



Guild Reports

Fall 2015

Weaving Guilds of Oregon

www.wegoregon.org

AURORA COLONY HANDSPINNER'S GUILD - CARRIE ROHN

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

May – Cheryl Nurmi ran us through an exercise in color and design she had learned in an Anita Mayer workshop using magazine pictures, shapes and color chips to build a notebook of color combinations you like. It is very helpful when you need inspiration or are headed off for a fiber fair.

June- We met on the museum grounds and Cydni Pigeon gave a talk about how to clean wool using storage tubs for the soap and water and plastic baskets for the wool. She has a quick and easy way of dunking with less mess than usual.

July – We didn't have a meeting or program but held a picnic and dye day on a Saturday.

August – Jessica Dunlap gave a talk about California Red Sheep which are a cross of Tunis and Barbados Blackbelly breeds. They are born red, the face and legs remain red while the fleece fades to cream at around 18 months.

September – Linda Catlin caught us up on the Pantone colors for fall as she mixed and matched them just in time for the Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Picnic and Dye Day – We held our annual July picnic and dye day at the Aurora Colony Museum where by 3pm it was 103 degrees. None the less there were 40 members in attendance for the spinning and dying. One participant demonstrated fruit based indigo dyeing and another discussed and demonstrated color theory. Our members look forward to this activity all year long.

Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers – MARY WOSNER

COSW meets on the third Wednesday of the month in Redmond, Oregon at the Highland Baptist Church at 9:30 am. and on the fourth Saturday at the library in Sisters at 1:00 p.m.

The Saturday group is still fairly new and is well attended. Our guild has grown to at least 80 members and many are younger. YEAH!

We have three different study groups going at this time. The weaving study group recently finished up a six month study of Rep weave and is looking at Overshot as the next adventure. There is also an active spinning study group and a tatting group.

May 2015: The program was presented by Sylvia Broderick and Kay Flynn discussing their travels to Okinawa and Morocco respectively. They both brought samples of handwork from those areas and Sylvia talked about the rescue of traditional weaving techniques nearly lost after World War II.

On May 2, COSW hosted the WeGO meeting at the First Presbyterian Church here in Bend. Great meeting. Great food catered by Tate and Tate.

Saturday meeting program was led by Mary Anna Swinnerton discussing Inspiration for Weaving. A great interactive meeting using photos and breaking into small groups for ideas.

June 2015: June is our month for our annual summer potluck and Weftover sale. Members donate a portion of their sales to the "Marsha Fund" and that amounted to \$92.85 this year. That is an educational fund originally started by a weaver who bequeathed money for educating our members in weaving and/or spinning. It was held at the Tollgate Community Building in Sisters.

The Saturday meeting hosted a presentation of Guernsey Knitting by Gillian Burton. Gillian talked about a seaman's knitted woolen sweater.

July 2015: Patty Huffer, Mary Lefevre & Linda Gettman presented a mini workshop of making purses and totes. We used handwoven fabric, regular fabric and embellished with trims, buttons and other items that people brought. Patty made patterns of various types and sizes and people chose their own design.

Saturday meeting made lavender wands using lavender from a local farm near Madras.

August 2015: The program was on finishing handwovens. Patty Huffer showed and demonstrated the finishing of towels and table runners, Mary Wosner discussed rugs and wall hangings and Linda Davis talked about finishing weaving for garments.

The Saturday meeting had a demonstration of Rigid Heddle weaving by Linda Gettman.

September 2015: Our program will be a report on the Retreat held here in Bend to share our experiences and "Tips and Techniques" shared with us by Robin Spady during the retreat.

The Saturday program will be by Michelle Dillon about fibers and spinning.

Extra Activities and Events.

We had a very active year and there seems to be lots of new and renewed interest and excitement around spinning and weaving. The retreat which was held in Bend at the Mount Bachelor Village Resort was a huge success. Three guilds - Klamath, Columbia Fiber and Central Oregon hosted the event. Our workshop teachers were Robin Spady doing "Extreme Warp Makeover" and Sara Lamb doing "Spin to Weave". We had 29 weavers and 15 spinners from all over Oregon. In addition we had two vendors - Lunatic Fringe and ETC.

We were actively involved in the Deschutes County Fair, the Crook County Fair and we sent quite a few items to the State Fair in Salem. At the Deschutes Fair we had a large room for our display. The theme this year was "Barn in the USA". We had 5 looms available to use along with spinning and nuno felting demos. We also had an inkle loom and kumihimo discs to use. Participation was pretty good but we are always hoping to increase the quantity of entries. New member, Karen Dodson brought her display of "Spot's Wool". It was a basket and skeins of yarn made out of one fleece. It was the hit of the fair. People always wonder how much yarn can you get out of one fleece. Karen answered that with this display. She ended up with 4,699 yards of 2 ply.

We are looking forward to and planning two workshops in 2016. A Crackle workshop with Susan Wilson in February and a dying workshop in the summer. We are also planning on participating in the Fiber Days in Prineville in March with a booth and a guild sale.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month from September to June in The Dalles Library Meeting Room at 10:00 a.m. Each business meeting is followed by a program then lunch together at a local restaurant for those who wish to go. There are 35 members on the roster with about 20 attending our meetings. Our spinners meet every Tuesday at different places, in doors and out. They demonstrate whenever asked and are popular with the county fairs.

May - *We end and share our group project. This year it was not an exchange, but was an "Antique pattern or inspired by nature" project. We were to try some new technique as well. Seven people showed their pieces, two were from the art theme: Nancy Skakel: a felted and sculptured mermaid and Anne Marie Ehrentraut blended color fibers. Those who choose heirloom were Linda Frizzell: a knitted cable-combination scarf, Arlene Zonnes: heritage Bear Claw design quilted pillow. Elsa Weiss chose a baby ensemble, Marian Dyke wove pillow cases and Deb Hucke knitted a Glossomer Shell pattern shawl. We voted for our next project. It will be exchanged, but returned to maker to go to the fairs. The theme is "Something Embellished to Wear." Make a new project with beading, embroidery, buttons, flowers, etc. added.*

June - *We had our closing picnic and elect new officers*

July and August: *No meeting*

EUGENE WEAVER'S GUILD - SHANNON SUTTNER

The Eugene Weavers' Guild meets on the fourth Monday of most months in the gallery at The Eugene Textile Center. We have about 50 members.

April – The Weave Structure Study Group showed us what they have been working on in the past two years.

May- No meeting because of Memorial Day.

June - Barbara Pickett gave us a program on Textiles of the American/ Italian Velvet tour. She led a group to Italy to study velvet weaving and meet with weavers involved in the art. She showed samples of what she had woven there.

July – we had a picnic at the home of a member.

Also in **July** here were 13 members who entered 34 items in Lane County Fair. Many members were also there to demonstrate. EWG sponsors two weaving prizes at the fair.

In **August**, we had two members demonstrate at the State Fair

September's program, Chromatic Fantasy by Jennifer Moore, chronicled a 40 year journey in fibers. It began in 1977, continued through a master's degree incorporating music and fiber. Her current focus is on helping indigenous weavers reclaim forgotten skills. Included in her slide show was a presentation of an interpretation of a Bach piece (Chromatic Fantasy) in weaving that she created as part of her master's program.

October- Doramay Keasby will speak to us about "Transparencies".

In **November**, Eugene Weaver's Guild will hold its annual Holiday Fiber Arts Sale and Celebration. This year the sale days will include demonstrations and refreshments. It will be Friday and Saturday, November 27 & 28 in the Eugene Textile Center gallery.

HERITAGE TEXTILE ARTS GUILD - KIM THOMPSON

During the fall months, HTAG members made the sad, but necessary decision to leave the mall which had been 'home' for many years as the rental studio space became too cost prohibitive. Guild members spent the fall months selling excess guild equipment and display items and moving desired materials and the library to several members' homes.

They celebrated the close of the old and the beginning of the new with the annual potluck in December at a members' home where library items were organized and shelved. Guild members decided to 'take a break' from formal Guild activities until spring. Several members were awarded scholarships to attend workshops and classes during the late winter and early spring months. Spring programs will focus on sharing what was learned and classes for members will be set up during the summer months when traveling members return.

Meetings will be held beginning in April in the new location in North Bend Library.

HUMBUG MOUNTAIN SPINNERS AND WEAVERS – BARBARA MARTIN

In 2015, we met the third Thursday of each month September through June. We meet in the Langlois Fire Hall.

In **November**, we had a demonstration on steeking in knitting given by Yvonne Lundholm. We also participated in the Langlois Lions' Holiday Craft Fair.

There was an exchange of inspiration bags with a project due in May.

In **December**, we had our annual party of potluck finger foods and a gift exchange.

In **January**, we had a hands-on demonstration of a cobweb felted scarf by Sandie McDonald.

In **February**, We had no formal program but a discussion led by Larry Skeels on how to cut a whole t-shirt into one long strip for weaving.

In **March**, the program was a demonstration on making tote bags from torn up jeans by Gail Merrikin

In **April**, we planned for "visitors' month". All South Coast guilds were invited to attend. This meeting includes snacks provided by Humbug and an extended show and share as well as much catch-up visiting.

We participated in the Girl Scout "World Thinking Day" by displaying and demonstrating things related to Icelandic fiber art.

We also used our WeGO scholarship funds to have a 2-day workshop by Janis Thompson. The days were divided into three classes: Eco Printing, FEAST, and Adventures in COLOR.

KLAMATH SPINNERS AND WEAVER' S GUILD – KATHY NELSON

Our Guild has about 25 members, although that is not solidified yet, as dues are “due” in September, though not always paid at that time. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, although that could change due to conflicts. Starting with our September meeting we gather at a new location in an old small church building that one of our members recently purchased. We now have a place where we can store a good part of our guild equipment and supplies, and meet at other times in addition to our regular meeting days.

July – August: Our guild does not have formal meetings in the summer, but other occasional events

September: Annual planning meeting – planned the events for all but two meetings for the upcoming year. We also “unpacked” many weaving items that former president Carol Wylie donated to the guild after moving to her new smaller residence, and brought equipment that various members have had stored in their homes. We welcome our new volunteer secretary, Sonja Hickman.

October: Member Theresa Young volunteered in May to present supported spindle spinning and show off her lovely collection of supported spindles for this meeting.

November: Member Marjorie Brick will present what she learns this September at OFFF in her “Blast with Bast” cellulose fiber workshop .

December: To change it up a bit we will exchange pot holders we will make, cookies, AND for a challenge, wear as many things that we have made as we can for “show and share” fun.

PORTLAND HANDWEAVER'S GUILD – JANIS JOHNSON

May – Cheryl Nurmi ran us through an exercise in color and design she had learned in an Anita Mayer workshop using magazine pictures, shapes and color chips to build a notebook of color combinations you like. It is very helpful when you need inspiration or are headed off for a fiber fair.

June- We met on the museum grounds and Cydni Pigeon gave a talk about how to clean wool using storage tubs for the soap and water and plastic baskets for the wool. She has a quick and easy way of dunking with less mess than usual.

July – We didn't have a meeting or program but held a picnic and dye day on a Saturday.

August – Jessica Dunlap gave a talk about California Red Sheep which are a cross of Tunis and Barbados Blackbelly breeds. They are born red, the face and legs remain red while the fleece fades to cream at around 18 months.

September – Linda Catlin caught us up on the Pantone colors for fall as she mixed and matched them just in time for the Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Picnic and Dye Day – We held our annual July picnic and dye day at the Aurora Colony Museum where by 3pm it was 103 degrees. None the less there were 40 members in attendance for the spinning and dying. One participant demonstrated fruit based indigo dyeing and another discussed and demonstrated color theory. Our members look forward to this activity all year long.

ROGUE VALLEY HANDWEAVERS GUILD – NADINE PURCELL

The Heather Winslow workshop in **April** was enjoyed by all the participants, as evidenced by the items shared with the guild.

At the **May** meeting the challenges for the year were presented. Last Fall, “brown bags” were exchanged, with the challenge to weave something inspired by the object in the bag. An interesting variety of things were shown.

Even though we do not meet between May and September, we have a number of regular summer activities. On May 9 & 10 the guild had a booth in downtown Medford for the annual “**Art in Bloom Festival**”. Fiber arts were sold and displayed in the booth.

The “**Children’s Heritage Fair Family Day**” sponsored by the Jackson County Historical Society is always a fun event, held at historic Hanley Farm near Jacksonville. Our booth displayed fiber arts, and also offered hands on experiences for the public.

The guild had a large, attractive booth at the **Jackson County Fair**. Besides the display of items there was a loom available for anyone to try out. As a result of the Fair demo booth, five people have registered for the 3-day Beginning Weaving class scheduled for October.

Due many changes in County Fair staff, it was difficult to get entries registered for the Open Class. The display of the entered items left much to be desired—jumbled piles of things. Jeanette Eliason, the guild Outreach Coordinator submitted a letter to the County Fair officials expressing the problems, and making some suggestions for next year.

At our meeting on **September 8** we finalized plans and programs for the year. The challenge adopted is “A Holiday item” —which gives a lot of room for creativity.

RVHG is working with the Klamath Falls guild on an ANWG Grant proposal for 2016. The joint committee is requesting funding support for an overnight retreat at Green Springs Inn, with weaving and dyeing classes.

At the end of September guild member volunteered at the 3-day Antique Show sponsored by the **Southern Oregon Antiques and Collectibles Club** at the Medford Armory.

As we meet here today, several members are demonstrating spinning, weaving and lacemaking at the **Talent Harvest Festival**. A major activity there is teaching children (and adults) the 7-strand braiding technique.

SALEM FIBERARTS GUILD – DORALD STOLTZ

May – We participated in the annual Sheep To Shawl event at the Willamette Heritage Center, sponsor and home of our weaving studio. We demonstrated rigid heddle and floor loom weaving, carding and spinning and hosted demonstrators of rug hooking, lace making and other crafts.

June – This was our annual end-of-the year potluck. We also had an equipment sale where members could sell their excess fiber arts equipment.

July – Each summer the WHC invite teenagers to join their Teen Interpretive Program. Each kid researches a historical character, then takes on that personage to greet visitors to the center and explain the history. This year we invited the teens to come to our studio to learn weaving. Five accepted and now we have five young weavers proudly showing off the scarves they produced.

September – Getting ready for our annual Handweavers' Sale at the WHC took up much of September. This is our main fundraiser for the year and is always a special time. All members are invited to provide handmade items for the sale and the September meeting is the time to tag and inventory the sale items.

Oregon State Fair – The State Fair in September was a priority for the Guild. A number of members, including some of our newest weavers, entered items in the Fair and came home with an impressive number of ribbons, including Best of Division in weaving. Members volunteered to take in items for the fair competition and to return them to their owners, and demonstrated virtually every day of the Fair.

October – The sale is the first weekend in October. In addition to selling woven and other handmade items, we provide demonstrations of weaving, spinning, felting, lace making, rug hooking and other fiber crafts. Our October meeting will feature Anita Osterhaug, editor of Handwoven magazine.

An addition project – In support of the Willamette Heritage Center and its Fall Fundraising Gala, the Guild is purchasing a sponsorship of the event, plus providing a Learn To Weave package for the auction. This includes two beautiful handwoven items – a hand-dyed scarf and a Salem Serenity table runner – as well as weaving lessons, materials to make two woven items and a year membership in the Guild. One of our members also donated a basket of weaving projects to the auction.

SATURDAY HANDWEAVER'S GUILD – ELIZABETH WHITE

The Saturday Handweavers Guild meets monthly from September through June at either Medford Library or Jacksonville Library. In addition, we have periodic study groups on topics of interest, and maintain a library of books and periodicals available to all members.

A three-level "Certificate of Accomplishment" program is offered to all members.

April

This month's program was "Beaded Wrap Bracelets" presented by our very talented Thalia Keple. Suggestions were made for possible future workshops, and this generated much discussion. As always, members brought recently completed items to share. Many of our members participated this month in a 2-day workshop by Robyn Spady, "Extreme Warp Makeover."

May

Laurie Elliott gave a presentation this month on "Weighted Warp Weaving," a very ancient method of producing woven fabrics. Members discussed possibilities for workshops and decided on a 1-day basket-weaving workshop in October, and a 3-day rug-weaving workshop by Jason Collingwood in spring 2016.

This month also gave us opportunities for outreach with demonstrations by members at the Elk Mountain Highlanders' Festival and alpaca shearing at Caprice Winery.

June

Members presented their interpretations of this year's challenge, "SPACE...to boldly go where you have not gone before." The finished projects were many and varied, but all wonderful! We also shared our finished samplers from the Robyn Spady workshop in April. The meeting was rounded out by our end-of-year potluck.

July/August No meeting

September

We welcomed our new officers, and thanked the outgoing officers for their service. This month's program was "What I Wove This Summer." This was quite a lengthy program as members had many lovely items to show and share! Also this month, Dorothy McKinley began to collect donated handwoven items for a silent auction at a charity event in October to benefit the Friends of the Animal Shelter. Our guild supports this every year, and our items are always well received.

This year's "challenge" will be "Weave from Your Family Tree."

We are looking forward to a Donna Crispin workshop in October, when she will be teaching us how to make a Potato Basket.

In March of 2016, Jason Collingwood will be coming to present a workshop called "Three End Block Weaves." We are exploring ways to help defray the cost of these workshops.

WEBFOOT WEAVERS – CHRISTINA SCOTT

April was a GREAT program about bead embellishment by Cindi Kitchin. Guests at our meeting came from the Medford area. Lunch was served by Webfoot. We had time to practice different stitches as well as keep ourselves in stitches over the conversation. A lively time was had by all and Cindi taught a wonderful class that included her signature chocolate treats.

May began with a short business meeting. The program involved information and practice regarding the technique of Zentangle.

June was a program on the knitting method of entrelac. The technique was challenging as well as educational.

August found the Webfoot Weavers experimenting with a new dye technique using ice and silk scarves. The learning curve advanced in leaps and bounds. One member was so delighted with the process she began selling her multitude of dyed scarves in her business booth at local fairs.

September was a business meeting. Plans for programs for 2016 were also discussed.

YAQUINA FIBER ARTS GUILD – BONNIE POWELL

Oct. Display of handwoven dish towels

Nov. Antique woven overshot pattern shawl shared and discussed.
Free fleece give-a-way.

Dec. Social Event and luncheon.

Jan. Demonstration of weaving Baltic patterns on an Inkle Loom.

Feb. Newport Spin In.

Mar. General sharing of projects.
Planning for our spinning and weaving demonstrations at the
Newport Celtic Festival.