



'tiles

Guild Spring Quarterly Meeting, April 26, via Zoom 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (link to be emailed later)

Our presenter for the Spring Quarterly Meeting will be Fine (pronounced Fee-na) Gelfand, who began experimenting with knit and felt techniques during the pandemic, and subsequently created this way of showing her new work on Zoom.

Fine's presentation, "Pandemic Pandemonium—Variations on a Theme: Knitk 1 + Felt 1," documents her spontaneous exploration of a subject that caught her imagination early last year, and she began to immerse herself in the excitement and urgency of this new project. Her obsession revolved around how to creatively combine knitting and felting. The resulting series culminated in two dozen finished scarves, all variations on the same theme with some quirky detours permitted.

The presentation will include slides of finished work as well as a video demonstrating work in progress, with plenty of time for a live Q&A. Fine invites us to "Come dance in someone else's fiber dreams....be inspired to jump off the cliff into the unknown."



Double-sided nuño felted silk and knitted wool scarf with stitching and beading

This talk is sure to appeal to all felters, knitters and creative spirits among us! Fine is a member of both the Seattle Weavers Guild and the Whidbey Weavers Guild. Born in Germany, she has been enmeshed in textiles since she was 6 years old, beginning a lifelong passion for the natural world, and for texture and color in all its forms. Fine has been described as a lively, warm, enthusiastic and humorous speaker, with a great deal of knowledge to share about her craft.



Knitted scarf (synthetic woven ribbon and acrylic yarn) felted onto striped silk organza

The link to this lively Zoom presentation will be sent shortly before the meeting.



Spring on the Islands
Jason Munkres, Guild President

I hope everyone is well and safe. Although it is in fits and starts, Spring is here. I can be sure of that since I can hear bleating sounds of baby lambs from the nearby farm. I admit it almost always make me smile. Sometimes I go over just to sneak a peek at them. We are lucky to have so many local farms on our islands that produce food and local goods. Being a weaver, my mind always goes back to the sheep. I know that many sheep, like my neighbor's, are raised for food. But as you know, there are plenty of wool sheep here, too. At another farm down the road, Oak Knoll Farm, a young family is raising a variety of wool sheep breeds. I recently saw a fascinating presentation by Sarah Pope and Adam Greene of Oak Knoll Farm. They really show that raising animals is a tough job. One really needs to be a jack-of-all-trades. You can watch the presentation here: <https://vimeo.com/525842550>. It's about an hour long. In case you need extra incentive, it includes video of baby lambs.

Some Guild news: Patti Barker, Guild Librarian, Fair Sales Booth co-manager, felt artist extraordinaire, and all-around wonderful person, will be leaving our islands and moving to Florida. Though I plan on staying in touch, I will miss her creativity and passion and enthusiasm. Patti has truly been an inspiration for me and I am thankful for that. Thank you Patti, for all you have done for the Guild.

I also want to announce that Liz Pillow, former Guild Secretary, has volunteered to be our new Librarian. Liz has also agreed to house our Library until we can find a permanent home. Contact Liz if you want to check out anything from the Library.

Of course, we are always looking for volunteers. We are still in need of a President-elect, to begin the role as president in 2022. The Textile Guild runs on volunteers and, since the current board members are not eternal, we always need

new faces to step up and take on positions. Think about how you might want to contribute and contact Valarie Keaton about potential board positions.

Please read the article about the County Fair and think about what you want to get out of the Fair this year, then bring your ideas to the April 26 meeting. See you there.



Draft Minutes, All-Island Meeting, Jan. 30, 2021
Karol McLuen, Secretary

The meeting began with our speaker, Guild member Sheila Metcalf, speaking on “What is Beauty?” and on weaving, dying and constructing beautiful wearables.

The business meeting was called to order at 12:01.

- Minutes – Karol McLuen postponed to next meeting.
- Treasurer’s report – Julie Packard – Val moved to accept, seconded, passed.
- Membership – Robin Atkins – 83 members - Discussion regarding printed roster.
- Newsletter – Susan McBain – send in articles.
- Workshops – Susan Bradford – need workshop options, Zentangle workshop is a go.
- SJI county fair – Jason Munkres – no decision on virtual vs. in person vs. some combo.
- Sales at fair – Patti Barker and Jeannie Fodor – will table to discuss
- Library – Patti Barker – Library available 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., six days per week; text or call Patti to view.
- Historian – Anita Barreca – nothing to report.
- ANWG – no news.

- Website – Val Keaton – will update website with *‘tiles* and meetings.
- Island Reps –
 - MaryLynn Whitley – Lopez – nothing to report.
 - Jan Chamberlin – Shaw – nothing to report.
 - Jean Henson – Orcas – will host the next meeting.
 - Susan Rosenberg – SJI – trying to get the Grange for the October meeting, scheduled Oct. 23 but could change to Oct. 16 or 30 depending on the film festival.
- New Business –
 - NOH coat project – ANWG conference has been delayed.
 - Woven Together in Pandaemia Guild meetings continue via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:03



Treasurer’s Report,
March 26, 2021
Julie Packard, Treasurer

Checking Account Balance	\$13,609.83
Reserved Funds	
Education and Outreach	\$ 2,584.55
Basket Group Fund	\$ 113.00
Judy Packard Award	\$ 268.00
Workshop Deposits	\$ 0
Sales Tax	-----
Available General Funds:	\$10,644.28

Another Virtual County Fair

Jason Munkres, Fiber Arts Superintendent

This year the County Fair will be virtual—meaning that, once again (and hopefully for the last time), events and entries will be online. The theme for this year’s Fair is “Lettuce Entertain Ewe.”

I think it’s important to think of the Fair not as limited because it’s not in person, but rather as an opportunity. We ought to see the Fair as a way to highlight all the great things we’ve been creating and to show that, despite limited social contact, the Fiber Arts are alive and well. Last year, the Fiber Arts Department did fairly well. We had lots of entries, and our Woven Together interviews and instructional videos together have been viewed over 1,300 times. We’re all weary of being cooped up, but let’s keep up the momentum. As you are working on projects, even little things, think about whether this is something you want to share with our Island community.

Again for this year I propose having a reduced list of classes for Fiber Arts. Keep in mind, these are just suggestions, and I am open to fresh ideas. These are the Classes for Fiber Arts we had last year:

Class I: Any Fair-Themed item.

Class II: Garments and Accessories

Class III: Household, Art, and Other Fiber Items

Class IV: Youth Division - (16 and Younger)

Class V: “Virtual” Woolshed Challenge item



For our All-Island Meeting on April 24, here are some things to think about for discussion.

- Are there any changes you would like to see for the Fiber Arts classes?
- Is anyone interested in making an instructional or demonstration video, or a virtual tour of your studio?
- Ideas for the Woolshed Challenge? Keep in mind, it includes both Fiber Arts and Textile Arts.
- Should we set up meetings in the coming months to discuss Fair ideas further?

If you have any ideas, drop me a line at skanske@yahoo.com.

Guild Workshops—Yes, They're Still Happening!

Susan Bradford, Workshop Committee

Our February two-part Zentangle workshop was, to put it briefly, a smashing success! We had 21 participants and everyone was pleased and stimulated by the experience. We even got six new members who joined just to take the workshop. The Zoom format worked very well, and our instructor Deb Prewitt was fun, knowledgeable, talented, and generous with her time and with the information she offered. Some of us have even become obsessed.

But since a picture is worth a thousand words....



We are all looking forward to the day when we can have a live workshop experience once again. Nothing will ever replace that! But this was a very good alternative, and served a much-needed purpose for so many of us.

The idea of workshops on Zoom got me thinking that this could open up a whole realm of possibilities for us. Those of us who have coordinated a workshop involving travel for our teachers know that not only is it a lot of work, it can also make the price skyrocket.

Certainly for teachers who live nearby, we would want them to come to us. But for teachers who live far away, here is an alternative: We could all gather together in one space, and the teacher could conduct the class remotely on Zoom. We'd have the advantage of each other's company and the delight in each other's work without all those extra expenses.

Just think about it! And dream big! Who have you always wanted to study with? A favorite weaver from South America? A basket maker from Germany? Let me know!

**News from the Association of
Northwest Weavers Guilds (ANWG)
Anita Barreca, Guild ANWG Rep**

Check out the Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds (ANWG) newsletter. It is accessible through our website but here it is again: [ANWG Newsletter January 2021 \(mailchi.mp\)](#) The Spring Newsletter will be coming out in April and may overlap this 'tiles. Of particular interest is the "News from Member Guilds" section. These guilds are reporting on how they made it through this past year. Many resorted to Zoom meetings, like our own "Woven Together in Pandaemia"; others met outdoors when they could in small groups; still others hosted webinars by various teachers. We hosted one recently on Zentangles, and there are lots more ideas for teachers we could engage or skills we could show each other. I especially liked the virtual studio tour photos from the Port Townsend guild.

Last night I watched an interview of Charissa Brock, a fabulous bamboo artist whom I met a few years back at a National Basket Organization Convention. She lives in Beaverton, Oregon, and her website is [Charissa Brock Bamboo Sculpture - Bamboo Art](#). Her blog shows visits to famous Japanese bamboo artists. I'm not sure I could ever get a class together here for bamboo work, but now I know she has a YouTube channel that I can visit.

The Northwest Basket Weavers Association has put its meetings on Zoom so that I can actually attend, and every month they have a guest speaker. I guess what I am saying here is that this last lockdown year has opened up new ways for us to gather and teach each other. I am looking forward to meeting Guild members in an actual physical space, but meanwhile let us share with each other the best classes, interviews, and resources we have found.



ANWG offers events, education, biannual conferences, classifieds, member reports, and a gallery of members' work. Check it out!

...And We're Still Woven Together in Pandaemia

In response to the pandemic, starved for each other's company, and confused about the future, we started meeting on Zoom almost a year ago. It has become somewhat of a ritual or a positive habit, but every other Tuesday at 3 p.m., there we are. Over this time, 47 Guild members have attended at least one meeting, and several others have requested invites but haven't come...yet. Some of us come almost every time, others pop in from time to time as their schedules permit. Each meeting is unique, and each and every one has been valuable and wonderful in its own way.

As our anniversary approaches, as the virus seems to be loosening its hold on our lives, and as Spring is lightening our moods, the purpose and the benefits of our meetings have evolved. A year ago, the mood was somber. Now we laugh and are more playful. Yet the underlying purpose of supplying community and support for one another remains the same.

As always, we invite you to join us!

The Woven Together in Pandaemia Committee: Jason Munkres, Susan Bradford, Robin Atkins, and Valarie Keaton

Fall Meeting: Plan Ahead Susan Rosenberg, SJI Island Rep

Please put the Textile Guild's Fall quarterly meeting on your calendars for Saturday, October 30!

We're all hoping that by this Fall, in-person group gatherings will once again be possible. In that spirit of optimism, we've reserved the newly remodeled Grange in Friday Harbor for Saturday, Oct. 30, for our Fall 2021 All-Islands Quarterly Meeting. The agenda is still under discussion, but one thing is certain—there will be lots of time for sharing projects and experiences, as well as old-fashioned socializing!

Carded Wool and Alpaca Fleece Needs a Home

A woman named Kit has contacted Guild member Lunnette Higdon-Hertel about several large tubs of fleece that are available (likely because of a death in the family). They contain carded wool, alpaca, and possibly other fibers; Lunnette guesses the value as at least \$1000. Kit will give them away free or for a donation. Lunnette has a Guild spinning wheel, which she will pass on to the taker for spinning them. If you're interested, please call Kit at 360-378-4095.

<p>The deadline for the Summer 2021 issue of <i>'tiles</i> is July 17. Forward articles to Susan McBain at slmcbain@gmail.com. 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: Dues are \$20 (\$30 if you want a mailed paper copy of <i>'tiles</i>). Contact Membership Chair Robin Atkins at 360-370-7066 or robin@robinatkins.com. Deadline for inclusion in the printed annual roster is December 31.</p>
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