

ANWG "Northwest News" Newsletter, 2025
(Reps: please forward to all members of your guild)

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NORTHWEST NEWS

Volume 28, Issue 1

January, 2025

Website: <https://northwestweavers.org>

CONTENTS

President's Message ANWG News News from Member Guilds Fiber Events

President's Message

Greetings fellow fibre artists. Here we are in the depths of winter for some of our region. Fortunately I have escaped the worst of it and am enjoying the sunny skies of Arizona.

Now is the time that many of us are hunkered down in our studios working on our respective crafts. For me that means weaving. I have many projects that I would like to complete, but I never seem to have enough time, or I see even more things I would like to make, or even worse - more fibre to purchase. Can you say SABLE? It also means participating in the many programs our individual Guilds provide during the season.

Exciting events are happening at ANWG. Keep your calendars open for our first Movie Night. Liz Moncrief has been working to provide an interesting series of movies that will provide entertainment and learning in these cold dark winter evenings! See more details in this newsletter.

Of course, one would be amiss if I didn't mention our 2025 Conference. The team has been working diligently to ensure that we have an exciting and fun conference in Yakima, WA. Registration opens very soon. Please see more details in this newsletter.

Now for a sad note. Many of you probably know that Bette Nordberg, the co-chair of the Yakima Conference, secretary of ANWG and a staunch supporter of the Fibre Arts community passed as a result of a traffic accident. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Her husband, Kim, was also lost in the accident.

To that end the Board is now actively looking for a secretary to take Bette's place. If you are interested please go to the ANWG Web Page and look at the duties of the secretary - they are not onerous. If you have any questions, or wish to apply, please contact me directly.

I think that is all for now. Enjoy your art(s) and I hope to meet many of you in person in Yakima.

Malcolm Benson-Dyke
President - ANWG

Note from the Editor

Life can be so busy without enough hours to accomplish all we would like to do, and it is also so very unpredictable. However, it is important to make the time for the things that are important to us: family, friends, health, things that bring us pleasure and connection. ANWG needs someone to step up to serve as our Secretary. Honestly, it is not a big commitment of time or skill, and yet it is essential to the functioning of our organization and all the good work we do. Please, give it some consideration and raise your hand. I promise you will have a lot of support

and genuine gratitude.

We are so fortunate to live in the Great North Wet, as those of us from drier climes affectionately call the Northwest. The catastrophic conflagration's in southern California are unimaginable. Floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes, fires - they can come suddenly, often unexpectedly. Please be prepared. Think about what you would do in an emergency, what is of highest value to you, who might need help. I will post a link below for ways to help the fire victims.

Meanwhile, I can hardly choose which classes I want to take and where my presence would be of most fun and help at the conference. Yippee! with eager enthusiasm,
Nancy Skakel. newsletter editor

ANWG News

Conference Preregistration

ANWG 2025 Registration has started! Preregistration opens at noon on January 14 and runs thru January 19. Enter your personal information, and your interest in volunteering and demonstrating.

[Register here](#)

Conference Registration Page

Look for the Registration Planning Worksheet on the website to help you make your selections, and get ready to register for the Conference Package and workshops when Registration opens at noon on January 21. We also have a Registration Process document available that takes you step by step through the registration screens. Take the time to look it over to save some time (minimize confusion) and streamline your registration.

Our Conference is an exciting mix of workshops, seminars and evening events.

- The Conference Package, available for \$425 from January 21 until March 23, offers an exceptional value on three half-day seminars and three evening events.
- The a la Carte registration period (March 31-May 26) allows registrants to purchase seminars for \$140. Evening event tickets for registrants and guests will be available as follows: Fashion Show-\$35, Vendor Gala-\$50, Banquet and Keynote-\$60.
- Workshops will be available from January 21 through May 26: One Day-\$200, Two-Day-\$300, Three-day-\$400.

If you have questions, we also have a registration instructions document that goes into detail about how registration works and what you can expect. Check out the Registration area on the website for more information.

We hope to see you at ANWG 2025 in Yakima!

Registrars, Ann Nez and Linda Shaw registrar@anwgconference.org

Education Committee

A very happy New Year to all with hope for peace and tranquility for 2025...also lots of weaving/spinning/knitting/dyeing, etc.

As promised, here is the notice for the January MOVIE BITES first edition to be zoomed *on Wednesday January 22, 6:00-7:30 Pacific*. This initiative is being presented by your ANWG Education Program in hopes of keeping us in active communication with our large ANWG family as we approach the June Conference.

The dates selected for the monthly BITES will be:

Jan 22, Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21

Topic: ANWG Movie Bites January

Time: Jan 22 2025 06:00 PM Pacific Time US and Canada

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95593752480?pwd=NtZJp3GoX79XTI7HliwTBa8tXNbQ92.1>

Meeting ID: 955 9375 2480

Passcode: 726994

I'll schedule a new zoom for each month and will send the notice out to the ANWG Reps google site. Dan Steves will also arrange to post something on the ANWG websites so that one can easily find the link there. Thanks Dan!

For our January 22 event, I'm planning to offer a BBC Master Craftsman series based on Master Weaver Margo Selby in a small studio with three budding apprentices. It's one that I discovered in 2010 and I think you'll enjoy the transformation that each goes through.

Please send this out to all members of your guild for the best coverage possible. I'm hoping that we have good attendance and can collectively develop this program into something more robust for the fall and winter months in 2025.

As always, find me at l.moncrief@me.com or 970-692-3949

Elizabeth Moncrief l.moncrief@me.com

Guilds' Membership Reminder

A reminder that your Guild's membership dues are due (or over due!) Please contact your Guild rep or ANWG Treasurer Linda York, 2andielaine@gmail.com

News From Member Guilds

Alpine Weavers and Spinners

Alpine Weavers and Spinners Guild (AWSG) of the Flathead Valley in Montana had a busy 2024. Our theme for 2024 was *Inspire - Make - Do*. As usual, members demonstrated weaving and spinning at the Northwest Montana Fair in August, in addition to passing out Seven Strand Braid kits. In the photo, member Jean Agather and her granddaughter are teaching fairgoers how to make seven strand braids.



AWSG spinners took field trips during the summer to a local sheep farm and a llama farm. Another field trip was to Polson, Montana to spin next to Flathead Lake, which you can see behind the spinners in the picture.





At least once a year, members have a basket day and this year they made a variety of smaller baskets useful for holding rolls, teabags, or even pencils, as seen in the example.



In 2024, they also made cattail baskets, pine needle coasters, and learned how to process dried dogbane and milkweed canes and dried sunflower stalks to get fibers that could be twisted into cordage. Making cordage was a household task in the Bronze Age producing a very strong twine of varying thicknesses. After learning this process, participants were glad they could obtain twines at a store rather than making them.

The highlight of the year was an indigo dyeing day in September. Earlier in the year, the guild ordered indigo seeds which were divided among participants to grow in their home gardens. On the indigo day, the leaves were stripped from the stalks and blended with cold water to make the dye. They also dyed in vats of commercial pre-reduced indigo. The fresh leaves result in the lighter green colors and pre-reduced indigo in the deeper blue colors, so members got a chance to see the magic of achieving blue from the pre-reduced indigo.



Bozeman Weavers Guild

May

At the end of May, members of our guild once again participated in the annual Whittier School Art Fest. Students took part in weaving, spinning, and other fiber crafts with the guidance of our volunteers. This activity is one of our guild's outreach programs and is highly appreciated by the students and teachers.





July

Our guild sponsored a Craft Day at the Museum of the Rockies on July 6. Stations that included weaving, dyeing, spinning, knitting, paper weaving, and pom pom-making were placed about the historic Tinsley House grounds and were manned by volunteers from our guild. This is one of BWG's annual outreach programs.

August

Guild members attended the Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners Conference in Billings. There, our distinguished member, Barb French, received the MAWS Living Legend designation. Our booth which displayed a fairy weaver's cottage won Best of Show. It showcased many miniature items that were woven, knitted, felted, etc. by our members.

BWG member Tina Gilchrist hosted a pop-up activity for the guild at her home in the Bridger foothills. She had drawstring pouches waiting for us that she had sewn and pre-mordanted. We each contributed flowers from our gardens which we then arranged on the pouches, gently tapping them with hammers to transfer their colors to the pouches -- a fun day!







September

The Bozeman Art Museum held a month-long exhibit of works by members of the Bozeman Weaver's Guild. This was the culmination of nearly two year's worth of planning and effort and showcased a wide variety of our guild members' fiber creations.



October

Our October guild meeting featured a program by Mary Melander involving handwoven knots. We each made a coaster-size mat reminiscent of Celtic knots.

Weavers from Bozeman Weaver's Guild, and spinners from the Twisted Sisters group (some are members of both) gathered at the Gallatin

History Museum on Saturday, October 12 to celebrate national *Spinning and Weaving Week*. These fiber enthusiasts ably presented the ancient skills of weaving and spinning to museum visitors.





November

The BWG Beginner Weavers' class was taught November 9 & 10. Three of our members taught six aspiring weavers everything from winding a warp to cutting the finished sample from the loom. The students' determined efforts plus the instructors' patient guidance resulted in the induction of six new members to the world of weaving.

Through the efforts of our guild's Sales Committee, we once again had a booth at the Gallatin Valley Farmer's Sale Holiday Edition at the county

fairgrounds. The wide array of handmade goods for sale were all woven, knitted, crocheted, spun, felted, and/or sewn by our members. Our annual participation in this holiday event further connects us to the community.



December

We gathered for our December meeting/Holiday potluck at Susan H.'s home. The good food, fun gift exchange, and shared holiday spirit marked the end of our 2024 activities as we look forward to 2025.



Wendy Fedock,, ANWG rep

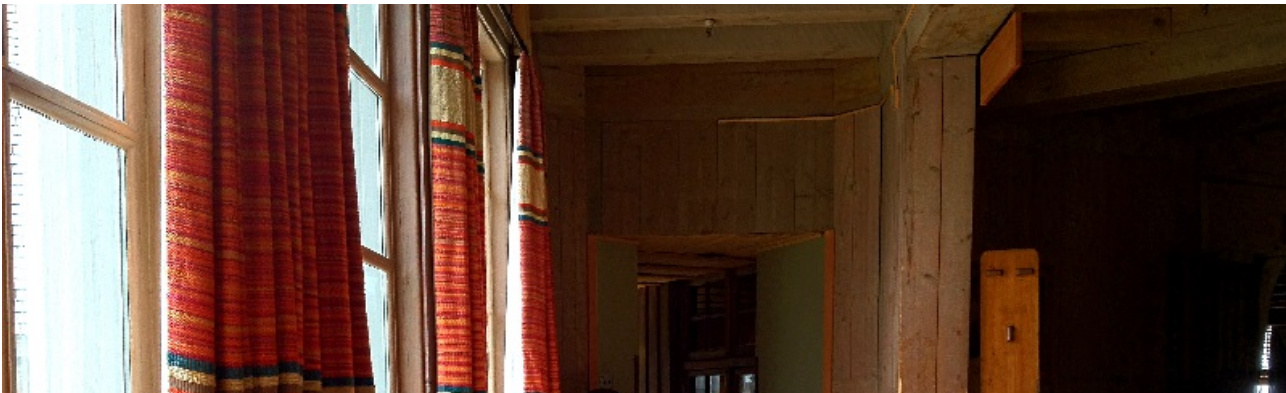
Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers

Here is the link to their January newsletter

<http://https://mailchi.mp/56a9eae6945e/cosw-october-2023-newsletter-13901812?e=201369c0a5>

Columbia Fibres Guild

We are so proud of our members who have contributed their time and skill to the handwoven re-upholstering project at Timberline Lodge. (See the report from the Gorge Handweavers Guild. Many of our members belong to both local organizations.) Twenty yards done, a gazillion more to go!





Our annual Holiday Luncheon was a great success. We met at the beautiful Columbia Gorge Hotel. The organizers did a wonderful job of planning . The table decorations have inspired our guild to make them for the ANWG Conference (to be decided at our next meeting). We especially enjoyed the white elephant gift exchange. Our guild also sponsors an annual gift exchange with names drawn out of a hat. I love the pine needle basket I received from Mary Davis.



The new year has brought a significant change in that we have officially registered as an Oregon non-profit. Previously we had a Washington registry but most of our meetings and activities have taken place in Oregon. Now that bit of business is done - thank you to our board of directors!

In April we are eagerly looking forward to starting Fiber Judge Training through the auspices of the Northwest Spinners and Fiber Arts Association (NWSFA). Our Mary Davis was certified last year and we will have more judges by the end of this year.

We are still looking for someone to teach an indigo class, so let us know if you have a recommendation.

Nancy Skakel, ANWG rep

Gorge Handweavers Guild

Timberline Lodge stands on the south slope of Mt. Hood at an elevation of 6,000 ft and was constructed in 1937. In 2023 the Columbia Fibres Guild (CFG) hosted a presentation by a speaker from The Friends of Timberline who talked about the weavers from Portland, OR who had been involved in the first restoration project of the upholstery fabric for the lodge. Inspiration from this presentation fueled the CFG to begin a curtain restoration project. Several members from our guild, Gorge Handweavers Guild (GHG) attended this meeting and were inspired to weave upholstery fabric for the lodge.

On October 2, 2023 a small group of Gorge Handweavers Guild members went to Timberline to investigate how GHG could help with replacement of the upholstery fabric, all in keeping with the tradition of Timberline's original intent to employ artisans and craft people who were struggling during the 1930's depression. The group met with lodge curator, Lisa Riversong, to discuss the possibility of weaving fabric to replace the worn fabric on various chair cushions. Requirements such as needing a government grant to purchase yarn for the project kept popping up so weaving didn't start until October 2024.

The requirements for the fabric were to come as close to the color and weave structure, be handwoven and make the fabric as wide and as long as possible. We put 20 yards of warp on the loom at 50 inches wide. The first 20 yard warp is woven and ready to cut off at the January 2025 guild meeting. Both guild members and Ms. Riversong worked with Harrisville Designs to provide the yarn for this project. The owner of Harrisville Designs had visited Timberline Lodge and took a special interest in the project.

Many guild members have volunteered their time, weaving knowledge and equipment for this project. The Grace Carter's Weaving Studio (in Odell, OR) is providing the guild use of their studio for this project. Many guild members have sat down at the loom to weave when they had time. The fabric is a balanced fabric so there is a specific number of threads in each inch of fabrics (12x12). The weavers have been vigilant in meeting this requirement-measuring every inch of woven cloth. The photos below show a few of the steps in warping the loom and some of the guild members involved in this project.

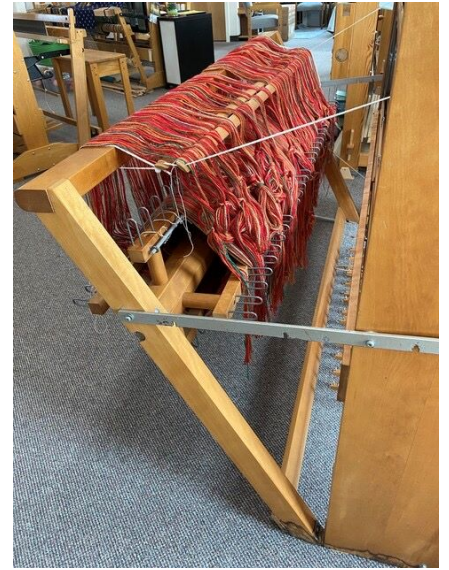
Submitted by

Mary Davis

Gorge Handweavers Guild

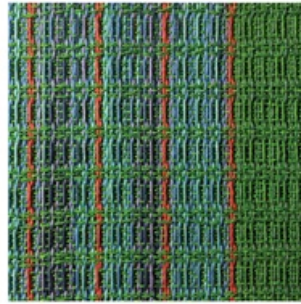
ANWG Representative





Missoula Weavers

It is time for our January Winter Retreat, January 18-19, 2025, at the Missoula Public Library. The Public is invited for demonstrations and hands on fiber making while guild members provide a round-robin weaving adventure and spinning circle.



WEAVING & SPINNING

MISSOULA WEAVERS GUILD
4TH FLOOR, MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY
SATURDAY & SUNDAY - JANUARY 18 & 19, 2025
(10 AM - 4 PM) (12 - 4 PM)



Round Robin Style Weaving

SAT: Demonstration to make a

will be taking place the entire weekend. Many weavers & many looms weaving different patterns.

SAT: Tiny Playing Card Weaving table for visitors of all ages to make a little woven project.

Spinning Circle where wool will be transformed into yarn.

Fabric Woven Bag.

SUN: Mini-Workshop to make a felt bead.

See & Learn how cloth is made from natural materials.

Find us at:

missoulaweaversguild.org

Missoula Weavers Fb



Missoula Weavers Guild & Big Sky Fiber Arts are partners in hosting the 2026 Montana statewide conference, Montana Association of Weavers & Spinners. MAWS 2026 will be located in Missoula at the University of Montana Campus. Save the Date, June 17-21, 2026. More information about the developing conference is at: <https://missoulaweaversguild.org/maws-2026-june-17-21-save-the-date/>

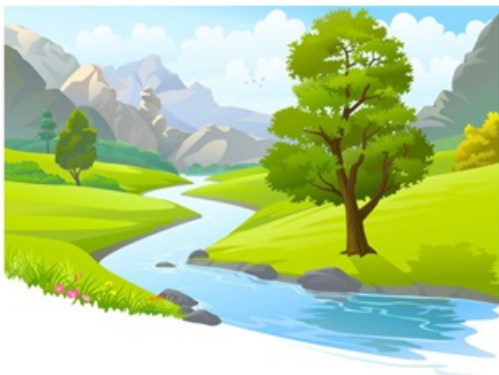
Montana Association of Weavers & Spinners Conference

Save the Date

June 17 – 21, 2026

“A Thread Runs Through It”

In Missoula, MT on the University of MT Campus



Featuring Nationally Recognized Weaver & Instructor

Tom Knisely

Tom has made his career from his interest and love of textiles from around the world. He has been studying, collecting and teaching others about weaving and spinning for more than four decades, making him one of the most well-versed weaving instructors in North America. Tom is renowned among his students for his kindness, good humor and “seemingly infinite knowledge on the subject of weaving.”

Plus workshops in all types of Fiber Art

Salmon Arm

At our monthly meetings we are sharing our knowledge in Tips & Techniques. Lynne shared some tips on knitting.

Our window display at the mall is a terrific success. Thanks to all the ladies for their ingenuity.

The Christmas sale was a huge success. We weren't sure if we would have Tea & Cookies, but we did and everyone was happy to sit and relax and then decide to go back and get one more item. "Good planning "!

Our Guild has a big interest in needle felting with hand embroidery embellishment. March workshop 2025.

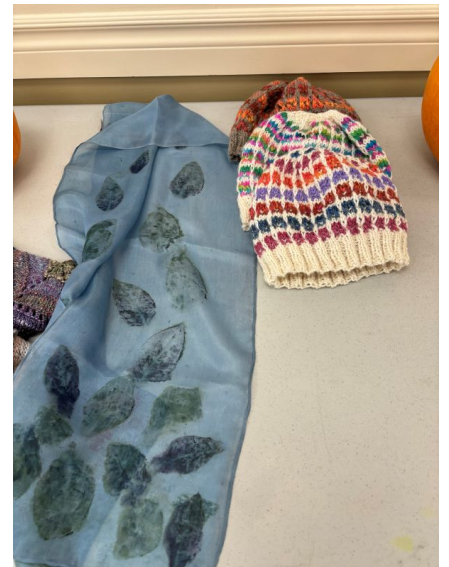
Spinners workshop too. Lynne will teach. Of course she's got the best wool from her very own sheep.

Our get together once a week at the library to spin & talk is so fun. We are in a glass room and have many Looky Loo's. We are quite the attraction with kids & families asking lots of questions.

We have Heritage week at the mall.

They have a pie baking contest and auction. Lots of old stuff. We enjoy spinning and chatting with the public about our work.

Dreaming up new projects for 2025



Spokane Weavers

As it came to a close, the year 2024 brought members of the Spokane Handweaver's Guild a great sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. We participated in numerous public festivals and other happenings and celebrated a hugely successful show and sale. held at Barrister Winery in downtown Spokane. It was our best to date. Sales increased by 50% over the previous

year, doubling our profit. This annual event not only benefits SHG and individual weavers, but also brings a greater awareness and appreciation of weaving to the community. So does our presence at other community events throughout the year. We continue to see our membership grow, welcoming people of all skill levels, with our most advanced weavers graciously sharing their knowledge and everyone simply having fun. Our final meeting, in December, included ornament making, our "Hot Off the Loom" show and tell, announcements, and food.

Now we look forward to 2025 with a full schedule of interesting programs and a couple of great workshops. The first, on March 7-8, will feature SHG member Kristie Sherrodd teaching *Loom Controlled Lace Weaves*. Another SHG member, Linda Kubick, offers a *Sewing with Handwoven* workshop on April 26. Many of us plan to attend the ANWG Conference in June, and we have registered for a booth. We are also using the official conference colors for our 2025 Guild Challenge with the theme of *Weaving From Your Heritage*.

The Spokane Handweavers' Guild will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2028. Looking ahead, a committee of eager volunteers is already brainstorming ways to make this event memorable. Great leadership from President Lori Remz, an enthusiastic board, and so many members willing to pitch in, means 2025 is sure to be another fun year. Please visit our website— <http://spokaneweavers.org> — to see what's happening, and remember that guests are always welcome.

Candace Brown

ANWG Rep





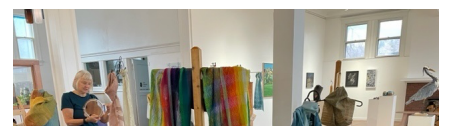
Threadbenders

The Threadbenders Guild closed out the year of 2024 with a bang: two sales in one week! Our guild participated in Artist Sunday at the Crossroads Carnegie Art Center in Baker City on December 1st and was featured at an Artisan Pop-Up at Art Center East in La Grande on December 7th. Both events were well attended and resulted in the sale of many of our woven, felted, or hand-dyed pieces – as well as the likely recruitment of at least four new guild members.

Best wishes from all of us to all of you for a healthy and happy new year!

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Findholt





Whidbey Weavers

Whidbey Weavers Guild Annual Spin-In

April 5-6, 2025

Oak Harbor, WA

The Whidbey Weavers Guild will be holding its 52nd annual Spin-in on Saturday, April 5 and Sunday April 6, 2025. The Spin-In will be held at the Oak Harbor High School in Oak Harbor, WA. There is a \$25 entrance fee that covers both days. Activities will include social spinning, friendly competition, used equipment sale and a marketplace with over 20 PNW vendors.

This year we are honored to have guest presenter and teacher Charan Sachar who will explore our theme of Color and Texture. Charan is an artist whose work reflects his passion for fiber arts, such as knitting, spinning, weaving, and quilting. He also uses it as an inspiration for his clay work. In all the fields that he works in, he loves to accept challenges and approaches the making with a “what if” attitude. Charan specializes in creating art yarns with textures using traditional spinning techniques and pushing them an extra step to create unique yarns. He will be speaking on Saturday and holding a group workshop on Sunday, all which are included with the entrance fee. An optional fiber packet will be available for sale for those participating in the workshop.

We're going to have a great time. Hope to see you there.

For more information check out our Guild website: whidbeyweaversguild.org

Donna Schull



Whonnock Weavers

Fall was a full season of work and play for the Whonnock Weavers and Spinners Guild, which culminated in our 43rd Annual Juried Exhibit and Sale. While our event was the focus, we still made time for some fibre fun, which included celebrating BC Culture Days at our local library, participating in local spin-ins, and even a weekend fibre camp retreat!

Our Exhibit and Sale at the end of November did not disappoint. This event wove together the wonderful and varied skills of our members to create a memorable Exhibit and Sale for our community, and something for us to be proud of.

The Jurying process became a valuable learning opportunity through the mentors we had guiding us. We learned not only the importance of having a juried Exhibit and Sale, but also about fibre arts, techniques and colour work. The variety of the pieces themselves was inspiring and it was incredible to see the work of our peers up close in this way.

Come the event day, we were delighted to welcome guests who have been with us through the decades, as well as some new to us and our work. The smiles and laughter of our guests and our members proved that the day was the success we'd dreamed of.

As our Guild grows and we gain new energy and fresh ideas, it's exciting to see us create a bright future while staying rooted in our history.

You're very welcome to follow along with us on Instagram at www.instagram.com/wonnockweaversandspinners/

- Tracey Lewindon





Fiber Events

From Botanical Colors: Southern California Fire relief contacts: [MALAN Fire and Wind Storm Resources](#).

- January Winter Retreat, January 18-19, 2025, at the Missoula Public Library
- February 13-16, 2025 Red Alder Fiber Arts Registration Open
- Methow Valley needle felting with hand embroidery embellishment. March workshop 2025
- Whidbey Weavers Guild Annual Spin-In
Oak Harbor, WA April 5-6, 2025
- Part 1 of NwSFA Judges Training is being planned for April 11, 12 & 13, 2025. Friday Sunday. Location: Hood River County Library, Hood River, OR. Contact Elizabeth Maker-alHabsi emebannaw@gmail.com
- 16 June 27-29, 2025 Black Sheep Gathering
- October 19, 2025 Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival 2025
- 2026 Montana statewide conference, Montana Association of Weavers & Spinners. MAWS 2026 will be located in Missoula at the University of Montana Campus. Save the Date, June 17-21, 2026. More information about the developing conference is at: <https://missoulaweaversguild.org/maws-2026-june-17-21-save-the-date/>

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.

Articles should be no longer than two pages typewritten and contain a maximum of four photos. 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 Nancy Skakel, 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

President: Malcolm Benson-Dyke
president@northwestweavers.org

1st Vice President: Patty Huffer
1vp@northwestweavers.org

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

CONFERENCES

June 7-13, 2021 -- Location: Salem, OR.
Sponsor: Weaving Guilds of Oregon

2023 -- Location: Billings, MT. Sponsor:
Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners

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2nd Vice

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Staehle**

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g

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VOLUNTEER!**

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