

Notes from the Chair...

How does summer fly by so quickly? It seems only a few weeks since so many of us converged on Indianapolis for the splendid Textiles at the Crossroads conference. Yet, here we are well into autumn. I can only hope that everyone has found time in the intervening weeks to practice a new technique learned at the conference, to read a newly acquired book, or transform a fiber purchase into a fabulous textile—whether clothing, linens, or yarn.

We are grateful to Weaving Indiana for hosting the conference. Attendees found so much to praise on the post-conference survey: the top-notch accommodations, the impressive roster of teachers, the curbside assistance with unloading, the outstanding guild exhibits, Madelyn's Midwest farewell, and even the cake pops got shout-outs. We so appreciate the efforts of steering committee members Susan Markle, Donna Hudson, Barb Gallagher, Kate Larson, Kathy Cloutier, and Debbie Squire along with the wider Indiana fiber community in delivering an outstanding week of textile education and fun.

Welcome news at our meeting was the announcement that the Craft Guild of Iowa City would host the 2019 conference at Grinnell College. Unfortunately, a host committee for 2021 has not yet surfaced. This persistent problem of finding conference hosts was among several discussed at the strategic planning session held during the conference. Those participating offered

insights not only for the possibility of altering conference design, but also for how we might achieve greater diversity in the age, gender, and ethnic composition of our membership. The Board will continue those discussions with an eye to implementing some of the ideas.

Looking to the future, we will be filling vacancies on the MWA board in 2019. Please look at your own fiber community with an eye to discerning possible candidates. A nominating committee will be announced in the 2018 newsletter, but you can always share the names of potential board members with any member of the current board.

Betty Huttner

Table of Contents

Notes from the Chair.....	1
2019 Conference.....	2
Board Members	2
Minutes of General Meeting	3
2017 Awards	4
Fiber Artist of Distinction.....	5
2017 Scholarships	5
Renewal Form	7

UNCOMMON THREADS

Grinnell, IA -- June 20-22, 2019

The Craft Guild of Iowa City invites you to Midwest Weavers' Conference 2019, *Uncommon Threads*, on the Grinnell College campus in Grinnell, IA June 20-22, 2019. Preconference workshops will be held June 17-19. The campus is in a nice small town that is easy to get to and easy to navigate.

We will celebrate all that is unique about handwoven, handspun, and hand-made textiles. We're starting to build a roster of teachers and workshops that features new faces and techniques alongside some of our old favorites. We hope to recruit vendors who offer uncommon or unique textiles and tools. The traditional Thursday tours will be replaced by opportunities for informal learning and networking. In addition to the usual conference exhibits and activities, we will have a special exhibit of

the work of Iowa fiber artists in the college art gallery, The Falconer Gallery.

The conference will open with a keynote address given by our own Amy Norris and John Mullarkey who will share how Midwest conferences led to their friendship and textile collaborations. This will set the stage for us to reconnect with old fiber friends and welcome new fiber enthusiasts to our Midwest Weavers family.

Keep your eye on the Midwest Weavers Association website for conference details and information about various exhibit categories and other ways you can participate. The Iowa weavers look forward to seeing you in Grinnell in 2019!

MWA Board Members and Database & Website Managers

Carolyn Hart
Secretary
2012 N.100 St.
Vandalia, IL 62471
(618)326-8655
chart4009@gmail.com

Bobbi Humphrey-Stephens
Treasurer
9046 N. Regent Road
Bayside, WI 53217
(414)736-0496
nstephens24@att.net

Betty Huttner
Chair
5 Glendale Circle
Iowa City, IA 52245
(319)541-9642
icliz@yahoo.com

John Mullarkey
Web Site Manager
3932 Cleveland
St. Louis, MO 63110
(314)518-8350
webmaster@
midwestweavers.org

Amy Norris
Database Manager
8742 Teasdale Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63124
(314)991-5237
amy@amyfibre.com

Linda Ryden
Newsletter Editor
3024 - 143rd Ave Ct W
Milan, IL 61264
309-787-6644
weavespin13@yahoo.com

Emily Say
Scholarship Chair
627 Garfield Street
Emporia, KS 66801
emsaywhat@yahoo.com

Minutes of the MWA General Meeting

The general meeting of the Midwest Weavers Association was held at 7:20 p.m. in the Reilly Room of Atherton Hall at Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

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

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

Bobbie Humphrey-Stephens gave the treasurer's report. Receipts for 2015 were \$41,851.43. Disbursements for 2015 were 15,908.55. Receipts for 2016 were \$4,722.68. Disbursements for 2015 were \$26,463.32. The current balance is \$90,783.54.

Bobbi explained that the reason we need to keep such a large balance was to cover any loss in case a conference had to be canceled. Betty asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Betty talked about the strategic planning meeting. The board is looking for ways to improve membership and conference attendance. We need a more diverse membership. Cost seems to be a deterrent for some people. We need more of a social media presence.

There is a host guild for the 2019 conference, but no one has expressed interest in 2021. Anyone thinking of hosting a conference please seek out a board member to talk with.

Betty thanked the Indiana conference hosts and gave them a gift.

Emily Say introduced the scholarship winners.

- The Jack Baker scholarship was awarded to Arlene Emmert of Anderson, IN.
- The two comprehensive scholarships went to Melinda Chiroy of Emporia, KS and Claudia Ellwood of Cleves, OH.
- The Betty C. Kennedy Scholarship was awarded to Brenda Miller of Kirklint, IN.
- The MWA scholarships went to Sheri Gittinger of Wickliffe, OH; Franklin Habit of Chicago, IL; Holly Shaltz of Boyne City, MI; Ellis Stephens of Milwaukee, WI; Kara Stephens of Wauwatosha, WI.
- The door prize winners drawn in 2015 were Gail Richter of Keshena, WI and Mary Sims of Grand Island, NE.

Emily then drew names for two free registrations for the next conference. The two names drawn were Amanda Hyde and Cathy Willoughby who declined, and Anita Grant's name was drawn.

Two Board positions were up for election.

Bev Pennell nominated Betty Huttner to continue on the Board. Carolyn asked for nominations from the floor. Carolyn asked for a motion to accept the nomination. The motion was made seconded and approved.

Mary Booker nominated Emily Say to continue on the board. Carolyn asked for nominations from the floor. Carolyn asked for a motion to accept the nomination. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45

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.

Awards from 2017 Conference

MEMBERS' EXHIBIT

The Greatest Spectacle in Black and White

1. Wynne Mattila
2. Heather Winslow
3. Virginia Wallace

RoundABOUTs

1. John Mullarkey
2. Heather Winslow
3. Vicki Tardy

Freeway

1. Heather Winslow
2. Marcia Kosmerchock
3. John Mullarkey

The Speedway

1. Heather Winslow
2. Mindy McCain
3. Jennie Hawley

Detailing Your Trip

1. Louise French
2. Martha Town
3. Ruth Salmons

4 Way Stop

1. Joan Mohr Samuels
2. Mary Alice Donceel
3. Vicki Tardy

Back Home Again

1. John Mullarkey
2. Michelle Surma
3. Mary Alice Donceel

Elsie Bell Award - excellence in handspinning

- ◆ Terry Jones

Libbie Crawford Award - loom controlled handweaving

- ◆ John Mullarkey

Ila Roberts Award - handwoven table linens

- ◆ Louise French

HGA Award - certificate of accomplishment

- ◆ Mindy McCain

Complex Weavers Award

- ◆ Vicki Tardy

Treenway Best Use of Silk

- ◆ Marcia Kosmerchock

GUILD EXHIBITS

1. Sheboygan Shuttlecraft Guild
2. Weavers Guild of Greater Cincinnati
3. Weavers' Guild of St Louis

People's Choice

- ◆ Weavers' Guild of St Louis

Margaret O'Shaughnessy Award

- ◆ North West Arkansas Handweavers Guild

FASHION SHOW

Best in Show

- ◆ Liz Spear

The Checkered Flag

1. Mindy McCain
2. Marcia Kosmerchock
3. Linda Adamson

The Pit Stop

1. John Mullarkey
2. Mark Klish-Walker
3. Mark Klish-Walker

Detailing Your Trip

1. Martha Town
2. Peg Dawson
3. Candace Brey

The Overpass

1. Wendee Draves
2. Mary Sue Fenner
3. Candace Brey

The Finish Line

1. Liz Spear
2. Neal Howard
3. Sandra Niggemann

The Roundabout

1. Peggy Siders
2. Abby Dove

MWA Award -- Best interpretation of theme

- ◆ The Checkered Flag - Linda Adamson
- ◆ The Roundabout - Abby Dove
- ◆ Detailing Your Trip - Candace Brey
- ◆ The Finish Line - Neal Howard
- ◆ The Overpass - Candace Brey
- ◆ The Pit Stop - Mark Klish-Walker

Margaret Grant Memorial Award - Peggy Siders

Congratulations to all the award winners on their beautiful work!



FIBER ARTIST OF DISTINCTION

MWA has established an award to honor our many talented weavers.

This award is based on a point system. Points are earned by receiving either a 1st place [3 points], 2nd place [2 points], or 3rd place or honorable mention [1 point] at MWA Conference competitions.

When a weaver has accumulated 25 points, they will receive the Fiber Artist of Distinction Award.

Congratulations to Vicki Tardy on becoming our first Fiber Artist of Distinction!

The following is a list of those members who have accrued 10 or more points.

- ◆ Louise French – 20
- ◆ Heather Winslow – 20
- ◆ John Mullarkey – 19
- ◆ Marcia Kosmerchock – 15
- ◆ Wynn Mattila – 15
- ◆ Peggy Baldwin – 11
- ◆ Mindy McCain - 11



MWA Scholarship Recipients

Jack Baker Scholarship (Registration, Housing, and Meals):

- ◆ Arlene Emmert of Anderson, IN

Comprehensive MWA Scholarships (Registration, Housing, and Meals):

- ◆ Melinda Chirof of Emporia, KS
- ◆ Claudia Ellwood of Cleves, Ohio

Betty C. Kennedy Scholarship (Registration):

- ◆ Brenda Miller of Kirklint, IN

MWA Registration Scholarships:

- ◆ Sheri Gittinger of Wickliffe, OH
- ◆ Franklin Habit of Chicago, IL
- ◆ Holly Shaltz of Boyne City, MI
- ◆ Ellis Stephens of Milwaukee, WI
- ◆ Kara Stephens of Wauwatosa, WI

**The Board
welcomes
scholarship
applications.
Please contact
Emily Say for
additional
information.**



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 2018-19. The form and additional information are found on page 7 of this newsletter. **If you joined when you registered for *Textiles at the Crossroads* in Indianapolis this summer, 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.

MWA

FAQs

What does the MWA Board do?

- Identifies guilds willing to host the biennial conference
- Provides conference planning support for the hosting guild(s)
- Provides multiple scholarships for attending Midwest conferences

What support does the MWA Board provide to guild(s) hosting the conference?

First of all, one MWA Board member agrees to be the conference liaison and is available to the hosting committee to answer questions, attend planning meetings, provide resources, and generally help every step of the way. Everyone on the Board has had firsthand experience hosting a MWA conference, so if the designated Board liaison doesn't know the answer, there are others willing to help.

Secondly, the Board has prepared conference guidelines (which are available to anyone on our website: <http://midwestweavers.org/MWAConferenceGuidelines.pdf>). These guidelines provide resources such as sample

contracts, budgets from previous conferences, possible planning timeline, etc.

In addition, the Board provides the funding and technical support for the conference website. All website content about the conference is provided by the planning committee, but the MWA hosts the site and our webmaster formats and maintains the site to relieve the planning committee of that burden.

Lastly, the Board provides considerable support for the online registration process. In fact, the Board voted at its most recent meeting to provide someone to build the registration site and provide all the reporting for future conferences.

What does the Board require from guild(s) hosting the conference?

Enthusiasm and creative thinking!

However, the shape of the conference-- how long it is, what activities are included, who teaches and what subject-- is entirely up to the hosting committee. The Board has no requirements for what the conference has to include.

These dues are for 2016-2017. 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 2018 and 2019

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).

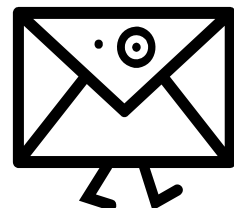
Please complete the form above and return it with your check for \$10. These dues are for 2018 and 2019. Hope to see you at Midwest 2019 ***Uncommon Threads*** in Grinnell, Iowa!

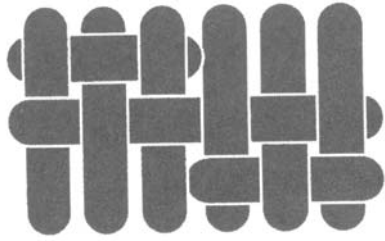
Address Changes

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

Midwest Weavers' Association
c/o Amy Norris
8742 Teasdale Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63124-1926

E-mail: amy@amyfibre.com

**More
MWA
FAQs**

What do I get for my MWA dues?

Membership in the Midwest Weavers Association (MWA) is required in order to register for the MWA biennial conference. In addition, members receive a printed copy of the conference registration booklet, plus one printed newsletter each year, usually mailed in the fall.

Why can't I just pay my dues when I register for the conference?

Less than half the membership attends any given conference, so when dues were changed from "lifetime" to every other year, it made more sense to make dues payment a completely separate transaction. Renewal notices appear in the fall newsletter after every conference. And the newsletter is mailed to all members, whether they attend the conference or not.

Why can't I pay for multiple two-year membership periods in advance?

Again, it's a matter of simplicity and ease in record keeping. When the newsletter goes out with the renewal notices, it goes to all paid members. It's not practical to have two newsletters -- one for people who need to renew, and one for people who don't.