

# **Tavern Spinners and Weavers Guild**

## **Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2024**

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### **Show and Tell**

**Call to order** by Jan at 10:30A.M.

**Attendance:** Jan, Melinda, Kathleen, Sandi, Elizabeth, Tom, Heather, George, Mary Ann, Susan C., Paula and Susan S.

**December Minutes** - Sandi moved / Kathleen seconded and the minutes were unanimously accepted

### **Reports**

**Treasurer** – Kathleen advised income for Nov was \$884.00 in store sales, plus dues, donations and interest, totaling \$1105.36. Expenses for school support \$300.00, guild luncheon \$120.00 and gift for Judy Mooers \$180.00 totaling \$600.00. More information can be found in the treasurer's book in the Yellow Cat Studio.

**Foundation** – Jan reported in lieu of Becky that the annual meeting was held and she reported on the donations to the Tavern Foundation by the guilds. The store is in a transition to the new POS system and there is a moratorium on bringing in new items to the store unless it is from one of the guilds, guild member or an in-store artisan. We are hoping that Becky will continue to be our guild rep to the foundation since she is the new foundation board secretary.

**Studio/Yarn Status** - Jan placed an order with MoPurl yesterday. Jan also ordered some lovely new cones of 8/2 variegated from Webs and they are in the back for your use on Guild projects. There is a new yarn shop in Tappahannock. Heather mentioned a fiber mill located on a farm, no current website is active, they mill wool. She will bring in more contact information to the next meeting.

**School Sponsorship** – Melinda advised that a check was presented directly to Heather Cockrell, **Northumberland Middle School** art teacher by Jan when Heather visited the Tavern on Jan. 6, 2024. Also, emails were sent on Jan. 12, 2024 to **Richmond County High School** Art Teacher, Joyce Crown-Wilkins, advising that some of our members could come and talk about and demonstrate spinning and weaving to her students, and to **Westmoreland Middle School** Art Teacher, Cynthia Flickinger, advising we voted to offer \$200.00 for transportation for her art classes to visit the Tavern. Both emails provided Jan's email address and phone contact to arrange these commitments on behalf of our guild. The guild discussed continuing to provide school support and we hope to get the information from the teachers early this fall for 2024. We also discussed setting aside funds in the amount of \$500.00 to fund the school support. Kathleen, our treasurer, advised she will take care of this.

**MAFA/Other Guilds** – Sandi spoke of the book, *Lost Flock*, which MAFA is presenting this Saturday at 10:00AM. Register if you want to participate. She reminded us of many online classes available. Take a look at their website.

Also, Red Stone Glen, Tom Knisley who is retiring soon, is another wonderful website that also offers classes for continued learning. This year they will offer some sewing classes for handwoven fabric. Take a look here also.

**Equipment** – MaryAnn advised our studio vacuum needs a new battery and she is ordering the battery. Jim did a thorough cleaning of the vacuum and filters. Thank you Jim !!

We need to pay better attention to heddles before dressing a loom. Be sure the middle of the heddles is marked with a thread and that there are equal numbers of heddles on each side of each shaft.

**Book of the Month Report** – Melinda suggested, “Keep Me Warm One Night” by Burnham and Burnham. This is a comprehensive look at hand weaving as it was practiced in Quebec and other Canadian provinces up to 1900....many overshot coverlet patterns shown. The book is long out of print and sells on Amazon for \$350.00. One was donated to our guild. Take a look at the book, it is on the stand on the table in the studio.

Jan volunteered to do the book of the month for February.

## **Old Business**

**4th Graders Visit** — Friday, May 10 we can expect 7-10 kids per session for 45 minutes each, 6-8 sessions. We will plan to set up three looms, and it was suggested that we talk about colonial fibers, flax, cotton, wool, etc. It was also suggested that Kathy take the lead on this event. Kathy?? Jan is going to ask Corrine for the focus of the 4<sup>th</sup> graders visit. Is it part of their curriculum or just a field trip? MaryAnn advised she would assist whoever takes the lead position for this event.

## **New Business**

**New Guild liaison to Board?** – We hope Becky, the new board secretary, will simply send out the minutes of the meeting to our guild and continue as our rep to the board.

**Update on Tavern Store POS installation** – The POS is still being set up and the email that went out for Richochet was a bit premature. Watch for another email once everything is more set.

**Method to pay dues on-line** — Patty said she can set up a system. Nothing concrete to date.

**Group “try-it” project** – Sandi making copies of a page from the Davison book so we can all weave a huckaback towel. The basic pattern has several variations. Everyone can choose a version and colors, and the towels will be presented at the October meeting. Look for a copy of the chosen page on the table in the studio.

**Lessons Learned/Tidbits** — Mary Ann spoke about finishing woven products using the hem stitch. She showed an example of the scarf she just completed. MaryAnn is willing to teach her hem stitch technique if you need help.

Reminder to keep heddles balanced when threading a loom and *count them carefully* before starting to dress the loom.

**Item for Sale** – Kathleen is selling her 8-shaft Bernat; it has a brake system issue which will be fixed prior to selling.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Submitted by

Melinda K. Floom  
Secretary