



# BLACK SHEEP NEWS

www.blacksheepweavers.com

Preserving the rich history of the Hartland Weavers and Cromaine Crafts

JANUARY 2018

## PRESIDENTS LETTER

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year for all members of the BSWFG and families. I want to thank Cheri Skomra and her husband for hosting the Holiday potluck and ornament exchange. Everyone had a wonderful time. The ornaments were all beautiful and the food was fantastic. Cheri's home was warm and festive and she did a wonderful job hosting the event.

I also want to thank Kathy Amerman and all of the people that worked so hard to make our Holiday Sale a huge success. The people at the Bogie Lake Greenhouse were accommodating, helpful and friendly and it made our job easier. Since this was the first time we had our Holiday Sale at the Bogie Lake Greenhouse there are some things that we will want to discuss and improve for our next Holiday Sale 2018.

In April we have the Spring Sale at Bogie Lake Greenhouse. We still need a committee as well as a chairperson for this sale. The sale is just around the corner. We need to fill this as soon as possible and start advertising and promoting the sale.

We are looking forward to the New Year with all of the great programs, workshops and coming events.

*Ron Wonboy. BSWFG President*

## PROGRAM: January 4, 2018

**BOUTIS with Cathy Greenhalgh presenter**



Heirloom sewing started in the late 1800's by French nuns who hand-stitched beautiful laces onto delicate fabrics for royal families. Their craftsmanship was so incredible, the resulting gowns and linens were painstakingly preserved and handed down from one generation to the next; hence an heirloom. This sewing was typically used for wedding dresses, christening gowns, lingerie, and table linens.

Boutis is a decorative quilting technique popular from the late 17th through the early 19th centuries. It has some similarities with heirloom sewing. In Boutis, a fine fabric, white linen or cotton, is backed with a loosely woven fabric. Floral or other motifs are outlined in parallel rows of running stitches or backstitches to form channels, and soft cotton cord (or thin strips of cotton batting) is inserted through the backing fabric using a blunt needle and drawn along the quilted channels to produce a raised effect. Boutis are always reversible: the back is as beautiful as the top.

Both heirloom sewing and Boutis highlight the exquisite workmanship and attention to detail of the artisans. I will be showing examples of heirloom sewing techniques as well as Boutis and explaining the process of making a Boutis item.

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**BSW General Meeting Minutes**  
**November 2, 2017 (needs approval)**

Meeting was called to order by President Ron Wonboy at 6:43 pm.

There were no issues to be decided/voted on at the November meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nadine Cloutier and was seconded by Jan Bhavsar.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm.

*Respectfully,*  
*Connie Hydell – Secretary*

If the Hartland Schools are closed, or if there is a closure of our meeting location, there will be no BSWFG meeting. If weather worsens during the day, a decision will be made by 4 p.m., and every attempt will be made to post a meeting cancellation on our web site. **You may also check the school website at <http://www.hartlandschools.us/> for closing notifications.** When in doubt, please contact a Board member.

**BLACK SHEEP WEAVERS FIBER GUILD**  
**LOOMS FOR RENT**

A year or so ago, a family donated two LeClerc looms to the guild. They are available for rent to members by the month. One is a large floor loom, and the other is a small table top loom. They are currently being housed at Linda Lundstrom's house. Transportation can be arranged if you need help with this. For more information, contact Linda Lundstrom at [Linda@backtobackalpaca.com](mailto:Linda@backtobackalpaca.com) or see <http://www.blacksheepweavers.com/member-services.html>



**MLH Summer Workshops:**  
**June 8 - 10, 2018**

**Registration Opens Jan. 8, 2018**

Registration for the upcoming workshops will begin on **January 8, 2018, at 10 a.m.** The workshops will take place from June 8-10, 2018. A link will be provided through a special newsletter on January 8 as well as on the website [www.mlhguild.org](http://www.mlhguild.org) and Facebook page. Don't be left out! Register early.

**Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild**  
**Programs & Workshops schedule 2018**

- Jan. 4 **Cathy Greenhalgh, presenter**  
Cathy will teach Boutis, a French quilting/embroidery technique
- Feb. 1 **Mary Bajcz, presenter**  
Mary will show us painting on canvas and uses for your masterpieces.
- Mar. 1 **Artist Garage sale & Swap Plus Mystery Bag exchange**
- Mar.2 **On the Surface! WORKSHOP- instructor Carol Riffe 9am-4pm**
- Mar 8 **Tie-Dyeing-REVISITED WORKSHOP Instructor-Nadine Cloutier 1-3pm**
- April 5 **Paula Neys, presenter**  
Designing with alcohol inks
- April 12 **Free Motion Lace Stitched Bowls WORKSHOP instructor Cindy Geist 5-9pm**
- April 21-22**  
**13<sup>th</sup> annual Fibers & Flowers Sale, Bogie Lake Greenhouses in White Lake, MI**
- May 3 **Madeline Navarro, presenter**  
Wet felting lovely wool flowers
- June 7 **Pot Luck/Elections**  
Plus last Show n Tell

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**MLH Summer Workshops: June 8-10, 2018**

You are invited and encouraged to attend the Michigan League of Handweavers (MLH) Summer Workshops for an exciting three days of fiber activities. The quiet, serene campus of Hope College, set in the heart of Holland, Michigan's business district provides a wonderful environment for meeting fiber friends as well as pursuing, furthering and challenging your fiber interests.

- Workshops:**
1. *Weaving the Unexpected using Alternative Materials-Anastasia Azure;*
  2. *Altered Surfaces- JoAnn Bachelder;*
  3. *Untying the Mysteries of Tied Weaves-Su Butler;*
  4. *The World Isn't Flat-3D Loom Weaving-Sally Eyring;*
  5. *One of a Kind Jacket Class-Mary Sue Fenner;*
  6. *Ruana Shawl with Robbin Firth;*
  7. *Norwegian Inspired Pick Up Bands on an Inkle Loom- Joan Sheridan;*
  8. *Dyeing Workshop-Not your Grandma's Dye Pot- Kathrin Weber*

## GUILD WORKSHOPS

**PLEASE NOTE: Annette Shaffer will be taking PAID Registrations at each meeting.**

### On the Surface! with Carol Riffe

In this 6 hour class you will learn many surface design techniques to make your fabric look like you want it to—perfect for landscapes, portraits and art quilts. You will learn to change color, texture and how to thread paint and add special effects. You will create a notebook of samples on each technique at class. *Full description and supply list is posted on the Guild website.*

**Date and Time: Friday, March 2, 2018,  
9am-4pm**

**Workshop fee:** \$50 includes notebook and supplies (check payable to BSWG, dated February 28, 2018) Bring a lunch

**Min 6/Max15 REGISTERED to DATE: 1**



### Tie Dyeing-REVISITED with Nadine Cloutier

This is not the same tie-dyeing technique done in the 1960s-70s. We will be using men's 100% silk ties. A silk scarf and a transfer dye technique and heat to create a one-of-a-kind silk scarf design. A complete supply list will be posted on the BSWG website

**Date and Time: Thursday, March 8, 2018, 1-3 pm**  
(please be prompt)

**Workshop Fee:** \$30 (includes the scarf), check payable to BSWG, dated March 5, 2018

**Min 8/Max 14 REGISTERED to DATE: 4**

### Free Motion Lace Stitched Bowls with Cindy Geist

Details of workshop description will be posted on the Guild website later or updated at the Sept meeting

**Date and Time: Thursday, April 12, 2018, 5-9pm**

**Workshop Fee:** \$TBD, check payable to Black Sheep Weavers

**Min 6/Max15**

## REMINDERS\*\*PLEASE REMEMBER\*\*FYI

### Collecting pop off tabs



Save those pop off tabs from your canned goods or soda pop for the Veterans. **Georgian** collects them and turns them in to be used to purchase medical needs for our veterans.

### Collecting toilet paper tubes



Also, **Mihaela Manitiu** asked if anyone and everyone save **empty toilet paper rolls** and that she would give a **FREE** knitting class for a bag full. Kathy Stahl asks that you **BRING THEM IN TO THE JANUARY MEETING PLEASE.**

### For your Viewing Enjoyment

On Sunday mornings at 9am, a program called **DESTINATION CRAFT** can be seen on your local PBS station. Each week they visit another country and show the crafts of that country by visiting the workshops and sometimes doing a craft right there. It is interesting because it does not show the item for sale, but how it is made.

### BSWG LEARNING GRANTS- Apply NOW!

The Guild has established a fund to be used for learning grants. Each year we accept application which have a due date of March 1 this year. We award four \$50.00 grants to members. This has been under-utilized in the past.

Think about applying this year. The form is very simple to fill out. You can use the money, if awarded, to reimburse yourself in part for a workshop taken earlier in the year or for something coming up in 2018.

You are just required to write a short article about your experience in the class/workshop or present it at a Show N Tell time at a future meeting.

The Application is located on the Guild website under "**Member Services**".

## HOLIDAY SALE 2017

What a great event we had this year for our first Holiday Sale in our new location at the Bogie Lake Greenhouse. The weather cooperated, it was sunny on Saturday and we enjoyed seeing many of our regular customers who followed us to our new location. We also met many new customers and fiber artists who enjoyed our sale as well as making their holiday purchases at the greenhouse.

We learned that having the sale at night will require more lighting and Bogie Lake has already told us they will help us with that next year. What a great staff and owners!

Set up and tear down went very well. We do need to ask that more artists participating offer to take on the adoption of some props. Several members have been storing more than they wish to transport. Please consider stepping up.

Kathy Amerman and her committee did a fantastic job. Pam McCormick, the set up chair, created a "holiday boutique" that was very open and displayed all of our fiber art beautifully.

### Holiday Sale- Kathy Amerman -Chair

Congratulations to all who participated in the Holiday Sale. It was a great event and we received a lot of positive feedback. A big shout out to Pam McCormick and the rest of the sale committee for their efforts. We couldn't have done it without you. Everyone should have received their checks by now. Please let Kathy Amerman know if you were expecting one and did not receive it.

### Treasurer's Report (needs approval)

The Guild bank account balance is currently \$8,541. December expenses totaled \$11,412 and included sale expenses and artist payouts. Income of \$13,044 was generated by the Holiday Sale and tags. The net income for the sale after expenses was \$1,011 (see full report for detail). We are currently ahead of our annual forecasted budget.

### Membership

No new members joined us in December, but we did generate some interest with the Sale. We currently have 57 paid members.



Sales	Income	Breakdown	
Item Sales	\$11,899.00	Checks	\$2,904.40
Sales Tax	\$ 713.94	Cash	\$2,753.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,612.94</b>	Charges	\$6,954.66
Sale	Expenses	Fun Facts	
Sales Tax	\$ 713.94	Highest Purchase	\$ 451.56
Gift-Host	\$ 100.00	Lowest Purchase	\$ 3.18
Advertise Ads/flyers	\$ 390.90	Total Artists	29
Insurance	\$ 87.00	Total Items Sold	654
C C Fees	\$ 195.50	Friday	388
Artist Pay	\$10,114.15	Saturday	266
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,601.49</b>	Average price	\$ 18.19
		Total # Sales	212
<b>NET to BSWG</b>	<b>\$1,011.45</b>	Average purchase	\$ 59.50

### Comparison Data from Previous Sales

YEAR	TOTAL SALES	NET FROM SALE
	(includes tax)	
2016	\$14,165.84	\$ 963.72
2015	\$12,136.47	\$ 864.69
2014	\$15,942.40	\$1,422.57
2013	\$15,510.98	\$1,317.42
2012	\$18,656.00	\$1,042.12

### TOP SELLERS

- 1 Kathy Stahl
- 2 Nadine Cloutier
- 3 Barbara Nagy
- 4 Mary Bajcz
- 5 Connie Hydel
- 6 Edna Sprunk
- 7 Tina Etter
- 8 Annette Taylor
- 9 Susan Patty
- 10 Pat Thompson

Enjoy this photo montage of our Holiday Sale and Ornament Exchange at the Pot Luck-AfterGlow Party



More photos are posted on the Guild web site under Events and on the Home page as slide shows.