

# Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley  
September, 2019

## September Program:

### Tour de Fleece Awards, by Melanie Smith

Melanie did such a wonderful job of organizing everyone who joined the Tour de Fleece fun. We decided to have the award presentation and Tour de Fleece sharing as the September Program. Join us to see how everyone met the challenges.

Before the Program we will be starting off with a LOT of sharing of our summer fiber fun of all kinds, and we will have a social time with snacks.

◆ Jenni Jimmerson, Vice President



## Calendar of Events

September 7, 2019 - - Board Meeting

10:00 a.m. - Prior to the Regular Meeting

All Members are welcome to attend the Board Meetings

September 7, 2019 - - Regular Guild Meeting

10:30 a.m. - Library Open

11:30 a.m. - Business Meeting & Show-and-Tell

12:30 a.m. - Program: **Tour de Fleece Awards**

At the First Congregational Church of Christ,  
2201 Woodlawn, Boise, in the Banquet Room

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September 10, 2019 - Bobbin Lace Group

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Raelene Viste's Home

September 12, 2019 - Spinning Study Group

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Melanie Smith's Home

September 17, 2019 - Day Weaving Study Group

10:30 a.m.

Julie Gerrard's Home

September 19, 2019 - Rug Punch+ALL Meeting

1-4pm

Jinks Hunter's Boise Home

October 24, 2019 - Garment Study Group

10:30 a.m.

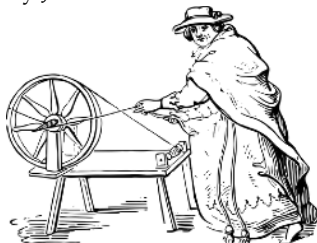
Julie Gerrard's Home

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Special Events:

January 18, 19 & 20, 2020 - Weaving Intensive - "From Profile to Block Weaves"

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



## Tour de Fleece Report & Program Instructions

Wow! Did we ever have a great Tour this year. I am so thrilled with all the yarn that was created by everyone. We had a total of 15 spinners and a lot of yarn was created. The judges had great fun following everyone's progress with our Challenges.

- \* Please bring your finished Tour de Fleece yarns to the meeting.
- \* Save them to show during the Program portion of the meeting.

◆ Melanie Smith, Tour de Fleece Chair

## Membership Dues are Due

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership for 2019-2020. This is just a gentle reminder that members must renew by September 15 in order to be included in the Directory, which comes out in October. Dues continue to be a modest \$30.00. If you would like to have the Newsletter mailed to you in hard copy there is an additional fee of \$20.00. The usual method of receiving the Newsletter is via email through the BoiseGuild at [Groups.io](http://Groups.io) list.

I'll be at the September 7 meeting to collect membership forms and dues or you can mail them if you will not be attending the meeting. The membership form and information can be found on the Guild website at <http://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org/membership.htm>. If you have questions please contact me directly.

◆ Dagmar Rapp, Membership Officer

## COMING IN 2020

### Jennifer Moore - Double Weave Workshop - "Double Rainbows"

We had a wonderful response from our members, so we have booked Jennifer for June 12, 13 & 14, 2020. As the date nears, around the first of the year, we will be asking for your sincere interest with the payment of your fees. We have a projected amount of \$225.00. We will be using Lunatic Fringe Yarns for this class. For more information you can go to Jennifer Moore's website.

◆ Jenni Jimmerson & Anne Oglevie, Vice President

### Mini Workshops

We are thinking of a couple of Mini 1 day Workshops. Topics may include Bookmaking, Warping - front to back and back to front, and how about Entrelac Knitting? Let Anne or Jenni know of your interest. We can always add something else, too!

◆ Jenni Jimmerson & Anne Oglevie, Vice President

### Book Review

One of the bonuses of working at a Tuesday Morning is you can always find a gem with a discount! Today I was picking up some things and came across a gem I think would be great for our Guild Library. The book is called *2000 Color Combinations for Graphic, Textile and Craft Designers*, by Garth Lewis. Now this is not a weaving,

spinning, or even a how-to book. It is a great book for color inspiration. So, if you are looking for a new color combination for a weaving, felting, or spinning project, this is a great place to start. For me books like this help me get out of my comfort zone to add other colors to my palette. Garth doesn't give formulas, but he does give you the basics of color theory. What he says is readable and very easy to understand. Most of his color combinations are triads and are very well displayed. I think all fiber artists would gain some inspiration from looking through this book. It will be ready to check out for your reading pleasure at the next guild meeting.

◆ Melanie, Smith, Librarian

### Send Guild Directory Ads Now

The Guild Directory is a small booklet with information about the Guild. It contains the contact information for each member, and offers an opportunity for us to support our local fiber businesses.

If you have a business advertisement you would like to place in the Directory, the fee is \$10.00 per space of 4 1/4 by 5 1/2 inches. Send your fee and your ad copy to me ASAP.

We can also look forward to a fabulous fabric sample adorning the front cover.

◆ Rebecca Winter

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## Weaving at Summer Camp, by Chris Brady

Q: What can 60 girls do with 3 hours, strips of fabric or yarn, and 10 looms?

A: In 13 days, make a total of 31 rag rugs, 19 scarves, and 10 tote bags.

This summer I was hired to lighten the load of the long-time weaving instructor at Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe near International Falls, Minnesota. Carol Grim taught weaving at the camp for the past thirteen years, growing the program from one donated floor loom to the current well-equipped studio.

My work for the camp really began last winter, scouting for inexpensive scarf yarn and rag rug fabric, then cutting, sewing, and winding those endless balls of fabric strips. The thrift shops didn't yield much yarn, so I ordered mohair, wool, and cotton from Henry's Attic and dyed it for color-coordinated yarns sets. I created some informative panels about natural fibers (including samples of the various states of fibers from origin to finished product) to spur conversation about fiber characteristics and textile history.

In June, I assisted Carol during the first camp session, then in July I had my own group of girls to teach. Ranging in age from 9 to 17, some were brand-new to weaving and some had prior camp weaving experience. The looms were an interesting mix. (Table looms: 3 Leclerc Dorothys, a Structo, and a Weavemaster. Floor looms: Ullman countermarche, Leclerc Nilus, a no-name cherry loom with snappy metal lamms, a brutish Orco, and an immense, vintage Hammett.)

We had the looms warped so the girls could focus on simply weaving during their 3-hour slot, and most of them were able to complete their project on time. (Later, I had to sew hems, tie fringe, and assemble tote bags.) It was gratifying to see how many girls created attractive stripe patterns in their projects—carefully measuring or counting picks—and how many were content with oddly proportioned rugs or strange color combinations. I learned to accept their notion of when the rug was done, rather than requiring them to meet a classical ideal. Next year, I'll try to work in some color instruction.

For the final art show on the last day of camp, I rigged up canoe paddles from the rafters and hung the larger rugs from them for a dramatic display.

The weaving course is the most popular offering at camp, with more girls clamoring for it than are spaces available. I am hopeful that we are nurturing a new generation of weavers at Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe!

## 2019 - 2020 Programs

- SEPTEMBER: "Tour de Fleece Awards" by Melanie Smith. Plus, our usual Show and Tell, with Social Time and snacks
- OCTOBER: "Recent Fiber Travels" by Kathy McGowen Plus, THE BOOK SALE, more details later.
- NOVEMBER: "Blocks" by Mary Berent
- DECEMBER: Annual Christmas Potluck and Party, at the home of Kathy McGowen
- JANUARY: "Stars" by Rebecca Winter
- FEBRUARY: "Color Theory from the Yarn Circle" by Michele Belson and Katzy Luhring from Lunatic Fringe Yarns
- MARCH: "Using the Drop Spindle" by Melanie Smith and Mitzi Meyers
- APRIL: "Color and Weave" by Cynthia Newman
- MAY: Yarn and Equipment Sale
- JUNE: Potluck and Party
- ♦ Jenni Jimmerson & Anne Oglevie, Vice Presidents

## From Your President

Beginnings. Everything starts somewhere. As I was contemplating what to write for my first newsletter as President, I thought beginnings would be a great place to start.

Welcome to everyone - new members and old.. to the beginning of a new year with the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley. I am excited to be participating with everyone as we all begin new crafts, new projects, or just a new pattern. Best of all, there are lots of new friends to be made.

My beginning. I am a fairly new weaver. Ten year's ago, if a fortune teller had said to me that I would have a room full of looms, I would have laughed! In the far past, I did have a stint as a tailor making custom polar fleece wear, rock climbing garb, and other mountaineering clothes. But, I had sold all of my machines, material, etc. Later I was given one homemaker's style Necchi sewing machine by my mother-in-law, and crafting wasn't really part of my life anymore, although I do use it.

My wife Joan has always been a knitter, so a yarn stash has always been part of our household. When we were presented with the opportunity to purchase 3 fiber sheep to help keep down our pasture, as well as potentially providing wool; we jumped at it. In an effort to learn more about these curious creatures, so different from the horse and goats we were used to on a vacation on the Oregon coast, we visited the Latimer Quilt and Textile Center in Tillamook to meet some fellow fiber sheep owners. We enjoyed a lively discussion with some

charming folks who shared their experiences with raising sheep for wool. Ready to leave with our new knowledge, we decided to tour the rest of the facility on our way out. The Latimer Quilt and Textile Center is housed in an old school house with many different rooms, and even an old gymnasium modified to have a climate controlled library and an exhibit hall.

Then we walked into an old classroom full of looms. Some were only warped, some had projects partway completed and one had an active weaver! She was weaving with paper thread to make a paper towel! What a crazy idea and we were completely engrossed. What a fascinating process. I am sure she had come to have a peaceful afternoon working on her project, but she patiently answered all our myriad questions.

I love math and have always loved all things associated with math. It was an integral part of my careers as an electrician and as a water plant/system operator. The presentation of a problem, the formation of equations, and the process to reach a solution has always been something I enjoyed. As that weaver described her process for weaving, the math involved glimmered like a shiny object for me. Thus was my beginning - I wanted to learn more about weaving.

We were lucky enough to have a family member who had an old cherry Loomcraft loom needing a new home, and I was off on my new hobby. We stumbled across the Guild whilst searching for weaving instructors (thank you, Vila). The Guild and its members have been a cornucopia of knowledge and support for me to learn to weave. I encourage everyone to take advantage of all the opportunities that the Guild offers. The Intensives, the Workshops, the Study Groups, the rental equipment, the Library, and most of all, the knowledge and friendship of our fellow members.

Happy Weaving, Fiber Arts, etc.

♦♦ Doug Ranck, President



## The Guild Library

Did you check something out of the library last May? It's time to return it to the library. We do have some exciting materials coming soon. And lots of new magazines that will be ready to check out at the next guild meeting.

### **BOOK SALE**

At the October meeting, along with all the other fun plans for the meeting, we will be holding a book sale. Just like our yarn and equipment sale in the spring, this will be for books any books that you might want to pass along. So, crafting, fiction, non-fiction etc. Just as our guild sale we will collect ten percent of everything you sell for the library. There will be more information at the guild meeting and in the next newsletter. If you have any questions just let me know. Melanie [yarnsnthreads@gmail.com](mailto:yarnsnthreads@gmail.com)

◆ Melanie Smith, Librarian

## Spinning Study Group

With fall, upon us it's time to get back to learning about fiber. The spinning study group is starting back up at our usual time and place - the second Thursday of every month at Melanie's home. This month we will be learning an about a new fiber from Dagmar. The fun is going to start at 6:30 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. If you need directions or would like to join in the study group or have any other questions just let me know.

◆ Melanie Smith, Study Group Chair

## Weaving Intensive

The topic for the 2020 Weaving Intensive is profile drafts. This 3 day workshop is held over the MLK weekend, Jan 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. All levels of skill are welcome, including newbies! This group is so welcoming, supportive, and shares so much of their collective knowledge, you will learn a lot and have tons of fun. Don't know what a profile draft is? That's OK, we'll teach you!

Contact us for more information.

◆ Connie Griffin & Joan Sheehan, Intensive Chairs

## Garment Study Group

New this fall is the Garment Study Group. Our goal is to help one another with the sewing of garments using our handwoven fabrics. All Guild members are welcome whether you are an experienced seamstress or a beginner.

Our next meeting date is October 24, 10:30 am at Julie Gerrard's home.

If you have questions please call or email me (see Guild membership booklet for my contact information).

◆ Greta Ankeny, Study Group Chair

## Sample Exchange Information

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to provide a sample for the sample exchange this coming year. I really appreciate you taking the time to provide samples for the guild members. There are still a few spots available so I will be sending around the sign-up sheet at the September meeting. Please consider providing a sample to share with guild members. It is a good way to let others know what fiber arts you are working on, or have worked on in the past. Samples may be woven, handspun, dyed, felted, knitted, crocheted or any type of fiber art.

There are sample sheets for weaving, spinning, braiding, and dyeing on the guild website at: <http://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org/resources.htm>. Please feel free to print these for your guild samples or for your personnel use for record keeping.

The samples should be given to me during the meeting at the beginning of the month and will be available for members the following month. For example, if you signed up for the month of March, your sample will be due in March and in the sample box at the April meeting.

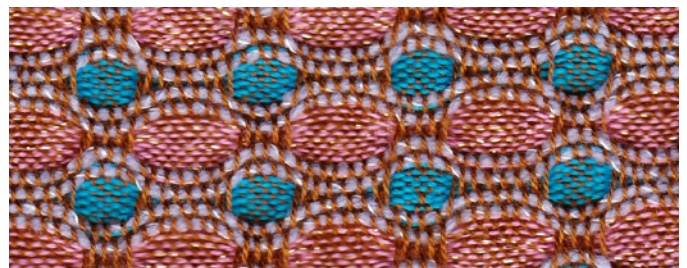
Samples are available to all guild members. The sample box is usually at each meeting. Members are responsible for taking their samples, just place a check mark by your name when you take a sample from the folder in the box. If you are a new member and your name is not listed, please add your name to the list. Each month there will have a separate sheet to check. If you missed any meetings, you may take samples from the folders for the months you missed and check your name on the list.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. ◆ Julie Gerrard, Sample Chair

## September Sample

The sample for September is a handwoven Honeycomb provided by Irene Chandler. The information for the sample is from a program on Honeycomb presented by Rebecca Winter. She used golden brown cotton for the warp and various colors and sizes for the weft.

◆ Julie Gerrard, Sample Chair



## September Rug Punch + ALL Meeting

**Date:** Thursday Sept 19, and continuing every 3rd Thursday

**Time:** 1-4pm

**Location:** Jinks Hunter 's Boise Home

For September bring rug punch or any other project you want to work on!

**Focus:** We always encourage the arts of rug and needle punch and welcome folks interested in learning this craft. We also want to reach out to the enthusiast of any sort of craft or art in fiber or other medium to join us. We welcome spinners, knitters, stitchers, tatters, crocheters, beaders, etc. We also think it would be fun to feature a different craft or art each month.

◆ Jinks Hunter, Study Group Chair

## 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
- Events Coordinator: Janet Stanger
- 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>

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## Minutes Section

### Members Meeting - June 2, 2019

#### **Annual Picnic at the residence of Anne Oglevie**

**Present:** Janet Stanger (and husband), Joan Sheehan, Doug Ranck, Joan Ranck, Rebecca Winter, Dagmar Rapp, Greta Ankeny, Anne Oglevie, Mary Berent, Cindy Schafer, Julie Gerrard, Vila Cox, Katzy Luhning, Kirsten Badger, Fran Yuschak, and two friends of Katzy, Leigh and Avia Simmons.

#### **Show and Tell**

Kirsten described a tapestry she is working on. Cindy presented a bunny that she made from Katzy's pattern, Katzy shared some Master Weaver created towels woven by Mary Berent on an 8-shaft loom. The pattern is excellent for showcasing the style of the weaver. Katzy's friend's daughter shared one of the 132 crocheted graduation caps that she created for her graduating class and Katzy's friend said she kept the food cooked and the laundry going while her daughter was making caps. Katzy also showed a section from the blanket she is weaving for her very tall son to take to college. Joan R said she obtained some wool from a Dorset cross sheep that hadn't been sheared for a couple of years to share if anyone would like some. Joan S showed some Tension Tamers that work well on her Akerworks Lazy Kate. Doug shared the basket that he made in class at the Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair in May. Rebecca shared a box of mini books that she made as a teenager for her Barbie that was discovered in going through her things; a quilt that she started in the 90's that was discovered and completed and contains 448 little squares in the center; a book that she completed with a fractured-star weave cover titled, *Passage and Choice Points*; and lastly, Rebecca shared a "glue book" with a Gold Handwoven cover.

#### **Rebecca Winter, Membership Officer**

Held a drawing for the weaver that will complete the Directory Cover. Winner was Vila Cox. The next Directory will be given out at the October Meeting.

Introduced Dagmar Rapp as the new Membership Officer.

Requested that everyone fill out the form to update their information and interests when they pay their dues. She also requested that all members fill out the new Informational Release forms which now cover Twitter, FaceBook, etc.

Rebecca will still be putting the newsletter together and said she will be looking for information mid-August as the next meeting will be September 7th.

#### **Rebecca Winter, ANWG**

Registration closes June 4th for the conference in Prince George, Canada, June 11-16th. The following year's conference will be in Kentucky; in two years, in Salem, OR; and then in Montana. Attendance at this year's event is lower than previous year's.

Rebecca is passing on the ANWG Representative hat to Joan Sheehan.

Rebecca thanked Greta for all of her hard work over the last 2 years. She successfully kept us corralled while concurrently helping us move forward. Cards were passed around for comments for Greta that Rebecca will assemble into a book.

**Vila Cox, Treasurer**

Vila said the website is working well. Equipment rental is also going well with the spinning support items in the highest demand. Some items need repair and she is looking for volunteers to help, please contact her if you are interested in helping. We still have money in the bank and the fiscal year ends the end of June. We have been successful at not overspending.

**Janet Stanger, Outreach Committee**

Passed around a sign-up sheet for the State Fair, August 16-25th. She is planning on time slots between Noon and 5pm. Any fiber activity will be welcome. Janet will also re-send out the entry information for the Fair and issued a warning about the two set of rules for entries.

**Julie Gerrard, Sample Box**

Passed around a sign-up sheet for next year's samples. Please remember to check out the sample box and check off your name for the samples you keep.

Julie recognized all of the outgoing officers and thanked them for all of their efforts and also thanked all of the incoming officers that were willing to serve.

**Sale Committee - No Report**

**Study Groups - See June's Newsletter**

**Greta Ankeny, President**

Greta performed the "Ceremonial Passing of the Bells" to the new Guild President, Doug Ranck with congratulations.

**Anne Oglevie, Incoming Co-Vice President**

Anne is looking for space to hold the Intensive. Please share ideas with her. The space either needs to be at ground level or be in a building with an elevator.

**Dagmar Rapp, Incoming Membership Officer**

Reminded everyone of Knit in Public Day on June 8th. Meet at the Rose Garden in Julia Davis Park.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned for members to enjoy the Potluck and then to participate in Barbara Redmond's Felting Workshop

- ◆ Respectfully submitted by Joan Ranck, substituting for Lily Lee, Secretary

The monthly newsletter from the



handweavers guild of boise valley, inc.

