



NEWSLETTER January 2024

Articles for the newsletter should be sent to Trudie Byers tbyers1854@gmail.com by the 25th of the month.

President's Report:

Happy New Year!

This is going to be a monumental year for the Guild. Just in case you have not heard, the Guild is 70 years old this year. Happy Anniversary to the Weavers Guild of Greater Kansas City and all of our members. It is overwhelming for me to think about the number of members we have had during these 70 years. I appreciate all of the hard work of the past and present Guild members, especially for establishing the Guild guidelines, Creative Hand, and all of our various other programs, and workshops. A special thanks to those members helping the Guild stay current with the times, especially those members who have helped us fit into the digital world. Be sure to read Janet's article too so that you know what is going on for our Anniversary. We will need your help and support. Let's show the metro what we do!

2024 Officers:

Lynette Beebe and Cynthia Smith: Co-Presidents
Sylvia Crawford: 1st VP, Programs
Trudie Byers: 2nd VP, Newsletter
Erin Taylor: 3rd VP, Workshops
Pam Jenkins: Secretary
Kate Webb: Treasurer
Barrie Mason: Scholarship Chairperson

Meeting Agenda: January 11, 2024

Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at Westwood City Hall, 4700 Rainbow Blvd., Westwood, KS.

Guests are always welcome.

9:30 Coffee and Social Time

10:00 Regular Meeting

10:30 Show and Tell

11:00 Treats

11:15-12:30 Program and clean up

Upcoming Programs:

January Program: *Swap and Shop!*

This month's program is Swap and Shop. Most of the members mark the price on the items they are going to sell before they get here and bring cash, but you are welcome to use digital payment apps if you work it out with the seller. We always provide a table for raising money for the Scholarship Fund. Members place any item that they do not want to sell for personal gain onto that table and people can select it. The buyer decides what they are going to pay for it if there is not a price on the item. Please place the money in the scholarship can. Come early and set your things up at your table where you sit.

We can get out more tables as needed if we have large numbers of items. You can browse before the meeting, but purchasing occurs after we have our business meeting. We will not have snacks due to needing the tables for displaying our items. Be sure to bring a drink and to eat something before you come to the meeting. A great idea is to plan to go out and eat with your friends at a local restaurant after shopping.

February: Haley Sheriff from the WWI Museum, talking to us about how the Guild can be involved in some of their programming.

March: Vickie Raynes will present a program on sock knitting machines.

April: Kansas City Art Institute tour and presentation.

May: In 2023, Becky Gaskill was awarded a scholarship to attend a Madelyn van der Hoogt workshop. Becky will be presenting on this during our meeting.

To suggest a program, contact Sylvia Crawford at crawfordsylvia56@gmail.com.

Inclement Weather Policy — If the KCMO School District is closed due to inclement weather, our Guild meeting that day is canceled. Be sure to check for school cancellation before getting on snowy/icy roads. School notification will be made using Major radio and television news stations, the homepage of the KCPS website, KCPS Facebook and Twitter pages.

Meeting minutes are published on the Guild website: Meeting Minutes Archive

70th Anniversary Plans: (Janet Meddings)

Our 70th Anniversary celebration planning is underway and you should plan on being involved in these historic events. We will be exhibiting our fiber arts beginning in May and through Nov. 16 at locations around the KC area. Mark your calendar so you won't miss out on a chance to participate. More information forthcoming on how to enter your artwork into these exhibits.

The first calendar item is the March 14 Guild meeting. Everyone should plan to stay after the meeting to help assemble packages for the laser loom. These looms will be used in the Convergence goody bag; as a handout during the June 15 event at the Johnson County Arts Center; and as a fundraiser for the Guild via Creative Hand.

4 fiber art exhibits for Guild members:

1. We will exhibit our fiber art at the Johnson County Arts Center, 87th & Metcalf in Overland Park, from May 1 through Aug 17. Opening reception will be on May 2 from 6-8 p.m. On Sat., June 15 from 8 am - 4 pm, we will be demonstrating a variety of fiber artmaking techniques. We are asking members to bring looms of all kinds and sizes, spinning wheels, crochet, knitting, etc. to show the public how it's all done.
2. Our next opportunity to exhibit is at the KCMO Central Resource Library, 14 W. 10th, from Aug. 31 through Nov. 16.
3. Westwood City Hall is excited to display a collection of our towels during the month of August.
4. Basehor Public Library will display this collection of towels in September/October.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

Join or renew your 2024 Weavers Guild membership online with PayPal or by paper application with a check.

Dues must be received by Jan. 1, 2022 in order to be included in the directory and/or to participate in our Guild Show, Creative Hand.

Membership is open to anyone interested in hand weaving and fiber arts. Annual Dues are Individual \$25 or Family \$30 (plus applicable online payment fee).

<https://www..org/membershipkcweaversguild>

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Makers Fellowship

Weaving Mentors

Scholarships

Guild Library

Monthly Show & Tell

Creative Hand Show & Sale

Dual membership in KC Fiber Guild & KAWS

More info online at www.kcweaversguild.org

Contact us via email at weaversguild@gmail.com

Project Linus:



So I'm the first to admit that I'm no Janet with her 70 contributions to this project. In fact, I only got a blanket on the loom last month when the Xmas charity bug got to me. But I'd like to give credit where it is due. Please send your name and the # of blankets you contributed to tbymers1854@gmail.com, and I'll give you a shout out in the Feb. newsletter.

About Town:

*Kemper Art Museum: Spandita Malik:
Jali-Meshes of Resistance.*



If you haven't already seen this exhibit, now is your chance before it closes Feb. 25th. I promise that you will be intrigued by the beautiful embroidery that women from abusive situations in India have used to take ownership of their life. Even 4th graders find the embroidered photographs fascinating.

Textile Treasures and Trash:

Like many of you, I love taking workshops and purchasing beautiful textiles, but I'd like to know what I'm getting into before I spend a lot of money. I thought the newsletter might be a good place to put reviews since show and tell can get pretty long. I'll start this month with a review of a recent workshop I took, but I'm counting on the rest of you to send me reviews of some of the classes you've taken or your favorite place to purchase textiles or supplies. Otherwise, this will be a very short-lived column. However, if you got a scholarship, I know where you are.

Weaving Workshop in Southern France

If your dream is to return from France with a beautiful handwoven scarf or comparable project, this workshop isn't for you. If you want to explore the avenues, road ways and byways that your soul takes you down, then you definitely should place Stacey and Graham Brown on your itinerary.

Stacey Harvey Brown is best known for her sculptural weavings, and she will certainly introduce you to several techniques for creating texture and dimensionality in your weaving. However, Stacey also has an incredibly eclectic mind so she will help you explore all the dark alleys that pop into your mind as you weave. She will even help you to celebrate the dead ends—although I'm not sure there are many she can't work around. And since her classes are limited to three, she's always there to help navigate those what ifs?

At the same time that you are meandering through the weaving world, you will be grounded in a perfectly planned holiday in Southern France. Stacey met me at the train

station in Agen, about an hour between Toulouse and Bordeaux and drove me to her 18th century farm home in rural France. I was greeted by the affable dog, Bailey and her equally amiable husband Graham. Graham had dinner waiting for us and continued to provide meals, local wine, his own craft beer and engaging conversation throughout the week. My bedroom upstairs, complete with an ensuite, was perfect, with every need being met throughout the week. Visits to market days, historic villages and a couple of meals out: these two have entertaining down to a fine art.

I didn't make a scarf, but I returned home with about a dozen different weaving samples, and enough ideas to keep me busy for the foreseeable future. More importantly, my experience changed my weaving trajectory away from the orderly path of structured weave patterns to a maze of possibility.

Further information about this wonderful opportunity is available on Stacey's website: theloomroomfrance.com.