

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2024  
Western Watauga Community Center

1. **Call to Order:** President Mona Alderson called the meeting to order. Guests and new members were recognized: Linda Hurd, Pat Kohles, Vidalia Goodwin, Caroline Hatchel. Approximately 21 members were present, including 3 via zoom.
2. **Cares and concerns:** Any cares and concerns can be sent to Beth Reavis, Chair Membership and Hospitality Committee.
3. **Monthly Minutes:** Hope Estepan moved, with a second by Rhonda Gladden to approve the minutes from February 2024 meeting: motion passed.
4. **New Secretary:** Salli Gill-Johnson moved that Margie Cassan be elected to replace her as secretary effective immediately. Vicki Skywark seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.
5. **Treasurer's report:** presented by Betty Womack:

Beginning Balance	\$2463.89
Deposits- 2 memberships	\$40.00
Balance     3/16/24	\$2503.89
6. **Retreat:** By popular vote, the Guild has reserved Wild Acres for August 16-18. Total cost is \$200 (plus a staff tip, probably \$10.), which includes 5 meals and double rooms with a studio for fiber arts making. Sign up sheet was distributed. To reserve your spot, please mail a check for \$50.00 made out to the Blue Ridge Fiber Guild to Betty Womack; 1314 Grandview Dr. EXT; Boone, N.C. 28607. Note if you need a ground floor room and/or have dietary restrictions. There was discussion of visiting Penland School of Crafts and possibly another gallery prior to arrival at Wild Acres at 1:00 on Friday. Mona replied to a question regarding cancellation policies. In general, one should not count on a refund if the guild is responsible for payment to Wild Acres. However, if a cancellation is urgently needed and the spot can be filled, that may allow for a refund. The agenda will allow for working on your own project. Susan Sharpe

was scheduled for a paper making demo for the meeting which was scheduled for the 17th. It may be possible to include that activity. Currently 14 members have indicated that they are planning to attend.

7. **Cove Creek School** has asked the Guild to participate in its Community Roots Fair on April 19 from 8:30 to 1:30 by demonstrating or sharing an activity with different classes. The groups will rotate every 25-45 minutes. Deborah Carroll and Susan Sharpe agreed to participate. Interested members should contact them.
8. **America250.NC.GOV-** America will be celebrating the 250th anniversary in 2025. States and communities are planning a variety of celebrations. Mona asked if the guild had interest in investigating whether the guild might want to participate in some manner. Salli Gill-Johnson and Jane Campbell agreed to investigate.

#### 9. **Committee Reports**

a) **Programs-** April meeting- Deborah Carroll will demo tapestry weaving

May- Batik workshop by Susan Payne

Fiber Frolic will be held at Hickory Ridge History Museum on May 11 11-3 pm. 591 Horn in the West Drive Boone, NC. Jane Campbell encouraged members to participate by attending or by demonstrating a fiber art. [www.horninthewest.com](http://www.horninthewest.com)

b) **Membership and Hospitality-** Beth Reavis - There are now 31 paid members and 1 membership for an individual over 80. Several members have not renewed yet. A sign-in book for member attendance was passed around.

It was noted that **all members need to go to the website and update contact information** if they have not already done so in the last 6 months. This is critical in creating an up to date member list.

c) **Shows and Events-** Seventeen members will exhibit and sell at Edgewood Cottage in Blowing Rock from August 5-11. Work will be hung August 4. Edgewood charges 25% sales commission. Susan Payne is the contact person. Edgewood address: 115 Ginny Stevens Lane Blowing Rock NC

[www.artistsatedgewood.org](http://www.artistsatedgewood.org)

Per Susan Sharpe, the guild has requested the ability to show and sell work at the visitor's center off of highway 421 for the months of Nov and Dec 2025.

d) **Communications and Technology** - Rhonda Gladden

The guild will join the Mid Atlantic Fiber Association. A benefit of the membership is website hosting. Members will work on updating Facebook and Instagram.

e) **Guild Resources**- Pam Kicklighter was not in attendance. Grace Mutz stated that she plans to add member interests and skills to the member spreadsheet.

## 10. **New Business-**

- Janeene Ross is downsizing and has several fiber related items for sale. Susan Sharpe moved that the guild purchase Janeene's "picker" for \$100 for shared guild use. Rhonda Gladden seconded. Discussion included mention that storage is available and that members could check out this item for use as needed. There would be no cost to "rent". Twelve members voted in favor; 2 voted in opposition, several abstained. The motion passed. Janeene will post other items for sale on the guild FB site.
- Members were asked if there was interest to participate in **Fairy Day** at Daniel Boone Gardens on July 13, 1-5 pm. Members may sell related work.
- The guild has agreed to participate in the **King Street Farmer's Market** on the first Tuesday of each month 3:30 - 6:30pm. Set up 30 min to 1hr before; this market season runs 2024 Spring - Fall

Location: In front of Watauga Co. Social Services, 126 Poplar Grove Connector, Boone, NC 28607

Members may sell items or demonstrate arts. Participation provides an opportunity for the guild to advocate for the arts within the community and/ or create revenue.

Andrea Vail is our point person. She would like to have any photos from last years' Farmer's Market events that members may have.

- Betty Womack noted that the weaving room at Lois Harrell Senior Center will not be available for at least another month.
- Western Watauga Community Center weaving class is on Tuesday and Friday 10-1pm. On the 3rd Monday of the month an instructor from BRAHM museum teaches art classes at Western Watauga. All are welcome.

After show and share, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting was followed by a presentation by rughooking artist and teacher Cheryl Roberts. Cheryl is certified through McGown School. Cheryl has been hooking since 2008. Cheryl sells and teaches at the Florence Thomas Art School and Arts Center, Hands Gallery, and various outlets in Ashe County. Members participated in making proddy hooked flower pendants following the presentation.

The next meeting will be on April 20, at Western Watauga Community Center 10:30-12:30. Deborah Carroll will demonstrate tapestry weaving.

Submitted by Margie Cassan, Secretary