

PENELOPE'S NEWS



November 2019

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

Ruth Cooper.....*Board Chair*
Mandy Heggveit.....*Board Vice Chair*
Natalie Shumovsky.....*President*
Moir 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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This is the month when Ottawa weavers and spinners are working in high gear. Many are setting up to exhibit and sell beautiful handmade goods at the Ex and Sale, preparing even more treats for sale at various craft fairs and events throughout the Ottawa Valley, and making presents for special friends and family for Christmas and other celebrations.

As the days grow colder and shorter, all crafts — but especially spinning, weaving, and knitting — provide a wonderful way to thrive. Whether working at home alone with my fibre, or sharing in the comradery that the guild provides, I find the time passes quickly.

When I sit down to weave and spin, I can't help but think of those who built the equipment, nurtured the animals that produced the fibre, and prepared it. This is true today as it was centuries ago when those craftspeople worked in conditions that would we would find less than ideal. I think of my great-grandmother producing some incredible garments while living without electric lights and central heating. Working with wools in the winter has double benefits!

Thank you all for helping not only to continue these traditions but also to add your own twist (no pun intended) to them. It's wonderful to be part of traditions with roots in the past and eyes on the future.

We will once again unveil our workshop offerings for the coming year at the Ex and Sale. Thanks to Elizabeth Watt and her team for putting together an exciting list of offerings for our 2020 workshops. Please check them out and sign up early!

Moir

Meeting Info

This month's meeting:

Monday, November 4th, at
7.30pm

Program: Fibre artist Hannah
Ranger

Next meeting:

Monday, December 2nd, at
7.30pm

General Announcements

November Meeting Program

Fibre artist Hannah Ranger - a felt maker's adventures in Mexico's valley of weavers in Teotitlán,

Heartwood House News



OC Transpo

SALE

SILENT AUCTION ON SELECTED ITEMS

Bargain Basement Prices!

Fantastic Buys!

Saturday
November 2nd
12 Noon - 2 p.m.
404 McArthur Ave

The advertisement features a collection of items including a colorful patterned umbrella, a laptop, a smartphone, a brown hat, a brown bag, and a pair of gloves.

Welcome to new members

Katherine McCarron
Pam Steacie
Deirdre Neuss
Cherie Meunier
Ruthanne Edward
Jacinthe Brasseur-Kalli
Kathie Green
Leah Dean

Returning after an Absence:
Garrie Joyce
Rich Hanna

Announcements from Coordinators

Sale and Exhibition

The 2019 OVWSG Annual Sale and Exhibition is happening this coming weekend at the Glebe Community Centre located at 175 Third Avenue in Ottawa. The event runs on Saturday, November 2nd from 10:00 am to 5:00pm and again on Sunday, November 3rd from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

As usual, we have excellent vendors this year providing a great selection of unique wares and supplies. Our list of vendors this year includes:

- Les Belles Bouclettes (Isabelle Perdigal)
- The Black Lamb
- Cannaweave Weaving and Fibre Studio and Accessories (Laurie Harkin-Chiasson)
- Cheff Fields Farm (Catherine Cheff)
- Fab Fibre Two (Jean Sharp and Bernadette Quade)
- Christine Gagné
- JAZ – Julie Anne Zdunich
- Judy Kavanagh
- Lin en ville
- Love to Felt Artwear
- Luna Spinning
- Miss Hickory Handmade
- Natalie Shumovsky Handweaving
- Off the Loom (Liliane McKennirey)
- Judith Rygiel
- Shepherds' Spring Farm (Ann McElroy)
- Studio 3 (Jean Down and Roberta Murrant)
- Sutapa Adelman
- Twenty Fingers (Marianne (Mandy) Heggteit and Mary-Anne Dalkowski)
- Wayside Weeds and Wool (Amanda Carrigan)
- Wendo Van Essen
- Handweaving by Janet Whittam

We will also be showcasing the work of our talented OVWSG members in our Exhibition Booth. This year's theme is Wearables and is sure to delight the senses.

Below is a poster you can click on and download and put on your Facebook or Instagram feed to help us to promote the event. If you haven't already checked out our event details on our Facebook page please do so.

We would also like to take a moment to thank the members of the Sale and Exhibition Committee and our volunteers for making this event a reality. Saying there is a lot of effort that goes into this event each year is an understatement. A more formal recognition of thanks will be provided in our next newsletter.

Thank you

Ann McElroy and Kelly Ellis

2019 OVWSG Sale and Exhibition Co-Chairs

I am going to
the
Ottawa Valley
Weavers'
and Spinners'
Guild
Sale and
Exhibition
Please join
me!



Saturday, November 2, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 3, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Free admission Glebe Community Centre,
175 Third Ave, Ottawa, ON

More information at www.ovwsg.com/sale/

The OVWSG is grateful for the support
offered to it by the
 City of Ottawa

Have any loom waste? Bring it to the studio!

We are now collecting loom waste for donation for the stuffing for - volunteer made - doggy beds.
Please drop your contributions off into the labelled red drawer under the warping swifts in the Studio.
They will be picked up and delivered as needed.

Contact for this is Deborah Newhook. bdnewhook@gmail.com

Workshops

The workshop elves (Jan Scott, Kelly Ellis, and Yours Truly with back up website support from Judy Kavanagh and moral support from Beth Briggs) are currently hard at work putting the finishing touches on the 2020 workshop schedule. This consists of creating the workshop listing brochure, catalogue and event pages for each workshop. This is our busy time of year, so I'm sorry if I'm not quite so prompt at answering email queries.

If all goes to plan the workshop listings will be published over 3 days starting on Oct 28 with Weaving, followed by Spinning on Oct 29, and Felting, Basketry etc. on Oct 30. Tickets for workshops will appear on the individual workshop pages at 9:00am Saturday Nov 2 in time for the Ex and Sale.

Once the dust settles from the main schedule, my next project is to revamp "By Request" to make it easier to find fellow students and information about specific possible workshops. We scheduled a few fewer workshops this year to leave us more flexibility for adding to the schedule according to demand.

Many of the workshops in the 2020 schedule are old friends, but we have some new ones to tempt you with. There are a few new novice rigid heddle workshops to choose from to help you move beyond plain weave and Cindy O'Gorman is offering a fabulous series called Spinning in a New Direction which looks at fibre prep and spinning for specific purposes.

We hope that everyone is able to find something to suit them in the new schedule and we look forward to sharing it with you. I will be at the Ex and Sale most of the weekend to promote the new schedule and answer questions, I hope to see lots of you there and look forward to watching my email fill up with registrations.

Elizabeth Watt
Workshops Registrar
OVWSG

Events



Area artists with the **Kingston Fibre and Fabric Collective** invite you to visit their

2nd Annual Show and Sale, November 24, 2019 11 am to 6 pm
Kingston Yacht Club, Partridge Room
1 Maitland Street, located on the Waterfront at King Street and Maitland St.
Discover the beautiful handwoven, handspun, knit and stitched items for your Holiday giving.

The Collective includes 12 area weavers, spinners and fibre artists.



TWIST RETREAT NOVEMBER 8-10 2019

Email Amelie for more information: amelie@festivaltwist.org

<https://festivaltwist.org/en/fall-retreat-2019/>

Spend a fantastic weekend with other fibre and textile arts aficionados in a private manor right in the heart of petite-nation!

The perfect opportunity to focus on your creativity, leave routine behind, give all those works in progress your undivided attention and have fun in good company!

We have been hosting Twist retreats for 4 years and every one of them is special. It's the people present that make them amazing. Our retreats are open to everyone and we want everyone to feel welcome. Twist celebrates all fibre arts and the people behind them. Our retreats are tailored to entice you to try something new and to fully open your creativity!

We wish to thank all our collaborators and teachers who participate on a volunteer basis at the retreats. Twist is a non-profit organization, and our retreats are fundraising activities. Thank you for being part of them.

Auto Gadgets to the Rescue!

This is the story of an "almost, but not quite" spinning product and how a small local business came to the rescue to turn it into the dream machine it was always meant to be.

For a long time, I had drooled over Ashford's E-Spinner 3 as the ultimate portable spin-anywhere machine. Small, light, with its own easy-carry padded bag, I could take it to meetings or spin-ins, sit in the middle of the room and happily spin away. I could enjoy the great outdoors (well, three seasons a year anyway) and spin on the patio or in a park. I could even spin in the car with the cigarette lighter attachment if I wanted.

So I finally decided it would be my main Christmas present this year and ordered it from Yarn Canada. In due course it arrived, having taken about two weeks while the order was processed and Canada Post worked at moving it across the country. Out of the box, and with the brake bands duly installed on the spinner and accompanying lazy kate, according to instructions, it worked perfectly, plugged into the house power. It was beautifully made, quiet, flexible, comfortable to operate and everything one could want in a spinner. I was a happy camper with my wonderful new toy!

I had ordered the extra power cord for the car, so I had that covered. The one missing piece was the ability to spin when house or car power wasn't available - that elusive spin-anywhere functionality for which this machine was designed!

Luckily, my dear husband, a dedicated Sens fan, had picked up a sturdy little 12-volt battery pack for free at a game last year (online checking revealed it retailed for \$164 - quite the windfall!), so I figured I had that contingency covered too. Well, close, but no cigar! It came with a whole collection of different cables for every possible use; just not the one I needed to connect the spinner.

Ok, no biggie, I thought. There are plenty of places to pick up a cable with the right connectors. How hard could it be? You might have guessed by now, it was harder than it seemed! I tried six places - large commercial to hole-in-the-wall specialty electronics outlets - before striking gold on the seventh try.

Lucky number 7 was a small place called Auto Gadgets, tucked away in a business park building of single-unit storefronts. It's run by a lovely couple from Hong Kong who have been there for 27 years and fix everything from TVs to VCRs to small appliances. In about 10 minutes, the gentleman had made up a custom cable to connect the power supply to the spinner. We tried it and it worked perfectly. So for the princely sum of \$30, my beautiful new toy has finally realized its full potential and truly become what it was always meant to be - a portable spin-anywhere Dream Machine!

So, to the heroes of this story, Auto Gadgets, many, many thanks for turning an "almost" into a "complete" dream machine. Honourable (and I do mean very honourable!) mention goes to Gervais Electronics for recommending their competitor when they could have done the work and had the sale themselves, but didn't happen to have the right parts in stock.

So with my power needs fully met, I can look forward to taking my spinning wherever I go. Now, about that massive fibre hoard I've accumulated over the years...

Rebecca Cairns

AUTO GADGETS
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TEL: 613-247-7278
autogadgets@sympatico.ca
5-2450 Lancaster Road
Ottawa Ontario K1B 5N3
(at St. Laurent Blvd)

Business Hours
Mon-Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm
Sat 10:00pm to 2:00pm
Sun Closed

October Program – Gordon Moat



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
- Sheepskin Rugs – variations of white and only two “grizzly” coloured left
- two-ply mill spun, natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- still taking lamb orders; almost sold out so contact asap to get yours

Contact Kelly MacGregor for details: KinnairdFarm@gmail.com



Kinnaird Farm
Kelly M MacGregor

83 La Rue Mills Rd
Mallorytown ON

Créations Christine

Représentante d'Ashford Dealer

Pour plus d'information – For inquiries: 819-405-2007

cgagne40@gmail.com

Christine Gagné

For sale: \$300.00 or best offer

This Dorothy loom is in perfect shape with all the extras: raddle, threading hook, shuttles, bobbins, bobbin winder, instruction book etc.

Belonged to my neighbour and I have had it for many years, but now it sits and waits for a new owner.

Contact Tassy at

tkayak@rogers.com or 613- 728-2715



ISABELLE PERDIGAL & JACQUES MORIN

MOHAIR

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Fournitures pour le tissage à la main
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Carriageway Studios, Almonte, Ontario
latelierweavingstudio@gmail.com
613 - 882 - 6893

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



For Sale: One metre wide Normalo four harness counterbalance (sinking shed) folding loom birch/maple from Finland. Comes with 3 reeds, raddle, and bench. More photos and information available. Must be sold.

\$200 OBO

llaberge@rogers.com



For Sale: Kromski Harp 32 inch folding rigid heddle loom upgraded with the Forte metal ratchets, pawls and magnetic system. Package includes all original accessories - two shuttles, pickup stick, warping board pegs, warp helper, threading hook, warping peg and pegs to attach loom to table. A double set of heddle blocks is installed. Also included are stand, carry bag, all instructions, a 10 dent Kromski heddle and a 7.5 dent Ashford heddle. Everything fits in the bag for easy storage and transport. \$550.00

Contact Alison at spinsandpaints@gmail.com



October Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 7, 2019 Unitarian Meeting Room

Meeting 7:30 pm

Moira chairs meeting

Chairs: Moira White / Natalie Shumovsky, Co-Presidents

Activity	Details
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair welcomes all. Approximately 40 members in attendance.• The Executive:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Ruth Cooper, Chair◦ Mandy Heggveit, Vice Chair◦ Natalie Shumovsky, Co-Chair◦ Moira White, Co-Chair◦ Beth Briggs, Treasurer◦ Liz Bivens, Secretary◦ Elizabeth Watt, Workshops◦ Laurie Harkin-Chiasson, Membership & Studio Manager• Thanks to all volunteers and Committees, including those who set up, greet, and feed us at meetings.• New members or guests attending tonight; Ruth Ann -new member interested in spinning and weaving. Lynn got a rigid heddle loom and wants to learn. Cathy wants to learn spinning. Tom a guest interested in the program came from Vermont. Nancy and husband came to hear Gordon's presentation. Two returning members tonight.
Business	<p>Business items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• (From Moe) New intercom system: Thanks to a grant from the Mr. Gas Foundation both front entrance doors now operate on the intercom system. The inside front door will open 3 seconds after the outside entrance door. For members who may not know their visitors. Please step out and greet your guests in the hallway during after hours, rather than waiting the visitor to find your space. New guests often have trouble finding member spaces and greeting them in the hallway will be very helpful to the visitor.• Ann said Ex and Sale is going well and booth tables are full. Please promote with advertising.• Karin is still looking for volunteers for a few slots of tasks.• Clara, demo coordinator sends out emails for spots available to demo. She has a sign up page or you can do it on the internet.

Business	<p>Business items (continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen needs volunteers for his volunteer coop booth. Space is there for selling a few items. • Workshops : Elizabeth starts publishing workshops a week before the ex and sale. She says to look at what you want and registration starts in November. • Laurie, reminders to pay membership on time • Library: Jan, library looking better than before but still working on it. • Update on 100" loom is that Leclerc is backlogged on those looms.
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some wood left for sale from old 100" loom, solid maple on the side to pick up tonight. . Good for projects. • Guilds having a spin off and encouraging spinners across Canada to join in, no cost. Spinningb19@Gmail.com. Must register before October 30 and the spinning time lasts for 4 days. • There is a suggestion box on back table, please put suggestions there for the executive to discuss.
PROGRAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gord Moat discussed Row Spinning Wheels and Their Makers from the 1800s. The Kemptville maker was H. Row. Gord did extensive historical research on H. Row. In 1860's patents for various wheels were coming out. Row quickly put together a wheel and got a patent on it. Gord had photocopies of all the patents. Row's patent was signed by John A McDonald. Row sold the great wheels for \$2.70 in 1871. He also showed Row's Click wheels which were called Weasel wheels in Europe. In the 1880's he moved to North Dakota. His daughter recently found out about the spinning wheels her father made in Canada. She came to visit Kemptville to find out about him.
Break	FIFTEEN Minute Refreshment Break & Visit
Show & Tell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy Jager brought in her fibre poker results, she wove a huck lace scarf with purple linen. For her spinning challenge she did samples. • Glen showed some sley hooks he made to sell in the coop booth.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjourn meeting at 9:05. • Next meeting – Monday, November 4, 2019, @ 7:30 p.m.