Our apologies for the multiple versions being sent, but we wanted to make sure everyone can see all the photos, and that all guilds who provided stories are included.



NORTHWEST NEWS

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Website: https://northwestweavers.org

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President's Message

Hello Fiber Enthusiasts,

I would like to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me, and update those of you that do know me.

I started weaving in 1981, after I graduated from Central Washington University, with a degree in Home Economics and Physical Education. My husband and I moved to Roseburg Oregon the following fall. That is where I learned about Weaving and Spinning Guilds. Such a great resource for mentors who are happy to share their knowledge, as well as weaving and spinning, felting and fiber art libraries with books that are mostly out of print and available to their members. From there we moved to Redmond Oregon with another wonderful guild and more knowledge to share.

We are now living in Wenatchee Washington and I found a small guild that has been very generous, especially during 2020 and COVID where we all discovered Zoom. We could meet and share knowledge that way. What a journey it has been.

I am looking forward to being President of the Association of Northwest Weaving Guilds. So many exciting things that are happening, Guild Scholarships, Movie Nights, Educational Opportunities, and of course the 2027 Conference.

Patty Huffer President, ANWG

Note from the Editor

ATTENTION: Guild representatives from guilds <u>current with dues</u> <u>owed to ANWG</u> will receive the newsletter. Individual members will also receive our quarterly newsletter

Well, I was not able to attend our conference in Yakima, much to my disappointment. I know it was exciting and successful. The Board has convened a committee to analyze the organization for future conferences. It is an enormous undertaking to plan and execute a conference of this size and complexity. Kudos to all who contributed.

Now we are in the season of festivals and fairs. Get out there and participate! Show your work at local fairs, take or teach a class at a festival, inspire a new generation of fiber fanatics.

Nancy Skakel, ANWG newsletter editor

ANWG News

2025 ANWG Conference Follow up

June 16-21, 2025

Yakima Convention Center, Yakima WA

Did you skip the conference in Yakima? If so we'd like to know why!

The conference committee and the board of ANWG (Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds) would like your thoughts about our 2025 conference, particularly if you chose not to attend. As we begin to look at how we put on conferences in the future, your feedback will help us in our planning for future events.

A brief 3 question survey is available here for you to share your thoughts about why you missed our last conference: https://forms.gle/Dc4yfjajo8z9jofH7. We hope you'll take a couple minutes to let us know if there's something we can do to entice you to join us for the next conference.

If you did attend the 2025 ANWG Conference you can provide feedback here: <u>2025</u> ANWG Conference Feedback

ANWG Tapestry Study Group

Thank you for visiting our booth at the 2025 conference in Yakima. The ANWG History Study Group and the ANWG Tapestry Study Group shared a booth to let others know about the groups.



The ANWG Tapestry Study Group has monthly meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 pm via Zoom. We discuss topics of interest to tapestry weavers and encourage membership from the newest tapestry weaver to the most experienced. Questions and comments are encouraged during the meetings, and we all learn from each other. At our June meeting, we recapped the AWNG conference in Yakima and planned out the programs for the rest of 2025, listed below.

BTW, We are using the ANWG Zoom account—thank you for making this available for members of ANWG to use.

Joining the group is easy: contact the group chair, Ila McCallum, at ilasqs@web-ster.com, introduce yourself, and request an invitation to join. Follow the instructions you receive in the email invitation. Or go to

the groups.io website and ask to join the ANWG Tapestry Study Group.

July 23 -- Interlocks

August 27 -- Using color for desired effect; color shading both vertically and horizontally

September 24 -- Soumak

October 22 -- Favorite yarns and where to get them; using unusual yarns November 19 (note one weak early due to Thanksgiving) -- Double-warp (i.e., using X epi and 1/2X epi in the same piece)

December 17 (note one week early due to Christmas) -- Transparency

Ila McCallum, Chair of ANWG Tapestry Study Group

News From Member Guilds

Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild

Lot's of activity in Central Oregon. Here is the link to their newsletter: https://mailchi.mp/9bdebc97b297/cosw-october-2023-newsletter-13907402? e=201369c0a5

Clatsop Weavers and Spinners

Clatsop Weavers and Spinners members had a ball at the recent ANWG Conference! Returning home, we took our conference inspiration and applied it to a dye day. Pots of cochineal, indigo, stoneflower (a kind of lichen) and turmeric created lovely colorful gems from yarn (cotton and wool), clothing, scarves (primarily silk), and spinning fiber. Photos from our July 8 session in a member's back yard.









Columbia Fibers Guild

Our summer hiatus has been filled with the Yakima conference, festivals, and fairs. Here in the Columbia Gorge we cover four counties in two states. Each of those counties has their own county fair. Our guild sponsors awards for each fair and we are significantly increasing the number of our members' entries. The Skamania County Fair in mid-August

will host our first go at a sheep-to-shawl demonstration. The shawl will be raffled off at the fair, We also participate in the Oregon State Fair.

One of our members, Mary Davis, is a certified NWSFA fiber judge and we have 4 more members in training, myself included. If you are interested in becoming a certified fiber judge, contact Cheryl Reed at judges@nwsfa.org. More judges and more participants in fiber expositions are needed to keep our craft alive and growing.

We were very pleased with our guild booth at the Yakima conference. We used our ANWG grant funds to create permanent display boards covering wool breeds, plant fibers, and unique fibers. They include photos, samples, and swatches. These educational tools will be displayed at fairs and other venues to educate and entice the public with our fiber fancies.

Jennifer Marcus is teaching a tapestry workshop in September. Jennifer is providing each student with a tapestry loom of her own design. I can't wait!

Nancy Skakel, ANWG rep









The Comox Valley Woolgatherers

The Comox Valley Woolgatherers have continued to hold monthly "learning days" hosted by guild members. Here are some examples:

Frame loom weaving taught by Barb Newhouse where we tried different types of yarn and learned how they change when wet finished.

Card Weaving – taught by Heather Kerr. This shows a small table loom. We also tried card weaving on an inkle loom and with the warp clamped to the edge of a table.

There was also a felting workshop taught by internationally known felter Patti Barker. The attendees made "stained glass" shawls and circular vests. Here are two of them:

Members have also done many other projects:

Merideth Martin took a workshop to learn to make cedar bark hats (photo Meredith-decarbarkhat1)

Donna Bell is crocheting an amazing throw made of many granny squares of different sizes. (photo donna-grannysquares1)

Karla Sandwith grows and harvests her own flax then spins it and weaves with the resulting linen. Here is her husband Jim showing off a denim vest from linen spun and woven by Karla and hand indigo dyed with help from Barb Newhouse. (photo karlavest1) The cotton lining was also dyed in the indigo vat. (photo karlavest2)

Karla also spun the linen warp used for this rug woven of natural and hand dyed wool all sourced from Vancouver Island by Bobbie Williams of the Victoria guild. They were challenged by the Vancouver Island Fibre Shed to make a rug from only locally sourced fibres. (photo rug-karla-bobbie1)

The Woolgatherers will be having a picnic lunch July 14th where there will surely be lots more show and tell!

Sheila Carey

ANWG Rep for the Woolgatherers



















Eugene Weavers Guild

Like most guilds, we don't have regular meetings during the summer, but we have enjoyed a couple of activities since returning from the ANWG Conference in Yakima. Guild member Krista Richey kicked off a workshop on bag making! She had a bag featured in Handwoven (Jan/Feb 2021), and 10 intrepid weavers signed up for her first ever class! At our first session, we learned about the bag construction and what to aim for in weaving our fabric, plus information on supplies. In the second session we'll get to see the fabric folks have woven, and talk about interfacing; the third session, in August, will be for sewing the bag. There's no cutting required, so no need to get squeamish about taking the scissors to our handwoven fabric! (Picture Bag2.jpg)

We did a lot of dyeing over the last year, thanks to our grant, and we found kind of like it! Guild member Cathy Barnes recently hosted a backyard ice dyeing session for the Weave Structures Study Group. There was a lot of color happening - we're all eager to see how it turns out! All it takes is ice, dyes, fiber, plastic bins, and a sense of adventure! You never quite know what you'll get! (Picture Dyes1.jpg)

We're looking forward to the annual guild picnic and the Lane County Fair in July, and the Oregon State Fair in August, before we resume our meeting schedule in September. We're also trying something different in September - meeting on a Saturday instead of our usual Monday. We have 3 Saturday meetings scheduled for the 2025-2026 guild year, to see how it goes.

Diane Pigg, EWG ANWG Rep

















Gorge Handweavers Guild

The Gorge Handweavers Guild continues to weave upholstery fabric for chair cushions at the Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood. We finished weaving the first 20 yard warp in December 2024 and had a cutting off party on January 17, 2025. Soon afterward members began to tie on a 25 yard warp to the cut ends of our first warp. As soon as it was ready to weave guild members started weaving on it when they had time. The attached photos are of the fabric being taken off the loom and members checking the fabric for errors. There were very few errors!

Our guild challenge this years was titled "Weaver's Poker". In this challenge each member was asked to choose numbers for the 5 different cards in their poker hand. Each card had a different range of numbers to choose from. Those cards were color (1-8), color relationship (1-14), weave structure (1-21), yarn (1-14), and design element—(1-15). Members were encouraged to use all five cards but were given the option of dropping one of them. Twenty-one members chose a poker hand. At the May and June meetings members who had completed the challenge shared their final projects and discussed what they learned. All were glad they had done the challenge and were excited to choose another poker hand in the future. The attached photo is of a members final project.

Mary Davis

GHG ANWG Rep



Kathy O'Hearn guild challenge project



Taking Timberline Lodge upholstery fabric off the loom - 20 yards!



Unfurled yardage for Timberline Lodge. The work of many weavers

Lethbridge Weavers

This year marks a special milestone: the **25th anniversary** of the City of Lethbridge Tartan, a unique design created and registered by the Guild with the Scottish Tartan Society in 2000.

The journey of the City of Lethbridge Tartan began in January 1998, when the Guild passed a motion to design an official tartan reflecting the city's crest colours.

The tartan's colours tell the story of Lethbridge: green for trees and grass, gold for ripe harvest fields, red for the RCMP's history, white for snow, yellow for the sun and canola fields, light blue for clear skies, steel blue for the mountains, black for coal mining—Lethbridge's first industry—and pink for the Alberta wild rose.

Here are some of our members, proudly wearing kilts showing the Lethbridge Tartan, standing with Lethbridge City Council. We couldn't be prouder of the work we've done! Lethbridge Weavers President, Lyn Paterson did a super job of her presentation and looked stunning in her borrowed Tartan! There were also several past members and they wore their tartans!

This year tartan items woven by the guild (tea towels, dishcloths, throws) will be available for purchase at our annual sale in November during Christmas at Casa.

The Tartan is displayed at the Lethbridge Public Library in July, followed by Word on the Street on September 20, and the Lethbridge Farmer's market on September 27. Visit our social media pages for more information.

https://www.facebook.com/lethbridge.weavers

https://www.instagram.com/lethbridge.weavers/









Missoula Weavers Guild

I hope you have all had a chance to catch your breath after the wonderful .ANWG conference in Yakima

!!! SUMMER BREAK - HA



Bitterroot Library kids weaving program on the shady lawn, July 8th in Hamilton, Montana.



Margie L. lends a helping hand while our President, Karen H. reads from Grandpa Bear's .Scarf

The Missoula Weavers Guild provided a fun weaving session as part of the library's summer kids program. We made woven cards, woven flowers and baskets with a dozen budding artist, crafts persons ages 6-12. It was fun to see the individuality and clear .design preferences of the kids as they chose paper strips and yarns for their projects

Our guild is continuing to prepare for the Montana Association of Weavers & Spinners 2026 conference in Missoula. Thanks to all those at ANWG whom we have asked and received sage advice about conference preparation

MORE SUMMER ACTIVITIES

August 16th: WEAVE TOGETHER will be hosted at a member's home. All are welcome to bring their looms and spinning wheels.

August 7th: MWG will host a fiber arts demonstration at the WESTERN MONTANA FAIR in Missoula, Montana.

August 27-30: MWG can join their friends in the Big Sky Fiber Arts Guild to host a booth and demonstration to promote knitting, spinning and weaving in at the RAVALLI COUNTY .FAIR in Hamilton, Montana

Submitted by, Jennie Meinershagen Communications, MWG

Ponderosa Fibre Arts Guild

Toques, hats, and scarves are textile items primarily designed to keep you warm. These practical items may have been used for millennia, but members of the Ponderosa Fibre Arts Guild know how to add pizzazz to practicality.

The display at the Rotary Centre for the Arts features a range of creations, from the tried-and-true to the outrageous. It provides the spinners, weavers, knitters, crocheters, and felters of the Guild a venue to showcase their skills in the ancient arts, as well as their passion for creative twists and innovation, all within the narrow range of headgear and scarves. But, as everyone who has visited the Guild's popular Artisan Sale knows, guild members' portfolios extend far beyond the making of winter wear.

Guild members love to share their skills.







Portland Hand Weavers Guild

The Portland Handweavers Guild finished another great year of meetings with a program on ply-split braiding from Linda Hendrickson in May, and then our annual meeting in June at the Multnomah Arts Center in SW Portland. As we do every year, the June annual meeting is where we approve next year's budget, elect next year's officers, and gather to celebrate the past year's accomplishments with strawberry shortcake! It's always a fun, tasty gathering. This year we also amended our bylaws to change the makeup of our board, reducing the number of board positions from 12 down to 8. We then elected a slate of officers and directors, with president Nora Gessert agreeing to stick around for one more year as president.

During the festivities we got a chance to learn what the study groups have been up to this past year, and we got an advance peek at the items going into the guild booth at the ANWG 2025 conference in Yakima. (It was a great collection. Portland won the award for Most Creative Guild Booth.) It was a wonderful opportunity for new members to rub elbows with some of the folks who have been around a while and make connections and some new friends.

Programs for the coming year include a conference recap, natural dyeing with Judilee Fitzhugh, linen history with NALA (North American Linen Association), and 'Why we Weave' with Rosalie Nielson. You will find the full year's programs and workshops on our website: https://portlandhandweaversguild.org/



Rosalie Neilson, Linda Hendrickson, and Nancy Hoskins





Phoebe McAfee with one of her entries for the guild booth at the ANWG 2025 conference.



Looking over work from the band weaving and small looms study groups.



"Big Pink", a handwoven contribution to the guild booth by Janis Johnson.



Amy Belgan and her piece, "Darcelle", a true Portland icon.

Salem Fiberarts Guild

There has been no shortage of activities for the Salem Fiberarts Guild. In early May, SFG weavers and handstitchers joined other area fiber artists, vendors, and live animals at the 40 th Sheep-to-Shawl event at the Willamette Heritage Center. The Guild celebrated its 87 th birthday at the May meeting. Hooray for longevity! SFG members held a Stash Sale in June, and members of SFG and the public found great

deals on fiber and small equipment. Several members made the drive north to Yakima, and all agreed that the ANWG team and Seattle Weavers' Guild put on a great conference.

Next up is the Oregon State Fair, in Salem from Friday, August 22 through Monday, September 1. SFG always has a big presence at the Fair and we'd love to spend time with other ANWG members. Are you an Oregon resident? Enter a fiber project into the competition! No project this year or you're not an Oregon resident? Bring a loom or wheel to Salem for demonstrations and join the fun! A day surrounded by textiles, fiber lovers, and ice cream – that sounds good to me. For more details, go to Textiles - Oregon State Fair or email me at rImcleish100@gmail.com

Renay McLeish, Salem rep

Transforming fiber into beautiful projects at the WHC Sheep-to-Shawl





Shuswap Spinners and Weavers

Our guild has been quite busy since our last newsletter in April.



In Our Community:

In May we participated in Notch Hill Heritage Day with a booth, equipment to try, demos, plus member sales.

https://www.southshuswapchamber.com/event/notch-hill-heritage-day/

Also in May a few members were selling at our local farmers' markets. Besides selling, these markets provide opportunities to promote our guild and be visible in the community into October.

https://shuswapfood.ca/farmersmarket/

Another community event we will be joining is a quilting show mid-July. More to come next newsletter.

https://www.salmonarmmuseum.org/

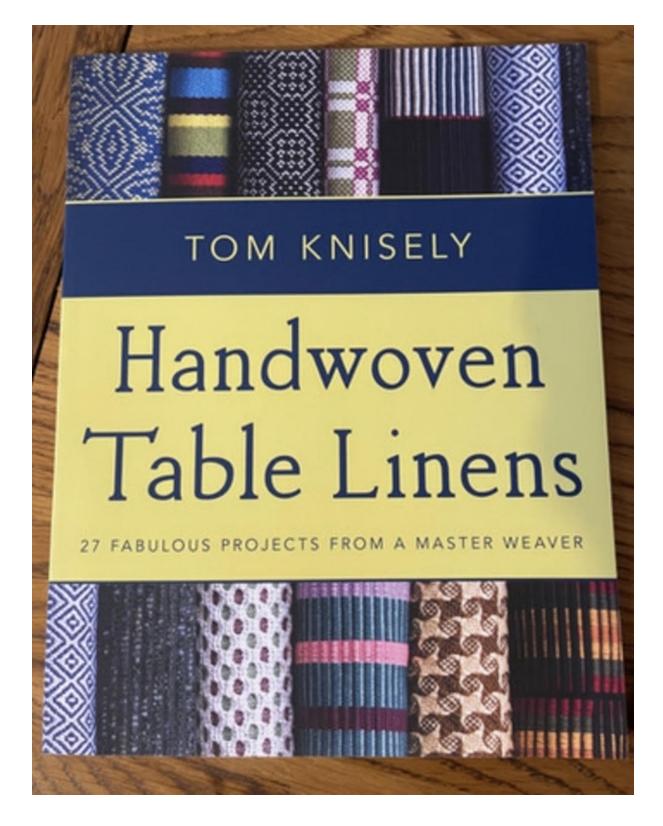
In Our Guild Room:

Our guild room, like our guild, is small but mighty! At barely 400 square feet this space houses 4 floor looms for members' use, plus a lot of rental equipment and a comprehensive lending library. Our equipment manager has taken small space

organization to the next level.

Currently on the big 60 inch loom members are weaving wool blankets. These will be part of a waulking demonstration at Salmon Arm Fall Fair. Finished "friendship blankets" are then donated to victims of local wildfires.

Our traveling loom's warp is a beautiful stitched doublecloth from a Tom Knisley book. Next up for this Baby Wolf will be a trip to our sheep-to-shawl location in August.





On the remaining two floor looms members are taking turns producing weft-faced rugs and warp-faced runners.





Workshops:

The following workshops were put on by Shuswap Spinners and Weavers Guild:

Needle Felting With Embroidery Embellishments

Taught by members Michele Forsythe and Carolyn Vessner.



Into to 4 shaft weaving
Taught by member Maria Giero.

Two days of general and specialized spinning sessions. Taught by visiting instructor Michelle Boyd.



We received much positive feedback from each workshop.

Future workshops are currently being planned. Check our website occasionally for information.

https://www.shuswapspinnersandweaversguild.org/

We have members heading to ANWG 2025 in Yakima, WA.

More in next newsletter.

Sincerely; Karol Hume ANWG rep for Shuswap Spinners and Weavers Guild

Threadbenders Guild - NE Oregon

Threadbenders was well represented at the recent ANWG conference in Yakima. Twelve of our 25 members participated in workshops and/or attended the full conference. Three guild members entered pieces in the shows. They included Cynthia Newman, whose shawl entitled "Connecting" was selected for "Best Use of Conference Colors – 2nd Best Weaving Webs Theme" in the Juried Show; Mickey Edwards, whose beautiful eco-dyed wall hanging, "Dignity and Diversity", was entered in the Open Show; and Una Walker, whose colorful punch-needle vest was displayed in the Instructor's Exhibit. In addition, Threadbenders was pleased to sponsor the 1st place award for "Best Craftsmanship & Design 4 Shafts or Less" in honor of long-time guild member and former guild president, Margaret Mead. (During our guild meeting last November, we surprised Margaret with the announcement that the guild had donated money for an award in her name.)

All of us in the Threadbenders Guild who participated in the conference are grateful to everyone who worked to make this event possible. It was a wonderful experience! Thank you!



1. Cynthia Newman's prize-winning shawl, "Connecting"



2. Mickey Edward's eco-dyed piece, "Dignity and Diversity"



3. Una Walker's punch-needle vest



4. The award for "Best Craftsmanship & Design 4 Shafts or Less" given in honor of Margaret Mead



5. Margaret Mead receiving a certificate of appreciation – with the news that our guild had donated money for an award in her name – from guild president, Lisa Bushman

Victoria Handweavers' and Spinners' Guild

A Rug Woven from the Vancouver Island Fibreshed

Well over a year ago two guild members, Bobbie Williams and Karla Sandwith, started work on a project to weave a rug woven only from fibre grown and processed in the Vancouver Island fibreshed. Bobbie is a spinner/weaver working with wool and Karla is a spinner/weaver fascinated with linen. Bobbie's loves are strong wool and rug weaving. Her favorite weave structure is weft-faced/boundweave with a wool weft and linen as the warp. She has been collecting fleeces from local farmers who have the perfect sheep for her rugs, and she has been spinning this wool into a 2-ply yarn. Bobbie had several thousand yards of Cotswold, Romney, Black Welsh Mountain, and Icelandic wool ready for a rug.

At our annual Spin-In a year ago, Bobbie was approached by Karla. Karla is well known within the Vancouver Island fibre community as a grower and spinner of flax. She grows her flax near Courteney, several hours north of Victoria. Now, she asked if Bobbie would like

to try using her linen for a rug warp. Bobbie jumped at the opportunity! She and Karla connected through Zoom and email, developing a plan for determining the most suitable linen warp for the wool yarn that was already spun.

Karla freely admits she thought this would be a quick and easy project; she soon discovered the yarn she had available was not suitable for the project. "The warp in a weft-faced rug must withstand high tension and a lot of beating, be smooth enough to permit the packed weft to slide and compress over it, but not be so smooth that it won't "grip" the weft."

Karla realized she would have to start from scratch and spin the singles from her tow linen. Then there was the question of how many plies—5 plies are best it turns out. "1600 meters and a few trials later, I was ready to hunker down and make the final warp yarn." Some lessons learned along the way. How to hold five separate yarn ends in one hand and ply

them into a smooth, firm yarn with uniform tension! Experimentation with warp and weft twist led to understanding that the "right" combination meant the weft could "pack in" tighter for a hard-wearing rug. In sampling, it was quickly determined that the linen yarn would benefit from sizing agent – in this case, a slurry of boiled cornstarch. The rug was finished in late June and is beautiful. It is an example of teamwork, perseverance, and commitment to excellence.

This article draws on information from Bobbie and also from an article she and Karla wrote for the Vancouver Island Fibreshed Website. All quotes are from the article. To read the complete article, go to https://vancouverislandfibreshed.ca/a-joint-project-to-create-a-100-vancouver-island-fibreshed-rug/





Whonnock Weavers and Spinners Guild

The warmer weather has us filled with inspiration and creativity, and we're busy making! The Whonnock Weavers and Spinners have continued our focus on weaving this season, highlighted by a hugely successful and very inspiring workshop led by two of our own.

Sheila and Trudy taught a beautiful round-robin workshop with the spotlight on playing with colour and texture through a variety of weave structures. It was a coming together of so many aspects of our guild; from the hosting to the mentoring; and from weavers supporting each other to the warm and knowledgeable teaching, this workshop was an example of true dedication and a testament to the heart of our guild.

Weavers were able to spend time the week between the two workshop days so that they could complete samples on all of the looms. This was something really special and speaks not only of the generosity of Sherry in hosting us in her space at @Coniagas Textiles, but the deep determination of our weavers in committing to completing all the weaving offered to them.

Whether a novice or experienced weaver, through this workshop we had a chance to expand our knowledge, skills, and experience— and how wonderful to get to do that in such inspiring company!

Our Program Committee has offered us a variety of informative programs this season. We learned about wool pellets and the benefits to the wool community as well as to our gardens. We also had a wonderful presentation on freestyle and Saori weaving that has got many of us thinking about ways that we can expand our creativity and take our weaving in new directions.

While we are continuing to indulge our artistic passions and make a variety of our favourite items over the summer, we are also turning our focus to our next community event at the end of July—Country Fest.

Country Fest is a superb opportunity to share information about the joys of fibre arts and to guide the public in trying carding, spinning, and weaving. Our hands-on display and program is always a popular addition to the sheep shearing and fleece auction held by the Lower Mainland Sheep Producers Association.

This year we have Icelandic fleece to show in contrast to our previous years' down and lustre long wools, and we're excited to share about the differences. We'll soon be dyeing the fleece, with a plan to focus on primary colours so that our guests have a chance to explore how colours can blend and create new colours. And...we know that we can get carried away at the dye pot, so you might see more colours than we plan!

Something new we're adding this year is a collaborative community weaving project! While we know that our spinning and weaving program is popular, we want to add new things to engage repeat visitors, too!

We'll let you know how it all goes, and please feel free to follow us on Instagram at whonnockweaversandspinners to see it all unfold.









Fiber Events

- July 26-27 Prairie City Fiber Fest Prairie City, Oregon www.prairiecityfiberfest.com
- October 3-5 Pacific Northwest Fiber Expo Vern Burton Community Center Port Angeles, Washington https://www.pnwfib
- October 18-19, 2025 Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival 2025 Linn County Expo Center Albany, Oregon

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 and no PDF's.

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/.

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USA

Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming

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

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