



NEWSLETTER June 13 , 2024

Note: This month's newsletter is absolutely packed with information. Keep reading. I am planning to put together a special edition showcasing Convergence in August. If you are attending the convention, please send me pictures, anecdotes, and reviews of great teachers or workshops.

2024 Officers:

Lynette Beebe and Cynthia Smith: Co-Presidents

Sylvia Crawford: 1st VP, Programs

Trudie Byers: 2nd VP, Newsletter

Erin Taylor: 3rd VP, Workshops

Pam Jenkins: Secretary

Kate Webb: Treasurer

Barrie Mason: Scholarship Chairperson

President's Report:

June is finally here and we are busy! Here is a rundown of our events for the next two months. We will have our Guild meeting on the 13th of June so bring your Swap and Shop items marked and ready to sell or swap. Cash usually works best. We will start the June 13th meeting with Guild business, moving on with our Show & Tell, Snacks, and lastly, Swap and Shop. Come at 9:30 for socializing and setting up. The

evening of the 13th is our time at The National World War I Museum and Memorial Maker Social. Trudie will give us more information on that event at our meeting.

Our 70th Anniversary Showcase is June 15th at the Johnson County Arts and Heritage Center, Janet and the committee have worked hard to make this event a success. You will find more details in our newsletter. Thank you for all that have volunteered their time to help with this event. The day before, on June 14th, KCUR will run spots about our event and broadcast Janet's interview. The PBS station in Warrensburg is also giving us some exposure. KC Studio magazine is writing an article about our anniversary too.

We just received notice that there is a demonstration opportunity at Deanna Rose on June 26th; details are in our newsletter. Next, many of us will be preparing for Convergence in Wichita. Remember, there will NOT be a meeting in July since many of our members will be absent.

The next Gallery Show we will be preparing for is the Westwood Gallery. This show is up for the month of August. During the month of July, we will need to start collecting handmade towels from members who would like to have theirs displayed for this show. More information, requirements and delivery dates about the Towel Show will be coming through email. Now take a deep breath and get ready for a summer full of Guild fun.

Guild History:

Thanks to Kirsten for all her work on this.

The Weavers Guild of Greater Kansas City was established in 1954 with the goal of promoting the art of weaving. As the Guild has evolved, our mission has grown to include furthering the art and interest in hand weaving and related fiber arts for members and the public.

The official formation of the Weavers Guild was the culmination of six monthly meetings beginning in the fall of 1953. The initial meeting brought together several people interested in weaving who were able to recruit additional individuals to monthly planning meetings. The participants ranged from novice to expert weavers and contained what historical notes describe as 'a nucleus of pioneering spirits willing to work for the establishment of a permanent weaving organization'.

By the end of 1954, the Guild had 41 charter members. Membership has grown in the intervening years, and by 2023 the Guild had 90 members.

The Guild has a long standing tradition of furthering the education of our members with speakers and other programming. In January of 1954, the Guild hosted our first guest speaker, Lysbeth Wallace, who spoke about teaching weaving in the Philippine Islands.

The Guild's first act of sponsorship took place in June of 1954, when the Weavers Guild donated \$25 as a prize for the Handwoven Textiles portion of the Kansas Designer and Craftsman Show. The Guild's most recent sponsorship activity is supporting a Textiles & Tea presentation of the Handweavers Guild of America.

In 1975, the Fiber Guild formally established themselves as a night time meeting group separating from the Weavers Guild with the election of their own board members.

Membership in either guild entitles the member to monthly newsletters, participation in both guilds' activities, and access to both libraries. Voting rights, however, are limited to the guild in which one has membership.

In 1984 the Guild received tax-exempt status as a 501(C)(3) charitable organization. The charity

that the Guild currently supports is Project Linus. Blankets made by Guild members are donated to Project Linus which are then distributed to children in need.

Upcoming Programs:

June: Swap and Shop: Bring your unused materials as well as small bills to purchase items you can actually use. If you want to donate items to the guild, the proceeds will go to the scholarship fund. NOTE; FOR THIS MEETING, THE SWAP AND SHOP WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THE BUSINESS MEETING.

July: NO MEETING DUE TO CONVERGENCE

To suggest a program, contact Sylvia Crawford at crawfordsylvia56@gmail.com.

70th Anniversary Celebrations Continue on June 15 Janet Meddings

We hope you have marked your calendar for Sat., June 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to participate in our Fiber Art Expo at the JOCO Arts & Heritage Center, 8788 Metcalf, Overland Park, KS. During this event, we will demonstrate a variety of fiber art making techniques and are asking members to bring looms of all kinds and sizes, as well as spinning wheels, crochet, knitting, rug hooking, needle felting, etc. to show the public how it's all done. If you have signed up to demonstrate—thank you! If you have not signed up—no worries. Just come on down on the 15th and join in.

Event Reminders

- **Arrival Time & Day-of Assistance**

We should arrive around 9:00 a.m. Feel free to come early and stay the entire day. Or, you can come and go as needed. There is no set schedule for each participant. We have plenty of art

making techniques on our list; however, we need additional day-of assistance with greeting the public and distributing our little looms at the exit. So, if you haven't signed up to demonstrate, please stop by to help if you can.

- **Tables & Chairs**

The Arts Center will furnish tables and chairs; we do not need to bring our own. The Center asks that we do not rearrange any furniture—tables, benches, or sculptures. We can move chairs as needed. If we need additional tables, please ask a Center employee to assist.

- **Breaks & Lunch**

Bring a snack or lunch and something to drink (with a lid) and we will have a break area available to us. There are several coffee shops and restaurants in the area.

- **Code of Conduct**

Be flexible and always professional. We want to create a positive experience for attendees. Engage with visitors—answer their questions, explain what you're doing. A positive experience for all ensures that we will be invited back in the future.

Please do not throw trash (e.g., fiber scraps) on the floor. We want to leave the facility as clean as when we arrived. If you accidentally spill, please let Center staff know so that it can be cleaned up as quickly as possible.

How has this event been advertised?

1. Janet was interviewed by KCUR FM and they are running two 30-second spots on the 14th.
2. We printed and mailed over 2,000 postcards sent to people interested in our endeavors.

Many members have distributed postcards to their friends and family and other places of business. The Yarn Barn is distributing them to customers; the Arts Center is distributing them to visitors. You can view the postcard here:

https://4ff43861-929d-455e-8a18-1427caa0d043.usrfiles.com/ugd/4ff438_560138ffa333464ca101873aa243fb62.pdf

3. The Arts Center will feature this event in their June newsletter and on their website:
<https://www.jcprd.com/1835/Arts-Heritage-Center>
4. ArtsKC Go website:
<https://www.artskcgo.com/event/weavers-guild-of-greater-kansas-city-70th-anniversary-fiber-art-expo/>
5. Weavers Guild website:
<https://www.kcweaversguild.org/education-events>

This information is online here:

<https://www.kcweaversguild.org/education-event>

If you have questions, send an email to janetmeddings@gmail.com

Other Community Outreach:

World War I Museum and Memorial

The next **Maker's Social** is **June 13** from 5:00-7:30. (Includes a complimentary happy hour). Last time, we had lots of people come by to try their hand at weaving on a rigid heddle loom and inkle loom and to watch Jacqueline weave on her table loom. I realize that this is close to our Johnson County event, but I could use 2-3 volunteers to help. After all, your

portable looms should be dusted off and ready to go.

Heritage Arts and Crafts at Deanna Rose Farmstead

FIBER TECHNIQUE DEMONSTRATORS NEEDED:

A Demonstration Day is scheduled on Wednesday, June 26, 10 am to 2 pm. Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, 13800 Switzer Road, Overland Park, KS 66221 Any fiber techniques are welcome at this children's event. We would like to have someone demonstrating weaving on a loom, spinning (wheel or drop spindle), and wool felting. The theme of the demonstration day is crafts from the early 1900's. We expect a huge number of visitors to attend with the focus on children and families. We will possibly have a blacksmith and leather worker to demonstrate those crafts.

If you can help on June 26, please contact Marilyn Lyons: email mlyonsphoto1@gmail.com; (913) 302-4508 call or text

There is a small stipend for the demonstrators as well as some raw wool supplies from sheep sheering at the Farmstead available for the spinners and felters.

Convergence Reminder

You can still join Handweavers Guild of America and participate in Convergence. The last day to register for Workshops is June 19, 2024. The last day to purchase a meal plan or register for Seminars, CVPs, Events, Tours, etc. without a late fee is June 28, 2024

Calling volunteers for Goody Bag help at Convergence in Wichita!

WHEN: Wednesday, July 10, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Bob Brown Expo and Convention Center, 225 West Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67202

WHAT: stuffing 800 Convergence Goody Bags

I need 14-20 volunteers for this project. There will be some volunteers coming from Wichita, so I need about 8-10 from Kansas City. If you are able to help, you will receive a free day pass to the exhibits and vendor hall. (If you have a CVP, your unlimited pass to the exhibits/vendor hall is included). So if you can come down to Wichita on Wednesday (before the convention gets started) and want to help, please contact Sandy Cahill (913) 709-1923 call or text.

THANKS CONVERGENCE TEAM!

About Town:

Valerie Doran Bashaw
Storms Moving In

Becky Stevens
Anchored #13

Mary Hamam Elmusa
Therapy 1

COMMON GROUND
VALERIE DORAN BASHAW
BECKY STEVENS
MARY HAMAM ELMUSA

LEEDY VOULKOS
ART CENTER

2012 Baltimore
Kansas City, MO
816-474-1919

May 3 - July 26
2024

Fiber art exhibit at the Leedy Voulkos:

Becky Stevens is a long time guild member. Becky has used shibori and basket weaving techniques to create sculptures. Mary Elmusa has presented her work to the guild - she combines mono printing on paper and fabric with sashiko stitching to communicate images and symbols from her dreams and subconscious.

Valerie Bashaw is a local fiber artist and teacher that uses mica to stitch together mobiles.

Coming This Fall.

Our October challenge this year will be “Opposites Attract.” Thanks to Lynette for the suggestion.

KAWS

KAWS 2024 will be the weekend of **October 18-19** at the Roeland Park Community Center. Future locations are:

2024 – Kansas City Fiber Guild-

2025 – Manhattan

2026 – Greater Kansas City Weavers Guild

Creative Hand:

November 22nd and 23rd

Creative Hand is in its 42nd year of showcasing the diverse talents of our members. We look to continue our achievements by honoring those who have participated over the years and invite new and upcoming artists in our guild to participate. If you have thought of participating but it seems overwhelming, we have artists willing to help you navigate your first show. We whole heartily encourage everyone to consider participating this year. Applications for the 2024 show are now being accepted. Hardcopies will be available at upcoming meetings but if you prefer to have an application emailed to you, please reach out to either Karen Ecton at karen.ecton@gmail.com or Kara Barlett at tbarlett@embarqmail.com. Applications will be accepted until October 20th with an early bird discount deadline of August 31st.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Yarn Barn Classes:

Yarn Barn’s summer classes are now enrolling! In addition to a full schedule of weaving, spinning, knitting, and crochet classes, two special workshops are scheduled. In June, Beth Brown-Reinsel is teaching a day-long course in Latvian Fingerless Mitts and a two-day class in a Cowichan-Inspired Cardigan. In August, Heavenly Bresser is teaching four workshops to help you level up your spinning and carding skills.

Travel to Guatemala:

Nancy Kolhoff shared information about a Guatemalan trip she is planning that will be part service and party textile arts study. Contact Sylvia or Lynette for her information.

For Sale:

Lorraine Masse _Email: ldmasse2@gmail.com

Phone: 719-502-5857



: Ashford Inkle Loom

Approx. age and condition: Like new condition, about 3 years old, located in Leavenworth, KS. If you are unable to travel to Leavenworth, I can arrange to have the loom delivered to the next Weaver's Guild meeting. Asking \$50, but reasonable offer will be considered.

Price: \$50 OBO

Shari Lentsch

Email: sjlentsch@gmail.com

Phone: 913-396-2375



Description: Schacht Flip Rigid Heddle 25"
loom, all 4 heddles, Trestle stand, and Flip
Carrying bag

Approx. age and condition: All purchased from
The Yarn Barn. All In perfect condition!

Price: For the bundle - \$500.