

MAWS

Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners

Summer 2022

President's Message...

Hello from your new board president!

I would like to thank Sharon Schroder for her service as president the past two years and look forward to her continued presence on the board. Your experience will be valuable to all of us. A fond farewell to our new Living Treasure, Joan Goldstein. We will miss you after so many years you have spent on the board. I would like to welcome to our board new members, Melanie Dayton, member at large representing Central Montana, Julie Tomes, who will be the member at large for Western Montana, and Nancy Kaumeyer will be the member at large for the Northwest. Finally, a big thank you to all our continuing board members.

It was so wonderful to see my weaving friends at the MAWS conference. Annette Cade and the Helena Weavers and Spinners Guild out did themselves hurtling over many obstacles that came their way. This will be a conference to remember for many years. I missed seeing those of you that did not attend. The 2024 MAWS conference will take place in Billings. The officers are: President Heather Johnson, Vice President Susan Lohmuller, Treasurer Linda Shelhamer, and Secretary Ruth Terry. It is great to be able to look forward to more involvement with each other in person. Zoom is nothing like real life contact!

It has been a whirlwind month for me as I attended 3 conferences: MAWS conference, Complex Weaver's Seminars, and HGA Convergence. I learned so much that it will take a while to digest it all! I also had the privilege of meeting some interesting, new to me people in the fiber arts world. Hopefully I will be able to recruit some of these awesome people to share their expertise with us.

This newsletter will highlight our MAWS conference and give you other information about what is going on with our fiber artists.

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." –Maya Angelou

Dawn Ahlert

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MAWS Board Members

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Nancy Kaumeyer – Whitefish

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Julie Tome – Missoula

jtomemd@gmail.com

Congratulations to our Newest Living Treasures!



Joan Goldstein, Maude Knudsen, Pam Refling, Barbara Hand

MAWS 2024 Planning Team Seeks Input

The 2024 MAWS Planning Team would like your ideas for instructors and classes. Please reply by the end of August so we can start putting your ideas to work at our next meeting!

Which instructors you would like to learn from?

What Workshop topics you are most interested in? And what level of each - beginner, intermediate or advanced?

Any other comments or suggestions?

Please email to Julie Norman buffalojulie@gmail.com.





Sandy Gillitzer, long-term Prairie Handspinners member and treasurer, died suddenly at age 76 in May. In the early 1980's Sandy, her husband Roman, and their two sons started attending Mountain Man Rendezvous. Soon after she started weaving and then spinning. She joined the Prairie Handspinners and Billings Weaving Guild serving as treasurer at both organizations. Sandy served on the MAWS board in early 2000's. She served as treasurer of the MAWS 2010 conference in Billings. Sandy was still treasurer at PHS at the time of her death.

In addition to weaving and spinning, Sandy made many garments and bags out of buckskin and was an accomplished beader on buckskin. She beaded a large Crow pattern blanket strip, moccasins, her buckskin dress and helped bead a cradle board with a friend. Beginning in the 1970's, Sandy and Roman became very active in the Yellowstone Rifle Club. Sandy was a crack pistol and rifle shot.

Sandy worked as a bookkeeper in Billings at CIA architects from 1978 until 2005. After moving to five acres along the Yellowstone in Park City, she served as treasurer for Senior Helping Hands, the Montana Gerontology Society, and the Park City Community Center for many years. Sandy was president of the Park City Senior Citizens Club at the time of her death.

Active at almost every Prairie Handspinner meeting and activity, Sandy is truly missed by her fiber friends, for her humor, caring and generosity. Memorials were made in Sandy's memory to the MAWS education and scholarship fund.

If you desire, you may make tax deductible contributions to MAWS Education and Scholarship either through website and paypal or by mailing to:

MAWS, c/o Linda Shelhamer, 446 Tabriz Drive, Billings, MT 59105.

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED THE
MAWS 2022 CONFERENCE – VISIONS IN FIBER!**

THE CONFERENCE PLANNERS ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE MANY MAWS MEMBERS WHO HELPED MAKE THE CONFERENCE SUCCESSFUL! THE INSTRUCTORS WERE WONDERFUL, INFORMATIVE, FUN, NICE...WHAT A GREAT GROUP! THE SPEAKERS ADDED ANOTHER LAYER OF DEPTH AND RICHNESS TO OUR WEAVING AND SPINNING JOURNEYS BY SIMPLY OPENING UP THEIR EXPERIENCES AND STORIES TO THE GROUP. HOW LUCKY WE ARE TO HAVE THE GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTERS OF MARY ATWATER IN OUR FOLD AS WELL AS FOUR EXCEPTIONAL MAWS LIVING TREASURES! AND, OF COURSE, THE REMARKABLE PIECES DISPLAYED IN THE FASHION AND OPEN SHOWS...BY NONE OTHER THAN...YOU ALL! THE VENDORS ADDED ANOTHER AVENUE OF FUN...SHOPPING FOR EQUIPMENT AND GORGEOUS YARNS!

THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO “PAY IT FORWARD” BY PAYING THE 2023 MAWS DUES OF EACH PERSON WHO SIGNED UP FOR THE CONFERENCE. THAT’S RIGHT, IF YOU REGISTERED FOR *VISIONS IN FIBER*, YOUR MAWS DUES WILL BE PAID FOR 2023. A WIN – WIN!!

AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR COMING AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN BILLINGS IN 2024!

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 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.

Dues can also be made on the MAWS website <https://www.montanaweavespin.org/join-us-membership>

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

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS
BIENNIAL MEETING OF 6/26/2022

Sharon Schroeder called the meeting to order at 10am at Carroll College. She thanked all the attendees who traveled from other states to attend the conference. These included Alaska, Texas, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, California, and Hawaii.

Sharon also recognized the Helena guild for hosting the 2022 MAWS conference and Annett Cade as the longest serving Conference Chair.

Linda Shelhamer, Cabin Fever program chair, reported on the successful new program. The Prairie Handspinners Guild of Billings hosted a program given by Roy Clemes of Clemes and Clemes who gave a virtual workshop on blending boards. The Alpine guild sponsored a tapestry weaving program by Linda Peet. The goal for the 2022-2023 year is for 3 more mini classes on Zoom.

ANWG president, Deborah Staehle reported on the 2023 conference, June 11-18 in Bend OR titled "Fiber Connections". She referred everyone to the ANWG website for further information. Washington will host the 2025 conference and she invited Montana to host the 2027 conference.

The new slate of officers was presented to conference attendees. They will serve for the next two years. The new President Elect is Dawn Ahlert, Vice President Elect is Jackie Boshka, Treasurer nominee is Linda Shelhamer, Secretary - Heather Johnson, Newsletter nominee is Tammy Jordan, website coordinator nominee is Lisa Brown, and Members at Large nominees, are Melody Murter, Lisa Brown, Gwen Haferkamp, Melanie Dayton, Marian Stratton, and Julie Tome. A motion to accept the slate of officers was made Annette Schipf and was seconded by Susan Lohmuller. The motion was unanimously approved.

The new President, Dawn Ahlert, expressed thanks to Annette Cade for her service with flowers and a gift. Millie Dover shared a message about Annette.

The Living Treasures were recognized.

Winners for the raffle were drawn. Linda Kubik won the rigid heddle loom, Ally Sellers the mini-picker, Clara Thompson the English combs, and Mary Bradshaw the Ashford spinning wheel.

The Billings Guild accepted the offer to host the 2024 conference. The Missoula Guild accepted the offer to host the 2026 conference.

The 2024 MAWS Conference officers were nominated. They included President Elect, Heather Johnson, Vice President Susan Lohmuller, Treasurer Linda Shelhamer, and Secretary Ruth Terry.

The meeting was adjourned by Dawn Ahlert.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Heather Johnson, Secretary.

Montana Fibershed Update

Hello fellow local fiber lovers!

You are all cordially invited to attend Montana Fibershed's **Farm-to-Fashion** event! This day-long event, taking place on **October 8 in Bozeman at the Emerson Center for the Arts**, will have something for every interest:

9 – 4 : **Montana Fibershed Marketplace** with lots of exciting vendors (get a vendor application [here](#)), educational displays and activities.

2 – 3: **Panel discussion** featuring Montana ag specialists, manufacturers and textile business experts weighing in on a discussion of the potential opportunities for our Montana fibershed.

4 – 5: **the Farm-to-Fashion Show** with a wide variety of exciting creations showcasing Montana fiber, and the talents of Montana makers and designers.

5 – 6: **Reception** with no-host bar, and the opportunity to see the garments up close and meet the panel speakers.

We hope to see many of our MAWS friends at this event, and to continue expanding the conversation about where our clothes come from. Till then....

All the best,

Barb French, Event Chair

406-570-3142

montanafibershed.org



Montana Fibershed member Lucy Petrick models hand-woven bag with elk skin trim created by Montana Fibershed board member, Helen Harris, at the Montana Wool Growers Lamb Jam on August 6 in Bozeman.

**MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF WEAVERS AND SPINNERS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING 6/25/2022
HELD AT CARROLL COLLEGE**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Schroeder at 12:30 pm. Members attending included Dawn Ahlert, Linda Shelhamer, Joan Goldstein, Lisa Brown, Susan Lohmuller, Annette Cade, Heather Johnson and Marian Stratton. Melody Murter, Alanna Strong, Tammy Jordan, Elizabeth Tritthart, Gwen Haferkamp did not participate.

LIVING TREASURE AWARDS:

After some discussion about the presentations, all members present voted unanimously to accept the proposal that Linda Shelhamer and Marion Stratton would orchestrate the ceremony.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

DC Ahlert (Central Montana) resigned from the board and Melanie Dayton will volunteer to be member at large for Central Montana. Elizabeth Tritthart is stepping down from the position of website coordinator. Lisa Brown will volunteer to take over the website and be the Bozeman representative. Jackie Boshka will volunteer to be the new Vice President. Nancy Kaumeyer will volunteer to be a member at large for the Northwest. Julie Tome will volunteer to be the Missoula/Bitterroot at large member.

SUNDAY'S AGENDA:

The general meeting on Sunday will include the election of officers and thanking past board members for their work, including past President Joan Goldstein. There was discussion about how to take nominations from the floor.

FUTURE MAWS CONFERENCE SITES:

2024 Billings
2026 Missoula
2028 Alpine Guild
2030 Bozeman

It was noted that after reviewing the budget of future conferences, if there is a deficit, the hosting guild can request sufficient funds to cover the loss from MAWS.

2022 MAWS CONFERENCE VOLUNTEER THANK YOU'S:

Annette Cade expressed her appreciation to the volunteers who helped to make the 2022 conference the success it was: Maude Knudsen for judging the weaving entries to the open show, Barb Burns for judging the spinning and felting portion of the open show, Jennifer Prior who coordinated and headed the committee for the open show, Mary Jean Martin for weaving the conference attendee's name tags, and Gina Ziegler who created and coordinated the goodie bags.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm by Sharon Schroeder.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
MAWS 2022 RAFFLE WINNERS!!**



COMBS - CLARA THOMPSON

RIGID HEDDLE LOOM - LINDA KUBIK



PICKER - ALLIE SELLERS

SPINNING WHEEL - MARY BRADFORD



CONRATULATIONS TO THE MAWS 2022 FASHION SHOW WINNERS!



KATHY O'HERN FIRST PLACE OUTER WEAR

Kathy wove and sewed her tunic dress to wear to her nephew's wedding, which was held in a castle in Ireland in March 2020.

After a long search for thread for the tunic dress she found what she liked, a cotton/linen blend milled in Italy, at the 2018 ANWG Conference in BC. The owners of the company "Gathering Yarn" dyed the thread the color she wanted for the Ireland wedding. A Vogue pattern was used.

She also sewed a vest for her husband, Stan, to wear to the wedding from the same handwoven fabric. The pattern stripes are twill, basketweave and plain weave, woven on 9 shafts.

HADASSAH MOFFETT - FIRST PLACE ACCESSORIES

I used the pattern Venus from Knitters Magazine 2012 K107. It is made of Queensland Perth yarn which is 80% superwash and 29% nylon. Three different colors make up this handknit entralac shawl.



AShADASSASDFADHAD

JAIMIE STEVENS - FIRST PLACE GENERAL FASHION



A Triangle wrap based on a commercial garment. 8 shaft shadow weave. Zephyr wool- silk 18/2 and 18/2 hand dyed accent yarns with a hint of lurex. Accent yarns dyed by Peggy Doney of 100th sheep. The idea for the style came from a knitted example. It is basically a 28x56 rectangle which folds in half and is stitched in half long ways leaving a neck opening. One side remains open and is reversible for either right or left handers. The accessory consists of a peacock feather tied to a button with a bit of twisted yarn. It attaches via a Velcro dot. It's an elegant garment that is soft and drapery and can be worn over either a turtleneck, T top or camisole. It's a two season garment.

OPEN SHOW CATEGORIES

I. BEST OF SHOW
SUSAN LOHMULLER

**Some of the Open Show
Winners!!**

II. PEOPLE'S CHOICE
SHARON SCHROEDER

**The little Drawloom designed
Clutch purse was done by
Allison Grove. It was awarded
First Place in the Optical Illusion
category.**

III. CLOTHING &
ACCESSORIES
1ST: **DAWN AHLERT**
2ND: **SUSAN LOHMULLER**

**The multicolored Rep Weave
Placemats were woven by Kathy
O'Hern and took Second in the
Household category.**

II. HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
1ST: **SUSAN LOHMULLER**
2ND: **KATHY O'HERN**

**The Handknit, hand spun Hat was
awarded First Place in the Hand
Spun finished Items. Linda
Shelhamer made this beauty!**

III. TAPESTRIES, RUGS, LARGE
ITEMS
1ST: **RUDY ZUCKIEWICH**
2ND: **BARB FRENCH**

**The Multicolored, handspun, hand
dyed and hand knit scarf was done
by Desiree Moffett. She was
awarded Second in the Hand spun
Finished items.**

IV. HAND SPUN YARN
1ST: **LAUREL ORTHMEYER**
2ND: **TRUDY MOFFETT**

**Rudy Zuckiewich wove the Brown
Pick and Pick Rug which took
First Place in the Rug or Tapestry
Category.**

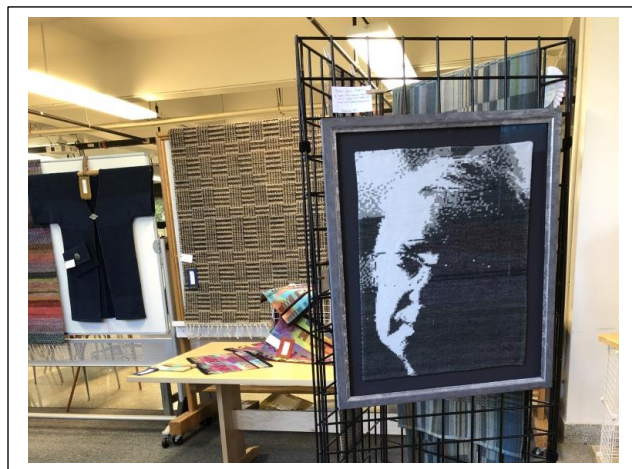
V. HAND SPUN FINISHED
ITEMS
1ST: **LINDA SHELHAMER**
2ND: **DESIREE MOFFETT**

VI. FELTED ITEMS

**(PHOTO'S ON THE FOLLOWING
PAGE)**

VII. "OPTICAL ILLUSIONS"
1ST: **ALISON GROVE**
2ND: **SHARON SCHROEDER**

Open Show Photos



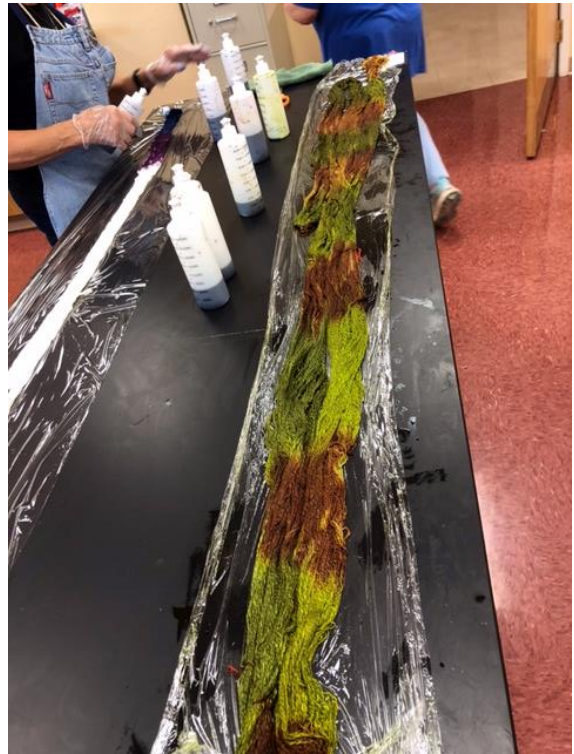
**Samples from Joanne Hall's MAWS 2022 Pre-conference class,
*Introduction to Drawloom Weaving! Oh! The possibilities!!***



Photos from Liz Moncrief's Class



More Photos from Liz Moncrief's Class



More from Liz Moncrief's Class



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

November 1, 2022

**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

MAWS Conference Photo Dump...

Photos from the Weekend!



Missoula Guild Happenings

The conference was a success!! Congratulations to the MAWS leadership and the Helena Guild for putting on an event with so many opportunities to learn and get to know fiber enthusiasts from all over Montana.

A few highlights:

- *MWG's Guild Booth won two (2) awards! People's Choice & Best Use of Conference Theme (check out the eyeglasses in the photo below)*
- *At least ten (10) MWG members attended the conference.*
- *Barbara Hand became a Living Treasure! (But we already knew that! See photo of Barb with the three other 2022 Living Treasure recipients on page two of this newsletter)*
- *Bonnie Tarses taught three (3) classes at the conference.*
- *Sharon Schreoder won the People's Choice Award for her silk wedding shawl in the Open Show. Plus, she was the outgoing MAWS President.*
- *Jackie Boshka was installed as the new MAWS Vice President. Congratulations to Jackie.*

We are looking forward to future conferences and opportunities to get together with fellow fiber enthusiasts!

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>



Dear Fellow ANWG Guilds,

Weaving Guilds of Oregon (WeGO) is honored to be hosting the ANWG 2023 Conference at the Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center in Bend, Oregon in June. We have been busy the last five years planning a special experience for conference participants and are anticipating a sizeable turnout.

Each conference gives awards to outstanding entries in the fashion show, juried show, open exhibits, and guild booth displays. You, the ANWG member guilds, sponsor many of these awards. Some guilds sponsor awards in the name of a member they wish to recognize or memorialize, while other guilds make a cash donation to be used for a more general award. Some people may also elect to individually sponsor an award.

We are now soliciting cash donations to be awarded to winning entries. You may specify where your donation is to be used. If you wish to donate money in memory or in honor of someone, please indicate this in your return response. Or you can allow us to award your donation to a deserving entry. Donors will be recognized at the conference.

To donate, you may complete the attached form and mail it, along with a check payable to 2023 ANWG Conference, to Dorald Stoltz, 1168 Willow Creek Dr NW, Salem OR 97304. Or better yet, go to the conference website <https://anwgconference2023.com> to electronically complete and submit the form and pay through PayPal.

I have included a list of awards so you can tell us how you would like your contribution used.

If you have any questions you feel contact me at dorstoltz@msn.com or 503-371-7177.

We look forward to meeting you at the conference. Thank you for your generosity.

Yours,

Dorald Stoltz
Conference Guild Liaison

**Award Sponsorship – 2023 ANWG Conference
Fiber Connections**

Guild Name _____

City, State/Province _____

Donation Amount \$ _____

Category for your Award* _____

Wording of the Award* _____

*Complete only if you have a specific request. If you do not specify, your donation will be awarded where needed.

Please make your check payable to 2023 ANWG Conference and mail it by January 30, 2023, to:

Dorald Stoltz
1168 Willow Creek Dr NW
Salem, OR, 97304

Thank you for supporting the fiber arts

2023 Fiber Connections Award Categories

Open Show Awards

All conference attendees will be given 1 “people’s choice” vote.

Votes will be tabulated and the top 3 will be awarded People’s Choice Awards on Sat. at noon.

Juried Show Awards

Best in Show

People’s Choice

Judge’s Choice

Collaborative

Spinning

Skein - spindle spun

Skein - wheel spun

Wearables

For the Home

Best Interpretation of conference theme

Best Interpretation of conference colors

Weaving

Woven on 4 or fewer

Woven on more than 4

Wearables

For the Home

Wall Hangings

Best Interpretation of conference theme

Best Interpretation of conference colors

Excellence with Complex Structure – Complex

Weavers sponsor

Other

Felting

Dyeing

Basketry

Tapestry

Wearable

Best Interpretation of conference theme

Best Interpretation of conference colors

Fashion Show Awards

Best in Show

Best garment made of handwoven fabric with 4 shafts or fewer

Best garment made of handwoven fabric with more than 4 shafts

Best garment made with felted fabric

Best garment made with handspun yarn

Best scarf or shawl knitted with handspun yarn

Best garment construction

Best use of design

Best scarf or shawl handwoven with 4 shafts or fewer

Best scarf or shawl handwoven with more than 4 shafts

Most innovative garment (unusual materials, structure, color and/or design)

Best interpretation of conference theme

Best use of conference colors

Judge’s choice

Conference Colors Exhibit Awards

Best in Show

Best of Conference Colors Exhibit Weaving

Best of Conference Colors Exhibit Spinning

Best of Conference Colors Exhibit Felting

Best of Conference Colors Exhibit Other Fiber Art

Guild Booth Awards

Best in Show

Best interpretation of conference theme

Best interpretation of conference colors

Most creative

Best booth by guild with 30 or fewer members

Judge’s Choice

People’s Choice

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 an items to sell, please send the information, along with any photos to Elizabeth Titthart. Items will be posted for 60 days. Also, please let Sharon know if your items sell so we can keep the website and newsletter content page current. We appreciate your cooperation!

For Sale: AVL Dobby Loom

My beautiful AVL 45-inch, 16-harness doobby loom does not fit in my new, smaller house and I need to find it a good home. Purchased in 1988, it has two rear warp beams and a bottom swing beater. It comes with four reeds (8, 10, 12, and 18 dents per inch), raddle, doobby bars and pegs, end-feed shuttles, manual, and all the necessary pieces and parts to begin weaving immediately. \$1,000 or best offer. Contact Jane Fournier in Helena, MT. 406-459-1312 or jfourniernz@gmail.com.



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

Montana Fibershed Day at the Emerson

October 8, 2022, Bozeman, MT. An all-day event sponsored by Montana Fibershed at the Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture in downtown Bozeman, including a MT Fibershed Marketplace, from 9am in the Ballroom; Panel Discussion with Q&A, 2:30pm in the Auditorium; and the Farm-to-Fashion Show, 4:00pm in the Auditorium. For more information, please visit our website: montanafibershed.org

Crazy Mountain Fiber Festival:

May 2023. 9am-5pm at the Big Timber Civic Center

The 6th Annual Crazy Mountain Fiber Fes. More details coming soon. For more information, please contact Lois Huffman at: 503-758-8018

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/>