



Guild Reports

SPRING 2014



WeGO

Weaving Guilds of Oregon

www.wegoregon.org

AURORA COLONY HANDSPINNER'S GUILD - CARRIE ROHN

October – Members could choose whether or not to participate in the Primarily Speaking fiber challenge. Each participant received 2 oz. each of two primary colors of wool. They could add 2 more oz. of other "stuff". It could be more wool or other fibers with which you could felt, knit spin or do as you wished. Projects were due at the February meeting and will be categorized as Strictly Primary (the two colors), Transitional (blended) or Wild Card (anything goes). The colors in the bags were either yellow and red or red and blue and there was to be no trading.

November and December – No meetings were held.

January – Judy Anderson gave a step-by-step talk about how to sign up and use the web site [Ravelry](https://www.ravelry.com). She showed how to do searches for books, designers, groups and how to find a pattern to accommodate the amount of yarn you have for your project.

February – The much anticipated results of the Primarily Speaking challenge were shown. There were felted pieces, knitted hats, shawls, socks, cowls, an historical doll with knitted costume, a sweater and cowl for two pink flamingos, some skeins of yarn and some plans for future projects.

March – Members made spinning wheel charms as the guild gifts for the goodie bags for the NWRSA Conference.

Special Events:

Annual Workshops – All day workshops were Beginning Spinning taught by Barb Quinn, Color Blending on the Drum Carder by Janis Thompson and Sheherazade Scarf (crocheted beaded border on a silk scarf) by Cydne Pidgeon. the morning classes were Lear to Spin Using a Turkish Spindle by Wanda Jenkins, Pin Loom by Diane McKinnon and Shibori Scarf by Trish Andersen. The afternoon classes were Dyeing to Spin by Diane McKinnon, Beaded Kumihimo Bracelet by Carrie Rohn and again Shibore Scarf by Trish Andersen.

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 always fun gift exchange.

Antique Spinning Wheel Showcase – The Aurora Colony Museum was full of guests watching spinners demonstrating on over 30 antique wheels. Terry Blackwell and Vicki Costa did a wonderful job organizing everyone. 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 winner of the year long antique spinning wheel raffle was announced as the winning ticket was drawn at the end of the weekend.

COLUMBIA FIBRE GUILD - LINDA FRIZZELL

We meet the second Tuesday of each month from September to June in The Dalles Library Meeting Room at 10:00 a.m. Each business meeting is followed by a program then lunch together at a local restaurant for those who wish to go. There are 35 members on the roster with about 20 attending our meetings. Our spinners meet every Tuesday at different places, indoors and out. They demonstrate whenever asked and are popular with the county fairs. The weaving group meets every Friday at "Judy's Place" in Odell, Oregon. There are two weaving study groups: one beginning and one complex which meet monthly at different times. Some women attend both.

September: We collect our \$10 per year dues at this meeting. The program is "Show and Tell:" All are invited to bring projects done over the summer to share as well as items shown at the local county fairs and their prizes. We encourage all to participate in the fairs.

October: We draw a name for our \$150 Guild Scholarship to be used during the year on any fiber-related workshop or class. We also hear the report of the person who used the scholarship the previous year and what they learned. We had a hands on demonstration on dying silk hankies. To do this we left the library and went to a member's farm.

November: We had a video tour of Viet Nam with an emphasis on home industry crafts which included hand woven silks. One of our members volunteered to go there as part of a medical team. She bought many examples of unusual items.

December: Our Christmas luncheon was held at a restaurant this year with the silent auction as usual. Everyone is expected to bring something for the auction AND to take something home. More money was raised this year than any other.

January: We toured two members' studios. Spinning and weaving hobbies take a lot of shelf space for projects to come and those completed. Weaving also requires a lot of space for the loom(s) and accessories. It is always helpful to see how others solve these problems.

February: The meeting was cancelled because of icy conditions on all surrounding roads.

March: We went to a private fiber shop where we learned about blending colors and fibers into bats or rovings for spinning. It was fascinating to see various fibers and colors mixed that worked so well as a finished blend, but would seem terrible together before the blend.

April: We toured the Pendleton Mills in Washougal, Washington.

May: This is the month we end our group project and exchange it. This year was "Something for the Table." It is a project that stretches us. We should execute the theme with a new technique, style, or skill. It should be representative of our best work. It can be knitted, felted, woven, or any fiber related item. It is wrapped and given a number. Numbers are drawn and matched to their new owner.

June: We have our closing picnic and elect new officers.

Special Events:

The weaver's had a three-day workshop on crackle weave, taught by Susan Wilson

May 6, 7, and 8, 2013.

October - We gathered to watch a video on natural dyes entitled "In Search of Lost Color (Maiwa Productions), which included lots of very interesting footage on traditional dyeing around the world.

November and December – No meetings due to holidays

January – Guild member Leslie Verts brought in a wealth of books and fabric samples from her global travels on indigo. It was an interesting comparison of the designs and styles from various cultures.

February – meeting was cancelled due to illnesses

March – One of our earliest guild members, Evelyn Ball, and her daughter joined us for the meeting, reminiscing about the early days of the guild, over 50 years ago. Members shared recent projects and tales of travel.

April – Our meeting is scheduled for the 26th.

EUGENE WEAVER'S GUILD - SHANNON SUTTNER

The Eugene Weavers' Guild meets on the fourth Monday of the month at Eugene Textile Center. There is a social time at 9:30AM with a business meeting at 10:00. After a short break the program starts at 11:15.

In **September** we had a program by Susan Pavel on Coast Salish Weaving. Her traveling show SQ3TS ya'yay: Weaver's Spirit Power was at The Museum of Natural and Cultural History at the University of Oregon.

October's program, by Judy Ness, was titled More About Rugs. Judy teaches weaving, spinning and dyeing with a special interest in Norwegian weaving and Navajo rugs.

We had a workshop on making Miniature Baskets leading up to a program by Sally Metcalf in **November**. She spoke about her own baskets, inspiration and techniques. She makes amazing miniature baskets from waxed linen.

The EWG sale was held Nov. 29th and 30th at in the Eugene Textile Center Gallery. We had 13 weavers who sold 89 items and we grossed a little over \$1500. The guild commission goes toward our operating expenses.

We don't meet in **December**.

In **January** Janis Thompson gave the program "Color Inspiration is Everywhere." She is an accomplished dyer and teaches at and dyes for ETC.

Barbara Setsu Pickett's **February** program was Ikat Traditions and Innovations. Afterward there was a mini-workshop on Intro to Cardweaving by Nancy Hoskins.

Also in February we held our first, soon to be annual, Newcomers Tea. Officers, chairpersons and board members welcomed new members and explained about the guild and what it has to offer.

There was a workshop in **March**, partially funded by a WEGO scholarship. The teacher was Susan Lilly and the related program was Clothing From Handwoven Fabrics. Susan Lilly is the author of three books on patternmaking with an emphasis on handwovens. She has an MA from OSU and has extensive experience in designing theatrical costumes

April's program will be presented by the Fiber Challenge Study group on their activities this past year followed by a workshop on Paper Basketry by Emma Lou Scherf.

May's meeting will be our annual picnic at a member's home.

November, 2013 - A program following the meeting on “how to weave around a container”

December 2013 – Open House with demos and display of different fiber arts. Bag project for show & share.

January 2014 – Yarn swap

February 2014 – Discussion and vote about membership in WeGO and paying mileage for representative.

March 2014 – Knitting machine demonstration

April 2014 – Story Scarf project due.

HUMBUG MOUNTAIN SPINNERS AND WEAVERS – SALLY GLYNN

In **October**, we made plans for a Christmas sale at Port Orford

It was reported that the loom our guild had donated to Judith Mackenzie had been delivered. Also another loom had been donated to a small village in Mexico.

Yvonne Ousley gave a demonstration of how to set up a weaving for a small space as in a forked branch or small picture frame.

In **November**, two tapestries from Carolyn Long of Coos Bay were exhibited. These were done entirely in Soumak. Karen Solveig displayed yarns dyed from walnut husks. The guild also made a donation to the food bank in Langlois.

The **December** meeting was a pot luck lunch and exchange of gifts as well as a yarn exchange.

Our **January** meeting was an opportunity for members to pick apart a mohair fleece donated by Eileen Diaz. It was a lot of fun.

In **February**, the program was a presentation on overshot weaving.

A table loom threaded to an overshot weave was available for hands on weaving.

The workshop on creating a weaving in a small space was given by Yvonne Ousley on Feb 22. It is now a challenge for the participants to bring their completed projects to the June meeting.

The program for **March** is weaving on a round container. The Sharon Alderman workshop, Understanding Structure, is scheduled for March 17 and 18 at Langlois Fire Hall.

In **November**, Carol Wylie did a Guild meeting presentation on Name Draft Weaving. She has done many for family members and enjoys this immensely.

December was our annual cookie and ornament exchange. We also began to discuss applying for an ANWG grant for a 2015 workshop in collaboration with the Bend Guild.

January brought a needle felting presentation and activity by our Guild member Liz Hubbard. It was well attended and great fun, producing some lovely pieces.

February brought a living history day at the Klamath County Museum where our guild had spinners in 1860's period dress, spinning, showing their work including some natural dyed yarns. Guild members also had a demonstration at a local consignment/ co-op store (Keeper's Corner). We finalized our part of the ANWG grant application.

We had one member attend the Sharon Alderman "Understanding Weave Structure" workshop hosted by the Rogue Valley Handweaver's Guild – Great workshop, and Sharon Alderman keeps you entertained.

This month's topic is "Teneriffe, also called needle weaving or woven embroidery".

Due to Lambing Season and surgeries, our guild has been a little less active at the meetings recently, but we look forward to a couple of good presentations on Inkle Weaving and Blending with Carding in upcoming months.

PORTLAND HANDWEAVER'S GUILD – JANIS JOHNSON

Portland Handweavers Guild has had another eventful six months. We continue to hold two general meetings on the second Thursday of each month, one in the morning and one in the evening. Usually the same program is presented twice. Attendance at the day meetings continues to climb, and our tireless librarians have set up an online catalog of the guild's library.

At our **November** meetings Judilee Fitzhugh presented a program called "Weaving for Wearing: Transforming Your Handwovens".

In **December** Teresa Ruch presented "Gaining Inspiration from Commercial Textiles", and two members who work with Mayan Hands had Guatemalan weavings available for sale.

January brought us Susan Webb Rebecchi with "A History of Decorative Arts and Textiles", with tales and examples from her illustrious career in textile design.

Robyn Spady joined us in **February** with her talk "Techniques for the Color Challenged" with stimulating new approaches for weavers to look at color.

Attendees at the **March** day meeting saw a film produced by Maiwa, and at the evening meeting Vicki McArdle talked about work inspired by her PHG study grant.

In **April** Phoebe McAfee talked about weaving tapestries designed by Mark Adams and weaving her own designs.

Our members have been learning in a variety of PHG-sponsored workshops and study groups. The day meeting is regularly followed by a study group which has learned about weaving with paper yarn and has been experimenting with a variety of resist techniques for dyeing. Judilee Fitzhugh led a workshop in November called "Transforming Your Handwoven Cloth: Garment Construction". It was held on two consecutive Saturdays, with time for homework in between. Several workshop participants have continued working with Judilee in a "sewing with handwovens" study group. In February Robyn Spady conducted a workshop called "The Fab Four" about interesting four-shaft weaves. In addition, several PHG members attended WeGO-sponsored workshops with Sharon Alderman around the state.

PHG's Fall 2013 Sale was held at Multnomah Arts Center in October. It was lots of fun but not heavily attended. We hope to have more publicity next time around and settle into a regular date. We're currently getting ready for our spring sale, part of the Gathering of the Guilds at the Oregon Convention Center, which will take place May 2, 3, and 4. Our annual retreat was once again held at the Cedar Ridge Retreat Center in Vernonia, with 22 participants this year.

PORTLAND HANDWEAVER'S GUILD – CON'T

PHG and its members have been involved with a variety of weaving-related activities in Portland lately. We helped with kumihimo demonstrations at the Portland Art Museum in November. Several members are visiting with women weavers from Karen ("Kah Ren") refugee families from the Thailand-Burma border region. Some of the Karen weavers will participate as guest artists and demonstrators in our spring sale. PHG members set up weaving displays at the Hillsdale and Midland branch libraries in Portland, and worked with other guilds from the Gathering of the Guilds on a display window at the Justice Center in downtown Portland.

Portland Handweavers Guild meetings are open to the public so drop by if you're in town on the second Thursay of a month (other than July and August). Upcoming activities are listed at portlandhandweaversguild.org.

OCTOBER: The program was based on my first visit to a major conference, i.e. the ANWG conference which took place in Bellingham during the summer. I was extremely impressed with Instructor Laverne Waddington and tried to convey a bit of what she had taught during a one-day seminar on tubular weaving on a backstrap loom.

Several members donated hand-woven items for the annual silent auction which raises funds for the local animal shelter.

Elizabeth Acos and Dennis Rubert conducted a three-day beginning weaving class. Six students attended.

Several members participated in the Talent Harvest Festival demonstrating weaving and spinning and teaching basic Kumihimo to children and adults.

NOVEMBER : The program was presented by Nadine. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, but I understand it was extremely informative and helpful, having to do with reading/drawing drafts, adjusting patterns, etc.

RVHG as a group did not participate in Fibermania this year, but several members showed support by attending.

DECEMBER : Due to extreme weather, our meeting was canceled.

JANUARY: Gwen Merlin and Gloria Way presented a study of M's and O's weaving structure and application.

FEBRUARY: Jeanette Eliason presented a study of Overshot.

MARCH: Nadine presented a book report on Handwoven Laces, by Donna Muller and Dororth McKinley led a study of Loom Controlled Weaves.

Thirteen people from three guilds had the privilege of attending Sharon Alderman's workshop on the WeGO sponsored Southern Oregon workshop "Understanding The Structure."

APRIL: Carolyn Wedberg and Elizabeth Acos led a study of Inlay techniques.

SALEM FIBERARTS GUILD – PENNY UNVERZAGT

October begins each year with the 2 day guild sale. The proceeds benefit the Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, where we have our meetings in the weaving studio. The sale was helped this year by the use of “the square” which allows for credit card purchases. Our October meeting was given by Betty Swinkels on Indigo Dyeing.

In **November** Rosalie Neilson led a hands-on program of Kumihimo. Materials were provided so that everyone was able to participate. Keychains were the end product that day. My cats had great fun with the one I made.

December is traditionally our holiday potluck with cupcake dessert to honor everyone's birthday. The birthday celebration began with member Faith Black's 100th birthday 6 years ago. This year Faith's celebration was an open house in her home, attended by about 40 friends and family. Faith passed away a few weeks later. She will be missed.

Janis Thompson presented the **January** program on Creative Dyeing. She encouraged us to “go for it” and had tricks and tips that she uses.

This was inspiration for our upcoming **February** Dye Month program. Our program day was a “snow out” and had to be rescheduled later in the month. Led by Penny Unverzagt, it was well attended, and many wonderful colored warps were produced.

In **March** we had a Weft-over Exchange and a Warping Technique demonstrated by member, Carolyn Baruah. She warps sectionally from warping board to loom, one section at a time. It works very efficiently and is finished in quick order.

March was busy as a member team completed an ANWG grant proposal. And as we prepared for our 3 day Sharon Alderman workshop on Snazzy Yarns. There were 13 participants and 14 looms.

The **April** program will be given by Nancy Hoskins on Oregon Flax & Linen. April finds the studio gearing up again for a 3 day workshop with Jennifer Moore on Doubleweave.

The workshop will be held on May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, in the weaving studio at The Mill

SATURDAY HANDWEAVER'S GUILD – MARY PORTINGA

On **October 5th** our guild along with Rogue Valley Handweaver's hosted the fall WEGO meeting at the Jacksonville Library. Many of our guild members attended.

Our regular meeting on October 12th was a Dye Day presented by Lucy DeFranco. We met outside at the Talent Friends church. We had a great time dyeing protein fibers.

This year's Saturday Guild challenge has an international flavor. Our members drew a slip with the name of a country. We are challenged to learn things about the fibers and weaving of that country and then create something inspired by that learning. At our final meeting in June's show and share we will show those items and bring a dish common to that country for an International pot luck.

Our **November meeting** program was presented by Lucy DeFranco on Random Spaced Overshot. It was hands on so everyone was able to try the technique of placing little medallions of overshot pattern in bright colors on a white plain weave background.

December meeting program was our 5th year for a silent auction of fiber related items, baked goods, wine, weaving equipment and books. The proceeds will fund scholarships to members to attend workshops or conferences. They will in turn present programs based on their learning so we all benefit. So far, 13 members have received scholarships. We also had a pot luck and gift exchange.

January meeting program was a power point presentation on "Boundweave" by Kathy Brooks. We all received handouts and viewed a project in progress on a small loom.

Our **February meeting** program was a presentation by Lucy DeFranco based on a seminar by Daryl Lancaster that she attended at the ANWG conference last June. The subjects were How to Enter a Show and Edge, Seam and Edge finishes. Second half of her program was a hands on lesson on sewing techniques.

March meeting: This month, the Saturday Handweaver's Guild turned 41 years old. We discussed the coming workshops in the month. Sharon Alderman workshop will be March 16 thru the 22nd and her workshop will be Mastering Weave Structures. John Mullarkey Cardweaving workshops will be March 29 and 30. Program was presented by Dorothy McKinley on Weaver Controlled Laces.

April meeting is taking place today. The program will be presented by Cindie Kitchin on Name Drafting.

WEBFOOT WEAVERS – CHRISTINA SCOTT

October and November found the Webfoot Weavers guild members busily planning our newest challenge of learning to weave tartans. Our goal is to have them completed by Nov, 2014, and ready for a display in our local library February, 2015.

In **December**, the weavers met at a local restaurant for our yearly holiday gathering.

January found us discussing the classes by Sharon Alderman, drafting and finalizing the yearly budget, and other business undertakings.

February included an extra gathering for a tartan workshop, potluck, and a monthly meeting involving spinning, talking, and planning our year of programs. Great things are on the horizon.

March did NOT include madness, as we were steadfastly learning Swedish weaving. This project was enjoyable but challenging, especially for those of us needing reading glasses to see the individual threads.

YAQUINA FIBER ARTS GUILD – BONNIE POWELL

Nov. We had many fiber arts projects to show and share.

Dec. Each December, we hold our Annual Holiday Social with a casual meeting and potluck luncheon to follow.

Jan. This meeting was organizational as we made plans for our Annual Newport Spin-In.

We also decided to make an item for the goody bags that will be offered at the NwRSA conference in the spring.

Feb. The Feb.guild meeting was very casual--mostly spinning and socializing. Many members were at the Silver Falls Retreat. However, during the first Saturday in Feb. we held our Annual Newport Spin-In with about 139 in attendance and many vendors! We felt it was a very successful event enjoyed by all! The Spin-In is always held the first Sat. in Feb.

Mar. During this meeting. we planned for our participation in the Newport Celtic Festival to be held in early June. We are planning to give weaving demonstrations as well as spinning, carding and knitting demos. Plans were made to include displays on yarns and sheep breeds.

We are looking forward to participating in this community outreach.

In addition. plans were made to put together items for the NwRSA conference goody bags next month.