

Notes from the Chair...

June in Emporia, Kansas, at the Prairie Winds conference: what wonderful, warm memories that conjures as autumn rushes relentlessly toward a Midwest winter.

The Kansas Alliance of Weavers and Spinners did such a splendid job in organizing the 2013 Midwest Weavers Conference and in making every attendee feel welcome and engaged. Their leadership group, led by Barbara Say, Sherri McNish, and Emily Say, used feedback provided at the past two conferences to fine tune and improve the conference experience.

We were treated to an inspiring and mirthful keynote address, an extensive selection of classes that included ventures into new creative territories, exhibits that delighted the eye and spurred the imagination, and a first-class fashion show. And let's not forget the vendor hall, which undoubtedly has provided the materials for many of the projects that will fill our looms, wheels, and workbaskets in the coming months—and possibly for years.

The general meeting at Prairie Winds also marked the end of Vicki Tardy's tenure on the MWA Board. As a long-time teacher, board member, and board chairperson, Vicki has shared her passion for weaving with the MWA community for many years. So, I want to take this occasion to say: "Thank you for your service, Vicki. We will continue to look to you for weaving know-how, encouragement, and inspiration for many years to come."

Looking to the future also means looking toward the Twin Cities for Urban Fiber with a Minnesota Twist. In Emporia, The Weavers Guild of Minnesota provided a lively preview of their plans for a 2015 conference that will feature venues on both banks of the Mississippi. You will

want to visit the MWA website (www.midwestweavers.org) to see Urban Fiber's striking logo and to access the list of teachers and topics for the 2015 preconference.

Winter provides many of us with more time for our chosen crafts. Let me encourage you, as you plan your projects, to keep in mind the member's exhibits that are part of every MWA conference. The variety, the vitality, and the success of these displays belongs to all of us, not just the few.

Betty Huttner

MWA Board Chair

Table of Contents

Notes from the Chair.....	1
2015 Conference.....	2
Board Members	2
Minutes of General Meeting	3
2013 Awards	4
Fiber Artist of Distinction.....	5
2013 Scholarships	5
News.....	7
Renewal Form	9

Looking forward—2015 MWA Conference

An invitation to

***Urban Fiber
with a
Minnesota
Twist***

*June 18-20, 2015
University of St.
Thomas
St. Paul, Minnesota*

Midwest Weavers Conference 2015, hosted by Weavers Guild of Minnesota, will be at the University of St. Thomas (UST) and the Textile Center (TC) June 18-20, 2015.

UST is a beautiful campus in a residential neighborhood next to the Mississippi River in St. Paul. For information on the campus see:

www.stthomas.edu/aboutust/campuses/stpaul/

TC is a national center for textile arts and home of the Weavers Guild of Minnesota.

TC also houses a state-of-the-art dye lab, the Joan Mondale Gallery, several

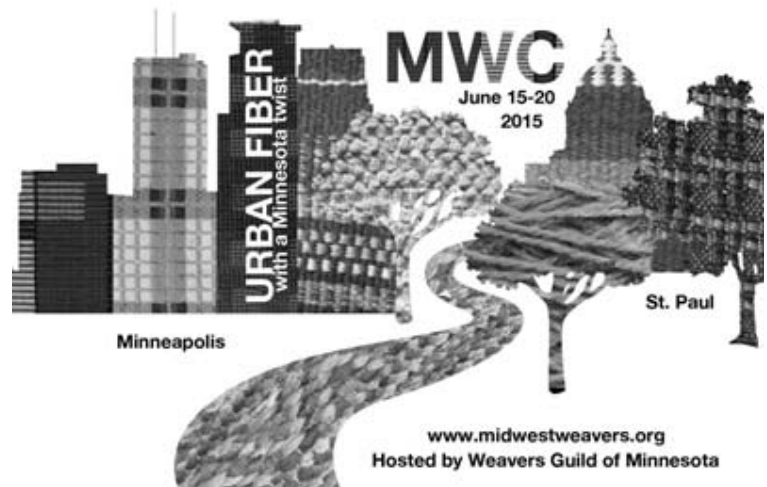
classrooms, and a library containing the collections of more than 30 textile groups.

Weavers Guild of Minnesota comprises 3 classrooms and a shop carrying equip-

ment and some commonly used weaving yarns.

Please see:

www.textilecentermn.org for more information on the Textile Center.



(Continued on page 3)

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(Continued from page 2)

Preconference Workshops June 15-17

Currently scheduled workshops include:

Jennifer Moore, *Doubleweave: 4-Shaft and Beyond*

Susan Wilson, *Surprise! Color and Weave Effects*

Dianne Totten, *Crimp and Create*

Patsy Zawistoski, *Color Options; Spinning and Dyeing Painted Roving*

Liz Spear, *Sew Your Handwoven*

Cameron Taylor Brown, *Hands on Color*

Jane Patrick, *Advanced Techniques in Rigid Heddle Weaving*

Katherine Buenger, *Exploring Ply Split Baskets*

Wynne Mattila, *Finnish Rag Rugs*

Robyn Spady, *On the Double (two tie)*

John Mullarkey, *A Tablet Weaving Hat Trick (three techniques in three days)*

Fashion Show Changes

We are announcing the guidelines for the 2015 Fashion Show now before people start creating things. Items completely knitted or crocheted from commercial yarn will not be accepted.

Acceptable items are:

- Completely handwoven items
- Handwoven items with knitted trim, such as collar and/or cuffs

- Knitted or crocheted items from handspun yarn
- Felted and dyed items
- Bobbin Lace

For questions, please see www.midwestweavers.org or e-mail midwestweaversconference2015@gmail.com

To receive a conference registration booklet, you must have paid your Midwest Weavers dues by October 31, 2014.

Please see :

www.midwestweavers.org or page 9 of this newsletter for information on joining and paying dues.

We hope you'll start weaving now for MWA 2015!

Minutes of the MWA General Meeting

June 22, 2013

The general meeting of the Midwest Weavers Association was held at 7:30 p.m. on June 22, 2013 in Albert Taylor Hall in Plumber Hall at Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas.

The meeting was called to order by Vicki Tardy, chairman. Vicki thanked the conference committee for all of their work on the conference.

Carolyn Hart read the minutes from the last meeting. Vicki asked for a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Bobbi Humphrey-Stephens gave the treasurer's

report. Expenditures since the last conference were \$10,149.43, Income was \$2,744.70 for a total balance of \$86,736.02. Vicki asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Betty Huttner introduced the scholarship winners. The Jack Baker scholarship was awarded to Laurie Bruce of Springfield, IL. The comprehensive scholarship went to Abe Buddish of Winchester, KS. Midwest Weavers Association scholarships went to Tomi Doty of Highlandville, MO; Valerie Hammond of Grinnell, IA; Jill Jepson of Harveyville, KS; Christie Moore of Rocky Comfort, MO; Dianne Remmers of Beavercreek, OH;

Stephanie Van Housen of Coralville, IA; and Tammy Williams of Tomahawk, WI.

Two Board positions were up for election. Jan Nelson nominated Bobbi Humphrey Stephens to continue on the Board. Vicki asked for nominations from the floor. Vicki asked for a motion to accept the nomination. Bobbi was elected by acclamation.

Craig Hart nominated Linda Ryden to serve on the Board. Vicki asked for nominations from the floor. Vicki asked for a motion to accept the nomination. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

(Continued on page 8)

Awards from 2013 Conference

Award Winners
2013 MWA Conference
Prairie Winds
June 20-22, 2013
Emporia, Kansas

**Congratulations
to all the award
winners!**

GUILD-STUDY GROUP EXHIBIT:

- 1st Place Weavers Guild of Minnesota Rug Study Group *"To the Stars"*
- 2nd Place Weaving Indiana *"History in the Breeze"*
- 3rd Place Omaha Weaving and Spinning Guild *"Prairie Home"*
- Popular Choice Weavers Guild of Minnesota Rug Study Group *"To the Stars"*



MEMBERS EXHIBITS:

Twisting in the Winds

- 1st Place Vicki Tardy
- 2nd Place Regina Shaver
- 3rd Place Mary Boulet

Dust in the Winds

- 1st Place Ronna Robertson
- 2nd Place Regina Shaver

- 3rd Place Jeff Reynolds

Throw Caution to the Wind

- 1st Place Carol Ann Parker
- 2nd Place Lolly Buxton
- 3rd Place Abe Buddish

Colors of the Wind

- 1st Place Vicki Tardy
- 2nd Place Marcia Kosmerchok
- 3rd Place Judy Santner

Dancing on the Breeze

- 1st Place Vicki Tardy
- 2nd Place Marcia Kosmerchok
- 3rd Place Judy Santner

Borne Upon the Breeze

- 1st Place Tracey Graham
- 2nd Place Ann Maxvill
- 3rd Place Stephanie VanHousen

Winds of Change

- 1st Place Carol Ann Parker
- 2nd Place Tracey Graham
- 3rd Place Judy Santner



ELSIE BELL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HAND- SPINNING

- Leslie McLaughlin

LIBBY CRAWFORD AWARD FOR HANDWEAVING

- Vicki Tardy

HGA AWARD OF MERIT

- Beverly Martin

HANDWOVEN'S "WEAVING FOR THE HOME" AWARD OF EX- CELLENCE

- Jean Williams

MARY HARFORD AWARD FOR NON-LOOM WEAV- ING

- Betty Huttner



FASHION SHOW AWARDS

- \$50 KAWS interpret the theme - **Kala Exworthy**
- \$65 Originality- **Jill Lynn**
- \$65 Judge's Choice- **Terry Kuehn**
- \$65 4 or less shafts - **Mary Brownell**
- \$65 traditional heritage - **Abe Buddish**
- \$65 People's choice- **Marcia Kosmerchok**
- \$250 St. Louis Finest Fashion Fabric - **Marcia Kosmerchalk**



FIBER ARTIST OF DISTINCTION

We have many talented weavers in MWA and have established an award to honor them.

This award is based on a point system, and when a weaver has accumulated 25 points, they will receive the Fiber Artist of Distinction Award. Points will be earned by receiving either 1st place or a named award (3 points), 2nd place (2 points), or 3rd place or honorable mention (1 point) at MWA conference competitions.

Once a person has received the Fiber Artist of Distinction Award, their name will be published in the next MWA newsletter and will be added to the honor roll that will be posted on MWA's web site.

Peggy Baldwin, Louis French, Bonnie Hay, Julie Hurd, Marcia Kosmerchock, Ann Massmore, Wynn Mattila, Vicki Tardy, Karen York and numerous others are on their way to receiving this award.

MWA Scholarship Recipients Prairie Winds Conference

Laurie Bruce, of Springfield, Illinois, received the *Jack A. Baker Scholarship*, which is for a weaver with less than five years of experience and provides conference registration fees, room, and board.

Abe Buddish, of Winchester, Kansas, received a *Comprehensive MWA Scholarship*, which also covered all of his registration, room, and board costs.

Seven *MWA Registration Scholarships* were awarded to **Tomi Doty**, of Highlandville, Missouri; **Valerie Hammond**, of Grinnell, Iowa; **Jill Jepson**, of Harveyville, Kansas; **Christie Moore**, of Rocky Comfort, Missouri; **Dianne Remmers**, of Beaver Creek, Ohio; **Stephanie Van Housen**, of Coralville, Iowa; and **Tammy Williams**, of Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

The Board welcomes scholarship applications. Please contact Linda Ryden for additional information.

Ode to a Beginning Weaver

The fiber is lovely,
The color divine,
It's now in the shopping bag
Going home, and it's mine.

I bounce up the stairs
and gaze at my loom
With thoughts of the masterpiece
To take shape in this room

The warping board's set
The cone at my feet
To wind on a warp
It will be such a treat!

I tie the first knot,
Back and forth I must go
To make sure the fiber is
The right length, you know.

Now what was that cross thing
She told us about?
You must protect it! Revere it!
Don't let it come out!

The choke ties are finished
The warp's in a chain,
Safely on the lease sticks
The cross to maintain.

Keep your chin up,
There are only 600 strings
Stay in order, stay in order
Through this denty thing

The threads are all through now,
A pleasure to see.
Oh, wait, I skipped a place
In the middle of the reed.

That fixed, I move on
To those bizillion of heddles
I forgot, how do those things
connect to the treadles?

Crosses to fix,
And order to check,
This process is kind of
a pain in the neck.

Tie what to the aprons,
Do what then and such?
Untangle the threads
She told me not to touch

Make sure the tension
Is even all across
Seems I'm the one tense
And a little bit cross

The loom is all dressed now
I smile at the sight.
I started at breakfast,
It's now past midnight.

But tomorrow's a new day
And I can hardly wait
To weave my own fabric
That will be great

by Jane Adolph
The fiber is lovely,
The color divine,
It's now in the shopping bag
Going home, and it's mine.

I bounce up the stairs
and gaze at my loom



With thoughts of the masterpiece
To take shape in this room

THANK YOU KANSAS ALLIANCE OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS!

A hearty thank you goes out to the Kansas Alliance of Weavers and Spinners for hosting a terrific MWA conference -- *Prairie Winds*.

You did a wonderful job of introducing everyone to the beauty of Kansas, offering stimulating and diverse classes and workshops, hosting a well-planned and well-organized conference, gifting a phenomenal goody bag to participants, providing the venue for old friends to reconnect and new friends to meet, and most especially, providing a good time for all.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Future MWA conferences to look forward to . . .

2015 *Urban Fiber with a Minnesota Twist, St. Paul (June 18-20)*

2017 *Indiana*

2019 ???

Thinking about hosting a MWA conference?

Previous conference committees have amassed a significant amount of resource materials, so you don't have to reinvent the wheel. By hosting a conference, it provides opportunities for growth and inspiration and helps to preserve traditions that we all love.

The next two conferences have hosts. Will you consider hosting Midwest 2019?

Goodbye...and hello...

Vicki Tardy's term on the MWA board ended at the close of the *Prairie Winds* conference.

Vicki was an inspiration to us all on many fronts – teacher, leader, friend, and mentor. She served as Chair of the board for several years, and her leadership made MWA a much stronger organization.

Thank you, Vicki!

We wish her all the best in the coming years and will look forward to

continuing our friendships with her at future MWA conferences.

We also want to take this opportunity to welcome Linda Ryden to the board.

Linda is a seasoned fiber enthusiast and was co-chair of the *In the Heartland* MWA conference in Iowa (2009). Linda has many strengths that she'll bring to MWA, and we all look forward to working with her.

Welcome, Linda!

MWA is an organization of volunteers.

Do you have a talent to share with the MWA membership?

Please contact a Board member to offer your services.



DUES

Attention: It's time to pay dues for 2014-15. The form and additional information are found on page 9 of this newsletter. If you joined when you registered for *Prairie Winds*, you will need to renew now to continue receiving the benefits of membership.

One of the most important benefits of membership is that you receive a free copy of the registration booklet for the next conference as soon as they are available. Extra booklets are no longer printed, **so if you're not a member at the time the booklet is printed, you will not receive the printed conference booklet . . .** you'll need to print the information from the MWA web site.

(Continued from page 3)

The Board asked for a change to Standing Rule #1. Vicki read the current wording and the proposed change.

The current wording: "The Midwest Weavers Association, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as MWA, Inc.) will advance pre-conference expense monies to the host guild up to four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00). This shall be accounted for in the MWA, Inc. Conference (hereafter referred to as Conference) financial report and returned to the MWA, Inc. Treasurer."

The proposed change: to delete the specific dollar amount, so that it will read: "The Midwest Weavers Association, Inc....will advance pre-conference expense monies to the host guild. This shall be accounted for in the MWA, Inc. Conference.... Financial report and returned to the MWA, Inc. Treasurer."

Vicki asked for a motion to accept the change to the standing rules. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Betty Huttner was the Board liaison with KAWS. She thanked everyone for all of their hard work and presented a gift to

the co-chairs Barbara Say, Emily Say and Sherri McNish.

Vicki reminded everyone that, even though we have the next two conferences spoken for, no one has stepped up to host further conferences. She asked that everyone reflect on the fun they had at this conference and think about volunteering to host a future conference.

Betty Huttner and Patsy Ek drew names for two free registrations for the next conference. The two winners were Margaret Dawson and Carolyn Sue Balde.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Please feel free to contact a Board member at any time to share your thoughts and ideas regarding MWA. Contact information is on page 2 of this newsletter and on our webpage.

These dues are for 2014-2015. Dues are collected the first of January every even-numbered year and run through the end of the next/odd-numbered year.

MWA Membership Dues for 2014 and 2015

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Name and address of guild(s) you participate in _____

Please make checks payable to "Midwest Weavers Association".....\$10.00

Please send this form and your check to:

Amy Norris
8742 Teasdale Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63124

Please do not include my name, city, and state on the on-line membership list.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are collected on a biennial basis. The dues cover the period beginning in January of even-numbered years and carry you through the end of the next odd-numbered year, which is also the year of the MWA conference. These dues help defray the cost of conference scholarships, newsletter mailings, and web site maintenance. Benefits of being a member of MWA include receiving MWA annual newsletters and ***automatically receiving a free registration booklet for the next MWA conference.***

To facilitate networking between fellow fiber enthusiasts, we'll be including MWA's membership list on our web site. The list will only include a person's name, city, and state, and will not include any personal contact information. We'll automatically include your information on the web site unless you opt out now or sometime in the future (you can either check the box on the membership dues renewal form or e-mail John Mullarkey, the web site manager).

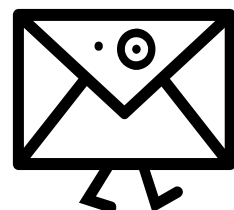
Please complete the form above and return it with your check for \$10. These dues are for 2014 and 2015. Hope to see you at Midwest 2015 ***Urban Fiber with a Minnesota Twist*** in St. Paul!

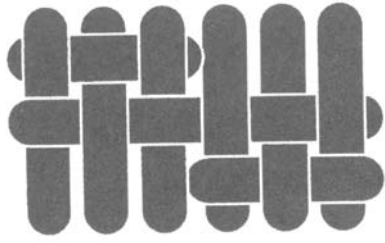
Address Changes

If you move, please let us know by sending your new mailing information to:

Amy Norris
8742 Teasdale Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63124

or send her an e-mail at: amy@amyfibre.com. Thank you!





Midwest Weavers
ASSOCIATION, INC.

The official newsletter of

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