

Peninsula Fiber Artists

April 12, 2023

Attending the April meeting at the Port Angeles branch of the North Olympic Library System: Carol Olsen, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Cynthia LeRouge, Dale Walker, Diane Campo, Donna Lee Dowdney, Evette Allerdings, Janice Speck, Jeri Auty, Joyce Wilkerson, Kathy Greer, Liisa Fagerlund, Linda Carlson, Lora Armstrong, Lynn Gilles, Marilyn Heber, Marilyn Hiestand, Marla Varner, MarySue French, Pamela Hastings, Sue Nylander and Terri Wolf. New to us were Susan Melka, Gunvor Hildal and Pamela Raine of the Port Ludlow Art League.

May meeting: 10 a.m. May 10, Gardiner Center (upstairs room).

The meeting opened with an introduction of the leadership team, which meets via Zoom the week prior to the general meeting, and each member's description of her responsibilities.

One member, Jeri Auty, who will be leaving us after the May meeting due to travel and a return to England with her English husband, introduced her replacement, Terri Wolf. Terri will take on the coordination of mini-presentations at meetings. Presenters are needed for at least the October and November meetings. These are 15- to 20-minute displays and/or demonstrations about a technique that may be different than what some of us use.

Liisa Fagerlund, who often conducts leadership and general meetings, does the minutes for the leadership meetings, and has put hours and hours into securing venues for our general meetings, announced that her term expires in December and we seek a replacement for her.

Carol Olsen, who handles our website, the roster, and the sda-np@googlegroups.com email list, welcomes a replacement for when her term expires in December. She contacts those of us who have items exhibited to get photos for the website, especially the Fiber Habit window, and she needs to be contacted when your email address or other roster information changes. You can submit your bio and artist statement to her if you haven't, or if it's outdated. (See <https://sda-np.com/members-1> for what's visible to the public or the "Members" area for what is password-protected.)

Caryl Fallert-Gentry writes our exhibit proposals (such as the one in progress for Northwind's downtown Port Townsend gallery), curates the exhibits, handles the exhibit design in most cases, and does the physically demanding job of getting exhibits hung. She also often conducts a meeting and takes the photos at our meetings and posts them to our Facebook page. (If you do not want your projects publicized on Facebook, please alert Caryl in advance.)

Evette Allerdings hosts our Zoom sessions and manages the Fiber Habit window exhibits, which change every two months. She has handled much of the maintenance of this space and provides how-to's for the members who curate exhibits. She seeks curator/coordinators for the September-October and November-December windows. Contact her if you have a theme concept and are interested in putting an exhibit together.

The current Fiber Habit window will come down April 29 starting at 11 a.m. To pick up your mask, either be there or contact Annie Karl, who will take home whatever is not picked up. However, be aware that she will be away from mid-May through early July.

Kathie Cook is our treasurer and also often conducts meetings. She collects the \$10 fee for each artist exhibiting in the Fiber Habit window and the \$20 hanging fee for exhibits such as the current "What's for Lunch" at the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center, and pays our bills for meeting space, Fiber Habit window maintenance, equipment purchase (the new mic) and general exhibit expenses such as signage and, for "What's for Lunch," brochures. (It is these \$10 and \$20 fees that have allowed us to avoid charging dues and to make our meetings open to the public at no charge.) Our current bank balance: \$1,322.

The newest member is Cynthia (Cindy) LeRouge, who had planned to join the team a few years ago but professional responsibilities had precluded that at the time. At the April leadership team meeting we discussed the need to formalize how we respond to people seeking information regarding our meetings, and Cindy has volunteered to take this on. She also is introducing artificial intelligence to our meetings in the form of a transcript, which provides backup to the handwritten minutes, which are currently being created by Linda Carlson. (Cindy's first transcript was used to supplement Linda's handwritten notes, and Linda assures you the transcript is incredibly helpful.)

Linda seeks a replacement minutes-taker (she's done it for about five years) because she now spends more time on media promotion of our exhibits, including press releases to both local and national publications and Sequim radio station KSQM. Whoever takes minutes does not have to join the leadership team. You also hear from Linda when she's drafting a press release and seeks a key word or two regarding a technique or material you're using. And when we do a major exhibit such as last year's in Tillamook's Latimer Center, she will ask for your help in creating a media distribution list, which may include technique-specific journals (e.g., the Embroidery Guild journal) and hometown, tribal, professional and alumni publications, even high school blogs.

Exhibit news

Evette is awaiting submissions for the "UFO to Fabulous" Fiber Habit window, which will be installed in May. The date is dependent on completion of repairs to the window, where some written materials have recently gotten damp.

Caryl routed copies of the artist statements that she has assembled to date for the Northwind proposal. If you plan to participate should our proposal be successful (we're hoping for 2024), ensure that Caryl has the following from you:

- Your bio and artist statement written in the third person
- A head shot
- Images of two pieces of your work, not necessarily what you might exhibit

For the Mead Werks at Wilderbee Farm (AKA the Meadery), Caryl and her assistants (that's any of us who are stepladder-friendly) will hang "Farm & Garden, Sea & Shore" June 1. Pieces in "What's for Lunch" will go to the Mead Werks unless you notify Caryl otherwise and arrange to pick them up. Given that many "What's for Lunch" pieces cannot be hung on walls (as is necessary at the Mead Werks), there is space for a few new pieces. To submit a piece with the appropriate food theme, provide Caryl with specifics from <https://sda-np.com/farm-garden-sea-shore-entry-info>. (If you are not represented in "What's for Lunch" and you ARE submitting for "Farm & Garden..." please let Linda know so she can add your name to the list of artists in the press release. She does not need a photo.

Mini-presentation

Lolly Golden and Susan Cleaves of the 8th Street Emporium, <https://www.8thstreetemporium.com/>, provided an introduction to hook punching, which they explained can be done with strips of fabric---wool, T-shirt knits, sari silk, velvet, fleece, for example---and with yarn. Among the examples they shared: pins, pillow fronts, coasters/mug rugs, and rugs. Their shop offers classes in the technique, and they sell such supplies as the monk's cloth used as a foundation (one supplier is dormillstore.com), needles from such vendors as Amy Oxford (amyoxford.com), the frames that hold the monk's cloth during work and a variety of yarns.

Show & Tell

With this meeting, to facilitate Show & Tell, we initiated a sign-in process at the meeting entry. As you place a checkmark by your name on Carol's roster to indicate attendance, you can also sign in for a brief display or announcement. Whoever is conducting the meeting will call up presenters in the order in which they signed in, two at a

time, one to present and the other to be prepared to follow. Given the voice-recognition software Cindy has implemented, each presenter should be introduced so that the transcript picks up her name.

For photos of projects shown, check our Facebook page, where Caryl usually posts them.

Among our presenters on the 12th were many “UFO to Fabulous” projects, which resulted from several members filling brown paper bags with unfinished/unwanted projects that were exchanged anonymously with other members. All of these will be displayed as collaborations in the next Fiber Habit window.

Liisa showed a tote bag made with floral fabrics received via Caryl, and embellished with handmade quilted beads.

Evette’s UFO, an art quilt, was made with hand-dyed fabric from Mary Tyler. She also made a timely reminder regarding protecting fabric from fading in the Fiber Habit window, recommending the use of PrintFix. She has a few cans of this spray available for sale at the discounted price of \$20, leftovers from her vendor table at the recent Puyallup Sewing & Stitchery Expo. It does not affect the hand of fabric.

Caryl’s UFO is “Iris Collaboration,” made with silk-painted fabric from Evette and silk from Caryl’s stash.

Lynn’s “Going with the Flow” is a UFO made with pieces from a class that Jeri took long ago.

Sue Nylander showed a vest. Inspired by a class she took with Daryl Lancaster (daryllancaster.com), the vest used remnants of fabrics Sue found in Japan while on a Fulbright.

Terri showed another of her alphabet series art quilts and an UFO, “Life Sequence,” made with unfinished blocks from Caryl. She also announced that Port Ludlow Fiber Arts has a work session (bring whatever project you’re working on) on the first and third Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the South Bay Club. For more info, contact Terri.

Joyce showed a tunic-length vest created with remnants of fabrics she designed years ago. It will be displayed at the Santa Fe Weavers Gallery.

Susan Melka showed two pieces, one a needle-felted image of the Northern Lights and the other a small piece featuring applique and embellishment.

Lora showed two UFOs made with materials from Debra Olson. One featured a variety of papers, wood sticks and beads. The others were the covers of handmade books, to which Lora had added watercolor paper. (Imagine these as guest books for special events.)

Jeri, who is pursuing means of adding texture to her art quilts, showed examples of work inspired by Cathie Wier, including pole-dyeing and pleating/smocking, both with silk organza. She also showed a piece done in two days of silk painting with Evette.

Janice showed a hammer, part of silversmithing equipment she is selling, and a necklace that includes beads made in Africa from Coca Cola bottles.

Carol spent three days in Eugene in an ikat class, and showed the result, a very long scarf woven with cotton (warp) and silk (weft). She was also wearing a jacket made with ikat fabric she had made in Bali.

Donna Lee showed a fish-themed runner made of commercial fabric that she was taking to her grandchildren for their very long dining table, similar place mats and hot pads made of the scraps for a relative.

Pamela showed a needle-felted and appliqued piece suggesting a tree trunk and announced the spring art fair at Port Ludlow, at which sales are commission-free. See portludlowart.org.