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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY TEXTILE GUILD

FALL 2020

Learn About Icelandic Embroidery at SJCTG's Fall Quarterly Meeting, October 17

It's time for the Guild's Fall All-Islands Quarterly Meeting—pandemic or no pandemic. We have scheduled the meeting for Saturday, October 17, from 11 am to 1 pm. However, we will not be holding the usual in-person gathering in Friday Harbor. We will instead hold the meeting virtually via Zoom. We hope you can join us.

Details of how to join the Zoom session will be sent to you all separately several days ahead via email, including a link to the meeting, and the meeting ID and password. Look for an email from Julie Packard, our Zoom session host. If you're not familiar with using Zoom, you can find information and instructions at <https://zoom.us>. You can also contact Valarie Keaton or Susan Bradford for help; check the directory.

After opening remarks by president Jason Munkres, our guest speaker, Justin Allan-Spencer, will give us a presentation on Traditional Icelandic Embroidery. Justin has been practicing needlework for more than thirty years, and regularly teaches traditional Icelandic embroidery and cross-stitch at the National Nordic Museum in Seattle. He is currently endeavoring to cross stitch the 700+ patterns and motifs



recorded in ten pre-18th-century Icelandic manuscripts. In addition, he is studying free-hand embroidery techniques, wool processing, and Icelandic applications of spinning, weaving, and tablet weaving. Justin is also on the Board of the Seattle-Reykjavik Sister City Association.

Following Justin's presentation, including some Q&A time, we will move to our regular Fall Business Meeting. Several items will need member approval, including the Treasurer's Financial Report for 2020, the proposed budget for 2021, and the proposed slate of 2021 Guild Officers. Jason will also report on our Guild's participation in this summer's virtual County Fair....for which we received a major award! Finally, there will be time for Show and Tell, for those of you who would like to share recent projects, both completed and under way.

County Fair 2020—Virtually

From your Guild President and Fiber Arts Superintendent, Jason Munkres

No Woolshed, no judges, no courtyard events. No goats or horses, no chicken races, no pie, no dust. I really did miss it, even the dust in an endearing sort of way. Yet, somehow we made it work anyway. This year's virtual fair was probably about as good as we could make it given the circumstances and timing. Everything was new and different and sometimes confusing. There were definitely quirks about doing everything online, and room for improvement if we every have to do this again. But we really pulled it off.

While our participation was down from prior years, we still had 77 entries, or about half of last year. We had entries from San Juan, Lopez, Orcas, Shaw and Waldron Islands, so a pretty good showing. I suppose that should be no surprise in a year where many of us have more time than ever to be creative. Thanks to everyone who

submitted something, and special thanks to those of you who found multiple entries to contribute. If you haven't had a chance to look over the entries, you still can here:

<https://www.sicfair.org/p/virtualfair/online-entry/fiber-arts-entries>

We didn't have a judge for the entries this year, but we did have our people's choice awards, and lots of them! Congratulations to the winners. Here are the results:

Wednesday:

Patti Barker: Distraction

Patti Barker: Moth Secret

Libby Concord: In Honor of Cat Bordhi Slippers

Ruth van Doren: Estuary

Thursday:

Patti Barker: Distraction

Mimi Anderson: Paint the town

Sue Dahlberg: Papillon Shawl

Jeanie Fodor: Painting Bricks Shawl

Susan Bradford: Melissa's Basket

Friday:

Mimi Anderson: You Wash the Dishes, I'll Wipe 'Em Dry

Robin Atkins: Corona Diary

Saturday:

Jason Munkres: Morning Horizon Rug

And just because we didn't have an activities courtyard didn't mean we couldn't still find ways to provide learning opportunities and share with the public. We had a series of videos demonstrating different fiber arts techniques, plus interviews with Guild members as part of the Woven Together in Pandaemia project. Thanks to the Woven Together committee—Robin Atkins, Susan Bradford



and Valarie Keaton—for the inspiration and force behind the project. You can see all the Fair videos and more on our Guild’s Youtube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgXHXTi9wzloYbjgIH6Fmag/videos>

And if that weren’t enough, a package came in the mail from the Fair. When I opened it,

I found the lovely ribbon above and a note from the Fair staff saying:

“The Board wanted to award Fiber Arts with this Special Award this year. The content, time and effort displayed by your team was outstanding!!”

I think that means we’re doing something right, right? [ed. – Right!!]



Proposed Officers and Committee Chairs for 2021

From Valarie Keaton

Hello Guild Members – If the following slate of officers and committee chairs looks familiar, that is because not a thing has changed since last year at this time. Each member on this list has graciously agreed to continue in their position for the next year. We officially need to have a vote for the Executive Board and will ask for your approval of the following slate of officers at our October All-Island Zoom meeting. We still don’t have the Vice President/President Elect position filled. If any of you would like to join us on the board as President Elect, please contact me for more information (val@valariekeaton.com). I think you would find it a rewarding experience to work with our group.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee/Incumbent</u>
President	Jason Munkres
Vice-President/ President-Elect	<i>Your Name Here</i>
Secretary	Karol McLuen
Treasurer	Julie Packard
Newsletter Editor	Susan McBain
Membership Chair	Robin Atkins
Workshop/Retreat	Susan Bradford
Scholarship/Grants	Barbara Fagan
Librarian	Patti Barker
Archivist/Historian	Anita Barreca
Sales Booth	Patti Barker & Jeannie Fodor
Fair Superintendent	Jason Munkres
Sheep to Shawl	Valarie Keaton
Fiber Courtyard Coordinator	Valarie Keaton
ANWG Rep	Anita Barreca
Webmasters	Valarie Keaton & Paul Walsh
Island Rep - Orcas	Jean Henson
Island Rep - Lopez	MaryLynn Whitley
Island Rep - Shaw	Jan Chamberlain
Shaw Day Coordinator	Jamie McCanless

It's Time to Renew Your Guild Membership for 2021

From Robin Atkins

Membership in the Textile Guild begins each year in October, which means it's time to renew!

Dues for 2021 are unchanged and remain \$20 per year. One of the benefits of membership is receiving our newsletter 'tiles', which is emailed to members. (If you prefer to receive a printed copy of 'tiles' in the mail, annual dues are \$30 per year).

Although renewals are accepted at any time during the year, we'd like to get the 2021 Membership Roster booklet mailed to all members by January 15 or earlier. To achieve this target date, we need you to please renew your membership right now, today!!! There are two ways to renew:

Option One: You can renew on-line on our website and pay your 2021 dues with PayPal. This easy option is available only for renewing members who do not want to make any changes to their current membership information (e.g., contact info, areas of interest, etc.). Go to www.sjctextileguild.org and click on "Join." **Note:** If you want to check your current

listing, you can find that in your 2020 Roster booklet, or check our on-line Membership Roster on the website. To see the Roster, you will need to log in using our 2020 member ID, **sailboat**, and password, **2020member**. Select the option to download the Roster in PDF format....scroll down past the first blank page to find your listing.

Option Two: You can renew by mail. From the "Join" section of our website, download and print the "Membership Form." Fill it out and mail it with a check for your 2021 dues to the address shown on the form. This method of renewal gives you the opportunity to update your current membership information (e.g., a recent address change, new cell phone #, new area of interest). If your current listing is okay, please write "no changes necessary" on the form.

Questions?? Please email me (robin@robinatkins.com) or give me a call (360-370-7066). Thanks for your speedy renewal!!!

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## LAST CALL for Yearbook Photos!

If you've been meaning to send Anita Barreca a photo of yourself, perhaps with some recent work of yours, for the 2020 "virtual yearbook," the time is now!! Go do it! Send it to her at [thornbush@rockisland.com](mailto:thornbush@rockisland.com).

## Woven Together in Pandaemia

From Susan Bradford

The Woven Together in Pandaemia meetings on Zoom are still proving to be a valuable tool for many of our Guild members. The meetings arose as a way of us connecting with each other when COVID first hit in the Spring and we found that many of us were thirsty for support and inspiration.

The meetings began as a project for the Fair. We thought we'd edit the meetings, take photographs of the work produced, and use that as part of our Fair entry. But as with so many other events and plans for this year, things quickly changed. Simply having the meetings and sharing our work, our ideas, and our feelings with each other have proven to be stimulating and incredibly worthwhile.

We have met every two weeks since May 11; we just had our 11th gathering on October 6. Approximately 12 of us come to each one. Over the months, about 34 different people have attended, so more than one quarter of our members have participated in some way—some only once, some every once in a while, and some every time or almost every time. There is every indication that these meetings will keep us going through the long months yet to come as the effects of the virus continue to reverberate through our lives.

We are continuing to allow our purpose and our mission to evolve in an organic and graceful way. Please consider joining us for the first time or returning once again now that we are all spending more time indoors. Contact me at [susanb452@gmail.com](mailto:susanb452@gmail.com), and I'll add you to the invite list



## 2021 Workshop Possibilities

Workshops you say? We remember them from what seems like the distant past, but in actuality, our Guild sponsored two very successful workshops in March before all hell broke loose with COVID.

We spent a lovely day on Lopez at Betsy Currie’s learning how to make Spirit Dolls with Robin Atkins. And the very next day, we had spent a wonderful day in Friday Harbor with Anne Dove learning the basics of Alcohol Ink Painting. Unfortunately we had to cancel the Willow Basket Workshop because of the virus. And so with that, all thoughts about workshops ground to a halt.

Now, however, as COVID still prevents us from having any in-person classes or workshops, some of us may once again be eager to learn something new. On Zoom, of course! This brings up several possibilities and also prompts some questions. Here are just a few:

- Have you taken any online classes that you can recommend?
- Are there any classes you’d like to take? Or teachers you want to study with?
- Are you interested in doing a Knit-Along with Julie Packard?
- Are you interested in taking a Zen Tangle class? Robin knows some people teaching it.
- Do you have any other ideas?

Please get in touch with me at [susanb452@gmail.com](mailto:susanb452@gmail.com), and share your thoughts and ideas. If the needs and desires are there, we will make something happen!

## Retreat Update

Just a brief word about a Guild Retreat. We’re sad to say that planning and having a Retreat in 2021 seems premature. So at the recent Board meeting that idea was tabled. Yet trust that whenever possible, we will once again begin to think about it. Hard to imagine right now. But one day....

Susan Bradford  
for the Workshop/Retreat Committee



## Guild Library

The list of guild library books and equipment available to members is posted on our website, [www.sjctextileguild.org](http://www.sjctextileguild.org). This list is currently being updated. The revised list will be posted as soon as completed. If you have any questions or would like to view the library (and check something out), please contact Patti Barker by text or cell at 360-298-5508. The books are currently located at Patti’s studio, 849 Spring Street, Friday Harbor.



## Want Weaving Equipment?

Ruth van Doren has a complete weaving studio for sale: looms (tapestry, Macomber 8 heddle, rigid heddle), books, yarn, tools, supplies, dyes. If interested, phone her at 360-622-5869 for details and prices. Please note she’s in Hawaii (3 hours earlier). Her husband Harold will be here starting Friday if you’d like to take a look; phone him at 360-990-9948.

## Want to Make a Coat?

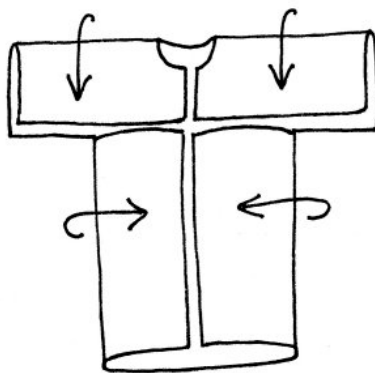
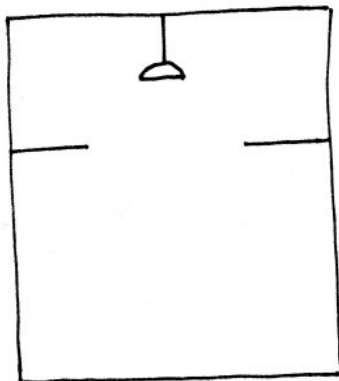
From Valarie Keaton

Jean Henson and I would like to invite you to join a coat study group and make yourself a coat. You can weave yardage and sew, or knit, or felt, or crochet. You get to choose your technique. We will have suggestions for patterns, but please feel free to find your own pattern or design an original.

We were inspired by the ANWG Noh Coat challenge. You can find out more at <https://anwgconference2021.com/noh-coat-challenge>. The ANWG conference has been postponed to 2023 due to the pandemic, but Jean and I were inspired by

the challenge and have chosen to make woven yardage and sew a simple pattern for our coats.

We decided it would be fun to have a guild coat project and wanted to as inclusive as possible by opening it up to other fiber techniques. So if we've sparked your interest, let me know and we will keep you posted. We imagine supporting each other and inspiring each other. We will stay in touch via email and can have Zoom meetings if desired. Please contact me at [val@valariekeaton.com](mailto:val@valariekeaton.com) if you're interested.



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| <p>The deadline for the Winter 2021 issue of <i>'tiles</i> is January 10, 2021. Send articles to Susan McBain at <a href="mailto:slmcbain@gmail.com">slmcbain@gmail.com</a>. Please send articles electronically if possible.</p> | <p>Advertising policy: No charge to place "For Sale" or "Wanted" ads. Business ads are not published in <i>'tiles</i>. Guild members operating a for-profit business may place a text-only listing in the annual SJCTG Roster at no charge.</p> | <p>Membership: Annual dues are \$20 (\$30 if you want a paper copy of <i>'tiles</i>). Contact Membership Chair Robin Atkins at 360-370-7066 or <a href="mailto:robin@robinatkins.com">robin@robinatkins.com</a>. Deadline for inclusion in the printed annual roster is December 31.</p> |
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