

Rogue Valley Handweavers Guild

Lisa Krebs - Rep

When we are not under the Governor's Covid-19 guidelines, the Rogue Valley Handweavers Guild meets monthly from September through June at the First Presbyterian Church in Central Point, OR. In addition, we have periodic study groups on topics of interest, and maintain a library of books and periodicals available to all members. Each meeting features "Show and Share" for which members bring items they have woven.

October (2019)

- Discussed choices/options for 2020/2021 workshops
- Challenge for 2020: "The Design Game" this game has 4 elements, color, yarn, General Design, and Weaving. To play this challenge game you pick 2 to 4 cards and then have to weave something using these elements.
- Program: Kool-Aid fiber dyeing presented by Whitney Lard. We received a small skein of fairly coarse wool which we learned to dye using concentrated Kool-Aid using several different methods. We tried dip-dyeing, space-dyeing (squirting the color out of a squeeze bottle onto the fiber as it was laid out on a cookie sheet), and just plain immersion dyeing.
- Fiber Mania was held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. It seemed to be a great success. Many guild members (Saturday guild mostly) from our area had booths.
- Portland artist Pam Petrie taught a 3 day workshop for us on Beginning Tapestry.
- Martha Green, Maryann Swindle, and Lisa Krebs are our study group coordinators. Starting with this meeting, we will offer two groups: Inkle Loom for beginners and Spinning/Drop Spindle.
- At the WeGO meeting, our rep (Lisa Krebs) learned that RVHG was selected as one of the guilds to receive a \$500 scholarship for this coming year. !!

November

- We voted on our next 3-day workshop which will be taught by Joanne Hall in October, 2020, on Swedish Weaving.
- Program: Mini Workshops- 1. Kumihimo with Marilyn Milton 2. Basketry with Cindy Fowler, 3. Needle felting with Elizabeth Acos, and Drop Spindle, with Lucy DeFranco. Members could choose two and each session lasted 30

minutes. Afterward, we determined that we should only have two sessions and increase the time to maybe, 45 minutes.

- We voted on which event we wanted to organize for the ANWG conference. We picked three and were “awarded” the ‘Towel Exchange’’. We will work with the Saturday Guild to determine the details and organize it.

December

- A potluck and “Stash Sale” was held in place of a program. Happy Holidays and Happy Weaving!
- We learned about the upcoming ANWG grant and selected a committee to work on the application
- Study Groups: Inkle Weaving (we have each completed our first project)

January

- The program was a slideshow and discussion of Guatemalan Weaving by Darcy Van Vuren. She has traveled to one area of Guatemala many times, to study their weaving. On display was her large collection of woven items from every-day life over the past several decades.
- Study groups: Inkle Weaving (learning how to do “pick-up”) and Spinning.

February

- Program: “How to use Fiberworks” with Suzanna from ETC. Several SHG members participated along with RVHG members. Suzanna did a fabulous job!
- Dates are set for the Beginning Weaving Workshop - April 18, 19, 25th
- Jeanette announced Hanley Farms Sundays - weaving and spinning demonstrations, plus other fiber-related activities
- No Study groups due to the after-meeting workshop on Fiberworks, however, next month begins a new group: Bobbin Lace weaving with Shirley McFarland.

March

- .Our ANWG grant application is ready to submit
- Program: Yarn Equivalencies with Elizabeth Acos.
- New Study Group starting with this meeting: Bobbin Lace Weaving.

April

- This meeting was canceled due to the Covid Virus.
- The Nominating Committee communicated through emails and we worked on the slate of officers through May
- Beginning Handweaving classes were canceled (the world was canceled)

May

- The May meeting was also canceled due to the virus
- Our Secretary continued to write up “minutes” to submit to the monthly newsletter. Her minutes consisted of a summary of decisions, and actions taken by members of the board, on behalf of the Guild, or items suggested by our members. She included pictures of members’ Show and Share items (many taken from our Facebook page)
- The Nominating Committee determined that we now have a slate of officers on which to vote on or about the time of our normally held June meeting.
- We found out that RVHG was awarded a \$600 ANWG grant.

June

- The June meeting was canceled too.
- Our Vice President sent out a ballot through email, for the election of officers for next year. Most all members responded.
- The Summer Board Meeting was set for the end of July
- All planned summer guild activities were put on a “wait and see” status, including participating in weaving/spinning demos at the county fair.

August

- We held our first meeting through Zoom - 18 members participated and it worked fairly well.
- We discussed the possibility of trying to hold in-person meetings in the Fall, and decided to try that for the meetings in September and October in a park, if the weather is good.
- We discussed the Programs for this year and how to share them through YouTube and hold more meetings on Zoom.

September

- Our first in-person meeting since March went well in the park near our usual meeting location, despite high winds and smoke from various fires
- A 20-year member, Gloria Way, received a certificate and a beautiful hand-crafted shuttle. She also brought many items to sell, as she is no longer weaving
- Our members have been extremely prolific during the past 6 months! So many lovely items were shown and shared. Photos will be arriving for the WeGO website soon, I hope
- Tragically, after the meeting, we saw a huge wall of black smoke, rising to the South, as the Alameda fire seemed to explode in Talent and Phoenix. One of

our members lost her home and brand new Schacht Baby Wolf, but thankfully, her family made it out safely.

October

- We plan to meet in the park again with a Zoom meeting afterward for members who couldn't attend for any reason.
- The Program will be on Reading Drafts from many sources. Taught by Barb MacIntyre and Cindy Fowler (videographer) and posted to a private YouTube channel for our members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Krebs
RVHG WeGO Rep.
9/24/20