

◆ Northwest News ◆

Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds

<http://anwg.org>

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Issue 3

CONFERENCE CORNER

BEYOND BORDERS – ANWG 2003

The “Beyond Borders” conference for 2003 takes place in Calgary, Alberta. It will be hosted by the Handweavers, Spinners and Dyers of Alberta, who have over 200 members throughout Alberta, and other parts of Canada.

Workshops/Seminars

We will feature 1, 2 and 3-day pre-conference workshops on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 14 – 16, 2003. Conference registration begins Thursday, July 17. We will have our banquet and keynote speaker on this same evening. As well, the opening of the Juried Show will be held on Thursday evening, following our keynote speaker.

Some of our instructors that are confirmed to date:

Inge Dam	Mary Sustrick
Jason Collingwood	Donna Crispin
Karen Selk	Carole Davidson
Laura Fry	Diane Mortensen
Jane Evans	Barbara Walker
Jane Stafford	Jo Anne Ryeburn
Rodrick Owen	

Special Events

Saturday evening we will have an informal barbeque, and afterwards the vendors will be open late for a “Shop-Til-You-Drop” marathon.

Shows

Our fashion show will be held in the brand new campus “ball-room” on Friday evening and will be celebrated with desserts and beverages.

The themes for our Fashion Show and Juried Show will be described in more detail over the next few months. For now, just think of “Borders” and how you can “Move Beyond Them.” Our conference colors are taken from the dazzling colors our prov-

ince is famous for – golden yellow of canola fields in bloom, vibrant greens of grasses and trees and the royal blue of our western sky.

Volunteers Needed

We would welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to help before or during the conference in any capacity at all.

Rene Freeborn in Calgary is the volunteer co-ordinator. She can be reached at:

renefree@telusplanet.net
313 Scimitar Bay,
Calgary, Alberta, T3L 1L9

Stay Tuned for Updates

More details are posted on the ANWG website at anwg.org under “Conference 2003.” They also include some information on traveling to Canada from the United States (a government of Canada webpage), “must-see” tourist information and links, as well as the preliminary schedule of events. The website will be continually updated as we get closer to the conference date.

Going to Convergence in Vancouver? We will have a booth there—come and say hello!

Do you have questions or suggestions? Get in touch with any of the co-chairs:

Rene Freeborn renefree@telusplanet.net
Sandy Powers sandy@therockies.com
Carole Dodd dodd@ualberta.ca
Maria Schultz mschu@telusplanet.net



21ST BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Beyond Borders Preliminary Order of Events

Start planning your conference vacation for Calgary in 2003; we hope to see you here!

Sunday, July 13

Workshop Registration

Monday July 14

Registration and Workshops

Tuesday July 15

Registration and Workshops

Workshop tour

Wednesday July 16

Registration and Workshop

Guild Booth Setup

Commercial Booth Setup

Instructors' Show Setup

Thursday, July 17

Registration

Super Seminars

Commercial Booths Open

Keynote Speaker

Juried Show Opening and Reception

Friday, July 18

ANWG General Meeting

Commercial Booths and Exhibits Open

Seminars

Fashion Show

Saturday, July 19

Group meetings – Complex Weavers, etc.

Commercial Booths and Exhibits Open to the Public

Seminars

HWSDA Meeting

Informal Barbeque

Shop 'Til You Drop



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ANWG CONFERENCE

Beyond Borders

Calgary, Alberta, Canada 2003

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For current information on ANWG conferences, activities, members guilds or news, check the ANWG website at anwg.org

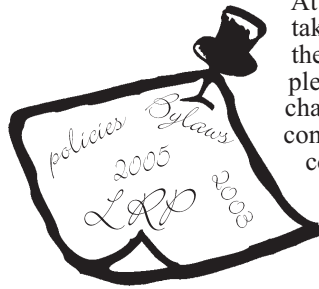
OFFICERS' CORNER

How We Spent Our First Year in Office

Yvonne Coopmans, for the Board

Full Plates

The past year has been one of extraordinary efforts and a higher than normal turnover on the board. Shortly after the elections at the June AGM in Eugene, two of our recently elected Board members resigned and Vice President Yvonne Coopmans assumed the office of Acting President until being confirmed as President by the Board at our October meeting.



At that meeting, the Board also accepted a full plate by taking on the multiple tasks needed to follow through on the decisions made by the previous Board, that is, completing the Bylaw review with the corresponding policy changes, insuring that our arrangements with the current conference committee were up to IRS reporting standards, considering prospects for 2005, and making arrangements for processing the membership input which has been gathered over the past two years. This last topic, which is the Main Event for the AGM, is one which the outgoing Board had urged that the incoming board consider a top priority. These tasks, while

representing a volume of work which might be described as "daunting," were nonetheless all adopted willingly by the Board members. Since last July, four Board members have voluntarily relinquished their volunteer positions, for a variety of reasons. Some found that they did not support the revisions to our governing documents as adopted by the previous board, others had a change of circumstances in their personal lives, or discovered that the time required was more than they could spare as volunteers. Our most sincere thanks go out to those Board members for the time and energy they contributed to towards building and strengthening the Association.

Unexpected Obstacles

One of the withdrawal from the Board, occurring in early December, drew complaints and requests for rather drastic action on the part of the Board from a couple of former Board members, who were concerned about the number of voluntary resignations from Board positions since the elections (three at the time). A hearing of their concerns was added to the agenda of our January Board meeting and each complainant was asked to provide specific suggestions as to how the Board might best answer their concerns. Although lengthy, the responses did not contain the requested specific constructive points. Still, it was the Board's collective wisdom that we might best proceed with our business without further interruption if President Yvonne Coopmans were to yield the Presidency to Vice President Corinne Whitesell, and assume the office of Vice President and temporarily fill in as Communication Director.

Why the Late Call to the Meeting?

Amendment of the bylaws requires 21 days notice before a meeting. The Bylaw Review committee had reported the membership input at the January meeting, and the Board contributed their own input. From the considerable number Board of possibilities, a prioritized list of possible amendments was developed, and a meeting date of April 21 was set for review in order to send final recommendations to the membership with the call to the June 8 AGM. The meeting was abruptly canceled by President Corinne Whitesell, with no provision for a final review of those items under discussion. On April 27, Corinne made the announcement that she would shortly be moving from Anchorage to Ohio, and hence would no longer be able to serve as President of the Association. Yvonne once again assumed the office of President and a Board meeting was called on May 9 to complete the Bylaw review. The publication of the newsletter was delayed until after the meeting. In the end, it was decided not to present or recommend any amendments to the membership.

2005?

Word seems to have gotten around that Anchorage Weavers and Spinners was being considered for the next venue. Although the guild had expressed interest in investigating the possibility of hosting, they have tabled the issue. The Seattle Weavers' Guild had also made inquiries earlier last year, and discussions are currently underway.

OFFICERS' CORNER

Membership Report

Ilona Schneider, Director

We have received renewal membership for 2001/2002 from 91 guilds, with a total of 3,634 individuals. The figures breakout demographically as listed: Alberta-320, British Columbia-1160, Saskatchewan-52, Alaska-79, Idaho-112, Montana-121, Oregon-662, Washington-1104 and Wyoming -24. At a fall meeting, your board decided to currently waive both the late fees and reinstatement fee for guilds. This decision was as a result of ongoing review of the current Membership policy.

We welcome back three guilds that have not been with us since 1997, one since 1999, and three since 2000. Our total number of guilds have stayed nearly the same, so we are missing a few guilds that were members last year. We still need contact with some of the guilds in eastern Washington, so pass on the good word about ANWG. The two guilds, Oregon Wheel & Loom and the Salem Fiberarts Guild have amalgamated under the latter name. I have had some really pleasant e-mail notes and letters from various ANWG Reps. I want you all to know I appreciate your input and contact, and look forward to meeting some of you at the upcoming AGM on June 8th.

Regards, Ilona

Education Director

June Schilbach, our Seattle Guild Rep, has volunteered to serve as Educational Opportunities Director. June lives in Coupeville, WA and serves as the Treasurer for the Whidbey Weavers Guild. She is a member of Seattle and Skagit Weavers Guilds, as well as the Northwest Regional Spinners' Association.

Bylaw Review Committee

Ilona Schneider, Chair

At the AGM in Eugene, Oregon, 2001, the membership ratified amended bylaws for our organization. There was some discussion and concern about some of the changes, and the Board under membership advisement, created a Bylaw Review committee to receive input until Dec. 31, 2001, in order for ANWG Reps. to voice any guild concerns regarding the Bylaws. Just prior to the closing of the comment period, the ANWG board received amalgamated input through Rep. Pat Sparks, from three guilds, Moonspinners, Corvallis, and Arachne.

Over the past six months, the Board has reviewed both input from the guilds and board members, made tentative changes to several bylaws, and made a prioritized

list of other changes to bylaws or to policies. At this time, the Board considers this to be a "work in progress" with the membership to be advised of and asked to vote on changes as they come up at future AGMs.

Communications Director

Webmaster, Jerry Coopmans.

Website Update

Over the past four years we focused on putting our guilds' best side in front of the weaving community. The response from many who found a new guild to join and new friends share was quite rewarding. We tried to provide useful resources such as the constantly updated Event Calendar, Free Ads, Links and Supplier's databases. We have also provided support and secure online registration for our conferences.

Members' Area

The Member's area picks up on this foundation with further guild and member networking. Already active are the Newsletters Online and the Webpages areas, with searchable databases of teachers, artists, rep/member discussion areas, and further educational and guild activities to follow. The theme of the Members' Area is "we have so much more to gain by working together."

Newsletters Online

Newsletters Online is an area with guild newsletters in downloadable format. We hope to have as many guilds' newsletters as possible available in an easy to use format. The advantage of having your guild's newsletter online are: 1) it's always available, even many months after it was published 2) significant cost savings, since your newsletter may not need to be printed or mailed. 3) no virus problems which can happen with e-mail distribution 4) it's available even when you're out of town by stopping by nearly any library or cyber café 5) a potentially wider audience including prospective new members 6) your newsletter can include color photos. One thing which might be missed are those wonderful soft samples; perhaps these could be passed out at guild meetings.

Instructions for getting your newsletter online are on the Newsletter page of the Members' Area (link is on the main page). Please use the Feedback link to send the webcrew questions you may have.

Webpages

Any member of a current ANWG guild is entitled to have a free webpage. These will be located on our site's server with

no ads, branding, or pop-up windows of any sort. It's really not that hard to make a web page and it's a wonderful way of showing the world what you're all about. Your website should be non-commercial and have some connection to the fiber arts. Margaret Copeland will be helping first time users get started, but if you're already up on making web pages, just let us know and we'll get you set up quickly. If you have skills in this area you are welcome to volunteer to help as well.

Teacher's Database

The searchable teachers' database had been a bit of an on again/off again proposition so far, but issues such as maintenance, privacy, etc. are pretty much resolved and it should be in full swing by next guild season. Leaders for conferences, guild workshops, as well as private lessons will be listed. If you are a teacher in an area of the fiber arts, you will be able to list yourself or have someone else enter your information for you.

Your Ideas

This is your website! Your dues go towards providing this member benefit and we want it to be all it can be. Your ideas are sought and appreciated. The Feedback link is a quick way for us to hear what you have to say.

First Contact E-mail

The e-mail policy for the website has been on the Policy page for quite a while now, but some further explanation might be helpful. Many of the original guilds on the website expressed concern that their e-mail addresses would not be collected and added to mailing lists which might lead to unwanted junk e-mail. A new e-mail system has replaced the previous one on the site, but the idea is similar. Here's how it works: clicking on any e-mail address on the site brings up a window allowing one to send a short e-mail to the requested address. The address is not disclosed and the person receiving this e-mail has the option of replying or ignoring this e-mail. In addition, we limit the number of these first contact e-mails from any one source on a daily basis. Those people who are interested in mass mailing our members are directed to the Events Calendar or the Supplier's database where they may make their information available to all. As always, your thoughts are appreciated—just click the Feedback link.

REP'S CORNER

Long Range Planning Committee

Yvonne Coopmans, LRP Chair

Future Fun for ANWG

The ANWG Board is committed to growing and strengthening the Association. Our regional structure presents unique opportunities as well as challenges. You, the members, reflect the true make-up of the Association. Please join the fun!!

In January, the Board approved the concept of a Long Range Planning Committee of Board and Association members to undertake a feasibility study of the ideas and suggestions for future programs and activities given to the Board by the membership.

Stretching your dues

The Board also created a Finance Committee which will be conducting a comprehensive study of our past finances in order to more accurately assess our fiscal health. After the LRP committee makes their recommendations to the Board, these findings will be combined with those of the Finance Committee and a final report will be made to the membership prior to the 2003 membership meeting.

Creativity Abounds

The purposes of the Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds as stated in our Articles of Incorporation are "to support conferences and educational endeavors in handweaving and related activities, to promote and stimulate public interest in hand-weaving and related activities, and to aid and encourage prospective handweavers." Our 501(c) 3 tax-exempt status allows us to conduct fundraisers, apply for foundation and arts council grants and to give tax-deductions for donations.

Obviously, the stated purpose of ANWG allows for a broad range of activities. The membership feedback gathered over the past two years has shown that networking is the primary thing that ANWG does and can do more of for the members.

While the conferences have been the main means for providing those connections, your fellow members have submitted a variety of creative ideas for how ANWG can better serve those members. We hereby present the ideas given us so far for future programs and activities. It is hoped that additional ideas might also be given to the committee members. Some of these will require funding, be it from internal or external sources, while many can be done almost immediately.

For Board Consideration:

1. Promotion items for ANWG (pins, calendars, etc.)

2. Consider Members at Large from Rep Base areas, to promote ANWG in their area through meetings, to build a better network.

3. Present a higher profile to the Weaving community, through promotion. i.e. introduction of Board Executive at Conferences, profiles in newsletter, etc.

4. Do this exercise of brainstorming biennially to meet the on-going changes required.

5. Establish a board position as Rep Liaison. Have that person research regional meetings; make an effort to have ANWG presence there by including listings of video collection in handouts, donation of imprinted items, awarded for a juried exhibit prize.

6. If ANWG's focus is not just on weaving organizations, change the name to reflect a broader textile/fiber focus.

7. If each rep would contribute one report a year to their Activity pages, the board would have something in hand for the AGM which could be used to help the networking of the guilds.

For Benefit of Reps:

1. Change (vary) meeting location and dates of AGM.

2. Guild Rep networking using website.

3. New Rep membership package including computer use.

4. State/Provincial meeting for guild Reps, online if not in person.

5. With conference registrants housed at a University, it might be possible to have an ANWG hospitality room for Reps where training could take place.

For Benefit of Guilds/members:

1. Biennial challenge to Guilds on exchange items.

2. Increase number and amounts of scholarships.

3. Partially underwrite touring instructors.

4. Speaker Directory and Rep Forum require volunteer labor, or a fee to the webmaster for the time to initiate.

5. A reason to visit the same site daily/weekly — make it real gold mine of information and exciting ideas.

Networking - physical:

(Some of the ideas mentioned above are repeated below.)

1. Conferences - more frequent, smaller, regional, etc.

2. Underwriting workshop tours of regions.

3. Increase number and amounts of scholarships.

4. Conference challenges other than booths for Guilds.

5. ANWG Board members attend regional functions/events, presentations on ANWG.

6. Guild exchanges at conferences.

Networking - virtual:

The following membership suggestion can be put into effect rapidly by the Communications Director and the Webmaster.

1. Speaker/Teacher Directory —interactive, people add themselves to keep it current.

2. Forum for Reps discussion.

3. Guild reports via website for AGM.

4. Guild newsletter online.

5. Online Swatches.

6. Track exchanges with other guilds.

7. Brainstorming to meet the on-going challenges of meeting needs of membership and organization.

Possible Funding Sources:

1. Conferences

2. Sale of promotion items for ANWG (pins, T-shirts, mugs, totes, calendars, etc.)

3. Grants from foundations, arts councils

4. Donations from individuals/corporations

5. Fees for online classes

6. Sale of CDs of samples



Rodrick Owen, Braidmaker

Rodrick is just one of the incredible teachers who will be offering seminars at Beyond Borders. He incorporates braidwork into belts, items of personal adornment, garments and wall hangings.

To view Rodrick's work, book and video, please visit his website at rodrickowen.com

Attention BC Guilds

Susan Harvey, BC Rep to the Guild of Canadian Weavers would like to have any BC guild who would like a contact listed on the GCW website to please get in touch with her.

Susan Harvey, BC Rep, GCW
rbh@telus.net

REP'S CORNER

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For those coming in Friday (June 7) and, if desired, staying over Saturday as well, guest rooms are \$69 per room (plus tax 12.4%). Individuals must identify themselves as part of the ANWG-AGM group to get this rate. Reservations at the hotel may be made directly, (ask for Michele Hanson and say you are with ANWG) or if you would like to share, but do not know with whom, you may reserve through Mimi Anderson (ANWG treasurer) via mail or email (see below).

Each guest of the hotel will have a \$5 voucher for breakfast Saturday morning in the hotel's dining room. Lunch will be provided by ANWG, as well as coffee and snacks in our meeting room. Let me know if you would like a map sent.

There is free airport shuttle service, and for drive-in reps, there is free parking at the hotel. Sorry, there is not parking for RV's or campers.

Please return this form to Mimi Anderson, ASAP, or no later than May 28th.

423 North D Street, Tacoma, WA 98403

mimidanderson@netscape.net



AGM Reservations: (Please fill out if staying at hotel or not)

_____ # persons staying at the hotel Friday night _____
 _____ # persons staying at the hotel Saturday night _____

Name of Guild _____

Name of Representative _____

mailing address _____

phone _____

email _____

Name of Alternate _____

mailing address _____

phone _____

email _____

Item submitted must have been woven by an active guild member within the past four years and never been shown at an ANWG conference either as a part of a guild booth or individual entry.

Items submitted will be voted on anonymously. After votes are tallied we will enjoy short stories about the weaver and the piece (time limit—probably 3 minutes).

WEAVING CONTEST ENTRY (one per guild)

Name of Weaver _____

Description of item-or title of piece (if titled) _____

Fiber(s) used Sett _____ Sett _____

Technique or weave structure _____

Other comments _____

