

Klamath Spinning and Weaving Guild Report

April, 2021

For the last six months, the Klamath Spinning and Weaving Guild has continued meeting monthly via zoom. Meetings have included awesome show and shares as well as a fiber-related zoom prize (modeled on a door prize, a name is drawn at each meeting and the participant receives a special surprise package.) While zoom meetings are not optimal, it was a safe way to stay in touch.

Beginning in April, we'll hold our first, outdoor, in-person meeting! (details below)

Past Meeting highlights include:

Weaving, spinning, and fiber-related book reviews

Weave Classic Crackle and More by Susan Wilson. A good, and very technical book.

Plantation Slave Weavers, Remember: An Oral History edited by Mary Madison. It is interesting and a different perspective. At one point of the book, there is a photo of Abraham Lincoln at Antietam with a coverlet in the photo. The editor recreated the coverlet in natural color, navy and burgundy.

Carding by Jo Reeve. A good book for beginners. It goes over tools, how to flick, hand and drum card. It covers color theory, provides some projects and is very inspiring.

The Art of Tapestry Weaving: A complete Guide to Mastering the Techniques for Making Images with Yarn by Rebecca Mezoff. The book is gorgeous, inspirational, practical, interesting and good.

A machine knitter's book that talked about fleece on the ship "Oregon", that sank off of Nantucket, 20 years later the fleeces were salvaged and still good!

Klamath Basin Fibershed exploration

This year the Guild is exploring local fiber producing and processing sources, as part of a Klamath Basin fibershed exploration.

Loosely defined a fibershed is a regional "farm-to-closet" vision for the clothes we wear. Growing, processing and creating our own clothing from materials grown and processed within a region, positively impacts the local economy and health of the planet.

Having identified a number of high quality fleece producers both within the Guild and out, members have also determined that processing, carding, combing and spinning options remain

sparse, and have decided to take on the wool production process ourselves. Our next guild meeting will be held at Ramifications, a member's barn where we will split a fleece or two to start a long-term guild fibershed project.

After selecting and bring home their fleece section, guild members will wash their section, taking careful notes on their process. We may not all wash it the same and it would be good to compare outcomes, and exchange methods.

In May, we plan to have a we will have a combing and carding meeting, and talk about what item/project will be created with the fleece that has been washed. After the meeting, members will spin their fiber in preparation for June.

June is our annual potluck and we will discuss/plan a dyeing meeting possibly in July. Participants bring their spun yarn.