



Ottawa Valley Weavers' & Spinners' Guild

February 2014 Newsletter

Inside this Issue:

President's Message	p. 1
Announcements	p. 2
Welcome to New Members	p. 4
Workshops	p. 5
Marketplace	p. 8
Meeting Highlights	p. 9
Dec Meeting Minutes	p. 12
Jan Meeting Minutes	p. 13

Upcoming Meeting:

Monday February 3rd,
2014 at 7.30pm
Heartwood House
404 McArthur Avenue
Ottawa, ON

Program:

-
- Show and Tell

Next month's meeting:

Monday, March 3rd,
2014, at 7.30pm

President's Message

Although the cold of winter has set in I am grateful for the longer days and bright sunshine. Oftentimes it is these long cold winter days in which we are most fruitful in our art and craft. I hope your projects are progressing and the New Year has brought you some inspiration. You may find a spark of inspiration in some of the upcoming events, notices of which are in this Newsletter. Perhaps you will attend the Spin In at Chesterville or are looking beyond to the 2015 OHS Conference. Embrace what inspires you!

OHS is the Ontario Handweavers' and Spinners' and is a provincial body that provides Certificate and Masters education programs to spinners and weavers. They offer a number of events throughout the year, opportunities for learning and networking with persons such as yourselves. A quarterly publication, Fibre Focus, is also produced by OHS. I encourage you to check out their website at www.ohs.on.ca. If you have been a member in the past, consider joining again. You can now renew your membership online.

We have several vacancies on the Operational Team. First is the Fundraising Coordinator who proposes and co-ordinates activities to increase Guild income. Fundraising activities include the Rosepath Auction and the annual raffle with the draw occurring at the Exhibition and Sale. New ideas are always welcome. The second vacancy is the Publicity and Public Relations Coordinator. The person in this role works closely with the Coordinators for each the Website, Education, and the Exhibition and Sale, to ensure that all pertinent information on Guild activities is shared with the Ottawa Community. Both of these roles are important to the Guild's ongoing success. Please consider if you are able to take on some of these activities, and if so, speak directly to any member of the Executive.

A very important gap requires the immediate attention of members. A committee for deciding the prizes for this year's raffle is needed. Prizes must be stated to obtain the required license for the raffle. A committee of two to three people is needed to brainstorm and come up with two prizes – we already have a third. In the past, prizes have been valued at \$1,000,

\$600 and \$500. The value of the prizes has an impact on the license required. If prizes cannot be determined there can be no raffle. Raffle earnings are used each year to offset workshop costs. Right now we have a basket of items donated by last year's vendors and this will serve as one of the prizes. So, are there a few people that can work on a sheep to shawl project for this endeavor? Come forward with your ideas and share them with any member of the Executive.

Okay, that's all the business I need to share with you. I am excited about the newly received Wool Order that Ann McElroy with the help of Jean Sharp pulled together. I look forward to seeing everyone's finished fluff at Show and Tell. I had to dismantle my loom for my upcoming move but have the perfect sunny window picked out for it. I look forward to getting back to it soon.

Kelly

Announcements

Honourary member Helen Radford left us suddenly and peacefully on 13 December 2013 at 89 years of age. Born in England, Helen served in the Women's Royal Navy Service (WRNS) during the Second World War before coming to Canada where, as her obituary in the Ottawa Citizen notes,

"Helen was an avid weaver. She was Past President of the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild (OVWSG), as well as, co-owner of The Weavers' House in Manotick."

She will be missed. Remembrance donations can be made to the Perth Great War Memorial Hospital.

Full obituary: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/ottawacitizen/obituary.aspx?n=helen-radford&pid=168658224&fhid=7504>

THANK YOU! A heartfelt thank you goes out to Annie Jackson and her partner Mick for their amazing work on the web site. We have a brand new look, thanks to them. Annie has decided to move on to other things and we thank her for all of her effort in the role of Website Co-ordinator.

WELCOME! Judy Kavanagh has taken on the role of Website Co-ordinator. A warm welcome to Judy. Thanks Judy for jumping in!

OHS Call for Proposals for Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Biennial Conference, "Panoply - A Pan American Celebration of our Fibre Craft Heritage", May 22-24, 2015. See <http://panoply2015.ca/call-for-instructors/> Submission deadline is 30 Jan 2014. For information contact Sharon Gardiner at sharon.gardiner@rogers.com or Anita Caldwell at AnitaCaldwell@rogers.com

The Twistle Guild of Glengarry will be hosting **St. Distaff Day** on Saturday, May 24th 2014, in Williamstown. We are looking for volunteers to give workshops on spinning, weaving or other related fibre techniques. There will be two hours set aside in the morning and two hours in the afternoon for workshops. They can be a half a day or full day. A website is being created, to give more details but if some of you would like to participate in a more active role, it would be greatly appreciated. Help us revive this very popular event.

Please contact Claudette Voët (clojovo@sympatico.ca) or Kathy Pelaschuk (fran-kathy@hotmail.com) to let us know what workshop you would like to do.

Chesterville & District Heritage Society invites you to a **Spin-In** on Wed. Feb 12th, 9 - 3 at Nelson Laprade Centre, 9 William St, Chesterville. The theme is "**Everything Shetland**". Vendors will be attending. And bring your good clean stash for exchange or give away at the new stash buster table. Contact Nancy MacMillan at 613.448.1411 or by email at nancy.macmillan021@sympatico.ca
Subject: Spin In

Your Hearthouse Neighbours -- Eco Equitable

In January, the OVWSG hosted another Heartwood House charity in our Studio. Eco Equitable (EE) needed shelter while their space was being finished in Phase 2 -- right next to our second storeroom. So from Monday through Thursday until February 1st the staff of EE has used our Studio to run their charity and interview and test their students. The Studio was handy to their production facilities, temporarily housed in the Unitarian meeting room off the Lobby.

EE is a charity that provides employment, skills training and social contacts for immigrant- or underemployed-women while recycling fabric into useful items that will be available through their boutique at Heartwood House. Check them out at <http://www.ecoequitable.ca/index.html> or watch the video at <http://vimeo.com/76279201>

Exhibition and Sale News

There will be a vendors meeting for the 2014 Exhibition and Sale on Saturday Feb 22, 10.00 am to 12.00 at the Resource Centre. All current and new vendor welcome.

During this meeting we will be discussing the results of the survey and some suggestions on how to make this event the best ever!

The application form and vendors contract will be finalized at this meeting and attached to the March Newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing some new faces and hearing some fresh ideas.

If you have questions or suggestions, but can't make the meeting, please direct them to guildsale@hotmail.com or contact me directly at 613-728-0941.

Anne Middleton

Welcome to New Members!

Mary Kelland

Susan Berlin

Lorraine Wilson

Claudette Voet

Barbara Robertson

Joy Olders (returning member)

Membership renewals

I have started taking membership renewals for the 2014-15 year.

All memberships expire on April 30, 2013, except those who join(ed) in 2014

See me at the membership desk at the meetings.

Or, mail to OVWSG, Heartwood House, 404 McArthur Ave., Ottawa, ON K1K 1G8

Or, remember that you can renew online using Paypal/credit card. See directions on the guild website under “membership”.

Note: The membership number experiment has been scrapped.

Laurie Harkin-Chiasson, OVWSG
Membership

Did you know that your Membership includes:

- 10 monthly meetings featuring fibre-related programs and social events
- Use of the Guild Studio and Library at 404 McArthur Avenue
- The right to use equipment in the Studio or to rent equipment to use at home
- 9 newsletters per year
- Discounts on courses and workshops
- Networking meetings with other weavers, spinners, basket-makers, felters and textile artists
- Participation in the co-op booth at the Annual Exhibition and Sale held on the first weekend in November in the Glebe Community Centre (Lyon at Third Avenue)

Workshops

The best news this month was seeing the workshop catalogue up on the website. Take some time to peruse it, we hope there is something for everyone in it. If not, take a look at the procedure for "By Request" workshops, gather some friends and relations and we will try to set something up for you. The catalogue has a registration form and registration instructions on the last page. I have finally mastered PayPal invoicing if you wish to choose that payment option.

February and March have a wide variety to offer. Full descriptions, cost etc are available in the catalogue:

Beginning Weaving with Shirley Browsky starts Feb 16, **FULL**, but there is still room in the session starting May 4.

Meet the Wheels - this is a no cost activity designed to show off, share and try out as wide a variety of spinning wheels as participants can gather. Bring your favourite wheels ready to share and some test driving fibre. This is particularly good for beginners considering a first wheel, try out a variety to see what suits you. RSVP not required. Saturday Feb 15 10-4

Wet Felted Fingerless Mitts, Cuffs or Wrist Warmers with Ann McElroy. An introduction to basic wet felting techniques which should result in a unique, wearable item. Sunday Feb 22 10-3 (Ann needs time to order your choice of colour, if you sign up less than 3 weeks ahead you'll get Ann's choice)

Intro to Spinning - Wheel, move from the spindle to the wheel, learn how wheels work and how to operate them (prerequisite Intro to Spinning - Spindle or equivalent) Saturday Mar 1 10:30-3:30

Crumb Warps with Judith Rygiel - this one is really fun, learn really good warp winding technique and how to combine odd ends of many yarns to make a vibrant warp. Saturday Mar 8 10-2

Gord and the Great Wheel with Gord Moat. Learn about the history of these wonderful wheels while learning how to use, adjust and maintain them. The Guild's great wheel has a fascinating history that Gord is currently exploring. Saturday March 15 9-12

Quiviut Study Group - Join Jan Scott in an exploration of Quiviut - one of the warmest fibres in the world (maybe we should have scheduled this for January? As I write this it is -20degC with a -32degC windchill!!) This isn't a workshop, Jan will coordinate gathering materials but participants will work together to learn, experiment and share as they explore this very Canadian fibre. You **MUST** sign up by **Feb. 15** so that Jan can order materials. Cost will depend on materials, but it will be \$25max. Sunday March 16 is the start date, as a group, participants will decide whether to continue to meet and share their experiences.

Intro to Rigid Heddle Weaving - a one day introduction to weaving using a simple, portable loom with a lot of potential. You will weave a scarf from start to finish during this workshop. Saturday Mar 22 10-4

Gaining Control - learn to control twist, diameter and a variety of fibre types, once you can spin a yarn that holds together on a wheel you are ready for this workshop. Saturday Mar 29 10:30-4:30

Elizabeth Watt
Workshops Registrar
OVWSG
workshops@ovwsg.com

Tips from Members

From Laurie H-C

Removing rust on your metal equipment: Use a piece of aluminum foil dipped in a bit of Varsol. It will not scratch the surface and cleans the rust completely, leaving a smooth, slippery surface. The aluminum apparently reacts slightly with the metal making it clean easier. I have tried this on some very rusty equipment and it worked wonderfully. It obviously won't remove any deep pits of rust but does smooth them over. I used to use fine steel wool and WD40 to remove rust however, now I am an aluminum foil convert.

Threading heddles and reed on your loom: Drape a white (or light coloured) sheet over the back beam of your loom. This creates a light solid background, making it easier to see the heddle eyes/reed dents. Shining a little extra light onto the sheet will also help you see what you are doing much better.

Wax your shuttles: Recently I was using some beeswax on my loom and had a huge clump leftover. I rubbed it onto the bottom of my shuttles, then buffed them with a dry rag. What a difference... my shuttles fly through the shed now!

Did you know?

- Did you know that the Studio has a well-equipped kitchen? There is one-cup coffee machine and you may purchase a cup for 75 cents. There are dinner plates, cutlery, bowls, glasses, mugs and more! So, if you're running late or coming for the day, bring your meal and heat it in the microwave. Just wash up and it's all set for the next person. It's your studio – use it!
- The Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild is incorporated under the Canada Not For Profit Corporations Act. Under the Act we have certain responsibilities. These include, accurate recording of decisions made by the Board and Members. When there is a change in members of the Board Industry Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) must be notified. As well, we must hold an Annual General Meeting each year.
- Currently a few of the Executive are working on completing the guild's application for Charitable status. The application goes to the Canada Revenue Agency – CRA. With Charitable status we can provide donation receipts for cash or equipment received. As a charity we can also recoup some of the taxes we pay when we purchase goods.
- The OVWSG is one of the largest guilds in Ontario – if not Canada - with over 140 members at this time! Our library collection is amazing, covering a wide range of topics in a number of formats – hardcover and softcover books, magazines, DVDs. And OVWSG houses the Ontario Handweavers' and Spinners' (OHS) Master's level projects. There is so much valuable information at our fingertips!

Pantone Spring 2014 Colour Report

Spring is coming! Check out the new spring 2014 colours from Pantone:

<http://www.pantone.com/pages/FCR/default.aspx?season=spring&year=2014&pid=3>

Marketplace

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.

For Non-Members: \$15.00 for the first 25 letters. \$0.28 for each additional word. \$2.00 per image

CONTACT: Natalie Shumovsky nsh65@hotmail.com

FOR SALE

Weaving bench, tilting, height-adjustable. Like new, hardly used. Asking price: \$100

Mary Morrison

morrmry@rogers.com

613-830 -9992

FOR SALE

15 inch Schacht Cricket loom. Comes with 8 dent reed, 2 shuttles, 2 clamps, instructions and warping peg with clamp. Loom has been finished with Danish oil and only used once. \$125. Contact Alison at 613 862 0097. Can bring to meeting.

WANTED

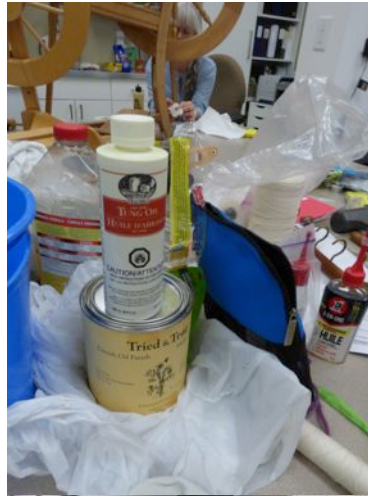
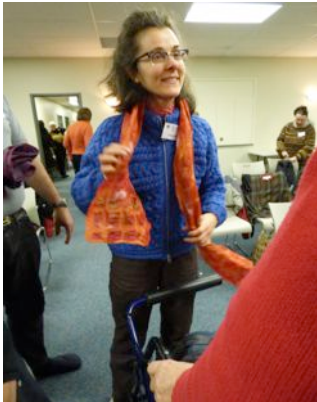
I'm looking for a 27-inch LeClerc Fanny. (I simply don't have room for anything bigger, or for the non-folding Mira.) If you have one you'd like to sell, or know of one that's available, I'd really appreciate hearing from you, either at susan@susanberlin.ca or by phone at 613-259-5036 Thanks!



December meeting highlights in pictures



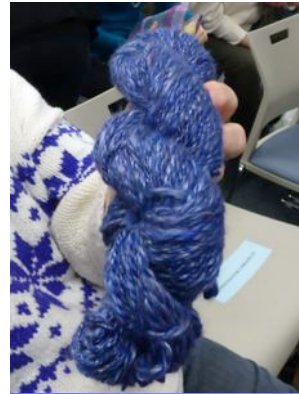
Wheel Maintenance



Spin-In



January meeting highlights in pictures



General Membership Meeting Minutes 2 DEC 2013

Chair: Acting President Kelly MacGregor

* Chair welcomed all and new members and any guests.

Business:

* Introduced the executive. New members and guests were welcomed as well.

* Moe Moloughney, Executive Director of Heartwood House, was presented with a brown coverlet throw for all her hard work during the move. Moe replied, saying that how fortunate Heartwood House is having the Guild here, as the “heart” of the Centre.

* The Vice President candidates, Sayward Johnson and Carlene Paquette, both spoke about their desire to take on the job. Both relatively new members, (Say has been a member for 1.5 years and Carlene joined in June), Say is a fibre artist and Carlene is a technical writer by occupation.

* A request was made to have all the reports from the committees (demos, workshops, etc.) in by Dec. 15th. They are needed for the grant application due in January.

* The Rosepath Auction was then carried out, with the winners drawn and called out. (Books, fleece, yarn, spinning and weaving equipment, decorations and eggs were present!)

* 15 minute refreshment break -

* After the break, the Vice President election winner, Sayward Johnson, was announced.

* Also, it was requested that for each meeting people take off their outside boots and leave them on the lobby boot mat before entering the meeting room, to keep the carpets clean and in good shape.

Show and Tell:

Carole Stuart 1st skein as a new September member.

Marc Lord 2 nuno-felted scarves with Ann M's workshop using felt over silk.

Julie Anne Zdunich A corespun cowl

Patti Hennesey 1st inkle weaving

Natalie Shumovsky 2 woven scarves and inkle weaving

Terry Nelson 1st spun yarns (5 oz.) on a drop spindle

Marry Morrison 2/8 cotton Hand towels, silk/wool twill scarf

Judy Kavanagh Variegated wool sock yarn for scarf, woven on 15" Schacht table loom., at 24 epi. Washed with hair conditioner. Algae fibres from aquarium, felted.

Ann Sunahara Showed the collection from Guild members for OUT Of THE COLD.

Jan Scott At Abbotsford Seniors House Bazaar, found weaving and tapestry samples.

Francesca Overend Scarf with different types of yarn (silk, wool) and using plain weave. Scarf with 1 variegated band on one side.

Announced the end of the meeting. Thanked all for coming.

NEXT MEETING, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014

General Membership Meeting Minutes 13 Jan 2014

Chair: President Kelly MacGregor

- Chair welcomed all and **new members** and any **guests**.

Business:

- Introduce the executive.
- No newsletter for January but will be out for February.
- Kelly went over the Accessibility Policy, that was created in 2012, outlining importance of awareness and sensitivity for disabilities. Some members have walkers or canes and hearing loss. Personal space of people includes the walkers and canes.
- Offer your arm rather than taking someone's arm, if person is visually impaired.
- Allow people with hearing loss to sit near the front, in well lit areas or in quieter areas.
- Be patient, clear and use plain language with people with learning disabilities.
- For people with mental issues, if they are in distress, ask what you can do to help them.
- Do not touch or distract service animals while they are working.
- Assisted devices in our building include elevator and ramps.
- If a support person is needed for a workshop, no fees will be charged for them. If not needed, ½ fees will be charged to support person to participate in workshop.
- Annie Jackson was thanked for her long standing work with the website. Judy Kavanagh will be taking it over shortly.
- Bernadette announced that the next Fibre Network will be next Monday, Jan.20th.

- Dyane Leclerc was in the photo with Kathleen S. and Ruth C.. Photo may be sent to OHS's *Fibre Focus*.
- Lori Rowsell is hosting a Spin-In on Sun., Jan. 26, from 1-4 pm at her house, in the Gatineau.
- Elizabeth W. asked people to sign-up for workshops. On-demand wksp. for Colour Theory by Mandy H. is now a class.
- There is a vacancy for 1) Fundraiser Co-ordinator and 2) Publicity and Public Relations. Interested people please contact the Executive.
- Mary Morrison and Julie Zdunich are heading the Nominations Committee, to remove it from Executive influence.
- Guild needs a Raffle Prize Committee, to ensure there are more than mostly woven goods in the prizes.
- OHS membership fees are due now. The Biannual **OHS Conference** is every 2 years. The next one will be **May 22-24, 2015 in Burlington**. There are workshop teaching possibilities at it.
- Every year, OHS has a \$350 scholarship that an OHS member (of 2 years or more) can apply for. They submit a proposal for a project to be funded.
- Outside interested people can contact our guild through the web's email address. info@ovwsg.com

Announcements:

- The Osgoode Medieval Festival has a banner competition. Interested people can submit projects individually but the guild will not be entering one.
- Chesterville Spin-In is Sat., Feb. 15, from 9:30-4 pm at the Nelson LaPrade Centre.
- St. Distaff Day (Jan. 2) is being held by the Twistle Guild of Alexandria, Glengarry County, in May (a much warmer time!). It will be on the Ravelry website.
- Contact Samantha V. regarding demos requested by Algonquin College for a colonial period event.
- The Ex & Sale will have 2 extra booths for free this year to Guild members. It will be in the newsletter.
- A Conference for Weaving, held in Clayton, NY in May, 2014, will feature Florence Feldman-Wood, speaking about spinning wheels.

FIFTEEN minute refreshment break

Program:

- Viewed DVD of “In Search of Lost Colour” (The Story of Natural Dyes) by Maiwa Productions. The film showed traditional methods of making natural dyes around the world (India, Turkey, Indonesia, Laos, Morocco, Mexico).

Show & Tell:

Julie Zdunich and Pascale Archambault	Beyond Beginner Weaving (Examples of overshot, crackle, doubleweave and colour use.)
Natalie Shumovsky	Scarves and a fringe twister.
Anne Middleton	Handspun Lace Triangular Knitted Shawl
Say Johnson	Is having her 1 st show at Shenkman Centre until Feb. 11, 2014.
Laurie Harkin-Chiasson	Yarn organization system and framed woven dog fibre. (washed and handspun)
Lori Rowsell	Handspun Cowl from 1 st fleece spun.
Lori's daughter, Hannah Jacobs	Icelandic sweater
Gordon Moat	Lathed turned legs for wheel repairs.
Carolyn Duke	Handspun blanket and scarf
Judy Kavanagh	Table loom scarf and spinning wheel from St. Vincent de Paul
Jean Sharp	Skein from brown fleece at Rosepath Auction carded with alpaca and wool.
Terry Nelson	1 st skein made on sp. Wheel, plied yarn of merino and silk fleece.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 3, 2014