

Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley
October, 2022

October Program: Fireball Alpacas



Our October program features Fireball Alpacas, a specialized alpaca ranch and fiber mill located near Marsing, Idaho. Fireball Alpacas offers a range of alpaca products and services, including fleece, yarn, and custom fiber milling. Owners Eddie and Candace Van Hout maintain a herd of seventy alpacas in fifteen different shades of fleece, and their mill utilizes their own fleece and other fibers to produce roving, yarn, and felt. Custom processing of wool and other fibers is also available.

Eddie will explain alpaca characteristics, show slides of their operation, bring samples of their products, and answer all your questions about this distinctive fiber. Eddie will also emphasize the custom services they offer in carding, spinning, and felting that can benefit guild members who need a custom-designed product.

NOTE: Fireball Alpacas is offering our Guild a special tour of their operation on Saturday, October 15. Besides a closer look at their herd and mill, they will provide a tasty treat and a pleasant place to sit for craftwork and socializing. A separate email will be sent to the membership with more details. RSVP required; event needs a minimum number to reserve the date with the Van Houts.

◆ Chris Brady, Vice President

Calendar of Events

Board Meeting

October 1, 2022 ~ 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting:

October 1, 2022 ~ 11:30 a.m.

~ **Fireball Alpacas**

At the First Congregational Church of Christ,
2201 Woodlawn, Boise, in the Banquet Room
See also the Zoom link from Dyan via Email

November 5, 2022 ~ Next Regular Meeting



Workshop:

February 10 & 11, 2023 ~ Felt Your Dream!
Prefelt Class with Nomadic Design,
by Flóra Carlile-Kovács



Study Groups:

October 5, 2022 ~ Spinning Study Group

10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. ~ At Rebecca Winter's Home

October 11, 2022 ~ Lace Study Group

10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. ~ At Vila Cox's home

October 13, 2022 ~ Beginning Weaving Study Group

6:00 p.m. ~ At Lunatic Fringe Yarns & via Zoom

October 18, 2022 ~ Day Weaving Study Group

10:30 a.m. ~ At Jenni Jimmerson's home

October 20, 2022 ~ Tapestry Study Group

7:00 p.m. ~ In-person and via zoom ~ check your email

Every Thursday ~ Thursday Fiber Friends Zoom

2:00 p.m. ~ Zoom link on page 3

November 29, 2022 ~ Garment Study Group

10:30 a.m. ~ At Lunatic Fringe Yarns

January 14, 15, & 16, 2023 ~ Weaving Intensive Study Group

Look for details in future Newsletters

Felting Workshop

Felt Your Dream! Prefelt Class with Nomadic Design

February 10-11, at the Hillview Methodist Church in Boise

Join felt artist, Flora Carlile-Kovacs, in a 2 day journey into the rug making traditions of Kyrgyzstan. You will design and make 2 mirror image panels suitable for pillow tops using an ancient pre-felt technique.

- Learn about traditional symbols
- How to plan a powerful design
- How to make your own prefelt with color transitions
- How to turn soft pre-felt into a strong durable pillow
- And some tricks if the trade that make the felting process easier

Class consists of 2 - 6hr sessions with 1 hour lunch break each day.

For beginner to advanced felters.

Sign up will begin at the October meeting.

- Barbara Redman, Vice President

Membership Directory

The membership directories are going to be available at our October 1st meeting! As of September 15th, which is the deadline for paying dues in order to have your name in the directory, we have 81 registered members! The components of the directories are currently being created, but I'll need some help with the assembly. I'll need volunteers to assist on **Sunday, September 25th, starting at 1 PM** at my house, so please let me know your availability. Even if you're able to come even for a short while, all assistance is appreciated!

- Connie Griffin, Membership Officer

Outreach Committee

First of all, I want to thank everyone who has put in time to make this the awesome guild that it is.

Secondly, we had a fantastic summer and fall season with Tour De Fleece, Spinning at the Fair, Fiber Frolic, and Old Farm Days. These things are not possible without the help of all of you. There are many exciting adventures out there just waiting for us to come find them. I am looking forward to the next season. Just remember we can always use help, even if it is just 15 minutes here or there.

- Janet Stanger Outreach Committee Chair

Groups.io

[Groups.io](https://groups.io) is not just an email provider; it provides a comprehensive set of web-based group communication tools, including a calendar, wiki (think encyclopedia), file, and photo sharing areas. What's unique about [Groups.io](https://groups.io) is that all of these features are built around the core email group system. What does this mean? If you create a [Groups.io](https://groups.io) account with the same email address you used to sign up with our handweaving guild, you can access any files we upload to this system. Guild events can also be entered here, including recurring events. You can also access any subgroups, which are specialty groups of the guild. This might include .wif files, such as those used during the annual Weaving Intensive held in January, or those files uploaded to the Beginning Weaving subgroup of the main [Groups.io](https://groups.io) site. It's a powerful resource that many members don't realize they have at their disposal. I would be happy to give a mini workshop on how [Groups.io](https://groups.io) works if there's interest, so please let me know if that's something you'd like to attend. I think this would be a good topic for a Zoom meeting but I'm open to suggestions.

- Connie Griffin, Membership Officer



From Your President

- * It has been a busy month. I also offer thanks to those who have volunteered at multiple venues to support the purposes of our Guild, and to show the public our crafts.
- * The Study Groups are rocking and rolling. Consider attending some of those.
- * The Directories are going to be the BOMB! Look forward to receiving yours at the October meeting.
- * There are plans being made to show our work in a Guild Booth at ANWG. This will be in Bend, Oregon, in June of 2023.
- * There is another conference in Logan, Utah, in July of 2023 - Intermountain Weavers Conference.
- * Should I mention (probably not) there is also a national conference on Buttons in Portland, Oregon, in August.
- * Thank you for being part of our wonderful organization.
 - ◆ Cheers, Rebecca Winter, President

Sample Exchange

The exchange sample for the month will be available at the regular guild meeting in October. It was handwoven by Katzy Luhning used for towels. She used a 4-shaft Broken and Straight Twill treadling on straight twill threading. The pattern used 10/2 unmercerized cotton for the warp and 2-ply hemp bold, with several colors for the weft. Learn more when you take a sample.

Remember to check off your name from the sheet. For those who live outside of the area they may send a SASE to the sample exchange chair. In addition, if there are left over sample after 12 months the chair they will be given to members at the Sample Chair's discretion.

- ◆ Sally Johnston, Sample Chair



Spinning Study Group

Whether you're a beginner or experienced, the spinning study group is for you! Come with your wheel or spindle and improve your skills, techniques and knowledge of this ancient art. We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 10a-1p. Our first meeting will be On October 5, at the home of Rebecca Winter. This will be an organizational and planning meeting. Hope to see you there.

- ◆ Jeannie Phillips, Study Group Chair

Lace Study Group

The Lace Study group will meet 10am to 12pm, October 11th, at Raelene Viste's house. Everyone is welcome to join us for a morning of lace and conversation.

- ◆ Vila Cox, Study Group Chair

Tapestry Study Group

The Tapestry Study Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 PM in person and also on zoom. A reminder will be sent out the week of the meeting through groups.io.

- ◆ Cindy Schafer, Study Group Chair

Thursday Fiber Friends Zoom

This is a great way to just hang out at home, show each other what we are working on, ask about project issues, inspire, encourage, and laugh. Hope you'll join every Thursday at 2:00 pm. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84563744178?pwd=WVl4WWNGRmJmd3A1KzIzaUtEaUtTZz09>

- ◆ Jinks Hunter, Study Group Chair





Day Weaving Study Group

Come join the Day Weavers group, the 3rd Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise notified. This group is about sharing, learning, and supporting. The willingness to share and the combined knowledge make this group a true learning experience every time. All guild members are welcome. Please bring your questions and projects, or just come to absorb and talk weaving.

NEXT meeting is October 18, at the home of Jenni Jimmerson.

- ◆ Jenni Jimmerson, Study Group Chair

Beginning Weaving Study Group

Beginning Weaving Study Group (BWVG)

October 13th at 6:00pm, Lunatic Fringe Yarns, in Fruitland

Topic - Yarns: Types, Qualities, and Purposes

Study in advance of our meeting to learn about the types of Yarns you already have and what you might want to learn more about.

A master yarn chart is now available in Groups io. Look in the Beginning Weaving Study Group subfile and click on files to see the resources available to you.

- ◆ Cindy Griewe, Study Group Chair

Garment Study Group

The next garment study group will meet on Tuesday November 29th at 10.30am at Lunatic Fringe Yarns in Fruitland. There will be more information in next months newsletter.

- ◆ Anne Oglevie, Study Group Chair



From Raelene Viste

I entered a piece of bobbin lace and a piece of tating in the fair. They both got blue ribbons. There was only one other piece of bobbin lace and two tatted pieces, and they all got blues. I didn't notice any hand weaving entered this year, though there was handspun yarn. Maybe some of the guild members could enter next year.



Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting ~ August 23, via Zoom

President Rebecca Winter called the business meeting to order. Other members present were treasurer Mitzi Meyers, vice president Barb Redmond, secretary Sally Johnston, past president Doug Ranck, Joan Ranck, new member Hanna Meinikheim and membership officer Connie Griffin.

Reports:

President: This business meeting is the first for 2022-2023 therefore Rebecca said we should read the duties of each board member and by-laws of the guild.

Vice President: Christine Brady was not available for this meeting but, will be working on setting up additional workshops. Perhaps a tapestry weaving workshop. Barb informed us what she (herself) has been working on. There



will be a workshop on felting in February by Flora Carlile-Kovacs. The cost will be about \$100.00 each but, may be less depending on how many participants sign up. It will be located at the Hillview Methodist Church. She has set up programs for the year. Hand outs will be available soon. She also brought up the topic of study groups. The spinning study group needs a leader. Recently it has become a more social group. Perhaps it should become an outcome-based group. Barb would like to see a study group formed on rug weaving. The guild usually holds a challenge project for those interested. This year it will be on weaving a bag.

Treasurer: Mitzi will have printed details available for those who want to read the Treasurer's report. It will not be shared with the whole group as that would require posting the information via e-mail and giving unwanted persons access. She did report that we are in the black with thousands of dollars.

Membership Officer Report: Connie said we still need information to complete the handbook/directory. She will be contacting new members and it should be ready by the October general meeting.

Rebecca inquired about our thoughts on continuing with Zoom and the Owl. We discussed the pros and cons of each. Regarding zoom meetings we agreed to see how much it was used for two months then discuss it again. The use of the Owl requires a \$500.00 deposit in case it is damaged. We all agreed that the cost was prohibitive for our purposes.

We then discussed our community outreach events. We just completed our event for the Ada County Fair. Janet Stanger (leader) was assisted by Mitzi Meyers and Jeanie Phillips. Janet made a poster/sign for us at the event. In the near future we have two more events. Fiber Frolics on the Basque Block is being sponsored by The Twisted Ewe. Items were requested for tables, business cards, our guild placard and membership forms. As our number of memberships in the guild increase we decided that we really do need a committee (not just one person to do it all). Jeanie volunteered to be on the outreach committee. We hope more people will volunteer as we have another event with the Old Time Farm Day.

We also need someone to volunteer for the chair of the sample exchange. Julie Gerrard will be stepping down this year. The meeting was adjourned.

❖ Respectfully submitted, Sally Johnston, Secretary



Regular Meeting ~ August 27

The meeting was called to order by President Rebecca Winter.

Additional members present: Vice President Barb Redmond, Secretary Sally Johnston, Membership Officer Connie Griffin, Jami Hamilton, Doug, Ranck, Joan Ranck, Kathy McGowan, Vila Cox, Cindy Schafer, Jenni Jimmerson, Anne Oglevie, Julie Gerrard, Esther Kleinkauf, Mary Berent, Nancy Alzola, Cindy Griewe, Raelene Viste, Kelly Sandusky, Jeannie Phillips, Vicki Tolefson, Michael Dillon, Cheryl Wurtenburger, Nancy Foster, Marianne Poling, Irene Chandler, Marita Turner, Tasha Denegal.

Rebecca announced and recommended we should have a positive theme for this year that shows our strengths. To that end she suggested we make our diversity show our strengths in terms of the crafts we are working on, (spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, dying, lace making, felting, etc.), our different skill levels, and what we would like to learn next.

Business:

Events: We just completed our presence at the fair. Fiber Frolic on the Basque Block will be on the 24th of September this month. Rebecca would like volunteers to meet and plan for the event. Old Farm Days will be held the 25th. We have been increasing in the number of guild members and events, ergo we need more volunteers to be on the Outreach Committee with Janet Stanger. So far Jeannie Phillips has volunteered. We need more volunteers.

Rebecca said we need someone to chair the Sample Exchange as Julie will be traveling frequently which does not give her enough time to complete these duties. Sally Johnston volunteered for this position and received the description of duties therein.

Show and Tell: exceptional as usual.

Tour de Fleece: Rebecca and Cindy explained the nature of this beautiful beast. It began as a summer activity for members who choose to participate. It is a challenge and coincides with the Tour de France bicycle race hence the name. Participants set objectives and goals for each day keeping in mind that the most unusual setting for your work will award you with coveted sheep on a bicycle trophy for one year. This year's winner is Jeannie Philips for

spinning with her drop spindle at a Cosplay event. If, like me, you don't know what that means, Jeannie said it's like a renaissance fair with for nerds .

Barb Redmond reported that she and Christine Brady are working on setting up workshops.

Connie Griffin as membership officer explained how new members can access guild information on groups.io.

Mitzi was not available to give a treasurers report. She gave Rebecca information indicating our accounts are well in the black and more specific information can be obtained by contacting Mitzi.

Vila Cox informed us how the equipment rental works. There is a monthly fee and she needs to have requests

before the general guild meeting so she can determine if the item is checked out or the user needs to turn it in. There is no fee if items are used for workshops, etc., but the check out procedure remains the same.

Upcoming conferences include the ANWG conference in Bend Oregon next June and the Intermountain Weaver's conference in Logan Utah from July 27th through the 30th 2023. Book hotel reservations now as they quickly fill up.

The meeting was adjourned.

The program was a review from each Study Group Chair about the purposes and processes of the group. Afterward members could visit with the Chairs at designated tables around the room. There was a spirited interchange of information among interested potential participants.

✦ Respectfully submitted, Sally Johnston, Secretary

Officers and Chairs

- President - Rebecca Winter
- Vice President - Barbara Redman
- Vice President - Chris Brady
- Secretary - Sally Johnston
- Treasurer - Mitzi Meyers
- Membership Officer - Connie Griffin
- Past President - Doug Ranck
- Librarian - Sally Johnston
- Web Master - Vila Cox
- Newsletter Editor - Rebecca Winter
- Sample Exchange - Sally Johnston
- Outreach Committee - Janet Stanger
- Social Media - Dyan Lay
- ANWG Representative - Connie Griffin
- Spinning Study Group - Jeannie Phillips
- Weaving Intensive Study Group - Chris Farrin & Rebecca Winter
- Day Weaving Study Group - Jenni Jimmerson
- Beginning Weaving Study Group - Cindy Griewe
- Garment Study Group - Anne Oglevie
- COE Study Group - Mary Berent
- Lace Study Group - Vila Cox
- Thursday Fiber Friends Zoom - Jinks Hunter
- Tapestry Study Group - Cindy Schafer
- Tour de Fleece - Jonks Hunter
- Pat Ann Fund Administrator - Doug Ranck
- Church of Christ Contact Person - Vila Cox
- Bowmont Church Contact Person - Rebecca Winter

Website

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

Mailing Address

PO Box 6258, Boise, ID 83707

Special Notice ~ Board Meetings

Who ~ Board Members

Committee Chairs

Any Interested Member

Where ~ At the Church, Our Regular

Meeting Location

What ~ Board Meeting

When ~ Every other month

Prior to the regular meeting

Time ~ 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Why ~ To Plan Great Fiber-y Things

