



NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OHIO WEAVERS GUILD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, BY LESLIE GARMAN

LAST YEAR WAS EXCITING FOR ME to see the workshops that took so much time to plan actually take place and to see how many participated in each one. Thank you to all who helped make each workshop a huge success! Now let's keep the momentum going. Mary Lee has a great lineup and I want to encourage each of you to participate in ones that interest you. What a great way to learn and also get to know other guild members. Tell your friends about the workshops and encourage them to join the guild so they can benefit from the leader's expertise as well as guild members.

Other ways to get involved and help the public realize we are about more than just weaving include:

- **Help set up exhibits** at the Ohio State Fair (contact Dee Dee Ptaszek)
- **Demonstrate at the State Fair** (contact Cheryl Koncsol for the Sheep Barn and Pat Bullen for the Family Arts & Crafts Building)
- **Volunteer at the Wool Gathering** in September (contact Sue Briney and Kathleen Craig).

These are all rewarding ways to volunteer that provide opportunities to spread the word about *us*. We want to shout it from the rooftops that COWG is a way to meet interesting and talented people from so many different backgrounds who share the love of fiber!

Do not forget to take advantage of the guild library. It is open the second Saturday of the month and is loaded with books filled with inspiration for your next project. If you cannot make it on Saturday, contact Nancy Goldschmidt and she will set up a time to meet you there. We have equipment that you can borrow by contacting Kim Johnson.

Attend meetings so you can keep up on guild news and also listen to the workshop leaders. Attend the retreats at Spring Hollow Lodge in Sharon Woods.

I hope by now you are getting the message- participate, participate, and participate!!!! That is how you get the most out of your membership and the guild benefits the most from you!

Leslie

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, BY DEE DEE PTASZEK

IT'S TIME AGAIN FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS. Your COWG membership needs to be renewed by September 25, 2010 in order to be in the 2010-2011 Membership booklet. I will have the booklets ready for the October meeting. Please use the Membership Form [note, for those who receive this through the email, I've sent a separate .pdf of the page. If you receive this through the postal mail, it's a separate insert. I simply could not make it fit w/o adding 2 more pages— Laura Brendon]. If you have any questions about your membership, please don't hesitate to contact me. My e-mail is dptaszek@att.net and my cell phone is (614) 262-9233.

JULY/AUGUST 2010

CALENDAR

JULY

- 17-18 State Fair delivery
- 18 Summer Retreat
- 28 State Fair begins

AUGUST

- 14 State Fair ends

SEPTEMBER

- Sept Various deadlines for the Guild's presence at the Wool Gathering—see p. 6
- 25 COWG membership due

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THRUMS

WEBS! AND MORE . . . BY PAT MADIGAN

SINCE COASTAL MAINE HAS LONG BEEN ON MY LIST of places-to-see, this summer I asked my knitting guild friend Ruth Gerstner to take a driving tour of New England with me. We did indeed see some gorgeous rocky coastline, a couple of crowded beaches, and one very picturesque lighthouse. But since it was us, we also made our trip into something of a fiber tour. Next month, I'll describe our visit to Lowell, Massachusetts, which has a rich textile history. But I thought I'd start my "report" where



Ruth and I did – at the Mecca of all yarn stores, Webs.

Webs, located in Northampton, Mass., bills itself as America's Yarn Store, a title it no doubt deserves on the strength of its mail order business. But you wouldn't know you were visiting an icon as you drive up to the store, which isn't even visible from the street. It's in a nondescript commercial area, understandable

given the fact that it's basically a warehouse that's had the front part of the building converted to retail space.

Off to the left as you enter the store is the loom room, equipped for weavers, and Webs does carry a wide selection of weaving yarns. But Ruth and I were interested in the knitting inventory, which is quite extensive. The retail area is organized primarily by yarn weight. It's well lit and cheerful, with plenty of aisle space and very helpful staff. There's a pub-style table at the rear of the store for browsing through books, with a coffee pot going nearby. Webs has many of the brands we can get locally and a few others, including lots of fiber choices – silk, bamboo, cashmere, alpaca, rayon, cotton and of course wool. (Speaking of fiber, I did come home with a small bag of spinnable cashmere – yummy!)

Behind the retail area is the warehouse, also open for shopping/browsing. Warehouse workers were filling mail orders as we wandered the shelving units in search of bargains. The Webs retail location offers the same closeout pricing and/or volume discounts as the web site, but being able to see the colors and feel the yarn makes such a difference.



A few days into the trip, Ruth and I found ourselves in Bath, Maine, and so we had to stop at Halcyon Yarns. Their building is an old house; the retail area is the first floor. The layout was not as clear-cut here, with some special displays up front and shelves in the back area organized by yarn manufacturer. There's not a place to sit and read or knit at Halcyon, but I did find a handcrafted spinning stool to try out. We didn't come across a lot of luxury fibers or novelty yarns at Halcyon, but plenty of basic wool offerings like Bartlett, Cascade 220, Peace Fleece and Harrisville. They had some nice locally produced skeins named for places in the region. Example: Swans Island Worsted is an organic wool that's luscious to touch and comes in naturally dyed colors.

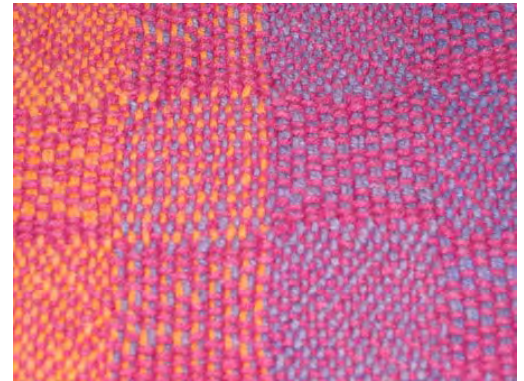
Our route home took us through Vermont, and it was only a short side trip to The Green Mountain Spinnery in Putney. This was the smallest of the yarn shops we visited. The entire operation – from washing the fleece to dyeing to spinning the yarn -- takes place in a former gas station. The retail space is truly tiny, but offers a selection of the yarns spun on the premises. I especially appreciated the well-worn shop copies of the store's two books (99 Yarns and Counting and The Green Mountain Spinnery Book), which contain some of my favorite patterns.

We had a great time, visited a wide variety of literary, cultural and outdoor venues, and best of all, came home with some tangible reminders of our fiber trek.

Many thanks to Pat for submitting this great fiber-logue! An informal survey of members confirms that you'd love to read more about each other! Send your stories to laurabrendon@gmail.com or through the post to me—Laura Brendon

FIBER FEATURE — GUILD TABLECLOTH

Editor's Note: Several members are interested in the Guild's lovely tablecloth and how it was woven. Nancy Fisher kindly found the original newsletter write-up from 1979! Sue Briney took a photo of the tablecloth, re-typed the original article, and provided drawdowns .



Sample of the Month, Nov 1, 1979, by Barb and Rick Decker

When Nell Znamierowski came to the Guild 2 years ago she wore a really handsome top designed by Carol Horn. Rick and I had admired the weave and she said that though she hadn't analyzed it, she suspected that it was only 4 harness and that it had something to do with broken twill. Rick and I stayed up that night figuring and it turned out to be remarkable simple. I wove yardage of it for the Guild's tablecloth and now each of you can have a piece of it. (Sue's comment: sample was attached.)

As you can see block A is threaded on straight twill and B on a broken twill. In my sample the blocks were 20 ends wide and went from white to white/light blue to light blue to light blue/royal blue to royal, etc. all the way across.

Warp: Cotton carpet warp @ 12 epi

Weft: Same

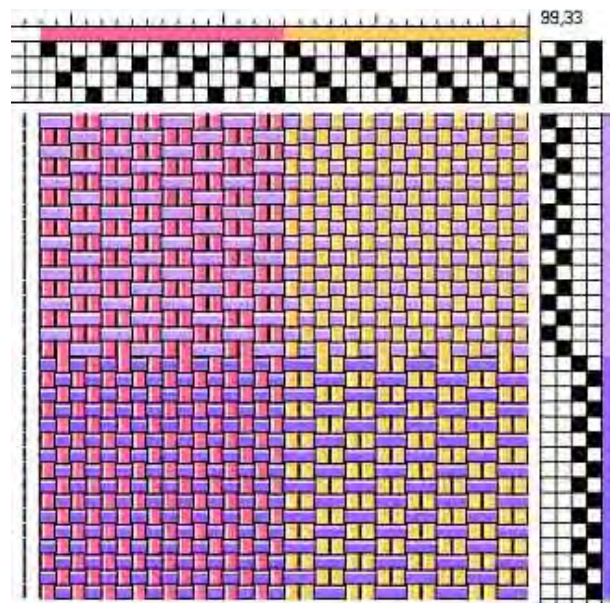
Treading

Block A: 1 & 3
 2 & 4

Block B: 1 & 2
 3 & 4

Fabric Shrinkage: 12% warp ways
 19% weft ways

Sue Briney's note: I always thought the draft was more complicated, too! When you examine the tablecloth, you'll notice that the seeming complexity derives from the way color is handled in the warp. As Barb says, she began threading the first block in white. The second block is threaded with alternating ends of white and light blue. The third block is light blue. Fourth is alternating ends of light blue and royal blue. Fifth is royal blue. This technique is continued across the warp. Only one color (rose) is used in the weft.



Let's include patterns and tips in each newsletter! Send your ideas to laurabrendon@gmail.com, or to Laura Brendon, 306 E. Jeffrey Pl., Columbus, OH 43214. If you are a weaver, I'll need the drawdowns in a .jpg, png, or gif file. I can distribute the special weaver's file electronically when I distribute the newsletters, but I don't own software that can read it. I welcome information, patterns, and tips about **all fiber arts!**

THRUMS

COWG NOTES FROM MAY 15, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 1:00 p.m. by President Joy Cain. Twenty-two members present.

Leslie Garman presented Joy with a bouquet of flowers and a card thanking her for all her hard work as President during the past year.

All of the workshops were well attended.

Treasurer's Report: Faith Gernhardt reported we have a balance of >\$6000. No hard copy available.

New Business:

Dee Dee Ptaszek stated that we have four new members. She will have details later.

Slate of Officers for 2010-2011:

- Leslie Garman, President
- Mary Lee Montgomery, 1st V.P.
- Kim Shellock, 2nd V.P.
- Faith Gernhardt, Treasurer
- Jane Droll, Secretary
- Dee Dee Ptaszek, Membership
- Laura Brendon, Newsletter

- Joy Cain, Advisor
- Sue Briney, Hospitality
- Kim Johnson and Vicki Starbuck, Equipment

Motion was made to approve new slate of officers. Motion verbally passed.

Ohio State Fair: Fair entry forms are available on line. The Fair wants to show that fiber arts are alive and well in Ohio. The more entries they receive the happier they are. June 20 is the deadline for entries. Need volunteers for demonstrations at the Fair. State Fair Committee: Pat Bullen, Faith Gernhardt, Laura Brendon, Leslie Garman, Nancy Goldschmidt, Nancy Fischer. The Fair begins July 28. Cheryl Konscol to coordinate volunteers.

- Fiber Arts Festival at Troy this week-end--May 15 & 16
- Great Lakes Fiber Show at Wooster--May 29 and 30.
- A Wool Gathering at Yellow Springs--September 18 & 19. COWG will have a small display booth, but no vendors this year. Nancy Goldschmidt will spin.
- Dye Day: Sunday June 27 at the Cultural Arts Center.

2010-2011 BUDGET SUBMITTED BY FAITH GERNHARDT

COWG Budget 2010 – 2011			
	Income	Expense	Notes
Membership	\$1,940.00	\$134.00	\$122 transferred to Equip Maint Fund \$12 for Reminder Notes
Fashion Show 2011		\$200.00	
Fundraising T-Shirts	\$170.00		
Advertising	\$10.00		
Lectures		\$400.00	
Membership Books		\$50.00	
Organization Dues		\$90.00	Was \$100 in 2009
Workshops	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Hospitality		\$50.00	
Recognition Award		\$66.00	
Newsletter		\$30.00	
Retreats		\$400.00	Formerly Social
Miscellaneous			
Outreach Expenses		\$50.00	
StateFair		\$250.00	
YellowSprings		\$100.00	
Software/Hardware			
Website Expense		\$150.00	(Paid 2 years in 2008)
Presidential Stipend		\$150.00	
Total:	\$7,120.00	\$7,120.00	

Old Business:

Yarn swap: We have 17 members participating in the yarn swap this year. Michelle Chavalía said to use whatever you can to turn item into a creative project. Can add up to 50% of other yarns if desired. Leftover yarn goes back to contributor. Finished projects due at the January meeting.

Newsletter: Laura Brendon stated that she would like to have little interviews with members about your crafts and interests to include in newsletters.

Library: Dee Dee needs someone to man the library for June 12th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Mary Jo Wood volunteered. No one is needed for July or August. Jane Droll volunteered for September.

Equipment: All equipment needs to be home by July 1st to be ready for the State Fair. Contact Kim Johnson or Vicki Starbuck.

Meeting concluded at 1:30 p.m. and a video of interview with weaver Peter Collingwood was shown.

2009-2010 BUDGET TO ACTUAL SUBMITTED BY FAITH GERNHARDT

COWG 2009-2010 Budget to Actual						
	Income	Expense	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference	Notes
Membership	\$2,000.00	\$12.00	\$1,870.00	\$39.56	-\$157.56	Awaiting category updates from Dee Dee
Fashion show – 2010	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00				
Merchandise – Fundraising & T-Shirts	\$150.00		\$30.00		-\$120.00	Original Cost (11/17/07): 711.98 Income 2007-2008 65.00
Advertising	\$10.00		\$0.00		-\$10.00	
Donations		\$50.00		\$0.00	\$50.00	
Lectures		\$750.00		\$0.00	\$750.00	
Membership Books		\$150.00		\$3.12	\$146.88	
Organizational Dues		\$90.00		\$100.00	-\$10.00	
Workshops	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,470.00	\$4,415.00	\$33.00	
Hospitality		\$50.00				
Equipment Purchase – Repair	\$60.00	\$8.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Library						
Newsletter		\$30.00		\$17.60	\$12.40	
Social		\$400.00		\$400.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous				\$61.95		Lifetime Achievement Award
Outreach Expenses		\$50.00		\$0.00	\$50.00	
State Fair		\$250.00		\$250.00		
Yellow Springs /Woolgathering	\$50.00	\$300.00	\$105.35	\$100.00	\$5.00	
Steam Press Special Project	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,435.99	\$901.64	\$534.35	Special equipment – not on the budget 2010-2011
Software/Hardware			\$0.00	\$0.00		
Website Expense						Pd 2 yrs in 2008
Presidential Stipend		\$150.00		\$150.00		
Total	\$8,770.00	\$8,790.00	\$7,911.34	\$6,438.87	\$1,472.47	

THRUMS

A WOOL GATHERING, BY SUE BRINEY

FALL IS THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE WOOL GATHERING at Young's Dairy Barn in Yellow Springs. The dates this year are September 18 & 19. Times are Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There's lots more info, including vendor lists, at <http://my.voyager.net/~nfisher/>

This year, our guild will have a single tent. We will concentrate on demonstrating and on the simple enjoyment of talking to people about who we are and what we do. We are planning a display of hand-made items, a warped loom for demonstrating, and room for spinners and wheels (or whatever else you bring to demonstrate). Folding chairs will be provided.

DISPLAY: If you have items that you would like to display, please contact Faith Gernhardt or Nancy Goldschmidt. Faith and Nancy will make our display look professional, with uniform labels describing each item. *Faith and Nancy need to know what we will have to display by Wednesday, Sept 1; and the items no later than Saturday, Sept 11.* Please supply them with the following 6 pieces of information:

1. Your name
2. Your item
3. Method or technique (ex: woven, knitted, hand-dyed)
4. Pattern description (ex: 8 harness 2-block twill)
5. Fiber content
6. Any additional comments that would help describe the creation of your item

VOLUNTEER: We need volunteers to spin/weave/chat! The Wool Gathering draws crowds from all over Ohio, so this is a terrific outreach opportunity for our guild. You don't need years of experience to demonstrate—just bring your enthusiasm for fiber and for the guild! Please consider demonstrating for a 3 hour block of time, either beginning in the morning, early afternoon, or late afternoon. Contact Kathleen Craig or Sue Briney by Sept 11 to volunteer.

DONATE: We hope to have CD spindles for newbie spinners. If you have extra fiber (OK, so who doesn't??) and can donate some to the cause, please plan to bring some along so we can send new spinners off with a lesson, fiber and their very own spindle.

WOOL GATHERING DATES to remember [items registered or received after these dates will not be displayed.]

Sept 1: LAST DATE to register your display items; contact Faith Gernhardt - 614-793-5909 or fgerhardt@wowway.com; Nancy Goldschmidt - 614-263-7680. You can also get your info to Faith or Nancy at the FAIR

Sept 11: LAST DATE to deliver display items:
Drop off at the FAIR (Sheep Building, 7/28-8/6)
Drop off at Kathleen Craig's house
Drop off at Jon Briney's store (Image Arts Etc, 1144 Kenny Center across from the Yarn Shop)

Sept 11: LAST DATE to volunteer to demo
Kathleen Craig – 614-442-1842 or kathleen66@columbus.rr.com
Sue Briney – 740-917-9388 or brineys@aol.com

Sept 18/19: ENJOY the WOOL GATHERING

DYE DAY, JUNE 2010, BY CATHY SHIPP AND LAURA BRENDON

WHAT AN ABSOLUTELY MARVELOUS DAY! It wall all fun, color, community, color, great food and more color. Lots of yarn and roving were being transformed in different ways this year. I saw vibrant purples and pinks, mellow greens and blues, Bullen One-Shots and many other combinations.

Kim Johnson's daughter turned out gorgeous scarves and cool tees. My own experiments with rayon silk (both satin and velvet) were a wonderful success. One tee shirt was even treated to a bit of shibori by our **2010**

Weaver of the Year, Kathleen Craig. Yes, a bit of the afternoon was spent surprising her with the award and a gorgeous new shuttle. Meanwhile more dying was in the works. I hope we get to see some of the results for batched color on cotton during this up coming guild year. Oh, and we may have Dye Day 2 this winter. Stay tuned to this newsletter for more on that later! - CS

I had a blast—I tried to dye linen top (note to self—cellulose dying doesn't just take a boatload of dye, it takes a small yacht's worth! better done at home, but fun

SUMMER RETREAT AT LESLIE GARMAN'S

Sunday- July 18, Time- 10:00

Potluck at noon; I will provide drinks. Wear old clothes and old shoes if you want to explore the woods, creek, sheep, etc. and bring projects you want to work on or share with others! Look forward to seeing everyone!

9595 Roberts Rd S E West Jefferson 43162 Cell phone if you take a wrong turn...614 477 4347

Directions

Take I-70 West to exit #85, Plain City/ West Jefferson

Turn **LEFT** on OH-142 (Plain City-Georgesville Road)

Turn **RIGHT** on US-40 and head into West Jefferson

Turn **LEFT** at the second light onto WALNUT STREET- this will become FELLOWS AVE at the curve

Turn **LEFT** on GARFIELD at the stop sign

Turn **RIGHT** on LILLY CHAPEL-KIOUSVILLE RD

Turn **LEFT** on OLMSTEAD ROAD

Turn **LEFT** on ROBERTS RD... It is the road *after* Thomas Lane and Kaden Court. If you get to a pond you've gone too far! My house is an old log house at the end of the road

DYE DAY, JUNE 2010, CONTINUED

anyway.) We worked this year at the Cultural Arts Center, which is a great place to do all of this—much available space, no hornets, and air-conditioning! Pat Bullen did her usual stellar job of getting materials, organizing, teaching, and never sitting down. People were willing to try everything (and the food was, as usual delicious). One of my personal favorite moments was watching Kathleen Craig hand out tiny pairs of bamboo socks (pinned at the toes) for us to dye; she will distribute them among the many tiny toes of her grandchildren.—lkb



EDITOR'S MUSINGS (THOUGHTS FROM A SINISTER SPINSTER)

I'M WRITING THIS ON JULY 9, exactly nine days after my deadline to send this through e- and postal mail. I'm reminded that it always , ALWAYS takes me twice as long to do a new task as I ever thought it would. Dee Dee is very patient—she passed on many things to me more than once. Let's give her a standing ovation for all her hard work as the past editor (applause, applause, applause). The colors of the parts of the newsletter are taken from the COWG web logo (thanks to Pat Bullen).

Dreams of mine are to include:

- * Tips and patterns from different fiber arts; at least one in every newsletter , written by one of you (thank you, Nancy and Sue!)
- * Stories from every event we have, written by participants (thank you, Cathy!)
- * An interview or article about at least one of us in every newsletter (Thank you, Pat M!). Let's use this as a forum to get to know more about each other

About the subtitle of this column—I was thrilled as a teen-age to find out that “sinister” refers to left-handed (which I am), and it gave me giggles to realize that “spinster” referred to one who spins (which I now do). Since I tell jokes badly, being able to pun is fun.

May your stash be as large as you wish it to be, may all bugs run from your house, and may you find peace and joy in practicing the arts we share and love. *Laura Brendon*

THRUMS

The Weavers Loft

24647 Zimmer RD
Dover, IN 47022
812-576-3904

Orderline: 800-449-6115
weaving@nalu.net

www.weaversloft.com

Yarn specials: Call or see website.

Used equipment available: Call or see website

Hours are usually Wed-Sat 10-4, also by
appointment – please call ahead when
driving.

The image is a promotional graphic for Sirikind. At the top, the word "Sirikind" is written in a red, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline "Natural Knitwear for Dolls" is written in a smaller, blue font. The background of the top half is a colorful illustration of a clothesline with several pieces of clothing (pink, yellow, green, red, blue) hanging on it, set against a blue sky with a yellow sun and green grass with colorful flowers. Below the illustration, on the left, is a close-up of a doll's head and shoulders. The doll has blonde hair and is wearing a bright pink knit beanie and a matching pink knit turtleneck sweater. To the right of the doll, the text "Knitting patterns and kits for classic and contemporary doll wear" is written in red. Below this, in black text, it says "Knit high-quality outfits for 18 inch dolls from natural fibers." and "Our net profit supports school fellowships for girls in developing countries." At the bottom right, the text "Learn more at www.sirikind.com" is written in blue, with the email address "sirikind@yahoo.com" below it in black.