

Gorge Hand Weavers Guild: Fall 2018 WeGO Report

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Gorge Artists Open Studio Tour

The Gorge Hand Weavers Guild participated in the Gorge Artists Open Studio Tour, April 20-22, 2018. This is a yearly public tour which showcases the wonderful art of Gorge artists and provides an insight into the environment in which art is created. The Gorge Artists Open Studio Tour's mission is to advance art and encourage artists in the Columbia River Gorge by building community among artists and the public, promoting art and business education, and providing opportunities for the public to experience and enjoy art.

This was the first year that our guild participated; it was a great success. The three-day tour was filled with fiber arts demonstrations, lots of visitors who were "wowed" by the weaving studio, and many sales were made. The Guild will participate again May 3-5, 2019.

Hood River History Museum Textile Exhibition

The *Follow the Thread-From Fiber to Fabric* exhibition opened in June and was held over until the end of September. Vintage textiles from the museum's collection were displayed along with the contemporary work of local spinners, weavers, and knitters. The Gorge Hand Weavers Guild assisted the museum with the textile exhibition.

This exhibition sparked an interest among several guild members who are now contacting the numerous historical museums in the Gorge to view textiles in their collection. The plan is to inventory the historical textiles, with a focus on woven items, at each history museum. From the inventory a catalog will be developed that will be shared with all Gorge historical museums for their use in setting up future textile exhibitions.

Our guild's work complements a current ANWG study group that is focusing on old weaving drafts and handwoven textiles of the Pacific Northwest.

Photos from the Hood River History Museum Textile Exhibition



Above: View of the *Follow the Threads-From Fiber to Fabric* exhibition

Left: Re-production of an historical covelet in the museum's collection. Draft deciphered (with the help of Sue Peters) and woven by Guild member Ruth Dye. The coverler was raffled for museum fundraiser.



Above: Loom set up with duplicate of historical coverlet shown in display case in the background.

Left: Various textile works included in the exhibition