

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild
August 19, 2023 Meeting
Location: Watauga Arts Council

Members Present:

Jane Campbell, Julie Sakowski, Pam Kicklighter, Beth Reavis, Vicki Skywark, Rhonda Gladden, Angelika Harrison, Hope Estepan, Betty Womack, Sali Gill-Johnson, Ellie Hjemmet; New member - Karen Dendiu

Business

Julie Sakowski provided equipment and zoom for the meeting.

Co-President Vicki Skywark called the meeting to order and reported there were no July minutes to approve since there wasn't a quorum for voting at the July meeting. The guild had presented a check for \$100 to the Watauga County Arts Council in appreciation of the guild using WAC for meeting space as needed.

Treasurers Report, as of July 30, 2023:

Provided by Janeene Ross, reported by Vicki

Beginning Balance:	\$ 2,216.91
Deposits	48.00
Disbursements.	141.12
Ending Balance.	\$ 2,123.79

Deposits: \$36.00 materials, \$10.00 membership, \$2.00 commission

Disbursements: \$19.80 sales to participants, \$100 donation to Watauga County Arts Council, \$21.32 materials for guild

Officers for 2023-2025 (2-yr terms). The guild plans to have a proposed slate for the October meeting and members vote in November. Please seriously consider accepting a role, as the Guild can't exist without participation from officers. Members also need to consider serving on a committee; a committee listing will be added to the website, along with the officers.

Hope Estepan and Sali Gill-Johnson are serving on the nominating committee and will be reaching out to members regarding serving as President or Co-president, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Volunteers and nominations are welcome.

A vote was taken, and passed unanimously, to continue to subscribe to Zoom, which is \$149 for the coming year and is due in September 2023. Julie Sakowski has volunteered to provide equipment and expertise for the meetings. Some workshops or other activities may not be feasible to be Zoomed, however the business and other information will be.

Draft of procedures for guild resources allocation: The guild owns and maintains fiber equipment and materials which are to be available for checkout by members. Pam Kicklighter and Julie Sakowski volunteered to prepare a draft of procedures for managing these items. In addition to weaving looms, the guild has resources, for example, 20 years of "Handwoven" magazines that were recently donated and will be housed at Arts Space in the BRFG cabinet, available for members to borrow. As a part of this effort, we will also identify point persons in each fiber craft area represented in the guild. A draft of proposed procedures is available for your review.

Guild funds can and have been used to support guild equipment maintenance and repair and supplies; however, procedures are needed to ensure appropriate allocations. The guild plans to compile a list of groups (such as the two local weaving studios, Fiber Frolic, etc.) and the contact person(s). Members are encouraged to send this information to Sali Gill-Johnson, saligilljohnson@gmail.com to compile.

Upcoming and future events

Appalachian Art and Foodways/Blue Ridge Woman in Agriculture: Tuesday, September 5, 4-7PM at the King Street Market, 126 Poplar Grove Connector. Ample parking is available. This is a great opportunity to grow public interest in the guild and traditional fiber crafts and recruit new members. BRWIA will provide a table and chairs, and we will supply the tent and banner. Guild members may sell their own works, and the only commission is 10% payable to Blue Ridge Fiber Guild. All guild members are invited to join Vicki, Beth, Pam, Jane, and Sali to demonstrate skills and/or sell items. Vicki Skywark would like to know by Sept 1st if you are interesting in selling or participating: v.skywark@gmail.com.

Vicki Skywark is teaching a class "Knit a Kid a Sweater" at the Watauga Arts Council beginning August 30. She has one class almost full, but can open another section if there is demand. Fee is \$75 payable to WAC and the class runs five weeks. Participants will supply yarn/needles and can make an infant or child size sweater to donate or keep. 100% of the fee supports WAC and a children's charity. Contact Vicki for more information, or register at www.Watauga-arts.org.

Edgewood Cottage, Blowing Rock is featuring the Modern Quilters exhibit August 27-Sept 2.

Wilkes County Quilters are exhibiting at the Stone Family Center in N. Wilkesboro September 8-9. There is a \$5 fee to enter.

September 16 regular guild meeting- Mona Alderson is offering a photo presentation of her trip to study fabric dying in Bali. Because of the home football game, we may just Zoom and forgo meeting in person. TBD when we are able to discuss with Mona.

November 18 Guild Meeting- Susan Payne will lead a "How to Quilt" activity and members will take home a small piece. Details to follow.

The Hudson Arts Center is starting weaving classes. <https://thehubstation.com/events-and-classes/>

Edgewood Cottage Guild show next year: members voted to participate in another guild show next year. Guild members are encouraged to submit at least one work. Susan Payne is coordinating the submission process and will send out more information for upcoming deadline soon.

Wild Acres has opportunities for artist grants for residencies and workshops, coming up in the fall and beyond. For more info, check www.wildacres.org

Guild members also supported the idea of having another show with the Johnson County Center next year. Many thanks to Mona Alderson for coordinating and to the staff at the JCC for being so welcoming.

The Hickory Ridge Homestead will present Fiber Fest again next year in May.

Other Information:

Janeene Ross (treasurer) recently learned her husband Michael will require chemo and radiation. Members wishing to send cards or contact her- Janeene Ross, 1109 Hwy 194, Vilas, NC 28692

Loose Ends Project- Anyone interested in finishing up family heirloom or other unfinished projects? [www://looseendproject.org](http://www.looseendproject.org) We may also investigate doing this on a local basis.

Sali Gill-Johnson found a bag of hand-stitched quilt pieces at a thrift store and suggested perhaps some of the quilters could seam and quilt as a finished quilt, or other items to raffle for the guild.

Minutes prepared by Sali on August 20, 2023