

Random Threads



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Prince George Fibre Arts Guild
2880 - 15th Ave., Prince George, B.C. V2M 1T1

February 2021
Volume 426

Monthly Gathering

Second Tuesday
at 7:00 pm.

Show & Tell

Join us for

Zoom Meetings

Tuesdays

6:00 to 9:00pm

Thursdays

1:00 to 4:00pm

Sundays

11:30am to

3:30pm

Our Fibre Arts Guild
hosted
the 2019

Association of Northwest Weavers' Guilds Conference

President's Corner

"The secret is to not allow the fact that you can't do everything keep you from doing something. Something, then rest. Something, then rest." - Glennon Doyle, untamed.

I can't believe how quickly the first month of 2021 has gone by. Though the provinces' state of emergency has been extended for two more weeks and we face more time away from the enjoyment of spending face-to-face time with friends and families, there have been glimpses of hope throughout the month.

One highlight was the well-attended Sunday Seminar with Abby Franquemont. We are certainly lucky to live in a time where even when we are mandating to stay home and stay safe, we have technology that allows us to virtually gather and learn.

Coming up this Sunday, Feb. 7th, we welcome Carol James to join us virtually to teach us about Sprang. Not familiar with Sprang? Not to worry; the seminar starts with an introduction of the technique, which is all about flexibility.

Who wouldn't benefit from learning to be a bit more flexible?

As a community of fiber-loving crafters, many of us have the tools required to de-stress, relax, and feel productive. We are lucky to have a dedicated group of volunteers at our Guild, working to continue to provide content, host virtual meetings, and share our creations on our website. To all our valuable members: thank-you for sticking with us.

Stay safe,
Serena



'Back to Basics' Guild Meetings and Events 2020/21

The main focus of 'Back to the Basics' this year will be starting at the beginning.

Upcoming Workshops

No upcoming workshops due to COVID19

Upcoming Events

Sunday Seminars January to October 2021

Upcoming 2020/21 Guild Meetings

Guild meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month. No meetings held in July and August.

'Back to Basics' Movie Nights **Postponed**

The last Tuesday Drop-In of each month. Learn from the Masters. Workshop videos will be shown on carding, spinning, plying, design, natural dyeing, felting, wheel mechanics and much more so join us for an informative evening. Upcoming videos will be listed in the newsletter.



Learn to Spin, Knit, Crochet and Finish your Project Drop-In

(In-Person Guild Drop-Ins Temporarily Cancelled for Thursdays and Sundays).

Tuesdays 6:00 ~ 9:00pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.
Drop-Ins will resume in the Jack Bryan Room once provincial orders allow. Social distancing required, masks and hand sanitizer supplied.

Thursdays 1:00 ~ 4:00pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.

Sundays 11:30am ~ 3:30pm

Zoom Meetings for Guild Members Only.



What day is it really?

I was just checking to see when **World Wide Knit in Public Day** was, well this year it is Saturday, June 12. I also found out there are a lot more named days, weeks and months in a year than there are days, weeks and months in a year. As you've probably noticed there seems to be a holiday for just about everything, from the culturally important ones like Christmas and Hannukah to the purely secular and silly like July 27th **Take Your Houseplant For A Walk Day**. Here are some, depending on where you live.

February is **Black History Month**, **Vegan Cuisine Month**, **Bake For Family Fun Month**, **Library Lovers' Month**, **Heart & Stroke Month**. The 4th is **World Cancer Day** but also **Sweater Day** and **Homemade Soup Day**. The 5th is **World Nutella Day** and **Chocolate Fondue Day**, **Shower with a Friend Day**, **Wear Red Day** but also **Working Nude Day ???**. The 6th is **Lace Day** celebrating the history and skill of its production. Can't forget **Valentine's Day** on the 14th, **National Flag of Canada Day** the 15th, **National Random Acts of Kindness Day** on the 17th and **Family Day** on the 20th.

March 5th is **National Multiple Personality Day**, 8th is **International Women's Day**, 11th is **National Worship of Tools Day**, 17th is **St. Patrick's Day**, 18th is **National Awkward Moments Day**, the 20th is **Quilting Day** and **National Ravioli Day**.

April is **Garden Month**, the 1st being **April Fool's Day** and **National Sourdough Bread Day**, just in time for **National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day** on the 2nd, **Wear Your Pajamas To Work Day** on 16th, **National Garlic Day** the 19th and **Earth Day** on the 22nd.

May is **Asian Heritage Month**, the 1st is **Naked Gardening Day** (weather dependent of course) the 3rd is **National Paranormal Day** and the 7th **Public Gardens Day**. Wait until my nephews find out that the 6th is **No Homework Day**, it is also **National Nurses Day**. **Victoria Day** on the 23rd and **National Wine Day** on the 25th.

June is **National Indigenous History Month**, the 1st is **Go Barefoot Day**, the 11th **Yarn Bombing Day**, the 13th **National Sewing Machine Day**. 21st usually has a lot going for it with **World Motorcycle Day**, **World Music Day**, **International Yoga Day**, **National Indigenous Peoples Day**, **Selfie Day**, **Optimism Day**, **Peaches 'N' Cream Day**, **World Giraffe Day**, **Make Music Day**, **Go Skateboarding Day** as well as being the Summer Solstice. On the 27 is **Canadian Multiculturalism Day**.

These are just a few, if you want more information or just curious check out [Days Of The Year](#) or [133 of the weirdest national days in a Canadian year](#). If you can't find a special day for yourself than try March 26th **Make Up Your Own Holiday Day** or April 9th **National Name Yourself Day**. Have a great day whatever day it is.

Noreen Rustad a long time Guild member and weaver sent us this to brighten our day.

Every once in a while you come across a truly heartwarming story. This is one of them. What's in your attic? Just an old Indian Blanket. Watch the auction! This man lost a leg and was having a hard time making ends meet while getting a modest disability check. He thought about selling an old Indian blanket that he inherited from his family. Watch the man's face while the bidding starts to go up.. http://www.youtube.com/embed/9cGIS05233Q?rel=0&iv_load_policy=

Sunday Seminar Series

Now what you have been waiting for! Some of our global list of Sunday Seminar Series speakers for 2021.



Carol James ~ February 7th ~ Sprang

Carol James has studied a number of textile arts including the finger woven sashes so well known in Canada, and sprang, which lends itself to more complexity than one might think. In this seminar she will share her explorations in sprang and discuss ways in which it has been used throughout history.

Mostly my presentations are in 3 parts. 1- I begin with an introduction to sprang, a definition, and on a small frame using thick cord. I then give a few examples illustrating some basic ways this could be made into a garment. 2- sprang in history. The story is told using photos I've taken in various museums, replicas I've made, and art-work (pottery, paintings, woodcarvings) that are evidence of sprang in history from the Bronze Age to the present. 3- sprang leggings, the step-by-step process, how I made them.

Bio ~ Carol James has been exploring sprang for more than 20 years, examining items in collections across North American and Europe, and making replicas. She has worked for clients such as George Washington's Mount Vernon, the German Archaeological Institute, and Norwegian Army Museum.

She has developed a pattern-writing system to accommodate the variety of designs encountered in her sprang explorations. An excellent instructor, she is the author of numerous articles, two DVDs and three books: Fingerweaving Untangled and Sprang Unsprung and a new book of Sprang Lace Patterns.

Carol's seminar will be recorded and will be made available for one month to those that have registered.

Deborah Chandler ~ March 7th ~ Weavers of Guatemala and Weave A Real Peace (WARP)



Deborah Chandler is known for her book Learning to Weave which has been used by so many as a basic introduction to the craft of weaving. Deborah has also worked with weavers in Central America and will be speaking from her home in Guatemala. She will also talk about Weave A Real Peace (WARP) a non-profit organization she has been involved with since its inception.

Bio ~ Deborah Chandler In 1984, under the name Debbie Redding, Deborah wrote Learning to Weave, a beginning weaving text that has been in print for more than 30 years now. In 1989 she went to Honduras with the Peace Corps, then spent four years in Houston being inducted into Fair Trade. Since 1999 she has been a resident of Guatemala, a country with one of the richest textile traditions in the world. She was the Guatemalan Director of Mayan Hands for nine years, a fair trade organization that has worked with hundreds of Mayan women weavers for more than 25 years. During that time she and Ray Senuk co-authored Guatemalan Woven Wealth - Preserving a Rich Textile Tradition, a volunteer effort by a team of "book people" in support of Friendship Bridge, a micro-credit ngo that works in Guatemala. Retiring from Mayan Hands opened up the time to work with Teresa Cordón researching and writing Traditional Weavers of Guatemala - Their Stories, Their Lives, a wonderful and rewarding project. Teresa Cordón, born in Zacapa in the eastern part of Guatemala, has worked with Mayan artisans for much of her adult life, providing them with both work and educational opportunities. Since

1990 her "day job" has been working with K'iche' men who create traditional palm leaf hats that are eventually sold through SunBody Hats in Houston. Teresa has always been an exceptional writer, but this is her first foray into writing a book. It's about time.

Deborah Robson ~ April 11th ~ Shetland Textiles

Winnie Nelon ~ May 16th ~ Iban Textiles from Borneo

Stefan Moberg ~ June 13th ~ Swedish Wool and Hattersley Looms

Janet Dawson ~ July ~ Textile Travels in Turkey

Robyn Spady ~ August ~ Passementerie - Textiles That Trim

Diana Twiss ~ September ~ The Urban Farmer, Growing and Processing Linen

Christina Petty ~ October ~ The Earliest European Looms: The History, the Stories, the Techniques

For more information on topics and instructors see our website <http://pgfibreats.ca/seminars>



**'Back to the Basics' Movie Night ~ will continue
the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
*Once we can safely meet back in our Guild Room.***



Buy & Sell

Looking for fibre equipment, check out <http://pgfibrearts.ca/buy---sell>. If you have items you would like to list online please contact Birthe at info@pgfibrearts.ca with description, price, contact information and photo if possible.

For Sale ~ carders and other fibre arts related equipment. Check them out in the Guild Room by appointment or during in-person Drop-Ins when they resume later in the year.

June 18 - 24, 2021



FIBRE
WEEK at Olds College

Fibre Week Please follow all COVID
Provincial Health Guidelines and Orders
when considering if you should attend.



FIBRES WEST
Will be back March 2022.

Fiber Connections
2023 ASSOCIATION OF
NORTHWEST WEAVERS'
GUILDS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Weaving Guilds of Oregon

Fibre Arts Sources

Please visit and support our friends for
your fibre, yarn, patterns, kits, dyes,
equipment and so much more.



If everything gets canceled
and you have to stay home
and NOTHING HAPPENS,
please remember:
THAT'S THE POINT.



And you thought your wool stash was big

Meet Chris, the sheep who was potentially the biggest sheep in the world prior to being sheered and losing a lot of weight. The overgrown Australian sheep fought for his life after he lived in the wild for a number of years. His coat was so thick with wool that it made it difficult for him to function. The RSPCA confessed that once Chris was sheered, he had lost 88 lbs. of wool. Chris was so big that he dominated the kangaroos that he lived with in the open fields. He was four to five times the average size of a merino sheep.