



WNCFHG NEWSLETTER

Western North Carolina Fibers/Handweavers Guild, Inc.

PO Box 644, Black Mountain, NC 28711

<http://www.wncfhg.org>

2016-2017 BOARD MEMBERS

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NC Mountain State Fair

Lucy Daley

Newsletter

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Marjorie Warren

Southeast Animal Fiber Fair

Ellen Turpening

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Charlene St. John

President's Message Gail Griffith

Picture this~ I need another bobbin for my spinning. So, I pull off what has been spun from two bobbins and leave the mare's nest in a pile. Quite a while later, I decide to muck out the studio and get it organized. The mare's nests are sitting there waiting. That's my tangle. I am one of those people who like to untangle. It forces me to sit still, exercise patience, search for the rhythm or the pattern, and reflect. That's my zen.

Members, past and present, come to mind. How did Eva use that wooden frame tapestry loom? Why did Patty think the photo of the old Irish spinner was so right for me? How did Teena decide on those colors with that pattern? Where did Ellen get the idea for the "favorite foods" exchange? I remember mine was dill pickles!

I think about downsizing my studio. What will I do with all this yarn? How many lifetimes will it take to use it all? What about all the quilting fabric I've accumulated. When we move, will I have room for my looms? Will I want to weave or spin? Do I really want or need three inkle looms? The contributions to the Guild's booth at the Anything Fiber Sale suggests that I am not the only one with these wonderings.

And, I muse about the Guild.

Its longevity.

Its mission.

It's direction.

What is it we need to keep it vital.

How must we breathe into it to build and sustain momentum and excitement?

Luckily there are always plenty of tangles to give me these zen moments not just to ask the right questions, but to find the right answers.

*We all have our own life
to pursue, our own kind
of dream to be weaving,
and we all have the
power to make wishes
come true, as long as we
keep believing.*

Louisa May Alcott

July Program: Herding Cats and Puttin' on the Ritz

Vicki Bennett



The first Local Cloth's Project Handmade fashion show in 2012 featured local fiber artisans, some of whom used raw materials from within our own fibershed and the show was seen

as a way to introduce the public to members' work. Vicki will present a slide show and brief history of Local Cloth's Project Handmade fashion shows, along with a personalized narrative of behind the scenes action (and chaos) and talk about what it takes to get the fashion show from early planning to the runway. Discussion to follow so bring your own experience and ideas!

Vicki Bennett is a felt maker and fiber artist. After 30 years as a practicing psychotherapist, she discovered a gift and passion for working with raw wool to create wearable art and three-dimensional hollow form sculpture and dyeing fabric with plants from nature. Vicki teaches at various craft and art schools including JC Campbell Folk School, Arrowmont, Western North Carolina Arboretum and at Southeast Animal Fiber Fair. She resides winter months in St Petersburg, where she teaches fiber arts and is an exhibiting member at Florida Craft Art Gallery. The remainder of the year she lives here in Fairview, working on her craft, growing her dye garden and serving on the board of LocalCloth.org in Asheville. This past year Vicki chaired Local Cloth's Project Handmade, a large-scale fashion show that highlights Western North Carolina's best fiber artists creating design locally, "from farm to fiber to fashion." Vicki has won numerous awards for her own work in art to wear; in 2016, she was awarded a first place in The Blue Ridge Fiber Show and the Judges Choice Award at Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair. Vicki's website is tangledupinwool.com

2017 Guild Calendar

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|---------------------|---|
| Feb. 11 | Winter project – Use Up Your Stash |
| March 11 | Emily Van Eman – Gentle Stretches for Fiber Artists |
| March 25, 26 | Susan Morgan Leveille— Overshot Workshop |
| April 8 | Milissa Dew y-- Eighteenth & Nineteenth Century Fiber Arts Equipment |
| May 13 | Tommye Scanlin – Weaving – a Dialogue |
| June 10 | Field Trip to Everything Fiber Sale (no business meeting) |
| July 8 | Vicki Bennett— "Local Cloth 2017 Fashion Show and More" |
| August 12 | Sara Beth Black— "Rug Hooking" |
| Sept. 9 | Joyce Carpenter— "Fair Isle Knitting and its Fair Friends |
| October 4 | TBD |
| Nov. 10 | Joan Berner— Workshop "Sewing for Handwovens" |
| Nov. 11 | Joan Berner— Workshop "Selecting a Pattern that Makes you Look Great" |
| Nov. 11 | Joan Berner— Workshop "Making a Muslin Pattern that Fits and Look Great" (afternoon) |

Membership

Marjorie Krueger

mmkrue@aol.com

No Membership Report for July

November Workshops

Joan Berner will present two workshops in November. The first, "Sewing for Handwovens", will be Friday, November 10. The second, "Fitting a Pattern to You", will be Saturday afternoon, November 11 AND Sunday, November 12. You may sign up for either workshop or both. More details coming soon, including cost of the workshops and how to sign up through our website.

Workshop – Sewing for Handwovens

Joan Berner
Friday, November 10, 2017, 9 - 4
Folk Art Center

Learn specific techniques that are appropriate and effective for sewing handwoven materials. I will demonstrate layout, marking, seam finishes, seams, effective neck treatments, closures and investigate alternative ways to reduce bulk. You will make samples of a number of these techniques to take home to remember how they are done. These techniques will improve the esthetics of your garments and make them more durable and last longer.

Only basic sewing techniques needed.

Bring:

Sewing machine

Pins, thread, hand-woven scraps to sew on (if not available bring regular material scraps), one pack of double fold bias tape—any color, tape measure, hand-sewing needle.



Workshop – Fitting a Pattern to You

Joan Berner
Saturday, November 11, 1-4,
AND
Sunday, November 12, 9-4
Saturday – Joan's house, 233 Huff N Puff Lane,
Hendersonville, NC 28792
Sunday - Folk Art Center

Most of us do not have the perfect body to fit in the perfect pattern. Saturday at the guild meeting we will hear about body type and help identify what looks good on your body shape.

In this workshop, we will identify specific styles that will help accentuate the features you like and hide those that you do not want others to notice. It is not about having to look perfect, it is about how to look as good as you feel, by making simple choices with patterns AND having a pattern that fits you. So many of us give up on sewing because no pattern seems to fit correctly and/or look good.

You will choose a pattern and make a muslin. I will help you fit your muslin to be the basis for a great garment that will compliment you and your figure type and fit you.

Materials:

5 yards of muslin (can be cheap cotton fabric)
Pattern you like (I will also bring an assortment of patterns)

Sewing machine

Tape measure, pins, contrasting (to muslin) thread, scissors/thread clips, seam ripper



WNCFHG Meeting Minutes –

Correction

Please note that the meeting minutes posted in the June WNCFHG Newsletter are dated April 8, 2017. Please change the date on your copy to May 13, 2017.

Addendum

No further business meeting minutes for June 2017. A field trip to the Anything Fiber Sale replaces the traditional meeting.

Nancy Crabtree, secretary

Anything Fiber Sale was a Huge Success

Joan Berner

Thank you to all that donated and worked on the Anything Fiber Sale. Contrary to last year you made it a big success. We cleared close to \$1700! We were very busy and did well to sell so much donated fiber related materials.

Thanks to Gail for carting and picking up. I know she and Hoyt were glad to get their house back. Thanks to Wendy for her generous donations of equipment that were a big draw and boost to our bottom line. Thanks to Lucy for the arrangement of the additional donated equipment.

As always Lynda was right there to help from taking care of all the financial arrangements and reservations as well as the crazy set up time so that we could get in on Friday night to arrange for the sale. She stayed throughout the sale and helped during our very busy times.

Friday night setup was handled by my friend Deb, Susan Codega, Sebette, and Teena. Thanks to Teena for setting up the loom and pricing many of the equipment pieces.

Sales on Saturday were fast and furious during the morning. Thanks to all involved in shifts for sales: Joyce C., Katie Doan, Meg Bush, Jill Dutton and Pat Thompson.

I hope I didn't forget anyone. It was a whirlwind of a day. With changes, we made to our budget. I think we more than hit our target.

Thanks to everyone that made this such a successful Sale!



Treasurer's Report: May 2017

04/30/2017 Balance, Education Fund	\$ 2,587.37
04/30/2017 Balance, General Fund	<u>9,803.03</u>
April 30, 2017 Balance	12,390.40

Income

2017 Dues	<u>78.97</u>
Total May Income	78.97

Expenses

HCC Scholarship Program	(500.00)
2017 Workshop Expenses	<u>(9.22)</u>
Total May Expenses	(609.22)

05/31/2017 Balance, Education Fund	\$ 2,587.37
05/31/2017 Balance, General Fund	<u>9,272.78</u>
May 31, 2017 Balance	11,860.15

BRFS briefs ...

Joan Berner

Help Select the Theme for the BRFS 201

We are looking for the theme of the BRFS 2018 and are asking everyone to join in finding the perfect name. In the past, we have had themes connecting to The Arboretum and Nature. This year we will be adding a special prize for the best depiction of the theme. AND we added a \$25 award for submitting the winning theme name as determined by our committee.

So, send a note to: Joan Berner at: joanberner@gmail.com with your winning name. If there are duplicate theme names the first one (by date received) will win!



Mountain State Fair 2017

Lucy Daley

Volunteers Please...

Again, this year, the WNCFHG will have a Weaving and Spinning Booth at the Mountain State Fair, September 8 through 17, 2017. We will talk more about the Fair at the July Guild meeting. In the meantime, recruitment of volunteers to staff the Guild's booth has begun. Those of you who volunteered for the booth the past two years and new members who indicated an interest in helping with the fair on their membership form have received an email with details and a link to an electronic schedule of shifts so they could sign up online. I will have a hard copy of this schedule at the meeting. Volunteering at the Fair is fun. All fiber arts enthusiasts are welcome, but we need to be sure that there is at least one weaver on each shift to assist the public with the looms that will be available. We want at least two volunteers on each shift. Three is helpful, too. The flow of visitors can be very busy or very slow, so bring a project to work on and demonstrate. Talk to a friend about working a shift together! Thanks, everyone. See you on July 8.

More on the Fair...

Phase one for the state fair is to gather together as many entries for the Weaving and Spinning Department as possible. There will be copies of the catalog at the July meeting as well as extra copies of the entry forms.

Some dates to remember:

August 25, 2017 entry forms must be to the fair office.

September 4th & 5th: Entries can be dropped off at the Expo Building at the fairgrounds before.

No entries will be accepted after Tuesday evening, September 5th.

To help facilitate your entering your work in the fair this year, I am offering some options. (1) you can give them to me at the August meeting; (2) you can drop them off at my house; (3) you can bring them to the Expo Building on the afternoon of Sunday, September 3rd. Just make plans with me ahead of time.

Help needed: On that Monday (Labor Day) and Tuesday, it would be helpful to have someone there to take in entries. This can be tedious at times. I usually suggest two hour shifts.

The judging takes place on Wednesday, September 6th, in the morning. I can use help with moving entries by category, recording awards, and pinning ribbons. This would begin around 9:30 and end around noon.

Around 1:00, help is needed with setting up the display. Usually three or four people can make fast work of this.

Feel free to ask questions. I'll have a clip board at the July and August meetings in hopes of getting volunteers.

Gail Griffith