

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Notes April 20, 2024

- **Program preceded the meeting as a room scheduling conflict was anticipated. Deborah Carroll presented her process for tapestry weaving.**
1. **Call to Order-** President Mona Alderson called the meeting to order
 2. **Visitors- new members-** Kaye Barley attended and became a new member. 22 people attended in person and 2 attended via Zoom.
 3. **Cares and Concerns-** Margie Cassan shared that Joan Smith has very recently lost her husband Todd.
 4. **Motion to Approve Minutes-** Rita Collie moved to approve March minutes and Rhonda Gladden second the motion.
 5. **Treasurer's Report-** Betty Womack reported a beginning balance of \$2503.89 and a present balance of \$2748.89. Income was from dues and retreat deposits. Expenses were the purchase of a carder and money for the March program.
 6. **Mid Atlantic Fiber Association-**The Guild has joined Mid Atlantic Fiber Association. <https://mafafiber.org/> Pam Kicklighter is our representative.
A member list has been sent to the organization. Our members will benefit from access to this organization through online classes, a book club, online films, information regarding conferences and other fiber guild activities. The guild will be able to use the organization's Zoom account without cost for our monthly meetings. No mailings will be sent to members unless they are requested.
 7. **Upcoming Program-** The May 18th program will be a hands on demonstration of batik making led by Susan Payne. It will be held at Western Watauga Community Center beginning at 10:30. Those interested in participating should wear clothing they don't mind working in, bring a plastic bag to bring home damp fabric, bring gloves, and plan to stay later - perhaps until 1:30. **An email will be sent out to which members should reply in order to RSVP.** There is no cost.

- 8. Retreat-** The Guild has reserved Wild Acres (<https://wildacres.org/>) 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. **The deadline for reserving with a deposit is July 1, 2024. Balance will be due 2 weeks out.** Note if you need a ground floor room and/or have dietary restrictions. There was discussion of visiting Penland School of Crafts and Edwina Bringle's weaving studio prior to arrival at Wild Acres at 1:00 on Friday. Those who wish to participate in the field trip to Edwina's studio and Penland (<https://penland.org/>) during the day Friday only may do so.
- Participants will bring their own work to do during the workshop time. There will be a storytelling/history event Friday night led by Wild Acres. Members are encouraged to bring musical instruments for a jam. Alcohol is permitted at Wild Acres.
- 9. July 20 Picnic Report-** Betty will recheck the reservation for the use of tables at Brookshire Park 250 Brookshire Rd, Boone, NC 28607- Beth Reavis is chairing this event. Margie Cassan and Salli Gill Johnson volunteered to help plan. The food will be covered dish provided by members.
- 10. Watauga Farmer's Market-** Andrea Vail is the guild rep for the guild presence at the King Street Farmer's Market. Last year the guild began participating (on a limited basis) in the Farmer's Market with the goal of outreach to the community regarding the fiber arts, and a venue for member sales. The market runs every Tuesday May- Oct. The guild will participate on these dates: first Tuesdays -May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1
- Set up begins at 3:30 and the event ends at 6:30. The address is 126 Poplar Grove Connector, Boone, NC 28607 (in front of Watauga Social Services). Members may come as they are able. You may bring work to share with shoppers, allowing outreach to the community and/or items to sell. There is no commission due to the

Market. The Fiber Guild commission is 10% of sales. This will be remitted to Betty Womack using the honor system. The guild agreed previously to pay the Market fee of \$22 per month.

11. **Committee Reports**

- **Membership and Hospitality**-Beth Reavis reported that we have 41 current members. All are welcome to bring refreshments to meetings. Kits were distributed for making Fiber Guild name tags to those who are new or who did not get one yet.
- **Exhibits and Shows**-Show will be held at Jones House in June. <https://www.joneshouse.org/>
Members interested in participating should complete an interest form on the Fiber Guild website by May 18. Items may be for display only or for sale. The number of items allowed will depend on the number of members who participate. The work will be hung by participants on Monday, June 3 at 10 am. A reception for the show will be held on Friday, June 7 in the evening. A commission of 10% goes to the guild. A donation is made to the Jones house by the guild. The Jones House takes care of sales during the event. An email related to the show will be sent to members.
Art Space- Susan Payne is checking on availability for show space.
Artist Profiles- those participating in shows or exhibits are asked to create a one page profile including a picture and artistic history, interests, background ect. Show participants are often interested in knowing more about the artists.
- **Communications**- Rhonda Gladden is in the process of moving our website to MidAtlantic Fiber Guild. Mailchimp will be the new server as it is free.

12. **Old business**- Several members participated in an educational outreach at Cove Creek School as part of their Heritage Festival.

Groups of students in grades 1,2,3,6,8 were shown steps in the spinning and weaving process. There are pictures on Facebook.

13. New Business- Kelsey Wagner has been showing her work in Thailand <https://www.kelseymerreckwagner.com/>

Mona Alderson reported that her group in Johnson county, Fiber Friends, has a show at Johnson County Center for the Arts during the month of May. Friday, May 3 an open house will be held from 4-6. <https://www.jocoartcenter.org/>

14. Show and Share

15. Adjourn

Submitted by Margie Cassan, Secretary