

Weavers' Guild of Boston

P.O. Box 366, Andover MA 01810

Diane Chaisson — Editor
diane@meadowlarks-farm.net

SPRING 2019

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Dean's Message



Hello Fellow Weavers –

As I write this, the snow is melting, daffodils are in bud on the south side of the house, and the vernal equinox is approaching. My registration for my first choice of workshop at NEWS was successful and I am looking forward to July. I hope many of you are planning to attend this wonderful weaving experience. Please consider applying for a grant to attend this event by contacting Martha Rossman (martha.rossman@gmail.com).

Our March guild meeting and subsequent color workshop were both an affirmation of all that is special about WGB. Sarah Jackson shared that she was “blessed by our warm welcome, our enthusiasm, our willingness to explore unknown territory, our delight in new discoveries, our creativity, and our support for and encouragement to each other.” We are so fortunate to be part of a guild like WGB – so please consider volunteering to keep the guild running smoothly. Contact Susan Pippin jcohue@aol.com to see what positions are available.

I hope all your challenge projects are turning out successfully. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's weaving in May. The May meeting is also a time when we present awards to deserving WGB members. Check the yearbook for descriptions of the various awards – and see if you can think of a deserving member. Two letters of recommendation should be sent to Laurie Autio (lkautio@comcast.net) for each nominee.

Happy Weaving and Happy Spring!

Afternoon Speaker

April PM Lecture

Reggie Delarm

“History of Tape Looms”



The presentation will be about the history of looms and making bands across all continents, how they evolved and how they were used in the past and today. This will be accompanied by a slide show and samples of loom styles and woven bands, as well as samples used for making bands today. There will be several looms set up for folks to try at the end of the presentation.

Education Grants

2018/19 fiscal year is in progress and there are renewed opportunities to apply for an Education Grant. Don't forget that 2019 is a **NEWS** year. Please see the updated form on the WGB website. Thank you!

Grants are not awarded on the basis of financial need, but to encourage new opportunities to extend learning in the field of weaving.

Martha Rossman
Education Grants Chair
martha.rossman@gmail.com

Outreach Opportunities:

Natick Organic Farm ‘Sheep Week’:

April 29 – May 3, 2019 – Farmers will be shearing sheep and offering opportunities to children and adults to try out skirting, washing, carding, felting, spinning and weaving. Barbara Provest is taking the lead on organizing Guild volunteers to demonstrate weaving for this Outreach event, and would LOVE to have help setting up inkle looms and other



equipment, and demonstrating during the week. For details please contact Barbara by phone/text 508-574-2615.

Alden House Historic Site Sheep to

Shawl Festival: Saturday, September 28, 2019, noon – 4pm, Duxbury, MA.

The Alden House (<http://www.alden.org>) is the location of the second home of the Alden family, after they left the Plimoth settlement. The Guild has been invited to demonstrate aspects of weaving from winding a warp to weaving cloth. Alden House does not provide equipment so members would have to bring their own. There is a barn that can be used if it rains. If you are interested in participating contact Jane Moore. moore.jane@comcast.net



Special Workshop

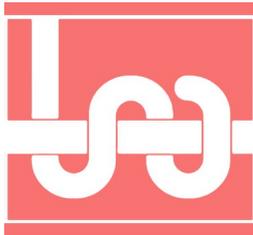
March 14-16, 2019

Sarah Jackson "Color Confidence and More"



Our 20 participants enjoyed a world of color in Sarah Jackson's workshop Color Confidence and More. We came with pre-warped looms. She brought over 100 weft colors for us to choose from. On the first day, we wove plain weave, changing weft color blocks. On the second day, we made yarn wraps from colors in our favorite pictures. We wove summer and winter using various combinations of colors. The results were amazing! The third day was devoted to completing our woven samples and observing the color differences between the plain weave and the

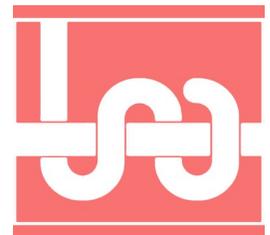
summer & winter samples. Learning how to make yarn wraps with the Fibonacci Color Sequence was a plus. Sarah was a gracious teacher and Beth Guertin brought ice cream sundaes to celebrate the final day. We learned a lot about using color in weaving and everyone left with color confidence!



NEWS 2019

Thursday July 11 - Sunday July 14

Smith College



The NEWS website (www.newenglandweavers.org) has everything you need to know about this year's NEWS. Many classes are already filled, but NEWS offers other opportunities to find weaving inspiration. The Faculty Exhibit by itself is worth a trip to Northampton! As is the vendor Marketplace!

WGB is fortunate to have so many talented and inspiring weavers. Please consider submitting a piece (or 2 or 3!) to the Fashion and Gallery shows. Entries are not pre-judged, but you will receive constructive feedback from the jury. And maybe an award! All the instructions and forms are on the website.

The Weaver's Guild of Boston is responsible for Gallery intake and jurying. Please volunteer for that or any assignment - volunteers keep NEWS strong.

NEWS offers scholarships that are not need based. There are several requirements. All the information is on the website.

2019 Morning Workshops

March 30, 2019

"Pincushion Workshop"

10:00—2:00

Instructor: **Christine Duckworth**



For hundreds of years, pincushions have served as decorative and useful household objects. The classic tomato pincushion evolved from the Victorian custom of putting a tomato on the mantel-piece to ensure prosperity. Since tomatoes were not always in season, stuffed red balls of fabric were used. During this class, you will make a classic tomato pincushion- with a twist. Using decorative stitches and colorful wool and wool felt, you will create a personal, modern version of this vintage design. Please bring small, sharp scissors. Knowledge of blanket stitch, running stitch and French knots a plus.

Recommendations for Awards

There needs to be at least two letters of recommendation for nominees to be considered for an award. Descriptions of each award and past recipients are found on the website or in your Yearbook.

Honorary Membership
Celebration of Weaving Life
Constance Gallagher
Distinguished Achievement
Dorothy Glowacki
Helen Barrett
Deborah Berry
Mary Merrill Distinguished Achievement

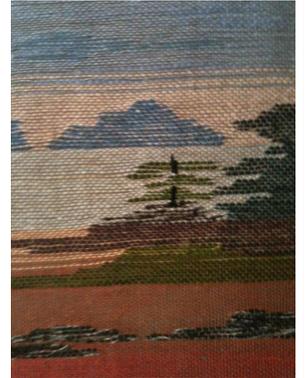
Contact: **Laurie Autio**
lkautio@comcast.net

April 10, 2019

Workshop #1

"Embroidery Weaves – Inlay, Transparency and HV Technique"

Instructor: **Barbara Herbster**



Workshop Description: Here is the chance to make the inner artist in you shine. Using the prior class inlay instruction, cut yourself free to arrange colors in shapes of all sizes to form a pictorial expression. Often this means of expression is referred to as inlay, transparency, or HV technique. No drawing /art experience necessary, just bring your creative urge and learn ways to make a photo or a drawing your own piece of textile art. This is not the same as tapestry as the weaver allows both warp and weft structural fabric to show. Traditionally it's not usual for the fabric to be completely covered using inlay.

No onsite registration accepted

Materials/Handouts Fee: \$1.00

Attendee Limit: 15

Workshop #2

Session # 2 of 2

"WGB Creative Game Challenge"

Instructor: **Beth Cederberg Guertin/
Adele Harvey**



This year's challenge will be a Creativity Game. Each participant will choose four cards representing four different categories: Technique/weave structure, Design, Color, and Fiber. The challenge is to produce any household item, piece of clothing or tapestry based on the parameters given on the four cards. Each participant will have different parameters and each piece will be unique. The September workshop will be choosing the cards (playing the game) and then discussing the possibilities of the parameters given. At the April workshop each participant will show and discuss his/her piece. A book will be made of all the drafts/documentation. The pieces will be used for the NEWS exhibit as well as the exhibit at the annual sale.

Materials/Handouts Fee: None

2019 April & Annual Meeting

Workshop #3

Session # 2 of 2

“More Than Four Color - Block Double Weave”

Instructor: **Sarah Fortin**



Workshop Description: Many times, eight shaft, two block double weave, is depicted using only two colors. To me this creates a very graphic, geometric design. This look can be softened by using more color in the warp and weft. We will be exploring, using samples, color inspiration and block design, the use of more than two colors in block double weave. This is not a technical class on block design drafting and theory, though there will be some discussion and explanation as I view it. Please be aware that I do not consider myself to be an expert on block double weave! I am still wrapping my brain around color placement (top or bottom wrap) and what will show where and why. Bring graph paper and pencil, or, if you wish, tablet or laptop with a design program, but remember, block double weave does not show well in computer programs. Some colored pencils may also be helpful along with some color inspiration. Explore with me!

Materials/Handouts Fee: \$5.00

No onsite registration accepted

Attendee Limit: 15

April Workshop #4

“Band Weaving on Tape Looms”

Instructor: **Reggie Delam**

People have been weaving these simple bands for centuries in most countries. Before we had zippers and Velcro, we needed a way of making strong ties for shirts, hats, belts, bags and aprons without having to warp a large loom. These simple bands are easy to make and the looms are very portable. In this basic weaving class, students will learn a brief history of tape/band looms, how to set up and read patterns, calculate warp length, warp this style of loom, how to weave warp-faced style, plain weaving and cording. We will be making bands in simple stripes and checks, and view hundreds of beautiful patterns. Materials Fee includes several kinds of threads, sheets to make your own patterns, and use of a loom, belt and shuttle (or bring your own).

Materials/Handouts Fee: \$5.00



May 8, 2019

WGB Annual Meeting

Guild Challenge: "Creative Game Challenge" Finale If you participated in the challenge, bring your finished pieces to the meeting (along with your documentation). Guild members, and visitors, will be eager to see your creations.

Annual Business Meeting: Dean Carol McClennen will conduct the annual meeting and celebrate the year's accomplishments prior to the summer break. Committee chairpersons deliver their annual reports to the members. Awards for both weaving accomplishments and guild work are presented. The ratings chairperson introduces members who have earned Apprentice, Journeyman, and Masters ratings this year. The new slate of officers is presented and voted in.

Potluck Lunch: Members are encouraged to bring a mug, plate, eating utensils, napkin, and - if you enjoy gracious living - a hand woven placemat. Each member should bring a dish, beverage, or dessert to serve 4 – 6 people, along with serving implements.

Fashion Show: This is a no-stress, light-hearted chance to display what you have been weaving this year and receive extravagant compliments. Artists bring and model their creations; an emcee describes each work. Fashions may be modeled by the weaver or a friend. Non-clothing can be held up or worn as a drape. Creations from classes and workshops welcome.



'Woven & photographed by Sally Eyring

Teacher Bios

Delarm, Reggie

Reggie Delarm has been sewing, knitting and creating since she was a small girl. She found a primitive paddle loom in the attic of her old family's home about 20 years ago and began to learn how to use it. She found others who had been weaving on this style loom and started demonstrating how it works at fairs, reenactments, museums and events across the country. She wrote a book on how to set the looms in a simple, easy to start method. In the past couple of years she has been learning how to weave rugs on an old Norwegian barn style loom that she acquired in her travels. This expanded her knowledge of weaving. She belongs to the Connecticut and Minneapolis weavers' guilds.

Duckworth, Christine

Christine Duckworth has worked with fabric and fibers for over fifty years. Six years ago, after a chance foray into a local shop, she discovered a new fiber passion—wool. (It doesn't fray!) Since then she has focused on using new and recycled wool to make tote bags, purses, toys and pincushions, from simple to ornate.

Fortin, Sarah

Sarah Fortin became enthralled with hand weaving as a student of Clothing and Textiles at Washington State University. After graduating and coming to the East Coast in the early 70's she continued to pursue weaving as a craft while working as an Extension Educator. She became a juried member of the League of NH Craftsmen in 1985, weaving and sewing women's clothing, throws and blankets. Sarah has taught weaving extensively throughout the country. She has won many awards in such shows as NH Craftmen's Fair, NEWS, NH Weavers' Guild exhibits and HGA's Convergence. She has also published articles in *Handwoven*. Sarah continues to explore and expand in her art with new techniques.

Guertin, Beth Cederberg

Beth Cederberg Guertin has been teaching both rigid heddle and multi shaft weaving for more than thirty-five years. She enjoys designing projects to use up small amounts of yarns.

Harvey, Adele

Adele Harvey has been weaving for more than fifty years. She has her Apprentice rating from WGB and has held many positions in the guild including Dean. She has a wide knowledge of weave structures.

Herbster, Barbara

Barbara Herbster has been weaving, contributing to galleries, and teaching for nearly 40 years. Strong interest in color and simple form has been her trademark whether making tapestries, rugs or producing wearables for sale. Weaving for Barbara is an endless creative exploration.

Handweavers Guild of America

Recently HGA announced the participants in the 2018 Truckee River Yardage exhibit.

Two WGB members are part of this exhibit:

Debbie Kaplan - her piece is entitled Sunset Sands and is Irregular Networked Twill.

Sarah Fortin - Two pieces. the first entitled Playing with Blocks won the Canadian Weavers' Nell Steedman's award and Heddlecraft magazine's Award for Innovation, Inspiration, and Excellence.

Sarah's second piece was entitled Contrast. Both pieces are Doubleweave block structure.

Congratulations to Debbie and Sarah!

Tips & Tricks

My Magic Heddle Board.



My husband, Edouard, made it for me.

It is a One-Size-Fits-All repair or replacement heddle kit.

I have 4 looms, all with different heddle sizes. There is a very small dot at the center of the board, and a saw kerf cut above and below marking the outer length of the heddles for each loom. There is also a notch top and bottom on the right, and a peg inserted 10 5/8 inches above the dot.

I bought one bundle of the longest texsolv heddles available - 21 1/4 inches - and opened the bundle, untwisting all the ties. Gasp! Then I hooked one end around the peg and wrapped the entire opened bundle around the right hand side of the board.

Now, when I need a repair heddle, I cut off one heddle leaving both ends closed. I hook one end over the peg and pull it taut down the length of the board, centering the eye over the dot.

Then I mark the top and bottom at the appropriate kerf cuts.

Next I cut the very top and bottom of the repair heddle, loop the bottom two legs around the lower heddle bar, and tie an overhand knot at the mark. All that remains is to tie the top two legs around the upper heddle bar and my new heddle is in place.

If I need to replace a heddle after the warp is tied on, I also cut the top of the heddle eye, loop it around the warp thread and tie an overhand knot at the top of the eye.

For the price of one texsolv bundle I now have one hundred repair heddles.

Helen
Sandoz
© 3/8/19



2019/2020 Open Positions and Responsibilities

Thank you to those who have already volunteered. This should be an exciting year as we develop and expand our outreach and public relations efforts. The following positions remain open.

For more information about any of these positions, or to volunteer, please contact Susan Pippin, cell 978-828-2306, sfpip-pin49@gmail.com or Eileen Crawford, cell 802-730-3860, crawfordrn@gmail.com.

Annual Exhibit and Sale 2nd Assistant Chair

- *Work with Chair and Assistant Chair on Sale

Membership Chair

- *Maintain member database
- *Mass notification of dues renewal
- *Provide updated member lists as needed
- *Proficient in Excel and Word mail merge

Nominating Committee Assistant Chair and 2nd Assistant Chair (2 people)

- *Work with team to identify Board Openings each year
- *Work with Committee Chairs and Board to identify potential volunteers

Outreach Chair

- *Work with assistant to identify outreach opportunities and volunteers and attend Board meetings

Public Relations Chair

- *Coordinate PR team so that message is consistent
- *Provide articles and calendar input for print: local papers, Handwoven, etc.

Public Relations/Annual Sales & Marketing

- *On Public Relations team
- *Focus on Annual Sale

Advertising Chair

- *Maintain spreadsheet of current/past/and potential advertisers for yearbook
- *Contact and secure advertisers for yearbook
- *Send invoices to Treasurers
- *Collect artwork and logos and forward to Yearbook editor and/or webmaster

New Museum Focused on History of Textile Production to Open in Webster

In January, a delegation from WGB (Carol McClennan, Linda Snook, Barbara Provest and Jane Moore) visited the site of [the Samuel Slater Museum](#) in Webster, MA – a work in progress slated to open later in 2019. Samuel Slater is credited with bringing the industrial revolution to New England. As a youth in England he memorized the mechanics of British textile production. After emigrating he applied this feat to building mills. His first mill, in Rhode Island, was not big enough to produce in the quantity he sought, so he founded the town of Webster (named after his friend, Daniel) where he could build a larger facility.



Museum founder, Chris Robert, and Curator, Olivia Spratt, gave the WGB group a detailed tour of the site, located in a former armory. They described their vision of the completed museum dedicated to the history of textile production as well as to the history of the town of Webster, much credit for both going to Samuel Slater. Robert and Spratt hope to make the museum experience highly interactive and instructive, and will include a working waterwheel and realistic recreations of textile production, and faux trolley rides down Webster Main Street. The WGB group offered insight into the history of yarn and cloth production, and Barbara Provest provided some relevant historical reference materials.

The Museum has located some equipment, and is looking for assistance in acquiring additional period looms and other equipment. They also seek help in restoring some of their equipment, especially several Draper looms. They are hopeful that some Guild members may be interested in working with them. There may also be opportunities for members to work with the Museum directly in offering classes and workshops. Anyone interested in working with the Museum independently on these matters should contact Chris Robert at chrisrobert1@icloud.com or Olivia Spratt at ospratt@samuelslatermuseum.org.



Job Opportunity

Need Loom Fixers

at Lowell Nat'l Historical Park

We're seeking 2 loom fixers to run and repair historic machinery in the Boott Cotton Mills Museum weave room exhibit with 90 ca. 1920 Draper Model E looms. Must have experience fixing machinery, strong safety mindset, and skill working with the public. For salary level and more info, please contact:

Laurel_Racine@nps.gov or go to USAJobs.gov.

Call for Photographers

From time to time, WGB has a need for photographers to document our weaving events such as the Fashion Show, the Annual Sale, the monthly Show and Tell etc. A good digital camera would be all that is necessary. Please contact Carol McClennen or Linda Snook if you think you could help out with this.





The US Mint has released a new quarter .” depicting a mill in Lowell and a girl at (was) a power loom...

Lowell National Historical Park

- Designer: Joel Iskowitz

Sculptor-Engraver: Phebe Hemphill

This design depicts a mill girl working at a power loom with its prominent circular bobbin battery. A view of Lowell, including the Boott Mill clock tower, is seen through the window. Inscriptions are “LOWELL,” “MASSACHUSETTS,” “2019,” and “E PLURIBUS UNUM (cost is \$1)

Obituary

Rosie Corey, a long time, valued, loved and important member of the Weavers Guild of Boston has died after a period of declining health. Rosie was a precise and creative weaver, a founding member of Wednesday Weavers. She earned a Master Rating from the guild and served as an examiner (in the 1970's) for the ratings program. Rosie was the embodiment of the quiet, self-effacing, talented and dedicated members of the Guild's 'old guard' whose work and involvement assured the growth and strength of the Guild. Services in honor of Rosie's life will be scheduled for later this year.

Book Suggestions

Debbie Watson would like suggestions for new books to be included in the **Ratings reference list.**

Please contact Debbie directly:
Deborah Watson (watsondeborah4@gmail.com)

Halcyon Yarns Benefit

WGB received a check for \$66.06 from Halcyon Yarn, 5% of what members spent at Halcyon last year.

They asked us to please remind our membership to mention WGB when they place their order either online or via phone so their order is credited to our account.

Weavers Guild Challenge

This year's challenge will be a **Creativity Game**. Each participant will choose four cards representing four different categories: Technique/weave structure, Design, Color, and Fiber. The challenge is to produce any household item, piece of clothing or tapestry based on the parameters given on the four cards. Each participant will have different parameters and each piece will be unique.



A book will be made of all the drafts/documentation. The pieces will be used for the NEWS exhibit as well as the exhibit at the annual sale.

Library News:

Lots to discover in the WGB library on the third floor of the church during our monthly Guild meetings. We are open 9:00 AM-12:30 PM. The library can help you learn more about the topics covered in your morning workshops, provide you inspiration for new projects, or give you a chance to peruse the latest weaving periodicals. The new Pourrey-Cross Textile Classification System will make it easier to find your favorite books and discover more books on topics you are interested in.

Some of our new books include :

- A Woven Book of knowledge-Textile Iconography of Cuzco, Peru
- Frances L. Goodriches Coverlet and Counterpane drafts-(donated by Ruth Buchman)
- Double Weave Revised and Expanded-Jennifer Moore
- A newly compiled notebook of Complex Weavers Journal
- A new Swatch book on Acadian Weaving Techniques compiled by Peg Schafer as a gift created for the Guild in appreciation for her education scholarship

See you there!
Joanne Germaine
Librarian



What topics are of interest?

The Education Department is looking for recommendations of topics and speakers that the membership would like to explore.

What topics or interests would you like to share with the Guild? We know you are out there!

Contact: Joan Paul mapaul24@gmail.com or
Linda Snook linda.c.snook@gmail.com



WGB Yarn Table Sales 2018 – 2019

	Sept:	Nov.	March:
Gross	\$2,413	\$914	\$1,383
members	\$1822	\$651	\$1,000
GUILD	\$535	\$243	\$ 353

**Total Guild benefit
was \$1,131**

THANK YOU to everyone who helped carry boxes in from the cars, setting up, helping to sell and breaking down, to everyone who provided items for sale and to all those who purchased items. I could not have done it without all your help.

Look for Yard Sale in Waltham June 8 & 9 featuring Rosie Corey's yarns and more. More info in April.

WGB Assignments 2018/2019

Awards

Laurie Autio
Adele Harvey
Diane Chaisson

Bulletin Samples

Ro Spinelli

Ex Officio

Diane Chaisson

Guild Challenge

Adele Harvey
Beth Guertin

Historian

Florence Feldman-Wood

Hospitality and Bulletin

Board

Kathy Zola
Carole Chapin

Host Greeter

TBA

Long Range Planning

Beth Guertin
Carol McClennen
Julia Flanders
Pam Burrows

Monograph Mailings

Beth Guertin

NEWS Rep

Diana Vaughn

NEWS Rep Assistant

Susan Haggerty

Ratings

Deb Watson

Social Media

TBA

Used Loom List

Diana Frost

Wholesale Publication Orders

Beth Guertin



Weavers' Guild of Boston Sample Spring 2019

Weaver: Fran Osten

Date: March 1, 2019

Weave Structure: 12 Shaft Random Point twill with networked treadling

Source:

Warp yarns: Hand-dyed 8/2 Tencel (white tencel from WEBS)

Weft yarns: 8/2 tencel Aquamarine (WEBS)

Colors: Water Chestnut (816) and Mushroom (030)

Equipment: 16 Shaft Macomber; 12 dent reed

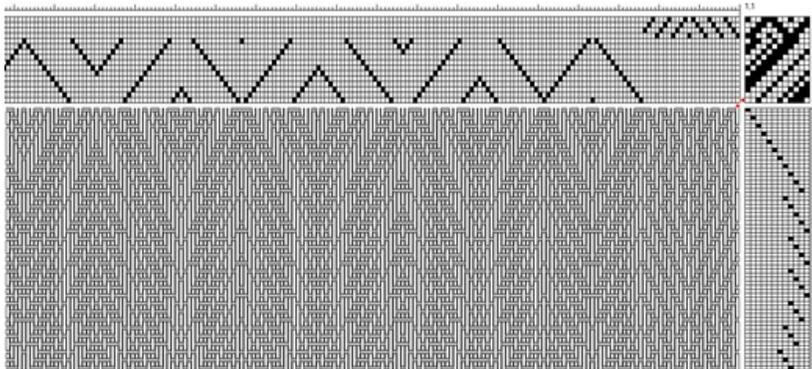
Sett: Warp 24 epi (2 per dent in 12 dent reed)

Width in reed: 18 "

Number of ends: 364 (360 + 4 additional ends to strengthen the 2 selvages)

Finishing: Hand wash with Blue Dawn, machine spun, line dried, pressed on Rayon setting

Shrinking: minimal



About the Draft: The size of the points in the warp was randomly varied, as was the networked weft progression.

About the Weaver: .Fran began weaving on a loom bought at a junk store in the 1970's on a loom that was literally warped (in the bad sense of the word)! Subsequently, her husband made her a beautiful 48" mahogany 4 shaft loom. The loom went into the attic while Fran raised her family and was teaching. She returned to weaving 20 years later when her youngest left for college and she was on a sabbatical.

Today, Fran works on multi-shaft looms, including her Megado. Using hand-dyed yarns, she creates primarily wearables. Her work is inspired by the New England landscape and the ever-changing ocean cove outside her studio. Color and a sense of movement is important to her designs. She likes escaping the orthogonal grid.

Fran is currently exploring structure and design in Laurie Autio's Advanced Weaving class. She is a member of Weavers Guild Boston, Wednesday Weavers, and Complex Weavers, participating in the 16's Study Group.

Note: Please Contact Ro Spinelli at reilspin@comcast.net with questions or to volunteer to weave samples for the Bulletin. Please renew your membership by August 30th to ensure a folder is made for you if you wish a fabric sample.

SAVE THE DATE – Annual Sale & Exhibit

November 6-9, 2019

Mark your calendars for the 2019 Annual Fiber Arts Sale and Exhibit. We are returning to the **Wellesley Village Church** again, and will be holding the sale in a renovated and slightly larger room. This year the sale will be in November. Drop off & jurying will be on Wednesday November 6. Sale dates are Thursday – Saturday, November 7-9.



The annual sale is a beautiful assembly of all kinds of handwoven articles. We're hoping that more people will take advantage of this opportunity to show their work and to see first-hand how the public interacts with all our varied creations. Even if you only enter 1 or 2 pieces, it's a fun experience and a way to be part of our weaving community.

Not sure if your work is “good enough”? It probably is, but bring it to a guild meeting for some feedback. Worried about the process of completing an inventory sheet and tagging your items? Don't! We're here to help – at guild meetings, via phone or email, or whatever way we can. Want to be part of the team that puts on the sale? Let us know. (Sale committee members get to put their work on the annual sale postcard and poster!)

More details will be available over the coming months. Now is the time to start planning!

--Elizabeth and Nancy and Marnie

