



BLACK SHEEP NEWS

September 2009

www.blacksheepweavers.com

Preserving the rich history of the Hartland Weavers and Crompton Crafts

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

It seems strange to be typing a president's message. It is a job that is important, but it is really the Board that does the work. My job is necessary, but the Board should get the credit.

My goal is to have FUN. I am serious. It should be a time of laughing, learning, enjoying, selling, and the list could go on.

I am hoping that if you have a problem, are unhappy with something, you will contact me and perhaps we can nip it in the bud before it gets overblown. Sometimes a mountain can be made out of a molehill, if only the problem was brought forward and handled in a timely fashion.

By the same token, if you are happy, please let us know. Please tell us your thoughts and ideas. This is your Guild. We need your feedback. I know all the Board members will welcome your comments.

Please remember that this is your Guild.

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

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 deborahkellogg@comcast.net

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/>

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 Bajez
Publicity: Sandie Coir
Newsletter Editor: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis
Webmaster: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donations recognized

As your outgoing Treasurer, I would like to inform you of three recent letters received regarding donations made by our Guild. First is a letter from Ken Allen-Awards Chairman for MLH, thanking us for the \$50 donation to the Michigan League of Handweavers which was used for awards at the MLH Conference this summer in Holland.

The second letter was from C. Kurt Dewhurst, Ph.D. who is the Director of the MSU Museum thanking us for our generous \$500.00 donation to the Alice Griswold Weaving History Fund. The third letter was the MSU acknowledgment tax receipt.

I will bring the letters to the September Guild meeting and if time permits, I will read them to the membership.

Donation to the Alice Griswold Weaving History Fund

On June 6, Mary Underwood organized a beautiful memorial program for Alice Griswold at her lovely studio. Members of the East Lansing Weavers Guild were there as well as many other friends of Alice. The afternoon was a glorious time of sharing memories of her, how she shared her wisdom of weaving, and many heartwarming stories. At the meeting Georgian, Gisela and Nadine presented Alice's daughter-in-law Jean Griswold with a check. The family has pledged \$15,000 toward the memorial fund that will house all of her weavings and notebooks at the MSU Museum. The challenge now is to match their pledge amount.

This exciting collection will be made available to anyone to research, view, make notes from and study up close. This is a collection for all fiber artists to embrace. We are so lucky she selected a Michigan museum to receive this fabulous legacy.



Spring Fling

We need a chairperson or co-chairpeople for the Spring Fling. Any volunteers?

We also have to set the date and time for it. Please check calendars to see what we can come up with. Thank you!

Workshops for the Upcoming Year

The Guild is planning to offer several workshops throughout the upcoming year. Details are not firm yet but we are trying to keep costs as reasonable as possible. Our September and October speakers will both be offering workshops on the Saturday after their presentations at Nancy Lopez's Woodcreek Farm. The Guild will be offering a half day workshop, Introduction to Celtic Loom Weaving on November 7, 9 am – 12 pm. Also a workshop on Hairpin Lacemaking on March 6. Su Butler will be offering a workshop on Weaving with the New Natural Fibers, Soy, Tencel, Bamboo sometime in May. Details, costs and registration information on these workshops will be announced as they become available. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact Annette Shaffer at 517-548-2335 or email at asdt2@sbcglobal.net.

Something New – Not a Workshop but a Guild Play Day

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, February 6 the Guild is planning to offer a surface design play day. You bring any fiber surfaces you wish to enhance and the Guild will provide materials and processes to add design elements. This is something new to try so we are looking for ideas and are hoping it will be a cooperative and sharing event among Guild members. It is planned to be for Guild members only and offered at no or minimal cost. Any suggestions, contact Nadine Cloutier, Veronica Straus, Annette Taylor or Annette Shaffer (see roster for contact info).

Holiday Sale

With temperatures of 88F, it's hard to wrap our heads around the thought that our Holiday Sale will be here in a relatively short time. As time has a tendency to fly by, I'm starting my planning now ... I would like to have those members who plan to sell at the Holiday Sale (December 5th, and 6th) to please let me know so that I can add you to the seller's list. This list is not carved in stone - yet. We would like to have some idea of how many sellers we will have. If you even think you might sell ... please sign up. To new members - this is an excellent venue to get your items out there - the Black Sheep Guild has an excellent reputation for quality and varied items so we get lots of traffic ... please consider joining us for this event. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me: blacksheepweavers@hotmail.com; s.d.trovillion@gmail.com; or by phone (after 8am and before 9pm) at 810.223.3458. Please leave a message if I don't get to the phone in time.

Thanks much, everyone. I look forward to another wonderful selling event.

Susan Trovillion

MLH NEWS

Weavers from guilds across the state celebrated the 50th anniversary of MLH at Hope College, this August, with incredible guild exhibits, a current and retrospective fashion show (narrated by Marie Giles and Marion Marzoff), and, of course, wonderful workshops and seminars. Robyn Spady's keynote address combined humor, history, and nostalgia. A few weavers, inspired by Robyn, found themselves tailgating on the ride back home – checking out license plates. Really, guild exhibits were outstanding, as were the current handwoven articles entered in the fashion show and fine art/functional art events.

The Alice Griswold Silent Auction raised just over \$1,300. Many thanks to all who donated items, with a special thank you to Ellen Willson for organizing the auction. Some of the topics addressed at the annual meeting included changing the name of MLH (we're not changing), whether or not to do electronic mailings (would Black Sheep members weigh in on that one to me please?), and awarding a scholarship to Russ Mason for a trip to India to study dyeing. The number of MLH reps needed for quorum was reduced. Elections were held and the new president is Ann Bont.

Dear MLH Guild Reps,

The following MLH Members were honored after the MLH Key Note Address for the following categories. Please announce to your guild the honorees for the following categories:

Fiber Art Show

1st Place – Bettie Bahen – Bipolar

2nd Place – Martha Brownscombe – Four Square Plus Two

3rd Place – Carol Stygles – the Good Wife

Honorable Mention

Marion Marzolf – Night Skyline

Jenifer Gould – Brown

Bonnie Kay – In My Garden

Lestra Hazel – Twins

People's Choice - Kathy Zasuwa – Prism

Functional Fiber Art Show

1st Place – Mimi Cummings – Checks and Balances

2nd Place – Jill Ault – Placemats for Ingrid

3rd Place – Ken Allen – Aurora 1

Honorable Mention

Elizabeth Liefer – Winter Cold Needs Sunshine Gold

Lestra Hazel – Table Runner (Modified REP Weave)

Georgian Franczyk – Busia's (Grandmother in Polish) Dresses 1

Mary Ippel – Twill Table Runner

People's Choice - Ken Allen – Aurora 1

Handweavers Guild of America Award – Ken Allen – Aurora 1

Accessories

1st Place – Marti McIntyre – White-on-White Shawl

2nd Place – Mimi Cummings – Irid's Essence Scarf

3rd Place – Lestra Hazel - Scarf

Honorable Mention

Martha Brownscombe – Pebble Scarf

Mimi Cummings – Maple Leaf Rag Scarf

Lestra Hazel – Scarf

Julie Hurd – Cherry Festival Handbag

Sue Peterson – Evening Bag

People's Choice - Marti McIntyre – White on White Shawl

Complex Weavers Award – Marti McIntyre – White on White Shawl

Fashion Show

1st Place – Barbara Van Dyke – Chanel-style Long Jacket

2nd Place – Julie Hurd – Golden Tracings Kimono

3rd Place – Linda Van Andel – Sable and Gold Ensemble

Honorable Mention

Martha Brownscombe – The Empire Dress

Brenda Mergen – Purple/Burgandy Jacket

Terry Tarnow – Shibori Glitter Ensemble

Linda VanAndel – Big Brown Winter Coat

Helen Welford – Spring and Autumn Ragtime

People's Choice – Brenda Mergen – Purple/Burgandy Jacket

WEFTOVERS-Weaving study group

Last year and through to spring we worked on the MLH swatch project. We selected a Bertha Gray Hayes overshot pattern called "Fascination." That pattern reminded us of the book published to celebrate Michigan's Handweaving Heritage titled "Fascination with Fiber." We researched colors used in paint, upholstery and clothing of the 1950s and early 1960s. We chose colors that were vibrant, regal and included some metallic gold for the 50th celebration of the Michigan League of Handweavers. We used 10/2 mercerized cotton (Purple Passion) for the warp along with some fine metallic gold thread and wove using 5/2 mercerized cotton in either Turquoise or Cayenne.

BSWG exhibit at MLH Conference

Our Guild had a wonderful exhibit on display at the Holland Arts Council building on August 7-9. The display was set up during the MLH Conference. The exhibit showcased the many wonderful "Memories Linked through Handweaving" and included many photographs through the years and items created at the various conference workshops and classes. A special "thank you" goes out to members Gisela Bosch, Nadine Cloutier, Darlene Murray and Pat Thompson for creating the display, loaning items & photos, and setting it up. Special thanks to Georgian for her offer to tear it down and bring it home.



Members of the weaving study group called "Weftovers" who wove and prepared the swatches for the July 2009 MLH newsletter: Front row (l-r): Pamela Arquette, Georgian Franczyk, Patricia Thompson and Judith Bamber; Back row (l-r): Nadine Cloutier, Peggy Eppinger, Gisela Bosch and Robin Bock; Not pictured are: Joetta Brady, Esther Carlson, Terry Deacon, Darlene Gould-Murray, Theresa Henderson, and Trudy Johnson.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 3 – Welcome Back, Member Showcase
Jeannetta Carter – Australian Locker Rug Hooking
- 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 Lacemaking
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

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

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

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.