

PENELOPE'S NEWS



June 2019

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

Ruth Cooper.....*Board Chair*
Mandy Heggveit.....*Board Vice Chair*
Natalie Shumovsky.....*President*
Moira White.....*President*
Beth Briggs.....*Treasurer*
Liz Bivens.....*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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Spring is a time of renewal in nature, and the same holds true for the guild. At the AGM held earlier this month, guild members were introduced to the new executive members. All the volunteer positions were filled. Thanks to everyone who put their name forward to help run our association, and special thanks to Julie Anne Zdunich for her work ensuring that we had a complete slate.

The report that Natalie shared at the AGM shows the breadth and depth of our Guild. At the end of our fiscal year (April 30), we had more than 250 members, many of whom generously gave of their time to set up and take down meetings, organize workshops, organize our monthly meetings, keep the books in order, keep us all connected, ensure that the library runs smoothly, keep the equipment in good order, mentor others, demonstrate our skills to the wider community, write proposals, liaise with Heartwood House, liaise with OHS, liaise with external guilds, set and maintain standards, keep track of rentals, coordinate donations, greet people, act as hosts, publicize us, and support the Ex and Sale. That's a lot of work by a lot of members! When everyone does a little bit, organizations such as ours run smoothly.

But there's always room for improvement. We need to make sure that our Guild remains welcoming and relevant to both new and experienced weavers, spinners, and fibre artists. This means ensuring that we have classes, library resources, equipment, and opportunities that appeal to people at different stages of crafting and artistic development. We want to renew our strategic plan this year to ensure that all members have an opportunity to participate in planning for our future.

This is a busy time of year for our demo team, which provides important outreach for the Guild. Part of our mandate is to

Meeting Info

This month's meeting:

Monday, June 3rd, at 7.30pm

Program: Jean's Indian textile tour presentation; Fibre Poker

Next meeting:

Monday, September 9th, at 7.30pm

educate the larger community about what we do. Please consider volunteering at one of the demos or coming out to watch our Guild in action.

We wish you all a safe and productive summer and can't wait until the September meeting to see what you create over the summer!

Moir White

General announcements

June Meeting Program



1. Jean Sharp will be giving a slide presentation on her recent trip to India - which included a five day textile tour! She will be bringing textiles, clothing, tools and household goods that represent a mere smattering of the textile traditions of North East and North West states of India and the state of Gujarat. Be prepared to be wowed by the beauty and incredible artistry of this distant and diverse land.
2. PICK A CARD, ANY CARD
Get on your poker face and sally up to the table for another hand of FIBRE POKER, the 2019 OVWSG Summer Challenge!

Welcome New Members!

Yanhong Li
Pat Sample
Amanda Harrison
Cherine Muirhead (FAMILY with Gregory, Xander
and Ava Muirhead)

Community Loom

NEW WEAVERS!! If you are interested in practising weaving on a floor loom, the studio community loom is getting ready for another session. There is a warp getting prepared to do striped dish towels. If you would like to be part of this, please contact Ruth at recooper424@gmail.com. I can only take four people, so first come, first served. Thanks!

Announcements from Coordinators

Sale and Exhibition

Sale and Exhibition News

The Guild Sale and Exhibition opens to new vendors on June 1. The annual sale is one of the things the guild does for its members. It provides a venue for you to sell the items you make and the supplies you sell. We have booths in different sizes and two small 6 ft x 6 ft booths that are for new vendors only. So, if you are thinking about the sale but are not sure you can fill a full size booth, this could work for you. Anyone wanting to be a vendor who is not already a member of the guild must become one. The application is on the website: www.ovwsg.com/sale/exandsaleapplication/. If you have any questions you can ask either co-chair of the sale - Ann McElroy or Kelly Ellis. You can email us at: guildsale@ovwsg.com

How to help promote the guild and the sale

Help advertise the Guild's Sale and Exhibition. Most of our advertising for the sale is through social media. We have a Facebook event set up already: www.facebook.com/events/295578074445386/ or search for "OVWSG Annual Sale and Exhibition 2019". We ask that you share it, invite people to it and like our posts so that it will spread far and wide. We also have an Instagram page: www.instagram.com/ottawavalleyweaversandspinnners/. We would love you all to follow and share. When talking about the sale anywhere on the internet please use the hashtag #ovwsgsale. You can also use the hashtag #ovwsg for general guild activities. You can add hashtags to your posts on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook and they act as a search term. Someone clicking on it will get taken to other information on the sale. At the June meeting we will have business cards available in 4 different designs. The cards advertise the sale and exhibition but work well to promote the guild as well. Be sure to grab some to hand out.

Exhibition

As I mentioned at the last Guild meeting, the theme of the exhibition part of the Sale and Exhibition will be wearables - we are still working on the official title. As long as you can wear it and it's either handwoven, made from handspun, or felted - it is admissible. Please submit your pieces to me at the September meeting - or the October meeting (last chance). We are looking for items that you have had in your closet since forever or just took off the loom, needles or felting frame.

When submitting your piece(s) please provide the following information:

1. Your name
2. Your email address (for my records only)
3. The name of the piece (e.g., handwoven wool skirt, felted hat)
4. Year it was created (approximate is fine)
5. Materials used
6. Techniques involved in its creation (e.g., handspun, hand dyed, handwoven in a broken twill pattern)
7. Something interesting about its life (e.g., I made this to wear to my daughter's wedding, this was a fibre challenge entry (plus details), I love working with dog hair and this is my first attempt at making a hat...)

Please let me know if you have any questions! gambissara@yahoo.ca

Thanks and see you in September!

Jean Sharp

Membership

Membership Lists:

If you should require an up to date membership list, please contact membership@ovwsg.com to request the most recent copy.

A reminder that the list is to be used for guild business only. Please respect the confidentiality and privacy of all the members on the list, by not sharing the list with anyone.

Guild Web Calendar - Studio access:

We do our utmost to keep the guilds' web calendar as up-to-date as possible. If you wish to use the guild studio from now till the fall, please check the calendar for activities that may be already booked. You must be a paid –up member to use the studio, as well as obtain the code for the door lock key box.

Workshops

We are at that point in the year when we start planning for next year's schedule. The first step in the process is for instructors to express interest in teaching for the 2020 schedule. All I need is an email to workshops@wattfamily.ca or workshops@ovwsg.com and I will put you on the list. If you are new you will have to provide some information on your background to ensure that you meet our policy standards for instructors. If you are really new and not sure how to get started get in touch and we can provide you with some support to get you ready to share your skills. Once I have the list of interested instructors I will send each person a spreadsheet to be completed by July 31 that will detail the workshops you are proposing. You can propose as many workshops as you are willing to offer but please understand that we cannot list every workshop that is proposed. We aim for a balance of topic, level and variety of instructors throughout the schedule.

If you aren't an instructor but you have ideas for what topics you would like to see next year please also email me. Knowing what students are looking for is extremely helpful when we are faced with a huge array of proposed workshops to choose from.

Meanwhile, we have been more successful in collecting evaluations at the end of workshops. The feedback to all instructors has been overwhelmingly positive and I personally have found some of the comments helpful for improving my offerings. Be assured that evaluation forms are kept anonymous (you do not put your name on them and Kelly keeps them safe after entering the data) and only average scores and comments are reported to instructors.

By Request will run over the summer, subject to the availability of space and instructors. The renovation to the floor in the classroom will mean that summer workshops will probably be limited to what can be offered in the Studio. As always, if you want a workshop on a particular topic find the "By Request" form on the website and follow the instructions. Please be aware that if you put your name on a By Request list and agree to the date offered it is expected that you will follow through quickly with registering and payment.

Please also look over the offerings for September and October and register early. Workshops that look to have quite a few empty spaces now fill up surprisingly quickly come Labour Day.

Elizabeth Watt
Workshops Registrar

Summer Book Borrowing Special instructions!!

Members having no overdue items are allowed to borrow from the guild library.

For the June meeting a deposit cheque is required to take books out over the summer. Cost: \$10.00 per item; up to 4 items can be taken out. Cheques should be picked up when the books are returned before the September meeting.

The library opens around 9am and closes at 7:15pm the Monday of the meeting. Check Facebook to see if we have the library open at other times or contact the librarians to arrange a time to come in.

Please do not remove anything from the book return box! If you have dropped off a library item please Email library@OVWSG.com to let us know it's there.



May was a difficult month to select books that went with our meeting topic, our AGM. I selected a few that may be of interest to various interests within the guild. I pulled one on study groups which is a guild topic: Innovated weaving - 255STA. Then I selected a few seasonal appropriate offerings on plants, planting or gardens for weavers and dyers. Books to inspire you as your set up this year's garden!

"A Weaver's Garden" by Rita Buchanan 304BUC. Chapters include plant fibers for spinning an stuffing, dyes from plants, soap plants for cleaning textiles, fragrance plants to scent and protect textiles plant materials used to make textile tools, creating a garden and resources.

"Growing Herbs and Plants for Dyeing" by Betty E M Jacobs 304JAC. Part 1 how to grow 23 herbs and 7 plants for dyeing, part 2 how to user the herbs and plants for dyeing.

"Lichens of the Ottawa Region" Irwin M Brodo. (French and English editions) 304.1BRO. A lot of information on lichens!

"A Dyer's Garden, from plant to pot growing dyes for Natural Fibers" Rita Buchanan 304.BUC. Chapters include: Choosing which plants to grow, getting and growing dye plants, planning a dye garden, the basics of dyeing with plants, colors, and a portfolio of dye garden plants.

We have phenomenal resources in our guild library; come in early so you will have time to select your summer reading.

Jan and the librarians

Events

This August at MERA we are lucky to have 2 amazing basketry teachers coming for 4 workshops in 4 days!

2 Day Workshop with Lene Rasmussen
Willow Rope Coil Basket
August 24th & 25th starting at 9 am to 4 pm

2 Day Workshop with Joan Carrigan
Weaving with Natural Materials of the Pacific Northwest
August 24th & 25th starting at 9 am to 4 pm

1.5 Day Workshop with Lene Rasmussen
2 Projects: Frame Tray & Simple Tray
August 26th from 9 am to 4 pm and 27th from 9 am to 12 pm

1.5 Day Workshop with Joan Carrigan
Cedar Bark Pouch
August 26th from 9 am to 4 pm and 27th from 9 am to 12 pm

http://meraschoolhouse.org/august2019_basketry_workshops/

Registration:

To register, please e-mail MERAs administrator Trina Conboy at meraschoolhouse@gmail.com

For more information please e-mail the workshop coordinator, Ankaret Dean at ankaretd@gmail.com



CONGRÈS ANNUEL

Pour vous inscrire au congrès annuel,
visitez le site Web de l'ATQ et remplissez le formulaire
<http://www.lestisserandsduquebec.com/wp/formulaires/>

Tarification: Inscriptions avant le 15 mars 2019 : 175 \$
Inscriptions après le 15 mars 2019 : 195 \$
Étudiants : 120 \$

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar will take place in London, June 7-9, 2019. The theme this year is A Whorled Tour of Fibre: Luxury Fibres from Around the World. Our keynote speaker will be Linda Cortright, the founder and editor of Wild Fibers magazine. There will be spinning workshops, a salesroom, displays, fashion show and the showing of the award-winning film The Shepherdess of the Glaciers. More information is available at:

www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

Ontario Handweavers & Spinners
presents their Biennial Conference

TRANSFORM REASSEMBLE REMODEL OVERHAUL

MAKEOVER

IMPROVE RESHAPE REFASHION REBUILD

OCTOBER 17-20, 2019
Quality Inn Hotel & Suites, Woodstock, Ontario

CREATE! LEARN! SHARE!
Workshops & Seminars
Featuring: Jane Stafford and Amy Tyler
Juried Show • Fibre Feast • Fibre Walkabout • Makeover Showcase

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE
* Up-to-date information * Printable Juried Show Form *
* Printable & Online Conference Registration Forms *

www.ohs.on.ca

Like us on Facebook

Saturday, June 15, 10-4

Indigo Dyeing Workshop at Rock's End Farm near Wakefield, QC with Andrea Belcham

Indigo is a versatile and mysterious dye that can bring beautiful colour to your fibre projects. In this workshop, you'll learn how to select and prepare natural fibres for dyeing and how to make a natural indigo vat. We'll explore the Japanese tradition of resist-dyeing (Shibori) to decorate cotton fabric, as well as gradient-dyeing techniques on our own Icelandic wool yarn. You will come away with two organic cotton napkins, a cotton tote and a 100g skein of yarn - all dyed uniquely by you - as well as the knowledge and confidence you need to start your own indigo vat at home!

The workshop includes a farm tour and discussion of how we raise organic Icelandic wool, home cooked organic lunch and refreshments.

MAX 7 STUDENTS so register fast!

Cost: \$100, plus \$38 materials fee

Please register by phone (819-775-8132) or email (Erin@RocksEndFarm.ca) with your name and contact information.

Andrea Belcham is the owner of the yarn line Renard et Fleur, which features Canadian yarns dyed using plants. She teaches on a variety of topics related to natural dyeing, including foraged colour, boro patchwork, and visible mending. Visit her Etsy shop and follow her fibre art adventures on Instagram at @foxprintfibres

Rock's End Farm is an organic farm run by Erin Krekoski. We raise Icelandic sheep for wool and meat, as well as other livestock. You can find out more about our farm at www.RocksEndFarm.ca

SUMMER FIBRATIONS by Out Of the Box

Saturday, June 22 to Saturday, July 6, 2019

OOTB fibre artists are returning to the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) with another exciting display of fibre art. Over 150 individual pieces will be on display. The centrepiece of the show will focus on eight beautiful Summer Colours. You will be intrigued by them as well as independent pieces all of which will showcase unique and innovative uses of fibre and cloth. Be inspired by the colour, texture and techniques employed by these artists!

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY TEXTILE MUSEUM

3 Rosamond Street East

Almonte, Ontario K0A 1A0 Phone:

(613) 256-3754

Website: <https://mvtm.ca/?exhibition=summer-fibrations>

Twist Fibre Festival

Check out what just came out of the oven over at Twist Fibre Fest! More than 40 creative fiber-y workshops!

August 14-18 2019

Saint-André-Avellin QC

www.festivaltwist.org

Have questions? Give us a call or email us amelie@festivaltwist.org, (819) 981-0023.

Book Review

Homegrown Linen, Transforming flaxseed into fibre by Raven Ranson.

This book is a new addition to the Guild Library.

The blurb on the back of the book states "Homegrown Linen is both a conceptual and hands-on book about gardening, homesteading and creating yarn." The author talks about what kinds of flaxseed are available from different sources, how to develop a landrace (locally adapted) seed and the ins and outs of site selection and cultivation. The book covers everything from planting to harvest, processing the fiber, spinning and weaving. This is all done with common sense and humor. She even talks about her experiments in flax growing, successful or not so successful. She is more detailed on the needs for processing fiber than other sources I have read. It is a small book jam packed with information, and easy to read.

Kathy K.

Flax Project



May Program - AGM

Board of Directors (Elected Positions - Two Years)

Position	Name
Chair of the Board	Ruth Cooper (2018)
Vice Chair of the Board	Marianne Heggteveit (2019)
President	Natalie Shumovsky (2018) Moirra White (2018)
Treasurer	Beth Briggs (2019)
Corporate Secretary	Liz Bivens (2018)

Corporate Services Team (2) Volunteer Positons – One Year

Position	Name
Policy and Procedures	Marianne Heggteveit
Standards Committee - Weaving	Ruth Cooper Carmen Deschenes
Standards Committee - Spinning	Bernadette Quade Judy Kavanagh
Standards Committee - Felting	Ann McElroy
Standards Committee- Other	Merilyn Mulligan

Studio Team (1) Volunteer Positons – One Year

Position	Name
Studio Manager	Laurie Harkin-Chiasson
Assistant Studio Manager	Terry Nelson
Equipment Manager	Terry Nelson Patricia Moore
Assistant Equipment Manager	Louise Travill Laurie Harkin-Chiasson Christine Bloch Sylvie Faucher
Librarian	Jan Scott
Assistant Librarian	Ann McElroy Terry Nelson Alison James Lynda Beaudoin

Studio Team (2) Volunteer Positons – One Year

Position	Name
Weaving Rental Coordinator	Paula Kelsall
Spinning Rental Coordinator	Anita Hebert
100" Loom Coordinator	Ruth Cooper
Yarn Convenor	Diane Dillon
Donations Coordinator	Linda Arseneau

Programming Team (1) Volunteer Positons – One Year

Position	Name
Workshop Coordinator	Elizabeth Watt
Assistant Workshop Coordinator	Beth Briggs
Monthly Program Coordinator	Liane Thirry-Smith Carl Stewart
Assistant Monthly Program Coordinator	Rebecca Cairn
Demo Coordinator	Klara Konya
Assistant Demo Coordinator	Kelly Ellis Linda Arseneau

Public Relations Team (Volunteer Positons – One Year)

Position	Name
Website Manager	Judy Kavanagh
Newsletter Editor	Natalie Shumovsky
Ad Publicity	Kelly Ellis
Social Network (Facebook)	Ann McElroy
Social Network (Twitter)	Kelly Ellis
Social Network (Ravelry)	Carlene Paquette

Exhibition and Sale Team (Volunteer Positon – One Year)

Position	Name
Ex & Sale Coordinator	Ann McElroy & Kelly Ellis
Ex & Sale Exhibit Coordinator	Jean Sharp



Show & Tell



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

Kinnaird Farm – come for a visual tour at www.KinnairdFarm.ca

- Ready to spin roving in various natural colours, wool and wool-alpaca blends
- Fleece, unwashed, white with some select coloured fleeces
- Sheepskin Rugs – new product has just arrived, white and “grizzly bear” colour variations
- Two-ply spun natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- FLEECE, FLEECE and more FLEECE

Contact Kelly MacGregor for details: KinnairdFarm@gmail.com



Kinnaird Farm
Kelly M MacGregor

83 La Rue Mills Rd
Mallorytown ON
K0E 1R0

613.659.4267

KellyMMacGregor@gmail.com

One metre wide Normalo four harness counterbalance (sinking shed) folding loom birch/maple from Finland for sale. Comes with 3 reeds, raddle, and bench. More photos and information available. \$200 OBO

llaberge@rogers.com



Créations Christine
Représentante d'Ashford Dealer

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


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](https://www.facebook.com/latelierweavingstudiotissage)

2 Looms for sale: Estate Sale

1) Weaving Loom ~ 60" Clement - needs assembling: \$800.00 ***bench not included in price

2) Weaving Loom ~ 36" Nilus Leclerc Artisanat needs assembling: \$550.00

Please send email to cnleblanc@sympatico.ca



ISABELLE PERDIGAL & JACQUES MORIN

MOHAIR

From Our Angoras Goats. Spun In Canada. Hand Dyed On The Farm.

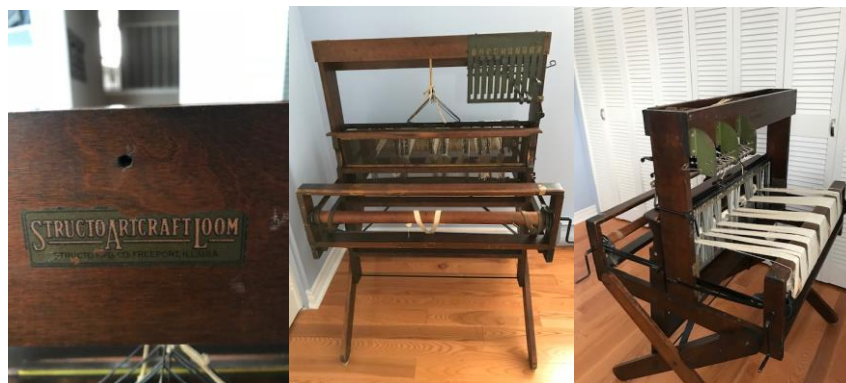
De nos chèvres angoras. Filé au Canada. Teint à la main à la ferme.

Vankleek Hill, ON
(613) 678-5690
bellesbouclettes.com
bbouclettes@gmail.com



Loom For Sale

27" Structo Artcraft Loom with 4 shafts, \$300. Susan
susanosmith30@gmail.com home 343-546-8014 cell 613-240-3341.



May Meeting Minutes

Annual General Meeting

Monday May 6th, 2019 7:30 in Unitarian Meeting Room

Chairs: Ruth Cooper, Presidents: Moira White / Natalie Shumovsky

- Welcome given to all in attendance
- Introduction of executive members in attendance
- Approximately 50 members in attendance

Ruth welcomed all to the AGM, then Natalie read the gathered information from the document produced from all the coordinators, which included a financial report.

In April we had 251 members

PROGRAM

- **Annual General Meeting**
- Julie Zdunich introduced all the members in the executive and other coordinator positions. She also produced the document found at page 9 of Penelope's News with all the various positions along with volunteer positions that are in effect for the coming year.
- Elizabeth Watt corrected the inclusion of herself on the proposed list of the Board of Directors, stating that she was only a bookkeeper, not a Treasurer.
- **MOTION** by Anita Hebert to accept the Board of Directors and Operational Positions as presented. Seconded by Ann McElroy. Passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Natalie thanked the volunteers who helped with the OC Transpo sale
- Ruth announced the 3rd annual PEC FibreFest is Saturday May 25th, 2019 with Dozens of diverse vendors selling fibre, felted garments, hand dyed wool, fleece, yarns, pottery and so much more! Classes in felting, spinning, knitting, dyeing,
- Ruth also spoke of our old 100" loom that she gave notice to other guilds with a 100" to let them know they could get parts. Kingston needed parts so were able to pick them up. Wood will be offered to woodworkers
- Kathy Louise Koenjer reported the flax growing is well under way. If anyone wants to sign on and pay \$7, please do it quickly. Work will be in the harvesting.
- Ann McElroy reminded everyone of the Ex and sale to make their return vendors space safe by applying early. There are two spots that are for new members and a coop booth available. Exhibition of wearables during the show. They will collect items at September meeting for this show, items not judged.

BREAK

- **Show & Tell**
- Anita – 3 scarves, climate change scarf, warp painted scarves

- Nancy – ombré dyed yarn knitted scarves, felted Buddy dog
- Carlene – hat from a fibre challenge
- Jan – felted flowers from Ann's workshop
- Christine – design your own projects from Julie Anne's class
- Ann – Nuno felted scarves, mentioned that tips and tricks column should be for weaving and spinning ideas.

Next meeting – **Monday, June 3rd, 2019 @ 7:30 pm.**