

January 2023, Peninsula Fiber Artists

Jan. 11 dozens of members of Peninsula Fiber Artists and several guests and newcomers met at Fort Worden for a tour of the new Northwind Art facilities, including Building 324, and the regular monthly meeting.

Among those attending: Annie Karl, Barbara Ramsey, Brita Kimmerly, Carol Olsen, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Cyndy Bratz, Cynthia LeRouge, Donna Lee Dowdney, Evette Allerdings, Janice Speck, Joyce Wilkerson, Kindy Kemp, Leslie Dickinson, Liisa Fagerlund, Linda Carlson, Lynn Gilles, Maggie Grate, Marilyn Hiestand, Mary Tyler, Pat Herkal, Sue Gale and Terri Wolf. New: Cleo Pirtle, Daera Dobbs, Ellen Peterson, Marilyn Haber, Merrie Jo Schroeder, and Paula Lalish. (If you attended and you didn't sign the roster, your name may not be here.)

Kate Lovejoy, new education coordinator for Northwind, introduced herself and explained she had taught at a children's school at Indianola for nine years, among one of the positions that led her to Northwind. It merged with the Port Townsend School of Art in 2021 and now is preparing for an April start of programs in the new Fort Worden spaces. Fiber arts will be a priority, she reminded us.

Besides being given a tour of the two almost-complete buildings, both of which will have wet and dry studios, Kate pointed out a concrete building to be devoted to metal and ceramic art projects.

She also encouraged us to contact her with ideas for future classes and to submit proposals for classes we might like to teach. (This is the online contact for Northwind staff: <https://northwindart.org/pages/contact-us>).

February meeting

Gardiner Community Center, 10 a.m., Feb. 8, lower floor. Address: 980 Old Gardiner Road, just off Highway 101 to the east. The church and community center are both visible on north side of the highway; this intersection with Old Gardiner Road is slightly west of Wild Birds Unlimited. If you get to Mad Jax seafood and the intersection with Diamond Point Road, you're too far west.

Show-and-tell preceded the business meeting.

Evette showed the publication announcing her award in last year's Silk Painters International competition, and reminded us she will teach two classes in March at WSU's Sewing & Stitchery Expo in Puyallup.

Liisa showed two submissions for "What's for Lunch," one being a tote bag with pictures of sushi and the other an art quilt, "Market Reflections," inspired by views of the Pike Place Market.

Marilyn showed collages made with water colors.

Daera was wearing her very first project, a scarf dyed years ago.

Merrie Jo admitted she is addicted to English paper piecing and showed a couple of pieces.

Mary passed around a shoe-themed piece made for a Seattle exhibit that features a door knob as the heel, and showed silk yardage made with fractal images and printed by the Montreal firm, Art of Where, artofwhere.com, which uses images of greater resolution than Spoonflower and is reasonable in price.

Cleo announced she hopes to teach a wool class in March at A Stitch in Time in Sequim (watch the store's online calendar in weeks to come for information). She also showed a small art quilt with a dragon done during Covid shutdowns and a wool piece showing a chief's headdress.

Two fun pieces were shown by Carol: a four-pouch hanging for her daughter, who has four dachshunds, and a collection of flower pot and blossom blocks sashed with a vivid blue.

Lynn showed her submission for What's for Lunch, a deer nibbling on clover. It includes needle felting, embroidery and painting.

Janice modelled a coat made by her guest Paula, an original design sewn from Indian fabric once stocked by Aldrich's.

Paula modeled both a coat she made from thrifted garments that were felted and what she calls a "mourning coat," embroidered with remembrances of family members she has lost.

Cindy recommended LED flashlight gloves, which she said are tremendously helpful in low-light situations. Several brands are available via Amazon.

Terri showed art quilts dating from her years in nursing school and her first year of practice as well as more recent work. Her goal is to have the series travel to nursing schools. Whether they might also be exhibited at Jefferson Healthcare/Medical Center, where the collection is curated by Northwind, was also a point raised.

Erica again showed her in-progress mask for a forthcoming Fiber Habit exhibit. Made from the inner bark of a cherry tree, it is now embellished with cedar cone elements.

Sue reported on molding face masks with papier mache, as she progresses on her spring Fiber Habit project.

Pat showed a rabbit sculpture made with upholstery fabric from Jeri Auty.

Barbara showed an art quilt that includes what she calls stitch catchers, the scraps that she uses when stitching is interrupted.

Linda reported on the forthcoming closure of quilt/craft book publisher Martingale/That Patchwork Place, <https://blog.shopmartingale.com/quilting-sewing/going-out-of-business-sale-save-55-on-everything/>.

Caryl showed an art quilt created for a SAQA call, based on a photo taken in Havana of a red dump truck.

Business Meeting Topics

Website

Carol emphasized the importance of providing good quality photos of individual pieces for her descriptions of each Fiber Habit and gallery/museum exhibit. Include your contact information in your artist information if you would like it published online. If you do not include it there, it won't be online. (Carol and Linda may eventually do a mini-presentation on posing installation photos for publicity purposes; in the meantime, please refer to their recent emails regarding how those doing the installations are to be shown with pieces. For example, multiple members, smiling at camera, hands above waist level holding a piece, etc. See November-December Fiber Habit installation photos as examples.)

Fiber Habit window: current

The current exhibit has been publicized in the Peninsula Daily News (front page!) and in the Jan. 11 issue of the Sequim Gazette.

Fiber Habit window: March-April

Annie handed out forms for submitting masks; also see the website if you need a form:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a7e617ca9db09c968083c7c/t/625f3cace48c5424254add10/1650408620128/Fiber+Habit+Window+Submissions.pdf>.

Forms and photos of your work are due to her by Feb. 8. You may deliver your work to her prior to the March 3 installation (tentative date) or meet her at the window, probably between 3 and 5 p.m. Remember your \$10 check; pieces are not installed until fees are paid.

Fiber Habit window: May-June

Brown bags for finishing/transforming/embellishing another member's work were distributed and more can be shared at the next meeting. Contact Evette for details.

What's for Lunch

Caryl once again reminded us that Feb. 1 is the deadline for letting her and Linda know about submissions. Feb. 28 is the drop-dead date for turning in all information.

Due to the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center winter closure, ours will be the first 2023 show, and the opening reception will be March 17. The show will be hung a few days prior. Pieces can be turned in to Caryl at the March meeting or delivered to her after that or to the Fine Arts Center on the date of installation. Fee is \$20 per person, to be submitted prior to installation.

Evette reported that the Fine Arts Center has now decided it wants three workshops, for children or adults, taught on food-related topics during our show. Each is two hours, and there will be an honorarium. Information is needed ASAP; please contact Evette. (Update: Evette has received several proposals!)

Northwind Exhibit Proposal

With its new display space and new emphasis on fiber arts, members earlier suggested this is a good time to consider an exhibit proposal to Northwind, probably for 2024 or even 2025. Email your suggestions for a theme to Caryl, who will create a ballot to elicit preferences.

Et Cetera

Pat asks that we verify our email address for her: she reports that she continues to receive some email via her husband Steve's address, one they used to share, and also that her surname is "Herkal," so anything emailed to "Herkel" will not reach her.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Carlson