

ANWG "Northwest News" Newsletter, April, 2024
(Reps: please forward to all members of your guild)

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NORTHWEST NEWS

Volume 27, Issue 2

April, 2024

Website: <https://northwestweavers.org>

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President's Message

Greetings fellow fibre artisans. Welcome to spring! I say that with tongue firmly in cheek as I sit here in Saskatoon watching it snow. By the end of this latest event, we should have 4-6 inches of the fluffy stuff. Fortunately, with the warming temperatures this weekend it will melt quickly.

I hate to start my epistle on a down note but we are still in desperate need of a Newsletter Editor. We are fortunate that Sylvia has agreed to come out of retirement for one last time to put this edition together. My sincere thanks to Sylvia for all her hard work, not only for this edition, but for all the work she has put in over the years. If someone doesn't step forward to take on this very important role – this will be the last ANWG Newsletter.

On a more positive note, the Executive is exploring a new educational offering. More details to follow at the AGM in June (or sooner!).

On a really positive note, plans are well underway for the 2025 Conference, "Weaving

Webs” to be held in Yakima, WA June 16 through June 25, 2025. Start planning your attendance. It is sure to be a spectacular event.

I mentioned the AGM for 2024. As in past years it will be a virtual event via Zoom on June 8th at 2:00 pm PST. Mark your calendars. It is important that the Guild representatives attend this event, but all are welcome to join. More details will be provided the closer we get to the date.

I started this epistle on a sad note, and I will finish it the same way. Many of you have heard that Olds College is discontinuing its Master Spinner & Weaver Programs. There is a dedicated group of teachers, students, and former students who are looking at ways to continue this valuable program. The ANWG Executive has agreed to provide assistance to this group in any way that we can.

Enough bad news. I hope you all have a productive spring, be it in the fibre arts, or like many of us in the garden.

Regards,

Malcolm Benson-Dyke

[ANWG President](#)

ANWG News

2024-2025 Creative Challenge Grants

Show and Share for the Annual Meeting

Again this year your ANWG Board plans to present a collection of the fiber artwork being created in the northwest at the Annual Meeting. Each guild may offer one project to represent their guild. Please forward your Show and Share items to Rebecca Winter, ANWG Education Chair, at education@northwestweavers.org. Please include a picture of the completed project, name of weaver, guild affiliation, and a brief description of the work. Phonetic help with names is encouraged, if you have an interesting pronunciation. Please have your submissions to me by May 10, 2024. We are excited to include your project in the 2024 AMM Show and Share.

Rebecca Winter

ANWG Education Chair

2024-2025 ANWG Challenge Grant Winners

We are excited to announce the results of the 2024-2025 Grant Review. The applications represented a wonderful list of varied educational ideas and projects. This time 6 grants were awarded in the amount of \$600.00. Grant activities are to be held between May, 2024 and May, 2025.

Congratulations to these six Guilds:

- **Billings Weaving Guild** - The Georgia Roswell Life Rings Project
- **Columbia Fibres Guild** - Creating Long Lasting Display Boards to Teach the Public about Fiber Processing
- **Eugene Weavers' Guild** - Warp Dyeing Project called Flowering Colors
- **Rogue Valley Handweavers** - Denise Kovnat Workshop
- **Salem Fiberarts Guild** - Robin Spady Workshop
- **Threadbenders Weaving Guild** - Three Workshops about Beginning Weaving, 8/2 Cotton, and Krokbragd for the Rigid Heddle

We look forward to reading about these future activities in the Newsletter. I would also like to thank Deborah Staehle and Mary Berent for assisting with the review process.

Rebecca Winter
ANWG Education Chair

education@northwestweavers.org

ANWG 2025 Conference in Yakima, WA June 16-21, 2025

It's never too early to plan!

I'm heading out with a friend soon. We're visiting Charleston, South Carolina. I can't tell you how many hours I've spent planning, reading reviews, and sending emails. You can never over-plan a big event!

Weavers and travelers do the same thing. Our 2025 conference is just over 14 months away, and I'm already being inundated with questions. What about booths? Prizes? Fashion shows? And the most important of all, "Will there be coffee?"

Yes. There will be coffee!

It will take time to answer through all these questions; let's start with guild booths!

In Yakima, our displays will all be located in the same ballroom. Remember that the Yakima Convention Center is all on one level. You won't be hunting around to find things. Juried, Open, and Instructor shows will be housed together along with all of the guild booths. If your guild is chomping at the bit to get designing, now is the time.

Pam Cox, our guild booth chair, tells me that her committee can't wait to see how ANWG guilds use the convention theme "Weaving Webs: Inspiration, Information, Innovation" in designing their booths. The big news is that we have a private donation which will be the prize for the guild booth demonstrating the best use of theme. I'll copy the theme explanation here:

The theme of our 2025 ANWG conference is "Weaving Webs," which celebrates the two most important parts of the weaving journey – the cloth we create, and the relationships that develop in the course of our creative life. We northwest weavers are so grateful for the gifts other weavers bring into our lives. As mentors, teachers, friends and guild members, we benefit from the personal, face-to-face interactions we experience. Alone, we cannot touch samples, feel drape, share ideas and solutions, or catch the tiny bits of humanity that are both inspirational and personal – the vital components that make our community what it is.

Won't it be fun to see what y'all create?

Our conference committee could still use some help with publicity and transportation. Let us know if these positions fit your passion. We'd love to hear from you!

Bette Nordberg

ANWG 2025 Co-Chair

[ANWG 2025 Conference](#)

ANWG Communications Chair / Newsletter Editor Needed

Your Newsletter Editor is retired and ANWG needs a new **Communications Chair**, whose primary job is delivering the quarterly Newsletter. If you are, or someone you know is interested, you can read more about the position [here](#). Please reach out to ANWG President [Malcolm Benson-Dyke](#) for more information. Training and support will be provided to ensure a smooth transition.

Thank you for your consideration,

[Sylvia Emard](#)

News From Member Guilds

Salem Fiberarts Guild

In February, the Salem Fiberarts Guild's (SFG's) studio space at the Willamette Heritage Center (WHC) became a kaleidoscope of color as nearly 20 members created beautiful warps at SFG's annual Dye Day. The next day, Annie Fischer of Shuttle Creek Weavers shared her lively history and an amazing inventory of garments for sale with the Guild. Topics for upcoming Spring classes for our fiber community include tapestry weaving, using drop spindles, and bead weaving on a hand loom.

Several members of the SFG have joined together in a Wear Your Weaving group. It's part creative forum/part support group – giving members encouragement to cut into our precious woven fabrics without fear.

On Saturday, May 4, WHC will host its annual Sheep to Shawl festival from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The family event includes games, food, drink, living history at the textile mill, live animals, and entertainment. Numerous fiber-related demonstrations on a variety of crafts and the sheep-to-shawl event will be featured in the Dye House building, coordinated by SFG. Admission is free!

The SFG has a new representative for ANWG. I'm new to weaving and to the Pacific Northwest and I look forward to meeting weavers of this area. My thanks to Ila McCallum for her guidance and direction. Rest assured - you'll continue to see Ila in this community!

Renay McLeish





Shuswap Spinners and Weavers

Spring Is Here

We are approved for a Nonprofit Society. Thanks to the ladies who worked hard on this and bringing forward all the information.

Our March meeting Joanna DeMontreuil from Shelterwood Fibre Mill gave us information about her operation and how it works. She also showed us some of her products.

We are going to have a Booth at the Saturday Farmers Market. Great way to sell products.

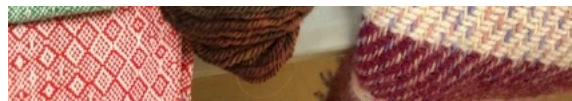
April is change for our Window Display. The theme is Spring and new growth with lovely yellows and greens. It's a great way to showcase our beautiful work.

At our April meeting we shared tips and techniques. "What to do when warp threads just won't tighten evenly across the weaving." Yank & crank, sticks, templates, or weights.

We are invited to multiple spin-ins to communities close by.

Show & Tell





Michele Forsythe

Ponderosa Guild

A new year has rung in with new members to our Board. Welcome to Deb and Jody, co-presidents, to Elaine, treasurer, and to Glenna, secretary. Thank you to past president Kirsti, to past treasurer Deb and past secretary Elaine! In appreciation for Kirsti's years of service and for her mother Ruth, an original member of the Guild, we made and presented to them fiber memory rolls filled with our creations.

The school program continues to be very popular and has brought in grade three students for over 20 years. We host 7 classes per winter session, where the students weave on a table loom, spin some wool and weave a small bookmark.

We are all looking forward to the annual Spin In at the end of April where 50 spinners from up and down the valley will spend the day spinning, visiting, show and telling, shopping and enjoying the provided lunch and snacks.

Our Yarn Library, set up outside the Guild studio, is a colourful carousel of fibre coming and going. The community seems to be enjoying what it offers for their creative endeavours.

Lorraine Farrow







Comox Valley Woolgatherers

The Comox Valley Woolgatherers have kept busy during the past winter. Starting last October there have been “Learning Sessions” monthly. Shelley taught us about Kumihimo braiding; Donna and Norma refreshed our memories about Macrame; Karin gave an introduction to Tapestry; Jean talked about her experiences entering contests and getting articles published in Spin-Off in the 70’s, 80’s, and 90’s; and Donna taught about knitting with beads. Still to come in May will be an introduction to Nalbinding by Heather.

There are separate study groups for knitting, spinning, and weaving who meet once a

month. Here is some “show and tell” from a recent weaving meeting.

Barb has been making blankets:



Karla showed off the results of her first attempt at Indigo dyeing. She plans to use this fabric to line a vest for her husband that she will sew from fabric that she weaves from her own handspun linen (also Indigo dyed) from flax that she and her husband grew and prepared for spinning.





Sheila brought three bags woven on the same warp using a blended threading. The fabric for the handles was handwoven also.



Sadly, in March we lost long time member Lois Harvey to cancer.

Here is a Tibetan coat – spun, woven, sewn, and embroidered by Lois, who spent time in Tibet and many other countries during her life.



Here is Lois teaching spool knitting to a group of children in April 2023.



Best wishes!

Sheila Carey

Victoria Handweavers and Spinners Guild

90 Years of Fibre Arts

The Victoria Handweavers and Spinners' Guild celebrated its 90th birthday on March 7th with a show at the ArtSea Gallery in Sidney, BC. The show was a retrospective composed of fifty or so pieces of fibre art from the guild's permanent collection and about 20 works from current members. Over 700 visitors dropped by; some visitors were lapsed members, and some knew or remembered guild members from the past. Stories from the guild's past were shared with the volunteers staffing the gallery

The guild's permanent collection was started in 1974 and collected work woven by guild members. Two of the oldest pieces are linen hand towels which date back to the 1940s. Other works include linen placemats and runners from the 1950s, a woven skirt and dyed silk blouse from the 60s or 70s and a sculpture from the 90s. We hope to make photos and descriptions of the construction techniques available on our website, <https://vhwsg.ca/>.







Lethbridge Weavers Guild

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Lethbridge Weavers' Guild! The photos below are from our March event, "75 for 75", where we held a weaving marathon and tea over the course of a weekend. We invited previous members to come by for snacks and chats, while current members wove in shifts. We completed over half our goal of 75 dishcloths that weekend and are continuing to weave to meet that goal.

Other projects we've got in the works to commemorate our 75th year include 3 special tea towel designs and a name draft scarf in 3 different colourways.

Mary-Anne McTrowe





Complex Weavers

The next [Complex Weavers](#) seminar will be in Wichita, Kansas in 2024 alongside Convergence.

If you have any questions, please connect with me at

LadellawilliamsCZZ@gmail.com

Or by text message

503 729 1704

Fiber Events

“Original Interior Design Fabrics”

by Susan Webb Rebecchi

Now - June 3, 2024

Lincoln City Cultural Center Fiber Arts Studio Gallery

Lincoln City, OR

More info: <https://lincolncity-culturalcenter.org/events-location/fiber-arts-studio-gallery/>

**Portland Handweavers Guild Spring Fiber Art Sale
at Gathering of the Guilds
April 19-21, 2024
Portland, OR**

More info: portlandhandweaversguild.org/sales/spring-sale-gathering-of-the-guilds/

**Fiber in the Forest
May 17-19 2024
Camp Myrtlewood, OR**

More info: www.eugenetextilecenter.com/fiber-in-the-forest

**Fiber Fusion
June 3-4, 2024
Monroe, WA**

More info: www.fiberfusion.net/

**Black Sheep Gathering
June 28-30, 2024
Linn County Events Center in Albany, OR**

More info: blacksheepgathering.org

**HGA Convergence®
July 11-17, 2024
Wichita, KS**

Convergence® is heading to the Heartland for 2024!

More info: weavespindye.org/convergence/

**Copper K Fiber Festival
July 20-21, 2024**

Whitehall, MT

More info: <https://www.copperkfiberfestival.com>

Our Fiber Planet / MAWS 2024 Conference Expanding and Exploring the Future World of our Fiber Traditions August 1-4, 2024 Billings, MT

More info: www.montanaweavespin.org/maws-2024

Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival September 20-21, 2024 Linn County Expo Center, Albany, OR

More info: <https://www.oregonflockandfiberfestival.com/>

ANWG Newsletter Deadlines and Formats

The deadline for news articles for the ANWG newsletter "Northwest News" is the 10th of the month of issuance: January, April, July, and October. Articles may be sent at any time to newsletter@northwestweavers.org. Please send news in unformatted text, preferably in the body of an email. Please attach photos in jpeg format.

Newsy, short articles with photos about guild happenings are of greatest interest. All photos sent may be used in the ANWG newsletter "Northwest News" and/or on the ANWG website. Before sending photos obtain permission of those people pictured to have their photo in the ANWG newsletter and/or website. If you have any questions, contact Sylvia Emard, Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor, at newsletter@northwestweavers.org.

This newsletter is in HTML format. If you would like it in a pdf file, please go to our website: <https://northwestweavers.org/about/newsletters/>.

ANWG REGION

ANWG BOARD MEMBERS

Canada

Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest
Territories, Saskatchewan, Yukon

USA

Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana,
Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming

Membership open to all fiber arts guilds,
affiliate individuals and fiber-related
associations.

CONFERENCES

2025 -- Location: Yakima, WA. Seattle
Weavers Guild to host.

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Membership Chair: Linda York
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