

The Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc., General Meeting October 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by president Juanita Manning-Walsh. Juanita welcomed newcomers and visitors. She commented on the upcoming WAFA Sale and made sure members present knew that the last time for securing exemptions will be at the November guild meeting.

Announcements:

WAFA Sale Sign-Up Sheets

Cathy McCarthy announced there were two sets of WAFA Sale sign up sheets circulating the room and she encouraged anyone not yet signed up to work the sale, to please sign up. She also encouraged members to sign up for more than one shift.

Virtual Study Group - Swatch Exchange

Gail Ross asked for people to make sure if they are going to do the virtual study group - the Swatch Exchange, to be sure she has your name as this is the last month to sign up for this activity.

WAFA Sale

Nancy Crampton, WAFA Sale Chairperson encouraged people to make sure they:

- are signed up to work the Sale
- are aware the November general meeting is the last time for exemptions - exemptions will not be done at the Sale!
- take home post cards to mail to friends
- take home yard signs to display the week before the sale in their neighborhoods
- bring props and lighting, in clean and good working order, ready to use at the Sale
- obtain the required Sale Contracts at the November guild meeting, or at the Sale at sign-in time Everyone selling has to have a signed Contract!

Advertising WAFA Sale

Judi Southwell shared that three of our members will have a 4 minute spot on WMUK advertising the WAFA Sale the Tuesday prior to the sale, although she was not sure of the time. Just today, the Kalamazoo Gazette

contacted her and there probably will be an article in the Kalamazoo Gazette prior to the Sale.

Judi encouraged members to take home yard signs for the Sale.

Westminster Presbyterian Church Art Festival

Helen Coats reported there is going to be an art festival at the Westminster Presbyterian Church this coming March and April. She encouraged members to enter this art festival as the top prize in this juried show will be \$1,000. The art work will be juried prior to the opening of the show, and the church is planning a variety of art activities for both children and adults while the show is hanging.

Helen will give us more information as it becomes available.

****(Special note: There is more information and a Website for the Art Festival - See page 4 of your October Shuttle)*

Yearbook

Mindy Tai asked members who have not yet picked up their yearbooks to please do so, and if anyone sees yearbooks of absent people tonight, to please deliver the books to those absent members to avoid mailing costs.

Marta Williams gave members a Yearbook update:

A printed correction sheet was available for members to add to their yearbooks. This included several additional members, changes, and corrections. Members were encouraged to pick up one of these correction sheets prior to leaving the meeting.

Meeting Count

Marta Williams shared the guild needs to give the Portage Senior Center an accounting of the number in attendance at our meetings. Marta does this by counting the spaces made from members claiming their name tags. She encouraged anyone who does not wish to wear a tag to please remove their tag from the name tag papers so we can have an accurate count.

WGK Bags

Anne Mehring modeled the WGK bags she is selling for the sale and encouraged members to purchase one, two, or more. She suggested they would make wonderful Christmas gifts.

Scholarship

Anne Mehring encouraged members to consider applying for a scholarship this year. If interested the scholarship application and information is on the Website. Please call Anne if you have any questions or if she can be of assistance in helping you fill out the form.

Anne Mehring announced that the winners of last year's scholarships, Judith Jones and Gail Pilgrim Ross, will be sharing what they studied as a result of their scholarships awarded in our last fiscal year. This sharing will be at our December guild meeting.

Featured Speaker:

Next Juanita introduced our featured speaker, Dawn Edwards, Felter Extraordinaire.

Juanita shared that Dawn's felt creations are unique, demonstrate great use of color and technique, and are both functional and playful.

Dawn has studied under several world renown felters and belongs to several felting organizations and artist groups, including Signature Gallery, Surface Design, and HGA, to name a few.'

Dawn primarily uses Merino wool, which is very soft, and it was commented that felting is the oldest clothing forms known to man.

Dawn shared she primarily made contacts with various felters over the internet when she was just starting out. Her felting and contact with world renown felters has blossomed since beginning felting about ten years ago.

The mentors Dawn has had over the years include quite an international list:

Fabiense Rey from the Netherlands

Irit Dulman from TelAviv, Israel

Karin Monica from Italy

Els Martens from the Netherlands

Kim Nijsten from the Netherlands

Ingrid Garrod from the Netherlands

Ariane Mariane from Paris France

Jean Gauger from Massachusetts, who makes wonderful Butterfly

Elis Vermeulen from the Netherlands
Marjolein Dallinga from Canada
Joni Cornell from Victoria, Australia
Jillian Sommerville Finch
Nicola Brown from Ireland
Thomas Horst from Ohio
Janice Arnold from Olympia, Washington
Anna Gunnarsdottir from Iceland
Charity Van der Meer from the Netherlands

Dawn shared several pictures, and two or three statements from each artist regarding their work. Additionally Dawn had many felted garments from several of these artists and it was most interesting to see the felted garments, hats, and vessels.

During the question and answer part of her presentation Dawn addressed bundling and eco-felting.

The meeting ended at 7:56 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Cathy McCarthy

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