

MAWS

Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners

Fall 2022

President's Message

Is it almost winter already? It always seems to come too soon but we fiber artists have it better than some. We can look forward to more time spent creating. I am still basking in the glow of my summer fiber adventures and our MAWS conference that was sponsored by the Helena Spinners and Weavers Guild. They are to be congratulated for doing such a good job!

MAWS will be sponsoring "Cabin Fever" again this winter. There will be on-line classes in the months of January, February, and March. More information will be coming soon.

The MAWS website, www.montanaweavespin.org, is undergoing changes. Please continue to check the website for the latest MAWS information. We always request our members and guilds to submit your latest news to Lisa Brown, lisa.brown@montana.edu, that we can share with our community.

The board has voted that MAWS will judiciously send emails to members using the newsletter membership list for announcements and reminders between newsletters. These emails are for MAWS events and communication only. Requests should be sent to Linda Shelhamer. Please contact Linda Shelhamer, shara@bresnan.net, if you would like to opt out from these additional emails.

Finally, the Billings area MAWS members are sponsoring our next conference in 2024 and they have already made a great deal of progress. Please find the announcement in this newsletter.

Dawn Ahlert

"Never be afraid to do something new. Remember, amateurs built the Ark; professionals built the Titanic".

Anonymous

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Cabin Fever Events!

Ready for some hibercreating?

Keep an eye open for Cabin Fever On-line classes starting in January 2023.

Cabin Fever classes are on-line classes for MAWS member designed to provide low cost remote learning during winter months.

Contact Sylvia Smith in Kalispell, Nancy Kaumeyer from Alpine Weavers and Spinners, Pam Refling in Bozeman, or Linda Shelhamer in Billings with suggestions.

We will post our class schedule and descriptions on our website Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners | Weaving Education (montanaweavespin.org) on Facebook Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners | Facebook and by email.

Calling all Teachers

We are busy updating our teacher database which we include on our website and give to regional guilds when they are looking for teachers for events. Please send your teaching information to Melanie Dayton from Helena mdayton4946@gmail.com

Here is our current database that we are revising.
<https://www.montanaweavespin.org/teacher-database>

We are also looking for teachers for our upcoming MAWS conference August 1-4, 2024 in Billings. If interested, contact Julie Norman buffalojulie@gmail.com

**Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners
Minutes of the Board Meeting,
Oct. 29, 2022,
Montana City School**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by president Dawn Ahlert at 1:05 p.m. Members present were Dawn Ahlert, Linda Shelhamer, Mary Melander, Lisa Brown, Annette Cade, Marian Stratton, Julie Tome, Sharon Schroeder, Gwen Haferkamp, Heather Johnson, Jackie Boshka, Melanie Dayton, Julie Tome and Susan Lohmuller. Sylvia Smith and Nancy Kaumeyer attended via Zoom. Guests were Linda's sister, Susan, and Laura Bennett.

Approval of Past Minutes

Linda moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2022 meeting, Mary seconded, motion passed. Linda moved to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2022 meeting, Lisa seconded. The minutes will stand as presented with the date corrected. Linda moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2022 Biennial General Membership Meeting, Sharon seconded. The minutes will stand as presented with the date corrected.

Treasurer's Report

Linda gave the treasurer's report. Morgan Stanley, \$20,806. Helena gave a rebate of \$10 to each 2022 conference attendee which will go towards his/her next year's dues. Each guild will receive a list of those who have received this rebate.

It was noted that MAWS awarded nine scholarships for the conference (7 were used), Helena awarded 1, Alpine awarded 2 (1 was used), Fibershed awarded 1. Sharon moved to approve the treasurer's report, Melanie seconded, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

2022 Conference Report and Preliminary Financial Report

Annette gave the preliminary conference financial report adding that the final numbers will be available soon. Income, to date, is \$52,010.00, expenses \$45,088.20, half to return to MAWS \$3,460.90.

She presented her Coordinator's Report describing the Helena guild's long, protracted journey, extending from 2018 to 2022, of planning and hosting the conference. The committee faced complications of weather, Covid, members' health struggles, Carroll College managerial changes and disruption of services, rising costs, and changes in teachers' schedules! They persevered and MAWS benefited from their wonderful conference. Annette gave high compliments to her committee, the many volunteers and MAWS members who all contributed so much to make the conference a success. Annette also compiled a list of 10 suggestions that she believed would benefit the pre-conference planning committee for Billings 2024.

At Annette's suggestion, the board discussed the possibility of sending interim emails to MAWS members, i.e. important announcements, opportunities and deadlines. These emails would be sent by Linda who maintains the current database; all requests to send an interim email must be made through Linda. Members who do *not* wish to receive these emails in addition to the newsletter may opt out. Heather moved s, Melanie seconded, motion carried.

Jackie and Sharon read two thank you notes sent by conference scholarship recipients.

The board discussed having a Roster of Conference Attendees so that friends are able to contact each other post conference. Lisa said the RSVP program can generate such a roster. Some attendees may wish to not be included.

Discussion was tabled.

MAWS 2024 in Billings Pre-Planning Report

Susan and Laura, logo and theme committee, reported that the 2024 conference will be called "**Our Fiber Planet**". The conference will have a global theme; details remain up to the Billings steering committee. Susan and Laura showed the board a pre-view of the logo which is of a hand holding a globe of the earth which on closer inspection is a ball of yarn. Conference colors will be dark teal, light teal, magenta, salmon and silver/light grey.

Linda and Heather reported that the steering committee has selected the dates of August 1-4, 2024. The Billings Hotel and Convention Center has been chosen as the best venue. They presented a sample schedule of events. Additional classes will be held post conference. Linda asked for help on the open show, guild booth displays, and name tags from other guilds. Heather described the goodie bags which are both bag and backpack. The bag committee is soliciting handwoven fabric pieces of at least 7" x 16". Contributions can be sent to Linda.

Spin-Off editor, Kate Larson will be the main spinning teacher for the conference. Denise Kovnat will be the key weaving teacher. Both have committed. Kim Hayes, a new Montana resident, will be the main knitting instructor.

Jamie Stevens will weave the ribbons.

(Annette served treats after our break. Thanks!!)

NEW BUSINESS

ANWG Conference Request

The Association of Northwest Weavers Guilds (ANWG) has invited MAWS to host the 2027 conference. Discussion ensued. Dawn noted that we have our own MAWS conferences and we are hosting a Billings conference in 2024. We are a very large state with a relatively small, rural population hence our man/womanpower resources are limited. Linda moved that we not host ANWG 2027, Gwen seconded. Motion passed. ANWG will be contacted with our decision.

Cabin Fever

Linda reported that Cabin Fever zoom sessions will be revisited. Linda, Nancy and Sylvia will meet Nov. 4, 10:00 a.m. via zoom in that regard.

Living Treasure

Dawn brought up a discussion of ways to enhance MAWS 'Living Treasure program and further acknowledge its recipients. One suggestion made was to have a booth like guild booths at conferences showing LT work. A suggestion was made to have videos of LTs filmed in their studios as they discuss their fiber lives, work, inspiration, etc. Lisa said MAWS could underwrite the video production, and that if videos were of good quality they could be featured on MAWS 'website. Lisa has the equipment and skill to make the videos and students who may help. Members at Large could encourage participation in the discussions and questioning. Sharon Schroeder moved that Lisa produce the videos which will be funded by MAWS, Melanie seconded. Motion carried.

Website

Lisa reported on her analysis of the website. She believes the organization, titles, readability and search effectiveness could be improved. She will work on the website to make improvements.

Teacher Database

The MAWS teacher database needs to be updated. Melanie volunteered to update current information for teachers from Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho.

MAWS Newsletter

Note: the next newsletter deadline is Nov. 1, 2022. When queried, MAWS members report that the newsletter is very meaningful and important to them. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the newsletter size, the importance of pre-determined publication deadlines, difficulty in making edits, and content. MAWS has established the pre-determined publication dates as February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15. The deadline for submissions to the newsletter is 15 days prior to the publication date. Any material submitted late will be held for the next newsletter.

Next Meeting Date

MAWS will meet next on April 22, 2023 at the Montana City School Meeting Room.

Dawn adjourned the meeting at about 4:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Lohmuller, Secretary.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

February 1, 2022

(Any information submitted after the deadline will be held for the following newsletter)

Please send photos, news, and guild information to Tammy Jordan

Email: goldieknotsmt@gmail.com

Or snail mail:

P.O. Box 426; Lincoln, MT 59639 Phone: 406-633-0073

Treasurer's Reports

MAWS Account Balances as of 10/25/2021

Bank Accounts	
Morgan Stanley	\$20,355.00
PayPal	\$490
S1 Savings	\$0
S90 Checking	\$0
Asset Accounts	
Loan to Conference	\$0
Liability Accounts	
Deferred Revenue (Memorial Gifts)	-\$40
Overall total:	\$20,806.00

Income/Expense Comparison by Category

	10/28/2020	10/28/2021
	10/27/2021	10/27/2022
<u>INCOME</u>		
Donation	\$3	\$10
Dues	\$1820	\$3990
Memorial Gifts	\$200	\$764
Misc. Income	\$20	\$0
SB Dividend	\$85	\$87
TOTAL INCOME	\$3274	\$2128
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
ANWG DUES	\$35	\$0
Gifts Given	\$100	\$0
Grants Guild	\$200	\$0
Living Treasures Gifts	\$0	\$471
MAWS Education Programs	\$0	\$225
Misc. Expenses	\$20	\$20
Newsletter Expense: Postage	\$29	\$41
Newsletter Expense: Printing	\$194	\$188
Stipend: Newsletter Editor	\$700	\$700
TOTAL Newsletter Expenses	\$223	\$229
PayPal Fees	\$7	\$36
Scholarships	\$0	\$1575
Stipend: Newsletter Editor	\$700	\$700
Stipend: Treasurer	\$250	\$250
TOTAL Stipend	\$950	\$950
Unrealized Gain / Loss	\$73	\$4
Stipend: Web	\$200	\$200
Website / Web Hosting	\$304	\$392
TOTAL Website	\$504	\$592
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2113	\$4199
OVERALL	\$15	\$663

Guild News, Happenings, and Information

To see what happening or to get in contact with a guild near you, please visit our website for contact information and specific guild happenings at:

<https://www.montanaweavespin.org/guilds-grants>

SW Montana Fiber Arts Guild

We have begun to meet again after a long hiatus!

WHEN

The second Sunday of month, meeting September through May, beginning
November 13, 2022 @ 11AM

WHERE

McAllister, MT (near Ennis, MT)
Email Dawn for location information. (email listed below)

WHY

Because we love the fiber arts and want to share.

*You do not need to know how to weave, spin, dye or felt to join; you just need the interest, and we can help with the rest...

*A group with similar interests is a great way to improve your craft and meet others doing the same. In a county where people are so spread apart, this can bring us together!

* If you have questions or would like more information please contact
Dawn Ahlert dmahlert@hotmail.com

Save the Date

MAWS 2024 conference "Our Fiber Planet" August 1-4, 2024. Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Start your weaving, felting, and spinning with our conference colors dark teal, light teal, magenta, salmon and silver/light grey. Questions and suggestions are welcome. Heather Johnson heatherbrookjohnson@gmail.com or Linda Shelhamer shara@bresnan.net

Alpine Weavers & Spinners Guild Happenings

Rudy Z. From Alpine Weavers and spinners guild poses with his rug which won best elven items at the Northwest Montana Fair

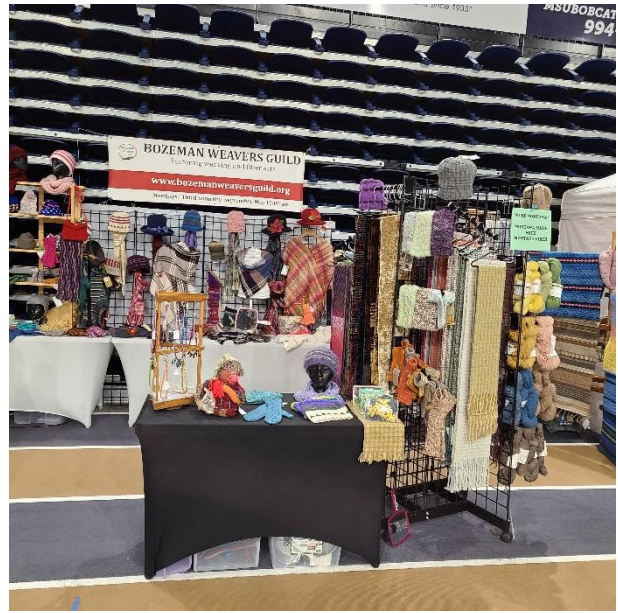


Rudy Z. Stands in front of his award winning loom at the MAWS conference. Rudy is a member of AWSG and win guest place tapestries and rugs at MAWS.



Bozeman Guild Happenings

The Bozeman Weavers Guild is very happy to finally be back to in-person monthly meetings. We will be meeting the third Saturday of each month at the Sourdough Fire station. Also, the Tuesday Study Group has started again and meets every other Tuesday at Mary Melander's home. The big project for the fall was the Made Montana sale at the MSU field house in October. The pictures are our booth at the sale. Fifteen members participated with a wide variety of items for sale.



Helena Guild Happenings

HELENA SPINNERS' AND WEAVERS' GUILD 2022-2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

***** 2022 *****

September 17 th	Organizational meeting and Guild Sale
Oct 15 th -16 th	Tapestry weaving - Joanne Hall 9-4
November 19 th	Christmas "Santa's Workshop" Make Christmas gifts 9-4
December 10 th	Christmas party at Annette Cade's House 12- ?

***** 2023 *****

January 7	Rock Day 9 - 4
Jan 20 th -22 nd	Overshot Weaving - Elizabeth Tritthart Friday 6-8; Saturday & Sunday 9-4
Feb 18 th -19 th	Rigid Heddle (single) weaving - Joanne Hall Saturday & Sunday 9-4
March 18 th	Egg basket - Milly Dover 9 - 4
April 15 th	Flax Spinning - Karen Griffing 9 - 4
May 20 th -21 st	Color and Weave Workshop - Annette Schipf Saturday & Sunday 9 - 4

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Helena Spinners' and Weavers' Guild wants to thank everyone who registered for the MAWS Conference, MAWS 2022 VISIONS IN FIBER. As a SPECIAL THANK YOU and REWARD for your participation, the Helena Guild has pre-paid the 2023 MAWS dues of each participant! We have sent a list of the registrants to the MAWS treasurer...so she knows who you are! Again, we send our gratitude to each of you and look forward to seeing the fantastic new projects YOUR VISIONS have CREATED!!

Joanne Hall's Tapestry Weaving Class

The participants have only finished about a fourth of their samplers. Everyone was having a good time and learning all about tapestry

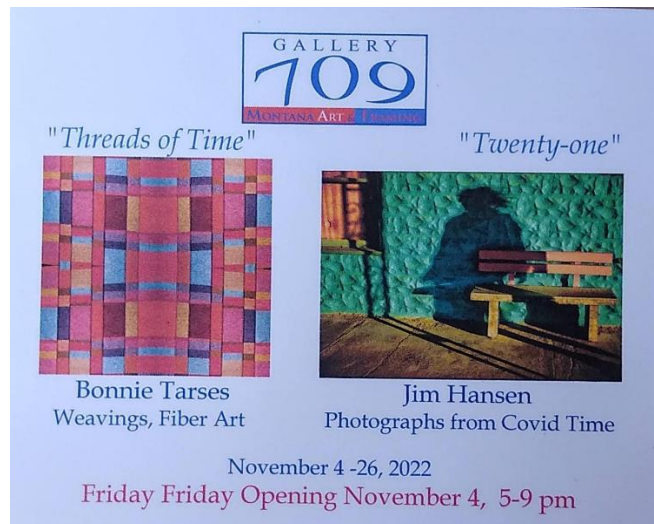


Missoula Guild Happenings

IF YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT THIS FIRST FRIDAY ART EVENT, BE SURE TO STOP BY BONNIE'S SHOW. INFO BELOW.

THE SHOW WILL BE UP UNTIL NOVEMBER 26 - SHE HAS OFFERED TO ARRANGE A PRIVATE TOUR FOR GUILD MEMBERS LATER IN THE MONTH.

**GALLERY 709 LOCATED AT 709 RONAN STREET, MISSOULA, MT
OPENING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4, 5-9 PM**



Ikat dyed silk wrapped bolo ties, the perfect gift! (or a future workshop?)

Montana Association of Weavers & Spinners (MAWS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The annual membership fee is \$10 and is due by October 31st. The membership year is January through December. You can join through your local guild or as an individual if you do not belong to a member guild. Dues include your newsletter subscription. To join MAWS, please send dues to: Linda Shelhamer, 446 Tabriz Drive, Billings, MT 59105. She can be reached at 406-259-9160 or by emailing shara@bresnan.net.

Donations to help offset expenses are gladly accepted and can also be mailed to Linda.

Check out our newly revamped website!

You can submit show and tell, complete your membership (now with the ability to pay using PayPal) and lots of new content!

www.montanaweavespin.org

Classifieds

Do you have a fiber-related item to sell? As a member of MAWS you are able to post your items for sale. (Non-members will be required to pay a fee of \$10 per classified ad along with one photo). You have items to sell, please send the information, along with any photos to Lisa Brown. Items will be posted for 60 days. Also, please let Lisa know if your items sell so we can keep the website and newsletter content page current. We appreciate your cooperation!

Please note: Ads are free for members. Outside entities can place 1/4 page paid ads for \$15 per issue. Our newsletter reaches over 300 fiber artists. Contact Tammy Jordan: goldieknotsmt@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Cabin Fever Series

Watch for upcoming class topics and information!

MAWS Board Meeting

April 22, 2023 at the Montana City School Meeting Room. There will be a virtual component for those unable to attend.

ANWG Conference

June 11-18, 2023. Bend OR. For more information, please visit the website at: <https://anwgconference2023.com/>

Copper K Fiber Festival

July 15-16, 2023. Whitehall, MT. Class registration is now open and the festival has a brand new website! To learn more about the festival, check out scheduled vendors, and to sign up for classes, please visit their NEW website at:

<https://www.copperkfiberfestival.com/> or their Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1405060639801056/>

Eureka Fiber Fest

August 5-6, 2023. Eureka, MT. To learn more about the festival and to sign up for classes, please visit their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/fiberfesteureka/> or their website at: <http://www.eurekafiberfest.org/>

Our Fiber Planet – MAWS 2024 Conference

August 1-4, 2024. Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings, MT

More information coming soon! Questions and suggestions are welcome. Heather Johnson

heatherbrookjohnson@gmail.com or Linda Shelhamer shara@bresnan.net