

The October meeting of the North Olympic chapter of the Surface Design Association was Oct. 10 at the Sequim branch of the North Olympic Library System, with 19 members and guests attending.

Barbara Houshman and Barbara Ramsey conducted the meeting, and Linda Carlson substituted as note-taker. Guests were Debra Olson, Marijane Figg, Liisa Fagerlund and Sue Nylander. Members present, besides the Barbaras and Linda: Nora Shapiro, Janice Speck, Sue Scott, Anne Jarnagin, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Leslie Dickinson, Sue Gale, Kindy Kemp, Rachel Gaspers, Marla Varner, Michelle Johnson and Stan Green.

The new display at Fiber Habit, in the Uptown Port Townsend window, was curated by Mary Tyler and Leslie, with assistance from Diana Gipson. It'll be up until mid-November, when Michelle and Nora will create the November-January display. A team of curators is needed for the mid-January-mid-March window; members were reminded that curators can ask others for assistance once a theme is established. Accepting a curator responsibility does not necessarily mean creating the entire display. Kathie Cook is signed up for mid-March-mid-May, but needs a partner. Curators are needed for all of the following months.

Several wonderful letters were presented to Barbara Ramsay for the library alphabet project. Deadline for submission to Diana is Oct. 19.

Dec. 1 is the deadline for submitting photos of projects for the Old Alcohol Plant show, which will be hung in mid-January following our January meeting. Caryl emphasized the importance of the show having a coherent collection of pieces, and encouraged members to submit more than one piece so that the curators have a choice in what is hung. A reminder: pieces that have previously been shown can be submitted. Caryl has five mannequins that can be used for garments and guest Sue Nylander offered an additional pair. Some stands are also available. No jewelry case is available, which prompted a discussion regarding whether the members should acquire an inexpensive case for this and future shows. Barbara Ramsey volunteered the absent Pat Herkal to research such cases, the purchase of which can be funded from exhibit fees.

Sue Scott reported that the chapter has not received official notification of the \$500 grant to help finance the new media workshop with Shannon Weber (shannonweber.com) in mid-April. However, we are believed to be the only applicant. Shannon will provide the bull kelp and other materials for a maximum of 15 participants in the three-day workshop; the estimated fee to her for materials is \$150 per person. Because we are responsible for Shannon's expenses, her fee and a venue, the total workshop cost is expected to exceed the amount of the grant. A venue with tables and both hot and cold water is needed for the workshop. Suggestions were: Quimper Grange, Sequim Grange, the Gardiner Community Center, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Sequim, and the Old Alcohol Plant.

The November meeting will be Nov. 14, 3 p.m., Port Townsend School of the Arts, Fort Worden. The December meeting will be a potluck luncheon at the Kala Point home of Caryl, noon on Dec. 12. Members are encouraged to bring appetizers or salads rather than desserts (due to last year's dessert-dominated spread).

Many fabulous projects were presented during Show and Tell.

Marla showed her "T" for the alphabet project, quilted with orange and black fabric in a design reminiscent of Winnie the Pooh's friend "Tigger."

Barbara Ramsey modeled an eco-printed raw silk tunic. She recounted the significant efforts to create a satisfactory garment. The bodice was stabilized with a nonwoven interfacing from JoAnn Fabrics so lightweight that the garment still draped beautifully.

Nora showed eco-dyed fabric that she had embellished with oil paint sticks. Sue Scott noted that fabric can also be painted with Daniel Smith water colors that have been mixed with textile medium.

Sue Nylander displayed a three-dimensional felted vessel made in a recent workshop with Coupeville's Janet King (<http://feltflair.blogspot.com>).

Linda announced that her "Upscale Retailing in Wartime," regarding Seattle department stores during World Wars I and II, is now available in the Kindle Store as an Amazon Short Read. It discusses wartime apparel design restrictions and material and notion shortages. She also encouraged those visiting New York to consider a stop at the Fashion Institute of Technology museum, open weekdays and Saturdays at no charge.

Janice showed yet another of her necklaces made with bead-embellished felt beads and other beads, this one in red, white and black.

Sue Scott showed a silk organza scarf printed in Leslie's recent eco-dying class, and two sweaters, one linen and one wool, that she eco-dyed.

Barbara Houshman showed samples of eco-dyed wool, test pieces for a jacket she's considering making.

Anne charmed us with her "Z" for the alphabet project, a zebra made with legs, ears, and tail, all using black and white felt and artificial fur.

Caryl displayed and explained her two-part quilt for "Deeds Not Words," a 2020 exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Created with digital drawings---Caryl actually draws on her screen---the primary quilt shows 20 women who were the first of their gender in roles important to women's rights. It also features the names of more than 160 women who were other "firsts." This quilt is applied to a larger quilt showing three women important in suffrage, and including a key to the women who are only named on the primary quilt. Caryl also announced that she will receive an award at Quilt Festival Houston, and that 20 years after her most recent acceptance, she has again been accepted for Quilt National opening Memorial Day weekend.

Liisa showed a series of quilts inspired by photographs she and her husband have taken at Fort Worden, and announced that they will have a joint show---her quilts and his photographs---at the Sequim Museum & Arts Center in May.

Leslie showed her "S" for the alphabet project, a snake covered with fabric and eyelash yarn and featuring a tongue, eyes and rattlers. She displayed one of the banners she is making with ice-dyed fabric and handmade fabric beads and also some silk from eco-dying projects.

Debra showed a piece from the recent women's retreat at Fort Worden. Painted, stamped (including with Styrofoam meat trays) and embellished with gold leaf, she said it may be cut apart and reconstructed prior to completion as a framed piece. The other piece she showed is a collage representing women around the world, with fabric fused to the backing and text that had been printed on vellum and added.

Sue Gale showed an eco-dyed scarf from Leslie's class.

Michelle showed two hand-dyed jackets, both made of her own felt, deconstructed, assembled and then embellished. She also displayed a pillow fabricated with fleece from Nora's sheep (which one is unknown) and with flax.

Kindy showed the letter "M" created with the first felt she ever made.

Rachel passed around yarn and fleece dyed with lichen, a mushroom, and hollyhocks. Variegated yarn was created by combining multiple strands of different colors.

Submitted by:
Linda Carlson