



WNCFHG NEWSLETTER

Western North Carolina Fibers/Handweavers Guild, Inc.

PO Box 644, Black Mountain, NC 28711

2014-2015 BOARD MEMBERS

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Marjorie Warren

Vice President

Judi Jetson

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Susan Boykin

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Blue Ridge Fiber Show

Joan Berner

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Hospitality

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Membership

Jane Champion/Marjorie Krueger

NC Mountain State Fair

Gail Griffith

Lucy Daley

Newsletter

Catherine Alter

Southeast Animal Fiber Fair

Ellen Turpening

Website Contact

Jeff Thornton

Retreat

Pat Brown

President's Message

Marjorie Warren

Here is my professional check list. Hope it reminds you of opportunities for you and you will add them to your list--

MY CHECK LIST

- 1) Get warp on loom for Warp Painting workshop July 30-31 at FAC
- 2) Get warp on another loom for Mountain State Fair entry.
- 3) Start collecting "stuff" for Everything Fiber Sale Saturday August 29 @ Warren Wilson 10am-2pm
- 4) Celebration luncheon for 10 year Anniversary of HWFA Tuesday August 4 @ 12 noon. Bring dessert. Put on big calendar in Kitchen
- 5) Mountain State Fair volunteer Sunday 13 September 4-7 pm with Judi--put on big calendar in kitchen!
- 6) Order yarn from UKI 3/2 cotton for "tARTan on the table @ J.C. Campbell Folk School for Scottish Heritage Week August 30-September 5. Assemble work books
- 7) Nominating Committee for slate of officers 2015-2017

Remind myself to Keep Calm and Carry On!!!!

I hope that some/many/all of these events are on your calendar.

If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place.

Margaret Mead

Program for August: Cara May on Wabi Sabi Knitting

Judi Jetson

Asheville artist Cara May takes her knitting seriously. Underplayed and modest, her garments and throws are made from natural fibers and look a bit like sculptures. A member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild with a studio in the River Arts District, she'll talk with us about her designs, using a knitting machine or giant knitting needles to make this handcrafted work, and how she's crafting a livelihood for herself as a knitter.



Cara likes the way Architect Tadao Ando defines wabi-sabi. "... Underplayed & modest, the kind of quiet, undeclared beauty that waits patiently to be discovered... It's a richly mellow beauty that's striking but not obvious, that you can imagine having around you for a long, long time."



2015 GUILD CALENDAR

- February 14** Winter projects – bags and Kathrin Weber – **Controlling Creative Chaos**
- March 14** Amy Putansu - **Textile Exhibits in China, World Shibori Symposium**
- April 11** Liz Spear- **Sewing Your Handwoven - Beyond the Bog Jacket**
- May 9** Robyn Spady – **Weaving TnT: Dynamite Tips 'n Techniques for Every Weaver**
- May 9 & 10** **Fiber Days at the Folk Art Center**
Come join the fun!
- June 13** Susan Leveille – **Stories of our Region's Rich Fiber History**
- July 11** Neal Howard – **The Magic of Silk**
- August 8** Cara May – **Wabi-Sabi Knitting**
- September 12** Retreat: **Surface Design Sampler** including shibori, monoprints on silk, stamping, & ice dyeing
- October 10** Judi Jetson & friends – **Making a Good Local Yarn**
- November 14** Potluck



For those of you who use Facebook, please go in and "like" the page for "Blue Ridge Fiber Show." We hope to be able to reach people that come to SAFF

and keep them connected so they will enter and come to see the BRFS in 2016. We haven't put anything on the page yet except to open it. But will work on it soon. If you "like" the page, you should get information on your Facebook page when the Blue Ridge page is updated. Thanks for increasing our "likes."

Mountain State Fair: some facts to remember...

Gail Griffith

The fair is just a little over a month away. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

The entry form is on page 59 of the catalog or it may be downloaded from www.mountainfair.org

All entry forms are due no later than August 28th, 2015. Entry articles are due to the EXPO Building on Labor Day, September 7th and on that Tuesday, September 8th.

I will be at the August 8th Guild meeting to take any entry forms and entry items from those who would like me to do so. A few catalogs will be available. For those of you who live in outlying counties, remember entry items can be delivered to your local county Extension Center on or before August 24th.

Pick up of all items is on Monday, September 21st between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

In addition to the usual blue, red, and white ribbons, there is the Guild award and awards given in memory of Eva Thatcher and Roberta Kellerman. This year's judges are Barbara Haythorn, Barbara Miller, and Teena Tuenge.

The success of the Weaving and Spinning Department is measured by the number of entries. I hope you plan to support it with one or more entries.

Western North Carolina Fiber/Handweavers Guild Meeting Minutes July 10, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Judi Jetson, Vice President, at the Johnson Farm, Hendersonville, NC.

Membership: There were 43 members present. There were no visitors at the meeting.

Announcements:

Lucy Daley passed the schedule for demonstrations at the State Fair.

Gail Griffith reminded us all of the importance of submitting entries to the fair. The continuation of the woven goods category is dependent on having a good representation.

Pat Brown passed a sign-up sheet for the various activities at the September Retreat.

Lynda Feldman told the group that the Kathy Roig workshop on July 30, 31st is full, but that one member who signed up will be unable to attend, so her space is available.

The Anything Fiber Sale will be August 29th. All members are urged to bring items to the August meeting for inclusion in the sale. Please price the items before bringing them.

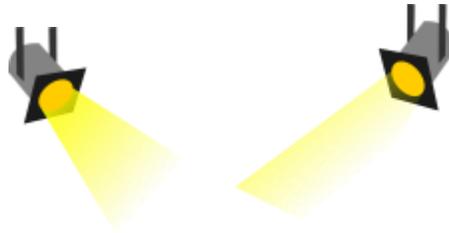
The minutes of the May meeting were approved as presented in the newsletter with Mikkel Hansen making the motion and Christine Friesner seconding.

The Treasurers report was approved as presented in the newsletter. Motion to approve was made by Charlene St. John and seconded by Gail Griffith.

Member Jeff Thornton is a board member of the WNC Aids Project. They are having a live auction fund raiser on 9/26/15. They are asking for handmade items to be donated. Please contact Jeff with any donation and he will arrange for the items to be picked up.

The business meeting was closed at 10:25 on motion by Ursula Powers with second by Lynda Feldman. Show and tell then followed. Pat Brown, Secretary

Spotlight on.....



Joan Berner

FELTER, DYER, DESIGNER



In the beginning Joan was a Home Economics teacher but went back to school to take engineering courses in order to make a living. After 28 years as an environmental engineer in Rochester, NY, I retired and moved to Hendersonville.

She enrolled in the Professional Crafts Program at Haywood Community College and credits this education with taking her love and skills as a dyer, weaver, and felter from personal interest to vocation. She praises the fiber department as well as the business department in preparing her for making it as an artist. She joined into the Southern Highland Craft Guild in 2012.



Joan is best known for her felting of hand dyed fiber. She works mainly with merino, though sometimes it's silk for shine and BFL for more projects that need sturdiness. "Each piece is a new and different adventure," she says. "I can hardly wait to see the final product."



The majority of her products are clothing because she enjoys the work and it brings pleasure to the wearer. Regardless of how many times she branches out she returns to clothing because "no better art exists."

Today, Joan sells her fiber online through her company Cloverleaf Farms at www.joanberner.com/cloverleaf-farms.html and her clothing through the Southern Highland Craft Guild as well as many art and fiber shows and festivals.



Treasurer's Reports

Susan Boykin

June 2015 Treasurer's Report Checking Account

Beginning Balance June 1, 2015 \$12,189.01
(General Funds \$9,622.64, Ed. Fund \$2,566.37)

Income:
2015 Dues 50.00
2015 Workshops 350.00
Total income 400.00

Expenses:
Refreshments 4.26
Program 100.00
Total expenses: 404.26

General Funds Ending Balance \$9,918.38
Education Fund Ending Balance \$2,566.37
Total Funds June 30, 2015 \$12,484.39

2nd Quarter 2015 Blue Ridge Fiber Show Account

Beginning balance April 1, 2015 \$5,695.43

Income:
Sales 35.00

Expenses:
BR Post Office Box 128.00

Ending balance June 30, 2015 \$5,602.43

Reflections: My Design Instructor Haywood Community College 2012

Said when he was a student
with no experience, he had to carve

a carrot, was mortified,
but soon learned to do castles.

Said if you're not afraid of what will happen--
you're trusting--it can lead

to something new. How like writing
poetry! You have an idea, start out

without knowing where
you'll end up, get somewhere

you've never been, a country not
shown on your map. He said the

principles of design--unity, balance,
harmony, contrast, repetition,

variety, emphasis, functionality,
joy, will lead you only so far. Said

art is taking what happens
and trying to make it work.

He was talking design but could
have meant the way lives go.

Catherine Alter



Share & Care

Sheila Law

Get Well Cards:

Faye Russell- surgery
Nan Sexton - car accident

Care Givers Card:

Mary Miller – husband

Card to Mikkel Hansen on the lovely write up in the local paper

We now have a resource list of agencies for Care Givers. Please email: sheilawc@charter.net if you would like to receive one. Also anyone who would benefit receiving a card.

Color Us Happy

Lynda Feldman



On Thursday morning, July 16th, HWFA's Boarding House patio played host to the inaugural session of COLOR ME HAPPY, a group dedicated to learning about, exploring, playing, and working with fibers and dyes.

Our color guide was Sara Beth Black, who uses a variety of techniques with wool to produce the colors she wants to work with when rug-hooking.

Even if you love color and are fascinated with dyeing, you may not want to read an entire article in which I enthuse about Sara Beth and how she had 10 of us spellbound while observing her demos of marbled dyeing, spot dyeing, transition dyeing, microwave dyeing, and dip dyeing with both wool fabric and wool yarn.

Instead, take the short quiz that follows and see how you do. Answers are on the last page—don't peek!

The Quiz

1. Sara Beth recommends the blogs of which of the following?
 - a. Gene Sheperd.
 - b. Christine Beatty.
 - c. Wanda Kerr.
 - d. A and B.
 - e. B and C.
 - f. A and C.
2. In which area will you find yourself if you are looking for citric acid in the grocery store?
 - a. Produce—look on the shelves below lemons and limes
 - b. Jello section.
 - c. Canning section.
 - d. Trick question—you'd NEVER go to a grocery store in search of citric acid.
3. Why would you want citric acid anyway?
 - a. It helps to set the color.
 - b. It's the only way to get a strong black or dark dye.
 - c. It keeps the dye from damaging the pot.
 - d. None of the above.
4. How many dye pots containing boiling water can be operated at the highest hot plate temperature before you blow the circuit at the Boarding House?

- a. Seriously, you don't think we'd do such a thing, do you? You don't put ANY burners on high.
 - b. One on high with another set a bit lower, and LOTS of checking to be sure both are operating.
 - c. There are two outside outlets available, and they are on different circuits, so two pots can cook simultaneously at full strength.
 - d. B and C.
5. What general rule of thumb applies to the amount of dye you need per YARD of woolen fabric?
- a. ½ teaspoon of dye.
 - b. 1 teaspoon of dye.
 - c. ½ tablespoon of dye.
 - d. 1 tablespoon of dye.
6. Which of the following colors might you expect to discover if you are using a black dye straight from the manufacturer?
- a. Dark blue
 - b. Brown
 - c. Dark Purple
 - d. Any of the above
7. Which color of dye is slowest to be absorbed?
- a. A trick question—all colors absorb at the same rate.
 - b. Red.
 - c. Blue.
 - d. Yellow.
8. If you look into your dye pot and think that the red color is WAY too intense for your taste, what should you do?
- a. Add green (blue+yellow); it's the complement of red.
 - b. Add hot water.
 - c. Add citric acid.
 - d. Start over.
9. For how long should you soak wool in hot water, with a wetting agent such as Synthrapol, before you dye it?
- a. Just a quick dip in and out is sufficient.
 - b. Half an hour.
 - c. About 2 hours.
 - d. At least overnight.

1-2 correct answers? You may want to attend Sara Beth's next dyeing demo;
3-6 correct answers? Terrific, especially if you didn't need to refer to your notes;
7-9 correct answers? I envy your proficiency! Along with the other COLOR ME HAPPY members, I'm attempting to acquire knowledge that you already possess.

ANSWERS:

1. F: Blogs by Gene Sheperd and Wanda Cook both recommended.
2. C: The canning section of the supermarket should house citric acid.
3. A: citric acid helps set color, also helps prevent mottling.
4. D: but keep a close eye on them!
5. A: 1/2 teaspoon.
6. D: any of those colors is possible.
7. D: the yellow will be slowest to absorb.
8. A: use of the complement will tone down the intensity.
9. C: about 2 hours; that's not to say you can't let it sit longer, but maximum benefit is achieved after about 2 hours