

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2022 In-person (Cove Creek Community Center) and Zoom
Program: Cultivation and Preparing Flax by Kerry Masarik

Participating: Beth Reavis, Vicki Skywark, Susan Sharpe, Rhonda Gladden, Kerry Masarik, Mona Alderson, Janeene Ross, visitor Karen Critcher, Hope Estepan, Jane Campbell, Betty Womack, Nancy Mahala, Pam Kicklighter, Sali Gill-Johnson

Topics:

- Treasurer's Report
- Secretary's Report and Approval of Minutes
- Programs and Exhibits updates
- Other Business

Co-president Beth Reavis welcomed all members.

Janeene Ross provided treasurer's report:

\$ 1,167.50 Beginning Balance

\$ 205.94 Deposits (inc. \$30 in early March, less web and bank expense.

\$ 1,345.77 Ending Balance

Currently there are 26 paid members

Other/New Business:

We have established a PayPal account to allow for easier facilitation of payment of annual memberships and other monetary transactions Vicki and/or Beth will send out information and password to board members. New business cards have also been ordered.

Program- Kerry Masarik presented a great home video and in-person discussion of her process of creating linen from flax. The video link is <https://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=fFq-dDYFBY> and is available on the BRFG website. Mona Alderson brought family heirloom linens to share

Reports and Upcoming Events/Activities-

"Community Hearts" act of kindness, based on IFAQH.com (I Found a Quilted Heart) Several members made and distributed hearts in the local community, and some photos can be found on the Blue Ridge Fiber Guild website.

On-going projects- Caps for Cancer for Watauga Cancer Center, and there are also national emergency projects in making cases and other items to aid Ukrainian people

Program and Exhibits Committee will meet on Monday, March 21, 2022 to discuss and organize calendar Members are encouraged to join this or another committee.

Members are encouraged to create a "Maker's Statement" for discussion and sharing at the April 16 meeting, facilitated by Vicki Skywark

Hickory Ridge "Fiber Frolic" is planned for Saturday, May 7 from 1-4 PM. Jane Campbell is coordinating and welcomes participation with demos or other activities.

A memorial service for Donna Duke (who was instrumental in the development of the guild and in the local fiber and weaving community) will be held on June 4, at 11am at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

The Jones House will host the Blue Ridge Fiber Guild members exhibit June 1-30, 2022. In order to participate, members should complete forms which are available on the website, and submit ASAP for planning purposes. Susan Sharpe is coordinating this exhibit.

"Boone 150" Celebration- Beth Reavis spoke with Mark Freed, Interim Director of the Downtown Boone Development Association and Cultural Resources. In addition to the Jones House guild fiber exhibit, the guild is encouraged to participate in the "Boonerang Festival" to be held on Saturday, June 18 throughout downtown Boone, with demos or hands-on activities This will replace the regular June meeting.

Participation in the Boone 4th of July Parade is also a possibility

Ashe County Farmers Market is holding a Fiber Day on May 21. This presents an opportunity to meet other local fibers enthusiasts

Turtle Island Preserve in Deep Gap area will hold a festival of old-time activities in April. Janeene Ross has participated in the past and will follow up with additional information.

Information was shared on Fibershed.org whose mission is "develop (Ing) regional fiber systems that build soil and protect the health of the biosphere."

Sali Gill-Johnson contacted Martha Marking from ASU and will meet with her to talk about the possibility of mentoring the university student knitters, Tuesdays at 7:30pm

Christmas in July idea for guild potluck/get together for all, including returning summer members. Members are encouraged to bring a small (handmade) gift for exchange

Betty Womack reported on the day-long video workshop sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America (Which BRFG is now a member of) Lots of good promotional and other ideas were shared. Paid members of the BRFG will have access to on-line resources and password will be shared via email

Yadkin Valley Fiber Center in Elkin will host "Small Expressions" in association with the Handweavers Guild in 2023.

The next meeting of the Blue Ridge Fiber Guild will be Saturday, April 16 at 10:30
Format to be determined (zoom and/or in person). Rhonda Gladden will send zoom invitation to email list.

Draft of 3/19/22 meeting notes submitted by Sali Gill-Johnson on 3/21/2022