

PENELOPE'S NEWS



April Edition 2023

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

[Moira White](#).....Chair
[Mandy Heggteit](#).....Vice- Chair
[Jean Sharp](#).....President
[Josee Cochrane](#).....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.

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Meeting Info

This month's hybrid meeting:
Monday, April 3, 2023, at 7:15 pm

Program: Wendo van Essen

March Executive Meeting: March 20, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

The next meeting: Monday, May 1, 2023. Guest: Diane Totten

President's Message

Greetings Guild Members,

So, Spring has sprung, well at least according to the calendar! The end of winter is in sight, and we will soon see flowers, birds and what's been hiding under the snow...not looking forward to THAT.

Some exciting news coming up at Heartwood House. They have offered the Guild a larger space across the hall from the current classroom and we have accepted. There will be no extra cost associated with this move. The 100" loom will stay put and a wall built to separate it from the rest of the room. The move will be coming in the next month or so and we are very much looking forward to the extra space.

OCTranspo will be holding its Spring Lost and Found Sale at Heartwood House, May 2 – 4pm to 6pm. As a member of the Heartwood House family, we need to provide volunteers to make this sale a success. Please let me know if you can help – you may be able to pick up some cool finds!

We are very pleased to announce that Dianne Totten is going to be teaching a two-day Crimped Cloth workshop April 29 and 30 in the classroom. Dianne is a world-renowned weaver and teacher and has perfected this unusual weaving technique over her 30-year career. Please visit the OVWSG website to find details and registration information. She will also be presenting in person at the May meeting.

The Sale and Exhibition team is ramping up for another fabulous event November 4 and 5, 2023. It will be held as usual at the Glebe Community Centre and information concerning booth sales and other details will be forthcoming. We do rely on volunteers to help

it run smoothly and a call will be made closer to the date. Speaking of volunteers, we will be looking for Guild members to fill certain positions at the June 5th AGM meeting. The positions include, Treasurer, Spinning Equipment Coordinator, Vice-Chair; more information will be forthcoming.

Take care and see you at the April meeting.

Jean

Message from the OVWSG Web master

Some of our members have not been receiving emails from the guild, such as invitations to Zoom meetings and monthly emails with a link to the newsletter. We are working hard to try and resolve this problem.

If you have not been getting our emails here are some things you can do.

- Check with our membership person that your email is correct on our list. You can email her at membership@ovwsg.com.
- Check your spam/junk folder in your email program to see if any of our emails are there. If you find one, take the time to move it to your inbox or mark it as not junk which will help future emails be sent to your inbox.
- If you don't find the emails in your junk folder please let us know you are not receiving them. You can contact me at website@ovwsg.com.

Here is why our emails are disappearing and what we are doing about it.

- When emails disappear, they are most likely being marked as spam somewhere along the route they take to get to you. Emails sent to long lists of people look suspicious to spam filters.
- We have signed up for MailerLite, a service that sends emails to a mailing list for us. Each email is sent individually. Unfortunately, not everyone is receiving these emails either. You will see the MailerLite logo at the bottom of these emails.
- Sometimes we send out emails two different ways so please be tolerant if you get two emails with the same content. We are trying to make sure that as many people as possible get our messages.

Judy Kavanagh, web master

Website Update

One perk of membership is a link on our web page. Our links page is woefully out of date. I would like to update the members' portion and also add other useful links. So far, I have only received 3 updates.

If you already have a link on the webpage, you still need to contact me. So many links are broken, or they link to a page that hasn't been updated in years.

To that end, I would like people to send me the links to their fibre sites/blogs/Etsy etc., with a short(very short) description. Also, if possible, I would like to divide it into categories; Weaving, Spinning, Felting, Fibre and Equipment. So let me know which categories you fit into (more than one is ok). If you think I need to add another category let me know.

I would also like to list links to other guilds and fibre festivals/sales and information sites. So please send those along too along with where they are located.

Please send the information to shepherdessann@gmail.com or library@ovwsg.com

General Announcements

Membership

Membership renewals can be done through SECURE ONLINE PAYMENT at:

<https://www.ovwsg.com/membership/membership-application/>

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

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 May newsletter are due no later than **April 21, 2023**, to newsletter@ovwsg.com.

We welcome contributions from all members, so please feel free to submit photos, book reviews or stories of fibre related activities.

The March Newsletter can be accessed at: <https://www.ovwsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/March-2023-Newsletter.pdf>

Welcome to New Members

Ann Mainville-Neeson
Emily Adam
Kanika Batabyal
Karie Wylie
Katrina Hruday
Kimberly Webster

Louise Glegg
Manon Vieule
Melanie Barrieau
Molly Touchie
Pascale Dumas

Updates from Program Coordinators

Programs

We're excited to have Wendo van Essen as our guest speaker at our upcoming April meeting. Wendo is a fibre artist, amazing felter, and a member of our guild. You can find out more about Wendo and her work at <http://wendovanessen.blogspot.com>.

At the May meeting, our guest will be Dianne Totten. Dianne has been a weaver for 40 years and teacher for over twenty. She uses a variation of handwoven shibori to produce what she calls “crimp cloth” to create one-of-a-kind garments with the heat-set fabric. Her expertise in sewing complements her passion for weaving. Dianne’s award-winning work has appeared nationally and internationally. Check out her website to find out more! <https://diannetottenhandwovens.com/>

We look forward to seeing you all at our April meeting!

Your Program Team,
Joan Harrison and Josee Cochrane

Library

On Meeting **Monday, April 3rd**, the library should be open from 9am to 7pm. I will post on our Facebook group as soon as I am in the studio. All library items are due before the guild meeting. The library is located at 404 McArthur Ave Ottawa, ON, K1K 1G8. Contact the library email library@ovwsg.com for alternate drop-off or pick-up arrangements.

You can email and request us to pull books for you as we were doing during COVID shutdowns. Members in good standing (not having overdue items) can take out 4 library items (except Ref.) **Items taken out at the April meeting will be due back before the next meeting, May 1st, 2023.** Let the Librarians know if you are taking the OHS Master Spinners or Master Weavers courses, you can take out more books to help with your homework.

The library fine for **overdue items is 1.50 per month per item.** Last month, there were quite a few people who did not return their books. Please drop them into the book return box in the studio, the front desk of Heartwood House during business hours or in the west end near the Iris street transit stop then let us know you have dropped them off. Library fines go towards new books.

We have been able to fill in some of our missing Weavers, Weavers Journals and Handwoven this month from some of the very generous donations we have received. The Librarians would like to say thank you on behalf of the guild.

Thank you for your patience as we keep working on the book count, we are now partway through the magazines (we are checking ascension numbers as well as the magazine issue is present in the collection). When we have the magazines checked, we will go on to the reference section.

We have had the library open on Mondays for the socials, as I have been working on the book count. We have had to close the library if the social needs the space, so please come in early to make sure you get to peruse the books, magazines, and videos. As the weather improves, we are looking forward to seeing more members using the library and at the Meetings and Socials.

Jan on behalf of the Librarians.

Equipment Rentals

Greeting Guild Members,

I have been working as the Spinning Rental Coordinator for more than 6 years, and it's time to step down. I'm looking for another member who is willing to take on this role.

- Rental Coordinator is a low-key opportunity to volunteer.
- Experience with equipment is not required (I had less than a year spinning when I took on the role).
- It is an opportunity to familiarize yourself with a variety of wheels and fibre prep equipment.
- The time commitment is lower than with some other volunteer positions.
- You don't have to attend board meetings.
- It is an important way for us to raise funds to keep the guild running. Most fees are collected via Paypal invoice, so no money to handle.

I have been doing this from home over the pandemic, which is very convenient.

To be a coordinator you need:

1. An email address to receive forwarded requests for rentals and send replies. Your Gmail will work just fine.
2. A way to keep track of rentals (I use the electronic spreadsheet that I inherited from the last coordinator; it works great).
3. A folder to keep hard copies of the rental agreements, with the attached deposit cheque from the renter.
4. An electronic copy of the members list to verify the renter is a member (it is emailed monthly, easy to find in my mailbox).
5. A calendar to figure out what Monday is meeting night (our rental return date) and remind folks when to return/renew rentals.
6. Optionally, a small space at home to keep a few rental items on hand (or you can meet renters at the guild). I keep a selection of items at home in a closet.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me by email at rentals@ovwsg.org.

Anita Hebert, Spinning Rental Coordinator

Socials Update

Monday Socials

Monday Socials are now from 4-8pm in the studio. Socials Occur all Mondays there is not a regular meeting (first Monday of the month) Jan is usually in the studio by 9am working in the library. Everyone is encouraged to pop in and be social (spin, weave, felt, chat etc.) and use the library or equipment. Afternoons are frequently busy with people weaving and using equipment. Come and join us and get to know your fellow guild members.

Workshops

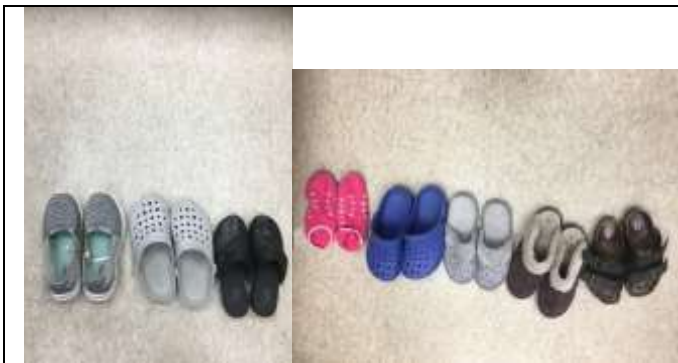
Scheduling for the next round (May through August) of workshops is underway and is expected to be available to members before the end of April.

We are so pleased to partner with the Lakeshore Weaver's Guild in Montreal to bring in weaving instructor Dianne Totten to teach us about the magic of crimp cloth. Dianne has been a weaver for 30 years and a teacher of weaving for 20. Dianne will also be presenting the program at the May meeting.

Member tickets went on sale Tuesday March 21 at 6:00pm. Non-member tickets go on sale Tuesday April 4, 2023, at 9:00am. There are currently 7 spots remaining in the workshop.

To register visit the OVWSG course website at <https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2320-crimp-and-create-with-dianne-totten/>.

Studio Update



PLEASE CLAIM YOUR SHOES:

Hi everyone,

These shoes have been in the studio since before the start of the pandemic. If they aren't claimed by the end of the April 3 meeting, they will be donated to Value Village. Thank you.

Heartwood House News

Heartwood Community Gift and Thrift Shop! **Alternate Thursdays 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m.**

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.

OCTranspo Spring UNCLAIMED ITEMS SALE

May 2, 2023, from 4pm to 6pm

Every Spring and Fall, Heartwood House hosts the OC Transpo Unclaimed Items Sale. All unclaimed items that have past the holding period are sold at the sales. This is an opportunity for the bargain hunters of Ottawa to purchase the many quality items that will be for sale. Items are sold from a range of 25 cents to \$5, with some valuable items sold by silent auction. Don't miss this great opportunity to scoop up the excellent deals!

Fibre Events in the Community

Thresholds

Reminder: *Thresholds* continues to April 14 at the Karsh-Masson Gallery at Ottawa City Hall. The gallery is open every day, 9:00am to 5:00pm. Together with Sam Loewen and Christos Pantieras, *Thresholds* explores the search for queer intimacy and the consequences of finding it.

For his contribution, guild member Carl Stewart is presenting *clò mòr*, 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.



Out of the Box - Fibre Fling 2023

FIBRE FLING 2023 Art Show and Sale

Friday, April 21 - 10 am to 5 pm
Saturday, April 22 - 10 am to 4 pm

Kitchissippi United Church, 630 Island Park Drive, Ottawa

FIBRE FLING 2023 showcases many dazzling original works of art created by local textile and mixed media artists. These one-of-a-kind pieces are hand made using innovative approaches to traditional and contemporary techniques, such as dyeing, embroidery, beading, and felting. Entrance fee is \$5. A portion of the show proceeds are donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation and the Ottawa Food Bank. Mask wearing is recommended. To learn more, visit www.out-of-the-box.org or follow 'Out of the Box Fibre Artists' on Facebook or Instagram.

OUT of the BOX fibre artists

Fibre Fling 2023

Art Show and Sale
Creative and innovative works in fibre and mixed-media

Exposition-vente d'art textile
Oeuvres originales et innovantes faisant appel au textile et aux techniques mixtes

Friday, April 21, 10 am – 5 pm
Saturday, April 22, 10 am – 4 pm
Admission \$5.00

Le 21 avril - vendredi de 10 h à 17 h
Le 22 avril - samedi de 10 h à 16 h
Coût d'entrée : 5 \$

Kitchissippi United Church
630 Island Park Drive, Ottawa
(between Carling Ave and the 417)
Masks are recommended

Église Unie de Kitchissippi
630, promenade Island Park, Ottawa
(entre l'avenue Carling et l'autoroute 417)
Les masques sont recommandés

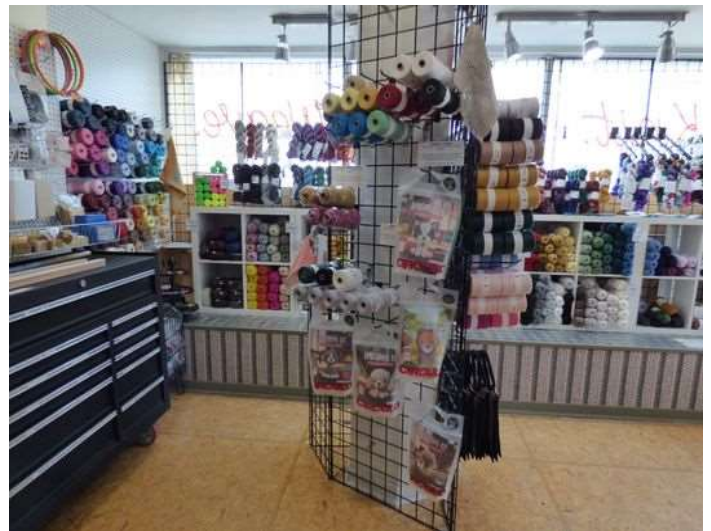
A portion of the proceeds will go to:

Une partie des recettes sera versée à:

Pre-March Meeting



Wabi Sabi new layout (photos from Jan's visit)



Show and Tell



Show and Tell



Farm Show



Studio and Socials

March 13 Social Felting Theme



March 20 Social



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

Kinnaird Farm – 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



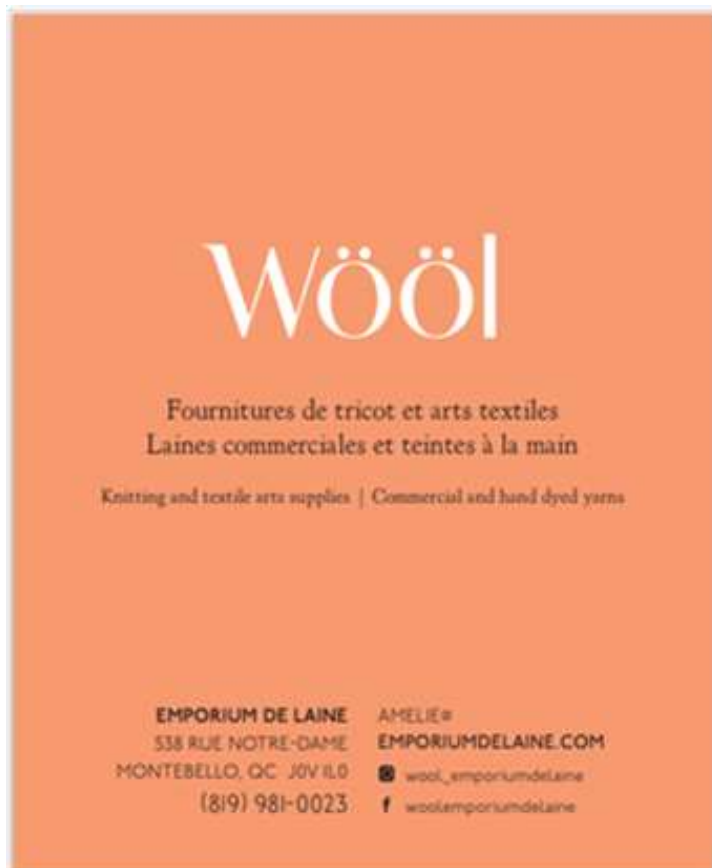
Créations Christine

Représentante d'Ashford Dealer

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

cgagne40@gmail.com

Christine Gagné





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.

<https://plystudio613.com/>

create@plystudio613.com

www.infinityfarm.ca

Fiber Art artist Victoria Mestres-Laurin invites local artists and the community to the **2nd Annual Easter weekend Open doors** at Infinity Farm.

Come visit our small family hobby farm!
Saturday April 8



Luskville Farm Tour

Saturday May 6, 2023

March Meeting Minutes

March 2023 Meeting

Monday March 6, at 19:15 via Zoom / In Person

- Welcome from President, Jean Sharp
- Introduction of the executive
- 43 members in attendance
- Welcome to new members Sarah, Annalise?, Judy, Louise

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Heartwood house parking regulations are important to observe particularly with the snow.
- Membership – over 200 members now, some reminders will be sent out shortly for renewals.
- Programs – April's guest is Wendo van Essen, in May Diane Totten will be the guest speaker and will be offering a workshop on crimped cloth on April 29 and 30.
- Rentals – studio looms are being rented; several pieces of equipment are out on loan to members as well. Looking for someone to take over as spinning rental coordinator for Anita in June.
- Next executive Monday March 20 at 7:00 pm. Guild members are welcome to attend as observers. Email president@ovwsg.com for Zoom link. Executive meetings are every third Monday of the month.
- Congratulations on 30 years of Guild Membership to Elizabeth Watt.
- Links Page on website is very out of date. Anyone with a fibre related website, please send information to Ann or library@ovwsg.com.
- Exhibition and Sale is looking for volunteers to run the Exhibition portion and door prize donations. Please contact Ann McElroy.
- Ann Newlands book has been published, the publisher is donating one to the library and Ann is donating one to the Guild which will be raffled at the AGM in June.
- Library is still under way with the book count. They have a couple new acquisitions which they will include in the next newsletter.
- Next meeting will be April 3, 2023, at 7:15 pm

PROGRAM

- Sharon Kallis - "An artist's quest for the home-grown 'power suit'."

SHOW and TELL

Carlene Paquette – Lazy Kate made by Don Haines holds the extra-large bobbin for her Majacraft.

Deborah Newhook – Indian book Charka from Jonathan Bosworth in Massachusetts, USA

Wendy Willbond - Handspun, handknit sweater, floor loom woven runners/blankets.

Sammy – 20' weaving representing Icelandic residency. Tencel warp

Moirá – 2 warps – 4 scarves

NEXT MEETING

April 3, 2023, at 7:15 pm

Heartwood House Parking

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.

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.

4. Sunday Parking:

- Please park in front of the building or to the East of the Laundry in the rear parking lot (areas are marked in yellow below) to allow Unitarians access to their space on Sundays.

