

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD

P.O. BOX 2086

WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23187

Members.cox.net/wswg

December 2005

Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2005. Location: Room C in the James City County Recreation Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. Remember to bring goodies for our feast and your gifts to exchange.

Programs, Workshops, Bashes

Peggy Nacci will host the next bash at her home in Lanexa on December 5, 2005. She will be serving soup and bread. Her phone number is: 804-966-5254. Please call to let her know you are coming and to get directions to her home.

Events outside our guild:

Convergence will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 25-July 1. There will be lots of workshops, seminars, lectures, tours, exhibits and vendors. For more information, check www.weavespindye.org.

At the Textile Museum, Washington, DC, through February 12, 2006, you can visit an exhibit featuring the work of 15 contemporary Japanese artists. The show includes folding screens, scrolls, panels and kimono using rozome, a wax-resist dyeing technique unique to Japan. A selection of the Museum's own collection is also on display.

If you would like to add something to the guild website Members.cox.net/wswg, please contact Dave Banks at dfbanks@earthlink.net. Some photos of the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Festival, Sheep-to-Shawl 2004, and the Celia Quinn workshop, have been added recently. Check it out.

December birthdays:

Birdie Burton

Pam Franck

Melinda Hose

Jean Huneycutt

Beverly Robinson

Jerry Smith

Phyllis Vinson

Officers:

President, Mary Ann Philyaw

Vice-President, Rosalie Brown

Secretary, Jerry Smith

Treasurer, Ingrid Kross

Our newly-elected officers for 2006 are:

President: Julie Colby

Vice-president: Pam Franck

Secretary: Jane Gustafson

Treasurer: Ingrid Kross

Please add to our latest member to your roster:

Shawn Clarke

4501 October Breeze Lane

Williamsburg, VA 23188

Phone: 757-345-5187

Email: sclarke54@hotmail.com

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD

MINUTES, November 21, 2005

Mary Ann Philyaw, president, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Jane Gustafson introduced her three guests: Betty Rollins, Jessie Clayton and Mary Gallimore. Other members in attendance were: Virginia Banks, Julie Colby, Selma Moore, Peggy Nacci, Jerry Smith, Cindy Newcomb, Charlotte Headley, Beth Palmer, Birdie Burton, Frankie Snipes, Pam Frank, Ingrid Kross, Melinda Hose, Shawn Clarke, Frances Wyatt, Mary Transue, Janet Hart, Berit Mesarick, and Shirley Wilson.

Maryann explained that she would not be able to attend the December meeting and had asked Rosalie to chair it in her absence.

Committee reports:

- Ingrid, treasurer, reported \$3276.33 in the guild account.
- Birdie, sunshine chair, reported that Peggy Counce's husband, Bill, was doing fine after sextuple (!!) bypass surgery. Birdie sent a card on behalf of the guild. Dolly Gaus is also home from the hospital and doing well. Birdie brought along a thank-you card Dolly had sent to the guild. Julie reported that Ann Alderks was doing OK and that she will be spending Thanksgiving in North Carolina with her daughter's family. Best wishes to all our involuntary absentees and do come back as soon as you can. We miss you.
- Julie, hospitality chair, reminded everyone that for the December meeting everyone brings a dish. Maryann reminded members that everyone was also to bring a gift wrapped exchange gift to the meeting.
- Jan, historian, asked that one of the participants in last summer's workshop on rep weave write a short paragraph describing the workshop, along with a roster of the participants, for the guild records.
- Julie, nominating committee, presented the recommended slate of officers for 2006:
 - Julie Colby, president
 - Pam Franck, vice president
 - Ingrid Kross, treasurer
 - Jane Gustafson, secretary.

- Maryann asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Shirley moved that the entire slate be elected by acclimation. Motion was seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Appointed officers for 2006 are:
 Rosalie Brown, assistant to the vice-president on matters pertaining to programs and workshops
 Jan Hart, historian
 Jerry Smith, photographer
 Judy Mooers, newsletter
 Selma Moore, hospitality
 Birdie Burton, sunshine
 Beverly Robinson, publicity
 Beth Palmer, membership

Old business:

Ingrid reported on the sheep-to-shawl contest at the Chesapeake Heritage Arts Festival earlier in the month. We won! That makes the second year in a row for us. Congratulations to the team spinners: Beverly Robinson, Judy Mooers, Rosalie Brown, and Ingrid Kross; and to John, the weaver, for the beautiful block-weave checkerboard shawl and his absolutely perfectly squares.

Maryann explained that she would not be able to attend the December meeting and had asked Rosalie to chair it in her absence.

New business:

The December bash will be at Peggy Nacci's house in Lanexa. Peggy will have homemade soup and bread for all who attend!

Beth Palmer reported that Laura Dollieslager of the Dream Shop at Eastern State said that there would definitely be a weavers' trip to Guatemala next summer, tentatively August 4-14, if a minimum of 6 people signed up. Debora Chandler would lead the group. The fee of \$1500 would be all inclusive, i.e., air fare, travel in-country, accommodations and meals. Those interested should contact Beth as soon as possible.

Pam reported on the guild's "Weaver-to-Weaver" project. It was begun after a guild program on the fair trade "Dream Shop" at Eastern State Hospital, as presented by Laura Dollieslager. Through Laura, we were introduced to Deborah Chandler, who lives in Guatemala and works for Mayan Hands, an organization that helps weavers in Guatemala produce goods that are sold through shops in the USA (e.g., the Dream Shop). With Laura and Deborah's help WSWG has initiated contact with the 24 weavers of Santiago Atitlan. Pam asked that each WSWG member sign a card with a sample of weaving by themselves or another member of the guild and address it to one of the Mayan weavers on the list Deborah provided. Short messages were provided in Spanish by Frankie Snipes and her daughter so that the cards could be read and translated by some of the villagers. The letters were mailed to a friend of Deborah's who is in Maryland and will take them with her to Guatemala on Sunday, November 27.

The \$500.00 (\$375 from individual members, \$125 from the guild) which the guild donated last month for flood relief went in part to these 24 weavers. Each weaver received a new white huipil (blouse), as well as embroidery floss and sewing tools. It gave them a much needed lift from the devastation of their homes to have a bright, cheerful project. Money contributed to Friends of Sharing the Dream can be designated for the weavers of Santiago Atitlan, and is tax deductible. It is their policy to provide infrastructure (such as a school building, drinking water access, etc) and to foster independence through commerce for the weavers and other craftspeople of this mountainous region.

At the bash earlier this month Rosalie had suggested that we dress small teddy bears in vests made from handwoven cloth, to be distributed to the many children in the weavers' village. Pam suggested that we pursue this idea as a project for 2006.

Show and tell

- Peggy showed us a couple of her felted hats.
- Selma brought along a rag rug made in part of loopers, as well as a crocheted necklace she had done.
- Mary Gallimore showed us a knitted baby jacket, cap and booties that she was making for the preemies at the maternity ward of a regional hospital.
- Jesse Claton showed us a scarf she had knitted.
- Betty Rollins showed us a child's cap she had knitted for one of the young cancer patients at a regional hospital.
- Shawn brought along a calendar that her former guild in Tacoma, Washington, had done. It featured 12 different samples of honeycomb weave, the idea being to a different weave each year. A project our own guild might like to undertake.
- Jerry showed a place mat (one of 4) that he had made using marsh reeds donated by Pam from her Mathews house.
- Beth showed us a felted hat.
- Pam showed us a gadget John had brought to her attention. Found in the Hair Care section of your local big box store, it is a battery-operated device for doing dreadlocks. Not interested? The kicker is that perfect for doing those interminable and finger exhausting twisted fringes. It really works, they say.
- Pam brought a beautiful scarf she had bought (for \$13.00!) at the Dream Shop.
- She also showed us a chenille blanket, done with 3/2 perle cotton sett a 12 epi for the warp and a variegated rayon chenille for the weft. For a rolled hem, she did the last 2 inches or so in a 10/2 perle cotton weft with just a few threads of chenille.
- Charlotte showed us a hat she had felted.
- Julie showed us the 4 scarves she had made on the same 8 yd. warp, in cotton and rayon, as well as a pretty blue scarf in handspun wool.
- Mary showed us a fun fur scarf
- Francis some sock ear rings. Real, tiny, tiny socks knitted on tiny, tiny knitting needles.
- Ingrid used the felt she did at the felt "hat" get-together at Pam's last summer to furnish the backing of her knitting needle case. She was wearing a real hat she knitted and showed some knee warmers she was working on.
- Maryann recently took a 4-week knitting course and showed us quite a number of triangle shawls in various colors as well as a Moebius scarf. She also brought along the felted hat she did as well as an antique wooden hat stretcher.

Program

Jerry gave a how-to talk about natural dyeing. He also brought along some skeins he had done with black walnut, weld, indigo, and madder, as well as some that his natural dyeing guru, Jan Glass, did in a wide variety of colors and fibers.

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF November 21, 2005

Maryann explained at the board meeting that she would not be able to attend the December meeting and had asked Rosalie to chair it in her absence. She also said she had informed MAFA that we would not be renewing our membership for 2006.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Smith