

'tiles

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY TEXTILE GUILD

SUMMER 2023

President's Message Karol McLuen, Guild President

I hope you are having a great summer. As we enjoy this beautiful time here in the islands, Pacific Northwest and elsewhere, would you please consider the following items that will be up for a vote at the October All Island Business Meeting.

- ☞ The 2024 President and Vice President Positions are open. These are both one-year positions. We need someone to come forward to fill the President position for the 2024 Guild year. I would agree to stay on as Vice President to assist in the transition. So many things have already been planned for the upcoming year. Please consider stepping up to this position and keep the guild moving forward. You can contact me to put your name on the ballot or give me the name of someone you would like to nominate. All nominations will be confirmed to make sure no one is surprised.

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- ☞ Another agenda item is the election to review and pass the 2024 SJCTG Budget. Elise Jensen, treasurer, is chairing a committee to develop this budget that will be presented. If you have anything that you wish to put in the budget, please contact her.

- ☞ The last item that will be voted on is the updated SJCTG Guild By-Laws. You will receive a copy via email in early September. Please read thoroughly so you can review and vote on this change at the October meeting.

All of the above votes need to have a quorum of 25% of the total membership. That amounts to about 28 members. Of that quorum, the measures need 2/3 majority to carry. The meeting will be via ZOOM, but if you cannot attend the meeting, please give your proxy to someone. If we do not have a quorum, we will need to figure out an alternative mode of voting, so we can continue with the 2024 year. The Board has been working on

some great things for 2024. I invite you to be a part of the planning process.

Meanwhile – have fun at the fair, happy stitching, weaving, knitting or other textile work. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

County Fair - August 16-19, 2023

By Jason Munkres, Fiber Arts Superintendent

Time again for the County Fair. It's your chance to show off what you've been working on this year. This year's Fair theme is "Dancing with the Steers."

It's also time to sign up for your favorite shift in the Wool Shed, Courtyard, and Sales Booth. You can sign up online using our old friend SignUpGenius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044ba8ac2ba4f85-2023>, or from the link on the Guild website homepage. We will need help with setting up, as well as folks to staff the woolshed

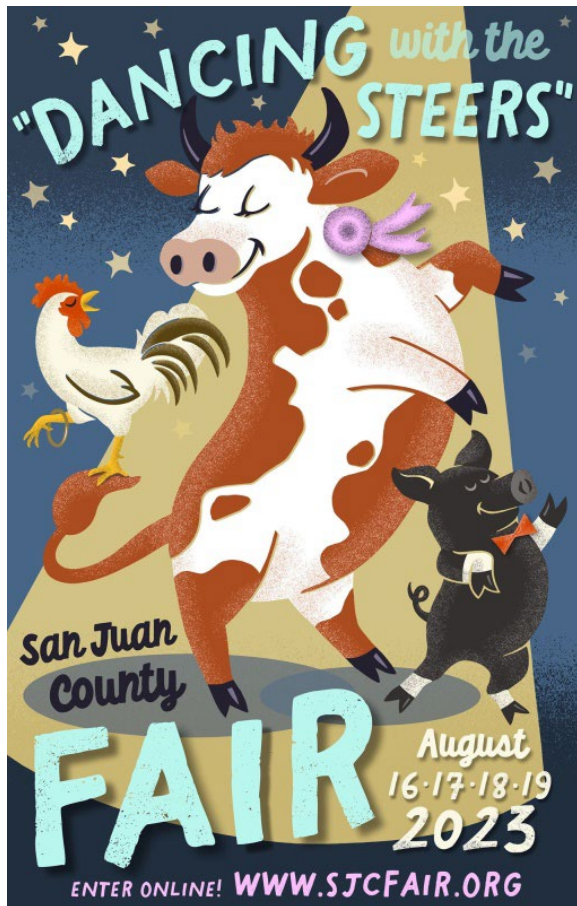
exhibit, courtyard activities, and the sales booth.

If you're unsure how you can help, Woolshed docent is a good place to start out - it requires just minding the exhibit and is a fun and relatively easy way to help.

Woolshed cleanup day is Saturday, August 5. We are hoping for a slightly different setup this year without the "bleachers" that we've been using for years. If so, I think this will make display better for visitors. I want to use August 5 to assess what we'll need to do differently as far as setup goes and possibly brainstorm new ideas for display.

Judging

Judging will take place on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning, Aug 15 and 16. Our judge this year will be Tara Hernandez from Kent, Washington. We still need a guild member to host her for Tuesday night. We always take our judge to dinner on Tuesday evening, so she'll really only need a place to sleep and perhaps a light breakfast in a welcoming home. Call me if you think you can help (or if you can help recruit volunteers) - I'll be ever so grateful, as this is the last part of the judging puzzle.



Tuesday, August, 15 - Entry Day

This year, the Fair is implementing an online exhibit entry system (kind of like when we had the virtual fair entry, but way better!) You will be required to use the Fair's "2023 San Juan County Open Fair" using FairEntry. This means first creating a FairEntry account (I know, another login and password - ugh - but I promise it will be worth it!) You can do that here:

<https://faireentry.com/Fair/SignIn/19178> . Once in, you can reregister as an exhibitor, and then add your entries. There are a few quirks and it, but once you get the hang of it, it's pretty easy. You can come back later and add more entries. Even better, you can enter your items anytime from now until the end of Entry Day.

If you know what you are entering at the fair would like assistance pre-registering, we will be holding a Pre-Registration Day at the San Juan Island Library in Friday Harbor on August 1,

between 2:00pm and 6:00pm. Bring a list of the items you want to enter (you don't need to bring the actual item) and we can help.

All Fiber Arts entries must still be brought to the Woolshed at the Fairgrounds in Friday Harbor between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. And those who have not pre-entered their items will come to the woolshed as usual and we'll get you set up, it will just take a little longer.

Courtyard Activities

For the courtyard activities, we have a tentative schedule of events. This year we'll have a focus on spinning and carding. Thanks to Lee McEnery for this great idea:



For Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 2-4 pm, there would be people demonstrating hand carding and spinning. If someone wants to show how combs are used, that would be good. If we supply several hand-crank drum carders, the public could learn to use them. We can demonstrate the motorized drum carder (but the public probably should not use it.) Someone could also be using the drop spindle while several others are spinning on wheels. We'll have sign-ups for this, but even if you don't sign up, feel free to show up with your wheel or carders or whatever. Then, on Saturday, the spinning continues, and we will start to weave it into something beautiful.

In addition, we will have sheep shearing on Saturday and other events throughout the week. I think that there are opportunities to squeeze in additional demonstrations or participatory projects as well. Send any ideas my way and we will get them on the schedule.

Wednesday, August 16

10:00 a.m. - 12 Noon **Warping a Loom** - Demonstration preparing the loom for public use during the fair in the Woolshed

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Spinning and Carding Demonstration**

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Fiber Arts Activity/ Demonstration - tbd**

Thursday, August 17

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Natural Dyeing Demonstration** - Jason Munkres will be dyeing using local lichens and walnuts. Other Dyers and their dyestuffs welcome.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Fiber Arts Activity/Demonstration - tbd**

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Spinning and Carding Demonstration**

Friday, August 18

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Peg Loom Demonstration**

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Spinning and Carding Demonstration**

Saturday, August 19

Noon

Sheep Shearing Demonstration - Sheep will be sheared. Like last year, Sarah Pope, Fleece Superintendent, will have several sheep to be sheared.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Spinning, Carding and Weaving Demonstration**

As a reminder, these are the official classes for items in the Fiber Arts exhibit:



Hand Spinning
Hand Knitting - Hand Spun Yarns
Hand Knitting - Commercial Yarns
Machine Knitting - Hand Spun Yarns
Machine Knitting - Commercial Yarns
Crochet - Hand Spun Yarns
Crochet - Commercial Yarns
Hand Weaving - Hand Spun Yarns
Hand Weaving - Commercial Yarns
Felting
Basketry
Special Project - Designed From
Beginning To End
Youth Division
Other Fiber Arts

For full details on all Fiber Arts classes and judging see the Fairs website at:

<https://www.sjcfair.org/p/thefair/exhibitors-open-class/fiber-arts>

Lots to do, so go sign up and let's roll up our sleeves and get to work. Let's give those Steers something to dance about!

Sales Booth Policy - San Juan County Textile Guild - 2023

Consignment of Items

Items submitted to the Guild Sales Booth must be made by the Guild member who consigns it. Items will be accepted at the discretion of the Sales Booth Coordinator.

Each Seller shall be given a Guild ID number, which will be valid indefinitely.

The Sale items are due at the Sales Booth before 2pm on the Tuesday, before the fair. Check-in will be on Monday, from 12pm to 4pm, and Tuesday from 10am to 2pm. If you need to make other arrangements, please contact Julie or Elizabeth (contact info at bottom).

Item: 129-1 price: \$25.99 content: 100% Wool care: Hand Wash	The item number consists of your booth number followed by a unique item number
	Price of the item to be determined by the seller
	Fiber content (if applicable)
	Care instructions (if applicable)

Pricing info:

We cannot accommodate different pricing options for the same type of item. For example, we cannot accommodate quantity discounts. Every item must be tagged. You can imagine the difficulty of a person stepping into volunteer and having to know the rules of several different sellers. When all items are tagged, it makes ringing up the items a much easier task.

INVENTORY SHEET

Each seller must submit an **inventory sheet** listing each item's inventory number, brief description, and price. The inventory sheet is used to check in, track sales and check out. Blank inventory sheets are available on the website, by request from the sales booth coordinator, and/or at check in.

Inventory #	Description	Price
129-1	Purple hat with white stripe	25.99
129-2	Orange hat w/ green pompom	45.00

SECURITY

Security: Each seller is responsible for checking in inventory at the beginning and at the end of the fair. If items are missing, it will be up to the seller and the sales booth coordinator to work within their means to locate the item. Each seller must sign a 'missing items' policy agreement.

Commission Schedule is based on the number of volunteer hours worked at the Fair. Sellers are encouraged to work at least two shifts at the sales booth (4 hours). Hours worked in the Wool Shed and Clean Up day count towards commission. We will be checking hours based on the hours that you sign up to work and complete. You **MUST** be signed up to work in order for your hours to count.

Members who participate in Sheep to Shawl or courtyard activities and work one shift will be covered at 15%.

Commission Rate:

- No hours: 25%
- Less than 8 hours: 20%
- 8-16 hours: 15%
- 16+ hours: 10%

Sales Booth Volunteer Duties:

There will be at least one Sales Lead and one Sales Booth Attendant in each shift. Afternoon shifts should be staffed with three volunteers.

Sales Lead:

- Count the till at the beginning of your shift
- Knows sales procedure
- Fills out receipts
- Handles the credit card sales, including signature, email the receipt, how to VOID a sale, process a REFUND.
- Deals with wifi issues.
- Files checks and currency correctly
- Open or close the booth (when appropriate)
- Count the till at the end of your shift

Sales Booth Attendant

- Greets and assists customers with product selection,
- Answers questions,
- Keeps an eye out for potential shoplifters,
- Tidies and straightens merchandise,
- Keeps food and drink out of the booth.
- Helps with opening and/or closing the booth (if needed)

Security Tips:**1. GREET CUSTOMERS**

Make sure to greet everyone who approaches the sales booth. This encourages sales, makes customers feel welcome and discourages shoplifters.

2. HAVE A PARTNER & BE OBSERVANT

Have at least two volunteers in the booth. One can work with customers while the other rings up the sales. That way you can always be observant and give good customer service at the same time. Don't ever leave the booth unattended.

3. SET UP DISPLAYS TO DISCOURAGE THEFT

Double check displays so nothing is out of sight. Arrange the more expensive items in sight; check and rearrange them often. Keep the cash box closed and out of sight when not in use.

Sales Booth Coordinator - Julie Packard (julie@islandwools.com)

- Communicates with Sellers and provides needed information
- Maintains Guild ID # List
- Supervises Clean Up and Set Up days
- Files Inventory sheets after they are checked off
- Tracks sales during the fair and updates inventory sheets
- Has all sales noted on inventory sheets by closing on Saturday
- Supervises Check Out on Saturday evening
- Works to resolve problems with missing items
- Tally's sales and submits currency and checks to Guild Treasurer
- Submits a report to the Guild Treasurer
- Submits a report to the board and to Tiles (September)

Sales Booth Co-Coordinator - Elizabeth McCubbin (elizabeth.mccubbin@gmail.com)

- Makes sure all volunteer time slots are filled
- Helps on Clean Up and Set Up Days
- Helps with Check in and Hanging on Tuesday
- Work with Coordinator on scheduling or willing to be on site when needed during the fair.
- Knows and can train others in the duties of Sales Lead and Attendant.
- Helps with Check Out on Saturday.

Weaving Conference in Bend, Oregon

By Anita Barreca



A few of our members were lucky enough to attend last month's Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds (ANWG) Conference in Bend, Oregon. The usual biannual conference had been suspended due to Covid lockdown, so this was the first in-person gathering since 2019 in Prince George, British Columbia. The next conference will be in 2025 in Yakima, Washington.

Riverhouse in Bend, Oregon



The conference center was right on the Deschutes River. The weather was great. Nice setting. Jason Munkres and Mimi Anderson enlarged their weaving creds with workshops early in the week. Lunnette Hertel and I arrived later and took in three seminars apiece on subjects ranging from historical flax growing in Willamette Valley to Fibonacci System design and Sashiko mending techniques. Picture shows **Whidbey Guild's Happy Hour**.



Mimi's prize-winning shawl:

Highlights of the conference included the huge vendor marketplace, individual Guild displays, and exhibitions of some fabulous weaving in various categories. Our own Mimi (whom we share with Seattle and Tacoma Weaving Guilds) won a prestigious award in the judged category. She also was honored in the final night's Fashion Show with a couple of her entries.

Felt wear fashion:

The Keynote Speaker, Jeanne Carver, a dynamic individual who practically single-handedly brought the wool industry back from the brink here in the United States. She is the owner of Imperial Stock Ranch and Shaniko Wool Company in Maupin, Oregon.





One of 39 Noh coats on parade:

Last but not least, after the regular fashion show, 39 Noh weavers who took up the Noh Coat challenge modeled their coats for us.

Great Conference, glad I went. Hope to see some of you at the next one.

Workshop and Retreat Report

By Susan Bradford

Workshops First!

Two fabulous workshops have taken place recently! It's so nice to have these learning opportunities back in our lives.

Valarie Keaton taught a Beginning Zentangle workshop in June at The Grange and everyone made amazing drawings using the Zentangle method. We're already starting a list for a second workshop in the near future. So, if you're interested, let me know and your name will be added to the list.

Just last weekend, Maria Bullock taught her second willow basket project for the Guild, which took place on Orcas. A lovely Ribbed Shopping basket was created and participants had a wonderful time.

Another Workshop Has Been Confirmed

Details have been finalized for a **Cedar Basket workshop** in November to be taught by **Polly Adams Sutton**. Polly has taught several workshops for us in the past and was our basket juror when we had a more basketmaking group. She is a renowned basket maker, and it will be such a pleasure to have her back with us again.

Heidi Lopez is coordinating the workshop. Look for a separate article about it in this issue of Tiles. And sign up now!!

News on the Much Anticipated and Much Delayed Guild Retreat

Plans for this Retreat have changed so many times that it makes my head spin. But we're finally on track and we have a date, a place, and a workshop. Everything is different and much improved!

The date is May 17-19, 2024.

It is a beautiful time of the year, and it will be here before we know it.



The place is the North Cascades Institute.

This non-profit facility is nestled in the majestic forest up Route 20 about an hour and a half from Sedro-Woolley. It is truly a pristine and beautiful setting. You will definitely have a sense of getting away from it all. A perfect place for a Retreat.

Check out their website: <https://ncascades.org/retreats>

Our program will be taught by Seiko Purdue.

She was our speaker at the April meeting and her show in Bellingham was amazing. On Saturday she will teach us to make stencils (Katagami). And on Sunday morning, we'll finish the process by learning an indigo dyeing technique.

The cost which includes six meals and the class:

A single room will be \$472.

A double room will be \$338.



Truth be told, the bedrooms are very simple and plain. Two sets of bunk beds in each room, but we won't be spending much time in them. And the bathrooms are shared. But two out of the three Lodges, as they call them, have spacious lounges to hang out in with a small refrigerator and kitchen area. One perk is that we can drink our wine without the need to hide it.

There are lovely outdoor areas to enjoy, trails to walk on, a cozy library to settle into. And there will be plenty of time to enjoy the place and to relax and work on individual projects.

The food is reported to be outstanding, and the views from the dining hall are spectacular with some tables set up on the deck for outdoor dining. In May, we're hoping that will be possible.

Payment:

To hold your place, we ask for a **\$75 deposit check made out to SJCTG.**

Mail your check to Susan Bradford, 131 S. Camano Ridge Road, Camano Island WA 98282. Please indicate whether you'd like a single or a double room.

Dying with Marigold

By Lee McEnery

It starts with planting Marigold seeds in egg cartons. Transplant seedlings in the garden and enjoy watching them grow and bloom.



Pick flowers weekly as the plant continues to bloom throughout the summer.

Use the flowers fresh or dry them for later use.

Pre-soak yarn/fiber/fabric overnight in alum, the mordant which makes color adhere to the fiber. If dying yarn, make sure to place several ties along the yarn to prevent tangles: place unspun fiber in mesh bags.

Simmer Marigold flowers in water for a few hours or as long as you like – I am still re-boiling the same unstrained dye pot from a year ago.

Optional: cool the dye pot, strain the Marigold solids out, and then re-heat the liquid. Do not discard Marigold solids, you can use them later.

If you are dying unspun fibers, do not skip the straining.

Add Alum to dye pot and stir or dissolve. Use approximately one tablespoon per pound of dry goods.

Add mordanted wool to simmering dye pot. Marigold pieces will stick but they mostly fall off later. Boil for at least 30 minutes, depending on the dye batch concentration.



Remove yarn from dye pot and wash with small amount of Blue Dawn. Rinse until the water runs mostly clear.

Light gray wool will turn Spanish olive green. White wool will turn glowing gold.



Modifiers like iron can be used to shift color.
Natural dyes like Madder and Indigo can be layered over Marigold for secondary colors.
Natural fibers such as cotton and silk also take the color beautifully.



Willow Basketry with Maria Bullock

By Anita Barreca



Twelve lucky basket makers learned to make a “Ribbed Chad’s Shopper” on Orcas Island the weekend of July 15 -16. Class was in a beautiful setting on a farm off of Dolphin Bay Road. We were worried at first about ferry troubles and then there was some confusion as to where students from other islands were going to stay, but they made it work. Thanks, Jason, for bringing your tent.

There’s been a renewed interest in basket making lately in our Guild. This latest class from Maria Bullock brought in several new members. See her work on her website

[Swamp Sticks \(swamp-sticks.com\)](http://swamp-sticks.com) or follow her on Instagram. Stay tuned for more basketry news!

Polly Adams Sutton Basket Workshop, November 4-5, 2023

Class will be held at the Grange in Friday Harbor. The cost will be approximately \$150 + materials.



More details will be posted on SJCTG website by the end of July.

Save the date! If interested, **save a spot** by sending a deposit of \$75 to SJCTG to the address of:

Heidi Lopez
5302 Westside Road
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

The picture shows Polly’s creation “Waves of Cedar”

“Using cedar bark for the spokes, this sculptural basket uses basic twining to undulate the cedar with the placement of the wire. The finish is an easy lashed border of yellow cedar outer bark.”

Polly Adams Sutton typically creates her basketry art from the fibers of native Washington cedar bark, most of which she gathers in freshly logged forests. She has become well-known for asymmetrical art, including free-form cedar vessels. Her work has been widely exhibited including at: Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian Art Museum, Washington DC, Shemer Art Museum, Phoenix, Arizona, Racine Art Museum, Wisconsin, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts and Edmonds Art Museum, Washington.



THE FAIR SALES BOOTH

IS SEEKING DONATIONS OF
DISPLAY EQUIPMENT.

Please contact Elizabeth at
elizabeth.mccubbin@gmail.com or Julie at
julie@islandwools.com for drop off or pick
up of items!

Textile Arts & Fiber Arts Departments

FAIR EXHIBITOR ENTRY PRE REGISTRATION DAY

August 1, 2-6 PM
San Juan Island Library



Registrations for fair entries are going (mostly) on line this year! If you know what you are entering at the fair and would like assistance pre registering, we are here to help! Come meet the department fair folks and their handy computers for a fun filled Tuesday afternoon.