



# 'tiles

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY TEXTILE GUILD

WINTER 2023

## **SJCTG All-Islands Winter Quarterly Meeting Saturday, Jan. 28, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. via Zoom**



Skagit Woolen Works is the region's newest woolen processing mill, located in Mount Vernon. The owners, Anna and Jess, have a combined love of the fiber arts and were motivated to fill the region's need for increased wool processing capacity after purchasing their 1922 Davis & Furber carding machine. Since opening last year, Skagit Woolen Works has connected with many local fiber producers, including those from the San Juan Islands, to provide scouring and carding services, produce wool pellets, and offer quality non-textile products like wool-stuffed pillows.

The mill offers custom retail and wholesale processing for local fiber flocks, which includes

scouring, picking, and carding into roving or batts. They also create products for their own retail sales including all locally produced roving, yarn spun in collaboration with local mills, wool-stuffed pillows, dryer balls, wool pellets for garden, and more. The presentation will include a guided virtual tour of the mill, highlighting their



machinery and an overview of their process, as well as a more detailed look at some of their product offerings and upcoming events. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation.

A Zoom link will be mailed a few days before the meeting.

# President's Message

From Karol McLuen, Guild President

Happy New Year to all of you! January 1 is also the start of a new year for the Guild, with new board members and committee chairs. Since we have not all been together in one location, I would like to introduce them.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

- TREASURER – Elise Jensen, who is a long-time member from San Juan Island. She replaces Julie Packard who has been serving in the position for many years.
- SECRETARY – Maude Cumming, who is a long-time member from San Juan Island. She replaces Amy Vira, who served for a year.
- VICE PRESIDENT – An open position that we would love to fill, so please volunteer.

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- MEMBERSHIP – Amy Vira is now membership chair, relieving Robin Atkins, who served for several years.
- NEWSLETTER AND MAILCHIMP – Nirmela Arsem will step into the MailChimp and Newsletter positions to replace Susan McBain, who is moving to the mainland. Valarie Keaton will train as backup to the MailChimp position.
- SALES BOOTH – Julie Packard will use her retail expertise to run the Sales Booth at the Fair. This position was not filled last year.
- SAN JUAN COUNTY FAIR – Many people have stepped up to help Jason Munkres continue on as Fair Superintendent, and there is always room for more.

## SHOUT-OUTS AND THANK-YOUS

- Susan McBain - We wish you the best as you transition to your new home on the mainland. Thank you for publishing the Newsletter regularly every quarter since 2017 and for connecting us all via email.
- Julie Packard – Thank you for keeping the books, filing government reports, depositing

money, sending payments and generally managing Guild financials. We appreciate the job you have done and look forward to your involvement in the Sales Booth.

- Susan Bradford et all – Thank you for the continuing commitment to provide Woven in Pandemia through these last few years. It has been a wonderful support to many.
- Robin Atkins and Valarie Keaton – Thank you for the leadership that has kept the Zentangle Zoom group meeting weekly for the last few years.
- Susan Rosenberg and Tara Wilding – Thank you for setup and implementation of the All-Island Meetings.
- Everyone else – I hope that I did not miss anyone. If so, it was not intentional, and thank you for all that you do! It takes all of us to run the Guild.

## GOING FORWARD INTO 2023

- Contact Susan Bradford with ideas for interesting workshops or classes. She will assist with setup.
- Invite your friends or relatives to a meeting and encourage them to join. With each person, there are more ideas and energy.
- Hope to “see” you at the All Island Meeting on Jan. 28. We will share more plans then.

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## Tuesday Nights at Warm Valley Return!

From Maria Nutt

Hi Guild members, especially those on Orcas: My news is that I have restarted Tuesday night meetings at my studio, 6:30-8:00 p.m. People typically knit or spin. I am teaching one person how to weave on a table loom. All are welcome. I'm at 124 Warm Valley Lane, Orcas. Call 376-4386 with any questions.

## Workshops Report

From Susan Bradford, Workshops Chair

**Some very good news!** Our first workshop for 2023 is happening! Titled **Zentangle Basics**, the workshop will be taught by Guild member Val Keaton, Zentangler extraordinaire, who has recently been certified as a Zentangle instructor. This is a perfect opportunity to discover this magical art form and to unveil those hidden drawing skills that you always thought you didn't have. Truly, absolutely anyone can create beautiful drawings using the Zentangle methods. It is accessible, nonthreatening, and so much fun. One warning: Zentangling can be addictive!

Here's what you need to know:

- Date: Saturday March 11
- Place: The Grange, Friday Harbor (walking distance from the ferry)
- Hours: 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Price: \$75 (which includes a complete materials package)

To sign up, send a check for your nonrefundable \$35 deposit, made out to SJCTG, to Susan Bradford, 131 S. Camano Ridge Road, Camano Island, WA 98282. You can email [susanb452@gmail.com](mailto:susanb452@gmail.com) for more information.

**In the works!** Anita Barreca is working on another Willow Basket workshop with Maria Bullock. The first one was a resounding success and there is a lot of interest in learning more from the very talented Maria. Stay tuned for details, but the target date will be sometime this summer. And as if that were not enough, there is the possibility of another basket workshop as well. No more details available at the moment. But stay tuned.

**And, a Mini-Retreat is being planned!** After so much time passing, we feel ready and eager for another Guild Retreat. Yet we have to acknowledge that there is still some doubt about what the future will bring with COVID, so there is

some reluctance to commit to a full-scale weekend event far from home.

Here's the compromise: a one-day retreat on beautiful Orcas Island. Not exactly exotic, but still a change of scenery for most Guild members. The mini-retreat will take place in October. There will be mini-workshops, some wonderful catered food, time to relax and work on projects, and finally, the October meeting—traditionally held in Friday Harbor—will be included. (Note that we're switching the Friday Harbor meeting to April this year). The possibility of staying overnight is also being explored.

If it sounds vague, that's because no concrete details are settled right now. But as more information is known, you'll all be kept informed. For now, it's just a lovely day to look forward to in the not-so-distant future. Long overdue, and much needed.

**Finally ...** don't forget we're always looking for ideas for new workshops and class!!!



## 2022 Photo Journal Is Here!

From Anita Barreca, Archivist

2022 is the year that the San Juan County Textile Guild made big steps in coming out from under the COVID lockdown of the previous two years. You can see this unfold as the year progressed from online Quarterly Meetings to an in-person meeting this fall on San Juan. Check out the new photo journal on the website at [sjctg 2022 \(sjctextileguild.org\)](http://sjctg2022.sjctextileguild.org).

We also had our first in-person classes and real live County Fair. There were setbacks. You'll see some mask-wearing, and our 2023 Winter Quarterly Meeting will need to be virtual. Ferry problems hampered us in 2022 as well. But it was a joy to put together this book with so many smiling faces. Check it out, you may see yourself smiling back at you.

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| <p>The deadline for the Spring 2023 issue of <b>'tiles</b> is two weeks before the Quarterly All-Island Meeting. Forward 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 <b>'tiles</b>. 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 for a mailed paper copy of <b>'tiles</b>). Contact Membership Chair Amy Vira at 509-433-8609 or <a href="mailto:amyvira@gmail.com">amyvira@gmail.com</a>. Deadline for inclusion in the Roster is January 31.</p> |
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