

WGB General Meeting 9 September 2020

Business Meeting

Virtual meeting via Zoom 12:35 – 1:00 PM

98 registered

Approximately 57 attended the Business Meeting & 66 the Lecture

Welcome – Linda Snook

Linda welcomed everyone to our first Zoom WGB Business Meeting.

Past Deanship Remarks – Carol McClennen

Linda announced that due to the canceling of our March 2019 meeting due to the pandemic, Carol didn't have the opportunity to share her thoughts at the end of her term as dean.

With a smile, Carol expressed her gratitude to everyone and thanked the guild for putting their confidence in her as dean and putting up with long business meetings. Carol thanked Linda for being an amazing, calm, supportive associate dean and said she is the perfect dean as the guild moves into our virtual stage. Carol is confident the guild will support Linda as they did Carol herself. In addition she thanked all the board members who worked with her for their support. She thanked the entire guild and looks forward to sharing this virtual year with everyone.

Recording Secretary – Cindy Gimbert

Linda reported that the minutes of this meeting will be posted on the guild website on the **Membership** page and thanked Cindy for writing up the minutes from the summer Board Meetings, all of which can also be found on the website.

Treasurer – Beth Guertin

Beth submitted the following report:

September 7 2020 Treasurer's Report

During the month of August, the last two CD's that the guild had came due. Due to the low interest rates on CD's at this time I closed both CD's and moved the money into the money market savings account. Deposit on August 6: \$15851.28 (851.28 was interest earned on the 3 year CD); on August 26 \$70,783.54 (\$783.54 interest earned over the past year, had been rolling over a 90 and 30 day CD's until now so interest was accumulative). When interest rates increase then I will move money back into CD's earn the guild more money.

The accountant completed the guild's tax return. The return was filed with both the federal and state. The guild owed the state \$87.00, which was paid.

As of today, WGB has \$156,183.99 in the money market savings account

9043.39 in the checking account

Both account statements have been reconciled.

The church very generously reduced the amount of rent to be paid this year to \$3,900.00 due to covid. I paid the church half of the rent owed (\$1900.00) in September per our agreement.

Membership – Frann Bennett

The guild has 222 active members. Twelve are new to the guild. Most are from New England, but one is from as far away as Ohio. Frann was happy to see new members at this meeting and extended a warm welcome to all.

Morning Workshops – Ginny Hamilton/Pat Vinter

Pat reported that the committee has worked hard throughout the spring and summer to plan and implement guild workshops and meetings via Zoom. The decision was made to take things slowly by only offering one workshop per month while the committee educated itself to make the online speakers, meetings and workshops the best they could be for the membership. In addition, Webmaster Helen Sandoz has worked hard to

make sure the videos of all events will be available to members for a short time following every event. Helen has done a lot of work to make sure registration and Zoom meeting access is easy for our members. WGB now has two Zoom Pro accounts, through which we run all workshops and meetings. The guild also uses these accounts to hold our Board Meetings.

Since the guild has gone virtual and is postponing the WGB fall sale, many were wondering how to sell handwovens online. To support those efforts, the Education Committee planned and held a special workshop in August on photographing handwovens. Elaine Palmer, one of our members, taught the workshop. Over 30 members participated in that workshop, which was very well received. The first fall workshop (via Zoom) took place this morning and there will be a workshop in October and one in November (both via Zoom). The committee members hope that by late November they will have an idea on how to proceed for March through June programming. A schedule for the entire year has been planned, but they will need to wait to determine whether the program can be in person or will be on Zoom. They will give membership the word in late autumn about programming for next spring.

100th Anniversary and Guild Challenge – Beth Guertin

The 100th

Linda announced that in two short years the guild will celebrate our 100th Anniversary. To honor this momentous event, the guild will have two exhibits of weaving. One will be at the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, MA to show the creativity of our members. The second exhibit will be at the Charles River Museum in Waltham, MA to celebrate our history. For the Fuller Museum, there is a Call for Artists to submit their weaving. It is posted on the WGB website under the 100th Anniversary tab. If you are interested in weaving for this exhibit, the 100th Committee has developed a series of Zoom sessions to help you. They will be held each month from September through December. The September meeting will be held next week either Tuesday morning or Wednesday evening. It will be on concept development. If you want

more information or if you want to participate in one or more of these sessions, please contact Beth Guertin.

A second way to participate in the juried exhibit is to participate in the COVID Clean Out Your Closet Collaboration that Laurie Steeger has created. The guild will create one or more “quilts” out of handwoven fabric. Laurie, with other guild members, will use these swatches or woven pieces of fabric that you send in to create a square for the quilt. Or you can create your own square with your handwoven scraps about what security and home mean to you during COVID. Laurie has already received two completed squares and several swatches. Go to the website to see examples and pictures of what these squares look like.

<https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/100th-anniversary>

There will be more information in the bulletin and on the website. The quilts will be shown at either the Fuller Craft Museum or the Charles River Museum.

The Guild Challenge

The Charles River Museum exhibit will include a cascading waterfall of 100 scarves. Last year’s guild challenge, *And The Beat Goes On*, has contributed scarves towards this exhibit. If you have not submitted your paperwork and scarf to Beth Guertin yet, please do so by Dec. 31. This year’s guild challenge is about getting back to our roots. The challenge is to choose a pattern that was popular back in the 1920s when our guild was started and to modernize it. The details are on the website on the **Membership** tab under **Guild Programs** at **Guild Challenge**. The resources are available at the guild library, on handweaving.net, and at Beth Guertin’s weaving studio library. This scarf will be due at the May 2021 guild meeting. Please email Beth Guertin or Adele Harvey to let them know if you are going to weave a scarf. Look at the bulletin or the website for more information.

Annual Sale – Sara White, Carol McClennen

Sara and Carol are the co-chairs of the 2020 sale committee. Given the challenge of whether the guild could hold an in person or online sale in 2020, the committee decided that the guild needed to increase interaction with our audience before starting an online sale. To that

end, Sara, Carol, and Webmaster Helen Sandoz have created a blog on our guild website. <https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/blog-1>
Please check it out!

Sara reported that at the August board meeting the board approved the creation of the WGB blog to communicate with weavers, keep the public aware of the guild and to add to our online audience during this period of COVID restrictions. One item from that the board meeting, *Sales of Woven Products*, has been considered for this blog but there are many factors to think through and at this point the topic is still under discussion. The annual sales committee co-chairs, Sara and Carol, volunteered to act as temporary blog editors in the absence of a social media chairperson. Sara and Carol have been working closely with Helen Sandoz to create an initial test version of the blog that was revised and is now online. The WGB blog will be available to the public through the guild homepage. Blog editors:

- **monitor** the blog,
- have permission to **create and delete** posts and comment,
- **manage** the monthly subscription lists, and
- **announce** blog updates, including on the guild Facebook page.

Anyone who visits the blog can comment. There is an invitation to readers and visitors to submit posts. This submission process is controlled by the editors through a form that potential authors must complete and submit for review before the posting appears on the blog.

Carol explained that the committee wants to enrich the blog with stories, comments, ideas and discussions from our guild. Post your projects, your show and tell, ask questions, or share your interests. Carol's placemats made from thrums, an example of show and tell, are on the blog now. The committee is looking for interview candidates from the guild to tell their stories online. If you have a weaving story to share or a suggestion for an interview, please contact Carol or Sara. Only people who subscribe to the blog for monthly updates will receive them. Please subscribe, bookmark the blog for easy access and tell your friends.

Website – Helen Sandoz (via Linda)

The website is your link to the guild so please visit it often. If you have any problems or difficulties with the website, go to the guild website, under the **Membership** tab, click on **Contact Us**, leave a message for the webmaster, and Helen will get back to you to answer your questions.

Education Grants – Martha Rossman (via Linda)

There is updated information on how to submit for an education grant on the website on the **Education** tab.

Bulletin – Diane Chaisson

The next deadline is November 1 for the Bulletin. The bulletin will come out mid- to late November.

Yearbook – Sue Knowles (via Linda)

The yearbook is now on the website. Printed copies for those members who asked for a printed copy will be in the mail soon.

Ratings – Ruth Buchman

Ruth, as ratings chair, had the great honor to announce the three members who successfully completed a rating this year:

- Eileen Crawford, *Apprentice*
- Penny LaCroix, *Apprentice*
- Shannon Mather, *Master Weaver*

Shannon is the first WGB member to receive the Master rating since 2011. She did all her work from Hawaii.

The ratings process was delayed due to COVID and the weavers should receive their work back shortly. Ruth hopes they will soon be able to show their weavings during show and tell. Members can look forward to seeing photos in the next bulletin and eventually on the website. The guild gave the new Apprentices and Master Weaver, Eileen, Penny, and Shannon, a round of applause. Ruth praised their hard work and beautiful weaving. Linda thanked Ruth for her work on the ratings this year.

Library – Joanne Germaine (via Linda)

Joanne asked that people return their checked out WGB Library books to her home, 17 Clubhouse Lane, Hopkinton, MA. You can reach her by email.

Outreach – Jane Moore (via Linda)

Jane reports that all outreach in person demonstrations are suspended due to COVID. We appreciate those who have expressed interest in outreach and look forward to the day when we can spread the weaving word in person again.

Nominating Committee – Susan Pippin

The guild has three current open positions that need to be filled as soon as possible:

- Outreach Chair to work with Jane;
- Public Relations Chair; and
- Annual Sale, Second Assistant Chair.

Several guild position terms will also be expiring in May:

- Recording Secretary;
- Morning Workshop, Assistant Chair;
- Education Grant Chair;
- Membership Committee Co-Chairs;
- Nominating Second Assistant Chair;
- Outreach Assistant Chair;
- Yearbook Ad Chair.

People who are in those positions can volunteer to continue in those positions or new people interested in serving can get in touch with any of the Nominating Committee members. Susan Broadmeadow and Manon Pelletier serve with Susan Pippin on the Nominating Committee. Committee addresses, phone numbers and emails are listed in the handbook. Contact information will be posted in the Bulletin also.

Announcements

Linda let people know that you may email her or committee members if you have any questions or suggestions about today's meeting. All the information is on the website. Much was also in the August bulletin or will be in the November bulletin.

Next Business Meeting, Wednesday, October 14 at our October Guild Meeting via Zoom.

Adjourned at 1:00 PM

*Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Gimbert, Recording Secretary*

Addendum:

The Schedule for the September 2020 WGB Morning Workshop and General Meeting via Zoom

10 – Noon Morning Workshop by Marcia Weiss, *Double Cloth Drafting*

12 Noon-12:20 PM - We will break out into small groups to chat & meet new fellow weavers, as we would over lunch at an in-person meeting. Please take a turn introducing yourself in this small group, say where you are from, what looms you use, and what you are currently weaving. We will all be returned to the main room before the business meeting begins.

12:20 - 1:00 PM - Business Meeting

1:00 - 3:00 PM - Lecture by Anastasia Azure, *Weaving Dimensional Mandalas*

If you are unable to join us, the lecture will be available on the WGB website for those who signed up starting Thursday, 9/10, at 5 PM for 48 hours.