

Weavers West Online Report
(in lieu of General Meeting)
September 4, 2020

Due to Covid-19, the Recreation Center Board has put a ban on large group indoor meetings, so we were unable to hold our September General Meeting. Instead, we wanted to send out this report to keep all members abreast of what is going on. Please take time to read this entire report because we do have 1 issue to vote on. It is explained in the New Business section and a separate email will be sent tomorrow for the actual vote.

Officer Reports

Co-Presidents:

Karen Vincent and Diane Conery reported:
Construction Update

We met with Karl again on August 20th for a quick walk through of the rooms. Work is progressing nicely. He estimates that we will be able to start our move in and unpacking during the second week of October, if all continues to go on schedule. When we know a specific date that we can get in the room, we will be sending out an email asking for helpers to unpack and arrange the room. We will also schedule loom returns from members who borrowed one during the shutdown. We will most likely have some small items to purchase for the room but they should be under the \$200 limit and will just have to be approved by the Board.

New Procedures

In September, we will meet with Rec Center personnel to discuss guidelines for reopening the room safely for our members to meet and work. As we reopen the room, we know we will have limits in the number of people allowed in the room at a given time. We will be exploring how some clubs, which are currently open, are doing their scheduling. We will keep you informed of what we learn.

Vice President:

Angela Buxton had no report.

Treasurer:

Melanie Drake reported:

Our account balances are:

Checking: \$6,235.24

Savings: \$5287.61

Secretary:

Since our former Secretary, Diane Conery, assumed the Co-Presidency, we were in need of a new Secretary. Marcia Steil has graciously accepted that position and was approved by the Board to finish Diane's term. Thank you, Marcia!

Members at Large:

Kathleen Bloechl and Mary Wilder had no report.

Committee Reports:

Craft Fair:

Bonnie Benson reported:

Hello Weavers and Spinners.



Hopefully, you all got the message through Weavers West Communications that the Rec Center Craft Fair has been cancelled for November. I'm crossing my fingers that there will be a spring craft fair, and plan to have Weavers West participate. Most items planned for the fall fair will work well for the spring fair. Christmas ornaments will probably not be included for a spring fair, but we can save those for the next fall fair.

Items that would be group projects (proceeds to go to Weavers West) would be: wash cloths, tissue-dyed scarves, and tote bags. You will also be able to submit your own items for sale where proceeds will go to you. Dishtowels and scarves are generally good sellers, I'm told. However, feel free to be creative and submit any other items you feel might sell.

We have 6 tote bags completely finished. These were bags woven at the Guild before shutdown. Paula Dean warped another long warp for bags, which I wove on my floor loom at home. So we have 12 to 13 bags that are

woven and ready to be sewn together with handles. If any of you are able to help with sewing together the bags, let me know and I will get them to you along with handle strapping. Email: robenson55@gmail.com or call: 715-307-7868.

Hope you are all doing well and staying busy weaving and spinning. I miss you all.

Education:

Education Committee Chairperson, Carol Byrne carolbyrneaz@netscape.net

The **Weaving I** Team, under the direction of co-leaders Pam Chumbley and Kathleen Blochel, will offer a virtual Weaving I class in November 2020. In this introductory class, designed for new weavers, students will learn the basics of weaving using a small, portable, yet highly versatile rigid heddle loom.

The **Weaving II** Team under the direction of Mary Claesson, will offer the intermediate weaving class as early as possible in 2021. This class is designed for weavers who have learned the basics in Weaving I, and are ready to progress to weaving on a table top loom. In this class the student will learn warping and dressing the loom from front to back, reading patterns and calculating fiber requirements.

Weaving III under the direction of Char Heins and Peggy Marshall will be offered as early as possible in 2021. This class is designed to introduce intermediate weavers to weaving on a floor loom and includes loom tie ups, troubleshooting, warping from back to front, loom care and maintenance and how to alter patterns to create the weaver's own designs.

Bee in the Know seminars are offered monthly to all members. The following topics will be scheduled in the WW Studio as soon as we can safely meet. There is no fee but we may need a sign-up sheet to accommodate social distancing.

Using Pick-up sticks on Rigid Heddle – Mary Wilder and Diane Stern
Hemstitching and other edge finishing techniques – Kathleen Blochel
Fiber identification including yards/lb, fiber content and shrinkage – Carol Byrne
Loom Maintenance and routine cleaning – Char Heins
Zanshi and Sakiori – Catherine Porter and Carol Byrne

A **“Virtual Bee in the Know”** is being planned to alert members of education opportunities available on-line.

Workshops and Classes are being planned for Spring 2021 on the following topics:

Triangle Loom Weaving by Marilyn Haas-Haseman
Advanced Rigid Heddle
 Skipped dent scarf: 2 sessions of 2 hrs each
 Spa Cloth: 2 sessions of 2 hrs each
 Holiday Table Runner: 2 sessions of 2 hrs each
 Clasped Warp Scarf: 2 sessions of 2 hrs each
 Using Pick-up Sticks and finger manipulated weaves: 2 sessions of 2 hrs each
Rug Weaving by Char Heins
Color Exercises
Rep Weaving
Southwest Weaving

Motion

A motion is being made under New Business for the purchase of some Rigid Heddle equipment.

Hospitality:

Pat Conway and Kathy Ingles reported:

We have everything ready for when we next meet! Hopefully soon!!!!

Newsletter:

Diane Stern reported:

There will be no September Newsletter since with our room closure, there is not enough news to warrant one.

Spinners:

Pat O'Neill reported:

I received an email from Paula Rudnick of the Arizona Desert Weavers & Handspinners Guild regarding the 2021 Spinning Bee. They were to host the bee, but have proposed that it be postponed until 2022 due to the virus. Once their board has approved the change, it will be finalized for 2022, and they will be the hosts. Also, Ruth Michael had surgery on her hand and is doing quite well. Stay safe!

Yarn Store:

Paula Dean reported:

I will be placing a large order to replenish our supplies, so hopefully we will be well-stocked when we are able to reopen.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:**Motion**

Carol Byrne of the Education Committee moves that Weavers West Guild Membership approve the purchase of the following Rigid Heddle items in an amount not to exceed \$1400.00:

One 20" Schacht Rigid Heddle Loom
One 16" Ashford Rigid Heddle Loom
One 24" Kromski Harp Rigid Heddle Loom
One 24" Ashford 10 dent Reed
One 24" Kromski 12 dent Reed
One 24" Kromski 10 dent Reed
Two 20" Schacht 8 dent Reeds

The motion was seconded.

Discussion:

In the early spring of 2020, Kathleen Blochel and Mary Wilder did an extensive evaluation of the Weavers West compliment of Rigid Heddle Looms and Reeds. Based on the evaluation of existing equipment and the growing needs of the Education Committee to effectively offer Weaving I classes to beginning weavers, it was recommended that Weavers West add the above equipment to the current compliment of Rigid Heddle equipment. It was also recommended that the two cricket looms be sold following the purchase recommended above.

It is also important to consider that due to the popularity of Rigid Heddle weaving and the Weaving I class, this equipment is expected to very quickly pay for itself. Please also note that these looms will not be restricted to Education Committee use, but will be available to all members when not in use for a scheduled class.

We will conduct an email vote for the motion made by Carol Byrne on the purchase of the Rigid Heddle equipment, since the amount is greater than \$200.00. You will receive a separate email tomorrow with directions on how to place your vote. Please take a few minutes to vote so we have the number of votes needed (majority rules, if quorum number is met) to act on this motion.

For The Good Of The Order:

Even though we are unable to meet in person as a whole Guild currently, we want to reassure all members that we want to hear your voice if you have ideas or concerns. Please don't hesitate to call or email any Board Member to share your thoughts. We miss everyone and look forward to when we will see you all!

Your Weavers West Board

Submitted September 4, 2020

Diane Conery