

PENELOPE'S NEWS



March 2017

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

Marianne Heggveit.....*Board Chair*
Sayward Johnson.....*Board Vice Chair*
Ruth Cooper.....*President*
Laurie Holcombe.....*Treasurer*
Candace Vanskiver....*Corporate Secretary*
Laurie Harkin-Chiasson..*Studio Manager*
Elizabeth Watt..... *Workshop 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, March 6th, at 7.30pm

Program:

Care of Textiles

Next meeting:

Monday, April 3rd, at 7.30pm

Dear Guild Members;

Having the opportunity at conferences and workshops to talk to fellow weavers and spinners from different areas in Ontario and abroad, it is very clear that our guild is very fortunate to have a bright new studio and classroom, as well as storage facilities. We have come a long way from past meeting rooms and "studios" to what we have now. Try to ensure that you get to enjoy the use of the studio, be it at networking nights on Mondays or studio days on Tuesdays, or through any one of a variety of workshops, that you can choose from. We are also fortunate to have a large meeting room that we can rent once a month. It can accommodate our group comfortably, and I say comfortably, while thinking back to our previous meeting room, where many of us sat on table edges or window sills through general meetings! If you have not been able to come to a meeting yet, try to make one this spring, as our weather improves. We have programs, updates of events around the area, show and tell, guild donation sales and just as importantly, a chance to network and share ideas with like-minded fibre artists.

I hope to see you at one of our meetings soon! Enjoy our skilled membership and our space!!

Ruth Cooper

General announcements

This Month's Program

Care of Textiles - This presentation will look at the main causes of damage, proper storage & materials, care, and display of textiles. It will include textiles in use (functional pieces) as well as historical non-use textiles (artifacts). Please bring your questions, as we will take them after our talk.

Sheilah Mackinnon and Ruth Cooper.

Upcoming workshops by Nancy Ingram

I am planning on attending the March monthly Guild meeting (weather permitting) to show samples from each of my workshops that have been added to the Guild curriculum this year. The three needle felting workshops include one with an Easter theme (bunny, acorns, eggs and chicks), one with a Christmas theme (a snowman) and one which involves felting a tapestry in a flower design. The two tapestry courses are traditional tapestry and transparent tapestry. Both will include weaving a sampler that will explore design theory, and various techniques which participants will then use to design and weave their own tapestry.

By showing samples developed for the workshops and expanding upon the information on the workshop website, it is hoped that weavers and felters will be encouraged to participate in the workshops.

Sheep to Shawl Demo

The Sheep To Shawl was a Wrap –all puns intended! We made two wraps. There were fourteen of us for the day and we set up in two teams. We had lots of time and enjoyed ourselves and our craft. The two shawls are now in the coffers, so to speak, and the executive will decide on what type of fundraising venture they will be used for.

Many thanks to fellow team members: Susan Berlin, Trish Moore, Anne Middleton, Jean Sharp, Laurie Holcombe, Paula Smith, Julie Anne Zdunich, Sandy Jaeger, Carolyn Duke, Catherine Barrette, Candace Vanskiver, Moira White and Bernadette Quade.

Our potluck lunch was memorable with many fantastic taste sensations. The social aspect was also very rewarding.

Jean Sharp has volunteered to lead the Sheep to Shawl Demonstration Team at the Lamb's Down Festival at Wool Growers' in Carleton Place in June. Bernadette will be sending out further information on this closer to the date.

Advertising Coordinator needed for Ex & Sale

The Ex and Sale needs a new Advertising Coordinator. This position includes photographing members' work, designing the rack cards and ads for print. If you are interested and would like to know more, please see Sayward Johnson at the March meeting.

Announcements from Heartwood House

Parking at Heartwood House

Parking at Heartwood House (HH) is limited, especially during the winter months when large piles of snow occupy several parking spots. Staff working for Heartwood House member organization pay for monthly parking passes to park in the parking lot behind the building. The parking situation for OVWSG members who have to park during working hours, especially on Tuesdays, has been a conundrum for some time now and in discussion with HH Executive Director Maureen Moloughney we agreed to the following:

1. Francesca Overend and Mandy Heggveit as the most consistent attendants of Tuesday Open Studio days have HH parking passes with their license numbers. Should they not attend Open Studio their passes can be passed on to someone else
2. In addition HH offers the parking 2 spots in front of the Unitarian entrance for use by OVWSG members during the day
3. Anyone else must park on the street until 3:30 PM and may then move their car to the back since by then demands on the back parking lot will be greatly reduced
4. The two pass holders and anyone parking in front of the Unitarian entrance during the day must sign in at the reception in the parking registry and pay \$2.00 towards snow plowing and parking lot maintenance costs
5. Anyone attending events at HH after 3:30 PM and on week-ends may park in the back parking lot

The Executive asks that OVWSG members respect this arrangement and strongly suggests car sharing whenever possible.

Announcements from guild coordinators

Library

Please make sure you return your books before the meeting.

Hours: Meeting Monday morning (check our Facebook page - **usually 9am**) to **7:15pm**

We have the library open early on the meeting Monday, (often by 9am), so you will have lots of time to come in and check out the books. I will post on the OVWSG's Facebook page as soon as I have the library ready for you. If you come in early you can check out the local restaurants for dinner. Please come in early to check out the new library acquisitions and see what books are on display relevant to the meeting topic.

We close the library at **7:15pm** in hopes that the librarians may attend the meeting on time. Librarians are usually at the socials if space allows we can open the library if there is interest. For other times contact the librarians.

Who can use the library:

Members in good standing (membership not about to expire and no overdue items) can take out up to 4 library items which will be due the next meeting.

To take books out:

1. Select your book, DVD or Magazine and go to the librarian with the sign for “[books going out](#)”.
2. You will find a card at the back of the item which will have to be filled out.
 1. You have to be able to **print your own name and phone number on the “name” line**
 2. And the “**Date**” will be the date of the next meeting. **(April 2017 or 04/2017).**
3. Give the card to the librarian with the “outgoing” sign and you will get a stamp on the reminder slip at the back of the book.

To Return Books:

The librarian with the “[Incoming Books](#)” sign will check off your returned books. **Please tell the librarian your first name** so the cards can be more quickly pulled. If your books are overdue your late fee is \$1.50 per item per month.

If you cannot make the next meeting (hot date, Alice Cooper Concert, bad weather) email library@ovwsg.com and we will renew your books for a month or arrange to get them from you. If you are in the studio you can drop them in the library return box, just let us know you have put them there!

Requesting a book:

You can request books from the library catalog, which is on our web site under author, title and subject. If the books are available, we will put them aside for you at the books going out table. You can contact the library through the guild library email. It is on the web site and on the slip of paper in the back of all the circulating library books.

Please treat all library materials with great care. We have an amazing resource and we want it to last a long time.

The librarians are working on reclassifying the collection. This is a massive undertaking and we will try to do the actual book moving as quickly as possible to decrease interruption of library use. When the great migration begins please be patient with us. We are optimistic this will make using the library easier for both the patrons and the librarians.

New Acquisitions:

At the Chesterville Spin-In, we picked up more back issues of Wild Fiber! I hope to have them in the catalog by the March meeting. I hope you will look forward to checking them out soon!

All for now. Jan and the librarians.

Welcome New Members!

Debbie Sullivan
Helene Cadieux
Natasha Mott
Barbara Smith

Upgraded to Family Membership
Gabriela Garcia – adding Fatima Sanchez

Canada's 150th Art Show Update

Our show, **The Fibre of Our Being**, will be on display at the Lalande + Doyle Exhibition Space at the Shenkman Arts Centre from May 9 - 28, 2017. We will be hosting a Finissage reception on Sunday May 28th between 1 pm and 3 pm.

The info I have been provided indicates that viewing hours will be Monday to Sunday: 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. However, selective viewing hours may be established as required.

Canvas Status:

As of February 14th a total of 102 canvases have been sold and picked up. This means we need 48 more canvases to fill in our show. Please consider making another canvas for the show.

Photographs of fibre-related stuff are also an applicable entry. If you have a favourite picture please dig it out, get it printed and mount it up. (I printed my 12x12" photograph at Costco and it was only \$6.50 which is very reasonable.) Another idea might be a collage using swatches and a design draft. I encourage you to pull out your tools and PLAY. Don't overthink things... just go with the flow and make up a square for the show.

If you need help mounting your work, please contact Carlene Paquette or Liane Thiry-Smith and we will try to help.

Advertising:

We are working on getting printed posters and postcard adverts. We will need your help to get these distributed throughout the city. It is my hope that we'll have them in hand for the March meeting. Please take some home with you and talk to some of the businesses in your neighborhood to get them to put up posters or put out postcards.

Pieces for Sale:

Artists can list their work for sale. However, please be advised that we are obligated to collect 15% of the pre-tax sale price and submit that money to the AOE Arts Council on the last day of the exhibit. This money will be deposited in the ARTicipate Endowment Fund. According to our agreement with the city we are responsible for collecting and remitting the commission and all applicable sales taxes.

We need a couple of volunteers to act as Sales Liaisons for the show. These people would field any inquiries to purchase, connecting buyers and artist sellers. The sales liaison may help collect the funds from buyers, tally/pay the commission, distribute money back to the sellers and assist with arranging for the work to get to the buyers. Ideally the sales liaisons are people who are experienced sellers.

Reception:

Our reception is on **Sunday May 28th from 1 to 3 pm**. Mark your calendars and please invite your friends and family. The more the merrier!

We will need to provide light snacks (baking, fruit/veggie/cheese trays, juice, etc.) We need someone to coordinate the reception and for members to volunteer to bring snacks.

Volunteers:

If you are able to help with the show, please email me (carlene@paquettefamily.ca) or speak with me at the meeting. Thanks in advance for considering this!

Intake of Completed Pieces:

Completed pieces can be submitted at the meeting. Please fill in the intake form and attach it to the back of your work.

Note: The intake form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Events



Ontario Handweavers & Spinners
Juried Show: May 5-7, 2017

WHAT Inspired Fibres?

“THE SHOW”
We invite all members of the
Ontario Handweavers and Spinners
to enter our juried show:
“What Inspired Fibres”

** Open to all textile media.*

YOUR ENTRY

- * Your entry must be original, executed after January 1, 2015, and not previously shown in a juried show.
- * Up to 3 entries.
- * Entry fee is \$20 for 1 entry, or \$30 for up to 3 entries.
- * Go to www.OHS.on.ca/Events/OHS-Conference for entry forms and full set of show rules.
- * Entry form and fee must be received by February 17, 2017.
- * Entries will be judged on excellence of design and technical skill including construction and finishing details.

DISCOUNT THEATRE TICKETS and PUBLIC SHOW & TELL

Bear & Co. invites all weavers, spinners, knitters, and garment makers and fibre folk of all kinds to use the **discount Artist rate** in booking tickets to Bear's next theatrical production: *Finishing the Suit*, premiering at The Gladstone Theatre, 910 Gladstone Ave., March 2-11.

This discount reduces the cost of tickets from \$38 to \$22 (including taxes and fees), and is good for any performance. However, if you can join us on Wednesday evening, **March 8**, please bring along a garment you made to which you feel a strong personal connection. Following the show, we will invite you onstage to show it off and (briefly) tell its story. This post-show session will resemble the Show & Tell that concludes the Guild's monthly meetings, except that it will be shared with the general public—a great way to raise OVWSG's profile!

Tickets can be booked at www.thegladstone.ca/finishing-the-suit or by phoning (613) 233-4523. **Don't forget to select the Artist rate online, or mention it when you call!**

Love makes us cross oceans, throw over birthrights, overturn dynasties—or put the final touches on a bespoke suit.

Come back with Bear & Co. to 1972, when being out of the closet outside one's home can get you jailed. But inside a Jewish tailor's shop, all secrets are on the measuring table, as the tailor puts the finishing touches on a morning suit. Eavesdrop with us as he remembers—and mourns—the two great loves of his life: a young, brash Irish actor, and an enigmatic, battle-weary Duke.

Don't miss this tailor-made love story from the award-winning team of playwright Lawrence Aronovitch and director Joël Beddows.

For more information about Bear & Co., visit <http://www.bearandcompany.ca/>.





Ontario Handspinning Seminar

Our Past Inspiring Our Future:
150 years of spinning in Canada



Come spin with us!

June 16-18, 2017

The Ambassador Hotel
& Conference Centre,
Kingston, Ontario

www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

Terrific classes

Fabulous sale room with items ranging from raw fleece,
through dyed fiber and tools (Entry \$5 for non-attendees)

Marketplace

The Marketplace portion of the newsletter is used to promote and assist its members. Some restrictions may apply as to space availability and file restrictions.

Contact Natalie at marketplace@ovwsg.com or newsletter@ovwsg.com

Wool roving (half BFL) and wool-alpaca roving available. I also have a few wool fleeces. Plus Lambskin rugs available. A unique, made in Ontario gift for that special occasion. Prices vary. See our Kinnaird Farm Facebook page. I will bring a selection of all to the next meeting.

KellyMMacGregor@gmail.com or KinnairdFarm@gmail.com

Créations Christine
Représentante d'Ashford Dealer

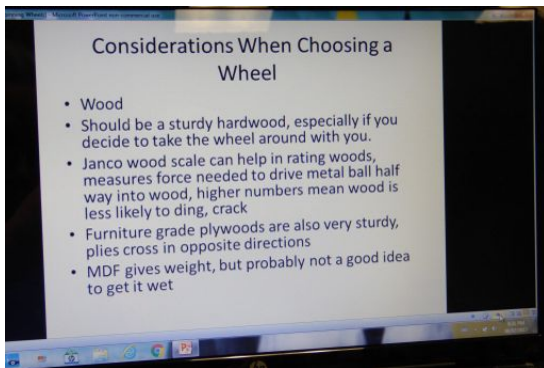
Pour plus d'information - For inquiries: 819-405-2007 cgagne40@gmail.com Christine Gagné

For Sale: Ashford Inklette with paddle tension. This is a small inkle loom which I have finished with Danish oil. It comes with the original instructions and belt shuttle. I probably used it about once. \$35.00. I can bring it to the March meeting.

Alison James

February Program

Alison James gave a presentation about spinning wheels.



Show & Tell



Kathy's shawl knitted from handspun; Laura Lee's show canvases; Liz's clasped weft canvas, Natalie's Krokbragt sampler.



Left to Right, Top To Bottom:

Carlene's art show canvases; Carlene's big ball of hand-dyed handspun; Liane's woven scarf; Woven Shibori class dyed warps; finished scarves; Ann's felted canvas; Jan's frog & lily pad canvas; Liane's felted jester pieces, Elizabeth's samples, Sheep-To-Shawl finished shawls.

February 2017 Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting 6 Feb 2017

Chair: Ruth Cooper

- Chair welcomed members, new members, and guests. (53 members in attendance, plus 2 new members and 1 guest).
- Executive was introduced with thanks for all their support and that of our committees and volunteers.
- A tour of the guild spaces was offered to take place during the break.

**Reminder to all members to please bring indoor shoes during dirty weather as we borrow our meeting space from the Unitarian Fellowship.*

Business & Announcements:

- **Visitor:** Selling a spinning wheel+ and left a flyer to post in the studio.
- **Workshops:** There is space in most workshops from now onward.
 - The catalogue workshop at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum was such a success that our Ottawa guild is interested in having the instructor back to our OVWSG classroom to have another workshop. Those interested, please contact Ruth at: president@ovwsg.com
- **Networking/Demo:** The demo team indicated that the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry event at the Ottawa Public Library central branch went well.
 - Bernadette would like to let everyone know that if you're contacted by anyone interested in the guild doing a demo, to send their contact info directly to demo@ovwsg.com.
- **Library:** Circulation data is on the PC now so you may notice the check-in/out process is faster. The update to the library catalogue is well underway now.
- **The Fibre of our Being: Works of the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild** 150 squares art project is underway. There are about 50 canvases remaining for purchase.
 - Carlene is still looking for volunteers to help with setup, installation, and documentation.
 - A reminder to all who are still trying to decide what to put on a canvas: it's meant to be 150 pieces of art related to fibre – this is a really broad topic.
 - The show is in May at the Shenkman Art Centre in Orleans and you may hand in your canvas anytime before the April meeting.

- **Green Lane project:** to update the alley along the west side of building, (behind window wall). The meeting to discuss changes is Tuesday, Feb 7, 7 pm at Heartwood House. 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year University of Ottawa students are designing it. Anyone is welcome to give feedback and input at their meeting.
- **OHS (Ontario Handweavers & Spinners) Conference “At the Fulcrum”** – May 5- 7. 2017 Seneca College, Finch Ave., Toronto. Featuring Merchant Mall, Workshops, Guild Challenge, Accommodation and networking with weavers and spinners from across Ontario. Keynote speakers:
 - 1) Dorie Millerson, Assist Chair of Fibre and Chair of Material Art & Design at OCAD University. Artist of complex thread sculptures of modern life. (Does neat 500 yr. old lace with needle & thread)
 - 2) Mary Underwood: Spinner, weaver and historian, turned her interest and research into an adventure. Guild Challenge Theme “Supporting and Embracing” but the twist this year is display must be mounted on a dress form! Registration starts Jan. 1, 2017.
 - Details on their website. WASOON the following year (2018) in Timmins.
- **OHS (Ontario Handspinners Seminar):** This is taking place in Kingston this year, and then it will be moving to London for the next 2 years.
- **Vacant Guild Positions:** **Support your guild by volunteering in one of these roles**
 - Ex & Sale Coordinator: comes with a binder of the processes. The role itself is primarily to coordinate and communicate to get the event ready. Lots of help is available to this position as many have experience.
 - Recruitment helper: more help is needed to help to communicate with existing volunteers in guild positions to see if they will continue in their current role, and then follow-up with the membership to take note of those who would like to take on a new role.
 - Fundraising and Publicity team: seeking individuals who are interested in developing and implementing new ways to raise funds for the guild and to draw more interest and update the public and our groups of our activities.
- **Sheep to Shawl:** Kelly organized the event where two teams came in for a day to spin and ply unwashed fleece for two weavers to produce two shawls as practice for S2S events in the future. She passed around samples of the unwashed and spun fibre left from the event and then a sample of the clean wool in a skein. Two beautiful shawls were presented to the membership by the two teams that produced them.
- **There is a Chesterville Spin-in Weds, Feb 15** west of the Arena in Chesterville, \$4 donation at the door.
- **Items for sale:** items for sale at side table at break.

Program: “Spinning Wheels – Variety and Choices”

Alison James & Laurie Holcombe

Alison showed a slideshow and several wheels were on display. She discusses the various wheels available, the types of drives available, and the pros and cons of them, which might be a good choice as a beginning wheel and how to choose one for yourself, accessories, tips for shopping second hand wheels, and maintenance and care of your wheel.

Laurie shows and discusses aspects of the CPW (Canadian Production Wheel).

Break -----

Show and Tell

Natalie Shumovsky	Krokbragt sampler
Liz Bivens	Clasped weft for Art Show
Julie Anne Zdunich, Ruth Cooper, Kathleen Schwass, Sylvie Faucher	Dyed Warp and Shibori scarves, dyed silk warp (workshop with Roberta Murrant).
Laura-Lee MacDonald	Art show canvas project
Elizabeth Watt	Tea towels, samples
Cathy Louise Koenjer	Beginner spinning shawl
Carlene Paquette	Canvases, yarn, hat
Jan Scott	Felted frog in process for Art show
Liane Thiry-Smith	Felted Hats, Art show tapestry, postcards, & sample for framing
Ann McElroy	12x12 pic

Thanks to all. Meeting adjourned 9:45pm.

Next meeting takes place Monday March 6, 2017, 7:30pm.



Photos from the Sheep-to-Shawl, in progress



Intake Form

Name of Artist: _____

Name of work: _____

Technique/Materials Used:

Sale Status: Please indicate either Not for Sale or state your price

Contact information (needed for pieces listed for sale)

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Intake Form

Name of Artist: _____

Name of work: _____

Technique/Materials Used:

Sale Status: Please indicate either Not for Sale or state your price

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