

NoBo Meeting June 2015

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Agenda

Ice Cream Social

1. Business Discussion
2. Show and Share
3. Weaving Memories



We welcomed two guests, Sue and Sarah both from Rockport

The evening began with an *ice cream social* before starting the business discussions.

Business Discussion

Tip Jar

Thinking about different ways of creating a header. This simple method is not suitable for fine material. Pass the shuttle three times without beating it in and then start the weaving proper.

Finances

Current state of the finances was presented. No issues to report.

New Business

NEWS

There will be no sitters in the area, the librarians will be responsible for ensuring the exhibits are left in place.

Fall Programmes

September Meeting – possibly **Sarah Fortin**, textile artist who creates stunning fabrics and clothing (Kathie is currently working on this)

Warp Weighted Loom Group

The members will meet and discuss what to do in October. This weaving technique is essentially tablet weaving while winding on the warp.



Table Cloth Projects

Betsy has samples, two colours have not arrived.

Betsy will need a lot of paper cones on which to wind on the yarn. Please drop them off at the store.

Betsy reminded the group about the purpose of the table cloth which is for covering the table at News for example. The colours selected are close to those used in the NoBo Logo. Each person will be able to determine the weave structure used. Any colour combination is acceptable. Each piece will be approximately 12" x 3 yds but more information on the actual width will be decided later.

Finished pieces are to be delivered without wet finishing, Betsy wants to wet finish all panels together. Betsy is ordering the yarn through the store. **Please email Betsy by the end of July with the fiber yardage required.** At the September meeting Betsy will deliver the packages to the people who have signed up.

Q? The drape?

A. Yard up, yard across the top and a yard down

Greenleaf Whittier Loom

A new project is needed for the loom. The piece on the loom currently is just a sample. The new project should be a practical article.

Betsy stated that three people in her store had visited the exhibition and were very impressed.

Fibre Revival

August 8, 9:00am to 4:00pm a sign up sheet was circulated for people wanting to participate.

Sale Table

Currently there is no maximum set on the amount from a sale to be contributed to the guild. Items sold give 10% of the selling price to the guild. It was felt that there should be a maximum it was decided and carried that 10% of the sale price would remain however the maximum contribution would be limited to \$75.



Old table loom on Sale Table

Announcements

Newburyport Artisan Show

Margaret reminded the group that we have signed up for the first week. There are currently 12 people signed up. There are 20 vendors upstairs and 20

vendors downstairs. Weavers selling items are expected to work a shift which *may be as short as 30 minutes*. For items sold there will be a 10% of selling price contribution to the guild. If a seller is unable to work a shift the contribution will be a levy of 20%.

Margaret would like a meeting of sellers in October to discuss pricing, layout and display aids, *stands, table cloth, etc.*

Events

Fiber Revival - August 8 Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm, Newbury MA

Dye Day - Kathy Corcoran's House, Merrimac, MA on August 22 with rain day August 29th

Q? Can we bring more fibre to dye day

A. Prefer to limit the first batch but bring up as much as you like.

Show and Share

Leah displayed **Medieval Leg Wraps** (primitive stockings). Leah plans to use these for re-enactment events. The wraps are about 3 yards long by 4" wide. They were wrapped around the leg and secured by either tucking in the end or with a *winingas hook*, an old name for these wraps was *winingas*. Leah purchased some Jacob fleece and kept it for a year. Leah decided to use it and found it was rotten, however Leah was able to salvage enough to spin and weave stockings. This was done for an artisan's challenge. Leah used a 4 yard warp. This was Leah's 9th warp ever.



Weaving Memories

Kathie opened the presentation that the idea behind *Weaving Memories* was to weave or display a weaving related item that invokes specific memories for the weaver. Kathie will be taking the items to NEWS, **if an item is not quite ready please email Kathie when they are ready so they can be taken for display.**

Kathie - *tam o'shanter*

Kathie wove tartan fabric and sewed a bonnet (*tam o'shanter*) in McIntyre tartan. Kathie entertained the group with memories of the McIntyre marching band and other family stories. The other side of



the family is the Jamison clan. Kathie plans to wear this at the *Highland Games*

Diane - *tote for a laptop*

Diane made a tote for a lap top from old material using old Levis and old t-shirts overdyed with indigo. Sewing the tote reminded Diane of early sewing. Cutting up Levi's reminded Diane that as a child she never had Levi's. Levi's also reminded Diane that one of her first jobs was selling Levi's at the Maynard outdoor store. The outside was sprayed with Scotchgard which reminded Diane of her first car which she sprayed the upholstery with Scotchgard. Diane used her mother's Singer Featherweight and then had a cobbler finish sewing the heavier layers of the tote. She lined the bottom with a cast off piece of plywood from her father-in-law and wrote out all the memories that came forth during this project on the wood.



Vicki - *hand made book*

Vicki made a hand made book out of her handwoven linen. Vicki's daughter bound the book with pages made from an architectural project of her son's. Will be used in a special way to show its' significance to her.



Peg - *family genealogy*

Peg is very interested in her family genealogy. Pinwheel cloth brings back memories of her ancestors coming to the US by sea, the pinwheels representing the ocean and its waves. The pinwheel reminds her of how water wheels supplied power.

Pat - *gamp memory*

Pat - gamp memory, importance of doing something with the hands. From spiritual retreats found that she could weave. Pat found Margaret by an on line search while on retreat at a monastery and got the last spot in a beginner's weaving session.

Melissa - *Shibori technique dress*

Melissa modeled a Shibori technique dress of handwoven and indigo dyed hemp fabric. Melissa originally designed the dress with the intention of entering it in the NEWS fashion show but decided that she loved the dress and did not want it 'nit picked at the fashion show. Melissa also used the same technique for a simple but elegantly constructed blouse. Finally, Melissa shared a photo of her mother and father in the 70s wearing tie-dyed t-shirts. The love of her parents and this photo inspired these pieces.

Terry - *memory of father*

Terry started by sharing memories of her father, a pianist and gardener. One of his favourite composers was Johann Sebastian Bach. He also loved iris'. Using the music score as a pattern and her hand dyed yarn the color of an iris, Terry will weave a twill piece. Her loom is already warped.



Leah - *table cloth*

Leah showed a table cloth that is used for re-enactment. Leah lost her brother to colon cancer. His wife, Jane, is a prize winning weaver, and helped Leah with learning to weave. Leah described the design and calculation that went into the table cloth in basket weave in three colours. This reminds Leah of her brother and sister in law. This was woven on a rigid heddle loom.

Sandra - *purple silk scarf*

Sandra found that shiny purple material she liked as a child was coffin lining material. This caused an aversion to handling anything purple. Silk scarf in a double snow flake twill design.

ted - *wings pattern scarf*

Ted presented a wings pattern scarf, the memories are the history of meeting Sandra, joining the Royal Air Force and then getting back together with Sandra. The design is inspired by RAF Pilot's Wings and the colours from the camouflage colours of the Vulcan B2 bomber for which Ted was aircrew (AEO).

Betsy - *Cornwall visit*

Betsy visited Cornwall, the villages and countryside was so beautiful. Betsy showed the colours that will be used in the piece, unfortunately it will not be ready for NEWs. This will be in REP weave. The colours are greys, greens and blues. The grey represent the stone houses. The green from spring in Cornwall and the blue for the ocean. The water in the coves is a beautiful turquoise. Wildflowers abound in the fields and hedgerows which are higher than Betsy. The design will be alternate blocks inspired by the buildings and jetties which are made of bricks or massive blocks of granite.

Margaret - *woven fabric*

Margaret displayed woven fabric which will be used to make an apron. Margaret's memories of her mother is always of her wearing an apron. Every time Margaret leaves the weaving room she emerges covered in bits of woolen fibers. The warp was 4.5 yards and plain weave at 15 epi, 690 ends. Margaret wanted to use Irish linen because one of Margarets 3X great grandfather, a weaver, originated from Ireland. A random mix of Hemp tubes resulted in unplanned warp stripes. The stripes were masked by softer indigo linen. Margaret has a 1918 industrial Singer machine, most likely the model used by her maternal grandmother. The apron will be very simple, there will be pockets.

Eileen - *woven rug*

Eileen submitted a rug woven in memory of a past Dye Day.

Kathie will be taking the items and write ups to NEWs.

tg 06/26/2015 proofed and edited by Margaret