



Etobicoke Handweavers & Spinners Guild

Newsletter for September 2022

A Message from our President	2
Membership Update.....	2
Program Update	3
Spinning Update	4
Workshops	4
Spinning Rentals.....	4
Spinning Challenge for 2021/2022	4
In the Dyepot.....	5
Flaxapalooza 2022 continues	6
Weaving Update	7
In the Studio	7
Shows	7
Weaving Rentals.....	7
Weaving 201 Study Group.....	7
Weaving Conversations	7
Rigid Heddle Weaving	8
Online Weaving Study Groups & Forums	8
Book Reviews	10
Summer Highlights.....	11
Strawberry Moon Celebration.....	11
Neilson Park Creative Centre Summer Programs	11
Tis the Season for Corn on the Cob	12
Knitting Update.....	12
Ride Share to Linda's Craftique	12
Project Spotlight	13
Colour Work Knitted Bag.....	13
When Study Groups Converge	14
Charity Outreach.....	14
Handmade Sale Quiz.....	15
Upcoming Events	16
EHS Calendar of Zoom Events	16
EHS Studio Dates	16
Virtual and In Person Events	16
Fibre Festivals.....	16
Acknowledgements	17

NPCC Land Acknowledgement

“We acknowledge our presence within this land that is the ancestral territory of the Anishinaabe, the Wendat, and more recently the Haudenosaunee peoples, and since 1805 the Treaty Lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit, now home to many Indigenous populations.

The lived experiences of these nations are passed on today by the stories and teachings of ancestral knowledge keepers. Philip Cote, Young Spiritual Elder has taught us about creation and arrival stories and the Seven Grandfather teachings: Wisdom, Bravery, Respect, Honesty, Truth, Humility and Love.

At Neilson Park Creative Centre we respect the stories and teachings of each of these nations to guide our creativity and actions on this land. And as we acknowledge our Mother the Earth, we acknowledge the medicine wheel and its teachings. We recognize the four directions: North, South, East and West, and the four seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. It is these four seasons that represent the circle of life.

We now share a covenant with the Indigenous peoples to care for this territory and a responsibility to continue the tradition of compassionate stewardship of the land so that future generations will continue to enjoy the beauty of the lands.”

A Message from our President

By Carolyn Ramos

I hope you have all enjoyed your summer. It has been somewhat sweltering for those of us who are not fond of heat but cooling fall breezes are on the way.

Looking forward to fall? There are fibre festivals on the horizon throughout September and October. Check the Events section of the newsletter for a list of those that we have compiled. I am sure there are others so please advise Vanessa Crandall or myself if you come across any and we will put them on the website calendar.

The EHS new season starts September 1st and we have a full schedule of presentations and workshops to offer on Zoom.

Please make sure you have renewed your membership to take advantage of all we have to offer as Zoom details will change in October to give those who intend to renew their membership time to do so.

We will continue to offer in person as well as online drop-ins for the foreseeable future. Drop-ins have been well attended over the summer with masks being requested by those attending. If you are interested in weaving a tea towel or a gamp on one of the guild looms, please contact Gloria Williams or Diane Martin. The blanket on the 60” loom is ready for the next weaver and chances are, if there is enough interest, another warp may make its way on.

I would like to thank the executive and all the guild volunteers who have helped out so much over the last few months. It is entirely due to their efforts that we have such an active and inviting guild.

Membership Update

By Susan Lapell

Here we are at the beginning of the new EHS year, looking forward to more wonderful and exciting speakers, programs and workshops. As of the end of August, 40 of 49 members have taken advantage of NPCC’s early bird special. Welcome back to all of you. The Guild is planning on offering meetings, along with programs and workshops either online or in a hybrid model. We hope that all you Zoomers who haven’t yet renewed your memberships will do so shortly—the first meeting is September 6th.

Program Update

By *Vanessa Crandall*

[2022-2023 Programming](#)

[September 6, 2022 - Kate Atherly, Soxpertise](#)

How to determine size and fit needs, and how to choose a good yarn and reinforce for longevity. We'll also address the tricky bits like how to avoid holes at the top of your heel, how to get a tidy gusset pick up, and special cast-ons and cast offs.

[October 4, 2022 - Sarah Fee, New Lives of Indian Chintz](#)

An exploration of the post-independence revival of India's craft industries.

[November 1, 2022 - Deborah Livingston-Lowe, 19th Century Canadian Textiles](#)

The Canadian 19th century model of textile production provides parallels with today's fibre-shed movement which uses local resources to produce cloth. This presentation looks at 19th century menswear in Canada using evidence from period garments, technology used in textile production and farming practices that produced these garments.

[December 6, 2022 - Guild Christmas Social](#)

[January 3, 2023 - Emily C. Gillies, Indie Dyeing](#)

Emily C. Gillies is a hand dyeing company specializing in a curated colour palette of well-formulated colourways that play together effortlessly. Join them for a talk that dives deep into colour theory, touches on the behind the scenes of her creative practice, and on their core focus of operating a community-focused brand. Emily is known for dyeing both yarn and spinning fibre on a variety of stash staples, and will be focusing on the fibre dyeing side for this talk, including ideas on how to work out ways to spin the hand painted gradients they dye most.

[February 7, 2023 - Joan McKenzie, Spinning Gone Wild](#)

Spinning has ancient origins - and those folks didn't get to go to a store and purchase ready to spin roving. So - what did they spin, and how was it spun? Joan will demonstrate spinning with your fingers, make cordage, find out what plant materials can be used and experiment with wild plant fibres that have been foraged. She will demonstrate making cordage and show you how to make a twined basket or coaster.

[March 7, 2023 - TBD](#)

[April 4, 2023 - Karen Fowler, Discussing the EHS Guild Hallway Show \(tentative\)](#)

[May 2, 2023 - TBD](#)

[June 6, 2023 - EHS AGM](#)

Spinning Update

By Joan McKenzie

Workshops

Do you have a fibre in your stash that you are not sure how to spin? I'm looking for ideas for a Spinning Workshop – let me know what it is and I can search out workshop options. Email ehsguild@gmail.com with your fibre suggestions. We've done Silk and Flax in the last 2 years – it's time to play with something new!

Or have you been looking at some fibre tools and wondering how to use them, like a blending board or a blending hackle?

Spinning Rentals

Yes – some of our equipment is available for rental. Contact Joan to make arrangements for renting any of the currently available equipment or visit the [EHS website](#) for equipment, terms and conditions. It's a great way to try out a different wheel, or to process some fibre! Rates are very reasonable, and most equipment is available on a monthly basis.

Here's what is currently available to full members:

- Lendrum spinning wheel - double treadle
- Rognvaldson spinning wheel (one with a distaff)
- Ashford traditional wheel
- Small Polish/eastern European Flax wheel
- Electric Eel Nano spinning wheel
- Blending hackle
- Blending board
- Drum carders:
 - The big Lendrum for clean fleece
 - A coarse carder for greasy or raw fleece.

Spinning Challenge for 2021/2022

So, did you do any Stash busting over the summer? There is still time to do it, and then submit photos of what you've done, and show and share at Guild meetings. Here's what was handed out as a challenge in December.

Time to Break out the Stash! Dig as deep as you like – perhaps find some buried treasures?

Then take a photo of your fibres – the Before Picture, and make something! All pictures welcome of the process and progress along the way to some type of finished object. Then take the AFTER picture!!

Hmm ... and make note of the date(s) of the stash ... and perhaps some goodies will be available for: Oldest stash? Most varied stash? Or? Time will tell!

Items and photos to be presented during Show & Tell segment of the monthly meetings!

And – Weavers and Knitters are welcome to join in this Challenge as well! Search the Stash and find bits you have been wanting to use – or forgotten you had!

....

So, how did you fare with this challenge? If you haven't submitted pictures so far, you can still submit them for Show & Tell at upcoming meetings, or submit them for the next edition of the Newsletter. We want to see your accomplishments!

Stay tuned for new challenges for the 2022/23 season.

In the Dyepot

By Joan McKenzie

Have you been doing any Dyeing over the summer?

What's on your wish list for dye pots? Dye days in Studio C are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Bring your yarn, fleece or fabric – be sure it's clean and/or scoured.

Maiwa now has a section on their web site for free lessons – there's a great one there on scouring your textiles. Check it out at maiwa.teachable.com/p/free-lessons.

If you see the letters PFD on a textile item – it means Prepared For Dyeing; it's already scoured, but it's still a good idea to wash it first.

We have woad growing in the dye garden. The plan is to get some seeds to plant for next year when the leaves can be harvested for dyeing with first year leaves. I've also had some recent experiences using fresh leaves – with ice or salt – to get colour on wool and silk yarns.

This is a great time to harvest the flower spikes from the Phragmites reeds. They give a lovely green colour (mordanted with alum). Buckthorn berries are also ripening now for another great green shade (alum needed). I think it's a great item for our September dye pot on Fibre Wednesday – September 14th. Wednesday is a good day to dye, as the fibre can be left to sit in the pot till Friday as it absorbs more colour by doing this. Bring your yarn, fleece or textiles Wednesday morning for mordanting, and we can forage for the berries. If you have some in your area, please bring them.

I've done some playing with Indigo recently with Fructose vats (using Bananas) and have had some great results. I put some yellow dyed yarn (from NPCC Sunflower variant) into the vat and got a lovely green shade.

Look for more information on a workshop this year on dyeing with Indigo.

When researching the fructose vat for Indigo, one of the items that came up in my library search was a book called *Indigo Dying* – by Susan Wittig Albert. I was wondering about the spelling in the title and turns out it's a mystery novel; however it features dyeing in it – really! One of the main characters is a fibre artist who spins, weaves and dyes, and the info is well presented. I'm just starting it and it looks like a great read. Check it out at the Toronto Public Library – it's also an e-book.



Skein yarn dyed with fructose based Indigo.

Flaxapalooza 2022 continues

By Joan McKenzie

A Sunday in August was harvest day at Cathy Richards farm near Nobleton. The flax was ready – tall with green or golden seed bolls. Due to a lack of rain, the ground was quite hard, and the flax was not easy to pull... and seeing as how it was a very hot day, with a small workforce, we decided to do the harvesting the easy way – Cathy's husband used his mower to do a quick job on it! A few inches were left in the ground however we still have lots of flax!



Cathy's Plot at the Farm



A Car load of Flax and Garlic



Flax bundles drying in the backyard

The second plot was grown by my niece, Stacey, in her garden plot in Pickering. She gave it lots of love and water and it was harvested by pulling. It's quite thick and tall and it will be interesting to compare the two batches.

The third plot was a small section of my front garden. I was able to keep tabs on it to check for harvest readiness, and pull as it was ready.

There is a lot of flax to be rippled. Rippling is when the seed bolls are removed and any ripe seeds are saved for next year's harvest. Some of the flax I planted was from our seeds.

I'll be able to bring bundles of flax into NPCC this year for that process and will aim for a Friday, Wednesday and a Sunday so that as many of you who want to can participate.

After it's rippled, it's ready for retting. I plan on retting it in my rain barrel again and it will take a while to do it all. Each batch takes from 5 – 7 days depending on the temperature. I may leave some to do next spring. The dried flax can sit in storage for quite a while waiting to be retted.

Do you still have some flax from the spinning workshop that needs to be hackled again? Let me know and I can arrange to bring the hackles in on a Friday or Wednesday or Sunday. The flax stricts that came from Taproot in Nova Scotia need more hackling for easier spinning.

Hackling: The objective is to split the bundles of flax fibres that surround the woody core into individual fibres. Three sets of hackles are traditionally used, from coarsely set nails to finely set nails. They are very sharp which is why we wear gloves - No bleeding allowed on the flax! The flax is 'passed' thru the hackles, removing leftover bits of woody core and outer stem bits and splitting the flax fibre

bundles. It also leaves behind any weaker fibres which are known as 'tow'. Nothing is wasted! The tow is collected from the hackles and cleaned up. It can then be carded and spun and/or blended with other fibres and spun.

Weaving Update

By Karen Fowler

In the Studio

All three looms have been very busy with tea towels, gamps and blankets. It has been wonderful to see everyone enjoying Studio C again. I hope more members will come and join in the fun.

You can sign up to work on the next installments of these group projects in Studio C or send me an email.

On Friday August 19th, Jennifer James organized a trial run of our Sheep to Shawl warp. We spun some fleece from previous competitions and Cindy started to weave the shawl. She was able to finish it the following Friday. We seem to be in good shape for the Sheep to Shawl at the Royal Winter Fair this November.

Many thanks to everyone who participated.

Shows

This year we have a Hallway Show planned for February 27th to March 19th, 2023. As yet, we do not have a title for the show, but are open to suggestions. Since we have not had a show for three years, I know we all have many beautiful works to grace the freshly painted walls of NPCC.

We have decided to participate in a show at the Etobicoke Civic Centre along with the Quilters and the Rug Crafters. The dates for this show are January 22nd to February 24th, 2023. I realize that this will be back to back shows but I think we will have enough pieces to fill both shows. This is a great opportunity for the Guild.

Beautiful works and lots of great helpers make for a fabulous show.

Weaving Rentals

There are a number of looms and reeds available for rent to members. If you are interested in renting weaving equipment, contact Karen Fowler for details, pricing and availability, or check the [EHS website](#) for equipment, terms and conditions.

Weaving 201 Study Group

By Cindy O'Malley

This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month as a means to extend the knowledge and learning of participants on multi shaft looms. If you are new to weaving and want to join a group to help inspire and increase your knowledge, then this is the group for you. The Zoom link is available in the Members Only section of the EHS website.

Weaving Conversations

By Karmen Steigenga

The Weaving Conversations discussion group brings together members to discuss various weaving topics in a focused but relaxed environment. In the past, the group has met to discuss topics such as rug weaving, sewing with our handwoven fabric, and weaving with linen. The group meets monthly via Zoom on Wednesday afternoons from 2 – 3 p.m. We are currently in between topics so suggestions

are welcome as are new members. The next meeting is Wednesday, September 21st. Please contact Karmen Steigenga for more information.

Weaving Tip – Tensioning for re-doing hemstitching

By Vanessa Crandall

I recently had a project where the number of ends did not divide evenly for hemstitching, and I changed my mind about how to handle it after it was off the loom. I needed to redo several hemstitched bundles at both ends of the project.

I used a snap-on quilting frame to hold the piece under tension while I made the changes and it worked perfectly!



Rigid Heddle Weaving

By Cindy O'Malley

The group continues to explore various Colour & Weave techniques. Who knew there were so many different options? Our latest endeavour involves weaving a gradient or fade with our stash items. We tend to accumulate colour “families” which work very well for this technique. Featured is a picture of Annette’s fade.

The group meets the 1st Monday of every month. On some occasions, we have switched nights due to holiday Mondays. If you would like to join this group, the Zoom link is available in the Members Only section of the EHS website.



Fade from stash by Annette Barnie

Online Weaving Study Groups & Forums

OHS Tapestry Unit

By Elizabeth Evans

If you’ve been in the guild for a few years, you may remember Susan Middleton’s presentation about her Tapestry Weaving journey. This summer Susan has been revising the OHS Tapestry Weaving Unit. She will be the unit leader. This is a self-study course with a Zoom study group option for participants. Susan will attend the first Zoom meeting on October 4th. If you want more information about Susan, please go to her website <http://chezrouleau.com>. Instruction for registering for the course, which I plan to do, are in the following response from Sarah Craig of OHS:

“In order to purchase the OHS Weaving Certificate courses and to register for a virtual study group, one must be a member of OHS. The virtual study group begins on October 4 and will run on Tuesday evenings at 7. Registration for this opens on September 1. Information about the program can be found on the OHS website under Education. Once you get into the Members section of the website you are able to buy the units and the registration. Units are downloadable once purchased.

The Tapestry unit costs \$20. It costs \$10 to join the virtual group. There is an additional \$50 charge if you want to have your work marked and counted toward a weaving certificate. To join OHS and register please go to <https://ohs.on.ca>."

[The Name of the Weave](#)

By Sharon Airhart

"The selection of the terms we use today must be such that as many people as possible can understand each other." - Peter Collingwood

Sara Von Tresckow quoted Peter Collingwood in her post to a forum about how weaving structures are named. Von Treschow, widely-known designer, teacher and owner of Wisconsin's Woolgatherers shop, was just one of many contributing to the recent "naming" thread on [WeaveTech@Groups.io](https://www.weavetech.com/groups), a lively forum for wide-ranging weaving topics.

From references to botany (naming of plants has been changed by DNA research) to American Sign Language (which has changed over the years thanks to technology), the gist of the "naming" discussion leans towards flexibility. In fact, Gist, the popular purveyor of yarns and patterns, is front and centre in the discussion for referring to Daldrill as overshot. Not all supplemental weft is overshot, some contributors argue.

Another contributor maintains that weave structures made on a rigid heddle loom should be named differently. Margaret Coe asks why we would want to use the name "turned taquete" for a weave that is already named the simpler Jin. Dawn Jacobsen argues that "slapping an incorrect name on a weave, or (even worse) giving it a new, whimsical name because somebody thought the original name was "inconvenient" (such as calling *jämtlandsdräll* "crackle") makes it that much harder for less knowledgeable students of textiles and textile history to understand exactly how a textile is constructed."

Throughout the 70 posts in the thread – just one of many topics on Weavetech – there are references to Irene Emery's *The Primary Structures of Fabrics: An Illustrated Classification* (1966) and Stanislaw Zierlinski's *Encyclopedia of Hand-weaving* (1976) as well as databases currently under construction.

Von Tresckow points out that further confusing things is the fact that those who make fabric and those who use fabric use different words. "Those who don't weave tend to use descriptive terms for the fabrics like Oxford cloth, denim, dimity, corduroy, while those who weave more often include the structural elements in the names."

While most Weavetech contributors appear to be expert weavers and teachers, often household names to other weavers, one of the most interesting perspectives comes from Carly Jayne, a "newer" weaver.

"I have learned, trying to find the 'right' definition of things in weaving, that it really depends on who you ask, who they learned from, what era your publications were written and what language you speak. Who knows what these weaves will be called in 200 years? And is it important? Or is it important that people are still weaving?" She adds, "I feel like weaving goes beyond words and language and sometimes our need to define exactly what is what puts boundaries on who has access to an art form that is expansive, modern, and ancient and most of all, beautiful and essential for human survival."

If you're an intermediate or experienced weaver and are interested in this forum, visit [Weavetech](https://www.weavetech.com).

Book Reviews

By Sharon Airhart

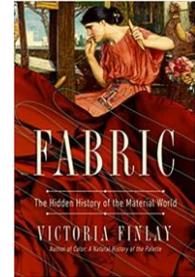
When you tire of throwing the shuttle or threading the heddles, you can still indulge your passion for weaving with a book.

Fabric: The Hidden History of the Material World

By Victoria Finlay

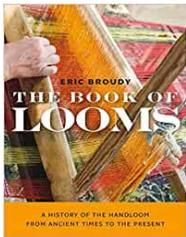
Original research unravels history through textiles and cloth: how we make it, use it and what it means to us.

This spring, a brilliant new addition to the fabric canon, *Fabric: The hidden history of the material world*, was published by Pegasus and distributed by Simon & Schuster. Perhaps unusually for a book about weaving, it was a New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice. According to the publisher, "author Victoria Finlay spins us round the globe, weaving stories of our relationship with cloth and asking how and why people through the ages have made it, worn it, invented it, and made symbols out of it. And sometimes why they have fought for it."



It's a page-turner; I'm finding it hard to put it down and pick up a shuttle. You can buy it online or borrow a hard or digital copy from the Toronto Public Library.

Here are details about a few other good and serious books about fabric.



The Book of Looms: A History of the Handloom from Ancient Times to the Present

by Eric Broudy

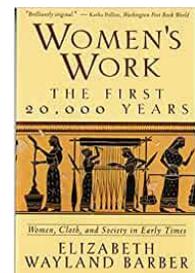
The handloom — often no more than a bundle of sticks and a few lengths of cordage— has been known to almost all cultures for thousands of years. Eric Broudy places the wide variety of handlooms in their historical context and shows how virtually every culture has woven on handlooms. He highlights the incredible technical achievement of early cultures that created magnificent textiles with the crudest of tools and demonstrates that modern technology has done nothing to surpass their skill or inventiveness.

The Book of Looms is available online or at the Toronto Public Library Reference Library. It does not circulate.

Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years Women, Cloth, and Society in Early Times

by Elizabeth Wayland Barber

New discoveries about the textile arts reveal women's unexpectedly influential role in ancient societies. *Women's Work*, an old standby, is available online, in the Guild library and as a hard copy from the Toronto Public Library.



The Golden Thread: How Fabric Changed History

by Kassia St Clair

According to Amazon, when we talk of lives hanging by a thread, being interwoven, or part of the social fabric, we are part of a tradition that stretches back many thousands of years. Fabric has allowed us to achieve extraordinary things and survive in unlikely places, and this book shows you how -- and why. *The Golden Thread* is available online and as a hard copy from the Toronto Public Library.

Fray: Art and Textile Politics

Julia Bryan-Wilson

Fray explores textiles and their role at the forefront of debates about process, materiality, gender, and race in times of economic upheaval. There's a reference only hard copy at Toronto Public Library or you can buy it or rent it from the [University of Chicago Press](#).



Summer Highlights

Strawberry Moon Celebration

By Helen Skelton

I was lucky to be invited to take part in the Strawberry Moon celebration in June, hosted by Anduhyaun; a First Nations women's shelter in Toronto. Anduhyaun was founded by five grandmothers and provides a support for Indigenous women and their children, who may be experiencing violence or homelessness, while maintaining their cultural identity, self-esteem and well being. It is the only service of its kind in the GTA, and always appreciates support and donations. (www.anduhyaun.org)

As part of the celebration, teachings about the Strawberry Moon were given by Akeesha Footman, and singing by Medicine Song Woman, Brenda MacIntyre. Akkesha taught us that The Strawberry Moon is a special celebration for women, and honors Mother Earth and NiibaaGiizis Nokomis (Grandmother moon). Each moon cycle through the year has a special meaning with the seasons, but in June Strawberries are growing, and are significant of becoming a woman and beginning menstruation. They are the wild berries that grow closest to the surface of the Earth and have the reddest colour, so they are chosen for women. We learned that girls starting their menstrual cycle will take part in the berry fast in June full moon, when they go out onto the land with no food or water and fast for 2 days, taking only what nature will provide. This fast signifies they are becoming women, and they reflect on what this means to themselves, and to their community, and how to navigate these changes. The berry fast is a period of spiritual reflection, and the experience will lead to wisdom from Grandmother Moon that will guide the girl as she becomes a woman.

Akkesha also gave us teaching about the medicine wheel, the directions and the seasons and how balance with the Earth is central to all of us. I felt honored to take part in this event and learn, and heard some of the stories that women shared, who have benefited from Anduhyaun's support, although they were hard to listen to at times. With the NPCC land acknowledgment, and our shared responsibility to take care of the land that was the ancestral territory of Indigenous people, I wanted to share this experience to make it more real than words in a statement that we read at the AGM each year.

Neilson Park Creative Centre Summer Programs

By Elizabeth Evans

Highlights of my summer At Neilson Park Creative Centre have been:

- Indigenous Beading with Justine Woods
- Indigenous story-telling and basket-weaving events at the Pathways program

-
- Fibre art was selected for the Impact show: - Pat Burns-Wedland (former speaker at EHS guild meeting, dyer, spinner and weaver) won a prize! Karen Ray (former EHS member and felter) wrote an article for [Fibre Focus](#) about her guild which includes a photograph of the piece that was accepted.

One of my summer projects has been nature dyeing pieces of a damaged linen table cloth that belonged to my mother with onion skins, avocado pits and skin, cedar, coreopsis, Queen Anne's lace, walnut, Hopi sunflower seeds and golden rod. I was impressed with the depth of colour I was able to get on plant fibres. Over the next few months I'll be thinking about how I'd like to put the pieces back together.

Tis the Season for Corn on the Cob

By Gloria Williams

When serving to a large group at a barbeque or corn roast, there is nothing messier than a dish of butter to roll the cobs in, and it is wasteful to throw out the left over butter.

A solution that I learned years ago, while hosting campouts is: Take an empty 48 oz. Juice can, remove the lid completely and wash thoroughly. When ready to use, place the can in a saucepan that will hold it safely, fill the juice can half full with hot water, put about 1/4 to 1/3 lb of butter in the can and let it melt. The butter will float on the top of the water so to butter the corn, you dip the cob into the can and as it is pulled out, the butter will stay on the corn.

I have recommended half filling the can for safety reasons. After you dip one cob, you may want to top up the can with more water and if there is water in the saucepan you can also reheat when it cools off. You will be surprised how little butter it actually takes to do this.

Caution – You are working with hot water and melted butter, so take care.

Knitting Update

By Cindy O'Malley

This marks a new season with new projects and techniques on the horizon. Our first meeting on Thursday September 8th will continue to use the same Zoom details and email distribution list; however, the following meeting on September 22nd, will be a new Zoom link and a brand new distribution list. The Knit Night Study Group is open to all members, but you must register by sending an email to Cindy O'Malley stating that you wish to join or remain on the mailing list in order to receive the updates and documents.

Many of the Knit Night participants have been working on a group project that will be revealed at the October meeting. All I can say right now is that it's gorgeous!

Ride Share to Linda's Craftique

Sunday September 18th is EHS Guild Day at Linda's Craftique and Linda is offering a 15% discount on all regular priced yarns to members of EHS. In addition, Camilla Valley Farms, who is normally closed on Sundays, is offering parking lot pick up to EHS Members between 11 & 1pm on that day. You need to place your order in advance and request pick up on that day.

As some members are in need of a ride to Linda's that day, we have set up Ride Share spreadsheets on the Members Only section of the EHS website. If you need a ride, add your name to the bottom of the "Looking for a ride" list. There is also a list for "Offering a ride". Any members that have room in their vehicle to take passengers should add their name to the bottom of this list and note the number of people they can take. It is up to the people on each of the lists to contact each other to arrange a ride

and pick-up point. For example, if you live in the east end and need a ride, the driver may instruct that they will pick you up at a subway station in the west end. It is up to the driver to determine the pick-up point.

Once you have arranged a ride you should remove your name from the list by noting “I have a ride with ...”. Drivers should change the number of passengers they can take when they make arrangements with a Rider. This helps each other know who they can contact for a ride.

Project Spotlight

Colour Work Knitted Bag

By Jennifer James

Last fall the knitting study group started a knit-along using colour work techniques. First up was mosaic knitting which is a method of colour work that involves two simple techniques — slipping stitches and changing colors between rows. Each colour is used for two consecutive rows before switching; this is the "dominant" colour for that row. Then we moved to colour work which is multi-coloured knitting that's done by carrying two colors at a time across a row. The pattern can have a million different colours included, but only two are used within a single row.

Cindy, Gloria, and Diane led us step by step through each of the stitches and patterns we were using and provided assistance as we all worked our way through each one. Each of us chose different yarns and gauges — meaning that we all ended up with something different! While the intent was to make a bag — some people made their knitted samplers into different things. I stuck with the original plan and completed a knitted bag — with zippered top and lining. Here are a few pictures of the finished bag.



Mosaic Knitted Bag Front – 1 colour per row



Fair-Isle Knitted Bag Bag – 2 colours row

The knitting study group meets every second Thursday evening and is open to all EHS members. I would highly recommend it to knitters of all levels!

When Study Groups Converge

By Cindy O'Malley

As one of the organizers of the Knit Night Study Group, we issued a challenge this past year to combine knitting and weaving in a single project. Some of the participants have declared their intended project so I expect that there will be some amazing Show & Tell projects to share. This is one of mine.

The Rigid Heddle Study Group explored weaving the clasped weft technique. Mary Ellen Duff inspired us with Viking Hoods. So I decided that I would weave the fabric to make a Viking Hood using the clasped weft technique. My research on Viking Hoods revealed that they would often be seamed or embroidered with tribal motifs. That was my inspiration for combining my weaving and knitting project.

The warp used was a DK weight yarn on a 7.5 dent reed. The weft was Merino Mist which is a blown fibre in a tubular construction left over from a KNITmuch story. Merino Mist was also used for the knitted components.

We learned about visible joining methods during Knit Night, one of which is a zigzag 3-needle bind off method that we nicknamed rick-raff. That's what I used to join the 2 squares to the front and back and to seam up the hood. I then picked up stitches around the front of the hood and used an I-cord cast off to finish the edge. Since the hem of the fabric was a combination of finished edges and warp edges, I picked up stitches all around, knit a few rows and stitched down a hem.

The Viking that wears this hood is all decked for the disco!



Viking Hood Woven & Knitted with Merino Mist

Charity Outreach

By Gloria Williams

Each year we collect warm, wearable items to distribute to a few local charities, the last couple of years we donated to The Salvation Army, Haven on the Queensway, and Youth without Shelter. All of these charities cater to families in need. The Farmer's Almanac is forecasting a cold winter, and most of us will pull out the warm clothes and be ready for the snow, but not everyone is that fortunate. Each year we collect hats, scarves, cowls, mitts, socks and other warm items to fit all ages of people in need. Most of these items are knitted but perhaps some of the weavers, have scarves or shawls that need a good home with someone in need. We gladly accept all warm items, whether handmade or commercially purchased and distribute them to the appropriate charities. Items may be turned in any time to NPCC Studio C.

At one of our recent Knit Night Study Group meetings, we walked through a pattern recipe for making a top down hat. We call it a recipe rather than a pattern as you can use any weight of yarn that you have available. Here is a [link to the pattern](#) and we look forward to seeing some of the finished items contributed to our charity drive.

Handmade Sale Quiz

By Helen Benninger

1. *Why did the chicken cross the road?*

To shop at the **Handmade Art and Fine Craft Sale!**

2. *What is the **Handmade Sale**?*

Handmade is a biannual juried Art and Fine Craft Sale organized by NPCC. It will take place this fall on Saturday, November 19th.

3. *Why should I care?*

The Etobicoke Handweavers and Spinners Guild always have a sale table in the Gallery at Handmade.

4. *Why do we participate in Handmade?*

We sell woven, hand spun, felted, dyed and knitted items made by our NPCC EHS members. Handmade is a great place to educate the public about what we do and attract new members. This is a fundraising venture for the Guild. 20% of the money from all items sold is retained by the Guild. It is used to cover the cost of the table and transaction fees, and to provide some income for EHS. The balance is transferred back to the donor. If space permits, Guild members also demonstrate weaving and spinning.

5. *What can I sell?*

Items that you have made that are handwoven, hand spun, felted, dyed or knitted using good quality fibres.

At the fall show warm hats, scarves, cowls, mittens, hand warmers and socks are always popular, as are placemats. Do you make a unique handwoven item? We would love to see it. Holiday gift items are popular too. Items are juried to insure that all work submitted meets a high standard. The committee reserves the right to limit items and quantities. For details and pricing guidelines see the Guidelines for Handmade Sale on the Members Only section of the EHS website.

6. *Can I help in other ways?*

Every Guild member can help by promoting the sale to their friends and on social media. Here are some other ways in which you could help:

- Join the Handmade Committee
- Volunteer your time to set up or take down the display or talk to the public and sell on the day of the sale
- If space permits, demonstrate weaving or spinning to the public
- Some members donate their items, giving 100% of the sales revenue to the EHS.

7. *When is it?*

Sale Date: Saturday, November 19th, 2022

Time: 10 am – 4 pm

Location: Neilson Park Creative Centre, Admission is free and it is suitable for all ages.

8. *How can I find out more?*

Contact Denise Larocque or Gloria Williams.

Look for more info to come!

Upcoming Events

EHS Calendar of Zoom Events

Monthly Meeting: 1st Tuesday of every month

Friday Drop-In: Every week from 10:00am – 12:00

Fibre Wednesday: Every 2nd week from 10:00am – 12:00

Knit Night Study Group: Every other Thursday from 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Rigid Heddle Weaving Study Group: 1st Monday of every month 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Weaving 201 Study Group: 3rd Tuesday of every month 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Weaving Conversations: Monthly on Wednesday afternoon 2:00pm – 3:00pm

EHS Studio Dates

Friday Mornings 9-12:30

September 2

October 7

November 4

December 2

Wednesdays All Day 9-4:30

September 14

October 12

November 9

December 14

Sunday Afternoons 1-4:30

September 18

October 23

November 27

The participant cost for Friday and Sunday is \$5 and \$10 for Wednesday.

NPCC does offer other open studio times on Thursday evenings and Friday afternoons. Please check their webpage for specific dates and times. These dates have also been updated in the Calendar of the EHSGuild.com website.

Virtual and In Person Events

[EHS Guild Day at Linda's Craftique](#) – Sunday September 18, 2022

[Celebrate Spinning & Weaving Week](#) – October 3 – 9, 2022

[Royal Winter Fair](#) Sheep to Shawl – November 13, 2022

Fibre Festivals

[Fibrefest](#) – September 7 – 11, 2022 - An annual festival of the fibre arts in Almonte, ON

[K-W Knitter's Fair](#) – Saturday, September 10, 2022

[Vankleek Hill Fibre Frolic](#) – Saturday September 24, 2022

[Kimber Valley Fall Farmers & Makers Market](#) – Saturday October 1, 2022

[Woolstock ON – formerly known as the Woodstock Fleece Festival](#) – Saturday, October 15, 2022

[Rhinebeck Sheep & Wool Festival](#) – October 15 – 16, 2022

Acknowledgements

EHS Executive

President	Carolyn Ramos
Vice President	Joan McKenzie
Treasurer	Dorothy Thomson
Secretary	Cheryl Michalson
Past President	Jennifer James

Committee Chairs

- Membership – Susan Lapell
- Programs – Vanessa Crandall
- Shows – Karen Fowler
- Spinning & Spinning Education - Joan McKenzie
- Weaving Convener – Karen Fowler
- Weaving Education – Helen Skelton
- Handmade Sale – Denise LaRocque & Gloria Williams
- Charity Outreach – Gloria Williams

Other Roles – to name a few

- Newsletter Editor – Cindy O’Malley
- Ambassador – Elizabeth Evans
- NPCC Resident Group Representative – Susan Lapell
- Website Administrator – Vanessa Crandall
- Librarian – Vacant.

Want to get involved in EHS activities? Contact anyone in the list above or send an email to EHSGuild@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who submitted content for this newsletter. If you have something that you would like published in an upcoming newsletter, submit your article in writing to Cindy O’Malley with Newsletter Content in the subject line.
