

WEAVERS GUILD OF BOSTON

ANNUAL REPORTS 2016

**Associate Dean
Annual Report 2016**

The 2015-16 Afternoon Program schedule went relatively well.

September: we heard the story of the **Hartford Artisans Weaving Center** from **Fran Curran**. Fran and her staff are doing wonderful things with their special needs weavers. The center has grown both physically and in recognition for the good work they are doing.

October: **Marjorie Durko Puryear** shared her visual journey from her early days on a basic Structo loom through her experiences in design and fine art. We were taken on a journey of her 48 year experiences in travel, and her teaching career as it all related to textile art and cultures.

November: we learned about a local outreach program for refugees centered in Worcester. The **Refugee Artisans of Worcester** was founded by **Joan Kariko and Ellen Ferrante** to provide support services and opportunities to earn money by producing and selling native crafts from their countries of origin. Joan and Ellen brought three artisans with them to demonstrate and put faces to the Worcester refugee situation. We had a back strap weaver from Bhutan and two Rawandan basket weavers. Crafts were available for purchase.

February: the program planned for the day was for **Tom Knisely** CDs on the “Loom Owners Companion” and “Weave a Good Rug”. The iffy weather made for a low turnout.

March brought a change in the planned program. Due to low interest in the three-day workshop by Barbara J. Walker we had to cancel her contract and replace the afternoon program. Thanks to Sally Eyring we were able to bring a fascinating fiber artist, **Lisa Lichtenfels** in to present her amazing art. Lisa works with nylon stocking material to produce lifelike miniature sculptures of people, characters and tableaus. We learned about her process from creating a wire skeleton, adding padding and forming the facial detail and costuming of her dolls. Her journey started as a Disney Artist and took her to SOHO in NYC and single Artist shows in New York and Springfield MA where she has her studio. She has an engaging personality and fascinated everyone who was present.

April: took us back into the history of weaving as our own **Marjie Thompson** presented her program “**Woven at Home**”. She used documentation on values of textiles and home furnishings in the early years of New England from the 1700s and into the 1800s. Who was weaving and what were they weaving.

Plans for the 2016-17 season are well under way.

September will bring **Sandra Rux** from the Portsmouth Historical Society to do a lecture on “When a Bed sheet Could be Worth More Than a Cow: Textiles in the Inventories of Ursula Cutt and Thomas Edmunds”

October 5th (early due to Yom Kippur) **Phyllis Leck** will present her journey from becoming a self-taught weaver to running an internet business of her weavings.

November: **Catherine Chung and Diane Smith** from **Just Our Yarns** will present “Beloved Skein to Beloved Weaving” or How to help a skein reach its full potential through color, value and structural options. They will bring a trunk show of their yarns for sale.

January/February plans are TBA

March will have **Connie Lippert** speaking on “Contemporary Interpretation of a Traditional Navajo Weaving Technique”. This is an intro to Wedge Weave for the entire Guild. Connie will lead a more in-depth 3-day workshop following the Wednesday meeting.

April is in final stages of planning with **Plimouth Plantation**. What is the value and outreach potential of our partnership with Plimouth. Many weavers from the Guild have woven projects done demos and worked with the Plantation over the years. What has been the value to them and what additional things can we do?

Submitted by,

Diane Chaisson

WGB Annual Treasurer's Report
May 2016

The guild's fiscal year does not end until June 30. There are still expenses to be paid before our year end. Thanks to donations, and other contributions the guild continues to operate in the black

Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. As of May 7, 2016 we have \$10,476.47 in the checking account; \$67,359.16 in the money market/savings account (the guild earns about \$11.00 per month in interest); and \$15,000 each in 3 CDs a 12 month, 3 year and 5 year.

We also have IBM stock which is at Scottrade. As of April 30, 2016 the value of the stock is \$14,156.18 and the brokerage balance account (savings) is \$2,668.84

I have tracked how different areas are bringing income in and what their expenses are. I have worked with our accountant filing all the federal and state forms and taxes to maintain our non-profit/tax-exempt status. I have written checks, made deposits and kept track of income and expenses using forms to keep detailed track of expense reimbursement and income. I have worked with the Dean and other committee chairs concerning budget issues.

I am in charge of the wholesale accounts for the book, Interlaced, and the monographs. To date WGB has sold 22 copies of Interlaced, 3 Versatile Bronson, 4 Linen Heirlooms and no Weaving to Knitting. The guild has many copies of each of these in the storage unit.

I am still greatly concerned that the guild does not have a long range financial plan and goals; instead it operates on a year to year basis.

The expenses of the position of Treasurer are stamps/postage/envelopes, boxes and packing tape for shipping the books. This past year I donated over \$50.00 in postage and other supplies to the guild.

The work and activity associated with the position of treasurer has required a minimum of 10 hours per week.

Submitted by:
Beth Cederberg Guertin, Treasurer

Weavers Guild of Boston Exhibit and Sale 2015 Report

Fran Osten/Mary Mandarino - Co Chairs
Ginny Longley - Assistant Chair
Beth Guertin - Treasure
Beth Parkes - Inventory Control
Sue Knowles - Publicity

Special thanks go out to Ginny Longley for her support and contribution to the success of the Annual Sale 2015. It was another year of incredible volunteers - our thanks go out to them. A special call out goes to Nancy Barry, our Chair Emeritus, who worked to find new fixtures for the annual sale including the amazing new table linen racks. Those racks were designed by Nancy and produced by a local woodworking company - ThoughtForms. To thank the woodworkers, six scarves were woven and given to the team who produced the racks by Beth Guertin, Nancy Hodes, Catherine de Haan, Nancy Barry and Mary Mandarino.

Other volunteers included Judith Shangold who designed the poster and postcard and printed the labels for the mailing. Jane Moore and Sally Eyring updated the website with all of the information about the sale and they modified the Inventory sheets to include the Waiver. Many thanks to the team that did the jurying, set up and breakdown - including Eileen Goldman, Marjie Thompson, Susan Targove, Florence Feldman-Wood, Barbara Herbster, Mara Taylor, Maureen McGuinness, Karin Borden, Carol Wooten, Nancy Hodes, Ruth Buchman, Ro Spinelli, Judith Shangold, Rita Steinbach, and Beth Parkes. Thanks to Sue Knowles who performed the important task of getting the word out. In addition, there were 55 members assisting with the preparation, jurying, sales assistance, greeting, wrapping and breakdown.

Special Exhibit - The Exhibit this year is "Gourmet Weaving". These pieces, which were woven using a cooking recipe as the inspiration, are not for sale. Instead, they showcase the talents of the weaver's craft. 19 Dish towels/Place mats were on display.

Sales

Participants: 34 (2014 - 40; 2013 - 31; 2012 - 36)
Items Submitted: 1566
Items Sold: 547 (35%)

	2015	2014	2013
Gross Sales*	29,963	33,915	31,712
Participant's Portion	24,423	27,786	25,994
Expenses - Rent	800	750	750
Expenses - Postage/Card	814	1,095	782
Expenses - Other	1,277	1,440	1,202
Net Profit - Annual Sale*	2,649	2,844	2,984

*does not include WGB book sales/contributions

Attendance

	2015	2014	2013
Thursday	57 (4 after 8pm)	31	29
Friday Day	78	126	122
Friday Evening	27	5	24
Saturday	108 (9 after 4pm)	81	108
Sunday	64	71	69

Consistent with last year, almost 25% of attendees were there for the first time. Additional statistics gathered:

	2015	2014	2013
Postcard in Mail/ eMail	47	42	62
Postcard at shop	18	18	9
Poster	11	0	?
Sandwich Board	39	10	10
Sign in front of Barn	15	21	12
Guild Friend	87	70	87
Media	11	8	7

Additional comments and Recommendations

DISPLAYS

1. Upgrade/purchase of new Guild owned displays so that we are less dependent on member displays. Thank you to Nancy Barry for her search and purchase of new items as well as contracting the construction of successful, new towel and linen racks.
2. The above upgrade allowed the Guild to move to a new policy not to allow personal displays of some member's items out of fairness to other members.
3. Further, a determined effort was made to move inventory during the sale to highlight different work in prominent places and keep the displays looking fresh and attractive.
4. To promote a unified look, new hangers were purchased for all hung items.

PROCEDURES

1. Updates made to the inventory sheets, and instructions. Moved the permissions/waiver signature to the first page of the inventory from its prior position on a separate page.
2. Changes were made to hours of the sale. Hours were added on Wednesday for drop off of inventory, enabling Thursday set-up to proceed more smoothly.
3. New procedures were initiated for packing up on Sunday at the conclusion of the sale. These included having all inventory arrive and depart in boxes with clearly labeled name and Guild number.
4. On-line access was made to posters and promotional materials so they could be more easily used to publicize the sale via members' personal email blasts and their use of social media, if members so chose.
5. Greater effort was made to put up posters announcing the sale in venues in a greater geographical range—Newton, Needham, Wayland, Lexington, etc.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

1. Hours. Consider further changing hours. Closing earlier on Saturday at 5. At this time, we are recommending keeping Friday hours as is - but we should track the numbers of people arriving each hour at the end of each day to see if further modification is warranted. Wednesday drop off went very well. Hours could be shortened to 11:00-1:00.
2. Somehow, notification of commission rates was deleted from instructions to participants. This information should be returned to the instructions.
3. Instruction sheets should be developed/modified for A) jurying, and B) for working the sales floor.
4. Modifications should be made to the number of slots available on the sign-up lists to better reflect the amount of help needed throughout the sale.

5. On-going sub-totals of sales should be made at intervals during the sale so we can gather data, over time, to see optimal hours of operation. The subtotals would be coordinated with the Hours comment above.
6. The process of packing up at the end of the sale should be modified further. When boxes are stored during the sale, they should be roughly sorted by members' numbers. To facilitate this, boxes should all be plastic—with top and side clearly labeled. No cardboard boxes with fold in lids should be allowed.
7. Effort should be made to obtain/make a new sandwich board with solar lights for the front of the Barn.
8. Effort should be made to have someone drive through the dump to make sure sandwich board has not fallen over. Consider staking them.
9. The policy of not allowing photography of items by shoppers should be posted where it can be seen/referred to.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Mandarino
Fran Osten
Ginny Longley
3/23/2016

EDUCATION GRANTS 2015-2016

There were no education grants given during the year as there were no applications submitted. We included questions about Education Grants in the recent guild membership survey to help determine why grants are not being requested. While the results are not complete and formally tabulated yet, it appears that many members still see the grants as need based and would not consider applying for one. While this is not the case, it appears to be a difficult hurdle to overcome.

Respectively submitted,

Linda Russell
Education Grants Chair
5/11/16

WGB Annual Library Report
May, 2016
Joanne Germaine- Librarian

After many years as Librarian, Linda Snook has handed the reins over to me. She left me with a very organized, efficient library from which to get started in my new job. Linda will continue to be involved with projects in the library - thank you, Linda, for your ongoing service .

This year we received many donations of fabulous publications and collections:
A lovely little project book from Dora Hsiung
A gorgeous tome on Textiles from Barbara Herbster and the Wednesday Weavers
A collection of books from Faye Kolhonan
An assortment of books and periodicals from Pat Warner
A charming book on Native Indian textiles from Dorothy Solbrig
And a collection of notes and samples from a past Guild member, Bette Huf

Linda and I purchased a total of 5 new books.

With a suggestion from Ro Spinelli, I started a new display here in the Vestry of books related to our morning workshops. I think that has been received well and will continue to do this next year.

Last, I am in the process of cataloging our books into the Pourrey-Cross Textile Classification System. I am hoping this system will help us find books quicker and easier by Subject matter and Title. If anyone is interested, I could use some volunteers to make this go quicker and possibly have the reorganization done before next year.

As for expenses, \$142.00 was spent on books this year, \$34.79 towards office supplies.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Germaine
Librarian

Weavers Guild of Boston
Nominating Committee Report 2016

Dean: Diane Chaisson (2018)

Associate Dean: Carol McClennen (2018)

Corresponding Secretary: Hetty Friedman (2018)

Annual Sale Co-chairs: Ginny Longley and Nancy Barry (2017)

Annual Sale Assistant: Elizabeth Springett (2018)

Annual Sale Treasurer: Beth Guertin (2017)

Bulletin Chair: Eileen Crawford (2018)

Education Grants Chair: Nancy Hodes (2017)

Education Grants Assistant: Melinda Comeau (2018)

Education Grants 2nd assistant: Martha Rossman (2019)

Librarian: Joanne Germaine (2018)

Membership Chair: Susan Targove (2017)

Morning Workshops Chair: Mary Mandarino (2018)

Morning Workshops Asst. Chair: Risa Burns (2019)

Morning Workshops Logistics: Ute Taylor (2017)

Nominating Chair: Susan Phippen (2018)

Nominating 2nd Assistant: Tammy Tatum (2019)

Special Workshops Chair: Eileen Fitzgerald (2018)

Website Co-chairs: Jane Moore and Sally Eyring (2018)

Yearbook Committee Chair: Susan Targove (2017)

RATINGS REPORT 2015-2016

During the year I corresponded by email with many members interested in pursuing the
Apprentice Rating and answered many questions and gave guidance where I could.
Interest

in the ratings came Hawaii, California and Nova Scotia.

I hired three judges who worked hard to evaluate the two submissions I received, and I
thank

them for their time and expertise. It takes them long hours to look over and critique a
sub-

mission.

I am pleased to award the Apprentice Rating to Shannon Mathers, who lives in Hawaii.
A photo

of Shannon is next to her submission. I thought it would be nice to see who she is.

Congratulations, Shannon!

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Watson, Chair
Ratings Committee

Fr: Joan Rauch

Re: **Monograph and Interlaced Retail Sales Annual Report**

May 24, 2016

The Monograph and Interlaced retail sales from 7/1/2015 through 5/24/2016 are listed below. The full fiscal years' sales activity is listed on the itemized Sales Report and Interlaced spreadsheets. (Will be updated later)

5/24/2016	#Sold	#available in Westborough
V. Bronson	3 damaged	22 + 8 damaged **
L. Heirlooms	1	5
W. To Knitting	1	12
M. Overshot	0	*0
Interlaced	17	16 ***

*The last Miniature Overshot was sold in October, 2014. There has been two requests for this monograph since that date.

** Several V. Bronson were given to me at the September meeting; unable to be sold at a class on the subject.

*** Ten copies were purchased by L. Autio for her class last May, 2015.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these reports. You are receiving these reports because you have either requested it in the past or your name has been added to the list by someone else.

Thanks, Joan

May 11, 2016

Yearly Report from Outreach Department

Outreach to our blind weaver continues this year as Annette has finished eight afghans, six scarves, 4 Kippah's (yarmulkas,) 3 table runners, a shawl, and is now embarking on a white cotton jacket. I can't tell you how much weaving has meant to her life as she was an artist and with no sight couldn't continue. I told her now she is a fiber artist and she is so excited to be productive again having been so depressed. I think she is more productive than most of us.

Further outreach has been to Plimoth Plantation as I participated in their iCraft show which was a show of crafts only from the 1600s. I spun flax which was something most visitors had never seen before. I had more pictures taken of me in my costume than you would believe.

Working at the American Textile History Museum has given me the opportunity to outreach to hundreds of children in their Colonial Days programs about 80 children a day for 33 days.

I have also been outreaching to members and other weavers that have problems with their looms or projects. Who better to outreach to than our members. I take a lot of questions over the phone after 8 p.m. 508-877-0913. I'm in the yearbook if you need help.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Provest

also helped put together the 16-Harness
AVL for UMass Lowell ^{makerspace} with Christine Foltz.
Also wove 10 yards of apron for the loom
restoration for the Carlisle Historical
Society.

WGB Morning Workshops - Annual Year End Report - May 11, 2016

WGB held 18 Morning Workshops with a total of 240 students from Sept 2015 - April 2016.

This year, the church made the Chapel available to WGB for larger Morning workshops. This space was invaluable and will hopefully continue to be used in the coming year.

The position of Morning Workshops Assistant, continued to facilitate the classroom set up and made the on site paperwork easier to handle.

Carol McClennen

Morning Workshop Chair

Annual Report ~ Publicity

May 11, 2016

2015 WGB Exhibit and Sale

A total of 28 press releases were sent to Boston area newspapers, museums, event websites and weaving guilds. For members who filled out press release information forms, I sent press releases to their local newspapers.

Packets with a poster and postcards were delivered or mailed to yarn shops, galleries and art associations.. Press releases were sent to Handwoven, and Complex Weavers. Posters and postcards were given to WGB members for distribution. An ad was placed in the Weston-Wayland newspapers the week before the sale.

This spring, I am updating the mailing list of Boston event websites, newspapers, weaving guilds and museums. Information on the 2016 WGB sale will be sent to event websites.

Other

I sent articles on WGB activities to Handwoven Magazine and publicity releases on the September Fiber Arts Yard Sale. For WGB Facebook, I published items on WGB monthly meetings and workshops.

Two areas of Sale Publicity I would like to expand during the coming year:

--More Publicity in the Boston Globe, Boston Herald and Boston area radio and tv stations. If anyone has contacts which could be helpful in getting more publicity here, please get in touch with me.

--Word of Mouth- It is again apparent that Word of Mouth is by far the most effective way of publicizing the Sale. I suggest that each WGB member be responsible for sending 10 Sale postcards to friends and neighbors who might be interested in attending the Sale.

Sue Knowles

WEAVERS' GUILD OF BOSTON WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

Updates: The Weavers' Guild website has more than 20 pages and subpages, and we updated nearly all this year. The most comprehensive updates are to the education program, where up to 9 pages are completely revised, and the Exhibit and Sale page, much of which is new each year. Each has attached documents that are also updated.

Each year we also create a new slide show for the May Meeting, so visitors can see the work of Guild members.

We also add time-limited announcements to the home page as needed (for example, about the Guild demonstrations at the Fuller Art Museum).

Software:

- We are still investigating new software for the menu.
- Right now we are using a free version of WOW slider for slide shows.

Visits to the Website: We have nearly 4000 visits each year (these are not each unique visitors; some people visit more than once). We believe the majority of these visits are from non-Guild members.

These visits result in about 150 messages received via the website from folks seeing information about the Guild, weaving, classes, and other areas. Many of these inquiries are answered by reference to website pages. Others are referred to Guild members, or posted on the Yahoo message board. These 150 messages are part of the more than 600 emails we get each year. Most of the remaining are spam or phishing messages.

Finances: We paid \$115 for another two years subscription to our server. All website related finances are now in the name of the Guild and no longer in individuals' names.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Moore and Sally Eyring
Website Committee

Nancy Kronenberg
Webmaster Emerita

YEARBOOK ANNUAL REPORT, May 2016

Yearbooks were printed and available at the September WGB meeting. They were mailed as necessary after the meeting. 164 updates were printed, based on August membership of 183, with 74 members requesting digital yearbook only. There were about eight extra copies of the update as of May 10, 2015. New members seemed to prefer the digital version by a wide margin.

Per unit costs: each paper update cost \$2.32 to print.

Supplement was sent to the Bulletin editor in February, and the digital version was updated as needed throughout the year.

Yearbook revenues include:

• Advertising	\$ 515.00
• Postage	\$ 190.00
• Teacher/Commission Weaver List	\$ 370.00
• TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,075.00

Yearbook expenses include:

• Postage and Delivery	\$ -151.73
• Printing	\$ -380.53
• Stationery and office supplies	\$ -35.99
• TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 568.25

Net Income from the Yearbook	\$ 506.75
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Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tappan
Yearbook Chair