The Shuttle

Connecting Through Fiber

December 2017

Volume 50

Issue 4

Weaver's Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc

www.weaversguildofkalamazoo.org

Our Next Meeting Is:

December 11, 2017

Garage Sale!

Hope to see you there!

Shuttle Deadlines:

Jan 26 for February Shuttle

Feb. 23 for March Shuttle

March 23 for April Shuttle

Please send items for The Shuttle to the editor at **Paula.M.Clare@gmail.com**

2017-2018 Officers and Committee Chairs

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WAFA Secretary – Cory Zann
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Study Groups

For more information, contact the study group leader.

Four Harness – Nancy Krapf/Judith Jones– meets second Thursday at 9:30 am at members' homes.

Moonbeamers - Helen Lemmer – meets fourth Monday at 7 pm at members' homes.

Multi-Harness—Marta Williams – meets third Wednesday at 9:30 am at members' homes.

Spinners—Susan Chapman/Linda Myers – meets third Friday 10 am to 2 pm at Parchment Library. In Oct & Nov, also meets first Thursday from 4-8 pm at Parchment Library.

Swatch Exchange—Gail Ross – a virtual study group.

Continuous Strand Weaving—Lenore Snyder—won't be meeting in Dec., Jan. , and Feb. New members welcome in March. Contact Lenore at lenore@lenorej.com

2017-2018 Program

December 11, 2017

Garage Sale

January 2018 No Meeting

February 10-11, 2018

Amy Tyler workshop "Woolen-Worsted Continuum"

February 12, 2018

Amy Tyler "The Value of Process"

March 12, 2018

Gail Ross "Swedish Inspirations"

April 7-8, 2018

Barb Wainwright "Reimagine Honeycomb"

April 9, 2018

Barb Wainwright "Discovering Honeycomb"

May 14, 2018

Annual Meeting and Elections

A Letter from our President

I have been thinking about the holiday season coming up. I see this as an opportunity for us to take the things that have happened in the guild from Fall until now, learn from them, and move forward into the future of the new year.

We are one Guild. We are artists who use Fiber as our medium. We are passionate about our work. We are working together sharing hand spun yarn and weaving. I am collaborating with someone in 4 Harness study group to make cotton towels out of my hand spun and her expertise.
A new study group has been formed to weave with hand-spun yarn.
We are using ancient skills passed down from before to move into the 21st century.

This is just me, I'm sure there are others doing the same things.
We cannot do it alone. We never could.

So Happy Holidays everyone!

See you at the fiber arts garage sale!

-Karen

Hospitality 2017-18

Please bring snacks to share with the guild members. We ask that you bring a snack in the month that has the first letter of your last name, as listed below.
The snack can be purchased or homemade. It can be salty, sweet, fruits or veggies. It does not have to feed everyone. Several small snacks add up. Let me know if you bring something special like dairy or gluten-free items.

December The Guild Board
February M-P
March R-S
April T-Z
May Anyone who hasn't brought snack already

Thank you from your Hospitality Chair
Cyndee Mishler

Library News

Your guild library will have a table at the upcoming Garage Sale. When members donate books and magazines, we add them to our ever-growing library. Any duplicates are then available for you to stock your own personal library. Set your own price, and make a donation.

Also, Ruth Veldt, long-time member, has also donated several tools that are now looking for a good home. She has donated three pin looms, a scary looking felting thingy, and two brand new Louet mini combs. Again, search your soul, and donate what you think they are worth. All funds will go to the guild general fund. BONUS: Ruth also made a whole box of pin-loom wool squares. Need a quick Christmas gift? Pick up this windfall, sew them together and proudly give someone a home-made afghan! You don't have to say *you* made all those little squares.

Okay, back to library stuff. The December meeting will be a good time to pick up any books, magazines, and DVDs to see you through the cold, dark winter months. Go to our website http://www.librarything.com/catalog/weaversguildkazoo and pick out the materials you want. Then, give me a call or email by December 9, and I will bring them to the meeting.

-Kristi Chapman, Guild Librarian

WAFA News

Thanks to everyone who helped out at the sale. You brought things to sell, you helped set up the displays, you worked during the sale, you helped take down the displays, and (hopefully) you came away with ideas you want to try out yourself!

If you find that you have missing items, let us know. They will be posted in the Shuttle.

We don't have the final numbers yet, but we'll announce them as soon as we do.

Thanks again…The WAFA Committee

Missing Item from WAFA Sale

A towel is missing, # 137 Undulating Twill patterns. Bright towel, white 1/2" stripes outside and between each color, deep yellow outer stripes 3"-3 1/2" same pattern, other stripes Drk Aqua, orange, and purple each aprox. 3" to 3 1/2" in a different undulating twill pattern. 17" x 25" $ 28.00 Ellen Solaric

Please check your items for WAFA in case it ended up stuck between some other items.

Thank you.

WGK Exhibitions

As part of our 50th year of celebrations there will be two exhibitions of work by members of the Kalamazoo Weavers Guild. An all-member show is scheduled for the Portage District Library for the months of June and July, 2018. Work submitted may be work by Guild members past and present, perhaps from a member's personal collection or it might be their own current or past work done in any fiber medium including basketry, beading, dyeing, felting, knitting with hand-spun, spinning and weaving.

Work will be displayed along the Library entrance ramp, along the stair to the lower level and on the back wall of the first room. We will use two locked display cases for small items. The date and time of delivery of the work to the Library will be announced in May.

The second exhibit is a curated show at the Carnegie Center for the Arts in Three Rivers during the summer of 2018, representing our creative output throughout our history. The Carnegie has several exhibition spaces. Our work will be hung in the Mezzanine gallery which we have used in the past. At the same time, there will be other exhibitions in the Armstrong, Wong and Monroe Museum gallery spaces, eliciting a nice artistic coordination in a variety of media which will complement our work.

We are calling for art work in all fiber media from the late 60s through the first decades of the 21st century. The variety of fibers will include everything from acrylics to wools and highlight the decades with macrame and loom-designed garments of the 60s and 70s all the way to contemporary functional and high aesthetic work including everything from beautiful silk scarves and fine cotton tea towels to sculptural pieces, rugs, tapestries and garments—all celebrating our creative work over the past 50 years. This show is partly by invitation and partly work submitted by members. The show will be curated by Maryellen Hains, herself having worked in fiber, but more often in jewelry and recently in ceramics and glass.

Not all work submitted can be accepted in the show, partly because of limited space in the gallery space available to us. It will be selected based on the curator's artistic and aesthetic rationale, how well it represents a period, specific decade, style, material, or other aspect of our history. The last criteria are both how well a work might work with other pieces included in the show in addition to the coordination with the other shows in the Carnegie. Part of the exhibition will include representative text, photos, and other things documenting our history and activities.

The Board of Directors is pleased to invite members to submit work. Anne Mehring is coordinating the exhibitions with the assistance of other Guild members. She will be asking for help especially with various administrative aspects such as record keeping and label making using excel spreadsheets, collecting hanging equipment, communication and correspondence, meeting planning and coordinating the writing of historical notes with other 50th committees.

More information on the exhibitions will be presented in the Shuttle and at meetings in the coming months. For more information, call or email Anne at 269-375-1639 or ahmehring@gmail.com.

WEAVERS GUILD OF KALAMAZOO
TREASURER'S REPORT 2017/2018

	Name	Budget		2017 JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	BUDGET BALANCE
	Beginning Checkbook Balance			$1,861.10	$3,895.10	$3,748.62	$3,733.62	$2,469.27	$2,216.94	$4,085.99		
INCOME												
	Donations - WAFA/MLH	$2,000.00										$2,000.00
	Equipment Rental	$100.00					$60.00				$60.00	$40.00
	Library	$50.00										$50.00
	Membership Dues	$3,350.00	*	$2,040.00	$60.00	$60.00	$270.00	$90.00	$30.00		$2,550.00	$800.00
	Workshop Income	$1,800.00					$75.00	$375.00	$75.00		$525.00	$1,275.00
	Memorials and Gifts	$100.00							$2,000.00		$2,000.00	($1,900.00)
	Misc.	$100.00					$38.25	$25.50	$18.00		$81.75	$18.25
	Total Income	$7,500.00		$2,040.00	$60.00	$60.00	$443.25	$490.50	$2,123.00		$5,216.75	$2,283.25

* *$180.00 2017/18 membership dues were deposited in fiscal year 2016/17*

EXPENSES												
	ADMINISTRATION											
	Hospitality	$50.00					$24.00	$15.46			$39.46	$10.54
	Insurance	$500.00						$475.00			$475.00	$25.00
	Miscellaneous	$100.00										$100.00
	Fees & Memberships	$150.00		$6.00	$66.90		$80.00				$152.90	($2.90)
	Supplies	$100.00										$100.00
	Total Administration	$900.00		$6.00	$66.90		$104.00	$490.46			$667.36	$232.64
	PROGRAM											
	Program Expense	$1,600.00					$880.45	$28.37			$908.82	$691.18
	Program Rental	$800.00				$75.00	$75.00	$75.00	$75.00		$300.00	$300.00
	Workshop Expense	$1,800.00										$1,800.00
	Total Program Expense	$4,000.00				$75.00	$955.45	$103.37	$75.00		$1,208.82	$2,791.18
	PUBLICATIONS/ONGOING ACTIVITIES											
	Library	$350.00			$139.58				$28.95		$168.53	$181.47
	Publicity	$75.00					$103.88				$103.88	($28.88)
	Rental Equipment	$100.00										$100.00
	Service Bureau	$50.00										$50.00
	Shuttle	$110.00										$110.00
	Study Groups	$50.00										$50.00
	Yearbook	$775.00					$514.11				$514.11	$260.89
	Website	$190.00					$30.16	$149.00			$179.16	$10.84
	Total Pub/Ongoing Activities	$1,700.00			$139.58		$648.15	$149.00	$28.95		$965.68	$734.32
	AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS/SPECIAL											
	Fiber Arts Education	$50.00										$50.00
	Exhibits											
	KIA Award	$150.00										$150.00
	MFF Award	$150.00										$150.00
	MLH Award	$150.00							$150.00		$150.00	
	Guild Scholarships	$400.00										$400.00
	Total Awards/Schlp/Special	$900.00							$150.00		$150.00	$750.00
	Total Expenses	$7,500.00		$6.00	$206.48	$75.00	$1,707.60	$742.83	$253.95		$2,991.86	$4,508.14
Balance				$3,895.10	$3,748.62	$3,733.62	$2,469.27	$2,216.94	$4,085.99	$4,085.99		

TOTAL CASH BALANCE BY MONTH							
Savings	$45.00	$45.00	$45.00	$45.00	$45.00	$45.00	
Money Markey Saving	$3,958.02	$3,959.03	$3,960.04	$3,961.02	$3,982.03		
Checkbook	**$3,895.10**	**$3,748.62**	**$3,733.62**	**$2,469.27**	**$2,216.94**	**$4,085.99**	
24 to 35 Month CD	$7,811.67	$7,816.63	$7,821.59	$7,826.39	$7,831.36		
* 3 Month CD							
TOTAL	$15,664.79	$15,524.28	$15,515.25	$14,256.68	$14,010.33	$4,085.99	

* *$2913.28 was transferred from 3 Month CD to Money Markey Savings on 5-21-17. 3 Month CD was closed.*

Celebrating 50 Years!

We are getting excited about our book **'Celebrating 50 Years The Yearbook Swatches of the Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc,'.** The books will be pre-sold for $15 each during April and May 2018. Starting June 1, 2018, the cost of the book will increase to $20/book. An order form for the book will be appear in the March, April and May The Shuttle. Marta Williams will be collecting the orders. Distribution of the books will start at the September Guild meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Marta, martag1111@yahoo.com.

Things to see and do

Woodland Weavers Textile Artists Market - Dec. 8-9 at Calvin College's Prince Center on the East Beltline, Grand Rapids.

POSTCARD SALON: The annual show of postcards at the Muskegon Museum of Art is not to be missed. The deadline for submission of up to five 4"x6" in any media is January 21. Exhibit: Feb 1-15, 2018. The reception and sale of postcards ($30 each with half going to artist) will be Thursday, Feb 15, at 5:30. The deadline to submit postcards is January 21.

MLH 2018 Biennial Fiber Exhibit: All pieces must be received by **January 29**, 2018.The **2018 Biennial Fiber Exhibit** will take place at the Shiawasse Art Center in Owosso, Michigan on Feb. 6 - March 11, 2018, with the opening reception on Sunday, February 11th. JoAnn Bachelder, one of the instructors at the upcoming MLH Summer Workshops, will be the juror and speaker at the reception. Prospectus and entry forms at www.MLHguild.org.

MLH Summer Workshops - June 8-10, 2018 at Hope College:

Registration opens Jan. 8.
Kathrin Weber - Not Your Grandma's Dye-Pot!
Su Butler - Untying the Mysteries of Tied Weaves
Mary Sue Fenner - One-of-a-Kind Jacket Class
JoAnn Bachelder - Altered Surfaces
Robbin Firth - Ruana Shawl (Celtic Shawl) felting
Joan Sheridan - Norwegian Inspired Pick-up Bands on the Inkle Loom
Sally Eyring - The World Isn't Flat-3D Loom Weaving
Anastasia Azure - Weaving the Unexpected with Alternative Materials

Between the Seams, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago IL; Jan. 19-Feb. 16, 2018; exhibit deals with textiles and self-identity.

Needed: Calligrapher or Skilled Printer

Ten years ago, I made two books of handmade paper with various fibers embedded in the paper. I bound the books for the 40th Anniversary Guild exhibits held at the Kingscott Gallery—which is no longer open—and at the Portage District Library. I will rebind them for the upcoming 50th Anniversary shows in May and June, 2018. Each book has the names of some of the people who came to visit our shows and is a nice record with a few comments from visitors who have been wonderful supporters of our local art scene over many years.

I am seeking a Guild member who does calligraphy or has wonderful printing skills to do the covers and title pages for the rebound books. I'd like both text and representational motifs in the work. The books will be at the December meeting for people to see. Any members with comments or questions, please call or email Anne Mehring.

EDUCATION CORNER DECEMBER 2017

Wow, it's already the end of another calendar year. But, as you read this, the WAFA sale and lots of turkey are behind us and it's time to pull out the Advent calendars, Tree Decorations, Menorahs, and baking supplies. For those of us in education (i.e. as a "real job") it is a very busy time of getting through the remaining material, and exams plus lots of grading, so I will keep this month's column short but still go long with my best wishes for a great holiday season.

HOW TO CHOOSE A WORKSHOP

It isn't too soon to start thinking about workshop plans for 2018. Many of the most attractive courses and workshops have begun registration and some already have "waiting list only". Aside from the obvious questions of timing, distance, and cost (including material fees, tuition fees, housing, travel), how does one go about choosing a workshop? Here are a few of my own thoughts on the subject:

First, pay attention to the early heads-up emails that are appearing and mark calendars. Think about your favorite teachers and venues well in advance of registration opening. Fiber artists are true examples of "the early bird gets the worm". Be ready to pounce since ideally you will have decided what you want to do well in advance.

Second, don't just look at those emails, but do a little research of your own. Google the websites of teachers you might be interested in. Check their published teaching schedules. What if a teacher you've always wanted to work with is coming to a nearby location outside your ordinary radar? Even if you had all the money in the world (not!) there is still the issue of conflicts in timing. Sure, you can drop out of a registration you've submitted earlier, but often at some cost. Why not assess all your options with the luxury of time before you have to pounce? And don't forget listings in Handwoven, Shuttle Spindle and Dyepot, organization newsletters and related periodicals.

Third, speaking of time, be aware of different registration periods for members and non-members of various guilds or organizations. It is very common for fiber artists to join groups in order to attend workshops even if distance makes regular attendance at meetings impossible and I have found these groups to be most welcoming. And, since members get first dibs at registration before a workshop is open to the general public, it can mean the difference between getting your dream teacher/workshop or not.

Fourth, let's say you have many dream teachers and a limited budget (sigh), how to decide? Well, once you've decided you want the specific topic being taught, also do some research on what's going on in that teacher's life. Where does he or she live? Is she considering retiring from travel any time soon? Have you heard the teacher is moving on to a different set of topics and this might be the final time you can take a particular workshop with that person? Which teachers might be more compatible with your learning style or just more enjoyable to spend two or three days with? Which teachers give you "more bang for the buck" or a more positive experience? (Talk to people who have some insights on this one—there are intangibles that won't be published in the workshop descriptions!)

Fifth, required equipment. This is probably self-evident—obviously if a workshop requires an 8-shaft loom and yours is 4-shaft, well, short of borrowing/renting equipment you'd best choose something else. But, not all workshops require you to bring your own equipment—something you might want to consider if lugging heavy furniture (possibly up a flight of stairs!) or paying to transport a loom to a distant location do not appeal. And, if you do end up renting a loom, be sure you are familiar with how it works and any little eccentricities before you get to the workshop—your time in class should be focusing on the workshop.

Sixth, ask yourself if you want round robin workshops or a class where you work at your own loom the entire time. I have been in very good and very negative round robin classes and would have to say that a well-done, well-orchestrated round robin workshop where every loom is in perfect working condition and is perfectly warped and every student has sufficient loom time for each exercise with no wasted down time would be a joy…but just don't count on this. The advantages are obvious: many different structures, fibers, warp colors, and threadings can be explored and there are usually many different looms you can try. The cons are as alluded to and come from lack of control. When you are on your own loom, you have some control over pace (you can even take home your loom and complete the project later) and hopefully know your equipment. And, if there has been an error in warping, well, even that is in your control. I personally now avoid round robins and I'm noticing many teachers are specifically noting in their workshop descriptions "this is not a round robin", so it may

be that the risks (complaints?) are perceived to outweigh the benefits. That said, a fantastic teacher or topic may make it worth taking a chance and you land a good one.

So, start planning now. MLH, by the way, opens up registration on January 8th: https://www.mlhguild.org/

Plus WGK has an exciting Honeycomb workshop with Barb Wainright April 7th -8th (form on our website)

Next summer will also include HGA's July Convergence in Reno http://www.weavespindye.org/convergence-2018 **(registration already open) and**

Complex Weavers seminars (general registration opens December 6th) also in Reno in July https://www.complex-weavers.org/seminars-2018/

This is just a smattering—local guilds in MI, IN, OH for example have interesting offerings.

The "Virtually" Scandinavian Textiles Study Group is Launching!

Yes, our name is a play on words, but never was a double entendre more appropriate! This new study group is virtual in nature and focuses on textiles and fibers not only from the countries "officially" thought of as Scandinavian (Norway, Sweden, Denmark) but also from other nearby countries across Northern Europe, such as Holland (e.g. Friesland), Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, many islands we often ignore but which produce their own distinct fibers and art (e.g. Faroe Islands) and even Greenland and Iceland whose roots trace back to Scandinavia. All of these are "almost Scandinavian" with many commonalities between these countries and their native weavers, spinners and knitters but each region put its own spin (sorry) and exotic names on patterns, colors and fibers, and typical projects in relation to environment, materials available, not to mention time available to the womenfolk.

Having seen the great 12 years and running success of our first virtual study group, the Swatch Study Group, several of us thought it time to have another virtual group (one that "meets" online but works independently with great flexibility yet a common area of interest). Online study groups are great for members whose work and/or family schedules, not to mention distaste for driving in Michigan winters, make consistent attendance at live group meetings difficult. And, with more and more members of WGK becoming snowbirds or retiring out of the immediate area but who would like to stay connected and inspired, "self-study with motivation" is just the answer.

As with the SSG, we will each pursue a self-chosen topic, but here we hope to use our findings to create an actual project and from time to time use the Internet to share information and photos. When the May meeting study group showcase comes along, we hope to show off these projects.

That said, we plan to engage in independent self-study of such Northern European textiles and plunge right in. You may have picked up from reading this far that the topic is textiles and fibers and not just one method of producing them. It is hoped that including spinning, knitting and weaving (on any kind of loom including band looms) together in one virtual group will be a logical, broadening, fun and unifying approach to learning as we bring our first half century as a guild to an end and move forward.

Since we meet virtually, our "kickoff" will be the formation of a group email list of those interested. As we move forward with ideas, we can share inspirations, resources (e.g. bibliography, websites, blogs, shopping sources), photos off the Internet, and even of our works in progress, and of course enjoy feedback, a sense of camaraderie, and a goal.

Sound like fun? Let me know and let your inner "Väv" come out!

BOOK REVIEWS:

I have just treated myself to a few new weaving books (early Christmas) and hope to have these reviewed for our next column. What are the rest of you reading??

INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

Learning is a process and follows many avenues. This part of Education Corner can be a place to share tips or ask questions.

Gail Ross, Education Chair **Contact:** figeac@att.net