

# PENELOPE'S NEWS



February Edition 2024

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

[Moira White](#).....Chair  
[Carl Stewart](#).....Vice- Chair  
[Jean Sharp](#).....President  
[Louise Travill](#).....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, February 5, 2024, at  
7:15 pm

**Program:** Live and Learn

**February Executive Meeting:**  
February 19, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

**The next meeting:** Monday, March  
4th, 2023

## President's Message

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a nice break from their normal routine and were able to spend some quality time with family. We are now in the full thrall of winter with all the fun and not so much fun!

As most of you will have already heard, Heartwood House was broken into a third time over the weekend of January 12-14. The thieves used a crowbar to open an outside door and office doors. They broke into the 100" loom room and apart from rummaging around for valuables (to them), nothing was stolen or vandalized. I made a police report and impact statement as per HH's request and submitted that within a couple of days.

Other organizations were not so lucky. Their offices were torn apart and laptops, credit cards and other valuables were stolen. This is a very serious blow to these charities as budgets are very thin and these items will be difficult to replace. Yes, they have insurance, but the time and energy needed to get back to normal will take a great toll.

There was a locksmith on site all week after the break-in and all doors have been fitted with deadbolts. We now have all our doors (except the storage closets) secured and the classroom key will fit all the doors. The studio key will be taken out of circulation. When you are leaving the Guild rooms, please ensure that you lock both the deadbolt and handle locks. Access to the Heartwood House building on a day outside office hours is sometimes a tricky thing. If there is a workshop in the Studio, you are not able to use that room, if the workshop is in the classroom, you can use the Studio. Sending an email to the teacher of the workshop can alert them

and help you get in, or you can email [chair@ovwsg.com](mailto:chair@ovwsg.com) and Moira can come let you in. She lives the closest.

Heartwood House will be increasing their security measures (more expense) in consultation with Ottawa Police. I know this is distressing and that safety is paramount, however, I believe that we can rest assured that we will be safe within the hours that we use our facilities and need not be concerned. If there are any other developments, I will inform the membership.

On a happier note, we have submitted our funding request to the City and hopefully will receive good news! Our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities are ongoing. After a short break, we will be reviving our committee and would like to have more members involved. Please let me know if you would like to join us. We have an active workshop schedule ahead and other interesting activities in the works so let's get started!

## 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 March newsletter are due no later than **February 23, 2024**.

We welcome contributions from all members, so please feel free to submit photos, book reviews or stories of fibre related activities. The December Newsletter can be accessed at: <https://www.ovwsg.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/December-2023-Newsletter.pdf>

## 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

## Updates from Program Coordinators

### Policy

#### Calling all policy wonks!

This year, the Board will be reviewing all our policies to make sure they are relevant and updated. We'd love a few volunteers to help. If this is something that interests you, please contact [chair@ovwsg.com](mailto:chair@ovwsg.com).

## Programs

Well, this year's program planning has had a lot of surprises. The Yiddish proverb, "We plan. God laughs," has been a common refrain in my head lately. Along the way, I decided to go with the flow and laugh along with them.

This month we have something for everyone as we're finally presenting "Live and Learn" a panel that I organized last spring. Over the year, I've had to reschedule it twice. Due to that the participants have changed. But on February 5<sup>th</sup> we'll hear stories on lessons learned from mistakes.

We have Carlene Paquette for spinning, Laurie Harkinson-Chiasson will speak to her basketry and weaving, Ruth Cooper on weaving and myself with felting and basketry. Some of us will present on Zoom and some in-person. There will be time for Q&A, so think about what tips and fixes you might want help with.

AND Ruth will be bringing a special show & tell of the catalogue projects from the 100" loom.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> I'm very excited to announce that Liz Spear, an award-winning fine art weaver & handwoven clothing designer will be joining us via Zoom from North Carolina. She is one of three invited artists for the fashion show at the Hand Weavers Guild of America "Convergence®" event in Wichita, Kansas this July. You can check out her website to get a taste of her work. <https://www.lizspearhandwoven.com/about-liz-spear-weaver-designer-fiber-artist>

In my first year (2014-2015) with the guild, Alison James brought in an impressive collection of spinning wheels to her lecture about wheels and their maintenance. I was just starting my journey as a spinner and was wowed; I had no clue. Now that I do, I'm always wanting to know more. She'll be doing an updated version of that presentation in May. So funny to me how I never imagined I'd have more than one wheel and now have five! Those who have even more wheels are likely having a chuckle now.

Life is what happens when you're busy making plans. Now that we have speakers planned for the rest of this year's programs...Let's keep our fingers crossed.

Liane Thiry-Smith

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### Member De-Stashing Event

At the second meeting of our 75th Anniversary year, on February 5, 2024, we are starting with a bit of an experiment. We will have a "Members De-stash" opportunity before the meeting and at the break.

There will be six tables available, set up around the edge of the meeting room before the meeting. A table will cost \$5.00 and must be prepaid via e-transfer to me (details to follow). How you handle your transactions is up to you. The doors for the de-stash open at 6:30 and must stop when the meeting begins at 7:15. You will have another opportunity during the break and vendors must stay to help with table take down.

This is just an experiment to see if people like the idea, if it is workable, enjoyable, fun, or not. There will not be a jury for materials sold, but we ask that you keep it to fibre related goods. Use your good sense, be

aware of your demographic and enjoy yourself. E-transfers can be sent to me, Bernadette Quade ([bquade@pixelgraphstudio.com](mailto:bquade@pixelgraphstudio.com)). Please send me an email before Saturday FEB 03 WITH PAYMENT letting me know your name, so I can have a table ready for you. If you have any questions, send them to me at that email address. Tables that are not prepaid will not be held.

Please be patient while we iron out any issues on our first attempt at this endeavour.

Bernadette Quade  
75th Anniversary Committee

## For Awareness

### Beware of Phishing Schemes

A phishing scheme recently targeted some of our guild members.

In late December, some of our members received an email, purportedly from me, that said, "I require a little of your time in getting something important done for me. Let me know if you are free. Thanks"

Those who replied were sent a second message asking for help to buy gift cards as a thanks to "our diligent guild board members" and were told that there would be a gift card for the donor too.

The OVWSG never solicits money for gift cards or donations like this at all. It was a scam. The clever part was that they used two email addresses that sounded like they could belong to a weaver ([sweetweaver360@gmail.com](mailto:sweetweaver360@gmail.com) and [lovetoweave360@gmail.com](mailto:lovetoweave360@gmail.com)). I have never had those email addresses. They were aliases for the scammer.

Police warn that red flags for these kind of phishing schemes include several that were used here:

- **Secrecy:** Using words such as "This should be confidential" or "Please keep this quiet for now"
- Asking for **gift cards or Bitcoin**
- **Urgency:** Something is required today or right away

Please be cautious with email and if anything feels fishy, do what several members did, which was to reach out to me using the official Guild email ([chair@ovwsg.com](mailto:chair@ovwsg.com)) or my personal email address.

## 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.

## Library

Books are due back before the meeting starts on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

If you can't make the meeting contact the librarians at [library@ovwsg.com](mailto:library@ovwsg.com) for other drop off locations.

The diagram below outlines how to fill out the Library Circulation Cards found in the back of library items.

Filling out Circulation  
Cards From back of  
Library items.

745IRW

Irwin, Bobin

**Author**

Weaving Iridescence colour play

**Title**

for the hand weaver 17-2813

**Date Due**

**Issued to:**

Feb, 2018

Miaka Scott-Martin 613-----

"Date Due" →

= Date of **Next** meeting

"Name" or "Issued to" →

= Your **FIRST** name, **Last** name, and **Phone number**

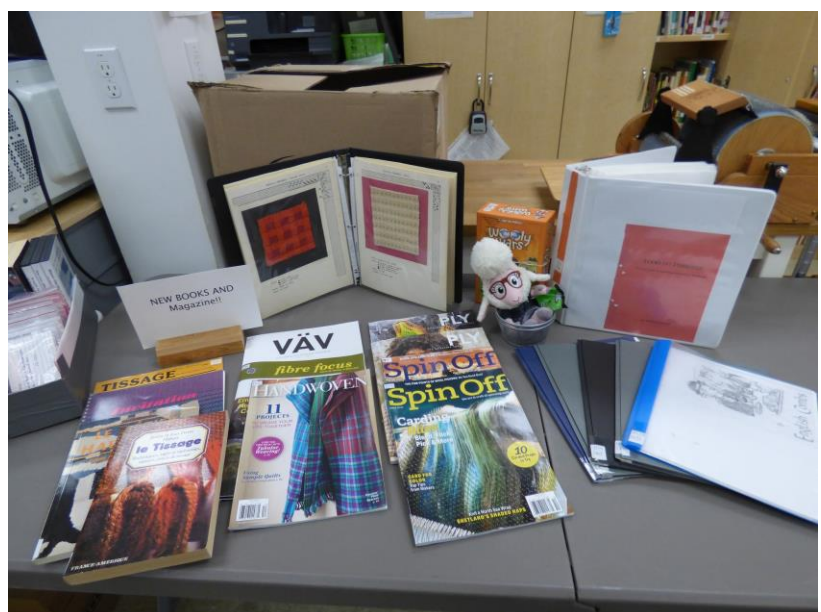
Please use a second line if you need to.

(Cards are sorted by first name)

Over-due fine is 1.50 per item per month.

Items may be renewed for one month if not requested.

Up to 4 items can be taken out by members in good standing.





# Workshops

The following workshops still have a few spaces available.

## **Dyeing**

2417 Playing with Colour – planning and dyeing multicoloured yarn with natural dyes

Date: Saturday March 16, 2024, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2417-playing-with-colour-planning-and-dyeing-multicoloured-yarn-with-natural-dyes/>

## **Weaving**

2415 Introduction to Dukagang Tapestry Dates: Saturday and Sunday March 9 and 10 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2415-introduction-to-dukagang-tapestry/>

2418 Playing with Overshot Dates: Sundays March 17 and 24, 2024 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2418-playing-with-overshot/>

2429 Weaving 1.5 Just Beyond Beginners Dates: Saturdays May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 2024 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2429-weaving-1-5-just-beyond-beginners/>

## **Felting**

2407 Felted Hearts Date: Wednesday February 7, 2024, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2407-felted-hearts/>

2408 Wet Felted Ruffle Scarf Date: Saturday February 10, 2024, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2408-wet-felted-ruffle-scarf/>

2414 Luxurious Nuno Felted Scarf Date: Sunday March 3, 2024, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2414-luxurious-nuno-felt-scarf/>

2419 Cup Cozie and Coffee Sleeves, Wet Felting Date: Sunday March 17, 2024, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2419-cup-cozies-and-coffee-sleeves-wet-felting/>

2423 Luxurious Nuno Felted Scarf Date: Sunday April 7, 2024, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2423-luxurious-nuno-felt-scarf/>

2426 Wet Felted Bird House Date: Saturday January 21, 2024, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2426-wet-felted-bird-house/>

## **Spinning**

24257 Spinning Silk Date: Saturday April 27, 2024, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

<https://www.ovwsg.com/events/event/2427-spinning-silk/>

# January Meeting



# Barbara Hale Sale



## Barbara Hale

21 July 1947 – 28 April 2023

Barbara Ruth Hale passed away peacefully on April 28, 2023, in Ottawa. She was in palliative care at Élisabeth Bruyère Hospital after suffering a stroke in February. She was 75.

While in Montreal, Barbara and her friend Sandy Thomas opened a shop called Le Tisserin (The Weaver) in Monkland Village, where they sold yarns, looms, and weaving supplies.

In 1992, Barbara moved to Ottawa. After considering a career in museum conservation of fabrics, Barbara began working as an art therapist with dementia patients who were living in long term care.

Later Barbara became particularly attracted to Aboriginal art, especially Inuit sculpture, and over three decades she amassed a significant collection which she displayed throughout her home. She followed particular Canadian Indigenous and Inuit artists and read extensively about the work, about the artists that she admired, and about the history of the Aboriginal peoples. She worked for a while at the Inuit Art Gallery in Ottawa, until it closed in 2012.



# Barbara Hale Sale





## New to OVWSG Artisat Repairs





# Blending Board Social





# Chesterville Spin-In

Saturday Feb 3, 2024  
9 am to 4 pm  
167 Queen St West  
Chesterville, ON  
At the Royal Canadian Legion.

Everyone welcome...bring your spinning wheels, knitting or any portable fibre craft and join in the fun. Door prizes drawn for attendees. Show & Tell using Icelandic and Jacob Sheep. A talk introducing Jacob sheep in the a.m. Vendors on sight for your shopping pleasure.

Note: Bring your own lunch. (There are no food vendors on site.)

# Magic in the Water

## EHS Guild Presents: Magic In The Water Wet Finishing of Handwovens Workshop With Master Weaver, Laura Fry



Zoom Workshop Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 12pm-2.30pm ET  
Key Skills For Weavers of All Levels



Magic in the Water: wet finishing handwovens  
What is wet finishing and how do you do it? The final step in creating whole cloth from individual threads is the wet finishing. Laura will explain how to full wool and apply compression and why these processes are so important to the making of the cloth. Laura will also have Q&A for specific projects if people would like some feedback.

Workshop Fee: C\$40 for EHS members: C\$45 non members

To register: e-mail  
EHSWorkshops@gmail.com to  
confirm space availability, then  
complete registration by e-transfer  
payment to ehsguild@gmail.com  
www.ehsguild.com



# 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, *shipped nationwide!*
- Sheepskin Rugs – white, brown, black, grey
- Two-ply mill spun, natural white yarn, fine, 100 gram skeins
- 2023 lamb – sold out – *Thank you! Accepting orders for 2024*

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

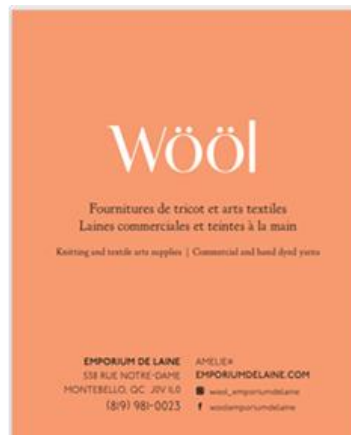
613.659.4267



Mapi Créations

Laines et Arts textiles

[www.mapicreations.com](http://www.mapicreations.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 &amp; 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.

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(613) 678-5690  
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info@bellesbouclettes.com



*Artisan Originals by Susan*

## Weaver Felter Fibre Artist

613-219-0166

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

*Louet Dealer*

**Ashford Dealer**

# December Meeting Minutes

## December 2023 Meeting

Monday December 4, 2023, at 19:15 in person and via Zoom

- Welcome from President, Jean Sharp
- Introduction of the Executive
- Land acknowledgement

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you are entering by the back door at the end of the building nearest the Studio, use the handle to pull the door open. If you pull on the key, it will break the lock.
- Heartwood House parking – if you are parking during the day, register your car with the front desk and put a sign in the window saying “OVWSG” so that Heartwood House knows that your vehicle belongs in the parking lot.

### PROGRAM

Rosepath Auction

# January Meeting Minutes

## January 2024 Meeting

Monday January 8, 2024, at 19:15 in person and via Zoom

- Welcome from President, Jean Sharp and Introduction of the Executive
- Welcome guest Dominique Benoit and Inge Dam

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Corporate Secretary position is opening at the end of the fiscal year, please contact Jean Sharp or Moira White if you are interested.
- Programs Update – Programs position will also be opening; programs are currently arranged until next November. Please let Moira or Jean know.
- Workshops – ‘pick your project’ and fibre reactive dyes need students to continue.
- Next newsletter comes out on January 29<sup>th</sup>, Deadline for submissions is January 26, please submit to [newsletter@ovwsg.com](mailto:newsletter@ovwsg.com)
- \$1135 in weaving rentals and over \$1100 in spinning in 2023/24
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – tote bags for sale \$20
- Tapestry pieces due at the beginning of March
- New platform for sending out emails to the Guild due to changes in cost in the current provider.
- Barbara Hale Estate Sale – January 13th 1 – 3; details posted on the guild Facebook page.
- Suggestion: Vendors night – Mondays of the Guild meeting, items can include handmade or fibre related supplies
- Next Executive January 15, 2024, at 7:00 am. Everyone is invited. If you wish to be included in the meeting, please contact Moira at [chair@ovwsg.com](mailto:chair@ovwsg.com)
- Chesterville Spin in, Chesterville Legion Saturday Feb 3, 2024, from 9 am to 4 pm

### PROGRAM

- Liane Thiry-Smith - Her journey in Fibre Arts.

# 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.

