



PETERBOROUGH HANDWEAVERS' AND SPINNERS' GUILD

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2009

September-October

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to all our members. I would like to thank Lois Watson and Carole Erwin for their three years in the President's position while at the same time holding other positions in the guild. They have done a great job. I hope I will be able to fill their shoes. Thanks also go out to everyone who has taken on responsibilities. A special thanks is due Pauline Fanning who continues to keep track of our finances so efficiently.

I hope you all had a great summer. Mine was a summer of renewing friendships with family and long time friends in Canada, the US and Great Britain. How fortunate I am to be able to travel again and make these connections. A friend said to me "To keep friendships we need to keep in contact and make the effort to see each other." Her statement made me think about connecting and making friendships in our Guild. Study groups are a great way not only to learn, get help solving problems with our craft and be inspired by other's ideas, but to have contact with and make friends with other members. The current weaving study group is a good example. We have fun talking about our projects and enjoy each others company over a cup of coffee. I hope that the spinners will be able to start up their spinning group again. There could be another weaving group that meets at another time or perhaps a winter or summer 100" loom study group. The Summer 2009 "Fibre Focus" has an article on page 35 under Weaving Education about study groups. Other groups could include felting and basketry.

The summer "Fibre Focus" has several great articles including one by Lois Watson titled "Building our Future from the Fabric on Our Past: The Samuel Lowry Weaver's Shop and Jacquard Loom Exhibit at Lang Pioneer Village Museum." I would also like to bring to the weaver's attention the e-mail newsletter "Handwoven Weaving Weekly." It includes interesting information and has answers to weaver's questions.

The following is a partial quote borrowed from a "Handwoven" e-newsletter: "Weaving and spinning connect us to a rich past - connect our brains to our very own hands - connect us to each other."

I look forward to seeing you all this fall and renewing friendships.

Dee Jones

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS AGENDA

At our recent executive meeting we discussed how to shorten the business part of our meetings but still keep members informed and have the opportunity for input into Guild business. Our secretary Diane will e-mail the general meeting minutes to those on e-mail and will have a couple of copies circulating at the meetings or on the library table for those not on e-mail.

So, instead of reading out the minutes for acceptance, Diane will highlight important points. Discussion is welcome. Pauline will still present the Treasurers report and we will hear committee reports. If there are any items that you need members to sign-up for, let me know before the meeting so an announcement can be made before the social break. If you have any questions about this decision let me know.

Dee Jones

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Guild Meetings

3rd Monday of the month at Kawartha Artists' Gallery, 729 Park St. S. Library and Store open at 7:00 pm and meetings start at 7:30 pm. Entrance is through the red door at the back of the De La Fosse library off O'Connell. See Programme Notes for details.

Executive Meetings

Next meeting is October 5th at Lois Watson's home.

Weave Study Group

The group will meet Sept. 24th, 9:30 at Dee's. Bring your current projects and ideas that you are working on. Newcomers welcome. For information phone Dee.

Spinning Group

In memory of Lois Carter, Helga is starting up the Spinning group at her home Friday, October 16th, 10 or so. Brown bag.

GUILD ROOM HOURS

The Guild Room is used by KAG every week day, all day, except for Monday mornings. Tuesday and Friday mornings it is used for life drawing and no one from the public (including us) is admitted. On Monday mornings you need a key. Contact Lois Watson or Barb Burbidge for key. Otherwise, you are welcome to go to our part of the space when the artists are there. Their gallery is open every day, seven days a week, from 1:00 to 4:00.

PROGRAMME NOTES

September 21st

Our workshop for this meeting is TATTING (lace embellishment). Our guest instructor/speaker is Murray Lincoln. This old form of lacework nearly died out by WWI but has recently found a new following. It is a lovely form of handwork.

October 19th

Guild member Mary Charles will be giving a talk on dyeing based on a workshop she attended at the OHS conference.

November 16th

One of our newer members, Faye Jacobs, recently took classes with Louise Lemieux Berube at Le Centre des Textiles Contemporains de Montreal, on the Jacquard Loom with assistance from our Scholarship fund. She will be presenting her report, giving a slide show and presenting samples from this master class.

December (date to be determined)

Our annual Christmas Party will feature a video show from a trip Mary Charles did this summer. The show will take us to Taos and Espanola, New Mexico and the Indian Market and then up to the Fibre Festival in Michigan.

LIBRARY

The library is open for borrowing at 7:00 pm on meeting nights. If you wish to borrow a book between meetings, FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE WOODEN BOX ON THE BOOK SHELF. If you want to renew a book, phone or e-mail Lois or ask at the meeting.

Please return books borrowed over the summer. Current on summer loan: Diana Gregg (2), Mary Charles (2), Neta Knauer (1) and Diane Passmore (1).

New e-books from Handwoven – *Rag Weaving* and *Double Weave – Double Width*. Suggestions for new books welcome

Equipment

The equipment in the guild room has been compiled in a new list which accompanies this newsletter. Most is available for rent. Please keep it for your own reference.

Dee and Lois have re-sorted our equipment and have found some items which we don't need to keep. These have been acquired through donations over the last few years. They are mostly sticks and shuttles and will be for sale by donation at the Sept. meeting.

If you have equipment out for borrowing please remember to return it as soon as you are finished using it. Also remember to fill out the Equipment record book when you

borrow and return items. Rental payment is paid to Pauline on return of equipment. If any equipment is missing parts, or is broken, please contact Lois Watson. Please note that rental of any equipment entails returning the equipment in good working order.

Equipment Needed

If you hear of a 'free' spinning wheel without a home, please mention the guild. It would be nice to have one available for demonstrations at meetings. Alternatively, please consider bringing your own to meetings so you can spin away and answer questions from those who would like to learn.

Carder

The carder is kept at Faye's. It must be signed out from Faye, or if she is away, it will be moved to Jo's and signed out from her.

The carder fee is \$10 with a 2 week maximum. If no one else is waiting for the carder it can be renewed for another 2 week maximum. When it is returned it must be checked over with the renter and signed off. Payment is due when returned.

The Carder comes with long needle-nose tweezers. Use these regularly to remove fuzz from the bearings. Use the wire brush to clean the rollers. The pick is only to remove the batt from the drum and always start pulling the batt off at the 'break' on the drum otherwise you will damage the rubber drum base. Bev has invented a simple method of preventing hair from entering the motor – a nylon stocking fits over the opening. Please clean this off periodically so that the motor does not overheat.

DO NOT OIL OR GREASE THE CARDER ANYWHERE. DO NOT ATTEMPT REPAIRS. If there are problems please contact Faye or Jo immediately for advice. Thank you for your co-operation.

AUTUMN TREASURES

Our guild will once again be participating in the annual Autumn Treasures Sale at the Trentwinds, November 13, 14 and 15th. We hope Guild members have had time this summer to plan and produce handwoven, handspun, knitted and other fibre items for the sale. If not, there is still time in the next two and a half months to use your skills to create wonderful items for display and sale.

Even if you are not creating, we need your help to participate in the sale. Please sign-up for demonstrating and/or as sales assistants during the weekend. We will have sign-up sheets available at the September and October meetings.

Autumn Treasures has given us great exposure to the public in these past twenty years. Let's continue the tradition.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If anyone has an event they would like listed please contact Jo.

- Sept 18-Oct 4 World of Threads, Oakville. Biennial Int'l Fibre Art and Craft Festival. See www.worldofthreadsfestival.com
- Sept 19 5 Counties Seminar, Kitchener. www.ohs.on.ca
- Sept 19 Worldwide Public Spin-in, Memorial Park, Port Hope, 10-5pm. See www.theblacklamb.ca or www.spininpublic.com
- Sept 26 & 27 Canadian Alpaca Farm Days, Uxbridge, 10-4pm. See www.arribaline.com
- Oct 6 Warkworth 20th Anniversary Spin-in, 10-3pm, at St. John's United Church, Campbellford (main street before bridge)
- Oct 9-12 Norwood Fair, Norwood, Ontario
- Oct 16-18 Creative Festival, Toronto
- October 17 Woodstock Fleece Festival. See www.fleecefestival.com
- Nov 6-15th Royal Winter Fair, Toronto
- Nov 7 Fibre Arts Collective Show and Sale – Port Hope. See www.fibreartscollective.com
- Nov 13-15 Autumn Treasures
- Nov 15 Lakefield Santa Claus Parade (Ok-not really our thing but where else do you get to see 10+ Newfoundland Dogs, including my Belle –pulling my grand-daughter in a cart!) And I spin her hair!
- Dec 21 Guild Christmas party – details to be announced

MEMBERSHIP

A membership form will be mailed to each member before the first meeting.

Please bring your membership fee (\$35.00 cash or cheque) and completed membership form to the September general meeting on September 21, 2009. A membership list will be available in October. If you will not be at the general meeting please mail completed form and cheque (made out to Peterborough Handweavers' and Spinners' Guild) to: Maxine Youngman, 36-1121 Armour Road, Peterborough, Ont., K9H 7N8. Fees are due by September 30th.

Membership fees help to pay for speakers, pay rent and buy library books.

We would like to welcome two new members to our guild, Tess Lapensee and Mary Houston. Both are new to weaving, Tess having inherited a loom from her grandmother and Mary owns a Nilus.

GET CONNECTED

I haven't had a lot of time this summer to surf the web but there are a couple of sites you might want to check out.

If you have a favourite you'd like to share please let me know for our next issue.

Weaving Weekly – This was mentioned in the President's Message. It is an e-newsletter put out by Handwoven magazine and a great source of tips and help. Subscription is free. www.interweave.com/weave/Getting-Started.asp

Vintage Patterns – I love collecting older patterns and have often found that when a style is revived I just go to my special folder and can usually find something old that has become new again. Whether knitting or crochet, fashion for adults or kids, this is the place to shop. www.softmemories.com

Eye Candy – I remember Mary Lavery's wonderful slide show from New Zealand and the wonderful wearable art she showed us. So I have a small collection of fashion web sites. There is not a lot on this site but it is easy on the eye. www.artspaceaz.com

THE NIDDY NODDY COLUMN

Don't be shy. Share your thoughts, ideas and experiences.

You can give me hardcopy at a meeting or send me your notes by e-mail to jomillsjo@hotmail.com.



LANG TEXTILE FESTIVAL

Several members of the Guild participated on August 8th and 9th weekend demonstrating weaving and spinning to visitors at Lang Village in the "Sheep to Shawl" tent. Thanks to Lois Watson for working with the Lang staff in setting up our demonstration and for setting up the loom for the weavers.

Spinners were Lee French and Mary Charles and the weavers were Eleanor Iussa and Carole Erwin. Jo Mills was not able to attend Sunday but did attend Saturday wearing three hats – Peterborough Guild, Warkworth Guild and as OHS representative to promote weaving and spinning.

A shawl was produced on Saturday by Warkworth Guild and a scarf on Sunday by our Guild. A deluge of rain at noon kept the crowds down on Sunday but those who came showed a lot of interest in our craft. The humidity played havoc with the spinning of yarn but Mary and Lee produced enough to create a nice scarf which, along with the shawl, will be draw prizes at Lang in the fall.

Carole Erwin

KEEPING IN TOUCH



Newsletter submissions can be sent to Jo Mills at 210 Carlisle Avenue, Peterborough, K9H 1J6, or you can e-mail me at jomillsjo@hotmail.com. You can also telephone at 705-749- 3323. Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month. Our newsletter can be viewed at www.aymgael.com/PBO_handweaving_spinning/default.html

E-mail can be sent to weaver@aym-gael.com.

Correspondence should be sent to Diane Passmore, 744 Armour Road, Peterborough, K9H 2A1, e-mail: dipassmo@sympatico.ca.