

Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley
April, 2020

The April Meeting Has Been Cancelled

Due to an unprecedented global event - the Covid-19 virus pandemic.

We will look forward to the program scheduled for this meeting to be presented in the future by Cynthia Newman. Take some inspiration from the work photographed at the right. This is one of Cynthia's weavings, an amazing culmination of years of studying color interaction.

Tour de Fleece

Now for some good news! We are still going to have the tour! Even if the Tour de France is canceled. Sign ups will start in May so for right now start planning your tour.

The "rules:"

- You must be a member of the guild (so get those dues in soon).
- You must sign up before the deadline of June 15th midnight mountain time (no exceptions).
- You can only pick one track, spinning, weaving, or fiber arts. See definition of each below.

How it works:

The point of the tour is to challenge yourself to create each day during the same time the Tour de France bike race runs. At this point they are still planning on racing. The dates are June 27th through July 19th. You get to set your goals. Some ideas of examples are spin a fleece, weave fabric for a jacket, create a felted rug, paint a warp and weave a project from that warp, finish a dog on the loom or other UFO, etc. If you are having trouble coming up with an idea, give me a call or drop me an email and we can come up with some ideas.

Because we are adding weaving and fiber arts this year. I think it would be helpful to define each category.

- **Spinning** - yarn that is created on a wheel, spindle or charkha. You may add processing or dyeing, but the greater part of your goal should involve making yarn.
- **Weaving** - This should involve making fabric of some kind. It can have any yarn of your choice, as many harnesses as you choose. Be creative.
- **Fiber Arts** - So this one is a bit more difficult to define. Here is how I am going to define it. Make anything of your choice that was dyed, felted, punched, hooked, knit, or crochet. But it needs to be something you've never tried before. So if you are a knitter, it needs to be a challenge, maybe color-work, if you've never done that before. For crochet - if you've never used a size 12 steel hook. Felt a rug instead of weaving one. If you choose to sew something, it needs to be from hand made fabrics.

What's the point? The Tour de Fleece is meant for you to challenge yourself and create something new and have fun while doing it.

Once again this year we will have our daily challenges that will be for all three categories, some will be category specific and others will be for everyone.

The award of prizes will be determined at the end of the tour and announced at a Fall meeting.

As always if you have any questions please email me at yarnsthreads@gmail.com.

◆ Melanie Smith



Musings From Your President

Today there will be more ramblings than usual.

Spring is here, I was told it came two days sooner than usual. The sun passed over the equator two days earlier this year than in the past twenty years. How about that. Are you planning to plant dye plants this year? Maybe buy some plants at the store, put them in pots or a flower garden. These plants have pretty flowers to use, but some you can use other parts also. I see that some of you are using more natural materials to dye with and getting great results. We have the usual spring flowers emerging at our home. It's that time of year, just need a little more natural moisture.

In my preparation to write these letters, like today while out walking the dogs, I have all sorts of ideas. Sadly speaking, when I finally sit down to write, half are gone. You may say that comes with old age or such, I say, there are many, many thoughts that run through my mind and only so many stick. So I am glad that you continue to read these musings.

Another note, have you seen and heard the birds that have come in our area? The redwing blackbirds with their melodic song where here some time ago. The robins are now passing through, some stay and others move on. We must be on their migratory route because there are a bunch and then there are a few. The geese and cranes with all of their honking and talking to each other. They can make a racket that can be heard for a long ways away. They are on their way north also.

Who out there has had to mow their yard? Did you weed the garden or flower bed? Play in the dirt somehow?

No, I bet that next upcoming fiber project has keep you busy or just trying to finish the one that has taken so long. Well Guild Members it's time to. Fiber on.

◆ Doug Ranck, President

Library

I have been asked by several people concerned about materials that have been checked out. At this point the library is closed, until we resume meeting. So if you have any materials out keep them and plan to return them at the next meeting we hold. At this point I do not plan to be at the library until we are back to normal.

◆ Melanie Smith, Librarian

Outreach Committee

Outreach Committee Meeting was set for April 12 at Hillcrest Library. 1 pm. However, the Libraries in Boise have been closed until May, due to the Corona virus. I would like to keep the day and time open with a new location TBA, but will see how things progress with the virus. ◆ Janet Stanger, Committee Chair

Rug Punch + ALL Meeting

The meeting for April has been cancelled. ◆ Jinks Hunter, Study Group Chair

Day Weaving Study Group

The Day Weaving Study group had a lively discussion via email when it was decided to cancel our regular meeting in March. Study group members chatted using the old DownTheRabbitHole subgroup in groups.io. It was a great way to stay in touch, get help with questions members had, and even show some of our current projects. This will be our backup plan if we are not able to meet in person in April.

◆ Vila Cox, Study Group Chair

Spinning Study Group

With all that is going on in our world, the spinning study group will be canceled until fall. Once things improve we may add activities during the summer months, so keep your eye on groups.io page.

◆ Melanie Smith, Study Group Chair

Fiber Arts Saturday at Rubaiyat's

We will look forward to hearing when this event will be rescheduled. Contact Shelly Downs for questions, at ambersand@cableone.net or 208-631-4881.

The Garment Study Group

The March 31 Garment Study Group is canceled. Our next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, June 30 at 10:30 am. The location is to be announced. ◆ Greta Ankeny, Study Group Chair

2020 - 2021 Budget

The Board proposes the following budget for the 2020/21 fiscal year of the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley. Please take time to look it over. Guild members will vote at the next Guild meeting to accept it as is or modify it.

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley 2020/21 Budget

Income	
Newsletter Fee	40.00
Advertising	60.00
Equipment Rental	50.00
Guild Sale	100.00
Interest	1.00
Membership Dues	2,100.00
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Total Income	2,351.00
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Gross Profit	2,351.00
Expense	
Equipment Purchases	200.00
Library Books	200.00
Directory Expense	100.00
Library Expenses	100.00
Meeting & Library Room Rental	440.00
Membership ANWG/HGA	135.00
Hospitality	75.00
Misc/Memorials	75.00
Outreach/Promotion materials	150.00
Newsletter Expenses	40.00
PO Box Rent	145.00
Postage, Mailing Service	25.00
Program Expenses	50.00
Liability Insurance	275.00
Study Group Expenses	50.00
Subscriptions	200.00
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Total Expense	2,260.00
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	91.00
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Net Income	91.00
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Officers and Chairs

- President: Doug Ranck
- Vice-Presidents: Jenni Jimmerson & Anne Oglevie
- Secretary: Lily Martina Lee
- Treasurer: Vila Cox
- Membership Officer: Dagmar Rapp
- Librarian: Melanie Smith
- Web Master: Vila Cox
- Newsletter Editor: Rebecca Winter
- Sample Exchange: Julie Gerrard
- Outreach Committee: Janet Stanger & Dyan Lay
- Spinning Study Group: Melanie Smith
- Weaving Intensive: Joan Sheehan & Connie Griffin
- Day Weaving Study Group: Vila Cox
- Garment Study Group: Greta Ankeny
- COE Study Group: Mary Berent
- Bobbin Lace Study Group: Vila Cox
- Rug Punch & All Meeting: Pat Day Hartwell & Jinks Hunter

Website

<http://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org>

March Meeting

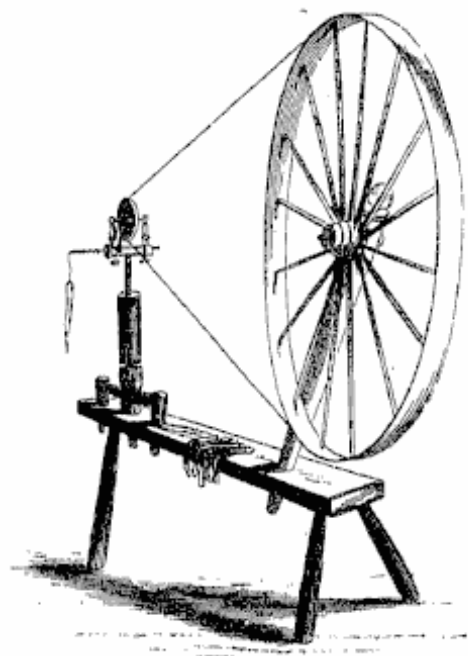
Let us give a big thank you to Mitzi Meyers for teaching so many to spin on drop spindles. It was a rousing good time, as we might expect. And a big thank you goes to Melanie Smith for her support and contribution to the process.

Sample Exchange

The April sample was woven by Rebecca Winter. The asymmetrical Shadow Weave was woven with 5/2 cotton in Bermuda and Fleshtone in the warp and the weft. It is a unit weave with no incidentals required.

- Julie Gerrard, Sample Chair





“Sheep to Yarn” Spinning Intensive!

We’re excited to announce that a Spinning Intensive is in the works. Here’s what we can share so far:

- ◆September 12 & 13, 2020
- ◆Location TBA in the Greater Boise/Nampa area
- ◆We will give each attendee about 1 lb of raw fleece from 2 different breeds (1 fine wool, 1 longwool), which will need to be scoured before the workshop. A scouring demo day will be scheduled in August for those who want to learn ways to scour.

◆Day 1 (September 12): Fiber Prep

- * We will spend the day playing with an assortment of fiber prep tools (pickers, flickers, combs, cards, drum carders, etc) on our scoured fleeces.
- * Attendees may bring their favorite tools to demonstrate and share.
- * We’ll also have some of the Guild’s own equipment to try.

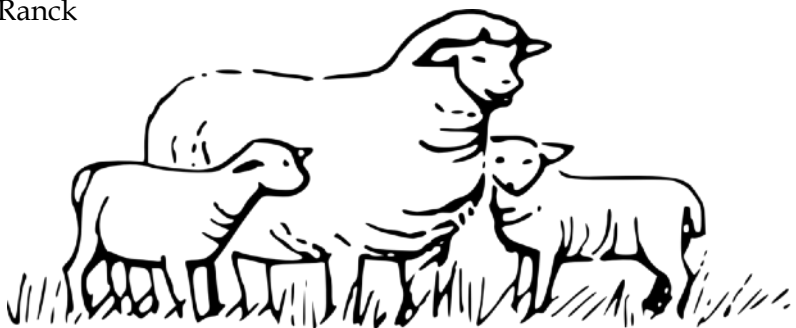
◆ Day 2 (September 13): Spinning

- * Spin your newly prepped fiber on your own spinning wheel.
 - * Experiment with different drafting methods or ratios to make different yarns.
 - * We will also set aside time for a wheel “test drive” where you’ll get to try spinning on each others’ wheels with commercially prepared fiber.
- ◆ Cost is TBD, and will depend on the number of attendees and cost of the fleeces. We are hoping for a minimum of 10 attendees.

As with the Weaving Intensive, the Spinning Intensive’s success will depend on the sharing of the greater knowledge and experience of the group, and the teamwork that will enable everyone to succeed. All skill and experience levels are welcome.

Planning is underway and we’ll send out more information soon. A signup sheet will be passed at the next Guild Meeting to gauge interest in the Spinning Intensive. If you won’t be at the March meeting, but are interested, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Dagmar Rapp and Joan Ranck



Calendar of Events

Regular Meeting:

April 4, 2020 - Regular Guild Meeting
The meeting has been cancelled.

Committee Meeting:

April 12, 2020 - Outreach Committee
The meeting has been cancelled.

Special Events:

June 12, 13 & 14, 2020 - Weaving Workshop, "Double Rainbow," by Jennifer Moore

September 12 & 13, 2020 - Spinning Intensive, "Sheep to Yarn"

Be sure to check the Inbox of your email for updates on scheduling, through groups.io.

Study Groups:

April 14, 2020 - Bobbin Lace Group
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Vila Cox's Home

April 21, 2020 - Day Weaving Study Group
10:30 a.m.
Vila Cox's Home

April, 2020 - Rug Punch+ALL Meeting
The meeting has been cancelled.

March 31, 2019 - Garment Study Group
The meeting has been cancelled. Next possible meeting will be June 30, 2020.

Fiber Arts Saturday

Look for further information on groups.io

Spinning Study Group

Meetings have been cancelled until the Fall.

Minutes Section

Board Meeting

Present: Anne Oglevie, Dagmar Rapp, Rebecca Winter, Doug Ranck, Greta Ankeny, Vila Cox, Dyan Lay, Lily Lee, Jenni Jimmerson

Vila Cox -Treasurer

The 2020-2021 budget draft was shared with the Board. There are currently 76 members. The Board discussed specific line items of the budget to develop the most accurate budget estimates.

The Board discussed how the refreshment program is going in relationship to the budget for items such as napkins. The Board plans to develop a written policy for refreshments for clarity. The Board also added a line item for non-food refreshment needs such as paper plates and napkins to the budget.

The board discussed the budget needs for the Outreach Committee. The Board recognizes the need for materials such as business cards and brochures and will update the budget with a recommendation from the committee on these costs.

Anne Oglevie moved to approve the budget with the above updates. Dagmar Rapp seconded the motion and the board voted to approve.

Nominations The slate of officers for next year was shared with the Board to prepare for the Member's Meeting.

Vila Cox -Equipment Chair

As the member with the key responsible for locking up Vila requested to designate Board members as alternates to clean up, move the furniture back into place and lock up in the event that Vila ever needs to leave early. Dyan Lay, Rebecca Winter, and Anne Oglevie volunteered.

Members Meeting

Present: Lily Lee, Kathy McGowan, Connie Griffin, Julie Gerrard, Greta Ankeny, Jenni Jimmerson, Anne Oglevie, Vila Cox, Dee Verti, Penny Schraufnagel, Peggy Jones, Irene Chandler, Jeannie Phillips, Shelly Downs, Esther Kleinkauf, Dagmar Rapp, Joan Ranck, Katzy Luhning, Linda Morton-Keithley, Janet Stanger, Sally Johnston, Melanie Smith, Cindy Schafer, Raelene Viste, Fran Wolfson-Yuschak, Chris Brady, Rebecca Winter, Pat Ann, Dyan Lay, Mary Berent, Nancy Alzola, Mitzi Meyers, Bobbie Hernke, Mary Chown, Barbara Redmond, Doug Ranck, Jamie Landry, Guests: Victoria Lane, Michele and Jeff Weber, and Don Bentley

Doug Ranck, President -Introductions

Members and visitors were welcomed. A sign-in sheet was passed around as well as a flyer about a plant sale.

Vila Cox -Treasurer, Webmaster & Equipment Chair

The Board discussed the budget. It will be updated and shared at the next meeting. There is equipment available for rental.

Dagmar Rapp, Membership Officer

New members are advised to sign up at the next meeting so that their membership fee applies to next year. Data on member's areas of interest is available in the Newsletter.

Dagmar Rapp -Spinning Intensive

The Spinning Intensive is scheduled for September 12-13 at the Saint Luke's in Nampa. Please sign up if you are interested.

Fran Wolfson-Yuschak -Nominations

The slate of officers to be voted on for next year are as follows: President -Doug Ranck, Vice Presidents -Mary Chown and Anne Oglevie, Treasurer -Mitzi Meyers, Membership Officer -Dagmar Rapp, Secretary -Sally Johnston.

Jenni Jimmerson, Co-Vice President

There are 17 members signed up for the "Double Rainbow" Double-Weave Workshop with Jennifer Moore. The cost is \$200 deposit; \$68 materials. Samples were shared from Katzy Luhring's kits from Lunatic Fringe. A few spaces are available. The workshop will be at Saint Luke's in Nampa.

Next month's program will be on Color Designing with Cynthia Newman.

Anne Oglevie, Co-Vice President

We are developing next year's activities. Please email us suggestions for workshops you would like to see offered.

Jinks Hunter -Spinning Workshop

There will be a spinning workshop at Jinks' house March 21-22.

Melanie Smith -Librarian

There are issues of Threads Magazine featuring a jacket. I am working on creating a digital backup inventory of the library's collection. The Yarn Bag was shared; Shelly Downs won. Tour de Fleece this year will have choices of tracks including spinning, weaving or other fiber arts and be held June 27-July 19.

Julie Gerrard, Sample Exchange

This month's sample is a weaving by Irene Chandler.

Dyan Lay, Social Media

There are now Handweavers' Guild of Boise Valley accounts on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

Janet Stanger, Community Outreach

Please email Janet if you would like to be added to the email list to get info about Community Outreach Committee meetings. March is National Crochet Month. You can also sign up with Janet to be part of the Mentorship Program.

Visitors, Alpacas

Visitors asked for info on how to process wool from alpacas and expressed an interest in learning how to spin. They came to the right place!

Pat Ann, Free Item

Contact Pat Ann if you would like to get free bamboo poles.

Show & Tell

Fourteen members had shows and two had tells.

- ◆ Respectfully submitted, Lily Lee, Secretary

