

PENELOPE'S NEWS



February 2020

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

Ruth Cooper.....*Board Chair*
Mandy Heggteit.....*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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Like many others, I divide my time among my many loves and necessities: family, weaving, friends, community (including the guild), and work. Sometimes the various facets compete for attention as they have been lately.

The guild is run entirely by volunteers, and it's run very well. I have recently completed our grant application for three years' funding from the City of Ottawa. While writing the grant, I realized even more than ever how many people contribute so much time and energy to make the guild work as well as it does. We — as a guild — accomplish so much because of those efforts. I am so grateful to everyone who volunteers whatever time they can to help keep the guild the vibrant place it is. And I am especially grateful for the help of Mandy Heggteit, Beth Briggs, and Elizabeth Watt for their work on the financials as part of our application.

Moir

Meeting Info

This month's meeting:

Monday, February 3rd, at
7.30pm

Program: Gillian King – natural
dyeing and eco-printing

Next meeting:

Monday, March 2nd, at 7.30pm

General Announcements

February Meeting Program

The February program will feature Ottawa-based artist Gillian King who will be speaking about eco-printing and natural dyeing.

Board of Directors

A few positions will be available in May for those who want to volunteer for positions on the Board of Directors. Please consider volunteering if you're interested in the inner workings of the guild. More details to come.

Key codes and Heartwood House news

Studio Access Key Code Changing

For security reasons the Executive requires that the codes for the 'Key Boxes', to gain access to the guild studio, are to change twice a year, in January and July.

I (Studio Manager) hope to be changing the codes some time the week ending Feb. 1.

As long as you are a paid up member, you may get the code to the studio.

How to get the code? Ask any executive member or the studiomanager@ovwsg.com. Your name will be checked against the latest membership list, to make sure you are paid up, then the code will be released to you.

******PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THE CODE WITH ANYONE ELSE.** We have quite a few members with expired memberships, so please do not assume someone is a paid up member.

I will send a mass mailing to everyone when I know the exact date of the code change.

Studio Manager

Disability Washroom on Main Floor – Access

Heartwood House has had some problems with someone using this washroom inappropriately (possibly washing), leaving a water mess etc. After repeated attempts to catch whomever and stop the behavior, Heartwood has had to take the drastic measure of locking the door. Each organization has been provided a key to this washroom.

If you need the key to the disability washroom, you will find it hanging on a lanyard inside the cleaning supplies cupboard. This is the large cupboard at the end of the kitchenette counter in the Guild STUDIO. Once a hook is obtained it will hang on the inside of the door of this same cabinet.

Please report any suspicious washroom behavior or condition to Heartwood House staff.

Winter Ice Melter/Grit used at Heartwood House

You may have noticed that the grit Heartwood uses on the ice outside, is more like very fine crushed gravel. There is a problem though, it tracks inside and doesn't break down.

*****PLEASE REMOVE YOUR BOOTS/SHOES OUTSIDE THE GUILD ROOMS BEFORE ENTERING THE ROOM!**

Our poor little downstairs vacuum cleaner is not strong enough to pick up this grit unless you only use only the wand on your hands and knees. Plus, the rooms are only cleaned every other week, so a lot of grit can accumulate, in that time period. Please help keep our rooms clean, for the next person who uses it.

Classroom – melted salt snow on our new wood floor in the classroom, is proof that some people are not removing their boots. Please help keep our new floor in good shape. Plus, it appears that the roller chairs have been rolled over grit, leaving scratch marks on our new floor....sad face.

Instructors – Please help by seeing that your students know about floor cleanliness etiquette, as well.

Much appreciated!!

Lost and Found

There are items that need to be claimed. Mostly very nice looking water bottles/containers. They are in the studio, on the counter.

Studio

Loom Reservations in Studio

As a member of the guild, you may reserve one of the floor looms in the studio for a period of up to 3 months at no Charge.

You may gain access to the studio, during Heartwood House hours and then using the Lock Box Key holder, outside the guild door, you may gain access to the studio, to weave. Please check the web calendar on the guild website, for when the studio has free time. You may NOT sit in, while workshops are going on, so plan appropriately.

Loom availability, at the time of this writing:

F5 – 27", 4 Harness Fanny, Counterbalance

F7 – 36", 4 harness Fanny, Counterbalance

You may reserve a loom through the website, or contact studiomanager@ovwsg.com

Guild Studio Etiquette

Just a reminder:

- Wash your dishes, do not leave them in the sink for others to have to wash
- Garbage (under the sink) should be put out in the hall for pickup, particularly if there is something that is likely to stink after a time (apple cores, banana skins, food containers with food residue etc.). Always assume that the garbage may not be found until the following weekend.
- If you remove anything from the studio, make sure it is returned.

- If you pull out chairs, relocate equipment etc. Please make sure everything is returned to its' place, before you leave. Note: Any chairs taken to Unitarian meeting room, during monthly meetings, may be lost if not returned to studio.
- If you are preparing fibre on the tables. Please disinfect the tables, before you leave. These tables are also used for eating. Nothing like finding hay seeds and manure dust sitting beside your sandwich! There are disinfectant wipes located in the cleaning cupboard, beside the kitchenette counter.
- If you are picking manure and hay seeds out of your fibre, please make sure it does not remain in the studio. It is a cleanliness and contamination issue.
- If you have spilled on the floor, please clean it up. Cleaning supplies in cleaning cupboard.
- If you have left fibre, fluff etc. on the floor clean it up. Dust pans and Swiffer located in cleaning cupboard.
- Common sense. Just make sure the room is left in good shape, when you leave, for the next person/group who arrives to use the room
- If you are leaving something in the studio for someone to pick up. It MUST be labelled.
- We do NOT take unsolicited donations of "stuff". Please check with donations@ovwsg.com or an executive member before considering donating anything.
- If you notice deficiencies in the studio, please report them. We can't correct things, if we don't know about them. If something breaks or might be breaking, note it on the 'SNAGS' clipboard, hanging on the shelves above the desk. If you notice we need more supplies (paper towel, printer ink/paper, soap etc.) mark in on the "SUPPLIES" clipboard, hanging on the shelves above the desk. It doesn't mean you have to buy it, just let us know about it.

THANK YOU AND ENJOY YOUR STUDIO!

Gordon Moat is looking for information

Gordon Moat is looking for information and comment on this loom which was patented by George E. Gay in the USA - applied for in 1905 and granted in 1907. It would also have had an x-frame stand with integral bench when first sold according to the instruction manual (1906). The photos show the remaining table top portion of the loom without the stand or bench. The interesting features include sectional warping and a batten or beater containing the reed which moves both horizontally and vertically in grooves on the sides of the loom. The shed is created by the vertical movement of the batten and potentially the use of additional lease sticks. This example has both a sectional warp beam (composed of individual disks) and a more traditional warp beam behind it with remnants of a flax warp (also marked "Pat appl for"). Note the name of the loom (Barbour Linen Loom) speaks to its intended use.



Announcements from Coordinators

Library

Happy February! Spring is getting closer (I hope), workshops are in full swing, more shopping opportunities and demos will be starting up soon. Come into the library and check out something new to you or dig a bit deeper into something you already know!

Members in good standing can sign out to 4 items from the library from one meeting (February) to the next (Due March 2nd before 7:15pm). The library is **open the Monday of the meeting usually from 9am to 7:15pm.** (we close 15 minutes ahead of the meeting so the librarians can put away the library and still attend the meeting with the rest of our membership) the library is also often open on the Mondays of socials check Facebook or phone the studio to check if a librarian is there. You are always welcome to join us, peruse the library or use the studio.

If you are still reading or watching your library item and need an extension check with the librarians if no one has requested it we can extend your loan for one month. If you have forgotten to bring the item back, there is a fee of 1.50 per item per month.

Please take special care when you are borrowing from the library collection so it will be in good shape for many weavers, spinners, felters, dyers and other fiber enthusiasts for many years to come.

Jan 06 2020, Guild Meeting; Basketry Collection of Michael Peterson

The meeting was not quite as well attended but that may have been due to the snowy weather or the hideous flu/cold that is going through Ottawa. If you could make it into the guild, it was a presentation well worth attending. Michael Peterson, who is the basket maker I saw at the Almont Fibrefest last fall, brought his collection of international baskets to show us.

He stressed the similarity in designs when different cultures used similar materials due to the materials local availability. He showed us baskets from Mexico, Japan, and Portugal, Native baskets, Scandinavian and Native basket makers. He had examples of every type of basket I could think of from coil and rush to willow and birch bark. He pointed out some of the construction details in some of the collection.

He took questions after his talk even identifying Ann's Basket as a probably English and made over a form

In our Library, on the Top shelf of cabinet six, as part of the weaving collection, you will find our basketry books.

780. Basketry

Basketry

Christopher, F. J.

500 Baskets a celebration of the basketmaker's Art

Kieffer, Susan

The Basketmaker's Art, Contemporary Baskets and there Makers

Pulley, Rob ED.

The New Basketry

Rosbach, Ed

Baskets as Textiles Arts

Rosbach, Ed

Grass

Kahlenberg, Mary Hunt

780.09 B. -

Exhibition Catalogs

782. Basketry artists

A Basketmaker In Rural Japan

Cort, Louise Allison and Nakamura Kenji

783. learn to weave Baskets

Basket Making

Barratt, Olivia. Elton.

the Complete book of Basketry techniques

Gabriel, Sue and Goymer, Sally

Basket-Making For Amateurs

Hosking, Phyllis

The Art of Basketry

Lonning, Kari

**783. learn to weave
Baskets**

Basket Making
the Complete book of Basketry techniques

Basket-Making For Amateurs
The Art of Basketry
Basketry, projects from baskets to grass slippers
A Basketmaker's Odyssey, over under around & through
Earth Basketry
Willow Basketry

Barratt, Olivia. Elton.
Gabriel, Sue and Goymer,
Sally
Hosking, Phyllis
Lonning, Kari
Sekijima, Hisako
Syler, Lyn

Tod, Osma Galinger
Verdet-Fierz, Bernard &
Regula
Coutts, Lucele

**785. Basket
Techniques**

Baskets and Beyond; new uses for traditional Basketry
Techniques
The Basketry Book
Cane Rush and Straw
Step-by-step Basketry
Handwoven Hats
Natural Basketry
The Techniques of Basketry
Baskets from Nature's Bounty
From Vines to Vessels, a vine crafters Handbook (2nd
ed)
Basketry: The Shaker Tradition
A Modern Approach to Basketry
Basketry Today with materials from nature

DeLeon, Sherry
Deutch, Yvonne (editor)
Gilman, R.S. & Bess, N.
Gordon, Joleen
Hart Carol and Dan
Harvey, Virginia Isham
Jensen, Elizabeth
Lumpkin, Beryl Omega

Mcguire, John
Meilach, D.Z.
Meilach, Dona Z and
Managh, Dee
Robinson, Sharon
Stephens, Cleo M.
Walpole, Lois
Wright, Dorthy
Dean, Ankaret

**785.1 -Coiled
(grasses, Rushes,
needles)**

the use of Cattails Rushes & Grasses in the Textile
Arts
the art and style of Western Indian Basketry
Pine Needle Baskets
Indian Basket Weaving

Jones, Joan Megan
Millikin, Linna L
Newman, Sandra Corrie
LaPlantz, Shereen
Olney, Judith

**785.2 -Plaiting
(Palms, yucca or
NZ Flax)**

Plaited Basketry: The Woven Form
Choctaw Diagonal Twill Plaiting

**785.4 -Wicker or
Splint (reed, Cain,
Willow, Oak, Ash)**

Edith Clayton's Market Basket, a heritage of
splitwood basketry in Nova Scotia
Baskets and Basket Making
Wicker Basketry
Baskets and Basket Makeing
Chair Caning, garden Way Bulletin A-16

Gordon, Joleen

Heseltine, Alastir
Hoppe, Flo
Sanctuary, Anthony
Baker, Cathy

**785.42 -Chair
caning**

**786. Basketry
Projects**

How to Weave the Cattail Earth Basket
How to Weave the Christmas Stocking
Cane, Rush and Willow weaving with natural
materials
Basketry, by the editors of consumer guide.
Splint Woven Basketry
1985 The Best of the Basketry Express 1990
How to make Raffia Hats, Bags & Baskets

Basket Traditions
Basket Traditions
Burns Hilary

Consumer Guide
Daugherty, Robin T.
Dean Ankaret Ed.
Doyle, Liz

Rib Baskets
Basket traditions - Missing
Natural Baskets
Fancy Handles for decorative woven baskets
American Baskets to weave
Friendship Baskets
Friendship Baskets Tribute
new crafts Basketworks
Egg Baskets to Weave
Country & Shaker Baskets to Weave
The basket book - over 30 magnificent baskets to
make and enjoy
Handmade baskets 28 beautiful baskets to make for
your home
Basketmaker's Baskets
DVD - A Basketmaker's Odyssey over under around
& through DVD
With the baskets, Traps and brooms, traditional crafts in
Nova Scotia
Fishing Baskets of Asia Pacific - Exhibit book
Basketry a renaissance in southern Africa
From the tree where the bark grows...
Basket Tales of the Grandmothers

Finley, Jean Turner
Gannon, Marilyn
Gillooly, Maryanne ed.
Gruber, Nancy
Kabel, Grace
Moore, Joan
Moore, Joan
Pollock, Polly
Roberts, Nellann
Roberts, Nellann
Siler, Lyn

Siler, Lyn

Siler, Lyn
Syler, Lyn

Gordon, Joleen

Johnson, Jean curator
Levinsohn, Rhoda
Brandford, Joanne Segal
Turnbaugh, William A,
Turnbaugh, Sarra Peabody

Welcome to new members

Chantal Gervais
Stephanie Mullen
Wendy Lepore
Pamela Davy
Sueanne Riley
Victoria Mestres-Laurin, Family with Robert Laurin and
Jordi Mestres
Natalie Verdon, Family with Jenny Verdon
Jacqueline Caron
Georgia Dale Crichton, Family with Tig Shafto
Kimberly McIntyre
Deborah Duffy
Dianna McAleer
Nicole Turmel
Michele Turmel
Yoshtin Diamond

Returning after an Absence

Mieke Cullen

Events

21st Chesterville Spin-In

Saturday, 15 February 2020 from 09:00-16:00

at the Chesterville Legion, 167 Queen St W, Chesterville, Ontario.

Admission: \$5. Children under 12 are free.

A gathering for fibre lovers who want to visit stress free, open to the public to see what using fibre, spinning, knitting, making yarn is all about....with lots of shopping at your disposal. The theme for show and tell is: Scarves--using one or all of the following Rare Breeds: Wenslydale, Romney or Soay.

Heartwood House Community Expo and Open House

Thursday, April 2nd, 2020

INFO SHEET

We are so excited to be able to provide this amazing opportunity to the Heartwood Member community. I have heard over and over from you, our Members, who want to know more about one another's organizations AND you'd like the Heartwood profile in the greater community to be more visible. In fact, one of the Heartwood strategic goals is to broaden the visibility of Heartwood in the greater community. This Community Expo hits both these targets!

The Committee has met a couple of times to lay out a plan for this event. The committee members are: Giselle (ELTOC), Dee (PWC), Anouk (EcoEquitable), Shaye (ROVLN), Jen (HH).

Our hope is that every Heartwood Member group will participate in hosting an info table at the Community Expo. This involves having a staff/volunteer/board member available and on site, on the day with your display table. You are also being asked to create a 1-2 page slide (template and support are available) and you will have the opportunity to speak to your slide highlighting your organization in a quick 1-2 minute talk. Moe will be MC!

- Goals of the Expo
 - to increase exposure of Heartwood organizations internally and externally
 - increase clientele and referrals
 - highlight volunteer opportunities at Member organizations
 - provide a networking opportunity to explore possible partnerships
 - provide opportunity for donors to give
- Each organization will have the opportunity to speak for 1-2 mins to highlight their organization using the Slide Temple provided

Expectation for each Heartwood Member Group

- To be a full participating Member at the Expo - register through Eventbrite
- Create a display table for your organization and set it up before the 930 am start time
- Possible items for display: promotional flyers, pamphlets, posters, display items from your organization, list of volunteer opportunities, ways to donate, etc.
- Provide staff/volunteer to host a display on the day of the event 930 am - 12pm
- Create a slide (with the committee support, if needed) and speak to it for 1-2 minutes during the Expo
- Promote the event within your circle and send out invitations to your networks - who are the organizations you refer to, who refers to your organization,
- Share on your twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn pages

Eco Printing and Visible Mending workshops

Andrea Belcham of Renard Et Fleur natural dye studio will be leading several workshops at the Ottawa shop Fabrications on Saturday, February 22 and Sunday, February 23. In Visible Mending on Denim, students are invited to bring in denim garments in need of repair and we'll look at strategies for mending using patches and sashiko stitches, as well as cotton sashiko thread hand-dyed by the teacher with plant dyes.

In Eco-Printing on Silk Scarves, each student will "paint" on a habotai silk scarf using natural dye materials including cochineal, logwood and onion skins to create unique and stunning wearable works of art. All weekend, Fabrications will also be hosting a Renard Et Fleur pop-up shop with many sashiko supplies on offer.

For information and registration, please visit the Fabrications website at www.fabricationsottawa.com searching under Advanced Beginner Classes. For more information about Renard Et Fleur, see @foxprintfibres on Instagram.

Textile Museum of Canada

Announcing the dates for TWO TEXTILE MUSEUM WINTER WORKROOM SALES. Come for a selection of fabric, yarn, notions, buttons and whatever else we have on hand.

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

and

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

from 1:00 to 3:00

Location: 411 Richmond Street East, Suite 2, Toronto

Cash only

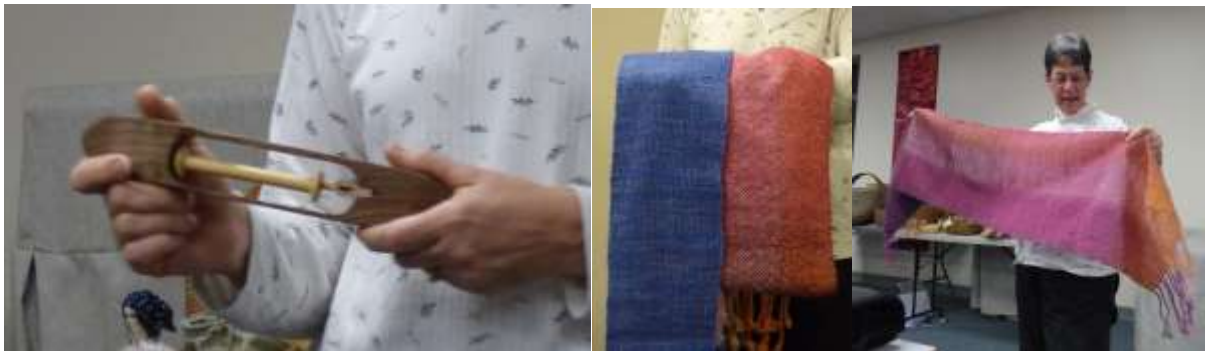
Eco Equitable Mega Fabric Sale!

Saturday, February 8th, 10am to 2pm

January Program: Michael Peterson: basket maker



Show & Tell



Wheels on Fire Spin-In, Jan 2



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 – www.KinnairdFarm.ca

- New roving has arrived; photos to be posted on web page soon. Colours are "vanilla", "mocha", "auburn", all are 50/50 wool/alpaca.
- Fleece, unwashed, white
- Sheepskin Rugs: variations of white and only 2 "grizzly" coloured left
- two-ply mill spun, natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- Two sides of lamb left to be sold so contact asap to get yours

Contact Kelly MacGregor for details: 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:

Leclerc Compact, 8-shaft 24" loom. Lightly used, with only one previous owner. Comes with wheel kit (not installed), raddle, 10 dent reed, shuttle with bobbin, and sectional rakes. Currently has warp on it which will be woven off before the sale. \$1000. I'll entertain a trade for a different 8-shaft loom in good condition.

Contact Natalie at

nshumovsky@gmail.com



For Sale: 36" Leclerc (Fanny) hand weaving loom -- \$475

Counter-balance loom in great condition. Folds for storage, purchase includes two boat shuttles (1 double and 1 single bobbin), two reeds, and a raddle as well as miscellaneous books and equipment. Buyer must transport from the Westboro Area of Ottawa. Please contact Jane (bradjane@gmail.com)

January Meeting Minutes

General Meeting Minutes

Monday January 5th, 2020 7:30 in Unitarian Meeting Room

Chairs: Natalie Shumovsky, co-president – approximately 45 in attendance.

- Welcome and Happy New Year to all in attendance
- Introduction of executive members – Moira White, Ruth Cooper, Mandy Heggveit, Beth Briggs, Liz Bivens, Laurie Harkin-Chiasson, Elizabeth Watt. Ruth and Mandy were not in attendance.
- Welcome to all newcomers/visitors. In attendance were two new ladies.

BUSINESS

- Mentioned the electronic recycling program at Heartwood House. If you have electronics to recycle contact Heartwood House for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Wheels on Fire on January 18 at 10 am.

PROGRAM

Michael Peterson, basket maker, brought in a large collection of baskets from world cultures. He has collected over three hundred baskets. Interest began with a basket his wife had from Africa. Some African baskets are made of grass. You would see similar structure in California baskets. All countries make baskets out of the native materials available to them. He showed his baskets and described each one and passed them around. He also passed around a basket made of copper. He said to look at the bottom to see the structure of how they are made. Adding color always makes them more interesting. Baskets are always made locally as they are not good to ship abroad. If the basket is getting brittle you can soak it in water to soften. Baskets can be made for a specific purpose such as egg gathering baskets, apple baskets, sewing baskets, tobacco baskets, etc. He also teaches basketry classes.

BREAK

- Show & Tell
- Robert – baskets, felted hat (basket) and spun yarn
- Victoria – basket and felted vessel
- Ruthanne – table runner that turned into a scarf
- Gordon – sweater from left over thrums
- Deborah – scarf and boat shuttle
- Jan – small loom, two new books
- Julie Anne – showed a piece that will teach you to try different techniques
- Judy – spun Shetland fleece knitted into mittens

Next meeting – **Monday, February 3rd, 2020, 7:30 pm.**