

OVERMOUNTAIN WEAVERS

Mingled Yarns

Newsletter for Overmountain Weavers Guild
November 2009

Issue 614

www.omwg.net

October Meeting

The meeting was held October 21, 2009 at Exchange Place. President Ellen Turpening presided and nineteen members were present.

Ellen thanked Vicki and Linda for their work organizing the equipment upstairs. Vicki has agreed to serve as equipment chair.

PROGRAM

Margaret Crouch presented a very informative program on weaving rugs. She showed several examples and fielded many questions.

OLD BUSINESS

John gave a report on the Renaissance Center Show. The show will be hung on March 29 and 30 and will open April 2. The Center will be closed on Good Friday but open Easter Sunday. The opening reception will be April 11, 2010. The take-down date is not yet known. A brochure (printed by the Renaissance Center) will call the show a "Celebration of Fiber." We need at least 40 items to show. Some additional thoughts and ideas are:

- That we use yarns that shimmer, that are new (tencel, bamboo, soy silk) or recycled materials

- That we do a “sheep to shawl” exhibit with pictures and a finished product
- That we feature an established weaver (and a new weaver) with a bio and demonstrations of work - 8 to 10 feet of space
- That we show the purses/bags made for the guild challenge (Also this December’s challenge items)
- That we showcase knitted items also

John will meet with the committee and decide on further details.

Ellen reported on the workshop scheduled for February 20 -21, 2010. Harriette Roadman will present a workshop on Sat. and Sun. on lace structures. She can accommodate 20+ people. On Friday Feb. 19 she will present an evening talk on “Weaving With Your Stash.” This program will take the place of our monthly meeting for Feb. Harriette is driving down from Blacksburg so the Fri. evening session will not start before 6:00 PM.

The cost will be determined by the number of people attending. We will need some additional looms for everyone to use. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Cheryl noted that we have some duplicate books on the library. We need to decide what to do with them. The books in question are A Handweaver’s Pattern Directory, Collapsed Weave, Color in Spinning, and Overshot is Hot. There was a question about the location of the card box for checking out books. The library committee will meet to resolve these issues.

The Fall Festival was discussed. We sold \$273.00 worth of items which netted \$27.30 for the guild.

It rained hard all day Saturday which made it very difficult to do the “fleece to shawl” demonstration. The wool and the equipment were damp.

Jan noted that the demonstration showed how well the guild members worked together. It also showed different styles of weaving, spinning and plying.

There was a lot of discussion with the spectators and it was suggested that a commentator or narrator would be an asset in the

future. Most team members said they would do it again and would consider actually competing at a fair or other event. The guild received good publicity from TV and the newspaper regarding the event.

Ellen showed the shawl that her team made. Cheryl carded and spun brown wool and wove it on a tan warp. Ellen finished it and added white stripes because she ran out of brown. She used the Fibonacci method to produce a nice striped design.

A retreat day was held on Saturday Oct. at Exchange Place. Five Guild members were present and two new weavers attended. Janet Brown is from Johnson City and Debbie Ducker is from Gray. The ladies learned how to spin in the morning and wove in the afternoon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jack presented the Treasure's report (see handout). He "found" \$20.00 in rolled coins and \$18.00 in an envelope. The money has been deposited. He will do a quarterly comparison of budget to actual.

It was noted that Jack is also in charge of the web site. We are getting more hits. The links are important because they bring more people to our site. A new weaver came to the retreat because she read about it on the web.

NEW BUSINESS

Ellen summarized some ideas about how to become a good weaver, spinner, knitter, etc. It was suggested that we each consider how we got started in our craft. Our thought process could lead us to some good advice for ourselves and new crafts people including:

- making samples,
- trying new structures to find out what you like,
- joining a good guild,
- including care instructions on your creations,
- developing a passion for your craft,

- talking to customers when you work, they like to meet the artist.

The Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair will be held in Asheville on Oct. 24, 2009. Most of the classes are already full. A few Guild members are attending.

Professor Theresa Lloyd from ETSU is interested in interviewing members of the guild as part of a five year cultural survey of artists and craftspeople currently working in Northeast Tennessee. Contact information was given out so that interested Guild members could reach her.

Phil John gave a nice presentation on the Theo Moorman technique of weaving. He and Jean warped one of the looms at Exchange Place in the Moorman technique and showed it to interested Guild members.

Kay announced that the annual "Christmas in the Country" event will be held at Exchange Place on Saturday Dec. 5, 2009. Set up will be Friday Dec 4th. Members are encouraged to bring items to sell. Sales will be in a separate area from the "living history" section.

Future Programs include:

- Nov – Walt Turpening on ergonomic benches
- Dec – Christmas Exchange and Cheryl's Challenge
- Jan – Spinning Program
- Feb – Lace workshop and "stash" talk
- Mar – Sycamore Shoals

Boot Camp for November was questionable. There will be no Boot Camp in December.

Show and Share:

- Debbie showed a double weave tool holder that she made at a workshop

- Jean showed a bamboo shawl
- Jan brought linen that she wove on a 200 year old loom in GA
- Carolyn noted that, according to her dad, there had been a silk factory in Kingsport years ago
- Linda showed a scarf she made from some left-over yarn using a rigid heddle loom. She also showed a mohair scarf.
- Rudy brought some knitted cotton wash cloths
- Arlene described the program she is involved in that makes quilts for the homeless. She is looking for a table loom.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean R. Green

President's message November 2009

Renaissance Show

Our guild has been accepted to exhibit at the Renaissance Center in April 2010. How exciting!!

John just signed and submitted the contract for the gallery show. There's no turning back now. We will need everyone's time and talents to make this a success.

Overmountain Weaver's Guild was established in 1972 and has earned a reputation for great weavers, spinners, and fiber artists. We are all individuals, each with our own interests and abilities in weaving, spinning, & fiber techniques. Our members try to use these skills to keep the fiber arts alive in this century. We will take an historic pattern and put a new twist on it. We explore new fibers and create both functional and decorative works of art. Our goal is to make the fibers come alive and speak to the viewer by blending color and texture

The THEME of SHOW is:

“A Celebration of Fiber: See It in a New Light”

By incorporating new fibers in the pieces as bamboo, tencel, corn silk we will show eco friendly fibers. We will add a tasteful sparkle to the piece by using a weave structure or fiber technique that results in

a shimmer. The viewer will walk away with a twinkle in their eye and hopefully an new view of fiber and recycling.

IMPORTANT DATES:

The hang dates are March 29 & 30, 2010, from 9 to 5

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The opening reception is April 11, from 2 to 4

Take down is April 28 & 29, from 9 to 5

With careful planning we should be able to hang everything on March 29 and take down everything on April 29. That will give us an extra 2 days of show time.

YOUR PERSONAL ASSIGNMENT:

Start planning your entries this month. The holidays will be fast upon us and it will be so easy to delay. We have lots of wall space for everyone to submit items. What can you make to fit the theme of the show?

LACE WEAVING WORKSHOP

Lace Weaves w Harriette Roadman

Round Robin style; 20+ people

8-10 lace structures with different colors and yarns with the duplicates

DATES: Sat & Sun (Feb 20 & 21)

Fri (Feb 19) at 4,5 or 6pm seminar "Weaving Your Stash" This seminar is for all members not just those taking the workshop.

The sign up sheet was passed around at the last meeting and we have 10 people on the list. The guild will nee at \$70 deposit. Total cost can be as little as \$85 or over \$100 depending on the number of people. If you want to attend the workshop but can't attend a meeting PLEASE contact me A.S.A.P.

God Bless you all,
Ellen Turpening

Update on renaissance Center Show

John has signed and submitted the contract for the gallery show.

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WEB SITES TO VISIT

Online Spinning and Weaving Guild <http://herran.com/textile>

Open Directory for Arts, Crafts, Weaving and Associations
http://dmoz.org/Arts/Crafts/Textiles/Weaving/Associations/North_America

Google Directory
www.google.com/Top/Arts/Crafts/Textiles/Weaving/Guilds/North_America

Mid Atlantic Fiber Association <http://www.mafafiber.org/events.html>

Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair <http://www.saffsite.org>

Southern Highlands Craft Guild <http://www.southernhighlandguild.org>

HOUSEKEEPING

OMWG meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month, 10 am – 2 pm at the Exchange Place, 4812 Orebank Road, Kingsport, TN. (423) 288-6071.

President: Ellen Turpening walt.turpening@att.net
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423-323-5385

Send information to be included in the newsletter by the first of each month to the newsletter editor: Jean Green greenfam2@chartertn.net
835 Sugar Hollow Drive
Bristol, TN 37620
423-652-1756

Memberships to OMWG are \$20.00/year regular, \$18.00/year senior or student. Make checks payable to Overmountain Weavers Guild and send to the treasurer:

Jack Libby
2300 Larkspur Drive
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-282-0363

****Mingled Yarns**** is a monthly publication of the OMWG of East Tennessee, an organization established to teach, stimulate and furnish inspiration, information, and mutual assistance in the growth and development of handweaving and related fiber arts. Liliias Adams named our "Mingled Yarns" in October of 1973: "The web of our life is of mingled yarn, good and ill together."

-- William Shakespeare, "All's Well That Ends Well", Act IV, Scene III, line 23.