

# PENELOPE'S NEWS



December Edition 2022

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

[Moira White](#).....Chair  
[Mandy Heggveit](#).....Vice- Chair  
[Jean Sharp](#).....President  
[Beth Briggs](#).....Treasurer  
[Brenda Bekkers](#).....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."*

The guild gratefully acknowledges the funding that it receives from the City of Ottawa.

## In this issue

President's Message.....	p.1
Message from the Editor.....	p.2
General Announcements.....	p.2
Welcome to New Members.....	p.2
Guild Coordinator announcements.....	p.3
Program Update.....	p.3
Library.....	p.3
Workshops.....	p.5
Equipment Rentals.....	p.5
Heartwood House updates.....	p.7
Guild Members in the Community.....	p.8
Guild Activities.....	p.10
Marketplace.....	p.14
November meeting minutes.....	p.15

## President's Message

Greetings Guild Members!

We have had our first taste of winter, but we are hardy Canadians and love to create things for those needing warm and comfy things!

I want to thank everyone for their participation in our Sale and Exhibition. I dare say it was one of the most successful events in many years. Due to a pent-up desire to get out and see beautiful things, not to mention, spend some money! Without our incredible volunteers we would not have been able to pull it off. Again, thank you!

It is with great sadness that I must let you know that Ann Sunahara's husband, David, died on November 16th. He was a major supporter of the Guild by adapting our Dorothy looms to a gentler lift system, endless repair jobs to the old 100" loom and yeoman's duty with the move to our new studio at Heartwood House. I am sure there are more things that Ann can let us know about! He will be very much missed. David's life was very rich and you can find his [obituary](#) here.

With sadness we announce that Dianne Harkin (Laurie Harkin-Chiasson's mother) passed peacefully on November 26, 2022. She will be at peace. Laurie is okay with lots of family around her.

After plenty of thought, we have decided to raise Guild fees as of January 1st, 2023, to offset rising costs. This will help ensure our ability to offer the vast array of programs and services that members have grown to rely upon. Please find details below.

As mentioned before, Heartwood House will be hosting a pop-up

## Meeting Info

**This month's hybrid meeting:**  
Monday, December 5, 2022,  
at 7:30 pm

**Program:** Rosepath Auction /  
Fibre Poker

**December Executive Meeting:**  
December 19, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

**The next meeting:** Monday,  
January 2, 2023. Guest: Carl Stewart,  
*The Great Cloth*

shop on the main floor every Thursday afternoon to raise funds for various programs. You will find miscellaneous items including umbrellas, clothing, basically stuff left on buses (will I ever find that MEC coat my daughter wore once and promptly lost?) and items from the OVWSG. We have committed to staffing this shop on a monthly basis, so volunteers are needed.

I am personally looking forward to this month's program – the very fun Rosepath Auction! You can purchase an envelope of numbers and place them in the container in front of the item you desire...that stack of puzzles, books, lamp, fibre, scarf, yarn, gizmo, thingamajig...and then sit back and laugh at the results! For online participation there will be a Fibre Bingo running concurrent with the Auction. Please bring in your stuff early to be able to set up. The sky's the limit...no live animals please! Well maybe kittens...

Take care and be safe,  
Jean

## Message from the Editor

The newsletter is released on the Monday prior to the general meeting nine times a year, breaking for the summer months of July and August and for the winter holiday season (no January edition). Submissions for the February newsletter are due no later than **January 27, 2023**, to [newsletter@ovwsg.com](mailto:newsletter@ovwsg.com).

The November Newsletter can be accessed at: <https://www.ovwsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/November-2022-Newsletter.pdf>

## General Announcements

### Membership

Membership renewals can be done through SECURE ONLINE PAYMENT – go to [www.ovwsg.com](http://www.ovwsg.com) - Tab Membership – Click Join – Follow the directions and fill in the forms. You may pay through a PayPal account or a Credit card. When the PayPal 'sign-in' box appears, the option to pay by credit card is at the very bottom of that box. Cheque/Snail mail: Cheques should be made out to "OVWSG". Mail to:

OVWSG  
Heartwood House  
404 McArthur Ave. Ottawa, ON K1K 1G8  
ATTENTION: MEMBERSHIP

## Welcome to New Members

Sarah-Anne Comrie	Jane Sirois
Emily Flikas	Lolo Sirois
Cat Goodfellow	Jane Smarzik
Jackie Kavanagh	Dylan Spevack-Willcock
Sami Lemperger	Hannah Whitworth
Brianna Nykilchyk	Joslyn Wilson

# Updates from Program Coordinators

## Programs

Our December 5th meeting is coming up quickly. For in-person attendees, we've planned the Rosepath Auction which, I've heard, is loads of fun! For those of us who will be on Zoom, we'll be enjoying a few games of Fibre Bingo.

**Check your inbox this week** for an **email from jt-cochrane@outlook.com**, with instructions on how to get your Bingo cards and a few more details on the Rosepath auction.

At our January meeting, Carl Stewart will be sharing with us "The Great Cloth", his presentation about the influence of what he calls "heritage fabrics" on contemporary textile art, specifically, the influence of estate tweeds on his project *clò mòr*. We're very much looking forward to this talk!

We're still working on programs for the rest of the year and will share more information in future newsletters. See you on December 5th!

Your program team,  
Josee Cochrane and Joan Harrison

## Library

*Meeting Mondays are like Library days except they start earlier!*

On the Monday of the meeting, I am usually in the studio (where the guild Library is) by 9:00am. I will post on our Face book group to confirm I am there. Please come in early and enjoy perusing the collection. We will be closing the library at 7:15pm so the librarians can put away the library and enjoy the meeting too.

### Who can use the library?

Members in good standing can borrow 4 items from one meeting to the next. If you cannot make the next meeting, books might be able to be renewed for 1 month if not requested by another member or books can be returned before the meeting to:

- 1- The **front desk at Heartwood House** (put in a bag labeled "OVWSG Library") any time the office is open.
- 2- Drop off at 2370 **Iris St**, between the side doors. use the library email to let us know you are dropping off items
- 3- South of Ottawa near **North Gower**, contact Ann at the Library Email for instructions.
- 4- Or mailed to the guild address: **OVWSG, 404 McArthur Ave., Ottawa, ON K1K 1G8**

### In person selection of items:

Come in on the meeting Monday, between after 9am and before we close at 7:15pm to select from the circulating collection up to 4 items. Go to the table with the librarian who will help you sign out your book. At the back of the book will be a card pocket. The card asks for the date due (for anything taken out at the September meeting the date due will be before the October meeting so "Oct.2022") it will also ask for your name. This is your **FIRST** name and last name, printed clearly. Please add your phone number. The book cards are filed by your **FIRST** name (because we all learn each other's first names first!). Remember to take good care of the library material, we want it to last for many years and be enjoyed by many members.

### ***Requesting books to pick up:***

We will be continuing the ongoing program of pulling items that are requested at ([library@ovwsg.com](mailto:library@ovwsg.com)). I will email back that you are on the list for that month and when I am in the studio will let you know if your request is out or missing.

On our web page under Library (<https://www.ovwsg.com/library/> ) you will find the 2021 lists of **Subject, title, Author, Magazines, and Multi-harness**. These will help you select inspiration from our library. (I am adding more information to our database , which is taking longer than I had hoped. Once the new information has been added I will be making new updated lists.)

When you have decided on up to 4 items, we will need to know the ***call number, the title, the author***. (In that order makes it quicker for us to pull the books, Thanks!!)

Books can be picked up in the studio before 7:15pm or one of the 3 drop off locations (see above). When you email to request books let us know where you want to pick them up.

### ***More info about the library:***

Our **Guild library architecture** Is a modified Dewey system for small collections. It is based on process (biography, law, guild/studio, fiber sources, fiber prep, felt, spin, post spinning, fine art/design, weaving, post weaving, history of textiles). There is a list of the main topics for each cabinet on the outside and a fuller list of topics on the inside of the cabinet doors to help you locate items.

The “**PER**” prefix indicates that the item is a Magazine. Most of the magazines are in the white cabinets. The magazines series run horizontally through the cabinets so more than one person can look at magazines like handwoven or spin off, at the same time.

The “**REF**” prefix indicates the item is in the Reference cabinets (cabinet 1 and the two upper cabinets). Reference books do not circulate but can be used in the studio any time the library is open. Reference books are rare, irreplaceable, or fragile.

We have a number of **video/”DVD”** items in the collection. We are aware that many new laptops do not have a DVD drive. We have come up with two options, if you have an external computer DVD drive the DVD should work with it. (Most of the DVD players that hook up to a TV do not have the correct codex to play them). Some of our files presently on DVD, can if requested, be reformatted to a thumb drive (USB/USB-micro/Type-C). these thumb drives are a bit more expensive but are compatible with a greater range of devices. If the DVD can be reformatted, we will need to have a bit of extra time to do this so please request well before the meeting.

Guild members who are taking the OHS master spinner or master weavers contact the librarians if you need help with information.

If you are new and want to get to know your library better, you are welcome to join us by volunteering to help with the book check. If you have any questions please ask your librarians or email [library@ovwsg.com](mailto:library@ovwsg.com). We are looking forward to seeing you on our first in person before the October meeting Monday!!

Jan on behalf of the library team

## Workshops

Sometimes I put the PRO in procrastinate... It took a bit of help from my friends, Jan and Beth mostly, but the January to April workshops are finally posted online. From what the instructors were offering we chose workshops that generated waiting lists in the last schedule and things that people have been asking for along with the usual suite of Intro level workshops. There is room to add more if there is a meeting of interest and instructor availability. A few of the offerings are still "under construction", I will add details and registration to them once we finalize details for "Weaving to Sew" (that needs a catchier title) and Rigid Heddle UNLEASHED (hopefully that's not too catchy a title) and Intermediate Felting.

As I write this only 1 of the remaining workshops for 2022 has space left. It's 2225 Dye the Colour Wheel, which is only offered about once every 12 months. It currently has 4 students registered, but it runs better with 6. You leave the workshop with a completed sample book of almost 100 samples to use as reference for your own colour mixing. This time we are using wash fast dyes from G&S, a Canadian supplier.

As always, the schedule is on the website [www.ovwsg.com](http://www.ovwsg.com). Please check it out soon and often, in August there was a veritable stampede of registrations with some workshops filling in a matter of days.

Elizabeth Watt  
Workshops Registrar

## Equipment Rentals

### Beginning in January 2023

#### **Weaving:**

Equipment rentals (those removed from OVWSG premises):

The prices for renting equipment will increase slightly, to help offset the rising costs of operating the Guild. This change is the first in quite a while and includes adjustments to make the fee schedule simpler. A copy of the new fee structure can be found on the following page.

#### **Studio Loom Rentals:**

Starting in 2023, we will be charging a rental fee for studio looms. Regardless of which loom is rented, the fee will be \$10/ month. The initial rental period can be as long as three months, and then renewal is on a month-by-month basis. This will ensure that all members have access to these looms. Individuals interested in a loom that is in use will have their name put on a waiting list. They will be contacted when the first available loom that is appropriate to their project is vacant. The renter will be required to sign a form that reads, in part, "I hereby undertake to keep the rented equipment in good condition, to vacate it on or before the due date, or to request an extension. I agree to report any problems or damage to the loom promptly to facilitate repairs and ensure continued availability." Please contact the coordinator through [rentals@ovwsg.com](mailto:rentals@ovwsg.com) for further information.

#### **Spinning:**

There will be a \$5.00 increase in monthly rental fees across the board for all spinning equipment. The new fees will be \$10, \$15 or \$20 depending on the equipment being rented.

Item	Description	Accessories	Monthly Fee	Deposit
Inkle Loom - Inklette	Inklette (max 70" x 2")	Stick shuttle	\$15	\$200
Inkle Loom - Table	Table (max 134" x 3")	Stick shuttle	\$15	\$200
Inkle Loom - Floor	Floor (max 16' x 6")	Stick shuttle	\$15	\$200
Rigid Heddle Loom	RH 16" w' accessory bag	1-2 reeds, sley hook, 2 clamps, one RH warping peg, 2 stick shuttles	\$20	\$200
Rigid Heddle Loom	RH 24" w' accessory bag	1-2 reeds, sley hook, 2 clamps, one RH warping peg, 2 stick shuttles	\$20	\$200
Reeds for Rigid Heddle	Dpi = 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 12.5		\$5	\$50
Table Loom	Dorothy 4-harness 15" with accessory bag	1-2 reeds, sley hook, 2 lease sticks, 2 stick shuttles.  <i>Raddle not included</i>	\$25	\$500
Table Loom	Dorothy 8-harness 15" (4-H to which an extra castle has been added) with accessory bag	1-2 reeds, sley hook, 2 lease sticks, 2 stick shuttles.  <i>Raddle not included</i>	\$25	\$500
Table Loom	Voyageur 8-harness 16" with accessory bag	1-2 reeds, sley hook, 2 lease sticks, 2 stick shuttles. <i>Raddle not included</i>	\$25	\$500
Studio looms	All	N/A	\$10	N/A
Reeds for Table looms	15" dpi = 6, 8, 10, 12, 15		\$10	\$50
Reed	>15" dpi = 6, 8, 10, 12, 15		\$10	\$100
Raddle			\$5	\$50
Temple	15" or > 15"		\$5	\$50
Boat shuttle	Single or double bobbin		\$5	\$50
Bobbin winder	Manual geared		\$10	\$100
Tapestry Loom			\$25	\$300
Marudai	Round or square base	8 bobbins (@\$10-\$40)	\$20	\$400
Marudai	Square base	8 bobbins	\$20	\$400
Warping board	Warps 13 yds	Includes 20 pegs in bag	\$20	\$200
Warp board stand		Three pieces	\$5	\$50
Warping mill	Warps 2yds/turn		\$20	\$200
Ball winder			\$5	\$50
Warp Tensioner	Keeps tension on loom while winding warp		\$20	\$200

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED

As a member of Heartwood House, OVWSG will participate in staffing the Shop every other week starting in December. A coordinator is needed to arrange for volunteer coverage on the select Thursdays that the Guild is staffing it, and to coordinate items for sale (receipt, display, etc.). If you are interested helping out, please contact the Executive at [executive@ovwsg.com](mailto:executive@ovwsg.com).

We are invited to put items for sale in the Shop as a fund raiser for the Guild or for personal sales (no commission will be taken off). There will be community weaving projects started in the studio for sale in the Shop.



*Heartwood Community Gift and Thrift Shop!*

Now **open** every Thursday from 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m.

Sale takes place in the *main level Heartwood Hub* just to the left of the Heartwood reception desk.

---

## Parking

### 1. Back parking lot:

- The parking area at the Moorvale entrance by the back door entrance and the parking area from the storage pods to the west fence are reserved for permit holders only from Monday to Friday from 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.
- Vehicles with no permits on the dashboard will be ticketed.
- There are no parking restrictions in the back lot after 4:00p.m. from Monday to Friday and on Saturday and Sunday.

### 2. Front lot:

- Visitors parked in the front lot must be registered on the front desk journal.
- A fee of \$1 is charged for parking in the front lot. Please pay at the Heartwood House front desk.
- Vehicles not registered in the visitor parking journal will be ticketed.
- Visitors who are popping in to drop off an item to a member are not required to pay a fee or register the vehicle.

### 3. UUFO entrance:

- The two spots in front of the Unitarian entrance are reserved for the Unitarian members.



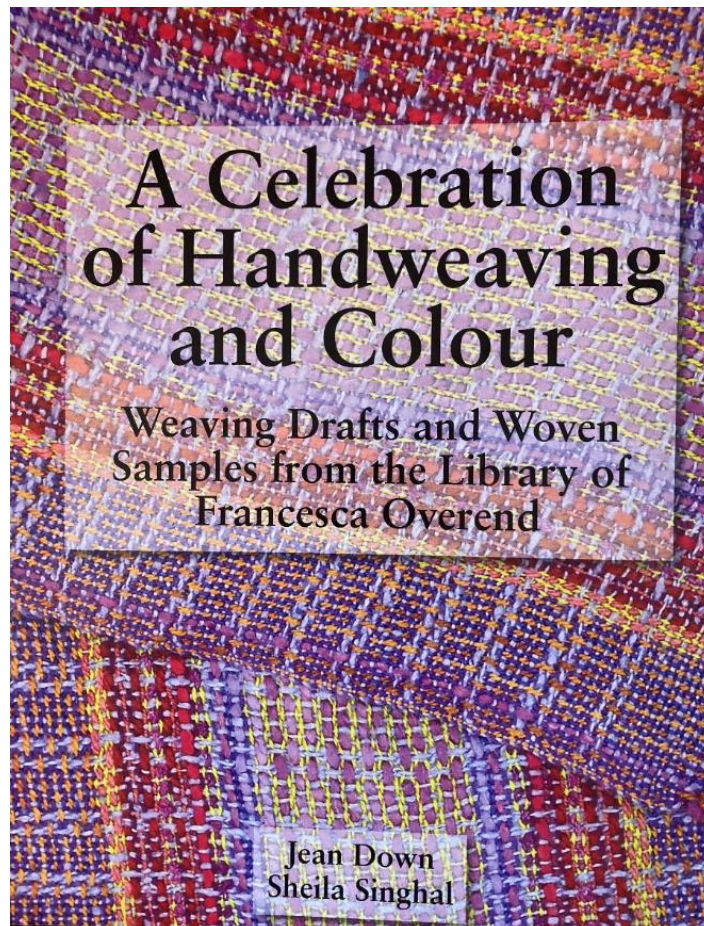
# Guild Members in the Community

## A Celebration of Handweaving and Colour

**A Celebration of Handweaving and Colour: Weaving Drafts and Woven Samples from the Library of Francesca Overend** by Jean Down and Sheila Singhal, is available from the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum. The cost of the book is \$35 including tax (shipping extra). All proceeds will be donated to the Museum with thanks to Down and Singhal, friends of Francesca Overend (1934 - 2019).

Born in Romania, Overend was a dedicated civil servant, whose travels greatly influenced her innovative weaving style. She started weaving in the 1970s and continued until a few months before her passing. Francesca was a long-time member of the Guild and deeply involved in Ottawa's local weaving community. She was always seeking new techniques and designs, and never stopped learning and experimenting. The result was a vast collection of weaving drafts and samples that Down and Singhal hope will serve as inspiration to all who pick up the book.

In this richly illustrated volume, Down and Singhal provide readers with ample opportunity to put their creativity to work, while reflecting upon Overend's own creativity and curiosity in technique, pattern, and colour. Written for all levels of weavers and showcasing the many possibilities of this textile art, A Celebration of Handweaving and Colour is also a celebration of Francesca Overend and the MVTM is pleased to feature this book, as it featured many of Overend's spectacular woven pieces over the years.





# Thresholds

**Guild member Carl Stewart** we be participating in *Thresholds*, a three-person exhibition at the Karsh-Masson Gallery at Ottawa City Hall.

Together with Sam Loewen and Christos Pantieras, *Thresholds* explores the search for queer intimacy and the consequences of finding it.

For his contribution, Carl will be present *clò mò*, a series of hand-woven and hand-dyed fabrics based on the national flags of the 67 countries around the world where homosexuality is criminalized and punishable by incarceration or death.

The exhibition opens at the Karsh-Masson Gallery on Thursday, January 26, 5:30 to 7:30pm. *Thresholds* continues thru April 14. The gallery is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

At the January 2023 guild meeting, Carl will present his talk *The Great Cloth* about this work.





# Guild Activities

## 100-inch loom

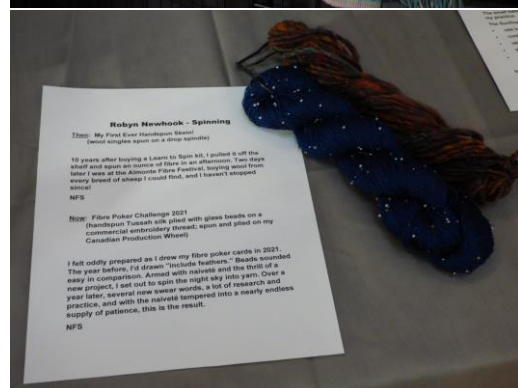
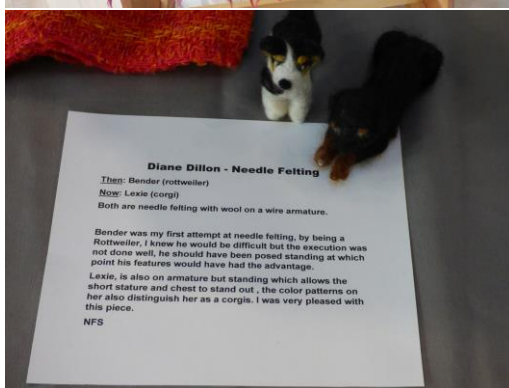
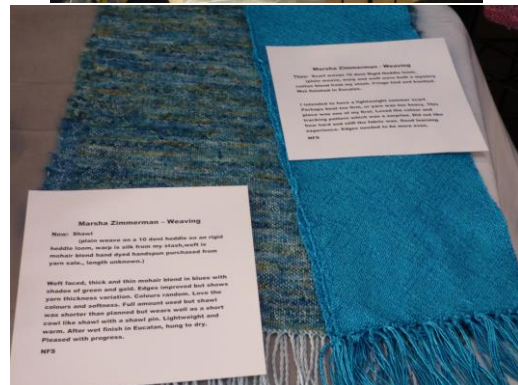
### FIRST ROLL OFF THE 100" LOOM!!!!

Our first weaving group is finished and in mid-November, we rolled seven catalognes\* off the new 100" loom. Each were 100 inches long, plus hems and catalogue separators, so we had over 756 inches to unwind. At about 6-7 pounds per catalogue, the woven textile roll weighed about 46 pounds. Not surprising, since about 6-7 pounds of cloth, individually cut up into ½" strips went into each catalogue. They still needed to be wet finished and hemmed, but they were all lovely and so different. One is being donated to Heartwood House for fundraising and the second group is going to be weaving another catalogue for our own guild's fundraising.

\* *Catalognes* are woven French-Canadian rag rugs, or blankets, originating in France and later developed in Quebec and northern New Brunswick in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. These blankets made use of old bedsheets and clothing, to recycle them when new cloth was rare and expensive.

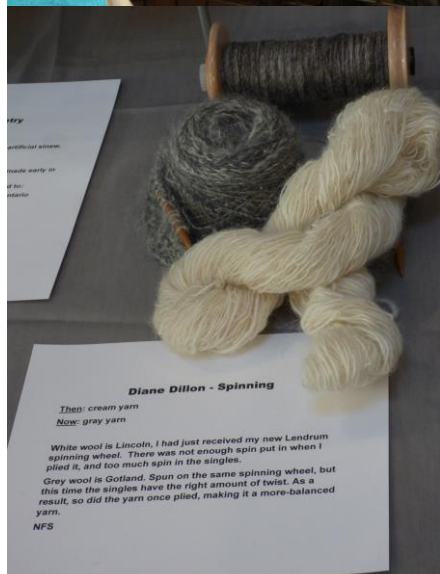


# Then and Now Exhibition at the Ex and Sale





# Then and Now continued





## Halloween at the Guild

Many thanks to Jan Scott for her work supporting the Guild's participation in Halloween door decorating tradition at Heartwood House. Jan's creativity ensured that our entry was outstanding, despite the spiders many escape attempts.



# 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 Brenda at [marketplace@ovwsg.com](mailto:marketplace@ovwsg.com)

## Kinnaird Farm – [www.KinnairdFarm.ca](http://www.KinnairdFarm.ca)

- Ready to spin roving in various natural colours, wool, and wool-alpaca blends
- Fleece – raw wool fleece
- Sheepskin Rugs
- Two-ply mill spun, natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- 2022 lamb – sold out – *Thank you!*

Contact Kelly MacGregor for details: [KinnairdFarm@gmail.com](mailto:KinnairdFarm@gmail.com)



**Kinnaird Farm**  
**Kelly M MacGregor**

83 La Rue Mills Rd  
Mallorytown ON  
K0E 1R0

613.659.4267  
[KellyMMacGregor@gmail.com](mailto:KellyMMacGregor@gmail.com)

## Créations Christine

Représentante d'Ashford Dealer

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

[cgagne40@gmail.com](mailto:cgagne40@gmail.com)

Christine Gagné



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](http://bellesbouclettes.com)  
[info@bellesbouclettes.com](mailto:info@bellesbouclettes.com)



# Wööl

Fournitures de tricot et arts textiles  
Laines commerciales et teintées à la main

Knitting and textile arts supplies | Commercial and hand dyed yarns

EMPORIUM DE LAINE AMELIE®  
538 RUE NOTRE-DAME EMPORIUMDELAINE.COM  
MONTEBELLO, QC J0V 1L0  
(819) 981-0023

[wool\\_emporiumdelaine](https://www.instagram.com/wool_emporiumdelaine)  
 [woolemporiumdelaine](https://www.facebook.com/woolemporiumdelaine)

*Artisan Originals by Susan*

*Weaver Felter Fibre Artist*

613-219-0166

[artisanoriginalsbysusan@gmail.com](mailto:artisanoriginalsbysusan@gmail.com)

*Louet Dealer*

*Ashford Dealer*





**Indigo Hill** textile arts supplies, finished goods, and workshops  
[www.indigohilldyestudio.ca](http://www.indigohilldyestudio.ca)  
[info@indigohilldyestudio.ca](mailto:info@indigohilldyestudio.ca)  
26 Main St. E., Vankleek Hill, Ontario



Ply Studio is a creative arts studio located in New Edinburgh and founded and run by Guild member, Carmen Bohn. Carmen specializes in creating handspun yarn that she uses in her woven tapestries and freeform crocheted objects. The workshops at Ply Studio are offered by Carmen and a mix of other local artists in a variety of mediums. Join her email newsletter (pop-up on her website homepage) for all the latest offerings, promotions, and a sneak peek inside her studio.

## November Meeting Minutes

### November 2022 Meeting

Monday November 7, 2022, at 19:30 via Zoom / In Person

- Welcome from President, Jean Sharp
- Introduction of the executive
- 50 members in attendance
- Welcome to 6 new members including Joselyn, Sarah-Anne, Hannah, Miriam, Cat

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Ex and Sale was a success. Thank you to everyone who volunteered. Prizes for volunteers included a kit from Ashford from Susan Allen, 2 skeins of yarn from Bernadette, box of Sari Silks from Ann McElroy. Winners Angie McCausland, Karin Hendriksen, Wendy Silverthorn-Duggan. Door prizes felted bird made by Nancy Ingram, a pair of Mitts made by Jean Sharp, neck scarf knit by Heather, shawl handspun and knit by Judy Kavanaugh. Winners Emma Lalonde, Lynn Wilson, Denise Landry, Carmen Deschenes.
- Coop booth did well, guild is expected to make about \$350.00
- Membership fees will be raised to \$60.00 beginning January 1, 2023.
- Beginning January 1, general meetings will begin at 7:15 pm
- Workshops – New schedule is online

- Next Executive meeting November 19, 2022, at 7:00 pm. Guild members are welcome to attend as observers. Email [president@ovwsg.com](mailto:president@ovwsg.com) for Zoom link. Executive meetings are every third Monday of the month.

## **PROGRAM**

Sue Thompson – Sewing for Handweavers

## **SHOW AND TELL**

**Alex Nunn** – sample of woven blanket in merino wool dyed naturally from black walnut, sumac berries, onion skin, madder and lichen.

**Rachel Eugster** – cowls from lace weight hand spun wool and beads.

**Sylvie** – yardage 100% linen, intended for a bathrobe.

**Liane** – lace cowl from hand spun, inglenook fibre lily of the valley.

**Anita** – yarn from the spinning study group, mobius strip with beads knitted into a hair band.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Monday December 5, 2022, Rosepath Auction / Fibre Poker