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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY TEXTILE GUILD

Spring 2024

President's Message:

Elizabeth McCubbin

Dear Beautiful Guild,

"Creativity takes courage." – Henri Matisse.

Writing does not come very naturally to me, so why not get help? No, I'm not yet a ChatGPT fan. In my attempt to find a writing prompt for this newsletter I went down the rabbit hole of famous art quotes. Some of them seemed so applicable to the Guild and my personal projects that I just had to share! At least they seemed a good way to organize some of my thoughts!

The Yarn Bomb Project:

"A blank canvas...has unlimited possibilities."

— Stephanie Perkins,

The Yarn Bomb project committee has been meeting and discussing what and how we are jumping on this project. Expect big news soon on how everyone can participate! As embellishments are inherently a bead artist's "thing" I have been making lots of yarn flowers!

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"The chief enemy of creativity is good sense."

— Pablo Picasso

Picasso was ahead of his time. This is going to be the best dang parade float ever!

Guild Booth at the Fair:

"When art critics get together they talk about Form and Structure and Meaning. When artists get together they talk about where you can buy cheap turpentine."

— Pablo Picasso

The Guild Booth at the Fair is accepting supplies and equipment this year! Anything in good working order or reusable is welcome. Do you have a stash of beads, threads or yarns taking up space in your studio? Package them up and pass them on to the next person. Who knows, maybe another Guild member has exactly the color yarn you are seeking for your next masterpiece! Do you have a loom, wheel or frame that you don't use? Perhaps there is someone wanting to learn a new skill and they would be very excited to have it! Earn a little cash and reduce, reuse, recycle. Fantastic!

Education at the Fair and Beyond:

“The mystery was gone but the amazement was just starting.”

— Andy Warhol

Do you have a Guild topic you simply light up about when discussing with others? Does it bring you joy to do? Would you like to share it? In the very near future I will be asking members to donate a little time and share their passions for weaving, spinning, dyeing, fleecing, angora rabbits, beading, embroidery, quilting, basketry, felting and rug hooking. Did I miss your topic? Please let me know. I really do want to hear about it! Yes, the coffee is on me!

“He who works with his hands is a laborer.

He who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman.

He who works with his hands and his head and his heart is an artist.”

— Saint Francis of Assisi

Woo Hoo, It Is Spring!

“Life is a blank canvas, and you need to throw all the paint on it you can.”

— Danny Kaye

The next San Juan Island Monthly Meeting is April 21st and I am looking forward to seeing all the amazing projects folks have been working on. Here is a sneak peek at what I have been doing and plan to share. Bonus points if you can name them all!



“Every morning when I wake up, I experience an exquisite joy —the joy of being Salvador Dalí— and I ask myself in rapture: What wonderful things is this Salvador Dalí going to accomplish today?”

— Salvador Dalí

In conclusion, Be like Dalí! Loose your time in the Zen of creating. Make the thing. Do the project. Be brave enough and crazy enough to do the art! Teach your passion! Pass on your knowledge!

Ok, so maybe I get a little excited about spring!

Yarn Bomb On Dudes and Dudettes! See you soon!

“Self-consciousness is the enemy of all art, be it acting, writing, painting, or living itself, which is the greatest art of all.”

— Ray Bradbury

In-person All Island Meeting at Orcas

Jean Henson

Orcas will be hosting the in person SJCTG ALL ISLAND MEETING at the Eastsound fire hall on April 27, 2024. Our guest speaker will be Molly Gerhard from Mt Vernon. Molly is a long time member of several weaving guilds in the area. She loves to sell her handmade items at guild and craft sales and will share some of her ideas for successful sales.

The Grannie’s Attic Sale will be going on at the Orcas Senior Center, just a short walk across the parking lot from the fire hall. Early arrivals to Orcas will have time for a visit there before the meeting starts.

The fire hall will be open to us by 9:30am for social time and the meeting will start about 11:00 am with possible last-minute adjustments to accommodate ferries. Be sure and bring your Show and Tell so we can see what members doing.

Ferry schedule to Orcas

Friday Harbor to Orcas	8:30am
Lopez to Orcas.	9:55am
Shaw to Orcas.	10:15am

Return ferry schedule

Orcas to Shaw.	3:10pm
Orcas to Lopez.	3:10pm
Orcas to Friday Harbor.	4:30pm

Please let Jean Henson know by Tuesday, April 23, if you will need a ride from the ferry landing to Eastsound and back. You may message or call Jean at 206-979-4440, call at 360-376-3251 or email at jeanh@rockisland.com.

Good Teachers Sought

Bette Nordberg – March 22

Back when T-rex roamed the earth, I had the most remarkable English teacher. Eleanor Pieschell loved her students, and her dedication to our creative writing led—in a round-about way—to a statement made by my college English professor some ten years later. I'd told him I wanted to become a Physical Therapist (which I did, by the way). He told me, "That will be the biggest mistake of your life. You should become a writer." Between the two of them, and another twenty years of life, I did take my writing more seriously and seventeen books later, here I am.

Such is the power of a great teacher. Information. Techniques. Tools. Yes—all of those. But inspiration too. A great teacher has the remarkable ability to spark something in you that might never happen otherwise. Somehow, in their eyes, you see potential in yourself.

I'll bet you've had teachers like that in your life too! Those are the kinds of instructors we are seeking for the ANWG 2025 Conference. Teachers with tools and techniques, yes, but also teachers who have that something special that sparks inspiration in students. Maybe you've experienced a fiber arts teacher like that?

We're asking you to reach out to your favorite teachers. Let them know that ANWG is looking for them to teach at our 2025 conference in Yakima, WA. Our deadline for applications is April 11, 2024, and we'd love your help.

Here on the ANWGConference.org website, you'll find a whole section dedicated to the "Call for Instructors." (It's under the education tab) There you'll find everything an instructor might need to apply for the job. There is a page dedicated to information (dates, remuneration, application emails etc.), as well as the class proposals and teacher applications.

Patrice Riordan, our education chair, can help with any additional questions. Contact her via education@anwgconference.org
In the meantime, if you think of it, thank a teacher! See you in Yakima!

(Article submitted by Anita Barreca and Jason Munkres)

How to Update Your Member Profile

Valarie Keaton

Please take the time to update your membership profile on the guild website. We want to make sure that all of your personal information is correct and have you select your interests so we can let you know when there are guild activities that may interest you.

Go to our website: <https://sjctextileguild.wildapricot.org/>

Log on using your email address and password. Now please click on the little blue figure on the top right of the page and select **View Profile** (see image below).

San Juan County Textile Guild - Home

AN ISLAND TEXTILE GUILD

Valarie Keaton
[View profile](#)
[Change password](#)
[Log out](#)

GALLERY SPOTLIGHT NEWSLETTER CONTACT MEMBERS >

UR NEW SITE!



A LITTLE ABOUT WHO WE ARE

San Juan County Textile Guild is an ANWG-affiliated guild located in the San Juan Islands of Washington State. The purpose of the guild is to promote the exchange of ideas and educate our membership and the public in a wide range of fiber arts.

On the next screen click on the blue box that says **Edit Profile** (near top left of screen). You should now see your membership information. Please go through and check all the fields that are of interest to you. If a field has information that is incorrect, please correct it. If a field is empty and it applies to you personally, please fill it in. Most important are the **Interests** field that has a drop-down menu for you to select your interests and the **Island** field that asks you to select your island. This information will help up to let you know when there is an activity in your area of interest in your locale.

The **Avatar** field allows you to upload a photo of yourself that will be displayed on the Member Roster on the Members Only page of the website.

When you are done editing make sure to go back to the top of the page and click on the blue **Save** button!

If you need help, please contact Valarie Keaton or Amy Vira. We will be happy to help you navigate get your membership profile completed. You can find our contact info on the Member Directory on our website.

SAVE THE DATE!

LOPEZ LAMB, WOOL & GOAT FESTIVAL

A Celebration of Local Agriculture

Saturday, May 11, 2024, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lopez Center for Community and the Arts

Free events for the entire family

Sheep and Goats

Sheep shearing demonstration and fleece evaluation
Spinning, weaving, and felting demos and hands-on events

Vendors of local food, crafts, fleece, yarn, and sheep- and goat-related products

David Zapalac's Texas Barbecue Lunch!



Sponsored by Island Fibers
For information contact fibers@islandfibers.com
360-622-8864

History Corner

Anita Barreca

Welcome to a new feature for the 'tiles newsletter. As the archivist, I have access to so many photos from the Guild's past. Some I've put in photo journals which are available in our Library—now located on San Juan Valley Rd at Liz Pillow's. But many are stored at my place in the archives.

Today's photos are from 1999. And feature Candy Hoeschen (a Golden Fleece Award Winner from 2010). Here she is showing off her *felted rug*. I don't know much about this project as I did not get here until 2008. Perhaps you can ask Candy about it next time you see her (on Orcas for the Spring Quarterly?)

I hope to continue this feature in future 'tiles. I may need help with some of the faces from the past. We have a long history, going back to 1984 and earlier iterations that began with Sheep to Shawl events at the County Fair. Enjoy!



Workshop Committee Report

Workshop Committee: Susan Bradford, Barb Fagan, Jean Henson, Valarie Keaton, Karol McLuen

There is much to tell about upcoming workshops, and we are so pleased to have three beautiful offerings for you this year.

But first, just a word about our new website, how easy it is to use, and how even those of you who are completely resistant to change will quickly embrace it. We promise that it really is a piece of cake to use. Just go the website, click on workshops, and the rest will magically become clear to you. The site keeps track of how many people have signed up and there is a list of the participants. It will even start a waiting list if the workshop is full. You'll never have to fill out another form or write another check, and then forget to get it in the mail.

You'll be paid in full. But if there is a materials fee, it will be due on the day of the workshop and go directly to the instructor.

Now for the workshops:



Katazome dyeing and Katagami stencils with Seiko Purdue

Saturday and Sunday, May 18-19

Saturday at The Grange; Sunday at Karol McLuen's

Saturday 10am-3:30pm; Sunday 10am-2pm

This workshop is full!

But things happen, so please put your name on the waiting list if you are interested.

Or get in touch with Karol McLuen for more information: mcjjak@gmail.com

Indigo Dyeing Workshop with Katey Rissi



Sunday September 8

2pm-5pm

Alchemy Art Center, San Juan Island

Workshop Fee: \$55 includes all materials

In this workshop you will learn how to prepare and care for an indigo dye pot. You will get all the information you need to create your own vat so you can continue to dye. We will also be comparing and contrasting different fibers and how they dye.

Though there is no cost for the materials, you are also welcome to bring your own yarn, spinning fiber or fabric to dye as well.

If you have any questions contact Valarie Keaton: valariekeaton@gmail.com

The workshop is already up on the website! So register as soon as possible!



Sculptural Cedar Basket with Polly Adams Sutton

Saturday and Sunday, November 2-3

The Grange, Friday Harbor

Back by popular demand after her successful workshop in the Fall of 2023! A project will be decided on soon, and we'll let you know. In the meantime, contact Heidi Lopez for more information: heidihilfikerlopez@gmail.com



Important Changes coming to the County Fair! **County Fair - Thursday August 15 - Sunday August 18, 2024**

Jason Munkres, Fiber Arts Co-Superintendent

The San Juan County Fair will be held from August 15 -18 at the San Juan County Fairgrounds on San Juan Island. This year's theme is "A Century of Growing", celebrating the 100th year at the Fairgrounds. Read on, as there are some very important changes this year.

Important - Note that the Fair will be held Thursday through Sunday and not the normal Wednesday-Saturday.

This year will also continue the online pre-entry of fair items. This system worked well (with a little patience!) and really cut down of our work collecting items on Entry Day. It also is a tremendous help to the Fair Staff in keeping track of entries and paying our premiums after the Fair. So, please, Use the online early entry system. We are planning on holding another early entry day at the Library again this summer.

Speaking of entry day, there will be big changes for that this year. In order to ease the burden on Fair Staff and volunteers, we are having early entry days.

- Early Entry Days would be Monday (8/12) & Tuesday (8/13) from 3 pm to 6 pm for non-perishable/still life entries (that includes all of the Woolshed entries).
- As an enticement, each early entry would earn the exhibitor a raffle ticket for a "Fair Swag Bag" that would include things like Fair passes, Food Court bucks, T-shirt, etc.
- We would still have an entry day as usual the day before Fair (Weds 8/14) from 9 am - 6 pm.
- **Note:** For Fiber Arts only - If you want an item to be judged, you'll need you have your entry in by Noon on Weds 8/14.

Also new for this year, Fair Staff will host entry pickup days on Lopez, Orcas, and Shaw Islands, likely on the Sunday before the Fair. They will bring the entries to a secure location at the Fairgrounds, to be distributed to their departments on Monday. Exhibitors from these islands are also free to bring items during one the set entry times listed above. We are assuming, too, that pickup days will be Monday, though there are some details still to be worked on that.

We'll also be setting up the online signups for Woolshed, Sales Booth, and Courtyard volunteer shifts soon, so keep an eye out for that. When available, there will be a link on new Guild website.

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

Our Island Community (and beyond!)

Elizabeth McCubbin

In the spirit of knowledge, creativity, and island community I have started a section of the newsletter that involves other community events and classes that Guild members may be interested in. I will keep an ongoing list for each newsletter this year. If you know of an organization, teacher, club or individual with events that may spark our Guild's interest, please send me the information so I can add it to the next newsletter.

Island Rec:

Visiting artist series starting Feb and running through May. Classes offered include basket weaving, candle making, driftwood macrame wall hangings and macrame plant hangers. For more information: <https://www.islandrec.org/adult/>

Alchemy Art Center:

Classes in February and March include Making Natural Art, Screen Printing For Beginners, Visible Mending & Creative Altering, Creative Natural Dye Practice and Open studio Creative Art Nights. For more information : <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/printmaking-andfiber-art>

San Juan Island Library:

Knitting Underground every Thursday For more information: <https://livesanjuan.pantheonsite.io/event/knittingunderground-2065>

Salish Sea Folk Arts Festival:

Moran State Park on Orcas Island

Workshops include knitting, spinning, fleece and spinning, felting, basketry, natural dyes, cedar bark weaving. For more information:

<https://orcaswondercamp.org/folk-24-activities>

And

Fall Wonder Camp: Mushroom & Lichen Dying Retreat

<https://orcaswondercamp.org/fall-23-mushrooms>

Whatcom Weavers Guild:

As of 2024, the following workshop groups are currently meeting: Tapestry Focus Group, Rigid Heddle Study Group, Ikat Study Group, Band Weaving Group. For more information:

<http://www.whatcomweaversguild.org>

Whidbey Weavers Guild

Upcoming Workshops: Designing Painted Warps & Tapestry Wedge Weaving

For more information: https://whidbeyweaversguild.org/?page_id=128

Northwest Basket Weavers - Vi Phillips Basketry Guild
Workshops, retreats and classes. For more information:
<https://www.nwbasketweavers.org/workshops>

Handweavers Guild of America:

Textiles and Tea

Each week the Handweavers Guild of America hosts a conversation with prominent artists in the field today. There is a 45-minute discussion that focuses on their artwork and creative journey. Textiles and Tea takes place every Tuesday at 4PM (ET) and is broadcast via Zoom and Facebook Live. Broadcasts are free to view and open to all. For more information: <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea>



**San Juan Island
Monthly Textile
Guild Meeting!**

**April 21st, 3PM
at the Friday Harbor Library**

**All New And Current
Guild Members Welcome!**

**Yarn Bomb Project & Fair Updates
Bring Your Projects To Show And Share!**

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