

Peninsula Fiber Artists May 2023

Those who signed in at the welcome desk were Annie Karl, Carol Olsen, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Cindy LeRouge, Debra Olson, Diane Campo, Evette Allerdings, Jayne Larson, Jeri Auty, Leslie Dickinson, Liisa Fagerlund, Linda Carlson, Lora Armstrong, Marilyn Haber, Marilyn Hiestand, MarySue French, Pamela Raine, Steffany Newschaefer, Sue Gale, Susan Melka, and Sue Nylander, Janice Speck.

The next general meeting will be June 14 at the Gardiner Community Center. Pat Herkal will discuss armatures. The next leadership team meeting will be June 7; if you have topics for that meeting's agenda, please contact Liisa no later than June 1.

The July meeting is scheduled for Fort Worden, assuming lighting issues have been resolved in the Northwind Art space. Debra Olsen will present. The August meeting is scheduled for Caryl's house at Kala Point, with Mary Tyler presenting on fractals, if her health allows.

Meeting highlights:

Exhibits

Caryl announced that the WFL takedown would be May 16. If you're reading this and your pieces were not going to the Wilderbee Farm Mead Werks, and you did not pick them up on the 16th, contact Caryl or Evette to get your piece.

The Mead Werks installation starts at 10 a.m. June 1. Sue Gale, Debra Olsen, Lora and Evette (with husband Michael) volunteered to help, especially on ladders. If you are submitting a piece for this show, you need to know that Mead Werks does not carry insurance for art work. You will need to sign a waiver that is on the back of the contract we have with them. Be sure to do this when you drop off your piece(s) either to Caryl, or on the day of installation.

The proposal for a 2024 (or later) show at Northwind Art has been delivered, and Caryl reports an enthusiastic response. The document is online so that it can be downloaded and revised for future proposals by any of us.

For your own proposals regarding exhibits, consult Caryl's document on the website in the "Professional Resources" section of the Members area. This also provides information on such topics as photography, squaring up pieces (that are intended to be square), hanging device options, shipping tips and how to label your pieces and packaging. Remember that proposals require a head shot of the artist and two samples of work.

Liisa reminded that the final event for WFL was flower arranging, with each arrangement to be designed to complement an artwork. She asked that anyone attending share her photos.

Evette announced that the new Fiber Habit window is installed. The next window will be done by Barbara Houshmand, Janice Speck and Evette. The building is to be renovated this summer, with exterior work that may eliminate leads into the window, so installation dates are uncertain. The question of whether to repaint our space at that time, and if so, whether to do black or white paint, was raised. Pamela suggested we continue with black paint but mount some pieces on large white boards to make them more visible. Sue Gale asked whether an awning might reduce the glare in daylight hours. Evette will discuss this with the building owner.

Pamela will do the September-October FH window.

Mini-presentations

Annie asked if presentations could be videotaped. Evette pointed out videos require significant memory. There are also legal issues: some presenters or some audience members may not want to be shown online. It was pointed out that members can video the presentations for their own use. Another reason for not posting videos on our website is to encourage people to attend meetings and see the presentations live. Cindy noted that presenters providing resource lists will handle most members' questions.

Video Recording Presentations

Some discussion on this topic was held. Issues of storing the videos and the amount of memory it would take. Technical issues were another thought as well as some presenters not wanting to be videotaped, the artist's permission process, etc. It was decided that this will be handed over to Teri Wolf, who is taking over Jeri Auti's leadership spot, to see where this might go.

This month's presentation

Donna Lark provided a detailed presentation on wet felting, noting that it was done at least as early as 545 B.C. She also explained that nuno-felting, developed in 1993, is a wet-felting process in which wool is fused to silk. She cited how many members work with felting, all in different ways: some wet-felting, some needle felting. Besides walking us through all her steps, she noted that shrinkage rates in felting vary by artist. Hers is approximately 24 percent. It's also important to understand that shrinkage is directional and thus will affect the shape of a piece or (in her case) a garment. Donna had many examples of her work including clothes, birds, hats, and wall art.

Show and Tell

Cindy showed several pieces with encaustic paper. On some pieces she felted onto the paper, on others she used silk painting, and on yet others she collaged with sashiko stitching, embroidery and couching.

Debra showed a fabric garland flag made in her three-day class with Deb Carroll. It is a collage that includes silk, beads, buttons, handstitching, over-dyeing and stamping. She tells us she was inspired by prayer flags.

Diane, inspired by the Ikat exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum, showed fabric from the Andes, where each village has (or did have) its own pattern for shawl/neck pieces, and a vintage Turkish piece decorated with trinkets, shells and beads that were gifts for a newborn.

Liisa, inspired by What's for Lunch, showed her "Mega Carotene" art quilt.

Susan Melka, who took a class at the 8th Street Emporium, showed punch needle and rug hooked pieces.

Sue Nylander modeled a shirt made with custom fabric, the result of a silk painting being digitally printed. She also recommended "Ornament" magazine, ornamentmagazine.org.

Lora showed two nuno-felted pieces, both created with roving dyed by her.

Leslie showed more pieces prompted by her Betty Busby class with the cameo cutter. After digitally manipulating an image, using it to cut Pellon, applying it to cloth, she had both stitched and painted her pieces.

Caryl showed an 84-inch art quilt made with fabric she designed and had printed by Spoonflower in two sections due to the quilt's size. She had hand drawn images and then scanned them and added the color to the scanned images with her computer.

Leadership Team changes

Jeri Auti has stepped down from her position. Teri Wolf will be taking Jeri's place. Linda Carlson will be stepping away as the Scribe for the group. Sue Gale will be stepping in for Linda. Linda will continue to do all of the publicity for us.

Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Sue