

OMWG WEAVING GUILD Newsletter
Mingled Yarns
Issue 707 www.omwg.net

Overmountain Weavers Guild Newsletter & Minutes January 3, 2018

MINUTES

OMWG Meeting on December 20, 2017

Vickie called the meeting to order as she welcomed those present.

Dottie's work on an inventory sheet has been completed and will be available soon to guild members.

The **minutes** were approved following Rudi's correction of the spelling of his name.

Doug presented his **treasurer's report** and indicated that he is accepting membership dues for the new year.

Christmas in the Country was a wonderful time and a great success. Vickie expressed that our participation in this event is our way of helping and thanking the Exchange Place for our use.

Barbara shared that the library has added a Japanese Knitting stitch book. Might there be challenges within to knit for the show at the Reese Museum?

Cheryl reported that the January Program will be presented by Martha Pennel on Spinning. Margaret will present the February Program on Name Drafts. The March Program might be on felting?

In Workshops, a "Winter Weaving Program" is being planned, for new and seasoned weavers. What a fun idea! More details to come!

Rudi will teach spinning Feb. 17 at Tusculum College.

Local fiber events:

Growing Color

Natural Dyes from Plants

Thursday March 8th 2018

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Registration fee 85.00 includes lunch

<http://www.ncarboretum.org/education-programs/lectures-symposia/>

Spring Garden Fair

Exchange Place Kingsport TN

Saturday and Sunday April 28th and 29th 2018

Blue Ridge Fiber

June 2nd - 3rd 2018

Sparta NC

at Alleghany County Fairgrounds

If you have information on additional fiber events and opportunities, please email Vickie.

It is our hope to continue work on the barn frame loom and bring it up to 4 shafts. It would be much easier to weave on.

Show and Share followed. And then our Christmas gift exchange and lunch. Thanks to all who contributed to the delightful fun!

Also: There are several email address changes and additions....

Phil John

Jamie Johnson

Rusty Smith

Mary Ann Zelinsky

John Plutchak

Next Meeting will be January 17, 2018.

Note: As winter arrives, please note that the OMWG meetings and Spinners' 4th Wednesdays all follow the Sullivan County School system's schedule. If they are out, we will not meet.

WONDERFUL WINTER WEAVING WEEKEND

SAVE THE DATE!

January 26 - 28, 2018 Friday - Sunday

Have a pattern you're a little too nervous to try on your own?

Have some gorgeous yarn you're not quite sure how to use?

Need a refresher in how to warp, spin, weave, knit, etc?

This weekend is for YOU!!

The weekend is open to all members of OMWG - weavers, spinners, knitters, quilters, etc. If you have a craft and want to work on it with your friends, then come!

Decide what you would like to work on and come prepared to get started. Bring your yarn, your patterns, your questions. Experienced crafters will guide new folks.

All we need right now is an idea of how many folks are interested.

Please respond to one of the people listed below with your name and a general idea of what you want to do - weave, spin, knit, crochet, etc.

Also tell us if you need to use a guild loom. We'll firm up the details and get back in touch.

Happy Holidays. See you in January

please contact:

Caroline Froc or

Jean Green

President's Message

Happy New Year to you, members of the Overmountain Weavers Guild!!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday and took time to review and think about this art of weaving and working of fiber that we are all so passionate about. At this time of the year when we think about resolutions, I've decided to give up on my hips, which were a lost battle anyway, and do something I've avoided for years. The rigid heddle loom is simple looking, but I'm told you can do overshot on it! I didn't bother to work with the little loom in my hurry to get to a "real" loom . The mystery of the mechanical and computer assisted dobby looms seems like magic to me, but I want to understand how they work, even if it means I have to read a computer manual!

If you're reading this thinking "yeah, right, sure," here's my challenge to you. Take one of Sherry's old drafts and tear it apart and use parts and pieces of it to be creative. That block of draft might make a beautiful piece of dress material or do you see a knitting pattern in it? Could you combine part of that antique in a border? What would happen if you turned the draft?

I can already see failure in my first attempts with the computer programs for the dobby loom, not to mention how to set up a mechanical one. I'll scream, curse, think about it and, start over. I know the tension and sett on the rigid heddle will cause me to weep, but when I learn what I have done wrong, fix it, and see it work, that's cause to smile. We, as weavers strive to be perfect in our weaving, and if we follow the directions 9 times out of 10 we will almost be perfect. Creativity comes when we are comfortable

with our skills and then decide to do something totally outside of the box, even if we fail time and again.

So if sometime this year you take my challenge and find yourself screaming, cursing, or in tears, I'll be in the same boat.

Happy creative weaving and working fiber,

Vickie Almaroad

OMWG Bag Challenge

1) Rules & Guidelines

Participation 50 points

Zipper 10 points

Silk 10 points

Purse 20 points

Coin Purse size 10 points

Pattern Design 10 points

2) Due next May 2018 for meeting program

3) Any fabric structure is appropriate as long as it is handwoven. Appropriate weight fabric (thin enough to make a coin purse). Placement of fabric on pattern (design stripes, etc.) Use of supplemental warp or additional embroidery designs. Linings can be commercially produced fabrics.

4) For construction (sewing) questions, feel free to ask for help if needed. Janet, Phil, Margaret, or Cheryl (may be others).

5) Awards: Ribbons; Overall winner \$25.00 gift card for Woolery.

See patterns and ideas on Pinterest; zipper bags, free patterns on Pinterest. Open wide zippered pouch; DIY tutorial; mini pouch; 13 easy zipper pouch tutorials; My favorite clutch/wrist wallet pattern.

Commercial patterns available with lots of variety.

Previous Minutes may be found at www.omwg.net

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Muraski, Secretary

Housekeeping

OMWG meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month from 10AM-12PM at the Exchange Place, 4812 Orebank Road, Kingsport, TN

Co-Presidents: Vickie Almaroad 649 Mitchell Road, Kingsport, TN. 37663 (423-349-6580) and Deborah Lowman 1328 Barkley Road, Telford, TN 37690 (423-257-3190)

Send information to be included in the newsletter by the 1st day of each month to the newsletter editor: Linda Muraski/Secretary 159 Carden Drive, Elizabethton, TN 37643

Memberships to OMWG are \$20.00/yr regular member; \$18/yr senior or student; Make checks payable to Overmountain Weavers Guild and send to treasurer Doug Lowman 1328 Barkley Road, Telford, TN 37690

****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 hand weaving and related fiber arts. Liliads Adams named our newsletter ****Mingled Yarns**** in October of 1978

“The web of our life is of mingled yarn, good and ill together”

William Shakespeare