

PENELOPE'S NEWS



October 2015

The newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild

Marianne Heggteit.....*Board Chair*
Sayward Johnson.....*Board Vice Chair*
Kelly MacGregor.....*President*
Kathleen Schwass.....*Treasurer*
Ruth Cooper.....*Corporate Secretary*
Sandra Jager, Brenda Mills
.....*Studio Managers*
Elizabeth Watt.... *Education Coordinator*

The Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild (OVWSG) is a non-profit, incorporated organization, whose mandate is "to encourage its membership to achieve a high aesthetic standard and technical expertise and to promote and foster the knowledge of, interest in, and appreciation for historic and contemporary weaving, spinning, and their related fibre arts."

President's Message

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Meeting Info

This month's meeting:
Monday October 5th at 7.30pm

Program:

Norma Smayda

Next meeting:

Monday November 2nd at
7.30pm

It seems the September Newsletter was just last week and here we are again. There is a short period between the September and October meetings due to the late September holiday. And now Thanksgiving is fast approaching.

I am thankful for a fabulous Executive Team with whom I get to work. We have a great organization and the volume of activity in the OVWSG is really something. There are numerous demonstrations throughout the year; monthly programs; special events; courses and workshops; networking nights; the library; equipment maintenance, repair and rentals; donations to be processed; etc. It's a very busy place, indeed! Thank you to the many volunteers who actively involve themselves in making these activities run smoothly.

At the recent Executive meeting we briefly discussed the start time of the monthly meetings. Several members have told me that an earlier start time would suit them. What about you? If we started the meeting at seven o'clock instead of seven-thirty, would you like that? I will be asking for a show of hands at the October 5th meeting. If you have further input or cannot make the meeting, please send your comments to me by email at President@ovwsg.com.

As I write this I have jarred tomatoes boiling away on the stovetop to seal them up for winter consumption. I have been madly harvesting in anticipation of frost. This is all part of preparation for winter that happens in the fall. The evening temperatures have cooled off while the daytime is usually sunny and bright with a refreshing crispness in the breeze – delightful fall period. My daughter just visited here from California and she said how much she enjoyed the cooler air, appreciating the changing seasons of home.

As we move into the fall and then the winter, I am thinking

about the time I will have indoors to work on my craft. I should register for a course; the new brochure for 2016 will be released at the Exhibition and Sale in November. I will get some more wool carded outside on the verandah before the cold sets in. And I'll do up some batts for the Exhibition and Sale, as was suggested to me at the September meeting. Any other production items I will have to have juried at the October meeting. Oh, and then there is my loom....

Enjoy the fall and let the colours of nature inspire you!

Kelly

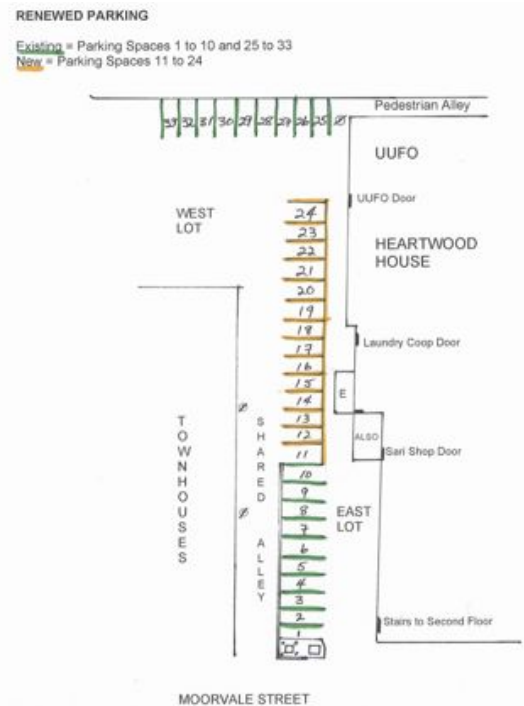
General Announcements

Changes to Parking at Heartwood House

With luck, by the time of our next meeting on October 5th, the parking lot at Heartwood House will have been redesigned to add 7 more spaces. The plan is to remove most of the fence between the parking lot and the alley that Heartwood House shares with the townhouses behind. Removing the fence means that 14 spaces can be put where the parallel parking is now. **But the new spaces (and the 9 spaces along the west fence) will be accessible only through the alley that Heartwood shares with the Townhouses.**

In essence, there will be two parking lots:

- An east lot with 10 spaces accessed through the entrance immediately behind the building. This lot dead-ends at space 10; and
- A west lot with 23 spaces **accessed through the shared alley.**



Weavers Wanted and Welcome

The 100-inch Loom Group is weaving more blankets! If you are a weaver with at least some experience and want to try two-person weaving, please email Ann Sunahara at sunahara.ann@gmail.com to receive the sign-up calendar.



Announcements from guild coordinators

Library

On the **Monday of the meeting the Library opens at 5pm and Closes at 7:15pm**. Please arrive early to return your books from last month and take out new ones. Members in good standing (no overdue materials) may borrow up to 4 items a month. All items are due the next meeting (Nov. 2015). If you cannot make the meeting contact the librarians and we will either renew your book or arrange for its return, if another member has requested it.

Please be very careful with the Library materials. We want them to last so all members can enjoy them.

September was a busy month at the library with many returns from over the summer. Some of you have forgotten to pick up your deposit check. Please check this month if you didn't get your check back. Some of you have not yet returned your summer reading materials. Remember there is a \$1.50 per item library fine, which goes towards the new book fund!! (We don't spending it on candy for the librarians – Jan is the usual source of candy)

We had an increase in library cards not filled in correctly. Let's review that so you don't have grumpy librarians! There are just a few things to remember.

Snap Quiz Review Questions

1. **Please Print.** - *I am extremely dyslexic and cursive writing is harder to decipher than printing.*
2. **What is the month and year of the next meeting?** (Nov. 2015 or 10/15 or 10/2015) print that in the date due box.
3. **What is your name?** Please print your first and last name it in the box beside the date due.
4. **What is your phone number?** (you can use the line below your name if it doesn't fit with your name)
5. Hand the card and the date due slip (in the back pocket with the card) to the librarian organizing outgoing books and you will get a date due reminder slip stamped to put back in the book pocket. The reminder slip has all the contact information if you need to contact the librarians.

I'm sure you will now ace this quiz! If the extreme stress of the quiz befuddles you, not to worry: there is a sign with the next meeting date on it at the sign-out table. So all you have to really remember is your name and phone number and to please print.

If you take out one of our "New Acquisitions" which are on display by the book returns table. Please write up a quick note for the newsletter about the new DVD, Book or Magazine. Did you enjoy it? Was it helpful? Would you recommend it? Was it easy to read or hard but worth the effort? Did it have good diagrams or photos? Just one small paragraph would be grate!!!

If you are taking the OHS Master Spinners or Master Weavers Courses please let the librarians know. We have an example of the Master Spinners course notes but no one has donated there weaving notes yet. OHS students also can take out more materials for their study projects.

Please come in and check out the library before the meeting.

Jan Scott

Ex & Sale

OVWSG Ex and Sale is Sold Out

I am very happy to announce that we have all our vendors lined up for this year!

This year we will be featured on a Rogers episode of RegArts prior to our event. This episode is about the French Cultural and Art Scene in the greater Ottawa region. They will be coming to our studio to film some interviews. We will have a chance to show off everything the guild is about.

We will need volunteers to assist us:

- Assistance at our Guild table to greet our visitors and sell raffle tickets
- Need someone to decorate the store front window at Wabi Sabi
- Need help with set up and take down

It is a fun weekend and we appreciate all the help you can give us!

Please send me an email to guildsale@ovwsg.com if you would like to volunteer!

Carole Stuart
OVWSG Ex and Sale Coordinator

Co-op vendor jurying

A reminder to Co op vendors to bring your items to be juried. If you have never sold at the sale before or you are selling something in a different medium you need to be juried. Jurying takes place on Oct 5th at the guild meeting. The standard are available on the website. http://www.ovwsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/OVWSG_Standards-April-2010.pdf

Ann McElroy

Raffle

Hello Members. Hope you had a great summer and sold a bunch of raffle tickets to your family and friends. Please bring back your ticket stubs when you come to the September meeting.

The proceeds from the raffle are used to support our classes. They help us keep the workshop fees low and to run some workshops with only two or three students. We have some awesome prizes that showcase the talent of our members.

We still have plenty of tickets to sell, so please consider taking out more tickets. We can accept cash (or a cheque made out to the OVWSG) either when tickets are taken out or when the stubs are returned.

It takes all of us pitching in to make the raffle a success. Thank you so much for your help!

Carlene Paquette

Labeling Goods for the Ex and Sale

Consumer protection laws require that all textile goods for sale in Canada be labeled, either permanently or temporarily, with their fibre content and the identity of the vendor. Care instructions are voluntary, but, as noted below, should be included for your own protection.

Permanent or temporary label:

Most vendors at the Ex and Sale are selling textiles that only need temporary labels. These include vendors of: carpets, batting, detachable collars and cuffs, headwear, napkins, placemats, piece goods and narrow fabrics, runners, scarves, table cloths, tea-towels, and yarns. For a full list see Appendix D to the *Guide to Textile Labelling and Advertising Regulations* (hereafter the “Guide”)

<http://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/01249.html#Alternatives>

This means that the vendor only needs to pin a temporary label to the textile. Most use a business card that identifies then vendor and displays on the back:

- The fibre content where 5% or more of a fibre is present in the textile; and
- The care instructions.

Some members specify the fibre content on stick-on labels that can be individualized to each textile. Others create a list of the fibres that they use and write the percentage beside the name of the fibre. See examples below.

However, vendors of textiles like tailored or knitted clothing and throws or blankets need to attach "permanent" labels -- sewn-in labels that can survive 10 washings or cleanings. See Appendix C of the Guide for a full list. Normally these are commercially printed labels. But if the textile falls into the exception for “Home-crafted Articles”, labels that are hand-written using india ink can be used: See section IX 3. of the Guide.

Fibre content:

The law requires that the fibre content be stated **generically** using only the words specified in the regulations. For the correct words to describe various fibres in both official languages, see Appendix A (Natural Fibres) and B (Man-made Fibres) of the Guide.

Vendor Identity:

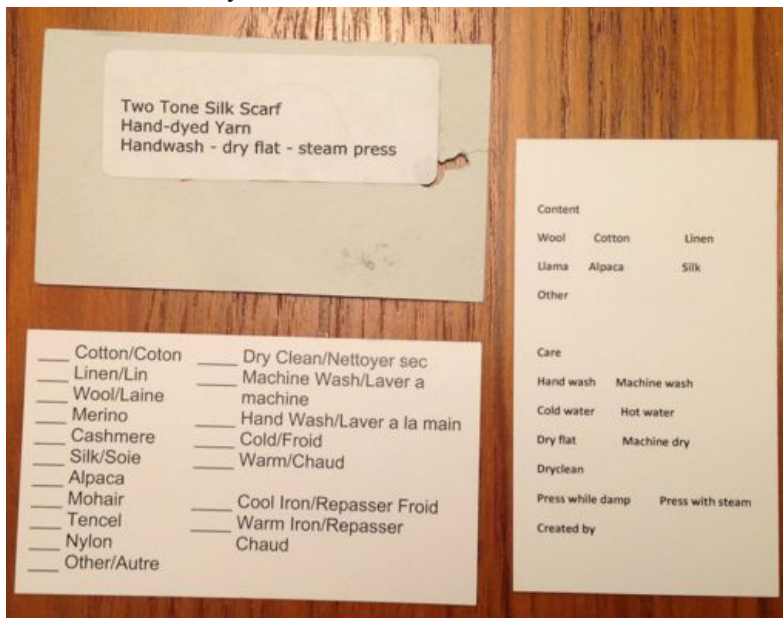
Vendor identity is required to enable purchasers to contact vendors with complaints and for Industry Canada to enforce regulations. The vendor is the person by or for whom the textile was manufactured. A name and mailing address or electronic address is necessary. A vendor can also register with Industry Canada and be issued a CA Number to use as their identity on their products. Most commercial enterprises use this form of identity.

Care instructions:

Care instructions are voluntary but useful to the vendor. If the vendor specifies “dry clean only” and the purchaser shrinks a textile by washing it in hot water, then the purchaser cannot complain about the shrinkage.

Historical Note:

Proper labeling is important to prevent fraud and to protect buyers from their own actions. Textile labeling and other consumer protection laws result from a hard-fought battle by the women's movement in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. They have halted the sale of many substandard products and, more importantly, have saved lives. For example, have you ever wondered why your children's pajamas are knitted and close fitting? Or why there are no children's flannelette nightgowns on the market? Or why it is dangerous to allow your child to wear a loose adult-sized T-shirt to sleep or play in? Flammability! Cotton fabrics and open flames are lethal in the presence of air. Before the prohibition against children's flannelette nightgowns was enacted in the 1990s, an average of 7 children died each year in Canada when a candle ignited their nightgowns or a spark from a fireplace and the oxygen under the billowing fabric fed the flame. Tight pajamas minimize the oxygen available should the child be exposed to fire. That change came from lobbying by consumer groups bolstered by recommendations by fire officials.



Studio

There is a new policy for the reservation and use of the studio looms. Please see the attached file at the end of this newsletter.

Sandy & Beth



Member Events

We are having a **3-day Open House** for the days of the culture at our farm from Friday September 25th to Sunday September 27th from 10am to 4pm

La ferme le moment present

155 chemin Thomas Nord, Notre-Dame-de-la-Salette (1 hour from Ottawa)

Vendors can reserve a spot; a donation is welcome but not necessary. What *is* important is to work on site and/or explain your handcraft! You can come one day or all 3 days.

On Saturday our village will also have the 92nd labouring contest, which will be another great thing to see as cultural event.

paca, paca, Celine Paquette
[819-766-2022](tel:819-766-2022)



Woven Stories and Knitted Mementos/Histoires tissées et souvenirs tricotés

A member of the OWWSG since 2012, Sayward Johnson is a copper and textile artist. Her textile-based works are made with hand-woven and hand-knitted copper wire. They are forged, patinated, embroidered, shellacked and sealed in wax. Her work explores her fascination with fabrics that adhere to the laws of metalsmithing as well as those of textiles and furthermore, shows traditional textile patterns in unexpected contexts.

Where: Espace Pierre-Debain, 120 rue Principale, Aylmer, QC.

When: September 2 to October 11, 2015

Thank you to the City of Ottawa and the Ontario Arts Council for their assistance.



New Paths, a solo show in Almonte by Garrie Bea Joyce celebrates texture with paint, paper, textiles, and enthusiasm. It is currently showing at the Almonte Public Library (The Corridor Gallery), 155 High Street from Sept 15-Oct 12.

Hours: M-F 8:30-4:30

I warmly share my adventures combining fibre, thread and paint with members of the OVWSG. Contact information: www.garrie@magma.ca, [613-728-5012](tel:613-728-5012)

**RED POPPY**
GALLERY
Presents

**Mother/Daughter
Art Show and Sale**
September 8-October 15, 2015

Vernissage/Reception
Friday, September 11, 2015
4-8pm



Susanna Donato: Fibre Landscapes
Valentina Donato: Charcoal Portrait

RED POPPY GALLERY
John McCrae Secondary School, 103 Malvern Drive
Barhaven, Ontario, K2J 4T2
2nd floor
Telephone: 613-823-0367
Email: redpoppygallery@ocdsb.ca

Demos etc.

Richmond Fair

Richmond fair is not really a guild demo since Vintage Iron requests only those they want to invite to demo. They had asked Ann McElroy and me to demo for them in previous years but this year they wanted to expand the demo. So Bernadette join us demonstrating fiber prep and spinning. Ann did a big felt display and then did Kumihimo Saturday and drop spindle Sunday. I wove all weekend on my ancient Leclerc non-folding table loom. (I have to get the warp finished so I can re-thread for the overshot workshop!!!)

The weather was quite good for Richmond standers, it only rained for a short time on Saturday. Sunday was gorgeous and we had a very good crowd. We handed out lots of X and sail flyers!! I think we also have a 10 year old who will be asking for weaving lessons from her dad!

If you join the Guild face book page you can see all the pictures, including Lynn's empty animals and the steam powered cement mixer making commemorative Richmond fair cinder blocks! Glenn was busy blacksmithing as well as branding shingles as souvenirs.

Jan Scott



News from the International Plowing Match in Finch

Merilyn Mulligan, Brenda Mills and Gordon Moat have demonstrated for two sunny dry days in the History and Heritage tent. A steady stream of people came by, many stopping to chat and learn about great wheel spinning or weaving or to learn about older tools used in our field. Ex and Sale brochures were well distributed along with course pamphlets. June Prenger and Ann Millar will be demonstrating for the balance of the week.

One gentleman was wondering how the Egyptians made yarn for weaving long ago, since they probably did not have great wheels, so we broke open the demo kit and showed how a drop spindle is used.



Photos from the September meeting



Left to right, top to bottom: Kelly's BFL fleece sample; Elizabeth's Summer & Winter elephant design; Elizabeth's towel kit and CD; Natalie's Shibori dyed scarf sample; Natalie's natural dye class samples; Mandy's non-repeatable pattern scarf; Mandy's scarf; Francesca's Shibori woven scarf; Francesca's place mat; Judy's dish towel; Judy's handspun.



Left to right, top to bottom: Carolyn's handspun silk shawl; Rose's shawl; ibid; ibid; Terry's doublewoven sample; Rebecca's hand-knit socks; Jan's retted flax stalk; Ruth's multi-shaft sampler; Ruth's mini tape loom; Gord's antique winder; Erin announcing her farm open house.

Marketplace

The Marketplace portion of the 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 at marketplace@ovwsg.com or newsletter@ovwsg.com

For sale: Leclerc 60" 8 harness jack loom. Good condition. Extra back beam. \$750 obo. Heather Sherratt, [613 278 2520](tel:6132782520) elphin@superaje.com

Atelier Focus Fibre
Claire Guérette, fiber artist
Spinning-Weaving-Felt
Ashford dealer, 10% for members of the guild
Order by phone or e-mail only
jardindelaine@live.ca,
creationclaireguerette.blogspot.com
[819-643-4106](tel:8196434106) or [819-639-4106](tel:8196394106)



The Great De-stash is continuing. A dent has been made but there is a LOT of yarn left, spinning fibres, 2 working antique spinning wheels, Dukobhor peasant wool combs, umbrella swift, handcards, and lots of books. Check out my website for details

www.shirleybrowskyfibredesigner.com. Call or email for information or an appointment. I need the space! [613-488-2898](tel:6134882898) or browskyshirley@gmail.com

For Sale: Leclerc cone/tube holder, hardly used, \$75 obo. Holds up to 8 cones or tubes. Contact nshumovsky@gmail.com



Wabi Sabi is a locally owned and operated fibre arts shop and studio. We sell a wide variety of yarn, knitting and crochet needles and accessories, books and magazines. We also carry a wide variety of felting, weaving and spinning fibres and equipment. Our awesome studio space allows us to offer many great classes and events.

Ashford, Louet, Schacht, and Majacraft retailers, to name just a few!
We offer a 10% discount to all guild members.

1078 Wellington West [613-725-5648](tel:6137255648) info@wabi-sabi.ca wabi-sabi.ca

Pantone Spring Colour Report

PANTONE has issued its Colour Report for Spring 2016: A Transporting and Transformative Canvas. Unisex colours transcend cultural and gender norms. Vivid brights give way to excitement and optimism, though quiet stability prevails in this season's palette.

Top 10 colours:

Rose Quartz, Peach Echo, Serenity, Snorkel Blue, Buttercup, Limpet Shell, Lilac Gray, Fiesta, Iced Coffee, Green Flash

You can view the complete report at this

link: <http://www.pantone.com/downloads/support/FCR/PANTONE-Fashion-Color-Report-Spring-2016.pdf>

About PANTONE: it is the world-renowned authority on colour. PANTONE Name is known worldwide as the standard language for accurate colour communication, from designer to manufacturer to retailer to customer, across a variety of industries.

September 2015 Meeting Minutes

Chair: Kelly MacGregor

- Chair welcomed all old and new members and any guests in attendance.
- Executive was introduced.
- Heartwood Exec. Director, Moe, has asked that every visitor sign in when they enter front foyer and has asked that we do a head count at every General Meeting. (69 present tonight.)
- Financials – Funding from the City \$17,000 for an operating grant. The auction in June raised about \$2000. Membership is down a bit (almost 200) from last year but it is still increasing.
- Studio – the wall from upstairs classroom has been removed and it is much brighter and better circulation.
- The Open studio is off the calendar, since members do not go every Tuesday and Friday, consistently and some members might expect people to be there.
- The locks have been rekeyed and one will need a lockbox code to access the doors. Just contact one of the Executive for the code.
- Raffle Tickets – revenue for keeping workshop fees lower. Pictures of the prizes on the guild website and Facebook.
- Workshops – 2015-16 schedule almost ready.
- Ex & Sale – booths are all taken. Volunteers will be needed. Ads this year will be bigger and targeted. Episode on Rogers TV during weekday. Hopefully 6 weeks before the Sale, pictures will be up on Facebook Event Page of some of the products for sale.
- The Co-op table has room for more vendors. 10% commission will go to guild. Will need help with the booth.
- Jury Committee – For example weaving, work will be looked at to see that there are no weaving or slewing errors. Jurors will hopefully assist people in improving their work. Labelling and pricing also very important. One can choose to sell or not. Jury criteria is on guild website.
- Operational Positions – President thanked all the Operations volunteers for their hard work. People around the room talked about what they were involved in with the guild.
- International Plowing Match – Finch, ON, on Sept. 22-26. Gord Moat will be going to demonstrate the Great Wheel spinning and the warping mill.
- Newsletter – members are encouraged to put ads and pictures in the newsletter for free, to advertise items for sale or exhibitions.
- Rosepath Auction – need a coordinator for the auction that is in December.

BREAK AND REFRESHMENTS

Program:

Extended SHOW AND TELL...

Kelly MacGregor	Blue-faced Leicester fleece.
Elizabeth Watt	Rigid Heddle Loom – summer and winter “Elephant” design. Book & CD of instructions, as well. Tea Towels.
Natalie Shumovsky	Shibori scarf dyed with indigo and fibre reactive dyes, Natural dyeing class samples using Saxon Blue, Cochineal and others
Francesca Overend	Scarves and place mats with painted warp and Shibori 3D effect.
Mandy Heggveit	Painted warp scarves.
Judy Kavanagh	Green and Blue towels and alpaca yarn
Carolyn Duke	Shawl and handspun
Rose MacLeod	Purple shawl with sari silk stripes (Shadows on snow)
Terry Nelson	Double width lap blanket
Rebecca Cairns	Knitting- finished mother’s socks
Jan Scott	Natural retting of Flax fibre
Ruth Cooper	Mini tape loom and multi-shaft samples
Erin Krekuski	Open House of Icelandic sheep – Sept. 26 at Rocks and Farm, Cantley.

NEXT MEETING: Heartwood House , **Monday, October 5, 2015** at 7:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

OVWSG Policy and Procedures

Reservation and Use of Studio Looms

Policy

OVWSG members may use any of the floor looms that are kept for this use in the Guild's Studio at Heartwood House. Anyone wishing to weave on a Studio loom must:

- Be a paid-up member
- Have completed a beginning weaving course or have equivalent weaving experience
- Take responsibility for the loom's respectful use, and
- Commit to observe the procedures stated below.

The rental of Studio looms is free of charge

Procedures

Reservation

All requests for the use of a loom in the OVEWSG Studio must be sent to the Studio Manager's inbox at studio@ovwsg.com at least 2 weeks before the intended use.

Studio Managers will advise the member that the requested loom has been reserved and state the end date of the rental period.

Rental period

Looms may be rented for up to three (3) months to ensure that all members have equal access to this equipment.

If a renter finishes the project(s) prior to the 3 months deadline the Studio Managers must be informed so that the next person in line for the loom can be contacted.

Renters will be contacted by the Studio Managers one (1) week before the due date to remind them that the warp must be removed.

Any warps still on the loom after the 3 months deadline has past will be cut off.

Extensions to continue with the use of the loom will be assessed on a month to month basis and approved if no other member requested the use of the specific loom.

Problems and Damage to Loom

Any problems or damages to the loom must be reported to the Studio Managers as well as to the Equipment Manager (equipment@ovwsg.com) as soon as possible to ensure that repairs to the loom can be done in a timely manner.

Unauthorized Use of Loom

Warps put on a loom without prior reservation will be removed by the Studio Managers at their discretion.