

PENELOPE'S NEWS



March 2018

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

Marianne Heggveit.....*Board Chair*
Sayward Johnson.....*Board Vice Chair*
Ruth Cooper.....*President*
Susan Allen.....*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

In this issue

President's Message.....p.1
General announcements..... p.2
Welcome to new members.....p.3
Guild Coordinator announcements...p.4
Events.....p.5
February Program.....p.6
Show & tell photos.....p.7
Marketplace.....p.8
February meeting minutes.....p.10

Meeting Info

This month's meeting:

Monday, March 5th, at 7.30pm

Program: Raising rare sheep breeds: Elwood Quinn

Next meeting:

Monday, April 9th, at 7.30pm

Dear Guild Members;

One of the great assets of a guild membership is the opportunity to take a variety of different workshops from several talented teachers. The workshop committee has been busy organizing them behind the scenes. We also have guest teachers coming this year to offer workshops that we normally do not offer. One teacher is **Jette Vandermeiden**, an internationally known weaver, whom is offering workshops that should interest weavers and spinners alike. One is a **Fibre Identification** workshop and another one is **Working with Linen**. If you sometimes have trouble telling different types of fibres apart, then the ID course is for you! Jette will examine the different characteristics of flax/linen in the linen workshop and how to make it "behave" for you! The final workshop, **"Drafting in the Tie-Up"** is for weavers, showing people how to make different pattern designs by simply changing the treadling tie-up, and not touching the time-consuming threading at all! These are all offered the last weekend in March and it will be a first come, first served registration.

Next up will be a guest spinning teacher, later in the fall. Stay tuned!!

Please support these to continue our booking of these fabulous teachers!

Thanks,

Ruth Cooper

General announcements

March Meeting Program

The month's program is a presentation by Elwood Quinn of Heritage Livestock Canada. (Elwood Quinn is the business partner of Pam Heath, who raises rare breeds of sheep but is unable to be at the meeting due illness in the family). Mr. Quinn will speak about raising rare sheep breeds, show slides and he will bring fleece for sale.

Fibre of Our Being Exhibit

Fibre of Our Being: Works of the OVWSG Book

There are about 10 copies of the art show book left. I have already given away several copies as gifts (my mom and mother-in-law loved it) and I would love for these last few copies to find loving homes. I will have them at the meeting and networking night if I am present. The books are \$20 per copy.

Thanks

Carlene (carlene@paquettefamily.ca)

Missing Pieces

Several members' art pieces have still not made it back to their owners. Please check the bags in which you received your pieces to make sure they are all yours. There have been instances where other members' pieces were found within a person's pieces. If you find any that are not your own, please drop them off at the studio.

Loom Heddle Installation Volunteer Required

The new loom acquisition in the studio, F5, a 27" Fanny 4 harness Counterbalance, has been cleaned up and ready for use. However, the heddles were on the rough side, so the guild purchased 800 brand new "inserted eye" heddles for this loom (200 per harness).

Looking for a volunteer to install these heddles on the loom. This loom is booked for use on March 1, so it would be nice to have them installed by that date. Mandy H. offered to show whoever volunteers, how they are to be installed, if you have never done that maintenance job on a loom before.

Please let me know if you can help out.

Contact: Laurie at studio@ovwsg.com

Fibre Poker Run – Continued

In response to last month's request for host locations for our **Fibre Poker run**, we received 5 hosts (some might depend on the date we finally choose).

All but one, are quite a distance out of Ottawa.

Do we have any others interested in being hosts that might be in, or closer to Ottawa, to average out our travel distances, to all the host locations?

Please let me know if you would like to be a host (no charge) farm/studio/vendor etc. for the poker run.

We will set the final date by the end of the month.

We will also require volunteers for this event, such as:

- Evaluation of poker hands as they are turned in
- Prizes for the winners
- Do we want an event/meal for the prize awarding, at the end of the poker run etc., then we will require organizers for that event
- Possibly volunteers to administer the poker hand play at the host locations

Remember that the fundraising proceeds will be going towards new equipment acquisitions (100" loom replacement and spinning wheel).

Contact: Laurie at studio@ovwsg.com

Welcome New Members!

Shirley Smith
Louise Fedak & Stuart Fedak (Family)
Ann Martin & Greg Eamon (Family)
Kelly Ellis
Susan Hart

Returning after an Absence:

Sheilah MacKinnon

Announcements from Coordinators

Workshops

There are plenty of workshops still available for March and April. Some are filling quickly and others slowly. Please try to look a little bit ahead, late registrations are often disappointed, either because the workshop is full, or we have had to cancel a workshop because we didn't have enough interest in time. I have also had a bit of an issue with unpaid registrations lately. If you register and then have to change your mind after I send the request for cheque or PayPal invoice please let me know right away so I can give your spot to someone else, or know that I don't have enough students to run the workshop. I have also had a few cheques go AWOL in the mail lately, which causes great headaches for everyone. Please use PayPal if at all possible. You DO NOT need a PayPal account. A credit card or Visa Debit card will work just fine. Our wondrous Webmistress, Judy, is working on setting up an automatic online payment system. It should make the process smoother for both students and your hardworking registrar; however, once it is working you will only be able to pay by cheque in person at a meeting, or by mailing it with your registration and hoping there are still spots when it gets to me.

Workshops with spaces available

Intro to Weaving - Table Loom Saturdays Mar 3, 10, 17, 24
Techniques for Intermediate Felters Sat Mar 3
Intro to Spinning - Part 1 Spindle Sun Mar 4
Build Your Own Lego Spindle Wed Mar 7
Cedar Basket Sat Mar 10, 17
Colour and Weave Effects for Rigid Heddle and 4 shaft looms Sun Mar 18, 25
Wet Felted Snippet Bag Sun Mar 18
Needle Felted Decorative Birds Sat Mar 24
Drum Carding Wed April 4

Don't forget our special guest instructor, Jette Vandermeiden
Yarn Identification Sat April 7
Linen Weaving Tips and Tricks Sun April 8 morning
Drafting in the Tie Up Sun April 8 afternoon

As always, hop on to the website for more information and to register. And please be patient after you register. Until Webmistress Judy completes her magic with the more automatic system I still have to process every registration by hand. I have a day job so I usually sit down to do what has come in over the week Saturday or Sunday. If you haven't heard back (either a PayPal invoice or a request for a cheque) by the Sunday afternoon after you register then you go ahead and check with me. The odd time the system eats a registration, or the email address supplied has a typo. Also check your spam filter. The address coming back to you is workshops@wattfamily.ca since the workshops@ovwsg.com address is an alias.

Elizabeth Watt
Workshops Registrar
workshops@ovwsg.com

Events

Black Sheep Festival of Contemporary Textile Art

The first annual Black Sheep Festival of Contemporary Textile Art is being held on the grounds of the Elora Centre for the Arts on July 7th, 2018. A curated event featuring a makers' marketplace, demonstrations, and a weekend workshop series, Black Sheep strives to bring together a diverse range of artists and makers to share knowledge and inspire innovation in the textile arts. We invite organizations, groups, and guilds to apply to be a part of Black Sheep and ask you to please consider sharing our festival information with your members and wider artistic community.

For further details, please feel free to contact us directly or visit <https://blacksheepfestival.ca/> to apply.

Bear Epp & Micaela Campbell
Co-artistic Directors

La Woolthing

I'm looking for vendors for the date of the Woolthing at our farm, the cost is 25\$ and vendors can take the space they want. It's an outdoor event one Saturday per month: April 28th, May 26th, June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, September 22, and Halloween party on October 20th. Free admission; bring your wheels or knitting. Bring your own lunch or food available on-site.

More information:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/252570495281777/>

Wool camping laine 100% alpaca

Full intensive workshop using alpaca wool: <https://www.facebook.com/events/431421597295881/>

3D Alpaca felting class

<https://www.facebook.com/events/151511878880175/>

Céline Paquette



Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, 3 Rosamond St. E., Almonte, Ontario

"Soup for Thought"

A Luncheon Fundraiser
Saturday March 24th, 2018
Noon - 2 pm

Book your tickets now, this event always sells out!

Enjoy gourmet soup from the best restaurants in Almonte and the Valley and take home the beautiful handmade stoneware bowl it was served in, courtesy of the Almonte Potter's Guild. Sarah Robertson of Prior Engagements will provide dishes, glasses, and utensils. Desserts will be provided by Friends of the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum.

New this year: "Tasters' choice"
3 soups with your ticket (smaller portions)
Adults \$25

Children 3-12 years \$10 (soup, but no bowl)

Tickets to be purchased in advance at MVTM or Baker Bob's



Portrait of a Mill Worker

Portraits of mill workers showcasing artifacts from their working lives.



Yarnissage: Saturday, January 20, 2018
from 2 - 4 pm.

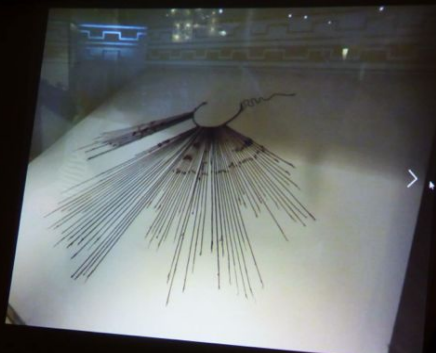
Exhibit: January 13, 2018 - March 17, 2018

Location: Mississippi Valley Textile Museum
3 Rosamond St. E.
Almonte, ON
K0A 1A0

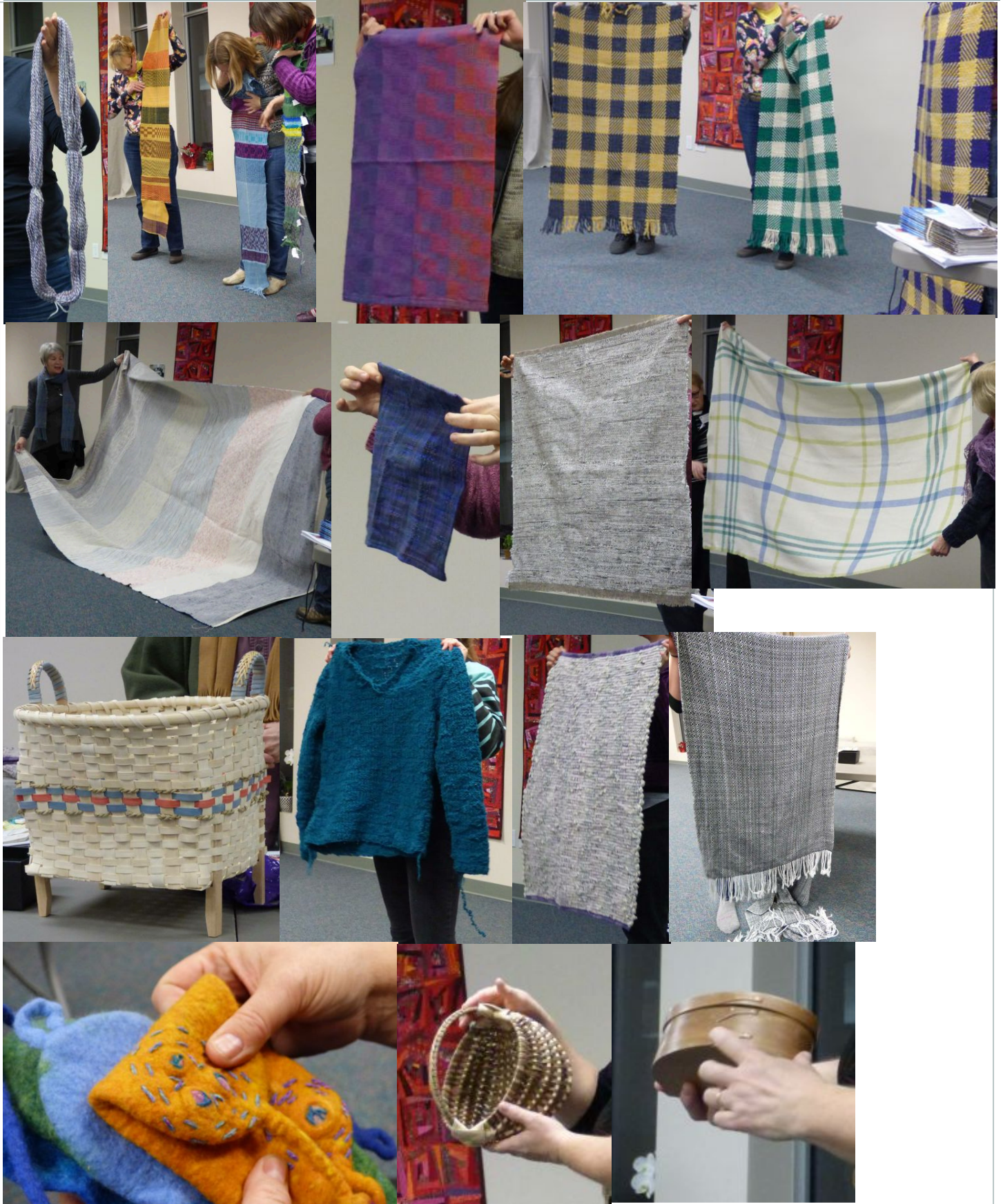
Hours: 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday to Friday,
12 pm - 4pm Saturday

Telephone: 613-256-3754 ext. 7

February Program



Show & Tell





See this month's meeting minutes for description of items.

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



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cgagne40@gmail.com
Christine Gagné



NORTH RONALDSAY ROVINGS FOR SALE

50 g = \$10
100 g = \$20

Six natural
colours

CONTACTS: UK
Mrs Jane Donnelly
Sangar, North Ronaldsay,
Orkney KW17 2BG
SCOTLAND
Tel. (01857)633242
northron.mill@btinternet.com

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
Janet H. Tulloch
1576 Champneuf Dr.
Ottawa, Ontario K1C 6B5
CANADA
Cell: 1-613-862-0742
Ancunstudio@gmail.com

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l'atelier
weaving studio tissage

Marie-France Gosselin
Louet, Ashford, Schacht Spindle
Company, Harrisville & Mirrix.
Weaving supplies.

Fournitures pour le tissage à la main
Représentante de produits Louet,
Ashford, Schacht Spindle Company,
Harrisville & Mirrix.

Carriageway Studios, Almonte, Ontario
latelierweavingstudio@gmail.com
613 - 882 - 6893
f/latelierweavingstudiotissage

Kinnaird Farm fibre for sale includes:

- .. “Birch” roving from a half Blue Faced Leicester
- .. “Charcoal” roving, a 50/50 blend of brown-grey wool with brown-black alpaca
- .. “Champagne” roving, a 50/50 blend of white wool with fawn alpaca
- .. washed brown-black *alpaca*
- .. washed *wool*
- .. *sheepskin rugs*

Many of these items can be viewed on our new web site – still under construction – at KinnairdFarm.ca. Find us FB. Contact Kelly MacGregor of Kinnaird Farm by email: KinnairdFarm@gmail.com

I will be bringing to the March meeting a selection of loom bench sized sheepskin rugs

For sale: A 3-year-old Schacht Matchless spinning wheel with 3 bobbins. Perfect condition but I have too many spinning wheels. Located in Kemptville. New retails for \$1600 plus tax - asking \$1000. Contact Susan at Susan.stobert@hotmail.com.

Traditional Spinning Wheel by Ashford for sale. Includes Lazy Kate, 4 bobbins and threading hook. It is in great condition. New it sells for \$759 plus taxes at Yarn Canada, I'm selling this one for \$350. If interested, please contact Josée at jdamboise@rogers.com.



Electric spinning wheel price lowed at 380\$ instead of 425\$

Pickers hand made by my husband at 300\$

Celine for more infos [819-766-2022](tel:819-766-2022)

J'ai beaucoup de fibres blanches d'alpagas. Est-ce que quelqu'un peut me contacter, j'aurais des questions à vous demander.

Mme. St. Amour has white Alpaca fibre/fleece and she would like someone to contact her since she has several questions.
<mailto:ssta.lstl@hotmail.com>

February Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting 5 February 2018

Chair of Meeting: Ruth Cooper

- Ruth welcomed all and wished Happy New Year to those who didn't make it to January's meeting. (54 members in attendance +4 guests), and introduced the executive.
- Introduced Executive and thanked all volunteers.

Business:

- Reminder to bring indoor shoes to wear during the winter and rainy season.
- Place equipment back where it goes in the Studio after use; looms back in place, etc.
- Storage of personal tools or water bottles is not permitted in the Studio.

Workshops:

- Programming update; payment will be due upon signup in the future as many bills are not being honoured and cancellation notices aren't being submitted. Additional help – email and registration assistance- Liz Briggs.
- Several workshops coming up have some spaces available.
- Felted nametag project got bumped due to a shift in programs, let Ann McElroy know if you're interested and she'll plan to do it at a social.

AGM:

Current Vacant Positions:

- 1) Recruitment Committee. (Julie Anne now)
- 2) Equipment Coordinator
- 3) Standards Committee: Felting
- 4) Yarn Convener
- 5) Program Coordinator
- 6) Assistant Demo Coordinator

Upcoming Positions

- 1) President;
- 2) Vice Chair,
- 3) Secretary

Anne Middleton: passed away on Saturday, January 27th. Anne was instrumental in getting our first Studio or Resource Center established for the guild. She had the overall concept, the inspiration, and pushed and prodded to set it in motion. Hers was the grand vision, and the determination to make it possible. Many Guild Members were involved once the movement started, but Anne was the spark that set things in motion. She also was President of the Guild and the coordinator for the Ex and Sale several times running. She mentored many young beginning spinners and was quite generous with her help. It is a very substantial legacy to leave behind and her contribution should be acknowledged.

Spin-In at Moore Farm: Denise Furukawa had a great turn out and expressed her thanks to all that joined the event.

Media Survey: A brief review of the Privacy Act and our responsibility to help safeguard the privacy of our membership. A survey was provided to the membership to collect a sample of membership feedback on the use of social media at the guild.

Fundraising idea (Poker Run): Laurie Harkin-Chiasson presented the idea of a poker run that consists of a tour of fibre, spinning, weaving locations to have a social day out and try to collect the best poker hand you can.

- Poker sheets would be \$5 each, and 5 locations will have to be visited to gather cards to fill your sheet(s).
- Criteria and dates have not been set yet; may be an entire weekend event.
- Any host site suggestions are welcome, don't have to be guild members but should be in our fibreshed region.
- Fundraiser goal: our 100" loom needs to be replaced. We're also looking to purchase a new wheel too.

Donations: Please contact donation@ovwsg.com FIRST, because any items left behind without formal acknowledgement as a donation can't be adopted. To those who've provided to the guild from their personal collections: Thank You!

Announcements:

- Library: coming along. Easier to find what you're looking for.
- WASOON –May 11-13, 2018 in Timmins. "Windows to Creativity" now taking registrations.
- Heartwood House (HH) meeting room has been seconded by Eco Equitable, so HH will be renting our classroom space from us during the week and have offered us storage solutions for our equipment. The carpet in the classroom will also be changed to tile. This is a nice way for our guild to give back to Heartwood House.
- Upcoming Spinning Workshop – **Pre requisite** : Being able to spin a continuous yarn on a spinning wheel.
 - Plant fibres - flax, cotton, hemp and milkweed.
 - Exotic fibres- cashmere, quiviut, camel down, alpaca and angora. Silk will take one day by itself.
- Parking: at the back - all spaces against the Heartwood House building are available. All of the others are numbered for the housing units behind.

Program: Louise Laberge presented her trip to Peru with samples.

-----BREAK-----

Show and Tell

Name	Description
Cathy Louise Koenjer	Spindle spinning Results
Natalie Shumovsky	Sampler from Block weave class
Elizabeth Watt	Sampler from Block weave class and looper rug.
Linda Perrier	Sampler from Block weave class, Tom Knisely rug workshop
Catherine Barrette	Fire damage inventory printed on paper made into weft for rug. Tom Knisely rug workshop
Marie-France Gosselin	Catalogne , Tom Knisely rug workshop
Julie Anne Zdunich	Polychrome crackle weave towels
Mandy Heggteit	Blanket made with double weave method.
Catherine McFabe	Wool-drying Basket
Rachel Eugster	Turquoise sweater made from Romney wool.
Marina Beaulieu-Chabot	Baby wrap
Ann McElroy	Felt bags
Laurie Harkin-Chiasson	Egg basket & shaker cherry bent wood accessory box
Diane Dillon	Crocheted hat
Louise LaBerge	Lavender shawl made by Anne Middleton.

Thanks to all.

Next meeting takes place Monday March 5, 2018, 7:30pm.