

SDA-NP Meeting Minutes April 10

The North Olympic chapter of the Surface Design Association met Wednesday, April 10, at the Sequim branch library. Members attending: Pat Herkal, Cathie Wier, Barbara Houshmand, Barbara Ramsey, Marla Varner, Leslie Dickinson, Sue Gale, Debra Olson, Diana Gipson, Sue Nylander, Sherry Nagel, Diane Williams, Michelle Johnson, Janice Speck, Kathie Cook, Annie Karl, Liisa Fagerlund, Cheri Kopp, Anne Jarnagin, Rachel Gaspers, Kindy Kemp, Donalee Dowdney, Linda Carlson and Caryl Fallert-Gentry. Guests were Margaret Crayton, Peggy Hanson, and Mikie Morris.

The business meeting, which was followed with an enthusiastically received supply swap, covered the following topics:

PTSA Show (<https://sda-np.com/greenblue-magic-ptsa>):

It's up and the opening was well attended. The closing date was initially expected to be the end of April, but an extension has been discussed by PTSA staff. A pickup date for our pieces will be confirmed and e-mailed to everyone.

The Meadery:

Barbara Ramsey was approached by owners of The Meadery at Port Townsend's Wilderbee Farm (wilderbeefarm.com) regarding the chapter doing a two-month show starting in August. Members are encouraged to visit the venue to see the extensive space available (one wall alone is 36 feet long). Barbara will contact the farm to determine if we can visit following our May 8 meeting at PTSA. We would probably be responsible for hanging the show ourselves. No commission is charged by The Meadery because purchases are arranged directly between artist and buyer, as at last summer's Sequim Civic Center show. Previously shown work is expected to be eligible.

The Meadery show would coincide with the area studio tours (considered an advantage by those familiar with the tours) and with the Wooden Boat Festival (which is not expected to attract visitors to galleries).

Caryl moved that we accept the offer to exhibit, and this motion passed.

Other possible venues for shows were briefly discussed, with a reference to the new site of the Sequim museum, soon to open. Leslie will verify the charge for renting the Cotton Building for a holiday show/sale.

Eligibility to Exhibit:

Diana reminded that SDA national's rules require that anyone exhibiting with SDA be a paid member. She maintains the Angel Fund to help finance dues (now a minimum of \$75) for members who request assistance, and reminded that contributions to the fund of any amount, even a dollar, are appreciated. All disbursements from the fund are confidential.

Finances:

The chapter received \$500 from the Port Townsend library for the alphabet letters now on permanent display in the children's area, and it was reported that \$200 of this will be retained to pay bills relating to the website (e.g., domain name), which Cathie maintains on a volunteer basis. Pat will contact those responsible for the \$500 grant we received for the seaweed workshop, which was cancelled for low registration. She believes that we may be allowed to keep the grant if we do another program that includes a complimentary public component within two years of the grant being made.

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The BARN supply swap:

Donalee announced that the BARN on Bainbridge has scheduled a Fiber Connections meeting and swap for April 30, starting at 7 p.m. Besides the supply swap, there will be show and tell.

Wearable Art Show:

Tickets are now available for the Port Townsend Wearable Art Show (<https://www.ptwearableart.com>), either 2 or 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11.

Accommodating attendees:

Caryl pointed out that our meetings now routinely attract more people, and that hearing members' comments is sometimes difficult when we're seated around tables. She suggested using schoolroom-style to make it easier to hear and to see what is being displayed. Cathie reminded that standing up to make presentations (including during show and tell), speaking more loudly and facing the audience are all important.

The issue of larger venues for meetings was also discussed. Sue Nylander will research whether space is available on Wednesdays at the Sequim Community Church, which charges community groups such as her quilt guild \$10 per session.

Uptown Window/Fiber Habit (<https://sda-np.com/fiberhabit>):

Kathie Cook, Sue Gale and Marla Varner were thanked for their work on yet another fabulous window display, "Then and Now," and Cathie was thanked for maintaining an online archive of the window displays and our shows. The curators for May-June are Debra Olson and Diana Gipson. Curators are needed for the September-November window.

Show and Tell:

Barbara Ramsey showed pieces eco-dyed with alder catkins and hellebore blossoms, and discussed using hechera (a variety of coral bells) and camellia blossoms. Fabulous greens are possible with cannibas, she said, passing on the hint that foliage with strong scents makes great prints.

Peggy showed canvases with acrylic pours, a technique now being taught at Port Townsend School of the Arts.

Marla showed a quilt vibrant with colors such as turquoise and melon, and explained her interest in invisible stitching for the binding.

Margaret showed a small art quilt enhanced with beads and paint.

Leslie showed a **silk charmeuse** piece eco-dyed with pawpaw leaves and a new bowl, with orange and green colors similar to that of Marla's quilt. She is using angelina for the centerpiece. The bowl is 26# canvas. Her owl quilt is on display at Wild Birds in Gardiner, with sales proceeds to benefit a charity.

Sue Gale reported she is taking the bowl class at Quilted Strait.

Caryl showed work in progress including an old photo of cabbages in a French farmers' market that she digitally manipulated and then had printed by Spoonflower, and a piece with hand-dyed fabric that resembles a sunburst.

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Diana announced she has Spanish hyacinths in her yard, and they will be available for picking by anyone who wants to try them for eco-dying.

Sue Nylander showed a jacket just made when working with Janet King, felted with 10 yards of silk.

Sherry showed notebooks covered with canvas she has painted with acrylics and then stamped.

Diane Williams showed another example of work with found objects, this time a Sun Devil doll featuring a Sunkist soda can. She also mentioned a book she'd made with cans that is now on display.

Donalee showed a mixed media piece and asked how she might prepare pieces for display if not framing under glass, which is what she's usually done. Among the suggestions were to border a piece and stretch it, or mount it on stretched fabric of a complementary color. Caryl also suggested that pieces which do not lay flat (as are some of Donalee's heavily-embroidered pieces) could be backed with heavy wool blankets such as vintage military surplus.

Janice showed a felted "boa" with charming head reminiscent of vintage fox fur stoles.

Liisa showed a piece stretched on hardboard, a mounting technique she first used years ago, and announced that she and her husband are doing a joint show at the current Sequim museum soon.

Rachel showed the tube of silk and wool called silky merino that she purchased in Australia on a recent visit and eco-dyed when there with native foliage.

Kindy showed off the complicated knit sweater she had begun in June 2017 and just recently completed.

Linda showed a piece of reverse applique, with each different fabric faced with contrasting fabric to create the impressive of piping.

Pat showed a wedding dress created for an earlier Wearable Art Show now embellished with extensive beading.

Cathie showed a work in progress, two yards of silk now reduced to approximately 2 x 18 inches with minuscule shibori knots.

The next meeting will be May 8 at 3 p.m. in Building 306, Port Townsend School of the Arts, Fort Worden.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Carlson