

Minutes, Peninsula Fiber Artists, Oct. 11, 2023

It was a dreary day in Gardiner when dozens of us brightened the room with artwork at our October meeting. Those attending: Lora Armstrong, Jeri Auty, Kathie Cook, Leslie Dickinson, Donna Lee Dowdney, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Lynn Gilles, Kathy Greer, Marilyn Haber, Annie Karl, Susan Melka, Carol Olsen, Pamela Raine, Barbara Ramsey, Janice Speck and Marla Varner. Liisa Fagerlund conducted the meeting and Linda Carlson took notes in the absence of Sue Gale.

Next Meeting

Nov. 8, NorthwindArt, Building 324, Fort Worden, with Leslie Dickinson presenting the skills talk.

Announcements

NorthwindArt: Barbara reminded us that NorthwindArt had renovated spaces at Fort Worden with no input from artists, resulting in extremely poor lighting in Building 324, the classroom we use when meeting there. She asked for donations to Northwind specifically for improved lighting in this room, which is where most of the fiber art classes are currently being held. She's accepting cash and checks (made payable to NorthwindArt) and provided this link for online donations: <https://northwindart.org/pages/donate>. Says Barbara: "In the line that says 'What prompted your donation?' please put some version of 'I want better classroom lighting' and they'll know to designate your donation for lighting improvement."

Member Survey: Cynthia LeRouge, unable to join us, is preparing an online survey of the membership. This will allow you to express your preference regarding meeting venue and comment on other current topics. Watch for this in the next month or two.

"Burst of Color:" Caryl announced that as part of our winter exhibit, NorthwindArt would like an artist presentation on Jan. 13. Lora volunteered to speak about felting, Kathie about quilting, Leslie about botanical dyeing, and Pamela on mixed media. The time of this presentation is to be verified by Caryl. Kathie will coordinate with the assistance of Pamela.

Caryl reminded us that Northwind wants exhibiting artists to attend the Jan. 6 opening reception.

Linda will do a press release about both the Jan. 6 reception and the Jan. 13 panel, submitting this to the Kitsap and Olympic Peninsula media the week of Dec. 18. Any notice to the Seattle Times will have to go earlier. She will need information for those participating in the panel no later than Dec. 15. If you anticipate attending the Jan. 6 reception, please also notify her prior to Dec. 15. (NOTE: when sending information for press releases to Linda, it's important that you tell her which exhibit/event you're writing about.)

Caryl also reminded us to review the information on our website re: hanging specifications for "Burst of Color." She recommends creating the holes on aluminum bars near the top. These bars, available at hardware stores, are appropriate for many pieces. Wider pieces are better supported with electrical conduit pipe.

"Color Play:" The Fifth Avenue senior housing complex in Sequim is the venue for our April exhibit. Due to available wall space, pieces of no more than 30 inches in width can be accommodated. Given the hanging system, pieces must be framed or mounted. Small sculptures can be displayed in a corner cabinet. Larger sculptures can be accommodated on one of the tables in the center of the rather narrow room, but artists are reminded there is no security.

"Daily Dose of Fiber" Fiber Habit window for November-December: Linda received Leslie and Donna's pieces and their \$10 checks. Everyone else participating in the window should arrange to either drop off their pieces with Linda in Sequim, for pickup by Evette, arrange to deliver to Evette in Port Angeles, or arrange to deliver to Evette when the window is created. Payment of \$10 (checks payable to Kathie) is necessary prior to pieces being displayed.

Show-and-Tell

Donna Lee showed a variety of small pieces, most featuring cabochons, which she attached with jewelry-strength glue. She also announced that a piece of hers will be shown at the Pacific International Quilt Festival in Santa Clara Oct. 12-15 (<https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/pacific-international-quilt-festival/>).

Leslie showed two pieces. The first was a vessel featuring ninebark botanical prints and stitched on leaves embellished with beads to suggest raindrops. The second was a bowl made with a duckcloth iron blanket (100 percent cotton) with stitched on leaves and the embellishment of a desiccated dragonfly.

Jeri showed SAQA's catalog from its "Minimalism" show, which features her "Total Solar Eclipse" art quilt. The show is currently touring Europe.

Caryl just received a long-sleeved knit shirt from an English firm, Bags of Love, which works with artists' own images. This one, of 98 percent polyester, features one of her paintings. Compared to another vendor, this one allows you to customize the neckband.

She also announced award-winners at the recent **International Quilt and Fiber Arts Festival in Everett, where she won first place for a machine-stitched quilt**, "Midnight Fantasy #10," and Marla won first place for a hand-stitched quilt, "For the Love of Squirrels." Caryl's quilt also won a first place in the "Abstract" category, and Marla's "Tiny Bubbles" won second in "Modern Large." More information regarding the Festival and the quilts on display through Nov. 26 in LaConner: <https://www.qfamuseum.org/iqfaf-home.html>. And Caryl reminded us that given this festival is for fiber, all of us are eligible to enter the 2024 show.

Marla showed the vivid "Coral Reef" quilt she is considering for "Burst of Color," her very first show entry, which was a prize-winner at the 2015 QuiltCon. "Temperature Quilt 2021" is being shown at the Pacific International Quilt Festival.

Susan showed two mixed media (fabric and paper) pieces and explained she is seeking means of adding dimension to her pieces.

Lora is one of several members participating in a show at Sequim Museum & Arts, and has acrylic painting on exhibit in "Surreal," at the Aurora Loop Gallery, 971 Aurora Loop, Port Townsend, <https://auroraloopgallery.com>. She will teach a class on felting a ruffled scarf at NorthwindArt Nov. 4 (see <https://northwindart.org/collections/courses/lora-armstrong>) and reminds members she is curating "The Big Chill" for the January-February Fiber Habit window.

Liisa showed a colorful tote bag made with boro-style embroidery.

Janice suggested painting or printing on plain tote bags for those who wish to create fundraisers. She showed a bag she'd decorated, and recommends yams rather than potatoes for vegetable prints. Yams are dryer, she tells us.

In other news, Diana Gipson, now moved across Puget Sound, tells us she'll be teaching shibori at Northwind. See <https://northwindart.org/collections/courses/diana-gipson>

Skills Talk

Caryl provided how-to's and an extremely detailed hand-out on "Simple Curves," what she calls "appliepiecing." Like many of the materials from classes she presented, these instructions are available as a complimentary download from her website, <https://www.bryerpatch.com/faq/faq.htm>. She invited us to look closely at her samples, to see how the curved seams, despite appearing pieced, were sewn together.