

ANWG "Northwest News" Newsletter, January, 2021
(Reps: please forward to all members of your guild)

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NORTHWEST NEWS

Volume 24, Issue 1

January, 2021

Website: <https://northwestweavers.org>

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President's Message

Happy New Year! - I am thankful for our Guilds and all members for the strength and harmony that has been displayed throughout this past year. We have found ingenious ways to gather remotely, and share our art. We will need to keep that going for a bit longer, as health concerns and safety need to be met before getting to meet in person for meetings and classes.

In wrapping up this past year, I took time to review articles, newsletters from our membership, and pictures of shared projects over 2020. Wow! We have been creative and productive in our crafts. I want to take this opportunity to give a shout out to Dawn Ahlert, First Vice President of ANWG, for receiving her Level 1 Certificate of Excellence (COE) from Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. "HGA". What an accomplishment! Cheers and Congratulations! For more information about the COE, the requirements and handbooks (for purchase) you can call 678-730-0010 or email: hga@weavespindye.org. Read the HGA announcement below.

It is time to start the year and New Projects. I cannot wait to read and view all that will be done! Reach out, support each other, and stay productive.

Woven together,

Deborah Staehle

Congratulations to Dawn Ahlert
2020 recipient of the Certificate of Excellence (COE) in
Handweaving



Dawn Ahlert
of McAllister, Montana

Level I

The [Handweavers Guild of America](#), Inc. (HGA) is congratulates Dawn Ahlert of McAllister, Montana for receiving her Level 1 [Certificate of Excellence](#) (COE) in Handweaving. Normally hosted by a local guild, due to the pandemic the 2020 COE in Handweaving examination was conducted using a hybrid of remote review and online meetings. Many thanks to our applicants for their patience as we adjusted to keep the examination safe; our volunteers, Mary Ann Sanborn and Sandra Swarbrick, for their assistance; and to our examiners, Mary Berent and Marcy Petrini, who were flexible and worked tirelessly to help us conduct this exam socially-distanced.

The COE is a self-directed certification program for HGA members in the areas of Handweaving, Handspinning, Dyeing and Basketmaking. Each of the two levels of COE have different concentrations and require different expertise and knowledge. Level I (Technical Skills) focuses on technical skills, design principles, and knowledge of materials and equipment. Level II (Master with Specialized Study) requires the completion and certification of Level I and is a master level with an in-depth study in a specialized area of the applicant's choice. A mentor is available to aid applicants.

The [COE Handbook](#) explains the requirements for the COE and is available for purchase by applicants and those who are interested in using it as a means to increase their knowledge and skill level. Purchasing the COE Handbook does not require you to submit for the COE Examination.

COE Examinations are conducted using the most recent version of the COE Handbook

and take place biannually. Each applicant's materials are evaluated according to accepted standards of superior handweaving, spinning, dyeing and basketmaking.

Future Deadlines:

February 1, 2021 COE in Spinning paperwork due
September 2, 2021 COE in Dyeing paperwork due
February 1, 2022 COE in Handweaving paperwork due
September 2, 2022 COE in Basketmaking paperwork due

For more information about the [COE](#), hosting an examination, or purchasing a [COE Handbook](#), visit our [website](#). For questions or assistance call (678) 730-0010 or email hga@weavespindye.org.

HGA is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN #06-08661. Our organization and programs are supported in part by generous contributions to HGA's [Fiber Trust](#).

www.WeaveSpinDye.org

ANWG News

ANWG Conference 2023 in Search of Venue

The Conference committee is looking at a variety of sites to find a suitable conference venue. Meanwhile keep spinning and weaving in the conference colors. Click [here](#) to check for updates on the rescheduled conference.

Northwest News Historical Documents

Late last year, a set of *Northwest Weavers* publications was found in a weaver's studio in West Virginia and the hard copies were sent to ANWG. Ten guilds across the Northwest requested one of the two sets of documents for their libraries. Eugene Weavers' Guild and Umpqua Weavers and Spinners Guild won the drawing to receive the actual documents.

The documents are also available in electronic form on the ANWG website, and may be found at this link: <https://northwestweavers.org/education/wrapped-in-history/historical-drafts/>.

Study of Historical Weaving

As many of you know there has been a small group of ANWG members studying the weaving history of the Pacific Northwest. The study for 2019 was called "Wrapped in History." Weavers made scarves, neckties, shawls, some of which were displayed at the conference in Prince George, BC. For 2020 the study was called "For the Table." This produced another grand array of handwovens to enhance tables in the northwest. The group aims "...to connect with the weavers who preceded us, save from the dump the old drafts, samples and books collecting dust in our guild libraries, explore the treasures in our local museums and archives, and innovate while drawing inspiration from the past."

We have devised a new study for 2021, through a survey of the current group, as follows:

- "Choose any draft published by Russell Groff. References may include *Warp & Weft*, *Drafts & Designs*, *200 patterns for Multiple Harness Looms*, etc. Make a completed object from the chosen draft."

The venue for sharing our creations, as of the time of this writing, is our groups.io Study Group, called **AnwgHistory**. Depending upon how the year progresses, further venues may be planned. If you would like to participate in the historical study, contact [Rebecca Winter](mailto:RebeccaWinter@groups.io), who is the Education Chair, for an invitation to join groups.io.

A couple of projects have already been posted to the group site, so come on in to see the activity. We hope you are inspired to research a little Northwest weaving history.

Rebecca Winter
Education Chair

Membership Notes

Happy 2021 to all and we hope that 2020 may have brought more weaving time into your lives. It was a quiet time for weaving exploration in mine.

For this January, we still have six US guilds and eight Canadian guilds that have not yet joined ANWG for the 2020-21 membership year. I understand that it's difficult to gather for guild business, and in-person meetings are non-existent, and I hope that this is the reason for putting off your membership. However, it's times like this that require even more diligence in supporting our network of fiber folks so that we can be here for you when the air clears a bit. I hope you'll consider ANWG to be a resource of fellowship and family and I look forward to closing the membership books soon.

Remember that we are now on PayPal and you can pay with a guild credit card or a personal card to be reimbursed by your guild. You can also fill in your membership form on line. See how easy that is? I hope to hear from you soon! May you and yours be safe

and productive in this new year. Click [here](#) for more info.

Liz Moncrief
Membership Chair

Open ANWG Board Position: Webmaster

ANWG is actively seeking to fill the **Webmaster** board position. If you or someone you know can help out, or would like more information, please contact webmaster@northwestweavers.org, or click [here](#) to read the job description and apply online.

News From Member Guilds

Threadbenders Guild, Northeast Oregon

Last summer, as the pandemic disrupted our regular activities, the Threadbenders Guild received an unexpected gift: a bountiful collection of yarns and some weaving/knitting supplies from the family of a fiber artist who had recently passed away. This generous gift became the inspiration for the Fiber Fun Bundles Giveaway. Our energetic guild secretary, Pam Miller, compiled the donated materials into “bundles” and created an inventory with a photo and descriptive note for each bundle, which she emailed to guild members.

Members wanting to participate in the giveaway entered their names into a drawing. The lucky person whose name was drawn first made the first selection, the person whose name was drawn second made the second selection, and so on. After everyone had chosen one bundle, the order was reversed and the person who made the last selection during the first round was now invited to make the first selection during the second round. In total, 43 bundles were distributed among 16 guild members.

Several members completed projects that were inspired by the bundles they selected, including this colorful scarf woven by one of our newest guild members, Nancy Bruce:



The Fiber Fun Bundles Giveaway was a highlight of the summer for many of us, and continues on in the form of a weekly giveaway. In this case, the items offered for giveaway are yarns, tools, books, or other materials that guild members themselves have collected but are not using. It's a way to reduce clutter in our homes while passing along items that another guild member can use and will appreciate.

Finally, guild members have stayed in touch through an online "Show and Share" of recent projects, including these two pieces:



Denine Schmitz wove this lovely blanket, a wedding gift for her niece, from Brown Sheep Co. worsted singles wool/mohair. The design was adapted from Jennifer Moore's Double Weave book.



Cynthia Newman wove this colorful fabric using FARO wool yarns for the solid colors and NORO yarns for the variegated colors. Cynthia reports this is a nice weight for a shawl or wrap.

Nancy Findholt

Salem Fiberarts Guild

2020 has been a challenging year for Salem Fiberarts Guild and each of its members. The guild has been meeting via Zoom and all participants have enjoyed seeing each other and learning about guild activities.

The board has been working extremely hard keeping the guild activities going and the membership updated on all happenings—all with masks and social distancing. Several exciting programs are planned for the first half of 2021—all on Zoom. In January Deborah Jarchow will present “Finishing Techniques for Woven Fabrics”. February is the month that we celebrate and teach dyeing, organized by our Dyemaster, Kate Heuberger. In March Robyn Spady will present “Great Weave Structures for Color and Texture Using Novelty Yarns”. April will bring a needle felted pincushion class with member Lisa

Ruminski. In May, Jennifer Moore will present “Mathematical Design, Geometry in Textiles”.



The guild is partnering with Willamette Heritage Center on a special history project. Over 200 photos from the history of the guild have been scanned and will be organized on electronic media. Members will then be asked to help identify people and events. Kaylyn Mabey, a guild member and part of the Willamette Heritage Center staff, is leading this gathering and labeling of photos in this SFG crowdsource history project.

Ila McCallum

Seattle Weavers' Guild

As with most of ANWG's guilds, the Seattle Weavers' Guild continues to meet virtually. Our monthly meetings continue to include the business meeting, a morning program and an afternoon program, with a lunch break between them. At our last meeting, our techie folks arranged small breakout groups so that we could talk among ourselves since the large group is just too big for that. We also continue to have a wonderful presentation of **Hot Off the Loom** projects with commentary by the weavers who produced them. That is a popular thing that many of us would love to see continue post-COVID.

Our workshop chair has lined up at least three virtual workshops starting in January. This will be a new thing for us but is eagerly anticipated by those of us who love to take the wonderful workshops our guild sponsors. And our study groups are active, using Zoom to meet on a regular basis. We have learned online skills we never expected to have to use!

We expect to continue to meet virtually at least until September 2021 when, perhaps, St. Mark's Cathedral may be open and we may feel safe. Many of us are in the “high risk” age category so may be vaccinated by then as well. We shall see. In any event, 2021 promises to be an improvement on 2020, even if part of that improvement is just that we are

learning how to navigate these strange times.

Good health to everyone!

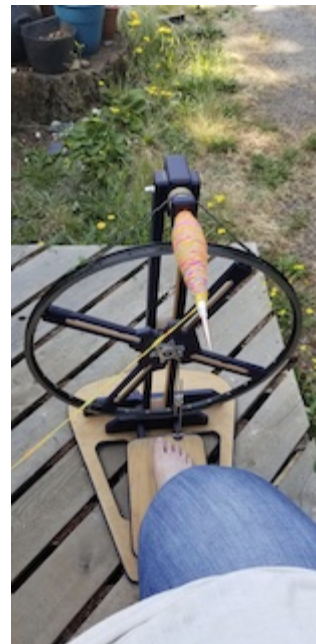
Sue Willingham

The Peninsula Weavers Guild, Port Townsend, WA

A Virtual Studio Tour

The Peninsula Guild has been meeting via Zoom since September. Our usual December meeting is a gathering in a member's home and a potluck. Because that couldn't happen due to the pandemic, we decided to host a virtual studio tour. Members took photos of their studio space and a slide presentation was made, narrated by each member who submitted photos.

Heather, who currently lives in an old school bus, often takes her spinning and weaving outdoors and submitted these photos:



Christine is having a studio space built. They realized they needed to get the loom moved up the stairs before the stair railing was installed or it wouldn't fit!



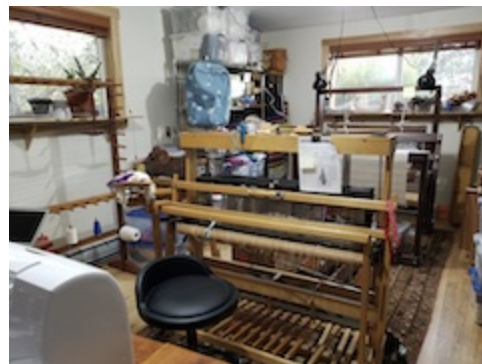
Rachel just down-sized and moved into a different house. She shared photos of her studio space even though she is still unpacking.



We saw that some members are very tidy in their space:



And others thrive in creative chaos:





As you can see, creativity abounds with our approach to our weaving/spinning/dyeing spaces. Everyone enjoyed seeing others' studios. Weavers got new ideas for storage and ways to arrange looms, wheels, and other equipment. It was a fun evening!

Linda York

Alpine Weavers and Spinners Guild (AWSG) Kalispell, Montana

Alpine Weavers and Spinners Guild had two full guild meetings and three spinners and weavers group meetings before the shutdown in March. At the February guild meeting, Ann Lepage, who worked for a fair trade company called Sabahar (Queenly Threads) in Ethiopia shared photographs of Ethiopia and information about the country. She showed us examples of the beautiful handwoven cotton and silk textiles made by that company which you can see at <http://sabahar.com/>.

During the summer members met at local parks to spin, weave, and/or knit. When the weather got too cold for outdoor meetings, the group switched to Zoom meetings to help keep members in contact. Even in lockdown, we have brought in a few new members. For the 2021 Zoom meetings, we've brought back programs to help us feel more normal.

The photograph illustrates some of our member's projects during the year.



Check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AWSGuild/>.

Teresa Knutson

Portland Handweavers Guild

PHG continues to hold monthly meetings over Zoom, and meetings include both a presentation from a guest as well as an electronic version of the “Show and Tell” portion of the meeting. Members who have completed a project in the last month send photos of their work to the program chair, who then creates a slideshow of the works. Though we can’t handle the items, the slideshow portion is actually proving to be very popular as the photos often give a better view of the work than one might get from the back of the meeting room, and it’s also creating a documented history of what members are doing and the projects they’ve completed. This historical aspect is an unexpected and happy by-product of these challenging times.

Additionally there is limited library access. Members can browse our holdings online, request an item and pick it up at a designated time.

Meetings are open to all, including guests from other guilds. Information about upcoming programs is available on the [PHG website](#), including the Zoom link for guild meetings.

Dan Steves

Happy New Year from Complex Weavers Representative

Former ANWG President and Complex Weavers past President Ladella Williams is still the Complex Weavers representative for Portland Handweavers Guild and for ANWG. If you would like any information about joining [Complex Weavers](#), please feel free to contact Ladella at LadellawilliamsCZZ@gmail.com.

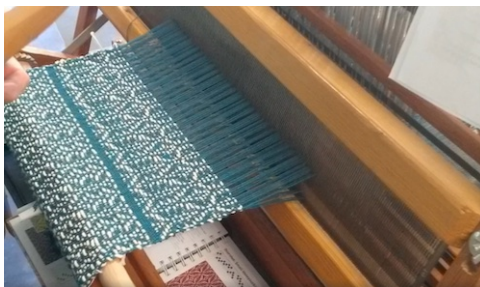
Or write to her at:

Ladella Williams
4254 NE Flanders St.
Portland. OR 97213-1636
USA

Klamath Spinners and Weaver Guild Report for the second half of 2020.

The May 2020 meeting was canceled due to COVID precautions.

In June a Beginners Overshot class was hosted by Kathy Nelson, with 8 members attending. It was fun! Two people are actually doing other pieces with the technique.



No meetings were held in July or August.

September marked the first virtual Zoom meeting, with 6 members attending, including Show and Shares from last year's Fiber Challenge. Previous plans to meet outside at the park were scrapped due to smoke and poor to unpredictable air quality. Zoom meetings prove to be a challenge for members who are not very computer oriented, or who have poor internet reception.

Our challenge for the October meeting was to choose colors from a photo and fibers, and create a hat, scarf, or other item for those in need due to fire, cancer, homelessness, or other challenging situation. One person met the challenge and made a nice hat. Others are still working on it. Eight people attended our Zoom meeting. One member, Liz Hubbard, had a family Art Show at the Klamath Art Association with many nice pieces of photography, paintings, eco-dyed fabrics and natural dyed yarns, ceramics and more. Two people took the Discover Color online Weave-along with Tien Chu and Janet Dawson.

In November we had 11 people attend the Zoom meeting. Many people made hats for the October challenge. We are looking for a suitable place to donate them. There were two sock machine demonstrations, one by Yvette wherein she showed us the basics of a hem on a sock, the heel, counting rows and the toe - very interesting! And fast! Marolyn's sock machine included a ribber to knit ribbing on a sock. She showed us some very beautiful patterned pairs of socks done on her sock machine.

For December no meeting was scheduled. A survey question was sent to Guild members to try to see how to make it easier for more members to attend, but only about 2 responses were received.

To see more images of members and their work, check out the Guild's [facebook page](#).

Kathy Nelson

Fiber Events

Due to the COVID-19 situation, event scheduling is fluid. Please check the links to be certain the event is still being held.

Red Alder Fiber Arts Retreat

February 16-20, 2022

Tacoma, Washington

redalderfiberarts.com

Handweavers Guild of America - Convergence 2022

July 15-21, 2022

Knoxville, TN

Convergence® is heading to the Smoky Mountains for 2022!

[Convergence](#)



25th
CONVERGENCE[®]
KNOXVILLE 2022

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.

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

Canada

Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest
Territories, Saskatchewan, Yukon

USA

Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon,
Washington, Wyoming

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

CONFERENCES

2023 -- Location: TBD. Sponsor: Weaving
Guilds of Oregon

ANWG BOARD MEMBERS

President: Deborah Staehle

president@northwestweavers.org

1st Vice President: Dawn Ahlert

1vp@northwestweavers.org

2nd Vice President: Linda Gettmann

2vp@northwestweavers.org

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secretary@northwestweavers.org

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treasurer@northwestweavers.org

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webmaster@northwestweavers.org

Membership Chair: Liz Moncrief

membership@northwestweavers.org

Communications Chair: Sylvia Emard

2025 -- Washington Conference planning
is underway

newsletter@northwestweavers.org

Webmaster: OPEN

webmaster@northwestweavers.org

2027 -- Location: Billings, MT. Sponsor:
Montana Association of Weavers and
Spinners

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