

# ❖ Northwest News ❖

Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds

northwestweavers.org

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## Your Board Members

Anne Oglevie, President  
[anneroglevie@gmail.com](mailto:anneroglevie@gmail.com)  
Mary Anna Swinnerton, 1st Vice-Pres.  
[lvmmaps2@bendcable.com](mailto:lvmmaps2@bendcable.com)  
Betty Bell, 2nd Vice-President  
[BettyBell3@msn.com](mailto:BettyBell3@msn.com)  
Janice Griffiths, Secretary  
[jmgriffiths@shaw.ca](mailto:jmgriffiths@shaw.ca)  
Marty Lemke, Treasurer  
[martylemke@gmail.com](mailto:martylemke@gmail.com)  
Gloria Lebowitz, Education Chair  
[glolebow@yahoo.com](mailto:glolebow@yahoo.com)  
Christine Bunnell, Membership Chair  
[bunnell.Christine@yahoo.com](mailto:bunnell.Christine@yahoo.com)  
Barbara Taylor, Communications Chair  
[ghosttrail@msn.com](mailto:ghosttrail@msn.com)  
RaeDeane Leatham, Webmaster  
[webmaster@northwestweavers.org](mailto:webmaster@northwestweavers.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am going to brag about the Handweavers' Guild of Boise Valley. I have been a member of the guild for about fifteen years. I joined when I first started weaving. There are around fifty members. Their uniqueness is just my perspective, and I have no other weaving or fiber arts guilds to judge it by. I have, however, been a member of predominately female organizations all of my life starting with an all-girls boarding school!

A guild by definition is an organization of people with related interests especially formed for mutual aid and/or protection, and organized to maintain standards. The Boise Guild has three master weavers, a master spinner and a member who just passed the first part of the COE on her way to becoming a master weaver. All of the experienced weavers and other fiber artists are very willing to teach or help the more inexperienced.

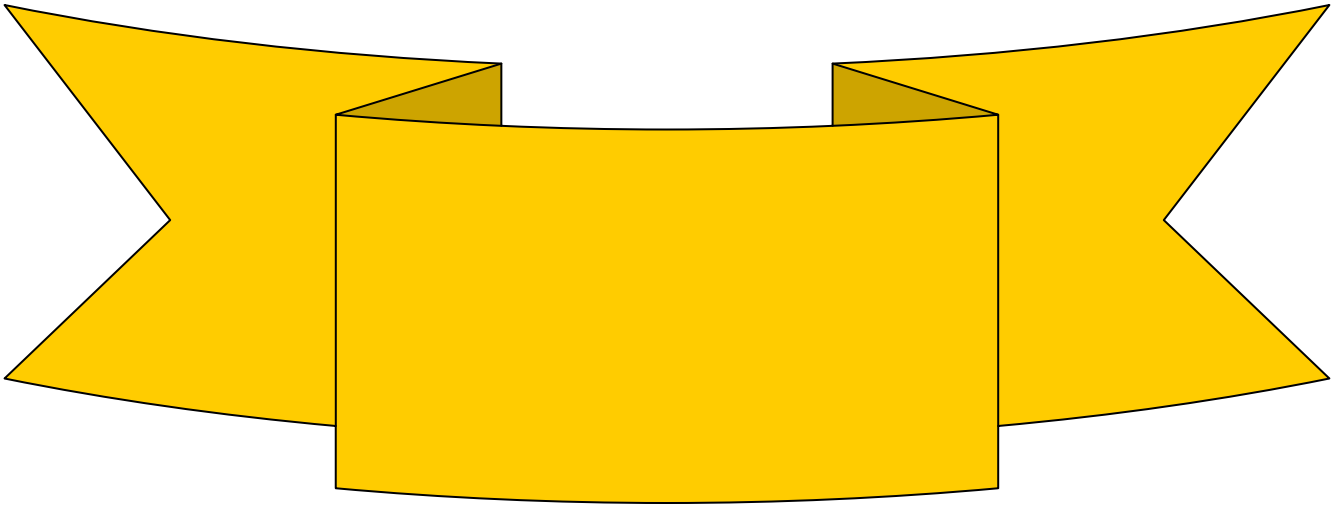
Every year we have a weaving workshop with a national teacher, usually a spinning workshop, and a weaving intensive. Our weaving intensive is a leaderless workshop over three days. We meet in January, usually 15 to 20 of us. We choose a topic at the end of each intensive for the next year. The next one is huck lace. We do a round robin with the coordinator putting a folder together with all the weaving plans from and for each participant. Everyone has to talk about their choice of the weave. The cost is \$30.

We meet every month and always have a program that guild members volunteer for. In November, it is usually the topic for the intensive so the newer weavers have an understanding of weave structure. We also have a variety of study groups that meet at various times each month. We have a Certificate of Excellence (COE) support group that meets every other month. The attitude of the guild members who have been involved for a long time has set the standards for "paying it forward". There is always someone that can answer a question or knows how to find out or will show you how. The support for each other in my experience is extraordinary.

Woven together,

Anne





[anneroglevie@gmail.com](mailto:anneroglevie@gmail.com)

**ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST WEAVERS' GUILDS**  
**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**BOISE, ID**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2015**

**AGENDA**

- 8:30 - 10:30 am Open for show and share, registration and setup
- 9:00 - 10:00 am Registration, view show and share, refreshments.
- 10:00 am Call the meeting to order  
Welcome  
Written questions from the guilds for the board  
Determination of a quorum  
Formal adoption of the agenda  
Minutes of 2014 AMM  
Introduction of board members  
Treasurers' report  
Committee reports:-  
    Membership  
    Education  
    Communications  
    Webmaster  
Old Business  
    Challenge grants  
    2017 Conference reports  
New Business  
    Election of officers  
        Nominating committee present slate of officers for 2015-2017  
    Thank you to outgoing officers
- 12:00 Noon Lunch
- 1:00 pm Short presentation from any representatives that received an ANWG grant  
Written questions answered by the president and board  
Show and share presentations

## MEET THE CANDIDATES (Elected)



### President: Anne Oglevie

Member: Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley

I started weaving in the 1990's after I found a 4-shaft Gilmore loom which I still have. I joined the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley not long after that. I have learned to weave through workshops and intensives, mostly with the Guild, although I did have the opportunity to attend The Weaving School with Madelyn van de Hoogt. I still volunteer for the Boise Guild in various capacities. Before I learned to weave, I learned to spin. Spinning was something I had wanted to do since I watched many women spinning in Australia. I learned to knit from my grandmother at the age of 7. I came to this country from Australia 20 years ago. I retired as a registered nurse and hospital administrator two years ago.



### Second Vice President: Mary Anna Swinnerton

Introduced to weaving and spinning in Washington, D.C. in the mid-1960's, Mary Anna used those skills from 1977-1998 in her Seat Saver business (reweaving chair seats) while living in California. Mary Anna has been involved in leadership in her local guild since 1999, has attended five ANWG conferences and has served as ANWG 1st Vice-President, President, and 2nd Vice President since 2009. Mary Anna was to have retired this year, but will act as 2nd Vice President as Betty Bell wishes to step down.



### First Vice-President: Susie Liles

Suzie Liles has taught weaving for 30 years. Suzie is very enthusiastic and loves to share her knowledge. She has taught workshops and seminars for adults and children in the United States and Canada. Suzie has a MFA in Fibers from the University of Oregon. She is a member of the Handweavers Guild of America, Surface Design Association, and Spinning and Weaving Association. She is very active in the fiber arts community; she was the chair of the 2001 and 2011 Northwest Weaving Conference, assistant chair for the 2007 Surface Design Conference, Coordinator for the joint symposium Studio Arts Quilt Associates and Surface Design Association April 2008. In March of 2008 Suzie Liles opened the Eugene Textile Center in Eugene, Oregon.



### Secretary: Melanie Smith

Member: Handweavers' Guild of Boise Valley

Melanie has enjoyed fiber arts for over 28 years which has led her to explore all areas of fiber arts: knitting, spinning, and weaving. She has taught all forms of crochet, tatting, knitting, spinning, weaving and needle felting classes in the Idaho area. She has test knit for several yarn companies and worked as a head knit designer for an internet craft web site. Melanie has recently published several articles in *Spin Off*, *Piecework*, *Ply*, and Ashford's *Wheel* magazines. In the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley she has held positions as Vice President, Treasurer, several committee chairs and study group leader positions.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES (Elected) (Continued)



### Treasurer: Linda Gettmann.

Member: Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild  
Linda is a veteran craftsperson who escaped from her corporate office in the financial services industry to have more time for her favorite hobbies: weaving, beading, and knitting. In the Sept./Oct. 2014 issue of *Handwoven* featuring handwovens for the home are Linda's Bright Herringbone Twill Towels. She is always on the lookout for new ideas, and enjoys teaching others and experimenting in the realm of fiber arts.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES (Appointed)



### Webmaster: Rae Deane Leatham

Member: Seattle and Whidby Island Guilds  
A non-voting member, Rae Deane is also the past chair for the 2013 ANWG NW Weaver's conference in Bellingham. She joined the Seattle Guild after retirement and attending her first ANWG conference in 2009. A lifelong knitter, she still is captivated by the beauty of knitted lace but is a self-identified fiberholic who loves spinning and exploring all that weaving has to offer. She also brings a life-long interest in NW traditional culture thanks to her dad's home movies on Alaskan native fishing villages and is beginning to explore Ravenstail and Chilkat as a result.

### Communications Chair: Pat Blanchard

Member: Threadbenders Guild

As a long time knitter, I had accumulated a huge stash of fibers - things leftover from projects and yarns that had been on sale here and there that seemed a good idea at the time. After I retired I started thinking about how I might use some of this stuff. Weaving immediately came to mind, so I took a class with Madelyn Van Der Hoogt and was hooked. I joined Threadbenders Guild which has proved to be the best women's organization I've ever belonged to and just keep weaving and learning when I have time, at conferences or workshops.

In general, I feel a duty to participate in the organizations to which I belong and have, at a local level with Threadbenders, helped whenever I could. Barbara Taylor was looking for a person to replace her at the Communications post with ANWG. This seemed a logical next step. Barbara has gotten me started learning the software, and I am, in general, unafraid and experienced with the use of computers and various software programs. I'd like to find ways to continually improve communication with ANWG members and to make the newsletter as accessible as possible to everyone.



### Education Chair: Isabelle Fusey

Member: Greater Vancouver Weavers and Spinners Guild

I am an inveterate fabric fondler. I was raised around a loom and started weaving at the start of the millennium. Designing a fabric appeals to me as much as the rhythmic throwing of the shuttle. I weave mostly utilitarian textiles.

Above is a sample of Isabelle's weaving, a shadow weave tea towel in 8/2 cotton set at 18 epi.

### Membership Chair: Christine Bunnell

Member Cross Borders Weavers (WA/BC)

Christine has served as Membership Chair for the last four years. A new membership chair is still being sought, but Christine will continue until such time as someone steps forward for this position. Maybe you? Christine will mentor you through the learning process.



TREADLE LIGHTLY ANWG 2017  
NW Weavers' Conference



VICTORIA HANDWEAVER  
& SPINNERS GUILD

Two years to go and conference preparations continue. If you are travelling here from outside Canada, now is the time to dig out your passport and make sure it will still be valid in June 2017. If you have not travelled to a conference in Canada before, plan to get a passport and come visit Victoria. It is a beautiful, friendly city. We cheerfully accept American money and will do our best to make sure you have a wonderful time.

Go to [travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports.html) to apply for or renew your American passport.

Prairie Escalier has joined our team as Guild Liaison to work with guilds on the preparation of award ribbons, nametags and guild booths. Prairie will also be contacting guilds in the near future to ask for sponsors for show awards. If your guild would like to honour a past or present guild member, you can sponsor an award in the Fashion, Juried or Open Shows in the member's name.

The Invitation to Instructors is now online and submissions are coming in. If you have a favourite instructor or someone you would love to take a class with, send them an email with our website address. Or you can contact us through the website and make a suggestion to us.

Now is the time to begin planning your entry to one of the Conference Shows. The requirements are on the website. The categories include weaving, spinning, basketry or containers, dyeing, saori weaving, felting, bookmaking and woven paper so there should be something for everyone. If you have never entered a show and feel a bit nervous about being judged, make your entry to the Open Show. Entries will be accepted without jurying, although we do reserve the right to refuse pieces due to space considerations. However, I do encourage you to try entering the Fashion Show or Juried Show. While having someone judging your work is intimidating, I know there are many wonderful weavers, spinners, and basket makers out there whose work we would be proud to show in Victoria. So throw caution to the winds, tell yourself that you are a creative fibre artist and enter a show.

Check the website regularly—[anwgconference2017.com](http://anwgconference2017.com)—for updates.

Christine Purse

## CHALLENGE GRANT REPORTS



### Anchorage Weavers and Spinners Guild “THREADS 2015” FASHION SHOW

The Fashion Show took place April 19, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Rasmussen Center of the Anchorage Museum Auditorium in Anchorage, Alaska. The show lasted approximately one hour, with a reception following the show.

To accomplish the goals as set forth in our grant application, we prepared for the fashion show many months before by sponsoring educational presentations in fiber arts related to weaving, garment construction, finishing techniques and spinning:

Two hundred of the \$600 total grant monies was used to help pay for the workshop by Heather Winslow titled: “Fiber, Fashions - The Evolution of a Handwoven Garment”. The workshop focused on creating garments with handwoven fabric, and incorporating a variety of finishing techniques. There were 17 participants in the class, and sixteen of them submitted garments or articles for the Fashion Show as a result of what they learned in the class. Additionally, Heather Winslow did an evening presentation on Theo Moorman technique inlay adapted to clothing on Friday, October 24, 2014 for the general public. Two fashion show garments used the Theo Moorman technique.

A spinning workshop with Amelia Garripoli was held to enhance techniques used in making garments or worn objects to enter in the show. All the knitted garments in the fashion show were hand spun.

The Guild sponsored various study groups, some up to 2 years ahead of the show to prepare. Almost all of the Rag Study Group attendees submitted at least one garment for the fashion show. We also had a Make a Garment for the Fashion Show study group and nine of those attendees made garments for the fashion show - several work group members completed more than one garment.

The Guild sponsored The Deep Freeze Fiber Fling, a day of working on finishing entries for the Fashion Show. It was a great day of sharing information and inspiration for completing projects. To advertise the event, a professional graphic artist designed a logo, and postcards and flyers were designed and printed by a member graphic artist. These were distributed widely, in schools, universities, coffee shops, restaurants, craft shops, and in concentrated areas where people shop and live. Additionally, the local FOX television affiliate, KTVA Channel 11 did a story on AWSG and the Fashion Show on their 10 pm newscast just before the event. They also posted a story on Facebook.

The remaining \$400 of the Grant was used to help pay for printing of programs and advertising, and helped pay for the cost of auditorium rental and flowers for the stage.

The week before the show, two Anchorage area galleries displayed items created by Guild members. The galleries, Blue-Holoman and Two Friends are located in midtown Anchorage. The items were displayed to coincide with a monthly “First Friday” show. The items were well received by gallery patrons. There were over 200 people filling the auditorium to near capacity, 21 models showing 106 items made by 48 fiber artists from around the state, and 20 behind the scenes assistants helping the show run smoothly. During the reception the models wore their last show item/garment and mingled in the foyer so the audience members could see some of the items up close, take pictures, ask questions and meet the artists. It was a very well received ending to a flawless presentation! Included in this total were items submitted by 4 weavers from the Fairbanks Weavers Guild (6 hours north of Anchorage) and one spinner/knitter from Homer, Alaska (3 hours to our south).

We are very appreciative of the support of ANWG and the grant we received. It made possible the culmination of many months of preparation, craft and good intention in the community from many avenues to share the exceptional talent and value of these amazing fiber artists and their beautiful creations. As a result of this exposure, our Guild continues to grow and thrive, outgrowing our current meeting space in the Museum. We are now in search of a larger venue for our meetings and activities as our outreach in the community continues to expand as we share our love of the arts of weaving, fiber arts and related traditions.

(Pictures on p. 8)

## CHALLENGE GRANT REPORTS

(Cont'd. from p. 7) Pictures from Anchorage Weavers and Spinners Guild "Threads 2015" Fashion Show



*Annita Magee's vest using Theo Moorman technique.*



*Woven Vest by Clydene Fitch*



*Woven Jacket by Sherry Rogers*

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### Eugene Weavers' Guild, Natural Dye & Ethnic Textile Study Group KYOUKECHI WORKSHOP

The Eugene Weavers' Guild's (EWG) Natural Dye & Ethnic Textile (NDET) Study Group was a fortunate recipient of a 2014 ANWG Creative Challenge Grant. In September 2014, NDET hosted John Marshall for a really fantastic one-day workshop. The subject was *kyoukechi*, an ancient textile printing technique from India, China and Japan. The technique uses carved wooden blocks to sandwich cloth. Channels are carved into the blocks where dye enters. The cloth is then dyed with botanical dyes to produce a polychrome pattern.

John Marshall is a most generous teacher, who shared his knowledge and tools as well as many cloth examples of *kyoukechi* design, including old handwoven cloth which was clamped and dyed. We were so impressed with him that we want to invite him back again, or even visit his studio in Covelo, CA.

We filled the workshop with his maximum number of students, fifteen. Nine were members of the NDET study group, five were other EWG members, and one was a community member. The \$600 grant money paid for the teaching fee for one day. The workshop participants paid the remaining costs for travel and lodging.

In April 2015 the NDET study group will give a presentation to the full EWG membership, during which we will report on the workshop. The presentation will include digital images and *kyoukechi* dyed samples on silk and cotton. Two members of the study group plan to make their own blocks, and will use them to demonstrate the printing process. At this time we are looking into options for the NDET study group to display work that has been done over the years mainly with Japanese textile techniques – *kasuri* (ikat weaving), *katazome* (printing with rice paste resist), *shibori* (mechanical resist patterns on cloth), *kakishibui* (dyeing with fermented persimmon dye), and *kyoukechi*. We will contact ANWG in the interest of publicizing the show. This show would include both handwoven pieces and surface design on cloth with natural dyes. With the exhibition, our group will address the community outreach component of the grant. We'll see where it takes us.



# ANWG PROXY FORM

There is no longer a requirement to attend the Annual Membership Meeting in order to remain a Guild in good standing with ANWG. If no one from your Guild is able to attend you may designate a representative or alternate (a proxy) from another Guild to attend the meeting on your behalf. You are encouraged to do this so that we will have a quorum at the Annual Meeting.

Use this form only if appointing a proxy from another ANWG member guild. You do not need a proxy if another member of your Guild is attending instead of the Guild's ANWG Rep.

ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST WEAVERS' GUILDS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned as a Member Guild of the Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds do hereby appoint:

Name of the person you are giving your vote to: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Guild that they are a member of: \_\_\_\_\_

To act as proxy for \_\_\_\_\_  
(The name of your Guild).

My/Our proxy will have the powers we would possess if personally present, and to attend, vote and to act on my/our behalf at the AMM on June 19, 2015.

Signature of Guild President or Rep: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: Please complete and return this form to be received by the secretary by June 6, 2015 or bring it to the meeting on June 13.

Send completed form to:

Janice Griffiths  
ANWG Secretary  
174 Cornell Way  
PORT MOODY, BC V3H 3W2  
CANADA

Or, scan and email this completed form to: [jmgriffiths@shaw.ca](mailto:jmgriffiths@shaw.ca).

Or, the person who will be voting on your behalf, may bring the form to the meeting.