

NOBO Meeting Notes - 02/23/2017

Agenda February 23, 2017

- Social/Library time 6:30-7pm
- Meeting 7-9pm
- New members
- Old Business (15 minutes)
 1. NEWS – Volunteer positions
 2. Exhibit at Salisbury Library (Corinn Flaherty)
 3. Fabulous Fibers exhibit (April/May) at West Newbury Library (Susan Babb)
 4. Court Positions for June
 5. Vicki - Treasury report
- New Business (15 minutes)
 1. Survey results
 2. Workshops – NOBO in house beginning weaving (Penny)
 3. Events
 4. Beginner Teaching
 5. Open Discussion
- Programme
 - Tip jar
 - Textile Tale
 - Library Table
 - Show & Share

Old Business

NEWS – Volunteer positions

No hurry on the volunteers. There was an issue with the sign up, it is now working. Some classes have filled up very quickly, for example Navajo Weaving, Weave Knitware, Shibori. No other updates.

Exhibit at Salisbury Library (Corinn Flaherty)

There was a signup sheet for the library. It was suggested to bring pieces in for April and setup for March.

Fabulous Fibers exhibit at West Newbury Library (Susan Babb)

The current display, which is an exhibit by several fiber artists, including a presentation by Margaret was profound and an article has been written and published in the Newburyport Daily News and the Eagle Tribune. The exhibit will close on March 1st.

Court Positions for June

Please keep thinking about the court positions.

Vicki - Treasury report

Guild is solvent!

New Business

Survey results

Please fill in the form or the web site survey.

Suggest a big show and share in June.

Big birthday party. for April

Workshops – NOBO in house beginning weaving (Penny)

Penny will send out an email

Events

Ted – there has been an event menu item for some time. Please add content to the page or email me with the data and I will add events to the page.

- Connecticut Sheep, Wool and Fiber Festival – April 29, 2017, Vernon CT
- New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival – May 13 & 14, 2017
- Rhode Island Sheep and Wool Festival – May 20, 2017
- Massachusetts Sheep & Woolcraft Fair – May 27, 28 2017
- Fiber Festival of New England – November 4 & 5, 2017

Beginner Teaching

Basics revisited, sectional beam. "Nuts and Bolts" of weaving 101. Interest was expressed in warping back to front and front to back

Margaret keeps receiving requests for classes, Betsy will be retiring from the shop and is considering becoming a traveling instructor. Margaret has offered beginner workshops, there could be a guild workshop for beginners. Emphasis on doing something basic. Melissa and Margaret have opposite warping techniques. There is a beginners workshop at NEWS.

Open Discussion

Boston Weavers - 4 spots for "wedge weave". Margaret has an idea for a "fibre flea market". Suggestion to become a vendor at "Fiber Revival". Particulars need to be worked out.

PROGRAM Tunisian Textiles by Ted English

Ted graduated in 1967, decided to teach English in Tunisia as an alternative to the jungles of Vietnam. When Ted arrived to in Tunisia, the culture was changing. Ted settled in a village where

he taught by day and browsed the artisans and merchants in the evening. In the village there were weavers working with wool and silk.

Ted became fascinated with weaving and purchased a loom. Looms were not stand alone they were built into the walls. Ted showed the pulleys and a reed. The reed was actually made from a reed.

The 8 wool weavers used warps made by a drop spindle. This resulted in a lot of breaks and there were techniques to minimise the warp advances by moving the beams of the loom. The harnesses were loop threads.

Designs were fixed, a blanket was a blanket with set dimensions. Each village or region had specific designs.

Ted showed two shuttles, these were weighted with metal strapping.

Ted displayed multiple samples in wool, cotton and finishings in silk.

Weather? Dryish place, winters around 40F, summers around 100F.

Ted then moved to a larger town and re-installed the loom.

All horizontal looms were operated by men. Tapestry woven by women on a vertical loom. Basically this was the design from which the Navajo loom was derived.

Ted referred back to the transition, by the '60's hand dyeing had stopped and the threads were commercial.

In the first village there was silk weaving they are now weaving bookmarks. Tradition was for the man to buy the silk wedding garments.

All examples Ted displayed were from the 1960's and 1970's.

Ted returned to Tunisia last May. Wool weavers have disappeared but there are now more silk weavers, Hand made cotton is gone.

Finally Ted showed a sample of man's head ware made of felted wool.

Thank-you Ted for an excellent presentation on Weaving in Tunisia. You had a unique experience being there at the time of cultural transition and the impact on village life from a weavers perspective. The articles you shared including the delicate reed, shuttles and outer wear were exceptional. Thank-you Ted!

Tip jar

With patterned weft, please wind on the shuttle and then rewind it. This will ensure that end goes to beginning.

Schacht jack looms have an adjustable beater. If it is too low the shed will be poor because the lower threads are lifted by the rising shafts creating a risk of picking those threads in error. Adjustment is done on 4 bolts 2 on each end, raise the beater just enough so that the lower threads remain on the beater beam. Red pointer shows location of nuts on the Mighty Wolf.



Textile Tale

Margaret narrated *Sheep in the White House*

During World War 1, President Woodrow Wilson decided to use sheep to keep the lawns cut. Shropshire sheep were used and started with 18 which grew to 48. They produce profuse amount of wool which was sold and the proceeds were donated to the Red Cross.

The ram was named Old Ike that helped grow the flock. He was aggressive to humans and he loved chewing tobacco picking up used cigar butts. Sheep were at the White House for 2 years then went to Maryland. Old Ike was much more comfortable in Maryland where he was the main attraction. An obituary was written for him when he died.

Library Table

Show & Share

- Scarves, wraps and shawls
- An orange shaped felted piece which was felted by juggling the piece with an orange inside
- Wet felting on a silk scarf, agitated with an electric hand sander.
- Strips of tshirts hand dyed,

Don't forget Margaret's podcast at www.ballyhoofiberemporium.com/podcast