

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD

P.O. BOX 2086

WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23187

Members.cox.net/wswg

October 2005

Meeting: Monday, October 17, 2005. Location: Room C in the James City County Recreation Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. Shirley will present a program on Diamond rag rugs. Peggy will provide treats in October and Shirley and Mary Ann will bring them in November. And we will all bring goodies in December.

Programs, Workshops, Bashes

October 3—the bash will be at Charlotte's home. Please telephone Charlotte (and all bash hostesses) to let her know if you are coming, so that she may be prepared.

In November, Jerry will tell us all about computer weaving drafts. AND bring your hats that you made in July to show off. Those of us who didn't make one will bring another hat.

December will bring the annual Christmas gift exchange. The choice is up to you.

Events outside our guild:

West Point (Va.) Crab Carnival will be on the first weekend in October. Some of our members will be selling their products.

Montpelier Fall Fiber 2005 Festival is held on the first weekend in October, Saturday hours are 10-5, Sunday 10-4. For more information and a map, check <http://www.fallfiberfestival.org/>

Chesapeake Arts Fiber Festival, November 5-6. We are sending a team for the Sheep to Shawl contest which will take place on Sunday from 11-3:30. John, Peggy, Rosalie, Jane and one more will be there to hold up our guild's honor (we won last year).

If you would like to add something to the guild website Members.cox.net/wswg please contact Dave Banks as dfbanks@earthlink.net.

October birthdays

None listed in roster

Officers:

President, Mary Ann Philyaw

Vice-President, Rosalie Brown

Secretary, Jerry Smith

Treasurer, Ingrid Kross

WILLIAMSBURG SPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD
Minutes, September 19, 2005

Rosalie Brown, vice-president, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. (The guild president, Maryann Philyaw, was unable to attend today's meeting due to a scratched cornea she suffered over the weekend. Get well quick Maryann, we miss you!) Other members in attendance were: Virginia Banks, Julie Colby, Selma Moore, Peggy Nacci, John Jansen, Jerry Smith, Cindy Newcomb, Charlotte Headley, Jane Gustafson, Beth Palmer, Peggy Counce, Birdie Burton, Judy Mooers, Frankie Snipes, Lou Ayers, Pam Frank, Beverly Robinson, Donna von Biela, Ingrid Kross and Carlos Smith (guest).

Upcoming elections:

Maryann did send word to Rosalie that she had appointed this year's nominating committee: Beth Palmer, Julie Colby and Judy Mooers. They will present their recommended slate of nominees at the October meeting and the election of next year's officers will take place at the November meeting.

Old Business:

The guild will be competing in the sheep-to-shawl contest on Sunday, November 6, 11:00-3:30, at the Chesapeake Heritage Arts Festival. The team will consist of John (weaver) and spinners Beverly Robinson, Judy Mooers, Rosalie Brown, Pam Franck and Ingrid Kross. Actually each team only has 4 spinners so one of these will serve as a backup should any of the 5 be unable to make it. Everyone else in the guild is strongly encouraged to come and cheer our team on to another smashing victory. (We won last year.)

It was agreed that the guild should also participate in the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Festival, Feb. 24-25, 2006, at the new Hampton Convention Center. We will be doing a sheep-to-shawl demonstration (for which the guild receives \$500.00!!). Once again Ingrid is expertly coordinating our endeavor. She passed around a sign up sheet for volunteers agreeing to spin and weave.

John pointed out that the entire issue of Weavers 1992 (4) is devoted to friendship coverlets. Peggy C. will check to see if our library has a copy and if so will bring it to the next meeting. John would like the guild to revisit the question of doing such a coverlet. The guild did one a number of years ago, but since in the meanwhile a number of new members have joined the guild, it might be a good idea to do another. It was agreed to table the question until the October meeting.

In the course of the meeting the matter of woven samples came up, such as those that members of weaving guilds do each month and which are included in the newsletters. Some guilds still do this. Ours used to, but we don't now since the newsletter is distributed by email. It was suggested that we might want to revive the practice, making

the samples available for pick-up at the guild meetings. It was agreed to table the question until the October meeting.

New Business:

There was no new business but there were several announcements:

Peggy Nacci along with 20 other artists and craftspeople will again be hosting the Lanexa Studios Tour, October 22 and 23. Please contact Peggy for directions, additional information, etc.

Jerry reminded members that the Virginia Fall Fiber Festival was coming up Oct. 1 & 2. Please check their website <http://www.fallfiberfestival.org/> for additional information. Jerry also said that he knew of two looms that were for sale (neither of them his): a 30", 4-harness Norwood and a 48" Leclerc Colonial (he thinks). Please contact him if you're interested and he can give you the names and phone numbers of the people selling these looms.

Ingrid, the guild treasurer: current balance in the guild's checking account is \$3,251.33.

Birdie, sunshine chair, said she had learned from Julie that Ann Alderks has been ill and will convey to her, as well as to Maryann, the guild's concern and best wishes for a speedy recovery. The October bash will be held at Charlotte's house. Please let her know by Saturday, Oct. 1, if you will be coming.

Pam, the membership chair, reminded members that there were still a few color posters for members to place at strategic spots around the city and surrounding counties.

Show and tell:

Charlotte showed us an ikat, pearl cotton, woven belt she had done a while back.

Peggy N. brought several rag rugs (sett 8 epi) she had recently done. Julie Colby pointed out that Peggy has gained quite a following of loyal customers this year at the monthly Irvington Farmers' Market.

Julie, for her part, continues her exploration of the endless possibilities and variations of plain weave. She showed us a lacey shawl in Harrisville wool that she had done using variations in sleying (skip one dent, double up in another, etc.) to achieve interesting texture effects.

Selma brought a knitted triangular shawl with beads on the fringe as well as a "potato chip" scarf.

Pam brought several samplers of work she has done over the years:

 An example of Mormon technique

 " rep weave

- " block weave
- " summer and winter

A study for a blanket in Haneke merino/alpaca/mohair (warp) and Henry's Attic silk chenille (weft) in a pointed twill. Too luxuriously soft for words!

Peggy C. is knitting a baby sweater.

Beth showed the prayer shawl she has finished.

Jerry brought two scarves. One out of 8/2 Tencel from WEBS; the other in alpaca/merino he got on eBay.

Ingrid showed us some felted bowls as well as a small companion to her famous felted rainbow bag. She also brought along some socks in progress.

Jane showed us some mohair she had spun.

Program:

Beth Palmer introduced today's presenter, Laura Dollieslager who manages The Dream Shop at Eastern State Hospital. The brochure Laura distributed explains that "The Dream Shop is a fair trade shop operated by ESH resident volunteers selling handcrafted and hand sewn items from cooperatives in Guatemala and Africa. Over 90% of the sales proceeds are returned to the cooperatives to support community development projects." Laura had brought a number of exquisite hand-woven articles from Guatemala. She also gave fascinating accounts of her visits to the remote highlands where the native Mayan peoples weave these beautiful textiles. Her suggestion that she would be willing and able to organize a weavers' tour of these areas seemed to arouse considerable interest among the guild members present. Laura can be contacted at 757-253-4575. To get to the shop "Just drive onto the campus of Eastern State Hospital at Ironbound Road and Longhill Road and follow the green signs straight to The Dream Shop."

There was no board meeting today.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Smith