



BLACK SHEEP NEWS

October 2009

www.blacksheepweavers.com

Preserving the rich history of the Hartland Weavers and Crompton Crafts

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I want to give a big THANK YOU to the past and present Board members. The transition went very smoothly, except for one position. The Board members used the summer months to work on the programs, workshops, etc. All our programs are planned out and are printed on brochures and in the newsletter.

I also want to thank the members who pitched in to set up the MLH exhibit and instructors' exhibit at Holland, MI. When one team couldn't do it, the other team pitched in and got it done. Again a big Thank You!

I am looking forward to a great year. If you have problems, please let me know. They can be addressed either individually or by the Board.

Georgian

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE!!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM

Please complete the following and bring to a meeting or mail to:

Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild
PO Box 409
Hartland, MI 48353

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____

PHONE _____

Dues: \$25 US/year for full membership
(Dues expire in August the following year)

Make checks payable to:
BLACK SHEEP WEAVERS FIBER GUILD

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Precious Metal Clay Silver is an amazing substance. First, it's recycled silver! It's made with microscopic pieces of silver derived from the x-ray and photography developing process and mixed with a clay-like binder. When it is fired (either in a kiln or by a torch), the binder burns off and you are left with fine silver. PMC is a relatively new product; it was developed in the early 90s by Mitsubishi and available in this country in 1996. Second, PMC is amazingly plastic and can be endlessly textured; it's a perfect medium for beginners who would like to make spectacular silver jewelry.

Gini Cooper's demonstration on October 1 will show all of the stages of working with Precious Metal Clay Silver from the raw material to finished pieces. She will also bring her kiln and dry, pre-fired pieces to fire during the demonstration.

Gini has been working with Precious Metal Clay Silver since 2002. She teaches PMC and lampwork glass beads at Holland Area Arts Council, South Haven Center for the Arts and one-day workshops around the country.

Gini is offering a one-day workshop on Saturday, October 3, at Woodcreek Farm from 9:30-4:30. The class will cover all aspects of working with PMC; everyone will learn how to texture, form and finish pendants, earrings or charms. They will leave with several pieces of beautiful, unique silver jewelry. Students are encouraged to bring interesting buttons, spoons, forms, or old jewelry to use for texturing. If you took her class this summer please bring your jewelry you made to show and tell.



"River Walk" earrings by Gini Cooper



"Love Knot" earrings by Gini Cooper

BOARD MEETING SEPT 3, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 PM.

Board members present

President - Georgian Franczyk

Co-Vice Presidents/Workshops - Annette Shaffer

Treasurer/Membership Chair – Nadine Cloutier (last year's treasurer) in place of Theresa Henderson

Secretary - Jacqueline Deradoorian

Newsletter Editor/Web Coordinator - Deborah Kellogg-Lewis

Hospitality Chair - Peggy Eppinger

Publicity Chair - Sandie Coir

Librarian - Mary Bajcz

Programs

See back of September Newsletter for program information.

Workshops

Although some workshops make money for the guild our goal this year is to make the workshops affordable for our guild members. Things to consider when deciding on the cost for a workshop: cost of room, lunch for instructor, instructor fee plus perhaps \$2-\$3 extra for unplanned incidentals.

Treasurers Report

Report given by Nadine (standing in for Theresa). Please see attached final report for last year (previous board) and attached audit. The board is considering adopting the suggestions in the audit (such as two signatures on checks). Jacqueline made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as read. Sandie second the motion. The whole board approved treasurer's report. Report will also be read at General meeting for membership approval.

Secretary's report

New secretary has nothing to report yet. Only official business at the last meeting (June potluck) was the vote for new board members. All board members nominated at the end of the guild year were voted in uncontested.

Newsletter

Any email submissions to Debbie for the newsletter must have Black Sheep Newsletter in subject line. Debbie has made the changes to update our website but is having difficulty uploading the front page. She is currently working on resolving the website issues.

Hospitality

All set!

Publicity

Sandie is working on publicity for the Christmas Sale (e.g. Community Life, the Marketeer, etc.). She would like to display Black Sheep signage at Fiber Expo. (She needs the signs by Oct 18.) She would also like a manned guild table at the Expo. Sandie is going to ask Linda Lundstrum if she can display a sign or our literature when she goes to the Fisk Farm Fair.

Alpaca day is coming up and perhaps we will have material available for that also.

Annette made a motion and Debbie second to approve 500 copies of the September Newsletter for Sandie to distribute at the above events (up to 5 cents a copy). The whole board approved.

Librarian

Mary B. obtained 2 years of the Rug Hooking magazine. She is interested in expanding the video library, etc.

MLH Rep

Not present.

Christmas Sale

To be discussed at General Meeting.

Spring Fling and other Opportunities

Still need a chair for Spring Fling. HVCA is looking for artists to exhibit for longer blocks of time. Perhaps we will combine the Spring Fling with a month long display of guild work. (Exhibitors for the whole month who sold any work would pay a 25% commission to the Gallery).

The Howell Opera House requested the guild for their Festival of Lights which is in November and too close to our Christmas Sale. Georgian thinks the Opera House may be a nice location for a second Spring Fling.

The Opera House also has window display rentals and is looking for Monday night craft instructors.

Thank Yous

We received a couple of thank you notes (e.g. Donation to Alice Griswald Fund, etc).

Meeting adjourned in time for social.

GENERAL MEETING SEPT 3, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Attendees

Board member, general membership and guests

Programs

See back of September Newsletter for program information.

Workshops

Workshops coordinate with our programs. Please note that Saturday Feb. 6 we will have a guild play day. Please bring something to work on and embellish.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer's report and external audit were approved as read by general membership.

Secretary's report

In the interest of saving time, in the future the secretary's report will be presented to the general membership online (not read at the meetings). Please read them online so we can approve them at the meetings.

Newsletter

Any email submissions to Debbie for the newsletter must have Black Sheep Newsletter in subject line. Debbie has made the changes to update our website but is having difficulty uploading the front page. She is currently working on resolving the website issues and is considering using another service provider.

Hospitality

Peggy introduced 3 guests (see guest book) and one new guild member.

Publicity

Sandie is working on publicity for the Christmas Sale (e.g. Community Life, the Marketeer, etc.). She would like to display Black Sheep signage at Fiber Expo. (She needs the signs by Oct 18.) She would also like a hosted guild table at the Expo. Anyone interested in demonstrating their craft or representing the guild, please let Georgian know. Sandie asked about flyers to be made up for distribution at the Fiber Expo and other community bill boards, an amount was approved in our immediate pre meeting of \$25 expenditure. We may also be taking advantage of the Fisk Farm event as well as Alpaca Day for distributing guild information.

Librarian

Mary B. obtained 2 years of the Rug Hooking magazine. She is interested in expanding the video library, etc. Lisa is going to turn over a master inventory list to Mary so it can

be updated as we obtain more resources. Donations (books, videos, magazines) are welcome.

MLH Rep

\$1300.00 was raised by silent auction for the Alice Griswold Fund at the MLH Conference at Hope College in Holland, MI. Donations are still being accepted.

Announcements

Georgian made several announcements regarding upcoming event/opportunities the guild may be interested in (Howell Community Dance, Finn Sheep wool, dye workshops, vendors for Howell events).

Christmas Sale

A sign up list was passed around for guild members who are going to sell/work at the Christmas sale. There will be a meeting for sellers/workers to discuss such things as tags, inventory sheets, etc. Guild tags must be bought and used (photocopies of tags are not acceptable). Jacqueline Gilbert has tags if anyone needs them. We also discussed the possibility of another "before sale display" at the Cromaïne Library.

Spring Fling

We still need a chair for Spring Fling which will be at the HVCA again. Please consider volunteering for this important position.

The Howell Opera House

The Howell Opera House requested the guild to sell in their Festival of Lights which is in November and too close to our Christmas Sale. Georgian thinks the Opera House may be a nice location for a second Spring Fling. Rental of the Opera House is quite pricey, but is negotiable.

The Opera House also has window display rentals and is looking for Monday night craft instructors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35p.

Speaker Jeannetta Carter

Jeannetta discussed and demonstrated Australian Locker Rug Hooking. A method that creates very tactile, soft and sturdy rugs made out of Alpaca roving. She is offering workshops on this interesting technique on the second Monday of the Month (Oct., Nov., Dec.) at Nancy's Woodcreek Farm (www.alpacasmichigan.com).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FiberExpo – 3rd Annual

An event created to showcase fiber art and products. October 24 & 25, 2009 Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds – Ann Arbor, MI Classes, demonstrations and lectures on spinning, felting, weaving fibers together to create something beautiful and useful. Sales of finished goods: handwoven shawls, handwoven and felted rugs, knitted vests, hand dyed yarns, bead woven jewelry, quilts and more.

For more information: www.fiberexpo.com or info@fiberexpo.com or 734-546-0032

OCTOBER 5 - 11 IS NATIONAL SPINNING & WEAVING WEEK.

Wanted And Needed:

One chairperson or two co-chairs are needed for the Spring Fling. There are now time lines available and help from the guild. You are not inventing the wheel because we have had successful sales and the guidelines are there. PLEASE! Consider taking on this important task. If no one volunteers, there will be no Spring Fling.

Mark Your Calendars – GUILD PLAY DAY – February 6, 2010

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Black Sheep needs a festive home for our December meeting. Any volunteers?

BINDERS FOR SALE

My husband is selling high quality binders for \$5. These are 3 inch binders in grey, with 3 D-rings, which allows you to lay the inserts flat. These binders are \$12 at Staples. You can place inserts in the transparent cover pocket as well as the binding pocket so you can label and/or decorate your notebook to suit your needs. Also, there is a pocket inside the front cover. I have several and use a few to store magazines, and a few to keep information, material samples, and photos of my art projects, and one to keep patterns and the freezer paper pieces together, and another to keep information and instructions from workshops and seminars I have attended. I have found them helpful in keeping organized. Call me if you would like any and I can bring them to the October 2nd meeting. Cheri Skomra

Yarn Sale

There will be a \$2 a lb. sale at Old Mill Yarn in Eaton Rapids on October 10 and 12. There is always a variety of yarns with more brought out Monday. It is held in a warehouse, so wear old clothes and bring a flashlight. You buy the whole cone and no guarantee about the yarn content.

Art Festival

Hamburg Library, juried show. Vendors wanted. \$20 table, bring your own.

Saturday Oct. 17 9:00 - 4:00

Vendors wanted. hamburglibrary.org

Wool from Finn sheep. 5 or 6 inches long - white.
dmpes9000@yahoo.com

LIFE'S ON A CONTINUOUS LEARNING CURVE!

Black Sheep Members, I trust have all enjoyed a great summer and now gearing up for the annual Holiday Sale as we get back together just a few more times before this annual event that has always been so popular with our surrounding communities. Bet no one is short of creative ideas, short on time, perhaps! Well, now is the time to step up production of the fine art we all enjoy creating. The details of many hours of planning will be unfolded in our newsletter but as someone rather new I would like to offer just a few ideas to the mix. Always striving to bring our best to the market is our goal, details being so important, setting our works in a category of excellence is the reason this sale has always been so well attended through out the years. If you have your work samples or finished work it would be great to share it with the next meetings and show everyone in our show and tell. It allows our fellow members to share in your one of kind delight but also for you to carefully watch for their reaction. Picking up the same object over and over I know that I can just look past an omission of detail that my fellow crafter sees as a glaring of off putting thing. Hence, I think it is a good idea to have a second party act as a prospective buyer and carefully examine it for its qualities and for areas of improvement. Call it quality control but it can save our sales and the egg on the face when something has not been finished in the final details that just give the buyer a reason to put it down and move on to the next item. A valuable lesson for me when discovered too late something was a miss. Most of all and I think most important is to encourage one another, allowing for artistic difference and offer our individual craft as an expression of our self.



Sandie Coir

HOLIDAY SALE

The 27th annual Holiday Sale will be held at their new venue at the Hartland Insurance Agency on old US 23 one half mile north of M-59 (Highland Road) on Friday, December 4th, from 3pm until 8pm and Saturday, December 5th, from 9 am until 4pm . Items for sale include hand-woven, knitted, and crocheted, felted, rug-hooked, and hand-dyed items including wearable art, scarves, hats, sweaters, ornaments, purses, jewelry, socks, art dolls, quilts, rugs, runners & beaded and embellished art to wear. It would be great to just talk it up, the word of mouth and computer sharing has taken getting the word of anything out there to a whole new dimension!

Holiday Sale Meeting

There will be a meeting for Holiday Sales sellers on Thursday, October 1 at 5:30 pm prior to our regular membership meeting. The meeting will be held in our regular meeting room. All sellers are required to attend a seller's meeting. All members are welcome to come to the seller's meeting.

Lisa Jaros has offered to arrange for a display at Cromaine Library for the month of November. We have not yet received confirmation that we have the showcase space but in the event that we do, here are the terms for submission: Items can be for sale or not. All items should be tagged and a properly filled out inventory sheet submitted for those that are for sale. Not for sale items should be listed on a sheet of paper with your name and the item description. Bring items to the October meeting for submission to this showcase. Lisa will remove the items from the showcase before the sale and bring them to the holiday sale. If you have any questions, or cannot bring items to the October meeting, please contact Lisa at lcjaros@comcast.net or at 810-220-2710 to make other arrangements.

Nadine Cloutier has offered to be in charge of a showcase where she works in the Hartland Educational Support Service Center. Items for this showcase should be brought to the November 5 meeting or to Nadine's office by Friday November 6. All items should be tagged and a properly filled out inventory sheet submitted for those that are for sale. Not for sale items should be listed on a sheet of paper with your name and the item description. I will pick up the items from the ESSC on set-up day of the sale and bring them to the sale venue.

The committee is looking for pieces that you think may be used for display purposes at the holiday sale. If you have any items that you think we may be able to use, please send me an email with a photo, if possible, to blacksheepweavers@hotmail.com or s.d.trovillion@gmail.com. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet for equipment needs for the sale at the October meeting. Some of the items we are looking for are: baskets; mirrors - both full and hand-held; quilt racks; mannequins; crates; jewelry display pieces; holiday cds; clip-on display lights; and mannequin heads for hats.

We usually have bookmarks available at the sale advertising Spring Fling. I do hope that one of you will volunteer to chair this sale and continue the spring sale tradition.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about the holiday sale, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Susan Trovillion
blacksheepweavers@hotmail.com
s.d.trovillion@gmail.com
810.223.3458

RETAIL SPACE FOR YOUR ART

Deborah Kellogg-Lewis

Our business, Tim's Total Pool Supplies & Service, pays for retail space year round, but our season is only about 7 months long. Beginning in October, we will be displaying my own art for sale as well as the work of other artists who wish to take advantage of this opportunity. We will display the work until the end of December. Anyone who wishes to participate will receive an artist i.d. number, and will submit an inventory sheet just as we do for Black Sheep sales. Tim's will receive 15% of any sales in exchange for the space and sales facilitation. I have made flyers that I will be distributing throughout the summer to our regular customers. I will have flyers available to anyone who wishes to pass them out in other locations. If you are interested, please contact me at 517-861-9008, or deborahkellogglewis@comcast.net



THIRD ANNUAL FIBER EXPO

Don't delay Black Sheep Weavers, invite a friend and show them what you are interested in. You might be helping them to discover why you are passionate about your craft, share the experience. Workshop registrations are still available, go to FiberExpo.com to sign up now. We invite you to come to Fiber Expo! Vendor space available. Attend Classes to Learn a New Skill. Visit the Vendors, Start Your Christmas Shopping Early. Talk to Breeders About Their Fiber Animals.

October 24 & 25, 2009
Saturday 9:00am—5:00pm
Sunday 10:00 am — 5:00 pm
\$3 admission
(children under 5 free)

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
For Directions:

<http://www.washtenawfarmcouncil.org/directions.htm>

Mission Statement

To bring natural materials and fibers into the hands of people
To spread knowledge of growing and working with natural fibers
To create, to design, to build a product that is both useful and beautiful
To find fulfillment in merging with products of the land, joining together people and nature in a harmonious whole

LINKS TO SITES OF INTEREST

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1205007/Shepherdess-bride-marries-stunning-dress-wool-flock.html>

<http://www.fiberarts.com/>

<http://fiberarts.org/>

<http://www.rugmakershomestead.com/contents.html>

Time Management for Creative People: <http://wishful.fileburst.com/creativetime.pdf>

Beading: <http://www.beadingdaily.com/>

Packaging your designs: <http://www.beadingdaily.com/blogs/daily/archive/2009/08/26/how-to-package-your-designs-for-bead-shows-or-magazines.aspx>

<http://www.huronvalleyarts.org/>

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Ruth Affleck-Laity – Celtic Loom Weaving

Ruth Affleck was raised on a farm in New Zealand where her father taught her animal husbandry and fiber evaluation and she learned fiber crafting skills from her mother, aunts, and grandmothers. 4 years old, at her father's knee, she knitted a sweater for her teddy bear and at 10 years old, finally big enough to reach the treadle, learned spinning from her mother.

When she moved to America she was quickly converted from wool to alpaca and Alpaca Heaven was born. Ruth has received awards for her spinning, knitting, crochet, and weaving internationally. She offers classes in spinning and fiber arts at her farm in Perry and enjoys sharing her students accomplishments. Ruth also provides demonstrations at events and has acted as Fleece Show Superintendent at Michigan International Alpaca Fest since 2006. She sells fiber and yarn harvested from her alpacas, spinning wheels and Celtic weaving looms.

Ruth Affleck-Laity will be giving the November meeting program on Celtic Loom Weaving and will bring samples of this art form. She will be offering a workshop on this topic on Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 9am -12 noon. The workshop will be held in the same room as the monthly Guild meetings. Cost is \$45, with a minimum of 4 students and a maximum of 6. A material fee of \$15 -\$20, paid on the day of the workshop to the instructor, will purchase a loom and necessary supplies. Registration forms will be available at the October and November meetings.



**Deadline for submissions to the newsletter
is the 20th of each month.**

**Send submissions to
deborahkellogglewis@comcast.net**

**Please put Black Sheep Newsletter in the
subject line.**

MLH REPORT -

I attended the MLH (Michigan League of Handweavers) meeting at Eaton Rapids. The conference at Hope College in Holland was considered a success and there will be workshops next August at the same location. Teachers and dates to be announced. There will also be a fiber exhibit at Grand Rapids - date to be announced. Start working on your projects. Thank you! Georgian



LIBRARY NEWS

My goal for the library is to make it easier for members to use and to expand it within the space we've got. Everything in the library will need to be of use to the membership. It's easy to determine that by checking the last time the item was borrowed. When you check out a book, magazine, or video just put your name and the current month and year on the card and give it to me or place it in the appropriate slot (by month) in the card file.

The budget for this coming year has not been set, but I have ordered Rug Hooking magazine. We currently subscribe to Hand Woven, Cloth, Paper, Scissors, and Quilting Arts. I'd like to address the needs of spinners, knitters, crocheters and beadrs, too. Please send me suggestions. Mary@megatechnologies.com. We would also be happy to add your donations of books that you think others would like to borrow.

Mary Bajcz 248-685-9015

BLACK SHEEP BOARD MEMBERS

President: Georgian Franczyk
1st Vice President: Annette Taylor
Workshops:Annette Shaffer/ Veronica Straus
Secretary: Jacqueline Deradoorian
Treasurer/Membership: Theresa Henderson
MLH Rep:Mary Underwood
Hospitality Chair:Peggy Eppinger
Historian/Librarian: Mary Bajcz
Publicity: Sandie Coir
Newsletter Editor: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis
Webmaster: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis

RECIPES

Sweet Potato Latkes

Ingredients

- * 2 sweet potatoes, peeled and shredded
- * 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- * 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- * 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- * 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- * 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- * 1/4 cup vegetable oil for frying

Directions

1. Place sweet potatoes in a colander. Place a cheesecloth over the potatoes, and squeeze the potatoes to release as much liquid as possible. Let the potatoes sit to release more liquid, then squeeze again.
2. In a large bowl, combine sweet potatoes, eggs, brown sugar, flour, cloves and cinnamon; mix well.
3. Heat oil in large heavy skillet to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).
4. Form mixture into pancake size cakes, and fry in hot oil. Flip cakes after 2 to 3 minutes (when bottom is browned) and brown other side. Drain on paper towels, and serve piping hot!

Quinoa and Black Beans

Ingredients

- * 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- * 1 onion, chopped
- * 3 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- * 3/4 cup uncooked quinoa
- * 1 1/2 cups vegetable broth
- * 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- * 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- * salt and pepper to taste
- * 1 cup frozen corn kernels
- * 2 (15 ounce) cans black beans, rinsed and drained
- * 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Stir in the onion and garlic, and saute until lightly browned.
2. Mix quinoa into the saucepan and cover with vegetable broth. Season with cumin, cayenne pepper, salt, and pepper. Bring the mixture to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes,
3. Stir frozen corn into the saucepan, and continue to simmer about 5 minutes until heated through. Mix in the black beans and cilantro.



Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild
PO Box 409
Hartland, MI 48353

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Fostering a spirit of creativity in the arts through our hands, hearts and our fascination with fiber. The Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild is committed to continue the advancement and love for fiber arts

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1 – Gini Cooper – Precious Metal Clay Silver
Work on Guild Banner

November 5 – Ruth Affleck-Laity – Celtic Loom Weaving

November 7 – Workshop – Intro to Celtic Loom Weaving

December 4 & 5 – 27th Annual Holiday Sale

December 10 – Guild Holiday Potluck

January 7 – Pam Arquette – “Various Weaving Structures”

February 4 – Judith Bamber – Felted Iranian Tribal Rugs
Hands-On Time – Felted Beads

February 6 – Guild Play Day

March 4 – Roxanne Pett – Hairpin Lace

March 6 – Workshop – Hairpin Lace making

Date TBA – 6th Annual Spring Fling Sale

April 1 – Gisela Bosch – Weaving in Guatemala

May 6 – Debbi Cooper – Shibori Dye Techniques

May TBA – Workshop - Su Butler – Weaving with New Natural Fibers, Soy, Tencel, Bamboo

June 3 – End of Year Potluck, Member Showcase

Black Sheep Weavers Meeting Location

Science Room of Hartland Consolidated Schools Educational Support Service Center (The Old High School),
9525 Highland Road (M-59), Hartland, MI, 3/4 miles West of US 23
Social Starts 6:30 PM • Meeting about 7:00 PM
