

# ❖ Northwest News ❖

Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds

northwestweavers.org

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## Your Board Members

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### SERVING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

Four years ago I knew nothing about the way in which the Association of Northwest Weavers operated as an organization even though I had attended, and greatly enjoyed, ANWG conferences in Eugene, Tacoma and Spokane. I was surprised when I was asked if I would serve as either President or First Vice-President on the ANWG Board. Having been the president of our local guild and a couple of other organizations, I was comfortable with what a President usually needs to do....but to go into an organization about which I knew very little was a little intimidating.

I agreed to serve as First V-P only if Linda Davis (whom I knew as a president and ANWG Rep of our guild) would agree to be President. Linda has been involved with ANWG for many years and knew many of the people involved. Four years later, I am glad that I said "Yes".

The stated duties of the First Vice-President are to support the President and step in as President, if needed. Wanting to learn more about the organization, I volunteered to work on the logistics of the Annual Meeting in 2010. In doing this, I had an opportunity to interact with others in ANWG in our planning and become more familiar with our guilds and the organization.

Moving from First V-P to President became an easy transition. Being President is more like being a director. Keeping an eye on the "big picture" and using the gifts and skills of the other Board members is important. Two important aspects are to encourage the other board members as they do their particular jobs and to help develop new ideas and ways that our guilds can be supported and encouraged in the work that they do.

With the use of new technology, all of our Board work can be done on-line through



## President's Message (Cont'd. from p. 1)

e-mails and an occasional teleconference. This particular Board has been most responsive in using this technology and we can even follow Robert's Rules of Order in conducting business with motions, seconds, discussion, etc.

Under our Bylaws, having served as President for two years, I will now move to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President to find the next Nominating Chair and support the new President in any way that is needed. I look forward to being able to still be a part of the special group of people who are currently serving and wish to continue for two more years.

If you want a special experience and an opportunity to get to know other weavers and fiber people within our organization, willingness to serve on the ANWG Board of Directors is a great opportunity. (Incidentally, all travel expenses to the Annual Meetings and any expenses incurred in carrying out your job are reimbursed from the ANWG treasury.)

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President for the past two years. I truly feel that we are

Woven together,  
Mary Anna Swinnerton

## ANWG MEMORABILIA

This year we celebrate our 25th ANWG Conference. Do you have any items from those earlier conferences, maybe tee shirts, tote bags, aprons, name tags? If so, wear or bring them to the AMM on Sunday morning. We can enjoy shared memories and experiences from those conferences.

## ANWG Annual Membership Meeting Agenda Sunday, June 23

Breakfast and Conversation

7:30 Registration

8:00 - Welcome

Presence of a Quorum

Minutes of 2012 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Introduction of the Current Board

Committee Chair Reports

Membership, Education, Communications, Webmaster

Election of Officers

Presentation of the Slate of Officers  
(2013-2015)

Voting

Thank you to Conference Hosts

Recognition of our 25 Conferences

New Business

Thinking Ahead

The Next AMM

Atwater Awards - present the idea with an Ad Hoc Committee to be appointed to develop details for presentation at the 2014 Annual Meeting

Other Business

Adjourn by 10:00



## **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!! SERVING ON THE ANWG BOARD**

The Association of Northwest Weavers Guild is no different than our individual guilds, where we need to step in and use our talents and abilities to make the organizational part of our guilds function well. Having people from guilds in our member states and provinces serve in the various positions on the Board of Directors (elected every two years at our conferences) is what allows us to continue living up to our founding purpose:

1. To stimulate and encourage public interest in handweaving throughout the northwest region of North America,
2. To support conferences and educational endeavors in handweaving throughout this northwest region,
3. To aid and encourage current and prospective handweavers in the general art and craft of handweaving as a technical and artistic endeavor. (from our Bylaws)

At our Bellingham conference we will again be electing a new Board of Directors. Fortunately, most of the current Board members are willing to serve for another 2 years. As President for the past two years, I move to the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President where I will look for the next Nominating Chair and do whatever I can to support the new President. In some years the First Vice-President has moved into the position of President, but Joy Winther, when she agreed to serve as First V-P two years ago, indicated then that she would only be able to serve for 2 years and would not be able to move into the position of President.

With the majority of the Board willing to continue serving in their current positions for another two years, we now need to find two people: a President and a First Vice-President to complete the slate for our election in June.

If you have anyone in your guild who has served as President or provided excellent leadership, and you could see them being successful as an ANWG President or First Vice-President, do get in touch with our Nominating Chair, Ellie Sheeran at [esheeran@gmail.com](mailto:esheeran@gmail.com). We would like to be able to have a full slate of officers to present at our Annual Meeting in Bellingham.

## **WANTED: ANWG WEBMASTER**

On or before September 1, 2013 we need to find a webmaster. Linda Davis will be retiring from the board and this job after almost 10 years. Please help us find someone by passing on this information to anyone you know who may be interested and willing to take over this duty.

The website utilizes the WordPress platform and is easy to learn and maintain. Maintenance can be done by more than one person; at this time three people help in maintaining the site. At most times, only a few minutes per day, or a few minutes per week, are required. Technical assistance from the webhost is available if problems arise that cannot be addressed by the webmaster. No software purchase is required by those maintaining the site and maintenance can be done from any computer anywhere in the world and even from most mobile devices.

If you know someone who would be interested and willing to take over the webmaster duties, please let Linda Davis or an ANWG board member know. Please announce this position to your guild members. This position is a good way for someone to learn about development and maintenance of websites generally. If someone is interested but has no experience or training, if they have the basic understanding of computer functions and the internet, they can learn quickly. It's fun, interesting, and a great way to keep in tune with what's going on in the fiber arts world!

Contact Linda at [webweaver@bendbroadband.com](mailto:webweaver@bendbroadband.com)

## **CONFERENCE HOSTS WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A HOST/S FOR THE 2015 CONFERENCE**

ANWG Conferences are special. To be able to go to a place where you can learn from outstanding and nationally known experts in all aspects of weaving, spinning and fiber arts; meet fellow fiber artists; and be inspired by the creativity and imagination of folks in the Northwest states and provinces is a wonderful experience.

The ANWG conferences have a great reputation among instructors, vendors and those who attend, but they don't happen in a vacuum. Certain guilds and their members, working together, have given us conferences every two years for the past 50 years. That is impressive. If we want to continue to enjoy this great tradition of conferences in the odd-numbered years, we all need to consider how we might make them happen.

Hosting a conference may seem like a great challenge, but when a sponsoring guild gathers other nearby guilds to help, the work gets spread among many. Our upcoming conference is an excellent example. Four other nearby guilds are joining to help the Seattle host guild, and we all look forward to a wonderful time together in Bellingham.

### **THERE IS NO FINANCIAL RISK IN HOSTING A CONFERENCE!**

One of the concerns that a guild or guilds have expressed is that they may lose money. Because previous conferences have done well, have exceeded their expenses and given a small percentage of the profits to the ANWG treasury, we are in a position to cover any shortfall...should they even occur. The reality is that most guilds who host conferences have been able to add money to their own treasury. The Board also provides the needed "seed money" to help you get started.

### **CONFERENCE PLANNING HELP WILL BE AVAILABLE!**

To help in future conference planning, the Seattle Guild will be passing along several things they have found successful in planning the current conference. Rae Deane Leatham, the 2013 Conference Chair can also be available after Oct. 1 as a consultant to a guild who volunteers for 2015. By the end of 2013 we will have a more detailed outline and description of what needs to be done when you host a conference in today's world.

If you have a place in your area that could be a good site for an ANWG conference, get in touch with us and let's explore the possibilities for 2015. My e-mail: [luvmads2@bendcable.com](mailto:luvmads2@bendcable.com).

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING June 23, 2013 8AM - 10AM**

As a result of the changes to the bylaws that were approved at last year's Annual membership Meeting, the registration for the Annual Meeting has been simplified. For the annual meetings that occur during the conference, you do not have to register in advance: please register with the Secretary when you arrive for the meeting. Registration opens at 7:30 AM. There is also no longer a requirement to attend the Annual 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, but you do not have to. If you wish to do this, please contact the Secretary by email: [jmgriffiths@shaw.ca](mailto:jmgriffiths@shaw.ca) for the proxy form. Request a proxy 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. See you at the meeting!