

October Six-Month Report
Salem Fiberarts Guild
Submitted by Dorald Stoltz, 9/23/18

May – Betty Davenport was scheduled to talk to us about her journey in rigid heddle weaving but was unable to make the meeting (the program has been rescheduled for November). Instead we played the Weavers' Design Game. It was a hit!

A week later we participated in the Willamette Heritage Center's annual Sheep to Shawl event. The guild coordinated fiber arts activities in the Dye House, including weaving, spinning, carding, needlework and more.

June – To end the meeting year, we invited Rob from the Eugene Textile Center to talk to the group about Feeding and Care of Your Loom. He gave lots of hints on keeping looms in working order and helped troubleshoot some problem machines in the studio. That afternoon, members took a field trip to Springtime Farms, a local alpaca farm operated by SFG friend Meredith Kuhl.

July-August – June was our last meeting until fall, so we spent July and August prepping for the 2018 Oregon State Fair (several members are key players in the textiles section) and the annual handweavers' sale scheduled for October and finalizing arrangements for the WHC showing of Color Gone Wild, WeGOs traveling exhibit.

We continued our cooperation with the WHC by teaching weaving to a couple of young people participating in the museum's Teen Interpretative Program.

August -- Aurora Handspinners and SFG coordinated 11 full days of weaving and spinning during the Oregon State Fair in the WeGo booth. We had several looms available for visitors to try and produced a 25-foot-long Saori-style sampler. One day members from Portland Handweavers joined us to engage visitors in their Saori banner project.

September – In September, we hit what might be an all-time high in membership – 71 hearty weavers! The September meeting featured Erica Lomas, our webmaster, showing us a number of Web resources related to weaving and design.

Also in September, a dozen members met at Silver Creek Falls State Park for a three-day retreat. A highlight was Pat Spark of Albany leading us in a day of botanical printing using leaves we gathered at the park. The consensus is that this should continue annually.

The Color Gone Wild exhibit opens September 29 and will continue until December 8 at the WHC. Participating artists are invited to a pre-opening members' reception on September 28.

October – The annual handweavers' sale is October 5 and 6. This is our main fundraising event with most of the proceeds going toward the Willamette Heritage Center. October 5 is also a studio sale where members can buy/sell used weaving equipment and goods.

The October meeting will feature Tylar Merrill, an acclaimed felter. She will talk about her art during the meeting, then lead a workshop that afternoon.