

## Guild Activity Reports

### Aurora Colony Handspinner's Guild

Representative: Carrie Rohn

From: October 2012 to March 2013

Monthly Meeting:

**October** – Sharon and Joel Woodcock spoke about how living in Asia changed their lives and lead them to develop Lantern Moon. They showed slides and talked about their work making fine fiber from lotus leaves in Cambodia. Examples of woven fabrics made from a combination of banana and silk and lotus and silk were passed around.

**November and December** – No meetings were held.

**January** – We saw the results of the White after Labor Day challenge. Participants picked one, two or three paper bags containing fiber not knowing what was inside. Number one held merino, number two had a combination of cashmere and silk and number three had bits and pieces of colored fiber. If you didn't make anything from the fiber you were going to have to pay 5 dollars. There was an incentive to get something turned in. The results ranged from the finest lace shawls to a felted ukulele case. There were felted bowls, a felted kit to hold pens, paper and supplies for recording design ideas. There was a lace knit cowl, baby jumper with matching hat, ½ a shawl and a snood. There were two bobbins with wool on them and one spinning wheel with the fiber being spun as we shared.

**February** – The program was given by Trish Andersen on Stash Management. She spoke about fiber storage, processing, work area and inventory.

**March** – We didn't have a program because no one would volunteer for treasurer.

### Special Events"

**Annual Workshops** – Classes were held in Beginning Spinning by Barb Quinn, Hand Painted Roving by Sandoval McNair, Stranded in your Socks by Mary Scott Huff, Spinning with a Russian Spindle by Debbie Fagnant, Beaded Treasure Bag by Sivia Harding, Start to Finish: Planning for Happy Endings by Mary Scott Huff.

**Christmas Party** – The annual party and pot luck were a great way to visit with friends, bid on center pieces, buy goodies from the vendor tables and take part in the gift exchange.

**Antique Spinning Wheel Showcase** – This annual 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of March involves demonstrating spinning at the Aurora Colony Museum and was nicely organized by Terry Blackwell and Vicki Costa.. We wore historical costumes and demonstrated in two different buildings while spinning was taught in the wash house. There were alpacas and Angora rabbits in the barn area. Terry and Vicki gave each volunteer a handmade purse filled with even more handmade goodies. The winning ticket for the antique spinning wheel raffle was chosen and a member of the guild won.

.....

## CENTRAL OREGON SPINNERS & WEAVERS REPORT

April 2013

Carol Piersee

Central Oregon is blessed with an abundant supply of Ponderosa Pine needles. In October the Guild speaker was a local woman who does lovely pine needle baskets. She gave a demonstration and recommended the book Pine Needle Basketry by Jean Mallon

November is our end of the season Potluck and sharing of the Study Groups.

We commenced in February with a program on Gansy Knitting. One of our members was born in England and from an early age the children learned to knit sweaters. The Gansy Sweater was worn by the fisherman all of the time. Each village had its own pattern. If a fisherman was lost at sea his body could be identified by his sweater. What characterized these sweaters is that they were very tight fitting and had gussets knit into the neck and under arms. The patterns on the sweaters are adaptable to weaving patterns.

One of our members, Mary Anna Swinnerton went to Guatemala to work on Habitat for Humanity homes. She was able to connect with the weavers of the area and along with another member, whose husband was also on the trip, presented a program of the various weavings she encountered.



Spring 2013 WeGO report  
**Columbia Fibre Guild**  
Kathy Semmes, rep

We were requested to bring any needlework project finished, completed or in need of repair to our October meeting. We then talked about how we would repair those in need of repair. Individual planning processes for new projects were discussed

In November a couple of our members who own an Alpaca breeding farm told us everything we wanted to know about alpacas but were afraid to ask. They brought raw fleeces, finished yarn and various home textiles and fashion items made of alpaca.

In December we had our annual Holiday potluck party. We have a silent auction to raise some funds but mostly to trade fiber related items between ourselves as some things seem to come back year after year.

We really didn't have a program in January. We spent the time discussing our guild project of creating items for local charities.

We were presented with a program in February, on a workshop that was presented earlier in the year on "Weaving a Tartan" that was taught by Linda Davis. We were all asked to bring our tartan project to share with the rest of the guild.

Our March program was the presentation of all the year's work on the items to be donated to local charities: baby hats, baby blankets and prayer shawls. They were wonderful.

In April we were presented with a program on rug hooking using wool fabric strips. Extensive details were given on dying the strips. Lots of examples were shown along with a demonstration of this method of rug hooking.

Through out the year we have been reminding each other to keep items to enter into our local county fairs. We are also really trying to be more visible in the communities in the Gorge.

Our spinning group continues to meet on Tuesdays in various homes, they will soon be moving outdoors.

Our weaving group has opened up the studio for a session on Monday nights in hopes of attracting new members who can't participate on Fridays because they have to work.



## **Corvallis Handweavers and Spinners Guild**

Thanks to the generous scholarship from WeGO, the Corvallis Handweavers and Spinners Guild was inspired and able to host a two-day Kumihimo workshop taught by Rosalie Neilson of Portland.

Twelve participants (the maximum class size) attended, which included Guild members and non-members. The event brought in several new members and provided some great public exposure for us.

Each participant selected 2 colors of "Impostor" silk, a more reasonably priced alternative to real silk, for creating our 36" sampler. Those of us without our own equipment could rent the necessary marudai (round stand), omori (weighted bag) and tama (weighted bobbins).

Saturday morning was spent familiarizing ourselves with the equipment and winding the "silk" on to the weighted bobbins. As is so often the case when starting a new project, this step was not as much fun as actually braiding but proved to be an interesting lesson in space allocation as all 12 of us tried to spread out 60" lengths of the multi-strand fibers (with a tendency to tangle) in a room that suddenly seemed too small.

Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday was spent exploring the 17 different color and braid patterns which Rosalie had provided. The room grew quiet as we each concentrated until we mastered a pattern then moved on to the next one.

The most common comments heard over the two days:

- 1) Oh, Oh!
- 2) Darn! I forgot where I was!
- 3) Where can I use my Kumihimo braids?

In response to this last question, Rosalie presented a slide show of traditional Japanese clothing. This included men's and women's kimonos (where braids were used for fasteners and belts), ancient warrior protective clothing (which was assembled and decorated with braids), and baskets and lacquer boxes using braided closures.

Over the two days Rosalie patiently helped us untangle our twisted minds and braids and showed us the mental and physical beauty of this technique.

As a sign of the success of the workshop, a large percentage of participants who did not previously own the necessary equipment were anxious to buy the tools and silk necessary to create more lovely braids at home.

Thanks again to WeGO for the scholarship which made it possible!



**Eugene Weavers' Guild**  
Spring 2013  
Shanna Smith Suttner

The Eugene Weavers' Guild meets on the fourth Monday from 9:30- noonish at the Eugene Textile Center. Our Second Saturday group meets on the second Saturday of each month, also at ETC, for a casual discussion or field trip.

We had our annual fund-raising auction of donated stuff in October. Everyone was very generous and we raised almost \$620 for future expenses.

In November, Doramay Keasbey spoke about Sumptuous Satin and Dazzling Damask weaves. She had amazing samples and guided us through planning and diagramming for our own projects.

Also in November we had our holiday sale at ETC. Although sales were disappointing, plans are in the works for a 2013 sale. (We blame it on the Civil War game on Saturday.) We don't meet in December.

Nancy Hoskins gave a program in January called 'Why Not Try Tapestry?' She spoke about the history of tapestry and about her journey of learning tapestry. She also gave us directions for a simple loom to get started.

February's program and workshop were given by Rosalie Nielson. The program was titled "Ripped About Rep" and the workshop "It's in The Warp: Color And Design In Rep". Everyone in the workshop had wonderful show and tell for the next month.

In March, Susie Liles talked about Yarns and Setts for Weaving. After an introduction, Susie talked specifics and took questions from members about particular yarns and projects.



**Heritage Textile Arts Guild** WeGO Spring meeting April 13, 2013  
Barbara Martin

Since October, Heritage has been rebuilding and adjusting to new circumstances. We now have 30 members, 5 of whom are new weavers. Our meetings have included member-led discussions on the use of left over yarn (especially in socks), different means of dying and general times of getting better acquainted.

Last week, we received the traveling show and have set up a beautiful display in one of the store fronts at Pony Village. Thursday, we held a reception during the traditional Art Walk time which included a drawing for gift certificates.



Activities of **Klamath Spinners and Weavers Guild**, Carol Wylie

November 2012 - Lessons in needle weaving

December, 2012 - Annual cookie and ornament exchange.

January 2013 - Display of various laces

February 2013 - Learning to knit entrelac

March 2013 - Learning how to do a 7 strand braid.

April 2013 - Demonstrating 2 techniques of incorporating beads into weaving  
and 2 techniques of incorporating beads into tarn.



## **Portland Handweavers Guild** News for October 2012 through April 2013

Janis Johnson

Some of the smaller guilds represented in WeGO get plenty of member participation, but with a guild as large as PHG it's difficult to get a lot of people working towards a common goal. This year our president, Chris Rossi, proposed that we adopt a theme of Japanese textiles with several study groups covering various aspects of the topic, and that we use that theme for our group booth at the ANWG 2013 conference. Three study groups have been active all year, and a fourth got a good start but petered out. Chris has hosted monthly drop-in indigo dye sessions at her home and those have been well-attended and great fun.

This year we continued to have day meetings every month as well as the usual evening meetings on the second Thursday. The day meetings have encouraged several members to become more involved in the guild again. Usually our meetings feature a speaker, announcements, show and tell, access to the guild's library, and time for socializing. We've had some good programs this year. In October our planned program with Anne Fields was canceled due to illness and our Programs Director Linda Loken stepped in to lead some exercises on color theory. Our November speaker was longtime PHG member Ruth Dabritz on "A Weaving Odyssey" describing her travels around the world, particularly her encounters with textiles. In December we had a Holiday Social and Gift Exchange along with a sale of woven items from Guatemala, Peru, and participants from Project Grow in Portland. January brought Barbara Setsu Pickett to talk to us about velvet weaving around the world. Her planned workshop on velvet workshop was postponed until later in April. In February we learned about flax and linen in the Willamette Valley from Nancy Hoskins, who also presented a two-day workshop about color. In March PHG member Vicki McArdle talked about weaving on a loom with various kinds of grass as weft; she showed slides of her hangings and talked about various technical details of handling grass. Our April meetings, just two days ago, were particularly enjoyable. The Japanese textile study groups presented the work they've done so far this year and we had a general show and tell for others who were not in any of the study groups. We brought in our submissions for the PHG guild booth at the upcoming ANWG conference and. President Chris and the rest of us were overwhelmed at the excellent response of our members to the challenge that Chris had given us at the beginning of the year.

PHG once again had a Fall "Handwovens for the Holidays" sale, this time at the Lakewood Center in Lake Oswego.

The annual PHG retreat had a record 27 participants this year as we gathered for the middle weekend in March at Cedar Ridge Retreat Center in Vernonia. We had a larger common space than in previous years but still did a good job of filling it with looms, spinning wheels, drum carders, sewing machines and assorted other tools.

PHG was proud to present the WeGO traveling show at the gallery at Multnomah Arts Center for the month of March. Ladella Williams and several helpers did a wonderful job of setting up (and taking down) the display.

Our big annual sale as part of the Gathering of the Guilds takes place at the Oregon Convention Center at the end of April. Besides sales of gorgeous handwovens we'll have plenty of demonstrations and will organize a fashion show for all of the guilds: imagine models in handwoven clothing with beaded, glass, or metal jewelry, and the announcer sitting in a hand-crafted wooden rocking chair with a lovely woven throw on her lap. Come by if you're in Portland that weekend.



**Rogue Valley Handweaver's Guild Spring 2013 WeGO Report Covering Oct. 2012 thru March 2013**

Submitted by: Patricia Dorunda

**October Meeting:** Nadine Purcell reviewed the new Weavers Inkle Pattern Directory from Interweave Press, edited by Anne Dixon and recommended same for our library. With the weather cooperating beautifully, Denise Maas, Dennis Rubert, Jeanette Eliason and Kathy Griffith led us in a very fun and successful gloved hands-on program about dyeing wool.

**November Mini-Meeting:** We held a mini-meeting during the FiberMania Event at the Josephine County Fairgrounds. Many members from both guilds were helping cover the guilds' booth as well as taking classes and giving classes.

Nadine Purcell and Dorothy McKinley conducted an informal seminar on the regular meeting day covering general questions, the Certificate of Accomplishment Program and how to use *A Handweaver's Pattern Book* by Marguerite Porter Davison.

**December Meeting:** Our Guild President, Dennis Rubert and his wife, Judi, opened their holiday decorated home to us for our Christmas Pot Luck Meeting. Many people participated in a gift exchange of hand-made items. The matter of hosting the WeGO Traveling Show was put to a vote and was unanimously supported.

**January Meeting:** Due to the death of a family member of the presenter, a program on crochet finishes had to be postponed. As it turned out, there was a great deal of business to attend to with regard to the WeGO Traveling Show, and our Outreach Program. Patricia Dorunda was awarded the \$200.00 grant from WeGO as well as a \$200.00 scholarship from the guild to allow attendance at the 2013 ANWG Conference.

**February Meeting:** Jeanette Eliason presented an overview of chenille, including a demonstration of how to make it. LeAnne Krieger was awarded a \$200.00 scholarship from the guild to help defray expenses in connection with attending the 2013 ANWG Conference.

**March Meeting:** Darcy VanVuren reviewed *The Fleece & Fiber Sourcebook* by Carol Ekarius and Deborah Robson, which she found to be very thorough and a good resource. Denise Maas presented a hands-on Needle Punch program. She had previously allowed us to select a pattern and had traced our choice on Monks Cloth and during the meeting instructed us in use of a punch.

**Outreach:** Talent Harvest Festival, FiberMania, Puss & Boots Silent Auction, and the S.O. Antiques and Collectibles Show.

**Traveling Show Committee Meetings:** There have been three meetings since the beginning of the year, all well-attended by both guilds with excellent support and volunteerism. We anticipate a well publicized, well organized, and well hosted show.



## Saturday Handweaver's Guild Report

October – March 2013

Mary Portinga, representative

The annual silent auction was held during our October meeting. Items included knitted, crocheted, hand woven or other fiber related items, yarn, equipment, jewelry, books and items suitable for holiday gifts. At the December meeting we will decide how many scholarships to award and in what amount. We will also decide whether to use some of the proceeds for the library fund. Our Challenge this year is called 5 Card Draw. Lucy brought cards with specific instructions for a project. Each member chose 5 cards with the option to exclude one of the suggestions while keeping the other 4. It will be very interesting to see what each member comes up with.

Our November meeting was a joint meeting with Rogue Valley Handweavers' Guild at Fiber Mania in Grants Pass. We shared a booth where we demonstrated weaving and promoted our guilds. We had a beautiful display of our work and we met many friends who enjoyed talking weaving and spinning with us. It was a great outreach opportunity for our guilds.

The December meeting was a Holiday Potluck and Gift exchange.

In January, our program was on Creative Clothing. We were all to bring a favorite or an inspiring piece of clothing to the meeting for discussion. It was a fun and very interesting meeting with many fiber stories around each piece. Lucy DeFranco was awarded one of the \$400 ANWG scholarships to attend the June conference in Bellingham, WA. She will share what she learned from her seminars in a future guild program. The WEGO traveling show will be arriving in the Rogue Valley after all. A beautiful site in Jacksonville at Art Presence gallery was located by Patricia Dorunda, WEGO rep from Rogue Valley Guild. Both of our guilds will be participating in all aspects of the show.

February's meeting was a program of Hands-On Card Weaving by Bridget Bloch. Bridget was a terrific teacher and had cards warped for each participant. We all made beautiful strips of woven pattern. Many of us had never done card weaving so it was a great learning opportunity. A workshop later in spring is being planned on Woven Shibori by Linda Hartshorn.

Last month our March program was a presentation of Nuno Felting by Thalia Keple. We also discussed and finalized the many details of hosting the Traveling Show. We are all looking forward to receiving the show and presenting it to the Rogue Valley.



## **Salem Fiberarts Guild**

April 2013, Penny Unverzagt, WeGO Rep

In October the guild program was a field trip to the Hallie Ford Museum of Art. We toured the exhibit of Turkish Flatweaves. Member Penny Unverzagt was the docent leading the tour. Also in October, we had our annual Handweavers' Sale.

The November program subject was Color. Speaker Ilisha Helfman, daughter of a tapestry weaver spoke about color theory as it applies to textiles. She is an accomplished knitter and brought many color filled samples, as well as some of her tapestries.

December traditionally is our Potluck. We also bring food donations for Marion-Polk Food Share. Magic at the Mill is a five evening holiday event when the weaving studio is open to visitors, with demonstrations and short hand-on weaving experiences.

January was our popular Dye Day. We also were able to view the newest exhibit in the Mill building, "When We Were Young: Childhood Around the Valley."

February was a work day for our conference Goody Bag donations. The morning included a yarn exchange and sale.

Rosalie Nielson was the March presenter. She did a lecture and slide show in the morning. After lunch an afternoon workshop followed. Eighteen members participated in that. Rosalie's enthusiasm and creativity kept the ideas coming.

April's program will be a video presentation on Indigo Dyeing. A hands-on demonstration will follow at another meeting. Members will once again get an introduction to the latest gallery exhibit. The exhibit will feature the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde Community in Oregon – their assimilation, termination and restoration.



**WEBFOOT WEAVERS GUILD WEGO SPRING GENERAL MEETING APRIL 13,  
2013 ACTIVITY REPORT - BROOKINGS**

October and November found the Webfoot Weavers' guild members busily working at the Thread Shed to complete the 2-year project of publishing a date book. The project gathered steam as we prepared our fundraiser for sale with the coming holiday season. The project itself was a giant learning experience for all members, whether novice or experienced. We learned the nuances of weaving with 20/2 yarn, design & color, patterns, and how to untangle, and most importantly, group dynamics. The project was a great success and fun was had by all. December brought about our usual holiday potluck, discussion of 2012, and we made preliminary plans for 2013. The big topic was the sale of our completed date books. January saw the installation of new officers, finalization of UFO's and program and the budget for 2013. February found the guild members in a gather- and- information sharing stage for the WeGO Traveling show. Webfoot will be joining two Southern Oregon Guilds, Heritage Textile Arts and Humbug Mnt., to sponsor the show at the Pony Village Mall in North Bend in April. We decided to do a "red project" for Valentine's Day . Each guild member was to pick a "red project", bring it to the meeting to work on. We had crocheted hearts, ribbon woven notecards, various knitted pieces, and some tatting. March was just a board meeting as we found ourselves regrouping for officers for the current year. We finalized the working plan for the tri-hosting of the WeGO traveling show. An exercise in long-distance logistics. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Penny Unverzagt of Salem Guild, for all of the hard work she put in to get the Webfoot date book ready for sale. Without Penny, this date book would not have materialized and we thank you, Penny, for your sharing of your design and the actual printing of this beautiful book. Respectfully submitted, Chris Scott



**Complex Weavers News:** Please share with your Guild members:

Of significance is the passing of one of the CW mentors, Paul O'Conner. There are articles on the web that detail his incredible history from before he was actually weaving. The information blew me away since I had met Paul later in his life and was pleased to have him as a mentor especially on Double Weave. Wow! What an amazing man. Contact [ladella@teleport.com](mailto:ladella@teleport.com) if you want leads to those articles,

CW will hold their AGM meeting at ANWG Conference 2013. If you are a member of CW you will have received information. Incidentally, Member news is now coming as electronic news. The CWJ continues to be magnificent in color photos.

CWJ award was received for the WeGO Show by Cindi Kitchen for her "Gingko Scarf". The Award has also been requested for the ANWG Conference 2013 so hopefully you have submitted work therein to a juried venue.

Go to the [www.complex-weavers.org](http://www.complex-weavers.org) website for more information on CW and how to join. Information cards are available for you to take home to your Guild members.

The Journal is said to be one of the best multi-shaft publications available.

In 2014 CW Seminars to be held on the west Coast in Tacoma. Information available on website.

**Submitted by Ladella Williams** as CW Rep for Oregon for WeGO Spring Meeting 2013