

## March 2010

# Whatcom Weaver's Guild

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

### Regular Meetings:

September through June, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

6:30pm- -Social time

7:00pm- -Short business meeting, Show & Tell,

7:30pm- - Scheduled program

St. James Presbyterian Church (Westside, lower level)

910-14<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellingham, WA

### Message from the President:

Our treasury books have been audited by Judy Blount and Maggie Weyers in preparation for our new fiscal year of January 1 to December 31. All was in order and the income and expenses for June to December 31, 2009, matched the bank balanced to within one penny! Thanks Judy, Maggie and our treasurer, Barbara.

### Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, March 10, 2010--6:30 p.m.**

LINDA REES RETURNS TO BELLINGHAM TO TALK TAPESTRY

On March 10, 2010, the Whatcom Weavers Guild welcomes Linda Rees back to Bellingham as she visits her "home" guild to share her tapestries and stories. Rees spent most of the 1980s in Bellingham as a working fiber artist and proponent of the local art scene.

By working in the medium of tapestry for over 40 years, Rees has developed her own unique style. By focusing on nonobjective themes while exploring color and form or by creating pictorial pieces where she tells a story with her imagery, Linda Rees expressively works with color and fiber to create remarkable tapestries.

Her visit to the region next month is a reconnaissance trip to check out a future venue for a two-person exhibit she is participating in at the La Conner

Quilt & Textile Museum (Sept. 29 - Dec. 31, 2010). Fortunately, she has time to visit the Whatcom Weavers Guild for a special homecoming and program presentation on March 10th.

### **Sneak Peak at Future Programs ~**

**Apr:** Toby Smith, scholar and fiber arts enthusiast will draw upon her vast knowledge and travels for this program

**May:** to be announced

**Jun:** "Influences" show and tell along with our annual stash sale

### **WWG Board Meetings:**

Board meeting is Wednesday, March 17 at 6:30 pm at Richard's community room.

### **The Daytime Weavers:**

Dayweavers are now meeting at the Roeder Home on the first Thursday of each month @ 10:30am.

### **F.Y.I.**

**Donations of knitting yarn wanted.** My mother-in-law, Barb, knits over 100 hats for children each year. Fifty of them go to Interfaith Coalition and 50 go to a low income school district in Washington state for two 1st grade classes. The students each get a hat. The families in this district are not well off and many students come to school under dressed for the weather. The teachers keep extra clothing items for the students and really appreciate the warm hats. Any knitting yarn will do. Barb is good at combing yarns and coming up with interesting hat patterns.

Please email me if you have a yarn donation. Thanks much, Kathy Green,  
HYPERLINK "mailto:kmgreen196@msn.com" [kmgreen196@msn.com](mailto:kmgreen196@msn.com)

## Attention, Dayweavers! Roeder Home Docents meeting

As you probably know, Dayweavers are now meeting at the Roeder Home on the first Thursday of each month. One of the county's requirements to hold our meetings there is that there be at least one "person in charge" during the meeting. It could be more than one person during a given meeting, perhaps one to be there at the start of the meeting, and another who would stay till the end. In order to serve as a "person in charge," you need to go through the county's orientation session.

**There will be an orientation meeting at the Roeder Home on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m. for all those in the guild who would be willing to serve in that capacity.** It is expected to be a brief meeting, and will include getting signed up with the Whatcom Volunteer Center and going over docent duties including activity supervision, event reporting, clean-up and open/close procedures. The Whatcom Volunteer Center has offered to be an umbrella organization to provide liability insurance for events at the Roeder Home, so that step is important (but simple). Docent duties will be explained by Rob Bunnett of the County Parks Department.

Any questions, call or email Sheri Ward, 961-4956, [HYPERLINK "mailto:sheriward@clearwire.net" sheriward@clearwire.net](mailto:sheriward@clearwire.net).

**Roeder Home fibers starts March 24**

**The Roeder Home Fibers committee will host its first event on Wednesday, March 24, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Roeder Home. We will have several pre-warped looms and spinning wheels ready to use.**

As a way to publicize this, we will have a couple of the Roeder Home spinning wheels available for people to use at the upcoming Spin-In on Saturday, March 13. By the way, the Spin-In itself will be a great place to shop for fiber, meet other spinners, and just generally have a great time messing around with fibers. It will be held at the Fairhaven Middle School Commons area and doors open at 10 a.m.

In addition, we will be inviting people from one or more retirement groups to this first-time Roeder Home event.

We are looking for a few more folks to help with the March 24 event. If you could come help acquaint people with spinning or weaving, please sign up to help. If you happen to have some yarn or fiber in your stash you would like to donate to the effort, that also would be welcome.

In the near-term, we plan to have walk-in spinning and weaving available on alternate Wednesday afternoons, on the Wednesdays the spinners aren't using the home. As we go along, we may well add some specific project-oriented offerings and some other times to the schedule. We will be looking for volunteer help from guild members to support these events.

In a more long-term vein, the committee has also discussed the possibility of offering a "fiber fair" day at the Roeder Home in early summer. We would like to include a lot of activities oriented toward children as well as adults. Then we could possibly follow this with week-long sessions for children during the summer, maybe 2 to 3 hours each day, in which we would step through a curriculum of dyeing, spinning, felting and weaving. All of this depends, of course, on the availability of the Roeder Home for these activities and on guild volunteer help.

We have also been in touch with a number of elementary school groups, home-schoolers, Girl Scouts and the Boys and Girls Club, and have been met with a lot of enthusiasm. For the school groups, we may be able to coordinate with them for the 2010/11 school year and offer a curriculum that addresses the general topic of "How does cloth come to be?" For home-schoolers, the scouts, and Boys and Girls Club, our involvement may come sooner than that.

In order for all of this to be successful, we are in need of long-term support from the guild, primarily in the form of time from individual guild members to help host the events. Think about how you might like to be involved, even if the March 24 event doesn't work out for you.

For questions, to volunteer, or to comment, contact the committee through Sheri Ward, HYPERLINK "mailto:sheriward@clearwire.net" [sheriward@clearwire.net](mailto:sheriward@clearwire.net), or 961-4956.

Sheri Ward

## **Show and Sell Opportunities**

Is it Spring yet? That burst of sunshine recently has got many of us thinking about new projects, new colors, new textures. Are you interested in showing or selling your creations during the year, as well as at Fibers & Beyond? I will be continuing to provide you with opportunities as they occur.

Whatcom Art Guild (WAG) is actively pursuing its strategy to provide a cooperative gallery for its members. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, this will open in the Fairhaven site used for their Holiday Show. Based on feedback from participating WWG and WAG members, some changes are being made to 'gallerify' the space (including a utility area, less booths, improved lighting, a rentable class space). Twelve-foot booths are available for monthly rental of \$20, with a 30-day commitment. All participants must be a member of WAG. If a group of artists wish to share a booth, one of the group needs to be a WAG member. If you are interested, I have much more information which I can provide to you (contact information below). This is an opportunity for individuals - WWG will not be organizing participation as it has done in the past.

WAG is also holding its Art by the Lake show on Memorial Day weekend at the Bloedel Center. Our Guild has been invited again as guest artists. If you are interested in participating, I will be talking about this at our March meeting. Contact me if you will not be at the meeting, and would like to know more.

Pat Fisher

Phone: 715 3360, email [HYPERLINK "mailto:pat.fisher@comcast.net"](mailto:pat.fisher@comcast.net)  
[pat.fisher@comcast.net](mailto:pat.fisher@comcast.net).

## **SPIN 2010 ~ FABULOUS FUN FOR FIBER Fanatics**

Bring your spinning wheel. Bring your spindles. And be sure to bring your enthusiasm on Sat., Mar. 13, 2010 because the SpinDrifters want you to explore the world of fiber at SPIN 2010! This year's event will be held in the Fairhaven Middle School Commons in Bellingham, WA ~ doors open at 10 am.

Ever wonder how yarn was made? Baffled about how your grandmother could spin wool into yarn to knit you socks every Christmas? Stop wondering and participate in workshops to learn how to spin on a spinning wheel or drop

spindle. And of course, everyone is welcome to come see the spinners in action.

Learn the art of spinning wool into yarn as you spend your day filled with fiber fun. Shop vendors to find wool, fiber tools, treasures, and more at SPIN 2010! Scheduled vendors include the Bellwether, Northwest Handspun Yarns, Spincycle Yarns, Alegre Alpacas, BJS Fiber Creations, Rosebud, and a plethora fleece vendors (Alpaca, Shetland, Wensleydale, Border Leicester, and more). Best of all, spend your day with friends and fellow fiber lovers.

SPIN 2010 is open to everyone. Admission is \$10.00 at the door. Doors are open 10 am to 4 pm. Bring a sack lunch. Fairhaven Middle School is located at 110 Park Ridge Road, Bellingham, WA ~ it is easy to find.

The SpinDrifters are a chapter of the NW Regional Spinners Association. The local chapter meets the second Saturday of each month year round. As an informal gathering of spinners, no official membership is required. Visit the group's blog ( [HYPERLINK "http://www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com"](http://www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com) [www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com](http://www.spindrifters1.blogspot.com)) for meeting dates, times, and location.

[HYPERLINK "http://calendar.bellinghamherald.com/bellingham-wa/events/show/103209265-spin-2010-fabulous-fun-for-fiber-fanactics"](http://calendar.bellinghamherald.com/bellingham-wa/events/show/103209265-spin-2010-fabulous-fun-for-fiber-fanactics) <http://calendar.bellinghamherald.com/bellingham-wa/events/show/103209265-spin-2010-fabulous-fun-for-fiber-fanactics>

## **NEW GUILD MEMBERS:**

No new members this month.

## **Community Events & Classes**

**Fibres West** taking place March 26th and 27th in Abbotsford, BC. The show website is [HYPERLINK "http://www.fibreswest.com"](http://www.fibreswest.com) [www.fibreswest.com](http://www.fibreswest.com) where you will find all the info on vendors, location etc...

We are putting on classes this year in weaving, spinning, drop spindling, felting, knitting and surface embellishment and I have attached the class list and registration form for you if any of your members are interested.

Some classes are filling fast (weaving and knitting in particular), and others still have room. The deadline for registering is Monday, March 8th. The forms are also available on the website.

### **Greetings Fibre Enthusiasts!**

Our website is now being updated for this year's Festival, which runs from Thursday, August 19 - Saturday, August 21st, 2010.

Over the coming weeks, information will continue to be added - so please check back if the information you're looking for isn't available yet.

Visit us at HYPERLINK "http://www.gibsonslandingfibreats.com"

[www.gibsonslandingfibreats.com](http://www.gibsonslandingfibreats.com),

If you add us to your bookmarks, be sure to refresh the page each visit to make sure you have the latest updates!

We're looking forward to another great Festival this summer. Thanks very much for your interest!

'Celebrating Everything Fibre'

### **Whidbey Weavers Guild Meeting**

**March 4, 2010**

Our meeting runs as follows:

10:00 - 11:00am Business Meeting

11:00 - noon Show & Tell and other fiber presentations

noon - 12:45pm Brown Bag Lunch

12:45 - 1:45 Program

1:45 - 2:00 Wrap up/clean up

Pacific Northwest Art School  
(formerly Coupeville Arts Center)  
15 NW Birch Street  
Coupeville WA 98239

The Pacific Northwest Art School is the first street on the left off North Main Street as you enter Coupeville from Highway 20.

Important parking information! Parking on the street can only be the side opposite the School and the additional space at the end of the street in the unpaved area. There are only a few spaces in the Art School lot itself so you need to drop off items or people please do then park elsewhere. Do not park on the street on the same side as the Art School as this is a tow away zone.

## WORKSHOPS

**LEARNING CURVES:** Mary Oates is one of our Guild's accomplished basket makers. She has generously agreed to share her knowledge in teaching a basket course this spring. It is: "Leather handled utility basket." This is a wonderful, large basket that can hold yarn, fleece or anything else. The cost is \$32 plus \$14 for materials. This workshop is filling up, so contact Mary immediately. Her email is HYPERLINK "mailto:meoates@comcast.net" [meoates@comcast.net](mailto:meoates@comcast.net). The workshop will be held April 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 4 at Mary's house, 2553 Yew St. Rd.

If you are willing to provide a Learning Curve workshop, please contact me at HYPERLINK "mailto:tobyMsmith@hotmail.com" [tobyMsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:tobyMsmith@hotmail.com), or [604] 924 1712.

### **FAB FOUR WITH ROBYN SPADY.** March 20 & 21 (Sat, Sun)

This is an exploration of uncommon four-shaft weaves such as double-faced overshot, double-faced twill, swivel (petit-point effect on fabric), bead leno, corduroy (both single and double), honeycomb, myggtjäll (mock leno), Bedford cord, etc. This will be a round robin workshop with 12 different weave structures included. There is still room in this workshop. The Fab Four is a good workshop to renew your creative energy. It is also a good way to learn more about weaving whether or not you can see yourself using these structures in specific projects. Taking a workshop is also a good way to meet people in the guild if you feel you are not finding it easy to meet folks in our busy meetings. Note the Fab Four is on a weekend so if you are working, here is your chance for a workshop. And finally, the most important reason to take this workshop is that learning something new helps to ward off Alzheimer's. I didn't make that up. Studies have been done.

Check out Robyn's work at her website, HYPERLINK "http://www.spadystudios.com" [www.spadystudios.com](http://www.spadystudios.com).

**Warps** - students provide their own fibres. All the yarns requested are cotton, mostly 5/2 although one of the samples requires 20/2 and one 10/2. These yarns are easy and cheap to buy if you don't already have them in your stash. I have the drafts and will send you one when you sign up.

**Location** - Squaticum Yacht Club clubhouse in Bellingham.

**Cost** - \$100 [unless someone drops out, in which case the price will go up]. A materials fee of \$15 will be paid directly to Robyn.

**If you are interested**, please send a cheque for the full amount of

the workshop (\$100) to the treasurer, Barbara Young, PO Box 403, B'ham, 98227.

**3. TAPESTRY WEAVING with Sarah Swett: May 8, 9, 10 (Sat, Sun, Mon)**

Sarah Swett is a well known tapestry weaver and we have been fortunate to bring her to Bellingham for an introductory and intermediate workshop. We have had great response to this workshop and it is now full. I am taking a waiting list if you dithered too long and did not sign up.

**Workshop Fee:** Due to the generosity of ANWG, which has awarded WWG \$400 toward the cost of the workshop, the fee has been reduced to \$120. For those who have been accepted into this course and paid their \$25 deposit, the final payment of \$95 is now due. **The deadline is March 10<sup>th</sup>.** Tattoo this date on your forehead.

**Location** - Community Food Coop, 315 Westerly Rd., Bellingham

If you are interested in being put on the waiting list, please contact me at HYPERLINK "mailto:tobyMsmith@hotmail.com" [tobyMsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:tobyMsmith@hotmail.com), or [604] 924 1712.

## **Classified Ads**

No adds this month

## **WWG Updates**

<http://www.ferndalefiber.com>

It is all about my needle felting wool packs.

Thanks much!

**Kathy Green**

**A book review written by our own Toby Smith**

for WeaveZine ~ you can find it here....

<http://www.weavezine.com/reviews/weavers%E2%80%99-wearables>

## **A blog for the guild**

Guild's Blog ([www.whatcomweavers.blogspot.com](http://www.whatcomweavers.blogspot.com)) ~ From Julie Barnes

For those of you who visit the Whatcom Weavers' blog ~ Thank you! The blog was created not only as a promotional tool for the guild, but also as a place where members could interact, share ideas, and post some great photos of our meetings and events. If you are interested in participating, i.e. being a

guild blogger, send me an e-mail (jahbarnes@msn.com). I'll get an "invitation to blog" e-mailed to you. All you have to do is click the link in the e-mail, sign up with Google, and start blogging! It is super easy and fun! ---  
Questions? Contact Juliet Barnes

## **WWG Business-**

### **Whatcom Weaver's Guild**

#### **Annual Membership Dues:**

Adult: \$20.00-- Family: \$30.00-- Student: \$15.00

Make checks payable to Whatcom Weaver's Guild, mail to Whatcom Weaver's Guild, P.O. Box 403, Bellingham, WA 98227

### **2009-10 BOARD**

President: Donna Hunter

Past President: Pat Fisher

Vice President & Programs: Julie Barnes

Secretary: Cathy Thompson

Treasurer: Barbara Young

Workshops: Toby Smith

Newsletter: Tracy Vandermay

Education: Betsy Turner

Librarian: Sheri Ward

Hospitality/Membership: Toni Wade & Louise Bayma

Member-at-Large: Gloria Lebowitz

Wool Show: Marcia Ford

Fibers & Beyond Chair: Mary Oates

Newsletter Editor-Tracy Vandermay

Contact information: (360) 927-1459

E-mail: HYPERLINK "mailto:TracyLeeArt@gmail.com" [TracyLeeArt@gmail.com](mailto:TracyLeeArt@gmail.com)

The deadline for newsletter submissions

is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

**Whatcomweaversguild.org**