

- o November
- o 2007

- o Next Meeting
- o Nov. 14, 2007

- o 07-08 Theme ~
- o Reaching Out

whatcom Weavers guild

*Promoting community interest and education in textiles,
and communication among fiber artists, with an emphasis on weaving.*

REGULAR MEETINGS ~

September through June ~ Second Wednesday of the month
7:00p social time ~ short business meeting
show & tell ~ scheduled program

St. James Presbyterian Church (west side, lower level)
910 - 14th Street, Bellingham, WA



Blanket Pattern Board



Chloe French

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

~ Chilkat Weaver Chloe French

Chloe French will present Chilkat weaving at the Guild's November meeting. Chloe is herself Tlingit and knows stories about this indigenous Northwest Coast style of weaving. Chloe studied with Clarissa Hudson (www.clarissahudson.com) one of the best known contemporary Chilkat weavers. Clarissa no longer teaches beginning weavers, but refers these students to Chloe who is also a Chilkat teacher.

Chilkat weaving has two forms: pictorial and geometric. The warp of the geometric form does not use a cedar bark core (giving body and density to the yarn); whereas the warp of the pictorial form

includes a cedar bark core. Also, the rules for these two forms differ. Everyone will have a chance to try spinning warp without cedar which can be a challenge.

Chloe is a life-long artisan who, in addition to Chilkat weaving, has made button robes, quilts and beaded necklaces. During her career as a middle and high school teacher, she taught math, crafts and set design for many years. Her love of teaching and her passion for sharing the joy of her chosen crafts will be evident during this month's program.

Please join us and learn more about this indigenous style of weaving. ~ Nancy Bjerke, Programs

New Library Acquisitions ~

Weaving Techniques and Projects, Sunset Books eds., Lane Books, CA 1975.

Weaving is Fun, Jean Wilson, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., NY 1971.

Embroidery Designs from Pre-Columbian Art, Barbara L. Snook, Charles Scribner's Sons, NY 1975.

Spiders' Games, A Book for Beginning Weavers, Phyllis Morrison, University of WA Press, Seattle, 1979.

Thanks to Mickey Voegtlin for this generous donation. ~ Kaea Morris, Librarian wwgkaea@comcast.net



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Dates & Details ~

The Daytime Weavers:

Thursday, Nov 1st, 10:30a
Hostess: Loretta Hogg
4601 Raptor Ln.
Bellingham, WA 98229
(360) 756-8449

~ The Daytime Weavers
meets year round on the first
Thursday of every month.

Annual Membership Dues:

Adult: \$20.00
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President's Notes ~ Pat Fisher

Well we don't have much of the beautiful fall leaves left. For about a day, the garden looked really pretty with golden maple leaves and rusty red cedar droppings lying where they fell. What do you call those parts of the cedar boughs which turn red and fall at this time of the year - not leaves, not pine needles...?

Our October Guild meeting was outstanding. Continuing the theme of traditional weaving, Nancy Bjerke had asked members to bring along pieces from their treasure chests - antique weavings from earlier family times, weavings found or gifted from travels abroad. We could have talked for hours about the beautiful and varied examples. Thank you to everyone who brought their treasures, along with photos and stories, who told us the history of their favorite pieces. We saw weavings, embroidery, baskets and clothing from early in the 20th century, from many places around the world such as Israel, the Solomon Islands, the Philippines, Guadalajara, Mexico, Ireland, Switzerland as well as many parts of the United States. Very inspirational.

Earlier in the meeting, I had the chance to talk a little about the strategic planning discussions which your Board has been having. Those ideas are listed here in the newsletter. We would really like your feedback - good ideas, bad ideas, what's missing, what you would like to do to help make them happen? Don't be shy!

So how are we doing with our objective of Reaching Out? We've had great fun at our last two meetings reaching out to our members, finding out more about ourselves. We've put greater emphasis on reaching out to new and old members by setting up a new Membership position, filled by Randi Cattarin. Now we need to think about how to fulfill our mission of encouraging the knowledge and continuation of weaving in our community. We can do that through our Education program, headed up by Margaret Magic on the Board. Margaret is looking for volunteers to work with her on a program for outreach into the community, schools, colleges and other interested groups. Give Margaret a call and see what you can contribute to this aspect of Reaching Out.

For all of us, it's a busy time, leading up to Fibers and Beyond. By the time the newsletter comes out, it will be behind us for another year. The F&B committee has been a fun group to work with - so much knowledge, energy, ideas and willingness to make it happen. Thank you to everyone on the committee. Now it's time for us to be looking for others to share the responsibility for 2008. It's a great way to learn more about the Guild and our community, so please say *yes* when we come a-knocking! You won't regret it.

Our next meeting is November 14th, and we have a great program on North Coast Indian weaving, presented by Chloe French. Don't miss it! See you then.

Fibers & Beyond 2007~

Well, folks, stand up and take a bow! The Guild's annual Fibers and Beyond Show and Sale on October 19th and 20th was a great success. We attracted 708 customers, 225 on the Friday evening and the remainder on Saturday. Our total gross sales were approximately \$20,750, almost 10% higher than last year.

We received many congratulatory comments from our customers - everything from the overall artistic and warm design of the hall, to the high quality and variety of items, to the friendliness and helpfulness of the Guild members who were present at the Show.

Many of our customers are repeat customers who told us they anticipate our event every year for the wonderful choice and professional presentation of our great products. Many of our customers are new, who are agreeably surprised at what they find, and frequently walk away with brochures and application forms to become members of such a talented organization.

So thank you everyone for your hard work leading up to the date, for creating such wonderfully attractive products and for coming along to help and enjoy the fun at Fox Hall.

As always, if you have any comments or questions you would like to share about Fibers and Beyond, please don't hesitate to call, email, write or comment at our next Guild meeting.

~ Pat Fisher, F&B Chair 2007

Thanks to all the generous people that brought cookies for the sale, and made our Refreshment Area possible. It was a BIG success! This year it was an inviting space enjoyed by many shoppers and Guild Members. Our Refreshment Area really adds to the friendly and warm atmosphere that is a trade mark of our annual sale. My special thanks to our volunteer Hostesses for monitoring this area and visiting with our guests!

~ Randi Cattarin, F&B Hospitality



First Annual Spin In

The Spin Drifters, NWRSA area chapter 2015, invite you to their first annual Spin In.


Saturday, November 10th, 10a-4p
Bellingham High School Commons
2020 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, WA

Guest speaker Susan Forsyth will discuss the art of spinning and combing, the wool comb business and the benefits of wool combing.

10:30a-12n, Lecture
12n-1:30p, Lunch (bring a sack lunch)
1:30-4p, Practical experience with combing & spinning
\$10 admission ♦ Door Prizes ♦ Vendors

Questions? E-mail trpc@comcast.net

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Workshops, Festivals & Exhibits ~

Whidbey Weavers Guild Sale ~

Fri., Nov. 2, 11a-6p and Sat., Nov. 3, 10a-5p
Uncommon Thread, Whidbey Weavers Guild annual sale, will feature more than 2,000 fiber art items for exhibit and sale at Greenbank Farm, 765 Wonn Road (SR 525, Whidbey Island). Expect to see colorful, fine craftsmanship in handwoven and hand-dyed clothing and accessories, linens, rugs, holiday decorations, handspun yarns and knitting, felting, handmade paper, basketry, jewelry and other gift ideas. Members will model and demonstrate their weaving, spinning and basketry techniques. www.whidbeyweaversguild.org or whidbeyweavers@hotmail.com.

Langley Weavers & Spinners Guild Sale ~

Nov. 3-4, 10a-4p
Hosting their 36th Annual Artisans' Sale: Beyond Fibre, this Langley Weavers and Spinners Guild event features juried weaving, knitting, spinning and felting work of its members. Work from several local artisans will also be included - wood turners, potters, sheepskin producers, jewelers, silversmiths, clothing designers, carvers, photographers, and bakers. Buy all kinds of fiber arts supplies in the *Wool Room*, and enjoy refreshments in the Tea Room while watching spinning and weaving demonstrations. \$2 admission. Fort Langley Community Hall, 9167 Glover Rd., Fort Langley, BC.

Metropolitan Museum of Art ~

The *Tapestry in the Baroque: Threads of Splendor* exhibition is the first comprehensive survey of high-quality tapestry production in the Baroque era. Drawing from twenty-five collections around the world, it presents forty-five rare tapestries woven in a variety of centers, demonstrating the stylistic development of the medium between 1570 and 1720. Almost all of the tapestries presented derive from larger sets made for the kings, popes, and leading members of the European nobility. This assemblage provides a unique glimpse of the contribution that the medium of tapestry made to the art and propaganda of the principal courts of the day.

Guild member Sondra Rose shared information about this exhibit which is a planned destination during her visit to New York City during the end of October. For further information visit the NY Times link below.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/11/arts/design/11tape.html>

Madrona Fiber Arts Winter Retreat ~

Feb. 14-17, 2008,
Hotel Murano (formerly the Sheraton) in Tacoma, Washington
www.madronafiberarts.com
Madrona Fiber Arts was started by fiber enthusiasts who wanted to bring great teachers to the Northwest. The goal is camaraderie, creative energy, and the sharing that is generated among students and teachers by combining incomparable teaching, small classes and informal settings. This years instructors include ~
Nancy Bush • Chris Conrad • Anita Luvera Mayer
• Judith MacKenzie McCuin • Syne Mitchell •
• Stephanie Pearl-McPhee • Karin Skacel •
Ruth Sørensen

Greater Vancouver Weavers & Spinners Guild ~ November 15, 2007 at 12n

Woven Motifs of Laos - Traditional to Contemporary, FREE Lecture. Diana Herbst will focus on the designs and motifs commonly woven into Laotian fabrics. Visitors and New Members welcome! For further information please email or contact Jo Anne at 604-298-7913. The Greater Vancouver Weavers & Spinners Guild meets at Aberthau, West Point Grey Community Centre, 4397 West 2nd Avenue (2nd Ave. at Trimble), Vancouver, BC.



A Naval Battle (detail)
From a set of the *Art of War II*, Design and cartoon by Philippe de Hondt and workshop, ca. 1715-20. Woven in the workshop of Judocus de Vos, Brussels, ca. 1722-24. Wool and silk; 13 ft. 1.5 in. x 25 ft. 11.75 in.

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The Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest ~

Toby Smith

The Museum of Applied Arts [Iparművészeti Múzeum] in Budapest, Hungary makes a good visit for anyone with an interest in material culture. The museum opened in 1896 and its spectacular architecture both inside and out reflects the art nouveau trends at the time. This museum is the complete opposite of the Ethnographic Museum I discussed last newsletter. Here the focus is on the accumulated treasures of royalty and the upper classes.

This museum is entirely devoted to the sumptuous lifestyle of the absurdly wealthy. Although extreme disparities of wealth disturb my sense of fairness, what can be said for it is that it does create a patron class who provide incentive for artisans to push the boundaries of materials and design, and to produce their very best work.

In the museum, stunning examples of art nouveau furniture sit beside magnificently painted watch cases illustrated with pictures that look as though they were painted with a one-haired brush, so fine is the detail. There is a small collection of the finest European lace, as well as some silk embroidered waistcoats from the 18th century. There are beautifully bound books, silverware, glass, fabulously decorated keys of all sizes, ceramics, dishes, needlepoint chairs, etc. This summer they had an exhibition of Tiffany and Galle art nouveau glass that would take your breath away. There was also a



Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest

While the collection as a whole spans several centuries, there are a significant number of pieces in all areas that reflect the art nouveau style popular in the period when the museum was built. This is a museum about time: time spent in years of apprenticeship, time spent in importing gold, silver and precious stones, and time spent in the production of some of the highest quality artworks that material culture has to offer anywhere in the world. If you ever get the chance to visit Budapest, spend a little time yourself in this lovely museum.



Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest

truly fabulous collection of Haban (Hutterite) ceramics in which I spent hours viewing.

Although the textile collection itself is small, as an embroiderer and surface designer I constantly found inspiration in the decoration of objects all around me, from ceramics to furniture. I have pages of drawings that have direct application to my textile practice. Every single item in this museum is intricate in design and perfect in execution.



Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest

Notices & Classified Ads~

Membership ~ I am in the final process of completing our annual Membership Directory. If you have any changes in contact information (new email?) (new phone?), or if you have a new area of interest (took up basketry?) (decided never to knit again!) please email me *right away* so your information will be current in the directory. Thanks, Randi Cattarin cmark25@qwest.net

For Sale ~ Loom - New solid maple Harrisville 36" folding floor loom(L364K), 4 harness, 6 treadle, all assembled. 10 & 12 dent reeds, 12 yard warp board, shuttle, threading hook, sley hooks, 3 weaving books and video. \$950 cash only 360 424 4535 or mm4570@earthlink.net located in Mt. Vernon.

For Sale ~ 24" Murphy 4-Harness, six-treadle fully operating counter-balance loom for sale. The wood is maple and was made in Seattle. I have made dish cloths, placemats and rugs on this loom. The dimensions are: height 48 7/8", beam height 31 3/4" and depth 35 1/2". This loom folds when you don't want to use it to a compact size as follows: Height 52 3/4", Height 52 3/4". \$500. Seattle area. La Conner, Wa. Call 360-466-1138 or etapio@earthlink.net

Support ~ The second annual benefit dinner and auction for the Ferndale Marching Band will be held Feb. 9, 2008 at Fox Hall. If you have an item you would like to donate or if you would like to attend the auction, please contact me. Last year we had two of our members donate items and they sold very well in the silent auction. Your donation is tax deductible as the Ferndale Band Boosters is a non-profit. Thanks for considering supporting the Ferndale Band. By the way, Kelsey (some of you remember her helping at the F&B sale when she was younger), is a junior at FHS and is drum major for the band now. Kathy Green 384-0169, kmgreen196@msn.com

Blogs of Note ~

Leighs Fiber Journal ~
<http://leighsfiberjournal.blogspot.com/>

Jane Brocket's Yarnstorm ~
<http://yarnstorm.blogs.com/knitblog/>

Amelia at the Bellwether
<http://askthebellwether.blogspot.com/>

Moved ~ J & J Needle Art has moved! You are invited to come and visit their new Bakerview Square location at 436 W. Bakerveiw, #109 (between Meridian and Northwest) in Bellingham. J & J Needle Art (creator of custom deigns for needlepoint and cross stitch) offers a wide selection of yarn, books, kits, notions, patterns, needlepoint canvases and much, much more! Call (360-676-9090) or visit their new store soon.


Artist Co-op ~ Guild members who are interested in participating in the Ferndale Art Co-op that is being formed may contact Barbara Ingram at bing@clearwire.net for further information.

Magazine Back Issues ~ Looking for back issues of Spin Off and Threads to add to my collection. Contact Julie Barnes, jahbarnes@msn.com or 360-380-9203.

Woven Scarf Commission ~ Lois Byrd would like to commission a light weight woven scarf, 30" square, of white acrylic or soft wool. Contact her at 360-671-1138.

Spin In ~ The Spin Drifters, NWRSA area chapter 2015, invite you to their first annual Spin In on Saturday, November 10th, 10a-4p at Bellingham High School Commons, 2020 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, WA. Guest speaker Susan Forsyth will discuss the art of spinning and combing, the wool comb business and the benefits of wool combing. Bring your spinning wheel, drop spindle, wool combs, and other fiber gear. Schedule: 10:30a-12noon, Lecture; 12n-1:30p, Lunch (bring a sack lunch); 1:30-4p, Practical experience with combing & spinning. \$10 admission with Door Prizes and Vendors.

WWG Board Meeting Schedule ~ The monthly WWG board meetings are typically held on the last Wednesday of each month from 7-9p at NW Handspun Yarns, 1401 Commercial St., Bellingham. All members are welcome to attend these meetings. 2007-2008 schedule - Nov. 28, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, Mar. 26, Apr. 30, May 28, & Jun. 25 - Note that no meeting is scheduled for Dec.



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Convergence 2008 ~

Marie Lorgen, WA HGA Representative

Convergence is a very special event held every two years where we are exposed to the works and ideas of fiber artists from around the world. The lectures, seminars and workshops give participants an opportunity to interact and learn directly from many of the artists and the exhibits showcase the artistic talent that abounds in our fiber communities.

The next one will be held in Tampa Bay, Florida on June 25-28, 2008 and the pre-conference workshops from June 22 through June 24. The conference will be hosted by the Florida Tropical Weavers Guild and held at the Tampa Bay Convention Center and surrounding downtown locations. Registration information and forms will be in the upcoming Fall *Shuttle Spindle & DyePot* and will also be posted on the webpage www.weavespindye.org as soon as the magazine has been mailed out. Priority registration is given to Fiber Trust members and volunteers and starts in mid-November. Open registration starts in mid-December. A list of accommodations will also be available with special conference prices. (A tip for those who have a difficult time dealing with the heat: The Embassy Suites is connected to the Convention Center by a sky bridge.) As the conference approaches, look for special conference airfares also. I encourage all who plan to attend to register early since both seminars and workshops fill up fast.

For those of you who wish to enter your work in the exhibits, prospectuses and applications are now available online at www.weavespindye.org and find Convergence the link there. The exhibits are as follows:

- **The River of Grass-Basketry Exhibit** ~ juror John Garrett
- **Small Expressions** ~ juror John Marshall
- **Salsa Y Salsa-A Multimedia Fiber Exhibit** ~ juror Joan Michaels Paque
- **The Pearl in the Oyster-Personal Adornment: Accessories Exhibit** ~ juror Victoria Rivers
- **The Eye of the Hurricane: Felting and Fusion Exhibit** ~ juror Chad Alice Hagen
- **Ebb Tide-Yardage Exhibit** ~ juror Louise Lemieux Bérubé
- **Parrots, Peacocks and Palms-Functional Weaving Exhibit** ~ juror Catharine Ellis
- **Dance of the Flamingos-Wearable Art Fashion Show and Exhibit** ~ juror Diane Ericson

Application deadlines for the exhibits are all in early to mid January of 2008 and differ for each show.

For all of you who love fibers, this international convergence sponsored and organized by HGA, is the ultimate place to be. I encourage all who can to participate in this event.



Politics Through Textiles ~

Toby Smith

Wearing Propaganda: Textiles on the Home Front in Japan, Britain, and the United States, 1931-1945

By Jacqueline M. Atkins, editor, published by The Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, Design, and Culture, New York, 2005

I have spent my life studying the relationship between culture, society, and politics. Rarely have I come across a book that combines great big coloured glorious photographs with truly smart text. This is the catalogue for an exhibition curated by the editor and held in New York. The exhibition looks at how domestic textiles, clothing, table cloths, wrapping cloths, head scarves, etc. acted as carriers of propaganda in support of the war effort of each country. The catalogue weaves together historical, cultural, social, economic, and political events in such a way that the reader can understand how the patriotic citizens of these countries could, quite literally, wear their support for the war on their sleeves. There are 13 chapters plus introduction. Ten authors have contributed to the success of this book, with Jacqueline Atkins writing several of the pieces. The book is divided into four topical sections: 1) relevant world history, 2) the Visual Culture of War, 3) fashion, textiles, and morale on the home front, and 4) textile motifs of the Asia-Pacific war. Included are interesting photographs and posters from the period. The chapters range from general topics to the specific, such as the chapter entirely on headscarves. But it is the back and forth between textiles, history and social life that I find most interesting. I look at contemporary textiles differently after reading this book and I feel a little smarter. And the really good news is that many of the Japanese examples from the Bard show are on exhibition at the Western Gallery at WWU here in Bellingham. Jacqueline Atkins spoke at the university on October 18th which also enriched the experience of this show. The exhibition will be on until the end of November and it is really worth seeing. Afterwards you may want to read this book. It can be found on sale very affordably at abebooks.com.

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The Learning Curve ~

The Learning Curve is a new program created to provide an opportunity for guild members to share their expertise with other members.

How many times has someone come up to you and said, "Will you teach me how to do that?" Here is your opportunity to do just that!

You pick the date...you pick the location...you decide on the fee...you contact the participants. In other words, you are in charge!

Why fees you ask? Fees are a way to pay the presenter for their time and preparation. The mini workshops become a professional opportunity for both the presenter and the participant. It is another way of saying, "I value your time."

What should you teach? If you feel proficient in any facet of the fiber arts, there is probably someone that would love to learn from you.

Workshop co-chairs, Karen Perry (360-724-4812) and Barbara Snow (360-676-4379) will keep a record of the mini workshops during the year.

Contact them to find out more details about participating in the Learning Curve.

Topics for 2007-2008 Guild Strategic Planning

~ Pat Fisher

The following 14 topics are the result of your Board brainstorming ideas for the future of the Guild, based on their thoughts plus ideas from other members which they have brought to the discussion.

Our guild has a well-documented purpose, as laid out on our website. Our brainstorming session was to answer the question - how do we fulfill our Guild Purpose, which is to further the interest and knowledge in fiber arts, with an emphasis on weaving. I reviewed the topics at the October Guild meeting, and have included them in the Newsletter for those who missed the meeting, and at the request of those who attended.

The topics are under two headings - Guild Structure and Reaching Out.

Guild Structure

1. Establish a Membership responsibility position on the Board to help develop, retain and expand the Guild membership.
2. Pursue non-profit status for the Guild.
3. Research a permanent home for the Guild, to include meeting space, display, storage, possibly a gallery, retail space?
4. Plan the disposition of Guild funds (after deciding our future home).
5. Review the role of the annual Fibers and Beyond Show and Sale, making recommendations for the 2008 F&B Committee.
6. Establish a program to help Guild members interested in outside sales and business opportunities (not in competition with Fibers and Beyond)

Reaching Out

7. Expand and develop the Guild objective and mission regarding its role in the local community.
8. Expand association with other Guilds, e.g. possible joint projects, visits.
9. Provide mentoring for new members.
10. Research a weavers' co-op and what benefit it could provide for the Guild members.
11. Set up a program of demonstrations for schools, museums, galleries, etc.
12. Strengthen our relationship with other arts organizations, such as Whatcom Museum, Allied Arts, the new Bellingham Arts and Cultural downtown area.
13. Print new Guild brochures and business cards.
14. Research the use of fundraising projects to fund outreach projects, new home, etc.

Are we on track? Missing anything? We would love to hear your feedback, so please read through the topics, give them some thought, ask questions and provide your thoughts, either by contacting one of us on the Board, writing us a letter, attending a Board meeting or leaving a message on the Guild website. Our plan is to continuously provide updates on actions and progress. If you would favor an open discussion at a regular Guild meeting, let us know and we can schedule it. Keep those ideas coming!