

# **WGB General Meeting 14 October 2020**

## **Business Meeting**

Virtual meeting via Zoom

70 people attended the Business Meeting & 72 attended the lecture

12:30 – 1:05

**Welcome** – Linda Snook, Ginny Hamilton

Linda welcomed everyone and Ginny Hamilton explained Zoom protocol. Linda announced that Mary Mandarino has stepped forward to take on the open position for Social Media. Mary Mandarino was in the HGA Spinning & Weaving Week Fashion Show. You will be able to see the recording of the event on YouTube and Facebook.

**Recording Secretary** – Cindy Gimbert

Cindy summarized the minutes of the September meeting. Minutes are posted on the guild website on the **Membership** page of the website.

**Treasurer** – Beth Guertin

Beth submitted the following report:

11 October 2020

WGB Treasurer's Report

The TD bank accounts were reconciled. As of today,

Money market savings account has \$156,215.99 and earned \$32.00 in interest last month

Checking account has \$8,276.20

Sales tax for July through September was paid on October 1 of \$75.00 (sale of Leclerc loom).

Fulfilled the PCI compliance questionnaire and passed the Ethernet security check for the TD bank merchant credit card machine/account. The compliance is much more detailed and time consuming since we switched the credit card machine from being on a phone line to Ethernet. PCI views Ethernet connection as more of a security risk, especially since we move it to other locations. The guild should rethink the credit card machine for the annual sale when our contract is up Fall of 2021 (need to notify TD bank in August of our intent to renew or not). Sold one copy of Interlaced through the website.

## **Nominating Committee** - Susan Pippin

Susan Pippin introduced the other nominating committee members: Susan Broadmeadow and Manon Pelletier. In upcoming meetings, there will be information on board positions opening in May but two critical current openings need to be filled now: Public Relations Chair (contacting newspapers & TV) & Education Assistant Chair. If you are interested and have questions, please get in touch with an Education Committee Member to chat. They can answer questions and get you in touch with the people in the positions now to learn more about the duties.

Ginny Hamilton and Pat Vinter have done an incredible job setting up workshops and switching over to virtual sessions. It has been a huge amount of work. They have served on the committee for a lot longer than their initial term. It is essential to find someone to step into the Education Assistant Chair position in January 2021 to work with them. Ginny & Pat have agreed to stay on to serve as co-chairs next year (2021-2022) and continue to train the Assistant Chair. The following year (2022- 2023), the Assistant Chair would then step up into the Education Chair position. Anyone interested in the position should contact either the nominating committee members (Susan P., Susan B., or Manon) or Ginny or Pat directly. Any one of them would be happy to talk with you!

## **Membership** – Susan Targove, Frann Bennett

There are three new members since the September meeting, one each from Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire. Active membership is 227.

## **Afternoon Speakers** – Eileen Crawford, Associate Dean

Guild meetings will continue online in the current Zoom format with virtual afternoon speakers through spring. The schedule will be posted on the website as soon as it is available. Eileen reports that the online programming has been well received, including by people who cannot travel to in person meetings.

At the next guild meeting on November 11, the guild is happy to welcome Robin Spady as our afternoon speaker to talk about *Couture Passementerie through the Eyes of a Fiber Artist*. You need to sign up for the lecture on the guild website.

<https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/event-registration>

Robyn defines *passementerie* on her website:

It's a French term without an English equivalent. Passementerie encompasses a multitude of techniques used to create embellishments. It includes the creation of buttons, cording, trim, garment closures, braiding, tassels, and much more. <https://www.spadystudios.com/programs-seminars>

Eileen suggests you look through your house and closets at the trims, the small details that can make a textile special.

### **Morning Workshops – Ginny Hamilton/Pat Vinter**

Pat reported that the education committee is made up of Ginny and Pat and the Assistant Dean, Eileen Crawford, and the Webmaster, Helen Sandoz. Ginny and Pat have met regularly throughout the summer and fall to make online programming the best experience possible. They are happy with the initial success. They now have a lot of knowledge and want to be able to impart it. If meetings are in person next year, many workshops that were scheduled for this year but canceled due to COVID will be rescheduled for next year, so much of next year's work is done. The team needs a new person to learn the process. In 2021-22, Pat will be in her third year on the committee and Ginny will be in her fourth year. Starting in January 2021, Ginny and Pat will work with the new Assistant Chair so the new person can learn how to get workshops started, do contracting, and use Zoom in case we continue to do even a portion of our programming online.

Ginny stressed that for workshops to continue the year after next the committee needs a volunteer to step up now. She emphasized it's a lot of fun, you meet a lot of people you wouldn't ordinarily meet, and she and Pat have figured out the technology and can help a volunteer figure

it out. So don't be afraid of the technology. The guild needs you! If you enjoy going to workshops, it isn't that difficult to move into being one of the chairs. People offer lots of suggestions and you get a lot of help. If you are interested please contact Ginny or Pat or one of the nominating committee members. Even if you are not sure and just want a bit of information, do get in touch.

### **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Guild Challenge – Beth Guertin**

The Guild Challenge is weaving scarves for the Charles River Museum Cascading Waterfall of Scarves Exhibit for the guild's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. At the October guild meeting, the committee held a Weavers Helping Weavers session for the challenge. A video is found here:

<https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/whw-ii>

This year's challenge is *Getting Back to Our Roots*. It looks at patterns from 1922 to 1939, patterns that the weavers who started the guild may have been weaving. All the details are on the website under Membership and then under Guild Programs.

<https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/members-programs>

There's a list of recommended resources. The scarf should be 10 inches wide by 80 inches long with 6 inches of twisted fringe at each end. There are also weaving record forms to be filled out. Besides weaving the scarf, you should weave a 12 inch finished sample. A part of the sample will go into a book that will be in our guild library. The rest of the sample will be used to make the party favors for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon Gala in Oct 2022. The scarves are due May 2021 (or September 2021 at the latest). The committee will then create a book for the library and a book to go along with the Charles River Museum exhibit. Each person who weaves a scarf will receive a copy of the book. If you have any questions, contact Beth Guertin or Adele Harvey.

The second exhibit for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be at the Fuller Craft Museum. It will be a juried show. All WGB members who were members as of September 1, 2020 can submit. (The new September 2020 deadline was extended due to COVID from the original

May deadline in the Call for Artists.) The Call for Artists is posted on the WGB website under the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tab.

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

To help weavers who are weaving for the exhibits, the committee is running monthly Zoom coaching sessions. Thanks to Julia Flanders and Laurie Steger. Coaching sessions are either Tuesday morning at 10 am or Wednesday evening at 7 pm. The sessions go over how to weave for Fuller, techniques, and an exchange of ideas, mutual support and inspiration between participants. Contact Beth if you'd like to participate in the coaching sessions. Contact Julia or Laurie if you have any questions. Beth looks forward to receiving many scarves and wishes everyone happy weaving.

Lastly, if you've not completed your music scarf from last year, there is still time. The committee would like the scarves by December 31, 2020, but the deadline can be extended. Beth is moving, so if you are mailing the scarf to Beth, please mail it so the package arrives before mid-November. Otherwise, please hold off mailing until you find out Beth's new address.

### **COVID Closet Clean-up Collaboration (CCCC) – Laurie Steger**

Laurie reported that there was a Weavers Helping Weavers session on the project in the morning session of the October guild meeting.

Video: <https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/whw-i>

The CCCC is designed to encourage participation of the full membership. The project will create a community quilt made of pieces based on your feelings about being at home during the pandemic. Each of the squares will be made of handwoven swatches, scraps and samples. Instructions are on the website:

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

You can also email Laurie at [lauriesteger11@gmail.com](mailto:lauriesteger11@gmail.com) for instructions on how to make the quilt squares from a pattern. The squares should measure between 8 and 9 inches to allow for seam allowances and can be made from a pattern or from your imagination. The group hopes to

have enough squares to make a finished quilt 60 inches by 60 inches that will be submitted to the Fuller Craft Museum for review. If it is not juried into the Fuller Exhibit, it will probably be shown at the Charles River Museum. A lot of people have already sent samples, swatches and squares. The quilt will be very sweet and will be a nice way to be part of the 100<sup>th</sup> and enjoy the celebration.

### **WGB Blog Committee** – Sara White, Carol McClennen

Sara thanked Mary Mandarino for joining their social media efforts! Carol and Sara are very pleased to be joined by such a wonderful resource as Mary.

The Blog committee is considering creating a **Multiregion Membership Project** to reach out to those coming from regions outside of driving distance to the guild and to include those who are not driving. This would allow different regions to interact with each other and with the local guild through Zoom meetings. The goals are to build a stronger community and greater guild satisfaction regarding connectedness. The committee is sending out a Google survey to membership to determine interest in participation. The deadline for responding is November 1. The committee will analyze the data and report to everyone.

Also, the committee will send out their first **monthly blog update** in November to those signed up for the blog. If you are interested in receiving the blog update letting you know the latest posts and news, you can subscribe on the guild website at:

<https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/wgb-blog>

The committee is always interested in having people share and post their ideas. Instructions are available on the blog.

Carol added that it would be amazing to connect with people from all over the nation in our guild through the Multiregion Membership Project. In addition to increasing connections with members far and wide, the project may help to increase the guild audience and perhaps foster online sales should the guild pursue that direction.

## **Library – Joanne Germaine**

Joanne is the librarian and Nancy Flood is her assistant. Joanne was given permission to go into the church building to access the library and hopes to be there within the next few weeks. Joanne thanked members for returning library books to her and hopes to bring the books back into the library to protect them. During this time when the library is closed due to COVID, you may contact Joanne to request a book and to determine a pick-up time.

This period is also a chance for the library to explore the future of technology in the library. Nancy has started digitizing some of the guild manuscripts. Joanne hopes we can acquire more e-books allowing those members who can't get to a meeting to have access to weaving information. Joanne is looking into putting the library catalog online through Library Thing.

The library is not purchasing new books at this time but donations are welcome! Joanne put a wish list for books for the library on the website: <https://www.weaversguildofboston.org/library-1>

You may purchase books from the wish list and send them to Joanne, who will put them in the guild library collection.

The guild received a donation from Barbara Elkins, a lovely book from the Northampton, MA tapestry artist, Micala Sidore, *The Art is the Cloth: How to Look at and Understand Tapestries*. It's a gorgeous book with a fresh perspective on how to look at tapestries. Thank you so much to Barbara Elkins for the book donation.

## **Bulletin- Diane Chaisson**

The deadline is November 1. Expected submissions include presentations by the rating award winners. Thanks to Ruth Buchman for putting some of that information together. There will also be submissions on the spring education workshops and lectures in the bulletin. Please let Diane know what to expect that you will be submitting as soon as you know.

## **Ratings - Ruth Buchman**

Ruth reported that the WGB members who received ratings this year are Eileen Crawford and Penny Lacroix for Apprentice and Shannon Mathers for new Master Weaver. You can expect to see photos of all of these people's work in the next bulletin and everyone should take a look! There's some great weaving there.

Think about whether you want to do ratings. Ratings are a way to expand your knowledge and a way to structure your time and give yourself a goal. Ratings this year are due in February, not March. If you have ratings to submit, get in touch with Ruth to work out the logistics. There are a few small changes in the requirements since last year. Make sure you are using the most recent version of the requirements which is on the website. Email Ruth at [ruthbuchman@gmail.com](mailto:ruthbuchman@gmail.com) if you'd like her to highlight the specifics or if you have any questions.

## **NEWS Representative- Diana Vaughn**

The Trustees of the New England Weavers Seminar met early in October to talk about the biannual summer meeting. Earlier in the fall a survey was sent out to past attendees asking their opinions on holding in person meetings in the summer. Overwhelmingly, people reported they would not be ready for in person meetings next summer. **There will not be an in person NEWS conference in July of 2021**, but virtual activities and seminars probably will be held around the weekend of July 17. The committees are considering having two half-day non-concurrent sessions. Other aspects under consideration are how to hold a virtual fashion and gallery show and how to do virtual guild exhibition tables. Diana mentioned that Ro is also working with the Trustees. There is another meeting of the Trustees in early November to continue discussing these issues.

*The next Guild General Meeting and Lecture is on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. Be sure to sign up on the website for the Zoom link.*

*Adjourned at 1:06 PM*

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Gimbert, Recording Secretary*

Addendum:

**Schedule for October 2020 WGB Meeting via Zoom**

**10 – Noon**

**Morning Workshop**, Tackling Turned Drafts Workshop, Gretchen Romey-Tanzer

**Weavers Helping Weavers**

- I. Guild Challenge – “Getting Back to Our Roots” - Beth Guertin
- II. Covid 19 Closet Clean-up Collaboration Project - Laurie Steger

**12 Noon-12:20 PM**

Small break out groups 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 Daryl Lancaster, Parallel Threads that Parallel Life