. 15 at the latest. You can submit them to Mandy Heggtveit, Ann Sunahara, Ann McElroy or Laurie

Harkin-Chiasson. HAVE FUN WITH IT. Looking forward to see what you come up with.

Resource Centre - Library

Come to the meeting early and see the new Books and DVD!! Library opens at 5pm on Monday Feb 6th 2012.

If you can't make the meeting and have library books, magazines, or DVD's out contact the librarians to renew them until the March meeting: jsrmt@hotmail.com /613-828-3256.

Please fill out the library card at the back of the library material. Print your name and the date the book will be due (for this months meeting the due date is March 2012). The late fee per item is \$1.50 per month and goes towards more books!!! Please check for missing library books hiding around your house and if you are visiting a member from previous years please ask them to check their house too. Some very missed books are still missing without leaving us forwarding addresses! (no sign out card was left) Pease help us search for our lost material!

NEW BOOKS!!

Come check out our new arrivals. I have been very fortunate with the sails over Christmas at Interweave and through Amazon. I have my eye on 2 more books that will be available to order near the end of February. We now have new spinning and weaving DVD's and Books and even a DVD on dyeing! The DVD's are viewable on a computer; Interweave suggests VLC player (which is free) as the best for viewing them with.

Slots and Holes: Three Ways to Warp a Rigid -Heddle Loom DVD Gibson, Liz

This DVD offers 3 ways to get warped and on to weaving quickly on a Rigid heddle loom.

Interweaves bio: "Liz Gipson has taught scores of people the joys of the rigid heddle, and in the process has developed simple approaches that make sense. You'll feel comfortable with her downhome explanations and reassured by her commonsense ways of working. Slots and Holes is loaded with tricks and tips and know-how, from why it's good to have an arsenal of scissors, to how to warp with two yarns at once and save half your time. "

Run Time: Approximately 90 minutes

Language: English

Big and Lofty Yarns DVD

Casey, Maggie

This may be a more appropriate DVD for an advanced beginner or intermediate spinner. Interweaves discribes it as: "With this workshop, you will:

- Prepare you wool on a drumcarder.
- Learn how to adjust your wheel's take-up.
- Use the perfect drafting technique for trapping air in your yarn and getting it on your bobbin as quickly as possible.
- Learn how to preserve the loftiness of the yarn through plying and finishing.

Maggie Casey's soothing voice and gentle encouragement are surpassed only by her spinning knowledge gleaned through years of teaching at her spinning shop in Boulder, Colorado."

Run Time: Approximately 90 minutes

Language: English

Know Your Wheel DVD

Alden Amos and Cindy Lair

From Interweave: "Between the two of them, Alden Amos and Cindy Lair have more than 50 years' experience making spinning wheels. Amos makes them one by one, by hand; Lair makes them in production runs using sophisticated machines.

For both makers, quality is paramount. And for both, helping their customers get the most from their wheels is a substantial part of their work. In this DVD, you'll hear each maker expound on the wheel function and maintenance problems they most often encounter, and you'll learn their special tricks for dealing with them. Looking at a wide range of wheels, you'll learn how to deal with:

- That annoying clunking sound
- The bobbin that sometimes jams
- The drive band that keeps slipping off
- The drive band that needs replacement more often than you might think
- The copious lubrication needs of your wheel
- And so much more.

Best of all, you'll learn to feel at ease with your wheel as a productive machine. You'll gain the confidence to tackle problems, wield tools, and forge a long and happy relationship with your wheel."

Run Time: 120 minutes Language: English

Dyeing in the Kitchen DVD

Deb Menz

From Interweave: "Dyeing your own yarn or fiber offers the same satisfaction as making your own homemade soup. You know exactly what goes in it, you can tweak the ingredients to get exactly what you want, you can make endless variations from just a few basic ingredients. Plus, it's fun! And you can do it right in your own kitchen!

Deb Menz knows the process inside out, and she is a master of making color alchemy attainable for anyone. All you need is some wool, silk, or other protein fiber and a few basic dye powders to mix and match as you please.

In this cheerful session, Deb talks about:

- Equipment and safety
- Choosing basic dyes that are safe and easy to use

- Making stock solutions to keep handy for color mixing
- Simple (really simple!) math for creating repeatable colors if you want to
- Color mixing the sky's the limit.

After that, it's all fun! Deep-water and low-water dyeing, dip dyeing, resist dyeing, ombrés, self-striping yarns, squirting, injecting, dribbling – and overdyeing if you don't like what you get the first time. Along the way, you will pick up useful hints on color theory so you can get just the effects you want.

Run Time: Approximately 75 minutes

Language: English"

Advise on Copyright

Question: If someone makes a project from a pattern in a magazine and then puts it in a guild sale, is that against the law? If the fiber, color or size is altered, then is it acceptable?

Answer: If a weaver uses the instructions in a magazine (or any copyrighted printed matter) to make an item (number of threads, draft, yarns, colors, sett, finishing methods), it is a copyright violation to sell it or to enter it in a show of original work. The written instructions are copyright protected, not the actual item. Simply changing a color or a yarn would probably not be regarded as enough of a change to avoid violation (and might be regarded as a change made only to avoid it).

As we all know, however, many of our projects look very similar to each other--we use the same drafts over and over and the same yarns. Only the maker may really know whether she/he actually used written project instructions to make an item. I've seen jurors give Best of Show to pieces that were exact duplicates of magazine projects. The juror didn't know, but the weaver did. (It is also true,

however, that some weavers mistakenly think it is craftsmanship that is judged in weaving shows and that the work does not have to be original.) It is always OK to give projects woven from written instructions as gifts.

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Upcoming Events

Chesterville Spin In 2012

Wednesday February 15, 2012 from 9:30am to 4:00pm Held in 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}.

<u>Theme for 2012</u> is 'headcoverings' we all have one and need to keep it covered during certain weather conditions, show us you inventive creations.

Vendors: Trillium Farms-Debbie Etherington; Elisabeth's Llama Ranch-Elisabeth Kaufmann; Dreams & Creations-Maureen Robertson; Francine Hebert with shawl pins & stitch markers; handmade wooden accessories for spinners & crafters-Laurie Harkin-Chiasson. You can restock your supplies (contact them ahead of time if you have specific supply requirements.) Please respect our vendors! They have pair 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.

Being your lunch or treat yourself to a meal at one of the village restaurants.

For more information contact Nancy MacMillan 613-448-1411 email:

<u>nancy.macmillan021@sympatico.ca</u> subject heading: Spin In

Minutes of General Membership Meeting 5 December 2011, 7:30 p.m. Heartwood House

Chair: Mandy Heggtveit		Present: General	Present: General Membership			
ISSUE	DISCUSSION	DECISION	RESPONSIBILITY	DEADLINE		
1. Welcome	"Welcome" to: ◆ Pauline who was an active weave ◆ A visitor from Montreal who weav ◆ Angela who knits, spins and weav	ves	a loom and is a machine	e knitter		
2. The Move	 Ann S. reported that the purchase of the Heartwood House building by Claridge Homes is effective March 1st. Our lease is up Feb 29st It is anticipated the new owners will allow us to stay until summer or fall The Heartwood House search committee is looking at (1) 45 Montreal Rd and (2) Jean-Vanier school. We must decide by Jan if we are going to go with the Heartwood House group or not. 	h.				
3. REPORTS						
a. Resource Centre	If something breaks please let And S. know, preferably by email, so that it can be repaired. If it is not known, it cannot be fixed.		• all			

3.2 OHS	•	Ontario Handweavers & Spinners	•	All interested in	•	Meet
Conference		(OHS) Conference update from		knowing more		at 6:30
		Laurie who is Co-Chair of the event		about OHS		on Jan
		planned May 2013, hosted by		conference		9 th at
		OVWSG.				Heart
	•	Held every 2 years, the conference				wood
		works its way around the 6 regions				House
		in Ontario, coming to the east				
		about every 10 years, so it's our				
		turn to co-ordinate with the other				
		eastern Ontario guilds.				
	•	The Nav Centre, a conference				
		centre in Cornwall, has been				
		booked.				
	•	On Jan 9 th , at 6:30 before our				
		regular guild meeting, there will be				
		an organizational meeting for our				
		guild, here. Weather date is the				
		following week.				
	•	Agenda will include vendors,				
		programming, keynote speakers,				
		workshop leaders, etc.				
3.3 Workshop	•	Elizabeth Watt reported that the				
Schedule		new schedule is working well				
	•	Please write on cheque the date				
		and time of the workshop		Registrants		
	•	Please do not send cash as it is too		Registratits		
	_	difficult to track				
	•	Alert E.W. if you must cancel so				
	_	that others can take that space				
	•	"Fantastic!" was a comment				
		received re: the new schedule on the web site				
		Instructors and students are				
	-	responsible for returning the				
		Resource Centre back to its normal				
		set-up				
		σει αρ				
				Instructors &		
				students		
				Judents	l	

3.4 Library	Check out the new CDs, DVDs and books!			
3.5 Programming	 Janet Kiff-Mancuso reported that there are a few months with no program, so if you have suggestions, please let Janet know. 	all a.s.a.p.		
4 Other Business	 There will be a presentation at January's meeting on the AODA – Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act – a provincial requirement for all organizations The deadline for the Guild Challenges is moved to October 2012 as too many projects on the go right now. Thanks to all who voted for Heartwood House for the recent on-line Aviva competition. Newsletter email not received, while "snail mail" was reported received. Mandy will follow-up with Melanie 	 Guild Challenge deadline moved to Oct 2012 Guild Challenge participants 		
		Mandy will follow-up		
5 Show & Tell	 Jean: - Alpaca handspun and knit swe Ann S.: - Bonnie I workshop piece, mo Amy: - long sampler from the beginni Bernadette: - handspun silk waste Julie: - cherry KoolAid dyed lace shaw 	Jan: -samples of spun dog and cat hair from Sunday's class Jean: - Alpaca handspun and knit sweater Ann S.: - Bonnie I workshop piece, moving overshot scarf Amy: - long sampler from the beginning weaver course Bernadette: - handspun silk waste Julie: - cherry KoolAid dyed lace shawl for a Ravelry swap Pauline: -twill table mat / runner, handwoven many years ago		

Minutes of General Membership Meeting 9 January 2012, 7:30 p.m. Heartwood House **Chair: Mandy Heggtveit Present: General Membership ISSUE DEADLINE DISCUSSION DECISION RESPONSIBILITY** "Welcome" to: 4. Welcome Eleanor, a visitor, who enjoys weaving and knitting Woman – whose name cannot be remembered by several of us - who recently moved here from Atlanta, is learning to knit, and volunteered to help out with vendors for the OHS Conference 5. The Move Ann S. provided a brief Contact Ann and / or A.s.a.p. update. Mandy regarding We need our own location forming a location search committee to find our search committee own space Our lease expires and we can go month by month beginning in March, with 3 months notice to leave. Our goal is to move in summer. It was asked if members would have an opportunity to vote on a location. In response: Ann S, the Resource Centre Manager, and Mandy, the President, are on the Heartwood House (HH) relocation committee and have as much input as any of the other 18 agencies. Should the location selected by HH not be suitable we will find our own.

6. OHS Letter Received	 Mandy received a letter from the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners (OHS) President Mandy explained that OHS is a provincial organization that represents the interests of over 600 handweavers and spinners. "Fibre Focus" is published quarterly; the OHS conference is bi-annual; there are Master Weaver and Master Spinner programs; extensive library. All are encouraged to join Our own Mary Morrison is a Past President of OHS [Secretary's note: See web site at www.ohs.on.ca] 	Become a member of OHS or be sure to renew Become a member of OHS or be sure to renew
7. REPORTS		
a. Resource Centre	 Some help is required by Ann S. to re-organize and move and lift a few things in the Resource Centre. 	■ Email Ann at sunahara@magma.ca if you are able to assist
4.2 OHS Conference	 Laurie, Co-Chair of the OHS Conference committee gave an update following our guild's conference meeting which preceded this meeting It was asked if we will have a guild display and this is to be determined; however, it was suggested that the Guild Challenge (Oct deadline) could be used for the display. 	

4.3 Workshop Schedule	 Elizabeth Watt reported on workshops Despite requests there were no registrants for the ceinture fléchée workshop and it was cancelled. Glitches in on-line viewing of new schedule will be resolved soon. No one has signed up for 	Sign up as soon as you are able or courses get cancelled
4.4 Library	 alpaca workshop next week. Jan Scott reported the acquisition of replacement CD cases Check out new materials! Please provide feedback on items you have borrowed; how do you like them? 	
4.5 Exhibition & Sale	 Sue Quinn gave a final report on the November 2011 Exhibition & Sale It was very successful, with 21 booths, 33 members who participated with demonstrations, helping, etc. It was a lot of work, but very successful. Sue is stepping down and anyone who is interested is welcome to speak with her directly. It's a nice job with lots of help. This is OVSWG's annual showcase of what you do! The Glebe Community Ctr is booked for 2012 There are ideas from vendor evaluations that need to be addressed. 	See Sue Quinn or Mandy to learn more about the Exhibition & Sale
4.6 Programming	 Janet K-M reported that next month's meeting is to feature Esther Bryan the creator of 	

		the Quilt of Belonging, a Canadian cultural heritage tapestry. [Secretary's note: can be soon on you tube]			
_	Other Business	 Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte is having a celebration on Sat Jan 28th 2:00 to 4:00 			
6	Show & Tell	Louise L: scarf from sister-in-law in Australia, with handspun warp Judy K: 3-ply corriedale socks, Navajo plied; mittens of mis-matched and (lovely!) leftover yarn Jan: felted hat from recent class; sari silk on black and teal wool Denise Atkinson: 3-ply spun cotton placemats handwoven on Dorothy loom Carolyn: handspun alpaca fingerless gloves			