



WOODLAND Weavers & Spinners Guild

Season 2006-07, No. 3

November 2006

Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

October 2, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Speaker:
Barbara Marr
"Needle Felting"

Treaters and Greeters

Paul DeYoung
Betty LeBeck,
Rita Petteys

We meet at

Trinity Congregational Church
2725 4 Mile Rd NW
Grand Rapids, MI
*(I-96 to Walker Exit—BUT,
construction continues and you may
wish to use Alpine to 4-Mile or
alternate routes.)*

Member



Newsletter Editor:

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NOVEMBER'S SPEAKER

Barbara Marr learned to Needle Felting when it was introduced in the U.S. at the International Felter's Conference held at Michigan Fiber Festival in 2000. When the art was expanded to create hats she became impassioned with this process, and developed needle felting on a silk scarf.

A NOTE FROM NORMA SMAYDA

Mary Ellen,

Thank you so much for inviting me to give an evening lecture to your Woodland Weavers and Spinners and for dinner first. You have a busy, active and well-organized guild; it is always good to see how other guilds function, and perhaps bring home a new idea to one's own guild.

The summer and winter workshop and the 3 shaft lecture are favorite subjects of mine, and I was glad to share them with your guild. Coincidentally, the day after I got home we had a dozen dyers, weavers and embroiderers from Uzbekistan visit the school. The master weaver was interested in a piece of 3 shaft weaving he saw here, and asked if he could do it on his 2 shaft loom. I pulled out the wooden triangles, demonstrated how it would be possible for him to convert his loom and weave it, and gave him the triangles. He seemed so pleased. He is called the Master Weaver,

and what he does is weave yards of plain weave for ground cloth for the embroiderers. 110 yard warps!!

Again, my thanks for all you did to make my time with your guild successful.

Sincerely, Norma Smayda

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Greetings to all!

It was nice to see some of you at the guild retreat at the Christian Reformed Conference Grounds on Saturday, the 14th of October.

The weather was a little chilly, but we managed to stay warm by the fire. As usual, we enjoyed good company and good food. Several people who took the Summer and Winter workshop given by Norma Smayda in October brought their samplers to work on.

Margaret Jager was in the process of designing another one of her beautiful sweaters and asked us for input on her design choices. Diane VanderPol was working on finishing five pairs of socks and was quite successful. Julia Daniels was busy with her twill patterned towels. I brought my spinning wheel and did some plying and tried out inkle weaving on Judy Pulver's inkle loom. That was a lot of fun.

Mostly, it was a very relaxing day to get away from the house, chat with all of my fiber buddies, and get some fresh air. Something we all need to do from time to time. See you in November!

—Mary Ellen Gedris

LOOM FOR SALE

There is a portable loom for sale at 1441 Milton SE (Wilcox Park/North Eastown area) The owner did not know the maker's name, nor was it marked. It folds up, weaving width is approx. 20" (a guess, as we had no tape measure). She is asking \$100.00 for the loom, about 5-6 shuttles, variety of thread, a thread winder (electric I think) and a couple boxes of weaving books and misc. Call Noriko for more information 774-8146

DRAFTING/WEAVE STRUCTURE

The drafting/weave structure study group will meet on Monday, November 27 at 6:30 PM at Schuler Books on Alpine. The group will be using *Mastering Weave Structures* by Sharon Alderman. Anyone wishing to join can contact Ann Bont for more information.

SPINNING GROUP MOVES

The Spinning Study Group has a new location! We are outgrowing Diane's home, and City Knitting has generously offered us meeting space. So starting on October 30 we will meet at the shop from 7:30 until 9:30. City Knitting is located at 423 Norwood SE in Eastown (one of the stores behind Wolfgangs) -- go to <http://www.city-knitting.com/> for information, including directions and maps. The date for the November meeting is November 20. We will continue to meet on the 3rd and 5th (when there is one) Mondays of the month.

BIGGER HATS

A note from Liz Oppewal:

Don Oppewal, my former father-in-law, has been knitting hats with a circular loom, but his current looms only make hats large enough for infants & children.

He'd like to make larger hats but needs a larger loom. We thought maybe someone connected to the guild might have one, or know where he could find a larger hat loom. If anyone can help on this, contact me.

Thanks

—Liz Oppewal

SALES COMMITTEE

Anyone interested in serving on a Sales Committee should contact Ann Bont (231-652-6275 or abont@comcast.com).

LEARN HOW TO DYE

Mark Your Calendars Now. A one day workshop with **Bryan Schneider-Thomas** has been scheduled for March 24, 2007. We will begin at 9:00 am, dye some yarn, fiber, or fabric. Break for a lunch of Pizza & Salad. Finish up our projects & leave by 2:00 pm. Cost is \$20, which includes our lunch. Space is limited to ten people. Contact

—Linda Blue
363-0622

Lgb1242@aol.com

SIERRA CLUB INVITATION

I've been contacted by someone from the Sierra Club about participating in their sale. This is a one-day sale on Sunday, November 19, in the afternoon. Last year a few of us participated (Jochen, Cathy, and myself) and we just split up the booth charge on the basis of sales. It was at Fountain Street Church last year, but this year it will be at a church on Kalamazoo near 44th (I think). I'll get the details toward the end of the month. The booth fee is only \$25 and we can split the cost on the basis of sales.

I'm out of town until October 25, but if you are interested in doing this, let me know. Plan to be at the sale to help out if you want to be included.

—Diane Vander Pol
940-2955
dvpo@calvin.edu

Hawa and her son enjoy one of the rugs donated for their Habitat for Humanity home from the guild.



Woodland Weavers and Spinners

Guild Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2006

Mary Ellen Gedris called the meeting to order, following a program on 3 shaft weaves presented by Norma Smayda.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the September 11, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Julie Daniels announced that WWS currently shows a balance of \$2,958.

Program: Barbara Marr of Mar-Haven will be the November presenter, sharing her needle felting work. She will include needle felting on silk scarves.

December will be the annual Holiday Potluck.

A fall retreat is planned for October 14 from 9:00AM – 9:00 PM at the Christian Reformed Conference Grounds near Holland. Cost is \$20.00, which includes 2 meals. Registration deadline is Friday, October 6.

Laurie Angell will be the January speaker, "The Healthy, Happy Weaver"

Workshops: Norma Smayda's Summer and Winter Workshop was very successful. A special thank you to Julie Daniels for organizing the food and to Betty and Ron Christians for arranging the workshop location. Chair Linda Blue has tentative plans for other workshops and will announce them as they are confirmed.

Sales: Sales surveys are due to Ann Bont immediately. Those interested in serving on the NEW sales committee should contact Ann.

Demonstrations: Blandford Nature Center still needs weaving and spinning demonstrators on October 7 and 8. If you demonstrate, you may sell your items.

Habitat for Humanity: Laurie Angell announced that Habitat for Humanity will be dedicating several new homes in October. She would like about five more rugs to donate. She suggests that rugs be approximately 28" x 45" and be woven with cotton rags so they are washable.

Hearts and Flowers: A memorial gift has been sent to Hospice in memory of Jackie Fisher's mother. A card was sent to Jochen Ditterich following his heart procedure.

Study Groups:

Spinning: Diane VanderPol announced that the spinning group will meet at her home on Monday, October 16. The group will also meet on Oct. 30, location to be determined.

Drafting: The drafting/weave structure study group will meet on Monday, November 27 at 6:30 PM at Schuler Books on Alpine. *Mastering Weave Structures* by Sharon Alderman will be the basic text. Anyone interested in joining should contact Ann Bont for details.

Fabric: Mary Ellen Gedris is interested in forming a group to weave yardage for smaller projects, such as purses.

Other Interests: There is interest in forming a committee to encourage new weavers and provide instruction for new weavers. Also, there is interest in producing a perpetual calendar with handwoven swatches as a fundraiser. Let Mary Ellen Gedris know if you are interested in either of these new ventures.

50/50: Congratulations to Karen Hoekstra for being the evening's 50/50 winner!

Announcements: Volunteers are still needed to fill the positions of treasurer and nominations chair.

Show and Tell: Participants were Arlene Tiemeyer, Laurie Angell, Julie Daniels, Linda Blue, Rebecca Kugele, Gabriela Minnhaar-Tomatis, and Mary Ippel.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

*Respectively submitted,
–Ann Bont, secretary*

Woodland Weavers and Spinners Guild

2230 Edgewood SE

**Next Meeting:
Monday, November 6, 2006
Barbara Marr
Needle Felting**

GUILD CALENDAR

November 6: Guild Meeting with
Barbara Marr, from Marr Ha-
ven Farms, "Needle Felting"

December 4: Guild Meeting,
Christmas Banquet

January 8: Laurie Angell "The
Healthy, Happy Weaver"

GREATER LANSING WEAVERS GUILD PRESENTS ITS

Annual Show and Sale

**This is a juried show featuring fine handcrafted scarves,
shawls, and other wearables.**

**Also there are holiday ornaments, jewelry, rugs,
baskets, and fiber arts demonstrations.**

**Edgewood United Church
469 N. Hagadorn Road
East Lansing**

Friday, November 17, 2006, Noon to 9 p.m.

Saturday, November 18, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All are welcome to our sale