



Fairbanks Weavers & Spinners Guild

Mailing Address:
PO Box 73152
Fairbanks, Alaska, 99707
Phone: 907-452-7737
<http://www.fairbanksweavers.org/>

Weaving Studio:
Room 219, Lathrop Building
516 2nd Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
fairbanksweavers@gmail.com

Volume 42 Issue 2 March 2021

President's Letter

Greetings All!

So happy March is here with the incredible light! Looking forward to some nice Spring days. I think March has come in like a lion and hopefully goes out like a lamb.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Haul-Away! It was such a great feeling to walk down an empty hall. We have made good progress in the studio and the second floor rooms. The sorting and organizing continues!

A big Thank You to MK Romberg for her presentation in January. MK is working on her Master Spinning Certification and is a wonderful spinning resource. The presentation was on Heritage Sheep and the Shave 'Em to Save 'Em program through the Livestock Conservancy. I enjoyed learning the characteristics of the different fleece to identify the sheep. The sample bag had seven different samples and we had a quiz to identify them - very fun and informative. The Jacob fleece we were given was delightful to spin. Thanks again MK!

The Visioning process has begun and meetings are scheduled. It sounds like the philosophy is Go Big and we can whittle down later. Looking forward to hearing the ideas people have.

After some deliberation, the Board has decided that 2021 is a good time to raise the yearly membership dues to \$30. I think the dues have been \$20 for a very long time.

Gail Mayo is asking if there are some gardeners who would be willing to grow some plants for the dye garden. Gail has seeds and you can contact her at 479-2954.

That's all for now. Happy Spring!

Buffy

Officers & Board Slate for 2020 – 2021

President:	Buffy York Dewitt 347-5370
Vice President:	Maureen English 388-4465
Secretary:	Pat Costello 457-7033
Treasurer:	Terry Roberts 455-8450
Historian:	Bonni Brooks 980-3126

Board of Directors:

Barbara Ebbesson 479-0440
Kate Hedstrom 590-1420
Sherrill Peterson 218-626-5435
Chris Waigl 699-9943

Librarian:	Barbara Ebbesson 479-0440
Hospitality:	OPEN
Newsletter:	OPEN
Fair Supervisor:	Moxie Pender 479-8443
Workshops:	OPEN
Dye Garden:	Gail Mayo 479-2954
Spinning Group:	Alice Stickney 479-3425
Busy Bees:	Jodi Gouwens 474-9144

GUILD MEETING: Annual Meeting - TBD

TOPIC: TBD

Request for Nominations

Welcome to a new fiscal year! In addition to dues being due April 1, we will be holding elections for board members at our Annual Meeting (TBD). Please send any nominations for board members to the guild email fairbanksweavers@gmail.com.

Thanks to all who are interested in continuing to support our guild!

March Guild Meeting Recap

If you missed joining us for Kate Hedstrom's guided tour through her pandemic crafting, you definitely need to carve out time for the recorded version of the meeting - her talk is definitely a do-not-miss! From Sock Madness and Tour de Fleece (twice this year!) to pattern clubs, workshops, books and study groups, it's incredible how much exploration Kate has done this year and she carefully walked us through all of it.

There really aren't words adequate to describe all of the wonderful things Kate shared with us, so I've been thinking about finding just a couple of words to describe hearing her talk about her work. For me, those words would be color, craft, curiosity and study.

Color first. The sheer volume of work we were treated to was amazing but even more incredible was all of the color - hand-dyed skeins knit into beautiful finished work, snow dyeing, gradients and more. From socks to bands, it was so much fun to see Kate's color choices and use of color and to hear her talk about continuing to discover how the colors in a skein are going to play out as she knits it up.

On the craft front, I'll just say... So. Much. Beautiful. Work. It's fun to listen to and learn from not just an amazing craftsperson, but someone so committed to learning and sharing. With each new project, she talked as much about the classes she took and the people she shared it with as the "thing" itself. It made you want to jump in and take a class with her. There is a band-weaving study group afoot, so be sure to contact Kate about that!

I suppose that's the root of what I experienced as Kate's curiosity - how is this made? Who is interested in doing it? How will this dye take? What happens as I spin it and knit it? It's a big motivator for a lot of us working with fiber and it was really eye opening hearing Kate talk about plans and patterns, but also about discoveries.

Study is where she took us in the end, recommending books (list below) and talking about how and where to learn different skills and techniques. It's easy to assume that some people were just born with knitting needles in their hands or that someone like Kate has a natural talent. Hearing about the work and reading and study was a nice reminder that we can all stretch our wings a bit by following our own curiosity and taking the time to learn new things.

I'm not sure if I'll find the time to join the band weaving study group and Tour de Fleece may not be part of my summer this year, but I do know that after seeing what Kate did in just a year, I'm feeling inspired to grab a friend, take a class and find out what's around the next wooly corner!

-Bonni Brooks

Here's the info to watch the Zoom recording of Kate's presentation:

Topic: FWSG March Presentation - Kate Hedstrom
Start Time : Mar 9, 2021 05:45 PM

Meeting Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/UGEcXJhpHvBOH2k-eSHViWNLsDzitXR8kAqpFdHfmLGrJc3yRUexZmCzuvD736zUmHeAzujxdYBOjcTr>

Access Passcode: yyya&7^4

Study Group, Books and Other Resources on Band Weaving

Kate Hedstrom is looking for others who would be interested in participating in a Band Weaving Study Group. Please contact Kate at yngvild210@gmail.com if you are interested.

And here's the list of recommended books and other resources for band weaving:

Inkle Pattern Directory by Anne Dixon

Applesies and Fox Noses - Finnish Tabletweoven Bands by Maikki Karisto & Mervi Pasanen

Tablets at Work by Claudia Wollny

A Simplified Guide to Historical Tablet Weaving by Dagny Sveinsdottir and Bjorn Saemundarson

Inkle Weaving by Helene Bress

In Celebration of Plain Weave: Color and Design Inspiration for Inkle Weavers

by Annie Machale

Boro and Sashiko Harmonious Imperfection by Shannon & Jason Mullett-Bowlsby, the Shibaguyz

Dyeing to Spin and Knit by Felicia Lo

Also online software for planning warps:

<http://www.carolingianrealm.info/PatternGenerator.php>

<https://jamesba.github.io/tabletweave/>

And a video about the latter:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmPy61SSTP0>

Tanana Valley State Fair Update

TVSF will be back again this summer, trying again with last year's theme.

Theme: Don't Stop Be-Leafin'

Colors: Purple and Green

Flower: Lupine (plant now to be ready for the fair!)

Vegetable: Spinach

Dates: July 30-August 8

NON-PERISHABLE ENTRY DATES: Saturday, July 24, 1-6pm & Sunday, July 25, 11-2pm.

Pick up your entries on Monday, August 9, 2-6pm.

-Kate

Workshop Update

There are currently no guild workshops scheduled. We do have ideas for a couple of workshops this summer and fall, though, so stay tuned! If you'd like to teach a workshop or hear of one you'd like the guild to sponsor, please let us know.

Also, keep an eye out for more workshops in the future at Calypso Farm, <https://calypsofarm.org/> and A Weaver's Yarn, <http://www.aweaversyarn.com/> and, of course, the guild!

THANK YOU *** THANK YOU *** THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the Hallway Haul-Away Event. We had accumulated so much stuff in the hallway at the studio that we were having trouble getting from one room to another. The hallway was cleared by some very energetic and strong individuals!

Thank you also to all who have bought books and made other donations to the guild. Your generosity is truly appreciated. I believe that we raised almost enough to cover our insurance costs for the next year!

Thank you also to those who have prepaid dues or already renewed your membership for the next year. For the rest of us, it's time to renew our membership! A renewal form can be found on the last page of the newsletter. If you'd rather have one sent via the post office, please email the guild at fairbanksweavers@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your support as we navigate new territory without Penny.

Interesting Find by Shawna Laderach



Non-Profit Profit

We would like to know what other guilds operating as non-profit organizations do for funds. Our main project in years past has been a raffle held every summer at the Tanana Valley Fair. This year, however, the state has "cracked down on gambling" and denied our 25¢-a-ticket raffle permit!! Isolated as we are here in Fairbanks, it takes considerable funds to import teachers of workshops, films, and the sort of outside stimulation that keeps us from getting stagnant . . .

If there is little a non-profit organization can do to make *enough* profit to carry out the goals of its existence, how about incorporation? How have they dealt with federal tax or, rather, how has it dealt with them? Any assistance you can give us would be appreciated, and I am sure other guilds must, from time to time, have similar problems.

Ann Kacsur
Fairbanks Weaver's Guild

We would also like to know more about this subject and the experiences of other guilds. Please write us at the office, and we will see that Ann Kacsur gets the information.

Pri
Re;
Ha
(Be
su
gra
pri
no
Sh
pe
pri
\$2.

Tv
As
H.
Fe
ca
w
Is
th
w
a
tv
ta
sl

This article was found in a 1980 issue of *Shuttle, Spindle and Dyepot*. Wouldn't it be great if someone found responses to this Letter to the Editor in future issues of *Shuttle, Spindle and Dyepot*? We'd love to hear from you regarding your ideas and suggestions related to fundraising. As with all nonprofit organizations, fundraising is extremely important to keeping our guild going.

ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST WEAVERS GUILDS MEMBERSHIP

A Guild member has donated a membership in the **Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds (ANWG)** for the Fairbanks Weavers' and Spinners' Guild (FWSG). Terry Roberts has volunteered to be FWSG's first ANWG Representative. ANWG provides services and support to its Member Guilds with the idea that combining resources and providing an economy of scale, services can be provided that would not be possible for the individual guilds to provide on their own. Please check out their website: <https://northwestweavers.org/> There are links to Classified Ads, Classes, & Instructors located in the Pacific Northwest. They also put on a Conference every two years. The 2019 Conference was in Prince George, BC. 2021 was scheduled for Salem, OR, but was canceled. They are looking for a venue for 2023. One of our members (Annita Magee from Anchorage) has attended these Conferences in the past and learned a lot.

Here is a link to the January newsletter:

<https://northwestweavers.org/wp-content/uploads/ANWG-Newsletter-January-2021.pdf>

Here is information from an article in that newsletter:

Late last year, a set of Northwest Weavers publications was found in a weaver's studio in West Virginia and the hard copies were sent to ANWG. Ten guilds across the Northwest requested one of the two sets of documents for their libraries. Eugene Weavers' Guild and Umpqua Weavers and Spinners Guild won the drawing to receive the actual documents. The documents are also available in electronic form on the ANWG website, and may be found at this link: <https://northwestweavers.org/education/wrapped-in-history/historicaldrafts/>

Swatch of the Month

The answer for the previous mystery swatch: It is a very fine overshot. Yes, we did a bit of this in the sampler in Penny's class. There is a mimeograph index card attached with the info: "Pattern: Miniature Lover's Knot. Weave: Overshot. Source: Weaver Vol. V, No. 3. Threading: 657 threads. No. Ply 24/3. No. Reed 15. No. per dent: 2. No. of threads to pattern -44. No. inches wide in reed: 21.1 in. No. inches wide in web: 19.5. Standard Tie-up." This sample and meticulous record made by Marian C. Grady, a weaver in Kansas in the 50's and 60's.

Mrs. Grady's overshot from the last newsletter:



Let's get some chatter going about this next one... Any weavers out there?

For the next mystery swatch: I wove this in my first ever weaving class, in the 70's. Here is a hint, I've been a lace lover for a very long time.

218 626 5435. sLpeterson2@alaska.edu.



Studio Update

As we continue to work to clear everything out of the studio rooms, as well as Penny's other personal studio space, we're finding items which we'd love to know more about. If you recognize any of these items, please email the guild at fairbanksweavers@gmail.com with any information you have. Thanks in advance!



This woven wall hanging is hanging in the studio room with all of the looms.



This shirt is hanging about the looms in the studio.



This vest is hanging by the door in the far corner of the studio room with all the looms.



This appears to be a handmade spinning wheel with a steel wheel. It's extremely heavy! Any ideas where this wheel came from?

Books and Magazines Available Still Available

We sent out a spreadsheet earlier this month with a list of guild books for sale. Many of those books are still available. We also have many magazines that are still available, most for a small donation to the guild. However, we would like to sell the copies of *Handweaver* and *Craftsman* (assorted 1950's) and *Prairie Wool Companion* (1980's) as they are more of a collector's item. Contact Bonni at bonontherun@gmail.com for more information.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Fairbanks Weavers' & Spinners' Guild

PO Box 73152, Fairbanks, AK 99707-3152

Annual membership (April through March)

\$30 per year

(\$15 for the rest of a year if paid after September 1st)

Check one: Renewal New Membership

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ for _____ year(s) [You can join for multiple years if you wish]

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

An email announcement is sent when the newsletter is available on our website, so please provide a legible email address. Please enclose your check (to: Fairbanks Weavers' & Spinners' Guild) and this form in the envelope using the address shown above.

Thank you for joining the Fairbanks Weavers' & Spinners' Guild.

<http://www.fairbanksweavers.org/> • fairbanksweavers@gmail.com • (907) 452-7737

Your voluntary contribution (please check)

I enclose a donation check of \$ _____ Please send me a donation receipt.

I am interested in developing merchandizing, for example:

I could develop a kit for sale (Card weaving kit? Rag rug kit? Drop spindle kit? Handwoven project bag kit? Kids' activity kit?)

I could design a T-Shirt print / other merchandise for an online fundraiser

I could make cards for sale (equipment available)

I could teach a class online or in person on _____.

I could make cards for sale (equipment available in the weaving studio)

I have skills in communications or technology I could offer:

I can maintain websites

I could run social media communications

I could design a logo

I know about PayPal/eCommerce/Patreon or similar

I know about accounting

I know about fundraising

Other: _____

I might be interested in buying or renting a loom in the near future. Please contact me about availability (See also <http://www.fairbanksweavers.org/>, category Looms and Equipment for Sale.)

I am interested in serving on the FWSG board. Please contact me about open positions.

Thank you for your interest. A board member or other Guild officer will contact you. 