

PENELOPE'S NEWS



February 2016

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

Marianne Heggtveit.....*Board Chair*
Sayward Johnson.....*Board Vice Chair*
Kelly MacGregor.....*President*
Kathleen Schwass.....*Treasurer*
Ruth Cooper.....*Corporate Secretary*
Sandra Jager *Studio Manager*
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

In this issue

President's Message.....p.1
General announcements.....p.2
Guild Coordinator announcements...p.3
Welcome to New Members.....p.6
Events.....p.7
Photos from January presentation...p.9
Show & Tell.....p.10
Marketplace.....p.11
October meeting minutes.....p.12

Meeting Info

This month's meeting:
Monday February 1st at 7.30pm

Program:
Panel Discussion

Next meeting:
Monday March 7th at 7.30pm

By now you may have recovered from the busy holidays and found your winter routine. I hope there is some creativity happening each day for you. Sometimes when we are really busy it is necessary to schedule time for creativity. This may take away from the spontaneity but it does allow time for the creative juices to flow.

By popular demand the break will be reinstated as of the February meeting. We listened; we heard; meeting breaks are back. Let's keep the break to EXACTLY TEN MINUTES. The meeting will resume after a ten minute break, whether or not everyone is seated.

Carol Stuart presented the Exhibition and Sale 2015 report to the Executive this past week. It was well received by the Executive and Carol has agreed to remain in the role of Coordinator for this important event. In addition Carol has agreed to take on the coordination of the Raffle. The Raffle has been separate from the event in many ways and this move is an effort to integrate the Raffle more closely with the Exhibition and Sale.

Carol had stepped back from the role of Demonstration Coordinator and Bernadette Quade had picked up the torch from her background position of Assistant to the Demo Coordinator. Bernadette has managed the Coordinator role for the last year and has agreed to stay on in that role. If you have an interest in demonstrating, contact Bernadette.

The filling of positions is very much top of mind. The Executive has been discussing succession planning and the new Executive for 2016-2017 is shaping up. This will need the membership approval at the Annual General Meeting in the spring. If you have an interest in any Executive position please contact me, or any Executive member listed in the Newsletter banner above.

We definitely need a Corporate Secretary. Don't let the word corporate frighten you. We need someone to take minutes at meetings. Now would be a great time to check out the role and transition formally into the role after the AGM.

I note from some recent emails that there are many festivals, workshops, seminars, etc. planned for this year. Be sure to check out our amazing roster of courses and register early. After taking in a course or two here, venture outward across the province to taste all that is on offer.

Stay warm,

Kelly

General Announcements

We still need more table looms!

Due to the increased demand for weaving classes, the guild is looking for more 4-shaft Dorothy looms. If you or anyone you know has a Dorothy that is not being used, or even if you see an ad on Kijiji for a reasonably priced Dorothy, please contact the studio manager.

Weaver - Catalogne Rag Rugs

The guild has received an enquiry looking for a weaver experienced in making Catalogne rag rugs. She has bags and bags of cut up strips of fabric for the Catalogne weaving, already done. She is looking for either a weaver to weave the rug for her, or access to a loom to weave herself. She has woven many rugs before.

If interested in helping. Note: She appears to be more comfortable in French, though her e-mail was in English.

Contact Celine [613 443-7712](tel:6134437712)

Pantone Colour of the Year

This year, we have 2! Rose Quartz and Serenity.

More info on Pantone's website at <https://www.pantone.com/color-of-the-year-2016>

The website even includes colour formulas for our dyers!

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



100" Loom

If you have had a Beginner Weaving Course or equivalent and are interested in becoming involved with a project, please email Ruth at recooper424@gmail.com. Also, if you have ideas for a specific weaving project on the loom, please email me. Thanks!!

Announcements from guild coordinators

Studio

Thanks everyone for your consideration in bringing indoor shoes or slippers to wear at meetings or while in the studio/classroom. It is much appreciated during these winter months.

A note about the thermostat in the studio: it has been programmed to an appropriate temperature for when we are not using the room. If you adjust it, please press the "Run Program" button on the lower right before you leave. We need to be good neighbours to others in Heartwood House.

Sandra Jager
Studio Manager

Library

As a **member in good standing** you can sign out **up to 4** items from the guild library. We have books, magazines and **DVDs that are only viewable on a computer.**

To sign out library material, make your selection (up to 4) and go to the librarian with the outgoing book sign. Look in the back for the card pocket and take out the card. As neatly as you can print next month's date (Mar.2016 or 03/2016). You also need to print your name and phone number. Give the librarian both your filled in card and the date due reminder slip and she will stamp and return the reminder slip to you.

You are responsible to bring the library materials back in good condition before the start of the next meeting or you will have the opportunity to donate to the new book fund. **The overdue fine is \$1.50 per item per month** overdue.

To return library material take them to the librarian with the **Book Return** sign. She will ask you your first name and find the cards to go with your incoming items. She will also have candy to share for bringing the items back!

If you cannot make it the meeting, email the librarians and we will renew your items to the next month or arrange a time for you to drop them off.

I know that the new system is a bit more complicated but we have had less missing or late books since we have started working this way!

The Executive would like to expand the time the library is available in daylight hours. We are presently open before the meetings at 5pm and at the socials but neither is really during the daylight. We do not have many weekends where the studio is not in use, so I have suggested since I am already here working on the library on **Mondays** way before the guild meeting, that would be the easiest day that would provide daylight hours of library accessibility. Terry has offered to open the library if requested on occasional **Wednesdays** barring illness or snowstorms. Contact Terry if you're interested in a Wednesday and me (Jan) if you are interested in Monday, to make Shure we are going in.

I have Great News!! One of the long-lost (in 2012) Peggy Osterkamp books was retuned during the last social!!! We are thrilled to get it back so it may now continue to circulate. Since this one had been hiding in a pile of weaving books please keep an eye out in similar locations around your house (or check your friends' book piles) for missing library books. Thanks very much -- hope to see you and more of the missing books soon!

Jan and the librarians,
Ann, Terry, Alison and Lynda

Workshops

The Tom Knisely workshop has had such great interest that we asked and were able to have him stay to teach a second session. I am in the process of sorting the existing registrations into the two sessions (Sat/Sun June 4 & 5 and Tues/Wed Jun 7 & 8). Once that is done I will have about 5 spots remaining between the two workshops. If you would like to join us, please use the registration form and note in the comments whether you are available for only one of the sessions or both. Remaining spots will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis.

February/March Workshops

The following workshops have space in them as of Jan 20:

Egg Basket - A Rib Structured Basket	Sundays February 7th AND 21 st , 10am-3pm
Felted Flowers	Thursday February 11 th , 7-9:30pm
Rug Weaving	Saturdays February 13th, 20th, 27th AND March 12 th , 10-4pm
Kumihimo - Japanese Braiding	Thursdays February 18th AND 25 th , 7-10pm
Care & Feeding of Spinning Wheels	Saturday February 20th 10-4pm
Colour Theory 2 for Weavers	Sundays March 6th AND 13 th , 10am-4pm
Silk Spinning	Saturday March 5th 10-4pm
Intro to Rigid Heddle Weaving	Saturday March 5th 10-4pm
Egg Basket (Evening Session)	Tuesdays March 15th, 22nd, 29 th , 6:30-9:15
Bringing Overshot into the 21st Century	Saturday March 19th 10-6pm

For more information and to see more workshops later in March and beyond, and to register for any of the above please see the workshops page on the website.

The workshop cancellation policy has been updated. As of now, workshops with fewer than 4 students 2 weeks before their running date will have to be cancelled. This is for two reasons: first, most workshops do not break even with 4 member students since we now include HST in the price and second, classes with fewer than 4 appear to lack a certain level of interaction between students which we have found to be very beneficial to learning.

That said, I really don't like cancelling workshops and I find it especially frustrating to receive that last registration I needed 2 days after I cancel so please register sooner rather than later.

Lastly, *Just Beyond Beginners*, which was scheduled to start Jan 30th, has run into our cancellation policy. It has 3 people signed up and needs one more to run. If anyone has been thinking of this workshop now is the time as I have 3 rather disappointed new weavers at the moment. At this point I will likely need to juggle dates to start it later, but hopefully, if there is more interest we can adjust things to suit everyone.

Elizabeth Watt, OVWSG Education Coordinator

Membership

***** NEW POLICY *** - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!**

Membership

Membership renewal dates:

For new members – the renewal date will be 1 year from when you joined, specifically, the last day of that month. For example, a new member who joins Jan. 4 or Jan 24, both would have a renewal date of Jan 31, of the following year.

For existing members

This year only - If you renew before Apr. 30 (existing renewal date for everyone) then your new renewal date would be Feb. or Mar. of 2017. Otherwise, it would be April 30, 2017

After this transition year – your renewal date now remains constant, as that same month every year.

Grace period: 30 days from the last day of your renewal month. After that, all guild privileges will be revoked until renewal payment is received.

Late payment: Renewal month remains the same. Only difference is that privileges get re-instated upon payment.

Membership Renewals

At the next meeting (Feb. 1), I will start accepting membership renewals for the 2016 -2017 year.

NOTE: Membership application forms may be printed off from www.ovwsg.com, under the 'Membership' tab.

You may pay:

1. **Online** – www.ovwsg.com then go to 'membership' tab and follow the instructions
2. **Snail mail** to:

OVWSG
Heartwood House
404 McArthur Ave.
Ottawa, ON K1K 1G8
Attention: Membership (Make cheques payable to OVWSG)

3. At a Meeting – at the membership table

Donations

Marc Peloquin from Harmonique Fiber Arts in British Columbia, the Canadian distributor of Ashford products, has agreed to donate the whole series of Ashford Books to the guild library. It is a donation worth over \$ 200. Marie-France Gosselin, from Wabi Sabi will bring the books to the February meeting. They are excellent resources books.

Here is the list of the books:

Book of Carding – Jo Reeve

Book of Dyeing – Ann Milner

Book of Hand Spinning – Jo Reeve

Book of Needle Felting – Barbara Allan

Book of 8 shaft projects – Elsa Krogh

Book of Rigid Heddle Weaving – Roweta Hart

Book of Four shaft weaving – Ann Field

Book of weaving patterns from Four to Eight Shafts – Elsa Krogh

As well, Louet will be donating their natural dyes book to the guild library.

Marie-France

Welcome New Members!

Kendra Hicks
Carole Spencer
Sarah Langille
Paula Smith
Borgia (Bo) Destin
Lindsay Harasymchuk
Christine Lalande
Brigitte Swan
Jenn Lytle
Katherine Charbonneau

Returning after an Absence:

Julie Lafrance

Events

ART KNITTING WITH COPPER WIRE and WEAVING with WIRE

FIBREWORKS KINGSTON

welcomes

SAYWARD JOHNSON

March 11-13, 2016

St. Lawrence College

945 Portsmouth Ave.

Kingston, ON

FRIDAY EVENING LECTURE, 7-9 pm

Workshops 9:30-4, Saturday and Sunday

\$125.00

More information available at: www.fibreworkskingston.blogspot.ca

The Chesterville & District Heritage Society

invites you to celebrate Heritage Week at its

17th Annual Spin-In

Wednesday, February 17th, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Held in the Nelson Laprade Centre, 9 William Street (in the Park), Chesterville

(William St. Is on the east side of Main St. S; south side of St. Mary's school)

'Anything Lace' is our theme

Again this year...*Stash Busting!*

Bring *good, clean stash* you wish to give away or exchange for other stash on our new stash buster table.

Vendors will be attending.

Door Prizes will be won.

Bring your lunch or enjoy a meal at one of the village restaurants.

For information contact:

Nancy MacMillan [613-448-1411](tel:613-448-1411)

Hi everyone! My February artistic goal is graffiti on trees at our farm. Knitting, felting and weaving are welcome! You can come visit me at the farm anytime in February or bring your item to the guild at socials or to the meeting. All the names of the people participating will be mentioned on a remembrance board.

In addition, on February 6th from 9am to 1pm it's doors open at our farm for our Winterlude.

It will be a special day to go out on trails with snowshoes or good winter boots to install you graffiti. There will be other activities around in the village, so if you like winter activity, it's a good time to come!

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



Twist Exclusive Retreat!

Great news: The Twist Exclusive Retreat is all set for March: Friday, March 11 to Sunday, March 13, 2016

The concept of this retreat is to share, meet, discover, and perfect our techniques related to ALL textile fibre in a festive and friendly atmosphere, all in a warm environment offered by the Centre La Petite Rouge Vacation Centre. In addition, this retreat will be part of our fundraising for the Festival to be held from August 18th to 21st 2016.

First come, first served basis according to available spaces, hurry!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1x6fCammu2QWVu1tNKM_kDddhZbp3HfmQZv3l6NiUPao/viewform?c=0&w=1

Loom donations for Kenyan spinning and weaving workshop

If you have a loom that is gathering dust, or hear of one that needs a good home, you can contribute directly to the sustainable livelihood of an African craftsperson.

As part of its "World of Craft" project, the Ontario Craft Council and Fleming College are collecting looms for Nanyuki Spinners and Weavers, a women's self-help project in Kenya, East Africa. You can see their work online and learn about the workshop at www.nanyukispinnersandweavers.org. The project is run and managed by women who have no safety net other than what they create for themselves.

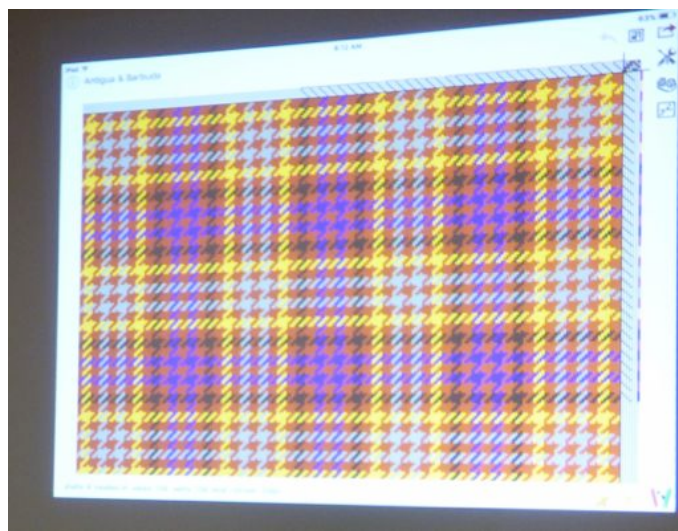
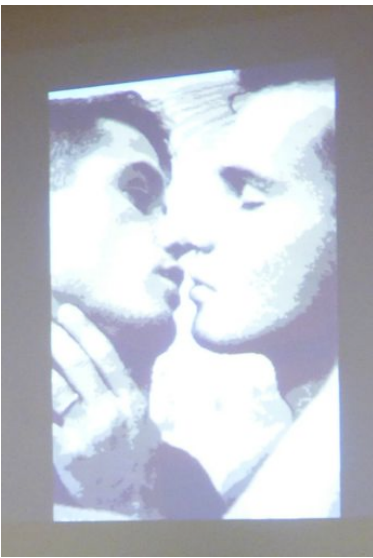
John Arnold, a Director of the Ontario Craft Council, is organizing collection and shipment of the looms to Kenya and is arranging for tax receipts for donations. He is also working to create a market for products from the workshop beyond the transient tourist trade.

John can be reached by email at j.m.arnold1943@gmail.com.

Mary-Anne Dalkowski

Photos from the January meeting program

Carl Stewart spoke about his artistic journey and his current project.



Show & Tell



Left to right, top to bottom: Terry's exciting new book, Linda's towels, Laurie's basket samples for class, Elizabeth's sample for class, Elizabeth's spinning article, Jan's new book, ibid, Ann's WOW sample book, Jane's blanket, close-up of featherstitching, Norma Smeysda workshop student samplers, ibid, ibid, ibid, ibid.

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

West Coast Salish spinning wheel, \$300.

Please contact
Cynthia Hoisak,
[613.837.7798](tel:613.837.7798)
Ottawa, (Blackburn
Hamlet)



For Sale

1979 Leclerc Colonial Loom and bench- two looms in one.

Currently set up as 8-shaft Jack loom however can be converted to 4-shaft counterbalance loom. All parts on hand. Original instructions included. Mint condition.

Asking \$2,000.00

Phone # [1-613-752-1896](tel:1-613-752-1896)

Located outside of Ottawa - Calabogie



For Sale

1. Weavebird , computerized loom, 36" width, 16 shafts, in nearly new condition, complete with large bench. Price \$ 8000.

2. Ashford "Wee Peggy" spinning wheel and stool. Price to be determined.

Mary Morrison mormmry@rogers.com

Atelier Focus Fibre

Claire Guérette, Fibre Artist
Spinning-Weaving-Felt

Ashford dealer, 10% off for members of the guild

Order by phone or e-mail only
jardindelaine@live.ca,
creationclaireguerette.blogspot.com
[819-643-4106](tel:819-643-4106) or [819-639-4106](tel:819-639-4106)

Wanted

Back-up newsletter editor in case I am ill or unavailable. Contact Natalie at newsletter@ovwsg.com

January 2016 Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting 4 January 2016

Chair: Mandy Heggveit

- Chair welcomed all old and new members and any guests in attendance. **(About 50 members in attendance.)**
- Executive was introduced.

Announcements:

- Mandy thanked all the writers of reports, getting them in on time, for the City report. When looking through them, it made Mandy aware of just how much we have achieved throughout this year. We have taken a classroom wall down, had numerous workshops and additional workshops “by request”, a successful Ex & Sale, and interesting presentations and Show and Tells.
- Marilyn Mulligan announced that the Russell Agricultural Fair will have some guild members selling there. It is to be held in Russell on January 16th.
- Elizabeth Watt mentioned that there were some spots left in a few workshops, like Beyond Beginning Weaving, Beginning Inkle, Rigid heddle and Pine Needle Basket Workshop.
- Jan Scott mentioned that the DVDs from the library are meant to be viewed on computers only.

Presentation:

Mandy introduced Carl Stewart, a member of our guild and Ottawa textile artist and weaver. Carl graduated from Holland College School of Visual Arts in PEI and is a recipient of various Art Grants. He has exhibited his work at the Canadian Textile Museum in Toronto, Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, at the City of Ottawa and other galleries in Ontario.

Carl sees a presentation “like a performance” and began his by singing a bit. Displayed titles led us to further textile artworks and explanations. “Fruit and Fibre” - “*It’s what I am, it’s what I do,*” “Swoon” –homosexual images woven into textiles, and a most emotional and moving visual display, “Belated”, a homage to his deceased brother Owen, who was killed at age 3, in front of a 5-year old Carl. Colourful, Warhol-like images, as well as a delicate (1300 stitches / sq. inch!) cross-stitch series fading to almost invisible work, all dyed with the soil from the PEI family farm and a series of laid-in design thread (Dukagang) portraits as well, all done with exquisite craftsmanship and artistry. Carl’s “Nice Shoes, Faggot” is an 80-foot tapestry created to commemorate a waiter murdered in a hate crime. Fabric is “*right next to our skin and it makes it unique. We are in contact with it from the day we are born, to the day we die.*” The final work that Carl showed was the *Clò mòr* or “great cloth” project that he is presently working on. Inspired by the flag colours and designs of 75 homophobic governments, Carl has woven gorgeous plaid fabrics for each of these countries where homosexuality is considered a crime.

Sprinkling humour in with the sometimes heavy, emotional content, Carl presented a deeply moving display of creative, thought-provoking and very talented textile artwork.

- Break for Refreshments and Visiting -

Show & Tell:

NAME	ITEM
Linda Perrier	2 handwoven tea towels, Acadian pattern from Handwoven magazine.
AnnMcElroy	Dyed fleece samples from World of Wool.
Jan Scott	- Historic books "Medieval Tailor's Assistant" (1100 -1480) and "Textile and Clothing" (1150-1450). - "Norwegian Pickup Bandweaving"
Jane Sly	Rigid Heddle Panelled Blanket, joined with featherstitch.
Elizabeth Watt	Rigid heddle samples in Bronson lace and Summer and Winter.
Mandy Heggveit Kathleen Schwass Julie Zdunich Ann Sunahara Sylvie Faucher Ruth Cooper Jackie Russell	7 weaving samplers from Norma Smayda's "Bertha Hayes Mini-overshot" workshop.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 1st, at 7:30 pm.