

PENELOPE'S NEWS



June 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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President's Message

Greetings OVWSG members!

Well, that went quickly – another year of Guild fun has come and gone! It seems like just yesterday I was thinking about how neat it would be to be OVWSG president and voila, here I am! I hope you have had an equally challenging and rewarding year. Lots has happened over the last 12 months, and we should all be proud.

To name a few things, we have successfully held hybrid monthly meetings using Heartwood House's OWL system and Zoom. This has allowed us to connect with members and presenters from afar and those not able to come to the Guild in person. We are planning to keep this format for the foreseeable future. We hosted world renowned weaver, Diane Totten, and several other fascinating presenters at our monthly meetings. The classroom has moved to a new location on the second floor, giving us more room with the 100" loom staying put. Speaking of which, there have been two warps wound on the 100" loom with a second set of catalogue coverlets being woven now. Work is being done to organize the second Sale and Exhibition (November 4–5, 2023) since the pandemic shut everything down and we are also organizing activities for the 75th anniversary of the OVWSG in 2024.

The studio is slowly getting back to normal with warps on looms and weekly Monday evening social networking meetings. I am planning to be in the studio on most Fridays in the morning until after lunch. Please join me to weave, spin or use some of the in-studio equipment.

The AGM is going to be held at the June meeting during which we will elect or confirm members to fill vacant Guild positions.

Meeting Info

This month's hybrid meeting:
Monday, June 5, 2023, at 7:15 pm

Program: AGM and Fibre Challenges

June Executive Meeting: June 19, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

The next meeting: Monday, September 11, 2023

To show our appreciation to our members and get to know each other a bit better, the Executive is hosting an extended breaktime and there will be finger food and drinks for all those in attendance. After that we will hold the Fibre Poker summer challenge and there will be a special fundraiser thanks to Mandy's generous donation of yarn from her stash. For \$10 you will receive a bag of various yarns to use over the summer to make a project of your choice. Can't wait to see the results at the September meeting!

Take care everyone and have a wonderful summer.

Jean

P.S. We are looking for volunteers to work at the Sale and Exhibition —in particular, high school students to help at the creation station. We will certify volunteer hours.

General Announcements

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 September newsletter are due no later than **August 31, 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 May Newsletter can be accessed at: <https://www.ovwsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/May-2023-Newsletter.pdf>

THANK YOU

At this final edition before our summer break, I would like to take this time to say THANK YOU to all of the members who have submitted items for our newsletter. From book reviews to updates on events of interest, your input is what makes it meaningful to our members.

I would also like to extend a special thank you the Guild's unofficial photographer, Jan Scott. Jan seems to be everywhere with her camera, whether it's in the studio working on our library, at our socials, checking in on classes, like Crimp and Create, or at any one of the many of the local fibre festivals. She is other unacknowledged other half of the team, and her contributions bring our newsletter to life with colour. THANK YOU JAN! It wouldn't be the same without you.

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.

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

Anna Beaudet
Elisabeth Daly
Katherine Douglas
France Poliquin
Robyn Bozek

Updates from Program Coordinators

Library

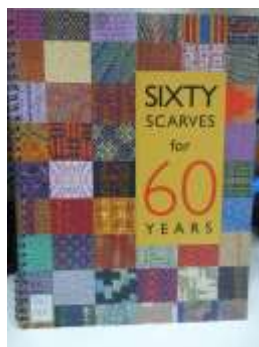
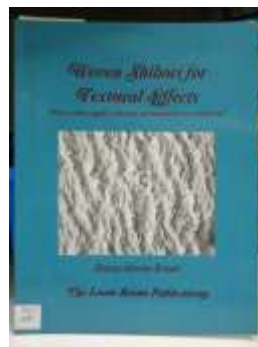
HOURS: On the meeting Monday, the guild library will be open at 9 am and close at 7 pm.

There are a number of books that are overdue, we need them back so other members can enjoy them. If you can not make the meeting, you can drop books off at the front desk at Heartwood House any time the building is open. (Bag and label them "OVWSG Library"). For other drop off options contact library@ovwsg.com.

Our Extra Handwoven and Spin Off for sale.

We have been continuing the Magazine section of the book check 2023. We have gone through the list of Handwovens and Spin Off Magazines and pulled some of the missing ones from the donations. This means that we have extra and will be selling the extra Handwovens and Spin Offs for \$2.00 each. (On-line they are running about 5.00US plus shipping) We will have them for your perusal at the Meeting Monday and at the next few socials. As I get more of the magazines checked there will be more titles added to the sale.

New Additions to the Library (courtesy of Mandy Heggteit's generous donation)



Programs

Hi everyone!

Since the June meeting is our AGM, we won't be having a guest speaker. We do hope that you've enjoyed hearing from all the amazing guests we've hosted since last September. We do have some fibre challenges to help fill your summer with creative fun! Here are the options proposed and how to participate:

Choice #1: Mystery Fibre Package challenge and fundraiser - a wonderful idea from Carl!

For \$10, you get a package of assorted yarns. You don't choose which one you get, hence the "Mystery!" You create (weave, spin, felt) something using the yarn from the package. You may include other fibres from your own stash.

The fibre packages were generously donated by Mandy and will be available for purchase in person at the June meeting.

Here are a few examples:



Choice #2: Fibre Poker (as in previous years.)

For those who are remote, or prefer a different challenge, we'll run the Fibre Poker, as we have in past years. In Fibre Poker, you get four cards in a category of your choice: spinning, weaving, or felting. You may trade one card from your initial hand. These four cards form your "roadmap" to the elements (e.g. fibre, colour, technique, etc.) you'll need to incorporate into making your item.

Please email me at jt-cochrane@outlook.com and tell me which category you wish to play. I'll draw your cards and email you back.

Everyone will have an opportunity to showcase their "challenge creations" during the extended Show & Tell at our September meeting! We look forward to seeing you at the June meeting and we hope that you'll participate in one of the Fibre Challenges.

Your Program Team,
Joan Harrison and Josee Cochrane

Workshops

There are still a few workshops on offer for June, though only 1 has space as of time of writing:

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2328-introduction-to-pine-needle-basketry/>

Pine needle basket will need at least 3 more students to allow it to run.

I plan to start working on the Fall schedule in early July, with the hope of having it live by mid-August. I am debating plotting all the way to June 2024, but will at least have the offerings to December finalized for August. As always, if you are interested in teaching with the guild please get in touch.

I know some people have expressed interest in summer workshops and I may have some instructors available. The challenge of summer has always been having enough students available on the same days as the instructor. When I have tried to schedule ahead during the summer invariably I have picked the date when those most interested are away on vacation! If you are interested in having a particular workshop this summer I will need your help, as the best way to do it is via the "By Request" system. Here are the steps:

1. Email me with the topic you are interested in and your availability between July 1 and Aug 31. Be specific but give me as much flexibility as you can (e.g., any Saturday except the first weekend in August, only Sunday July 16, 23 and 30, Mondays and Wednesdays in August after 11:00am)
2. I will see if I have an instructor available within those dates. If I do I will create a description page on the website that you can use to help you find enough students to run the workshop. Once you have at least 4 students who will commit to registering I will set up the registration part of the page. Your group will need to register quickly to confirm that the workshop will run. If there are spaces left once your group has registered I will open registration to whoever wants to join in.

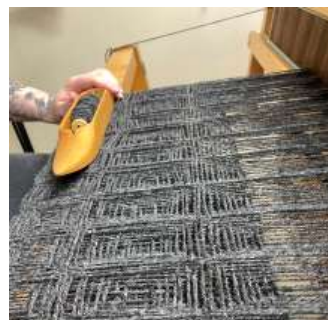
Elizabeth Watt

OVWSG Workshop Registrar

workshops@wattfamily.ca or workshops@ovwsg.com

Socials Update

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. Come and join us and get to know your fellow guild members.



Equipment Policy Update

Under the direction of Weaving Rental Coordinator Deborah Newhook, the executive has been updating the Guild's Policies and Procedures for Fibre Equipment Use. The full policy can be found at in the second attachment that you received with the newsletter.

Please note that this is a draft policy for your input. We'd like you all to look at it and send any comments to president@ovwsg.com for consideration. We would like to adopt this policy as soon as all suggestions have been looked at and the policy is finalized. Many thanks to Deborah for all her work on this.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the June meeting during which we will elect or confirm members to fill vacant Guild positions.

Without our dedicated group of volunteers, the Guild would not be able to continue to provide the all of the services to the fibre arts community that it currently does. Volunteers are responsible for many of key roles and provide a great service to our members. They are responsible for managing our library, editing our newsletter, coordinating our annual exhibition and sale, managing our studio and equipment rentals, coordinating our program meetings and guest speakers, and leading our socials, to name just a few.

In addition to our experienced volunteers, many of whom have been contributing for many years, we need new people to join and provide fresh insight and a passion for the work. To stay relevant to a new generation of weavers, spinners and felters, we need new volunteers to advocate for the future of the Guild.

In addition to helping define the future of the Guild, in my experience, volunteering is a great way to meet other Guild members and really get to know the community.

We hope that you will consider joining our ranks and volunteer.

In addition to the roles of Treasurer and Vice-Chair, which will be put to member vote as part of the executive board, the following positions need filling:

Assistant to the Treasurer

Grant Assistant

Fundraising Coordinator (x2)

Membership Coordinator

Donations Coordinator

Ad Publicity

Exhibition Coordinator

Monthly Programming Team (x2)

Greeter

Backup hostess

If you feel that you would be able to assist with one of these roles, please reach out to me at newsletter@ovwsg.com before the AGM on June 5th, 2023.

Fibre Events in the Community

Twist

TWIST

August 11 – 13, 2023

530 Rue Charles Auguste Montreuil
Saint-André-Avellin, Quebec JOV 1W0

<https://festivaltwist.org/en/>

Upcoming Events (Out of Area)

For anyone interested in a road trip, the following festivals are upcoming in Ontario in May and June.

Festival	Date and Time	Notes
Sheep shearing at Upper Canada Village; Louck's Farm	June 2 - 4, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Gordon Moat will be spinning with a great wheel made by Horton Row of Kemptville.
Kawartha Yarn & Fibrefest https://www.kyaff.ca/	June 10, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	
Muskoka Yarn & Fibrefest https://muskokafibrefest.com/	June 24, 2023 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	
Antique Spinning Wheel Symposium Lone rock Farm, Marshfield, VT https://spwhsl.com/antique-spinning-wheel-symposium-2023/	June 24 – 25, 2023	Gordon is driving down.
History in the Park at Iroquois, Ontario (also an antique car show and fly-in breakfast) The Iroquois locks and ships on the St Lawrence are nearby.	July 16, 2023	Gordon has been invited back to spin with a great wheel.

Crimp and Create Class



For Love of Fibre



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, *shipped nationwide!*
- Sheepskin Rugs – white, brown, black
- Two-ply mill spun, natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- **Now accepting lamb orders for 2023**

Contact Kelly MacGregor for details: KinnairdFarm@gmail.com



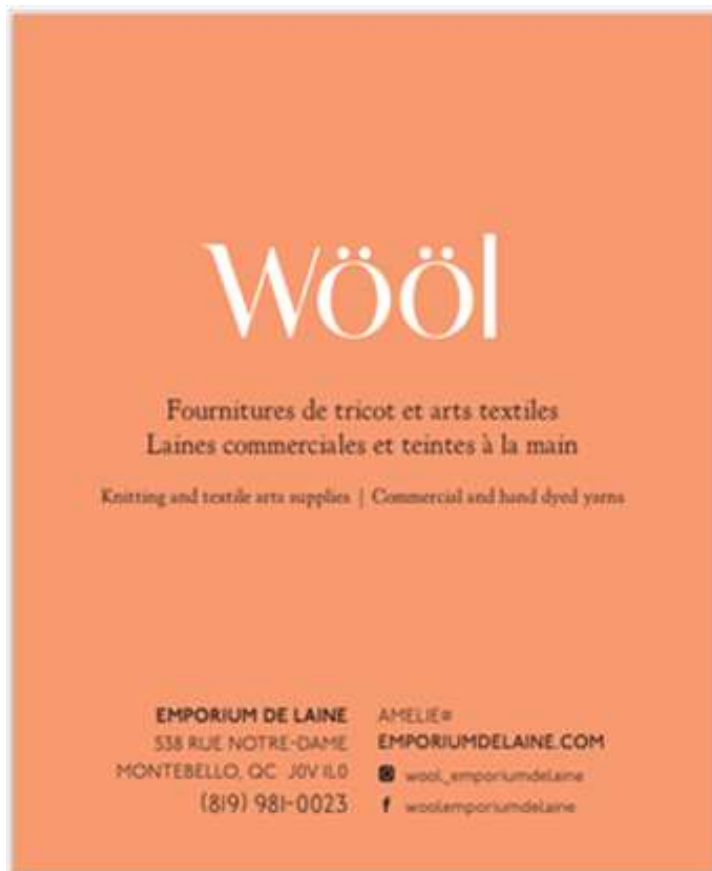
Créations Christine

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/>

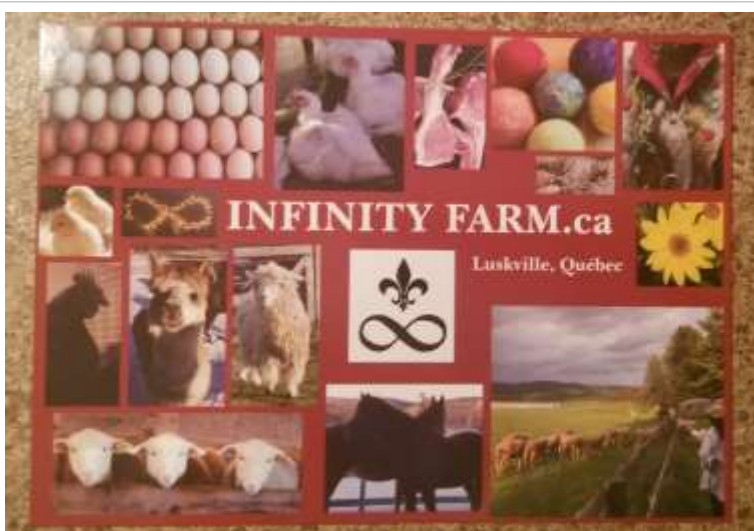
create@plystudio613.com



Mapi Créations

Laines et Arts textiles

www.mapicreations.com



[Www.infinityfarm.ca](http://www.infinityfarm.ca)

May Meeting Minutes

May 2023 Meeting

Monday May 1, at 19:15 via Zoom / In Person

- Welcome from President, Jean Sharp
- Introduction of the executive
- 46 members in attendance
- Welcome to new members Robin, Emily, and Viviane

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Heartwood House update: OC Transpo Lost and Found Sale Tuesday May 2 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to set up and man tables. Please speak to Jean if you can assist.
- Hybrid meetings will continue indefinitely. They have been working well for our membership.
- 75th Anniversary Celebration in 2024. A small team will meet this week to discuss ideas for activities. If you are interested in assisting or joining, please contact Jean.
- The Exhibition and Sale will take place on November 4th and 5th this year. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Ann McElroy or Jean Sharp if you can help. The vendor application page will go live tonight, with the first two weeks open to returning vendors, the following two weeks to current guild members and then it will be open to any who wish to join the guild. An exhibition coordinator is needed. No theme has been decided for this year, so the team is open to suggestions.
- Membership: 229 active members. Membership coordinator will send regular emails to inform you if your membership is coming up for renewal.
- The new classroom is now open. Laurie will provide a tour at the break.
- Library has received book donations from Mandy Heggveit and Ruth Cooper.
- Programs: The June meeting will be our AGM and fibre challenge. This year we will have challenge packages for a small cost from yarn donated by Mandy. Fibre poker will also still run for those who cannot come to the studio to pick up a package.
- Workshops – New workshops online for May and June. The September line up will be ready for mid-August. There will be one additional entry for the spring session on Nalbinding. Once a date is confirmed it will be posted on the website.
- AGM is coming up in June. Need volunteers to replace Treasurer, Spinning Rental Coordinator and Vice-Chair and new people for Programs. Please put your name forward if you can volunteer.

PROGRAM

- Diane Totten – Crimped Cloth

SHOW and TELL

Ann McElroy: felted Hobbit land

Lindsay Harasymchuk: 6 tea towels in different colours (Strickler 728) based on advice from Facebook friends
Carlene Paquette: her new SPINYARN licence plate!

Marie Eve Roy: Saori woven scarf using handspun weft with sewing thread

Patti Hennesey: (1) her new Electric eel #6 spinner and yarn plied on it, and (2) Tea towels

Deborah Newhook: a mini niddy-noddy that she made for small samples of yarn

Jan Scott: progress on Mrs. Mer

NEXT MEETING

May 1, 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.

