

Minutes of the Nov. 14, 2018 meeting at the Port Townsend School of the Arts

Twenty-three members and guests attended the Nov. 14 meeting, which included reports on:

Uptown Window/Fiber Habit

The Alphabet Project

The January show, "Under the Influence of Fiber"

The April Bull Kelp workshop

The PTSA Fiber Round Table

There was also a discussion of the holiday lunch and a lively discussion during Show and Tell.

In attendance:

Janalyn Edmondson, Barbara Ramsey, Jean-Marie Tarascio, Leslie Dickenson, Pat Herkal, Debra Olson, Barbara Houshmand, Annie Karl, Elaine Girard, Nora Shapiro, Kindy Kemp, Donna Lee Dowdney, Joyce Wilkerson, Tracey Appleton, Cathie Wier, Cheri Kopp, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Carol Reynolds, Sue Scott, Erica Iseminger, Jess Sirelson, Janice Speck and Linda Carlson.

Uptown Window

It was reported that the building owners say the window is popular, both day and evening, with passersby and those patronizing nearby businesses. For those of us unable to make it to Port Townsend during an exhibit, Cathie reminded that the website has a page with photos of each exhibit. Pieces exhibited can be for sale; Cathie will include prices in the website text if she receives it.

Michelle Johnson and Nora Shapiro are handling the November-January window. Cheri and Elaine are planning January-March, which will feature items made from clothing, such as the yoga bag Cheri showed, made from one half of a pair of jeans. Creating a "retail-friendly" window, with "small" items such as scarves, bags and jewelry that is clearly marked for sale, was also discussed. Approval of the building owners would be required for this.

Alphabet Project

Pat read Diana Gipson's report on showing the Port Townsend Library staff the letters that will hang in the children's room. "Excitement and absolute enchantment" were among the phrases Diana reported in describing the staff's reaction. She will be present at the installation in December and will send information on the letters to the Washington SDA newsletter. Professional photography of each letter is also being sought.

"Under the Influence of Fiber"

For the January show at the Old Alcohol Plant in Port Hadlock, Caryl:

- Reminded that the submission deadline is Dec. 1. Submission forms are on the website in the "Members" section. Submissions need not be new, and they can have been previously exhibited. Multiple submissions from members are encouraged, to permit the jury great choice in assembling the show. The group is buying Janice's glass case, so secure display space for such small items as jewelry will be available.
- Encouraged members to consider what they might teach or demonstrate to meet our commitment to provide programs for the public during the exhibit. Gary Nisbet should be contacted regarding length of programs/classes, and what fees can be charged.
- The Old Alcohol Plant has a gift shop (Ansel's) where items can be sold. The commission is 20%. The contact is Gary's wife
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Kelp Workshop

Sue reported the kelp workshop with Shannon Weber is scheduled for April 16-18, Tuesday-Thursday, at the Sequim Grange. A maximum of 15 spaces are available. Ten people expressed interest. Those who did not attend the meeting should contact Sue to express interest. Fees---for our membership, \$350 per person including all supplies---will be collected early in 2019. If our chapter does not take all the spaces, other SDA members will be offered spaces.

Fiber Round Table

Tracey provided a detailed report on the recent meeting to outline PTSA's vision for both beginning and advanced education in fiber arts. She said the goals include making PTSA a destination for fiber arts and to create awareness of those in the region creating with fiber, both within groups such as SDA and outside it, often on an individual basis. Ideally, instructors will come both from the local community and from elsewhere. Models are the now discontinued Quilting on the Sound conferences and the programs formerly offered through Centrum. Collaboration with other programs such as BARN will be encouraged.

Holiday lunch

Caryl will provide the gracious setting, "all ages" beverages and a few favorites for the Dec. 12 at noon at her Kala Point home. Members are asked to bring appetizers or salads rather than desserts. (Pat Herkal IS bringing lemon bars.) Show and Tell is encouraged.

Show and Tell/Recommendations and Announcements

Nora reported the "warm and welcoming" atmosphere at an embroidery class at the Maiwa School of Textiles in Vancouver, B.C. Tracey said she recently took a Maiwa class on natural dyes.

Kindy, who recently took Diana's shibori workshop, recommends an online source for extra strong nylon Coat's upholstery thread; she said the price she found was far less than that at Joann Fabrics.

Donna Lee showed an art quilt featuring the Lime Kiln on San Juan Island and asked for advice regarding pricing. Caryl, one of several providing suggestions, referred Donna Lee to an article on pricing on Caryl's website.

Joyce has started a new weaving project.

Cathie, just returned from Japan, showed a shibori scarf purchased in Kyoto where she was able to find an indigo dyer. Her cotton scarf was the result of 15 dips, far fewer than what is done with silk. She recommended the shibori museum in Kyoto, which has already created a huge banner illustrating dozens of sports for the 2020 Olympics.

Cheri showed a collage of Wyoming-themed product packaging that she created as an homage to sisterhood.

Caryl, just returned from Houston, has been contacted by the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace about the possibility of displaying her suffrage quilt. She has the proofs of 24 colorways of Benartex fabric she is endorsing, and showed two small quilts created with photographic images. One features microphotography of her father's vintage clock parts and was printed by Spoonflower.

Carol said she is working primarily with beads now.

Jess, another guest, described herself as a beginner who is doing fiber collages. She says she is a frequent visitor to the Uptown Window.

Erica reported a satisfying experience with one of John Marshall's classes at Coupeville and showed a small piece created with shibori and other techniques.

Janice passed around a vase she had made by felting wool directly to a metal can.

Janalyn showed two pieces of wool she had felted with no backing. One beautiful piece in aqua shades may be used for a cowl, she said.

Barbara Ramsay showed how she had combined eco-dyeing with water-based fabric paints. During the meeting, she also completed the closure on a handbag made with eco-dyeing, both on fabric and on lightweight batting.

Jean-Marie discussed the importance of us as our own speakers, being willing to share our passions as well as specific techniques.

Debra passed around her Allbirds shoe, which is completely compostable, made with merino wool, bamboo, and for the sole, sugar cane.

Leslie showed scarves made with silver dollar eucalyptus, vinegar water and 90 minutes in a steamer (but sans mordant). She reminded us the the QFC in Hadlock often has the eucalyptus in stock.

Pat showed a piece she had overdyed, beaded and then framed.

Barbara Houshmand showed multiple pieces, including one of lightweight wool eco-dyed with walnut leaves and eucalyptus. (She also expressed gratitude for Nora's tutorials, although it appears that Nora will no longer tutor via phone.)

Annie showed small collages made with doll body parts purchased at a thrift store.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Carlson