

# Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley  
May, 2017



## May Program: Annual Yarn and Equipment Sale

After the general meeting on May 6, we will hold our Annual Yarn and Equipment Sale. Bring any useful yarn, equipment, books, etc., that you no longer want or need and sell them at the sale. You are responsible for selling your own items. Please mark all of your items with your name and the price you that would like for the item. Remember that 10% of your profit goes to the guild. ♦Julie Gerrard, Vice-President

### Calendar of Events

- May 6, 2017 - Guild Board Meeting  
10:00 a.m. - Business Meeting  
At the Church, Prior to the Regular Meeting
- May 6, 2017 - Regular Guild Meeting  
11:30 a.m. - Business Meeting  
12:30 a.m.-Program: **Annual Yarn and Equipment Sale**  
At the Church, 2201 Woodlawn, Boise  
- Near State Street & 23rd  
- We will be meeting in the Banquet Room  
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- May 3 & 17, 2017 - Knit and Crochet Group  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Aero Cafe
- May 9, 2017 - Bobbin Lace Group  
10:00 a.m.  
Vila Cox's Home
- May 11, 2017 - Spinning Study Group - Topic - Fiber Swap  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Maralyn Larson's Club House in Meridian  
See the Spinner's Pages for more information
- May 16, 2017 - Day Weaving Study Group  
12:30 p.m. (Note time change)  
Mary Berent's home
- May 25, 2017 - Rug Punch and Needle Punch Meeting  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Meets the 4th Thursday, Location TBA
- May 28 10 AM- 12 - Spinning Event  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
Fiber Train Flash Mob, Meet-up & Spin-in  
At Lloyd Square, Nampa  
More information here - <http://fibertrainfestival.com>
- June 3, 2017 - COE Study Group  
10:00 a.m. - Before the Regular Meeting  
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- July 1-23, 2017 - Tour de Fleece Spinning Contest  
July 22, 2017 - Fiber Fun Day at Lynn's  
Painting roving or yarn, fiber exchange, potluck  
Aug 21, 2017 - Spin-in Eclipse Party at Anne's home in Weiser  
January 13, 14 & 15, 2018 - Weaving Intensive - Circles

### ANWG Guild Booth

~Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds~

#### **Bring Your Tea Bag String Projects To the May Meeting - Last Call**

Rebecca is gathering materials for the ANWG Conference Guild Booth this month. The plans are well under way, and we are excited to create a great presentation of our good fiber work.

Bring your work tagged with your name; or if you do not have tags there will be some at the meeting to apply to your work.

Any method of creating fiber art with tea bag string is encouraged. Some of you have already offered specific items, and a spreadsheet has been created to keep track of who has offered or delivered items. Care will be taken of these precious projects as we carry them to the conference.

♦Rebecca Winter, Member ANWG Booth Committee

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### Fashion Show in June

Handweavers and Spinners have the best style! Be ready to model your favorite hand-made creations in the Fashion Show showcasing our unique looks and accessories.

Attached to the newsletter is a form that Lily and I would appreciate you taking the time to fill out if you are planning on participating in the guild fashion show at the June meeting. We ask that you please return the form to Julie at the May meeting or via email to [jgerrard4@gmail.com](mailto:jgerrard4@gmail.com) by **May 13**. We will use the information to help us to determine the format and estimate the length of the fashion show.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

♦ Julie Gerrard, Vice-President

## Day Weaving Study Group

We had a great turnout for the first meeting of the Hargrove study group. Twelve people attended. This study group is working in conjunction with the Day Weaving Study Group. We have chosen to study and weave the drafts from a book published in 1792 called *The Weaver's Book and Clothier's Assistant*, by John Hargrove.

There also is a new and additional Yahoo Group online called DownOurRabbitHole. The purpose of this is to have a place to discuss and study. If you would like to watch the happenings or become more involved there, contact me for an invitation to join us online.

At the April meeting we discussed the study guide parameters and got a bit more organized. Each month we will take a group of the drafts from the book and research them to see what we can discover. It will be interesting to learn what the draft was commonly used for when the book was written. Since all we have to go by is the name, it may be tough going for some of the drafts. In May we will share what we have learned.

Another part of the study group is the sample exchange. To start figuring out how many samples will need to be woven for each draft and how many drafts each person will do, the following information is needed from those who want to be part of the sample exchange.

1. Let me know that you want to weave samples.
2. Do you want to end up with a sample from each draft in the book?
3. Do you only want to weave one or two samples and just get samples back in exchange for those you weave for others?

Currently 12 people are willing to weave as many drafts as they need to get the full set. This means each will need to weave 4 or 5 drafts. If we have more people who want to weave, the number will go down, but we will need weave more samples to share. So, if you weren't at the meeting, contact me if you want to weave samples.

I uploaded a spread sheet to the files with the drafts divided into categories. In May, we will be discussing the drafts in the "Jean-Twill-Denim" category. Each person who wants to weave samples picked one of the drafts in the category. They will research the name of the draft and share what they have found out.

Later on, some of the categories won't have enough drafts for all the weavers. Then we will rotate through the list of weavers and those who

didn't get a draft one month will be the first to get drafts the next. This way we won't always have a draft and samples to weave each time and will have a bit of a break.

There are other documents under Files in the Yahoo Group, including weaving sample sheets.

Yes, I know, this was as clear as mud. That is the way it felt at the meeting too. With so much to organize, it is pretty confusing. But I'm sure we will get it all figured out soon. Let me know if you have questions. ♦ Vila Cox

## From Your President

Spring is always an interesting time of year. So many different things on my list to get accomplished ~ so little time to do them all. I love getting back out in the garden for a while when the weather allows. On rainy days I don't feel guilty being inside at the loom. Today I will do a little of both. Tonight I'll watch the weather report and get an idea of how I should schedule the week ahead. I have a feeling the tasks will be varied and many will need to be changed on short notice when Mother Nature changes her mind. Good luck with your scheduling. I hope everyone gets a little time at the loom, spinning wheel, or another fun fiber occupation. ♦ Vila Cox, President

## April Program Thank You

For the program at our April meeting Pat Day Hartwell, along with her wonderful assistant Jack, demonstrated the process of cleaning wool for spinning. We had the pleasure of witnessing magic as raw wool was dunked into a solution of hot water and detergent, which instantly repelled the dirt and oil from the wool, releasing the strong smell of lanolin. Pat Day Hartwell also shared tips about the best types of wool for different applications as well as upcoming wool festivals.

♦ Lily Lee, Vice-President

## Membership News

Membership dues are due in June. However, I am accepting your dues now. Contact me for the Membership Form. We are asking each member to fill out the form to confirm your contact information and to gather data about your interests.

Dues continue to be a modest \$25.00. If you would like to have the Newsletter mailed to you in hard copy, there is an additional fee of \$20.00. The other method of receiving the Newsletter is through the BoiseGuild Yahoo Group, and this method is preferred.

If you have questions, please contact me.

♦ Rebecca Winter, Membership Officer

## May Sample News

This month we have a weaving sample made from Lunatic Fringe American Maid Cotton. Lynn Ruggles' sample is a twill weave used for a kitchen towel. A sample of the unwoven yarn is also attached to the sample sheet. You will want to feel this sample, it is soft and absorbent feeling. I believe Lynn will enjoy her towels for many years.

❖ Greta Ankeny, Sample Chair

### Sample Exchange Box

Members may pull samples from the Sample Exchange Box at each regular guild meeting. And remember to check your name off the list in each file folder. If you would like to participate or have questions, contact the Sample Chairperson. Also, remember, there are samples from last year that are available to anyone toward the back of the box.



## Spinner's Pages

### Study Group Happenings

May 11, 2017 - Study Study Group meeting at Maralyn's club house - 6:30 - 8:30 -  
Topic - Fiber Swap

May 28, 2017 - S Fiber Train Flash Mob, Meet-up & Spin-in - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

At Lloyd Square, Nampa - More information here - <http://fibertrainfestival.com>

July 1-23, 2017 - Tour de Fleece Spinning Contest

July 22, 2017 - Fiber Fun Day at Lynn's - Painting roving or yarn, fiber exchange, potluck

Aug 21, 2017 - Spin-in Eclipse Party at Anne's home in Weiser



### May Spinning Study Group

May 11 at Maralyn's Club House 6:30 - 8:30. This month will be our Annual Fiber Swap!

Do you have a fiber in your stash that you are thinking you just might not get around to spinning, but don't want to just give away? Bring it and see if you can swap it for something else. This will be a basic deal making trade swap. If you see some fiber that someone else brought that you would like to trade, make a deal with that person. If you have any question or need directions email Melanie.

### Fiber Study Group

Our goal is to learn about all those great fibers we either spin now or would like to try. Starting at the May Study Group Meeting we will highlight a fiber of the month. All are welcome to come and learn about all those great fibers we love to work with so much.

There will be two ways to participate. Join us at our study group meeting and learn about the fiber of the month. You can also join the Fiber Sample Exchange.

To join the sample exchange, Follow these steps:

- Pick a fiber
- Pick a month and sign up for that month
- Fill out the sample worksheet, which can be found on the guild web page under resources, linked [here](#).
- Provide at least a 1/2 oz. sample of the fiber for each person in the exchange. The amount of fiber needed for this will be determined by the number of members in the exchange.

We know that life happens so if can't make a study group meeting we will make sure you get any samples that you might miss. To sign up for the sample exchange please email Melanie with your fiber choice and month you would like to sign up for. She will coordinate the rotation of fiber topics.

If you have any questions please let Melanie know at [yarnsnthreads@aol.com](mailto:yarnsnthreads@aol.com)

## Tour de Fleece Contest

For several years spinners all over the world have been participating in what is called the Tour de Fleece. It is a three-week fun and challenging time of spinning, coinciding with the Tour de France bicycle race. This year the Guild is hosting a contest for any spinner who would like to join in on the fun. You DO NOT need to be in the valley to participate, but you Must sign up before July 1. There is also no cost to join.

To Join the fun:

1. Be a member of the Guild.
2. Set a goal. What do you want to spin for the next 3 weeks?
3. Prepare your wheel or spindle or both. Do they need a good cleaning? Oil?
4. Take a selfie with the fiber you want to spin during the tour. Email to Melanie before July 1.
5. Plan to spin every day from July 1 - 23, except for the rest days. This can be for just a few minutes or for hours, its up to you.
6. Check in with Melanie or on the guild yahoo group, about your progress once a week or so.
7. Take a selfie with your completed yarn before July 30. Email to Melanie.

## **Prizes**

There will be some great prizes for the following categories.

- The most yarn spun (singles or plied)
- The most exotic spinning location. This could be somewhere on vacation, your house, or location near your home. Get creative with this one.
- The most different number of fibers spun during the tour.
- Having met your Goal - every person who reaches their goal will win a prize.
- The Special Award - to be awarded after the tour. This will be a great prize, and you will have to wait and see what the person did to win it!

During the tour, there will be two rest days. These are days that you can take a break from spinning. This year the rest days are July 10 and 19. These would be great check-in days. We would all love to see how your Tour is going, and all the great spinning you have accomplished.

Also, there will be a special Challenge Day. Just before July 9<sup>th</sup> Melanie will email information about what the challenge for the day will be. She will also give details on how you can win that day's special prize.

All prizes and awards will be awarded at the September Guild Meeting.

## Summer Spinning Events

This summer we have scheduled three fun spinning events. We hope to see you at many of these events. Reminders and updates will be sent out on the guild yahoo group as we get closer to each event.

• May 28 - Flash Mob the Fiber Train Festival 10 AM - noon. Join us at the festival for a few hours of spinning and enjoying the festival. We will meet at the Blacksmith at 10:00 a.m. Then we will find a place to gather and spin. Plan on bringing your wheel or spindle, a chair, maybe some shopping money, and your own lunch. Who knows we might just find another cool spinning wheel mat. Location is Lloyd Square, Nampa. Find more information here - <http://fibertrainfestival.com>

• July 22 - 10-3 Painting Roving/Yarn Dye Day - Fiber Exchange - Potluck at Lynn's. 10:00 a.m. to 3-ish. This year we have decided to set up work tables to paint roving/yarn. This is a great time to learn, experiment with color and paint roving/yarn. There will be several tables set up with dye stations. We will also provide some roving and yarn that was left over from the May Yarn and Equipment Sale, to purchase at a very



discounted price (okay, really cheap), if you don't have anything to dye in your stash. Also, since we were not able to have our Annual Christmas Party this year, because of weather, we will hold a Fiber Gift Exchange. So if you would like to participate bring a fiber gift with value of at least \$15.00. Lastly, bring a food item to share at our potluck.

- August 21- Eclipse Spin-in. As you may have heard, this summer we will be having a total solar eclipse, with Weiser being one of the best places to watch it. Anne has graciously offered to host a Spin-in at her home in Weiser, so we can enjoy the eclipse and spend some fun time spinning. They are predicting that traffic will be very heavy in that direction, so for those who would like to attend, we will set up a meeting place in the Boise/Meridian area to carpool. We evil plan to meet around 7:30 in the morning. The Eclipse starts at 10:00 a.m., and we would like to be off the roads in plenty of time before it starts. So plan to bring your wheel/spindle, a food item to share, and your eclipse glasses.



## Spinning at the Fair

This year the Western Idaho Fair will be August 18<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in demonstrating spinning at the fair, Janet will be taking names soon. So be on the lookout for that.

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## Study Group News

### ♥ Wednesday Knit and Crochet Group

First and third Wednesdays at the Aero Cafe, 1 to 3 pm.

### ♥ Spinning Study Group

See the Spinner's Pages for more information.

### ♥ Day Weaving Study Group

The next meeting of the day weavers study group will be on Tuesday **May 16** at 12:30 p.m. We will be meeting at the home of Mary Berent.

### ♥ Rug Punch and Needle Punch Meeting

Meets the 4th Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., **May 25**, location TBA.

### ♥ Certificate of Excellence (COE) Study Group

The COE study group will be held just prior to the **June 3** picnic at Penny's house, beginning at 10:00 a.m. If you have ever thought of earning your Certificate of Excellence this group can offer support and encouragement. All are welcome; for more information call Mary, 939-8906.

### ♥ Bobbin Lace - Meets **May 9**, 10am at Vila's.

## Website

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

## Officers and Chairs

- President: Vila Cox 323-7736
- Vice-presidents: Lily Martina Lee 922-8612 & Julie Gerrard 342-8562
- Secretary: Joan Sheehan 794-6049
- Treasurer: Kathy McGowan 939-7215
- Membership Officer: Rebecca Winter 859-2822
- Librarians: Cindy Schafer 375-6736 & Joan Sheehan 794-6049
- Web Master: Vila Cox 323-7736
- Newsletter Editor: Rebecca Winter 859-2822
- Sample Exchange: Greta Ankeny 318-6028
- Events Coordinator: Janet Stanger 377-0746
- Spinning Study Group: Melanie Smith 385-0085
- Weaving Intensive: Melanie Smith 385-0085
- Day Weaving Study Group: Anne Oglevie 208-994-2725
- COE Study Group: Mary Berent 939-8906
- Bobbin Lace Study Group: Vila Cox 323-7736
- Rug & Needle Punch Meeting: Pat Day Hartwell 459-4324



Connecting Threads  
PO Box 6258  
Boise ID 83707

The monthly newsletter from the



**handweavers guild of boise valley, inc.**



## June Fashion Show

If you are planning to participate in the fashion show at the guild meeting in June, please take a few minutes to answer the following questions:

1. Are you willing to model your items? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many items will you be bringing? \_\_\_\_\_

We would like the following information for each item:

Name

Item Description: i.e. shawl, jacket, hat, etc.

Construction: handwoven, knitted, crocheted, felted, etc.

Fiber Content: i.e. warp - 10/2 cotton, weft - novelty yarn

Cotton, wool, Tencel, whatever yarn was used in making the item

Other Notes Regarding Item: Anything you would like us to know about the item

Please return the form to Julie Gerrard @ [jgerrard4@gmail.com](mailto:jgerrard4@gmail.com)

Thank you. This information will help us to determine the format and estimate the length of the fashion show.

Below is a form to fill out for each item

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Your Name:

Item Description:

Construction:

Fiber Content:

Other Notes Regarding Item:

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Your Name:

Item Description:

Construction:

Fiber Content:

Other Notes Regarding Item:

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Your Name:

Item Description:

Construction:

Fiber Content:

Other Notes Regarding Item:

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Your Name:

Item Description:

Construction:

Fiber Content:

Other Notes Regarding Item:

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Your Name:

Item Description:

Construction:

Fiber Content:

Other Notes Regarding Item: