

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild

October 21, 2023 Meeting
Location: Watauga Arts Space

Members Present: Julie Sakowski, Vicki Skywark, Rhonda Gladden (Zoom), Janeene Ross, Betty Womack, Sali Gill-Johnson, Jeanne Lawrence, Jane Campbell, Karen Dendiu, Susan Sharpe, Kim Potter, Kerry Masarik and new member Deborah Carroll.

Business Meeting

Vicki Skywark called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. September minutes were approved with the addition of the August 31 Treasurer's report, which had been omitted from the September minutes.

Treasurer's Report

As of September 30, 2023:

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,040.43
Deposits	92.00 *
Disbursements	1,085.64 **
Ending balance	\$ 2,046.89

Notes:

* (memberships \$ 80, materials \$12)

** (\$ 876.64 pass-through from Susan Sharpe's independent sales at Edgewood, Zoom \$149.90, subscription \$ 59.00 ("I like Knitting" auto-renewal, which will be refunded.)

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee:

Re: Board officers for 2024-25 (2 year terms), The nominating committee will share the proposed slate of officers at the November meeting and voting will be held in December. Vicki Skywark, Beth Reavis, and Janeene Ross will be concluding their terms as outgoing board officers. Rhonda Gladden and Sali Gill-Johnson will continue in roles of Communications and Secretary.

Database of Members: There is no printable membership form. Our online membership form populates a password-protected database hosted by our web provider, GoDaddy. Rhonda Gladden exported a recent copy, but few current members are listed. We will continue to determine how to expand this resource so that members can identify those with similar interests. Rhonda will coordinate creation of this "human resources" database with Grace Mutz.

Resource committee update: Pam Kicklighter, Susan Sharpe, and Grace Mutz continue to inventory Guild resources such as looms, supplies, books, and magazines at both Western Watauga and Watauga Arts Council centers.

Events, Announcements, and Deadlines

Communications: Members are asked to send event/program/announcements info to Rhonda to distribute to members. Please submit items in a "Press-Release" format so Rhonda does not have to rewrite or format, to rqwebweaver@charter.net. Include photos in the text or as separate attachments. Please review the website and specify the appropriate page: www.blueridgeriberguild.org.

On Tuesday, October 24, several members will represent the guild at the King St. Farmers Market from 4-7PM to demonstrate crafts, sell work, and share guild information. Andrea Vail (andreaevail@gmail.com) is coordinating this project. This is the final outdoor market; winter markets are conducted indoors at the BRWIA facility.

Annual membership dues are \$20 and are due by December 31. It's not too soon to pay your dues!

Edgewood Cottage: Susan Payne is applying on behalf of the BRFG for the Edgewood Cottage Guild show next year. She has sent a recent email with details. The application is due 11/18/23. All active members are encouraged to participate, and individuals interested in displaying or selling work should follow the guidelines outlined on her email, images should be (medium) file size.

Susan also inquired about having a future show at the Ashe Arts Council and Florence Thomas Arts Center, and they welcome individual submissions. Guild participation will not be an option at this time.

November 18 Guild Meeting

Location: Western Watauga Community Center

Program: Susan Payne and Mona Alderson will lead a free-motion quilting workshop; members will take home a small piece. Please RSVP to Susan smpnc1@gmail.com and also let her know if you have a sewing machine you can bring.

Program/Other

Kerry Masarik offered a detailed and interesting slide presentation on her historical research and recreation of 18th and 19th century woven straps and other utilitarian and decorative works. She has traveled from Boston, and Kentucky for research into patterns, records and artifacts, and also brought several examples of her work on narrow weaving on the 4-harness loom. She and her husband make authentic re-creations representing early American life. For more information on their work or hornandfiber@gmail.com Fun fact: cow horn could be heated and molded and might be considered the plastic of the 18th century.

Several members brought works to "show and share" which is always interesting and inspiring.

Janeene Ross shared that she will undergo 6 weeks of preventive radiation, but is currently cancer free!

Betty Womack has standard plastic pin-back name tags to share at the November meeting. Members are encouraged to create a personal name tag that can either go inside the plastic sleeve, or be attached to the outside.

Minutes prepared by Sali Gill-Johnson on October 23, 2023