

MAWS

Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners

July, 2014

**Wow! What a newsletter.
This could be the most photos I have ever
squeezed into one issue. I hope everyone
enjoys it. If you know of someone who isn't
getting a newsletter, please email me at
traceyhensen@gmail.com.**

**This newsletter will display correctly
on ipads, computers, phones, laptops or in
print. If you have any trouble, don't
hesitate to send me an email.**

**Thanks to everyone who
contributed to this issue!**

**I welcome submissions,
corrections and feedback.
Have a great summer everyone!**

**- Tracey Delaney,
Newsletter Editor**

Send in your stories and photos!

As always, it is your user-submitted content that helps makes this newsletter great. Please email any photos or articles you have that relate to your guild, fiber, fiber animals or anything MAWS related to traceyhensen@gmail.com or be sure to tag me (Tracey Delaney) in your fibery Facebook posts!

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**What's New at MAWS?
Check out the
MAWS website for info and
member-submitted photos!**

Visit www.mawsonline.org

Classified Ads

**FOR
SALE!**

For Sale: my sister has a Gilmore loom from Stockton, CA that she would like to sell. it's a four harness, and 54". she paid \$1500 for it, and would like \$500. It's only been used a few times. if you know of anyone that would be interested, would you please let me know? The loom is in Hobson, MT at the moment and can be brought to Wilsall very easily. Thanks, Cheryl Robinson 223-9014 or stuff5473@yahoo.com.

For Sale: I am no longer able to weave on my 36" Harrisville floor loom because of back issues and would like to offer it for sale to anyone interested. I am asking \$1000 for the loom, bench, warping board, and misc shuttles, etc. Please forward my email weegpawlak@gmail.com to interested parties. I am located in Bozeman. Louann Pawlak

**Classified ads are free to MAWS members.
Send your ads to traceyhensen@gmail.com by
October 1st for inclusion in the next newsletter.**

From Judie Overbeek:

Several people were interested in this topic at MAWS this year. Here is the reference for the collapse weave structure in my scarf:

Hand Woven, March/April 2012, page 56. What I especially liked about this version was the fact that the weaving of the collapse requires only four treadles, leaving two others for plain weave. Very clever. So you would still have four unused treadles to play with!

New Business!

Let me introduce myself. My name is Carol and I have started a new business called Izzy Fibers I am processing alpaca fleece here in Springfield Oregon. I have a lot of fleece to offer spinners and more coming in every week as Alpaca farms are doing their shearing at this time.

Izzy Fibers

100 % Alpaca

Washed • Picked • Carded • Colors Galore!!

I have many colors of Alpaca fleece for you to look at. All natural...no dyes or blending. Purchase by ounce or pound.

Please call me at 541-913-9033 or email at rainwateralpaca@gmail.com

You can also make an appointment to view fleece & choose how you would like it prepared.

Thank you. Carol Starr

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Montana Fiber Roundup



Submitted by Diana Blair:

Another MT Fiber Roundup has passed. We had so much fun! I harvested plants from along the roadside in the the field. We had dye plant identification which consisted of: hare bell, wild aster, wild chamomile

lavender bee balm, field yarrow, mint, two types of lichen, lady's bedstraw , and bracken fern. We then dyed with greater celandine, mullein, madder (all with allum as a mordant). For a good selection of colors, we also over dyed some of the clear yellow mullein dyed yarn in the madder, and the same with the golden yellow from the great celadine. Fresh lilac leaves simmered in an old iron pot. The lilac leaves dyed the white alpaca yarn a most beautiful shade of silvery green.

They also did needle felting on the commerical felting machine.

Joyce Keeling brought her navajo spindles.



St. Gertrude Retreat Report to MAWS

The Big Sky Fiber Arts Guild's retreat and workshop was supported by a grant from the Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners (MAWS) and held at the Monastery of St. Gertrude in Cottonwood, Idaho on March 27-30, 2014.

Guild member Loey Knapp did the heavy lifting putting the retreat together coordinating dates and facility with Sister Lillian and workshops with Judie Overbeek.

We had ten participants, all guild members except for one who was a MAWS member and belonged to another guild. We were a little surprised that only one MAWS member joined us as we advertised in the MAWS newsletter.

The guild offered a scholarship to the retreat for a guild member. We asked anyone who felt they could not otherwise afford to attend to submit their name for a drawing. We had two applicants and were able to provide a scholarship for one.

Judie Overbeek taught two one-day classes, "Color Happens", a spinner's color study and "You can Make Novelty Yarns!" Judie surpassed her teaching reputation at St. Gertrude's. Even for the experienced spinners, she offered new and exciting techniques and concepts. She was engaging, encouraging, fun and very well versed in the subjects she taught. We can't endorse her enough to other guilds who might want to engage her to teach.

We also would like to spread the word about the Monastery of St. Gertrude. While acknowledging it is a bit of drive to Cottonwood, it is a beautiful drive through Lolo Pass and the mountains; time at St. Gertrude is wonderfully calm and relaxing. We stayed at the farmhouse which is across the road from the monastery and walked over for meals. The farmhouse was clean, modern and very comfortable. There are other accommodations and programs available at the Spirit Center.

The guild wishes to express its thanks to MAWS for the grant which helped to make the retreat possible.



Photos from MAWS 2014



A crowd favorite - Karen South's puppies spent the convention nearly hidden in a basket of fiber.



Photos by Tracey Delaney



Keynote speaker Gretchen Wilson



Many of the students who took Cathy Marquard's Thrummed Lock Hats class completed their hats in time for the fashion show.



Attendees watch the fashion show.

Photos from MAWS 2014

Fashion Show!



Photos by
Tracey Delaney



See more photos
at online at [www.
mawsonline.org/
Conferences.html](http://www.mawsonline.org/Conferences.html)

Photos from MAWS 2014

Fashion Show!



Judie Overbeek modeling her scarf.

Marty Walters and her spirit doll.



Photos by Tracey Delaney



Umoh Essiet and Kathy O'Hern (and a hidden Barb French) pose with a beautiful weaving during the fashion show.



Photos from MAWS 2014

Fashion Show!



Photos by Tracey Delaney

Vendors!



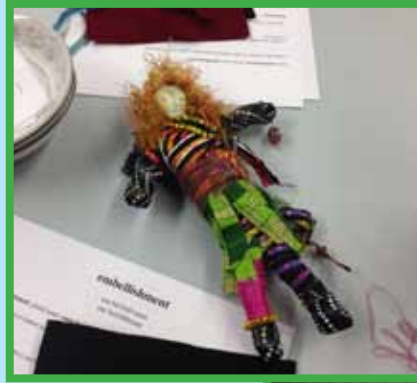
Wine and cheese tasting in the vendor area.



Classes!

Embellish

Spirit Dolls and Embellishment with a Purpose classes with Odette Grassi



Weave



Jan Nordwick at the loom with instructor Jo Anne Setzer



Photos by Tracey Delaney

Braid



Ply-Split Braiding with Beth Myrer

Classes!



Spin

Spinning Magical Yarns with Diana Blair



Dye



Shibori Dyeing with Judie Overbeek

Knit



Photos by Tracey Delaney



Double Knitting with Dareth Worrell



Guild Booths and Open Show Entries



Photos by Tracey Delaney



These People Are Wearing Sweaters Made From Their Dog's Shed Hair

By Stephen Messenger

There are many ways of showing your dog you care, like with a hearty belly rub or a scrap of food slipped to them covertly under the table. But some pet owners have taken that affection to a boldly fashionable extreme -- creating cozy sweaters made out of their beloved canine's shed hair.

Doumé Jalat Dehen operates a small France-based business, Dog Wool, transforming people's pets' sheddings into soft, knittable strands that can then be used to make clothing with.

"For your dog's well-being you should brush it regularly. However, do not discard it's undercoat! Keep it and after a few months, you will be able to knit a hat, scarf or jacket," writes Dehen.

"A dog's undercoat is a comfortable material, soft and very warm. It may well compete with mohair and contrary to popular belief, it does not smell nasty."

Photographer Erwan Fichou recently caught up with several of Dehen's happy hair-donning customers -- proud pet owners who aren't afraid to show a dog's in their hearts by wearing it on their sleeve.



Roving Reporter Article

Volkommen to Glimakra USA

By Kathy O'Hern

In May 2014, the Helena [Montana] Weavers & Spinners Guild members were lucky enough to tour the Glimakra USA headquarters in Montana City, MT. Located at the home of Joanne and Ed Hall, Glimakra USA supplies more than 200 wholesale accounts with weaving equipment, yarn and other fiber related supplies. Shipping to shops across the US, Canada and Mexico – to as far away as Australia, New Zealand, and even the Ukraine– Glimakra USA ships more looms and weaving supplies than the Glimakra factory in Sweden.

Joanne and Ed have made the business work at their mountain home in Montana. With panoramic views all around, nature trails lead from the converted round sheep barn that is now filled with beautiful yarn, to the packing shed, thread room, warehouse, and on to Joanne's teaching studio. Guild members were torn between looking at the beautiful scenery, and looking at the beautiful yarns, threads, and completed weavings displayed throughout Joanne's studio.

Mary Jean Martin, who led the tour, has been working with the Halls for 1 ½ years. Since she is an avid weaver and spinner, it's no wonder that Mary Jean says this is her "dream job"!



The "Round Barn" is filled with yarn, thread and weaving paraphernalia

Photos taken by Kathy O'Hern

Everyone is "Volkommen" at Glimakra USA



MAWS Board Meeting Minutes

MAWS Board Meeting June 7, 2014

Submitted by Tracey Delaney

President Sylvia Callantine called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Members present were Judy Overbeek, Vanetta Burton, Linda Shelhammer, Susan Lohmuller, Kathy O'Hern, Tracey Delaney, Mary Melander and newly nominated member at large and guest Bev Polk.

The treasurer's report was given by Linda Shelhammer in the absence of treasurer Marian Stratton.

Introductions were made.

The Alpine Weavers Guild's re-

quested a \$400 grant via email. Sylvia handed each board member a sheet with the class expenses and request. Linda moved to approve the grant. Tracey seconded. Discussion followed. Susan suggested asking the teacher (Jane Fournier) to bump the number of participants to a max of 15 instead of 12. The board voted unanimously to pass the motion. Judy will send Tracey the official application for the July newsletter.

Discussion about transferring the treasurer duties to the new treasurer followed. Susan moved that the board authorize the new treasurer to be transferred on to the accounts. Kathy seconded. The treasurer will be elected at the general meeting tomorrow.

Sylvia asked if anything else needed to be discussed. Susan asked about the grant money that was awarded for this year's convention. Discussion followed. A grant of \$1,000 had been awarded to the Great Falls guild this year.

The board discussed requiring a conference expense report from the Great Falls guild by August 1 and a full report by October 1.

Next topic of discussion was the date and time for the next board meeting. It was decided to have the meeting in Montana City on October 11 at noon.

The board discussed the procedure for the nominations at tomorrow's general membership meeting.

Mary moved to adjourn the meeting and Vanetta seconded.

General Membership Meeting

Submitted by Tracey Delaney

President Sylvia Callantine called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

Susan Lohmuller presented the slate of nominated officers. The list is as follows: Sylvia Callantine, president; Linda Shelhammer, treasurer; Tracey Delaney, secretary and news

letter editor; Kathy O'Hern, internet coordinator; members at large: Vanetta Burton, Missoula area; Gwen Haffercamp, Miles City; Mary Melander, Bozeman, Susan Lohmuller, Lewistown/Central Montana; Julienne Valentine, Kalispell; Bev Polk, Wilsall.

Susan asked for nominations from the floor. None were offered. Annette Kade moved to accept the list. Judy Overbeek seconded. The slate of officers passed unanimously.

Joan Goldstein presented Alpine Weavers and Spinners' slate of officers for the 2016 MAWS conference in the Kalispell area. The list was Joan Goldstein, president; Carol Baginski, Vice President; Judie Overbeek, secretary; Jill Reddig, treasurer.

It was moved and seconded that this list be approved.

Susan moved to adjourn the business meeting. Vanetta seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Fish Hats!

Cathy Marquard made each of the fish hat centerpieces at MAWS 2014. The hats were given as door prizes on the last day of the convention. Yours truly (Tracey Delaney) was the lucky winner of one of them. I was doubly lucky too, because I also won a Judie Overbeek scarf raffle prize. That's me to the bottom left wearing my winnings.



Upcoming Events

Fiberfest EUREKA!

It's that time again for the 11th Annual Fiberfest EUREKA !! This year the event will be held the first weekend in August – August 2nd through 3rd, 2014 at the Eureka Fairgrounds.

We are planning on another exciting, fun and fascinating event. We will have classes working with the natural fibers – with the wonderful instructors and demonstrators you've come to expect for spinning, weaving, felting, crocheting, knitting, and animal care & selection - and we'll have the animals there that provide many of the fibers. There will be evaluations for fiber animals, judging for fleeces and finished products, and our usual farm photo contest. We are again offering flock/animal assessments instead of animal shows, allowing for

the individual evaluation of an animal or flock by an experienced judge.

Our goal remains the same – to bring together the best of fiber arts and fiber agriculture and to promote awareness to the general public about the fiber industry. Please join us and stay tuned for updates as they occur!

Questions? Feel free to contact:

Valerie Hogan
 Fiberfest Eureka!!
 73 Poverty Flats Road
 Eureka, MT 59917
 Phone: 406-889-3730 or Cell: 406-249-5343

August 2, 2014 - Midsummer's Spin In & Fiber Fair, Wren, OR. lolund@casco.net

August 5-10, 2014 - Western Montana Fair, Missoula - www.missoulafairgrounds.com

August 9, 2014 - The Ennis Arts Association will hold its 19th Annual Madison Valley Arts Festival Saturday, August 9, 2014. The festival will take place in Peter T.'s Park, in attractive Ennis, Montana on the his-toric trail between Yellowstone National Park and Virginia City. In addition to the artist booths, there will be live entertainment, delicious food, an art raffle, 50/50 raffle, "Meet the Author" book signing, and children's face painting. For additional information and an application please contact Jury Committee Chairman Margie Reck, 406-682-4416, email red-mtnranch@yahoo.com, or go to www.ennisart-sassociation.org.

August 23-24, 2014 - Big River Fiber Fling-Summer Event, Stevenson, WA. www.bigriverfiberfling.com

August 27-30 - Ravalli County Fair, Hamilton

October 18-19, 2014 - Fiber Fusion Northwest, www.fiberfusion.net, info@fiberfusion.net.

June 12 - 14, 2015 - Big Sky Fiber Arts Festival

June 23-26 - 2016 - MAWS 2016! - Fibers on the Flat-head

will be hosted by the Alpine Weavers and Spinners Guild. The conference location is the newly renovated Flathead Lake United Methodist Camp at Rollins on the west shore of Flathead Lake. The website for the venue is http://www.flatheadcamp.org/.

June 26-July 2, 2017 - The Victoria Handweavers' and Spinners' Guild is joining with ANWG to host the 2017 ANWG Conference at the University of Victoria.

**The Eugene Textile
 Center in Oregon has a huge variety of
 fiber classes. Visit www.eugenetextilecenter.com
 for current schedules and more fun stuff!**

MAWS Treasurer's Report

Submitted
 by Linda
 Shelhamer

Account	6/4/2014 Balance
Bank Accounts	
S1 Savings	141.50
S90 Checking	1,109.66
Smith Barney	10,938.81
TOTAL Bank Accounts	12,189.97
OVERALL TOTAL	12,189.97

Category	1/1/2014- 6/4/2014
INCOME	
CU Dividend	0.05
Dues	232.00
SB Dividend	8.79
TOTAL INCOME	240.84
EXPENSES	
Uncategorized	0.00
Bank Charge	50.00
Board	550.34
Grants	1,400.00
Newsletter Expense	40.50
Stipend	725.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,765.84
OVERALL TOTAL	-2,525.00

News from our Guilds

From the Big Sky Fiber Arts Guild:

The Big Sky Fiber Arts Festival Board held its first meeting on June 13 and discussions were pre-liminary but fruitful.

Our second board meeting will be July 10, probably in Missoula. Festival board meetings are open to all. Join us with your suggestions or concerns.

One of the best parts of the festival is our re-nowned workshops. We want to offer workshops that respond to your needs and desires. Please contact us with suggestions for workshop topics and/or instructors. We can't do this in a vacuum. Let us know what you want to see offered at the next festival!

Call Joyce Walters at 642-3119 or email her at bead-edpony@bigsky.net or Marty Walters at 777-2421 or spunoutnmt@aol.com to find out the time and place for our next board meeting or to tell us what you'd like to see taught at the next festival! Make this YOUR festival!

Mathalia's Guatemalan Adventure

I went to Guatemala for a week to build a house for a family with Casas pro Cristo. Last year my Grandparents gave me a graduation present: a trip to build a house! I loved it and wanted to go again this year. I used some of my money from selling my goat at the 2013 Fair. This year I went with my Mom and my brother, Matthan. When we got to Guatemala I saw my Aunt and Uncle and Cousins and old friends and made new friends.

We stayed all together and then in the mornings we got up early for breakfast. The bus for my team left at 6.45 a.m. By 8:00 we were at our work site. The first day we dug and made the site level. After lunch we poured concrete. My job was to measure the cement into buckets.

The second day the walls went up! My job was to help measure, cut and deliver the boards for the siding of the house.

The third day, I helped more with measuring and cutting. I also took some breaks and showed friends how to make pot holders. It was fun! Our team was really fast: we finished in three days. Twenty very good workers.

On Thursday I went to some Mayan Ruins. I got sunburnt and I got some nasty bug bites on my arm. My Mom brought sunscreen and bug spray but we remembered too late. I went shopping and I bought a traditional Guatemala dress. I am very excited to wear it.

On Friday we visited a coffee plan-

tation and a little more shopping. We visited McDonald's in Antigua and took a photo with Ronald McDonald.

We had our last singing and Devotions on Friday and said 'goodbye' to friends. I will show my slide show from 2013 at Church. I am excited.

by Mathalia with help from her Mom

Mathalia Working in Guatamala to build a house



From the Bozeman Weavers Guild:

Show and share:



Blanket by Cindy Sharp



Rug by Mary Bartlo



Anita Krueger offers tips at the Tips 'n Tricks program

Continued on next page

From the Alpine Weavers and Spinners:

Submitted by Joan Goldstein

Theme for the year: Tools of the Trade

The Alpine Weavers and Spinners are excited about their progress planning the 2016 MAWS Conference, Fiber on the Flathead, at Flathead Lake United Methodist Camp. Go to www.flatheadcamp.org to see photos of the site. We have reserved the entire camp for the main conference, starting with a barbecue on July 23 and ending with brunch on July 26th. Three out-of-state instructors have agreed to teach: weaving instructor Robyn Spady for the pre- and main conference, spinner Sarah Anderson and wire jewelry maker Marilyn Moore for the main conference. For the pre-conference classes on July 22 and 23rd, the Plains Paradise cabin has been reserved, with plans to rent more space as needed.

Other fun AWSG projects have included Fimo buttons and beautiful twill market baskets. We are looking forward to our annual spinning in the park during a noon-time concert, plus a fun five days at the Northwest Montana Fair. There will be a tour of the Conrad Mansion in place of the On October 8, we have a tour of the Conrad Mansion scheduled. It will be an extended tour (usually they last about an hour) with guild members Teresa Knutson and Sarah Safford available to discuss the A Glimpse At Downton Abbey Era Fashions At The Conrad Mansion 1912-1923 exhibition on the second floor.

Jane Fournier will be coming to Kalispell on November 1 and 2 to teach a MAWS-sponsored workshop on spinning silk and plying. Find the registration information in this newsletter.

Alpine Guild members sharing tools of the trade ideas



Glenda with a blouse bag.



Patty with her electric drill bobbin winder demo.



Submitted by
Vicki Faulkner -
Alpine Historian

From the Helena Weavers & Spinners Guild:

Helena Guild Receives ANWG Grant!

The Helena Weavers & Spinners Guild has been awarded an ANWG Grant that will be used to assist in funding a two-day Color Study Workshop with Robyn Spady. The workshop will be held in March 2015, watch for more information.

This will be an expanded version of Robyn's "Taming of the Hue - Techniques for the Color Challenged" workshop, described as:

"Does incorporating more color in to your projects appeal to you, but leaves you feeling a little intimidated at the same time? Do you long to break out of a color rut? If so, you are not alone! In this seminar, a variety of tools and techniques will be covered to assist you in exploring different ways of incorporating color into your projects and give you more confidence in discovering new color horizons."



From the Missoula Weavers' Guild: In Memoriam

Betty Sue Flannigan passed away in August of 2013 at the age of 71. She lived in Minnesota but had been a member of the Missoula Weavers' Guild for many years.

She often attended the MAWS conferences, where she entered pieces in the open shows, and she contributed several tips to *Tromp as Writ* in recent years.

At the April meeting Vanetta gave me a write-up about Betty that had appeared in *Shuttle, Spindle & Dyepot* (Winter 2013/14).

Apparently Betty's stash included 300 bins of fleece and yarn, hundreds of tools, over 250 drop spindles, numerous looms, 20 spinning wheels, and over 2,000 books.

The Weavers' Guild of Minnesota held a sale and the Flannigan family generously shared the proceeds with them, ensuring that Betty's work will help encourage others involved in spinning and weaving.

By Heather Torgenrud:

When I stopped to take a picture of Shelley Peter's Suri alpaca boys (the girls were in the other paddock) they seemed very curious about what I was up to and came over to the fence, making a purring noise. I asked Shelley

Continued on next page

what the sound was called and she said, “We just call that noise humming. It is a form of communication which means all is well in their world. You should hear the gosh awful noise they make when they think an intruder like a stray dog or deer is going to threaten their world! It’s kind of like a donkey bray gone berserk and very loud. That one wakes us up from a dead sleep. A good night is when the girls are down below our bedroom, in their barn stall, humming to each other. Makes me smile and just like them, feel all is well in the world. :-)”

Thanks to Shelley for this wonderful story and for hosting our April meeting at her place—it was a very enjoyable day!—H.T.



A Handwoven Vest



Leslie used her double-faced fabric in an interesting way. Leslie says, “The fabric was woven with 5/2 perle cotton. I used the

Weavers’ Book of 8-shaft Patterns. Boulevard Weave pattern #607 on page 180.

The warp was black and I dyed the weft a coppery color. I didn’t write down what vest pattern I used but it’s a pretty basic one.” Leslie used one face of the fabric for the body of the vest, and the other for the contrast collar, lapels,

back yoke and pockets. She stitched it beautifully, even making self-fabric button loops as you can see in the top left section of the pocket detail at right.



Leslie wove the plain weave fabric for her purple jacket from a variety of textured yarns in different colors, and stitched and finished it beautifully.

Photos by Leslie Taylor



Vanetta Burton wove the fabric for a vest to wear at her son’s wedding last summer, but found she needed help when it came to sewing the garment. Shelley Peters spent a day with Vanetta, fitting, sewing, and adding some stellar detailing in the form of shoulder pleats.

Here Vanetta’s mother adjusts the collar as we take photos.



Shelley Peters makes beautiful hats, using high-end millinery techniques and fabric that she makes by fulling hand-knitted or crocheted alpaca. Here are three of her latest creations.

AMAZING!



A fun frog Nancy Edwards made from a Deb Essen Swatch Critters kit.



A baby jacket Jenne Pugh knitted for her expected grandbaby, with a delightful pattern of pea pods and tendrils at the top of the hood. The pattern is from 60 Quick Baby Knits and Jenne reports that the garment is indeed quick—it only took two months!



Sharon Schroeder wove both of these scarves using concepts that she learned from the classes Bonnie Tarses taught at the last MAWS conference.

She says, “The more colorful scarf is from the Woven Words class.

Letters are assigned a color and the scarf can be interpreted if you know the code. The second scarf has bands of Ikat separating the color. Both are made of bamboo.”

Continued on next page



When Coby Johnson needed to demonstrate weaving at an Historical Museum event she decided to check her stash for available yarn and was happy to find just what she needed for this overshot in textured linen and ramie. She intended to make a set of placemats, but since she wove some items while demonstrating and the rest later, catch as catch can over a period of months, all of the pieces are a different length.

Coby's tip: measure items as you go and don't take ten months to weave off a warp!



Diana Hachenberger brought four lovely pieces for show-and-tell.

I'm so sorry, but I stepped out of the room before she presented them, and I wasn't able to reach her by "press time" to get the details that I missed.



Bonnie Tarses's show, The Power of Gathering Over Time, opened May 2 4

Ravens Gallery at 248 N. Higgins, and continued throughout May. Bonnie created an installation entitled Lavender Retrospective, from 144 lavender "pillows" using samples of her handwoven fabric from over 30 years of past projects. Bonnie lovingly filled each pillow with lavender from The Garden of One Thousand Buddhas. The pillows will be sold for \$24 each, with a portion of the proceeds going to support the maintenance of Siobhan's Grove (planted last year at The Garden in memory of Bonnie's daughter). To display the pillows,

Bonnie created a "virtual quilt," with each pillow individually attached to the wall, creating a diamond shape 66" square. Bonnie says, "As pillows are sold, the negative space remaining will continue to redesign the installation with unknown and surprising results."



At the last minute Joan Contraman was asked to fill in for another instructor, giving a lecture and teaching workshops in carding and dyeing in Indiana, on the last weekend in April. Here you see Joan's rainbow of dyed fleece for the students to use and some of the students at work in the carding classes. Joan reports that the classes went very well—the students seemed happy and were a very nice group.



At Willows & Wool in March: Looking at yarn, books, tools and equipment—what fun!



Deb Essen's Swatch Critters and more, on display at Willows & Wool.



Yarn drying on the rack at Mountain Colors.

Photos by Heather Torgenrud



At left, a finished batt from carding class, along with its inspiration. Below, Joan, at center, with two of her thirty students.

Photos by Joan Contraman



AWESOME!



Check
this out!

Silk Tasting and Plying

Announcing a workshop called “Silk Tasting and Plying: a Day and a Half with Jane Fournier”, sponsored by Alpine Weavers and Spinners Guild. There will be a fee of \$35 registration for the 1&1/2 days to be mailed to Joan Goldstein, PO Box 2556, Bigfork MT 59911. There will also be a \$25 fee for materials to be paid to Jane at the time of the workshop. Registration and checks written to AWSG must be postmarked no earlier than August 15, 2014.

The workshop will be held in the United Way Conference Room at the Gateway West Mall on Hwy 2 in Kalispell. Saturday for Silk Tasting, Nov 1 from 9 to 12 and 1:30 to 4:30, lunch on your own. Sunday for Plying, Nov 2 from 9 to 12. See more info on the next page.



What can I buy for \$8.00?

- About 3.2 gallons of gas
- One bottle of cheap wine
 - A good hamburger
- The left sleeve of a nice sweater
 - A little bit of yarn
- Not enough fiber
- Dog food for about 2-weeks
- Part of a hair cut

NOT MUCH really...

But wait . . . a year's membership in MAWS! YES! A bargain.

I get:

- A quarterly newsletter so I know what's going on all over the state.
 - A dynamite biennial conference.
- MAWS sponsored workshops state-wide at very reasonable prices.
 - Scholarship opportunities for the conference.
 - Networking with other fiber fanatics.
 - A chance to expand my fiber horizons

**ALL FOR \$8
A YEAR!**

*When I put it in
perspective it's hard
to believe I would ever
hesitate!*

Kalispell Jane Fournier Workshop Details

(See previous page for registration info.)

Silk Tasting

Saturday, November 1, 2014 (full day)

Materials Fee: \$20

Description

Confused by all the different forms of silk available for hand spinning? This workshop looks at the most common and some of the less well-known forms of this luxurious fiber and the spinning techniques that will allow you to handle it with confidence. We'll try out different drafting techniques for the various forms, create some of our own silk blends, discuss and experiment with yarn design considerations, and cover finishing silk yarns to display the fiber and your spinning to best advantage. As we go, we'll touch on some of the fascinating history and properties of silk fiber.

Students should bring:

Spinning wheel in good working order (spindle spinners are also welcome to bring fine and medium weight spindles as their primary spinning tool or in addition to a wheel).

At least 3 bobbins. (We will be spinning mostly singles in this class but you may wish to arrange your singles on different bobbins in order to ply them the following day or later.)

Fine or medium hand cards, if available (there are usually plenty in the class for sharing if you don't have these yet)

Notebook, pen or pencil, scissors, small or sample-sized niddy-noddy, and yarn gauge or ruler are all useful but not essential

Any silk fibers that you have questions about or that you might like to try spinning in class (optional)

Plying

Sunday, November 2, 2014 (half day)

Materials Fee: \$5

Description

Poor plying can be the undoing of what would otherwise be an outstanding yarn. In this workshop we'll focus on the basic principles of successful plying, how to ply a balanced yarn, and where you can make choices and exercise control over the process. As time allows, we'll explore multiple-ply yarn constructions and special plying effects in more depth.

In order to make the most of our class time, please spin some basic singles yarns ahead of time and bring them with you to class. See the "Singles Yarns for Plying" section below for details.

Students should bring:

Spinning wheel in good working order (spindle spinners are also welcome to bring fine and medium weight spindles if they would like to use them for some exercises but a wheel is recommended as the primary tool for this class.)

At least 4 bobbins and a lazy kate that can hold at least

3 bobbins. (For this class it is important to have a means of holding bobbins for plying so that they can be positioned away from your spinning wheel. A simple shoebox with knitting needles poked through the sides to hold the bobbins is perfectly satisfactory if you don't yet have a lazy kate.)

Small ruler (a 6-inch ruler is easiest to handle but the length isn't critical) or yarn gauge

Notebook, pen or pencil, scissors, and small niddy-noddy (for making sample skeins) are all useful but not essential

Any plied yarns that you have questions about (optional)

Handspun singles yarns as specified below

Singles Yarns for Plying

Spinning singles ahead of time for some of the plying exercises saves class time and allows us to cover more aspects of plying. We will also be spinning singles for more specialized yarns during the class.

Because there is so much variation in the yarns we all spin, I have specified quantities by length. The lengths given are approximate only. Just "eyeball" the quantities on your bobbins; don't measure all of the yarns. If you're not used to spinning to a length, I suggest that you spin a small sample (what looks like about 10 yards to you) of the yarn you intend to spin, make a mental note of what it looks like on your bobbin, then measure the yardage of the yarn. Use that as a guide to spin the quantities called for.

I have also specified a gauge or grist range in wraps per inch (WPI) for each of the yarns. Again, this is an approximation. Don't worry if your yarns are slightly more or less. The amount of twist in the singles is not material; use the amount of twist that feels appropriate to you.

For all the singles listed below, use clean, medium to fine-type wool. You might like to bring a little extra of the fiber(s) you used to class in case you wish to spin more to complete a sample. Preparation and drafting methods can be anything you like that gives you a consistent quality yarn of the gauge indicated. Spin the yarns onto each bobbin in the order shown. That is, spin yarn 1 first followed by yarn 2.

Bobbin A

1. 30 yards of 28 or more WPI
2. 30 yards of 18 to 24 WPI

Bobbin B

1. 30 yards of 28 or more WPI
2. 30 yards of 18 to 24 WPI

Bobbin C

1. 10 yards of 18 to 24 WPI

If you have any questions about these yarns, don't hesitate to send me an email message at jfourniernz@gmail.com.

Found on Facebook

These photos were collected from Facebook. To submit your own creation or fiber news for MAWS newsletter publication please email it to traceyhensen@gmail.com.



Posted by Rachel Finucane: I just finished my first project on my new-to-me floor loom. A baby wrap! Big thanks to Susan Lohmuller for her tutelage and mentoring.



Posted by Steve McEwen: I have been spinning on a restoration we have dubbed Ola. I have been putting her through the paces with some roving I purchased from Raven Ridge Fiber Arts, Huckleberry Wave. Lovely material of Blue Faced Leicester. 4 oz. down, 8 to go and my wife will crochet a floor length shawl in the Pineapple pattern out of it to highlight my creations.



Shibori Dyeing at Summerfair

Summerfair in Billings was July 11-13. On Saturday and Sunday, Linda Shelhamer with partner Steve taught shibori dyeing. The racks of student-dyed scarves were beautiful. Linda must have been an excellent teacher.

Photos by Tracey Delaney



HELLO SHEEP and WOOL LOVERS -

Here is the latest wool project, with a global call for handspun yarns focusing on the importance and history of sheep in our social structure. I am getting some amazing submissions from all over the US and internationally. It is set to be a wonderful exhibition! Please pass the word and if you spin, I hope to see some of your yarn!

www.herdbeast.com

SUBMIT YOUR YARN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXHIBITION!

DEADLINE EXTENDED!!!

SUBMIT YARNS NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1st!!
All the yarn submitted will be woven into an interactive suspended weaving that is resonant of the topographic landscape the sheep call home.

YARN MUST BE:

hand spun
natural/non-dyed
100 % wool only
(no alpaca, mohair, blends, etc)
any ply is acceptable
submit what you can/want!
all lengths/quality accepted!

**What I need you to send when contributing:
Yarn!!**

Where did the wool come from? Is from your farm or somewhere else?

The breed of the sheep

The name of the sheep if you have/know it

Your photo, if you like

Photo of the sheep, if you have one

Any fun tidbits of info about you, your spinning, your sheep, etc

remember, YOU are the focus of the exhibition. this info is important stuff!

Please send yarn submissions to:

Aimee Leon

4664 N. 19th Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85015

send images via mail, or digitally using contact form

Once weaving commences, I will post process images on the site for everyone to see it come together.

There might also be a live feed thing happen too!!

Dues policy for MAWS

Guilds are encouraged to have the date their dues are due be October 1st so that MAWS dues could then be sent to Marian by November 1st. Thank you for your consideration.



MAWS Online

Please check out the site at www.mawsonline.org. Your feedback is critical and much appreciated. Send your ideas on ways to improve the site. Some of the links you find are still under construction but as time allows and information is provided – they will all be updated.

Websites are a wonderful thing and a great way for MAWS members to stay

connected but they do need constant attention. New photos, upcoming events, change of officers or duties updated contact information needs to stay current. Don't forget to submit your guild's newsletter if you have one. If your guild has a contact person – please send that information along to Kathy at ohern_1@mawsonline.org.

Order of Rotation for MAWS Conferences:

Bozeman
Helena
Billings
Missoula
Great Falls
Alpine - 2016

Note: You can place quarter page paid ads for \$15 an issue. Our newsletter reaches over 300 fiber artists. Contact Tracey Delaney: traceyhensen@gmail.com.

Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners (MAWS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Membership runs from November 1st through December 31. Annual dues are \$8 and include a newsletter subscription. To join MAWS, send dues to: **Linda Shelhamer**, 446 Tabriz Drive, Billings, MT 59105. She can be reached at 406-259-9160 or by emailing shara@bresnan.net. Donations to help offset expenses are gladly accepted and can be mailed to Linda.

Next Newsletter deadline is October 1, 2014.

Email articles to Tracey Delaney at traceyhensen@gmail.com

Or surface mail: P.O. Box 95, Grass Range, MT 59032

Phone: 406-366-3738

