

FIBERCATIONS --- SEPTEMBER 2011

AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW

- ❖ **MINI EXTRAVAGANZA pages for the conference including registration, classes, & general conference information!!!** These will NOT be mailed out unless you registered for snail mail. So go print one off today or download to your computer & decide what YOU want to take !!! It looks like a lot of fun creative activities to choose from.
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Have you Forgotten to Renew your Membership?

To date we have 137 members. Are you one of them, or have you forgotten to renew? Just take a minute to go on the **Membership** link. Then on the very top left of the page it says Membership Application Form. Click on the [Adobe.pdf](#) link to print the application. Fill it out with your information and mail it with your \$20 check to the address on the form.

The conference brochure is ready for your reading pleasure, but to register for Mini Extravaganza before non-members, you must be a paid member by October 15, 2011. This gives you the opportunity to have first choice of those workshops you will surely want to take in March. Don't be left out – **join today!**

If you don't remember if you are a paid member for 2011-2012, please drop me an email at fishtalesinn@aol.com, put "FTWG Membership" in the subject line and I will be happy to look it up for you. I look forward to hearing from you!

Barbara Warren – FTWG Membership Chair

Want help to go to Convergence in Long Beach in 2012? Or to a class at one of the craft schools? Don't feel left out!

Susan Vezina, 2010 Scholarship winner, went to John Campbell, April 10-16 of 2011, to attend **Robyn Spady's "The Thrill of a Twill"** class. **Fonda Haddad** received the 2011 Scholarship to study at **John C. Campbell Folk School** in a workshop titled, "**Traditional Rivercane Basketry**". Both winners will be presenting their reports at the 2012 Retreat/Conference.

Since the award is presented at our March Conference, there would be time to request a scholarship to Convergence 2012, if that is your desire. The FTWG Board offers the \$500 scholarship for the 2012 year to FTWG members in good standing for at least one year. Tuition must be for fiber-related study to an accredited institution, development of skills at a fiber-related school, or pre-or post-conference workshops. It can also be used for related lab & materials fees, room, board, and travel related expenses to the study. If awarded, it must be used within 18 months.

In return, you are required to perform two activities to display the skills you acquired at the FTWG Conference after your award. You may teach a mini session, set up an informative table, or pass on your knowledge in another way at Conference **plus** submit an informative article about the class for the newsletter. **THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED IS: February 28, 2012.** The paperwork can be received by e-mail from Mimi Smith, Scholarship Chairman: Phone: 941-966-9131 or e-mail: kar20c@comcast.net

To be found online at the FTWG web page within the members only section:

- ❖ Monthly updated membership roster with names, phone numbers, emails, & addresses.
 - ❖ Scholarship two page application & information sheets
 - ❖ Bookmark sheet for copying & printing to market the FTWG & mini extravaganza in March, 2012
 - ❖ FTWG Minutes & Treasurer's report from last Board meeting
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Mini Scholarships for Mini Extravaganza for NEW MEMBERS

Do you have a friend that's been dying to go to conference but needs a boost? In 2007, a Memorial Scholarship was established from donations in memory of Teresa Barrett. The Board has voted to disperse these funds in the form of a \$50.00 scholarship to 6 (six) of the new (2011) members who attend our 2012 Mini Extravaganza. There will be random drawings at the Conference that will offer a \$50.00 stipend to attend Conference 2013. Any unused stipend monies revert to the general fund of FTWG.

What makes FTWG run??

We don't use gas or diesel or solar energy. We use Volunteers!!!

Our whole organization is founded on Volunteers. Board members volunteer their time and efforts, attending meetings and holding offices, the district reps assume the responsibility for the varied tasks that are needed to put on our Conference. All pitch in, and kudos' to them. But we still need more help. Give it a try. See if you can lend a helping hand to your rep; Beverly Tavel (dist 1&7), Carol Turner, Ann Pierson (dist 2), Amanda Huntington, Penny Hunter (dist 3), Marilyn Frew, Kay Callaghan (dist 4), and Edie Sanders, Mimi Smith (dist 5). If you don't have time during the year, and are coming to our Mini Extravaganza....we can use an hour or two of your time there on site. Help at the registration desk for a half-hour or hour and meet some new friends. We will always give you the information/supplies needed for the job.

Florida Vendors

Do you have a vendor in your area that carries supplies for our fiber enthusiasts? Share your information with others in the state. Give us the vendor name, contact information, web site, and we will add them to a special section online for vendors in Florida. Email all information to jcosby001@cfl.rr.com. Check the web now for the first listings and add your favorites to it. Let's support our local businesses. If a local business is offering an event or class you feel may interest other FTWG members, drop an email to Jody. We can feature a link on our web site to theirs. If there is an out-of-state vendor you would like to recommend, you can have them added also in a different section. Email the information to jcosby001@cfl.rr.com.

Florida teachers

What do you offer in the way of 1, 2, or 3 day classes; Guild Programs; Mini workshops? Do you have a web site? What is your contact info? **Let us know.... we would like to hear from you.** FTWG will be offering a listing of Florida teachers on our web site. If you teach, or have a friend that teaches, forward all pertinent information to jcosby001@cfl.tt.com. We will be making a section on our web site to list teachers in Florida. This will also assist the guilds in our state, allowing

them to access the information to assist with their yearly programs and workshops. FREE advertising – don't pass up this opportunity!

What do your dues do? (And don't be alarmed, we are not increasing the dues)

First a very brief explanation of how we operate: As per our By-Laws, "the purpose of FTWG is to promote interest in the practice, use, and appreciation of hand weaving and related fiber arts for mutual benefits." We sponsor a yearly gathering to offer classes/instruction in these venues. Our Conference is to be self supporting, we calculate all the known expenses associated with the conference including instructor expenses (teaching fees, travel, room and board); table rental for displays & classroom use; liability insurance for the event; expenses incurred for publicity; judges fees and transportation; ribbons and awards; fashion show and fiber exhibit expenses; rental of a storage space for equipment; nametag supplies; cost of copying information for the registration packets; and all other costs associated with the conference. All known expenses are tallied, then the Board makes an estimate of how many will attend, based on previous years, and that figure is divided into the total expenses to arrive at a conference fee for the year.

Now, on to what your dues do..... The administrative expenses of FTWG are never included in the Conference fee. Your dues are used to cover the cost of these expenses, which includes 3 Board meetings (room rental and miscellaneous expenses), the upkeep of the web site, the printing and mailing of some newsletters, the insurance which covers officers of FTWG, and the bonding of the signers on the bank account. If you take the time to look at our yearly budget figures, you will see that the administrative expenses usually run in the red and must be balanced by our reserves.

Now, what do you get by joining?

1. You are eligible to apply for a \$500 Scholarship from FTWG. Check the scholarship link on the home page of the web site and/or read the scholarship article in this newsletter, print the application and return it to Mimi Smith.
2. You are eligible for Early Bird registration for our annual Conference, if your dues are paid by 10-15-2011. Remember that non-members have to pay an extra fee to attend Conference, and usually is more than our yearly dues.
3. You can sell your handmade items at our Member's marketplace during Conference for a minimal fee (\$5.00 for ½ table)
4. You can access the member's only section of the web site and review the Board minutes and Treasurer's report.
5. You have access to all the other members of FTWG through our membership roster listed in the member's only section of our web site.
6. You can take advantage of our web's Market Place and advertise fiber related items you have for sale or wish to purchase. There is no fee to Members to sell their loom, wheels, etc or to seek to buy an item.
7. You can take advantage of our annual FTWG retreat in September of each year. It is a very informal gathering of members, who relax, work on their own projects, share info, and enjoy the cuisine of the retreat area.
8. And one of the most important benefits- you are exposed to a network of fellow fiber artists and can share with and draw from their expertise.

9. AND we ALWAYS have LOTS OF FUN!!! I personally enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie that I get from interacting with other members. We have friendship with other fiber artists, vendors, teachers and discussions from simple topics to very in depth to hilarious.

If you enjoy our annual Conferences, please consider supporting FTWG by maintaining your membership on an annual basis. Thanks, Jody Cosby,

If you have any questions about our finances/operation, please let me know. You can reach me at (321)635-9477 or jcosby001@cfl.rr.com.

2012 MINI EXTRAVAGANZA HIGHLIGHTS

- **MEMBERS MARKET PLACE**

*Once again we will have an opportunity for FTWG members to sell their creative handmade treasures. The exciting news for one and all is that the Members Market Place will be open for the whole weekend, keeping the same sales hours as the vendors. As in the past, you may reserve a half table for \$5/per space. There is a space near the end of the Extravaganza Registration Form where you may check off that you would like to reserve a table for the Members Market Place. We must do this in advance so a staffing schedule can be arranged. All participants will share in the staffing. **There will be no last minute reserving of table space.** You must do your own pricing, keeping in mind that 10% of all sales go to Lake Yale (which will be collected as the booth is shut down). All record keeping, display props, monies and merchandise are your responsibility. For accounting purposes, your pieces must be itemized and tagged with a **removable tag**. The staffing schedule will be made a week before the extravaganza and you will be notified as to when you need to staff the booth. If the staffing time is not agreeable to you, that will allow time to change the schedule. Please remember that FTWG is not responsible for any stolen / lost money or property. Questions? Contact Audrey Smith 407-831-0899, audscarl1@aol.com*

- **LIVE AUCTION**

*Everyone is familiar with our "famous" auctions, but this year we will have an honest-to-goodness **live** auction, complete with the world famous auctioneer, Berna Lowenstein. We are requesting you reorganize your craft studio and bring to the Mini Extravaganza any and all items you no longer wish to keep. It could be finished handmade products, materials for creating those handmade products, yarns, craft books, magazines, craft equipment (yes, we will take looms and spinning wheels) and anything else related to crafts that we are forgetting to add. This year the auction will be a bit different because like items will be placed in clear plastic bags and sold as "lot numbers". Magazines will be sold in bundles and most books will be sold individually. Naturally, items of value will be sold separately, so if anyone brings a working 1803 flax spinning wheel, please be assured it will not go into a plastic bag along with shuttles and weaving yarn! We think you will have a super evening of entertainment, so start gathering! (AND saving your pennies to bring home a treasure.)*

- **OUTREACH / CHILDREN'S FIBER ARTS**

One of the most popular features of our Conferences over the years has been the Outreach sales area. Again this year we will feature works done by the Guatemalan weavers as well as the many fiber arts brought to us by Alternatives to make world-wide crafts available for our

purchase. We are still pursuing other sources that need our support and have a lead that hopefully will bring us some baskets made by the Panamanians. Many of our members on their travels around the world keep an eye out for new groups of artists that we might be able to help. Our guide lines are that the monies we get must go to the support of that group, not to an organization or store. If you think you know of any such fiber group that needs our support, please let us know. We have researched a lot of your suggestions, but the biggest stumbling block seems to be that we do not purchase their work outright and then sell the pieces. We sell by consignment. Call either Joan Furci or Sandy Carr for more detailed information. Joan can be reached at 321-383-3037 and Sandy at 727-784-1905.

The Children's table has grown both in popularity and number of displays at each Conference. We not only want to see works done by groups, but love it when a piece shows up done by a niece, nephew, grandchild or some other young friend. You don't need to register or phone ahead to bring your exhibit, just show-up with the "treasure" and put it on the "Children's" table to show all. So we know who the "artist" is, please label your display.

- **GUILD TABLES**

Over the year the guild tables have been as exciting as the Fiber Exhibit. You hear over and over "that should have been in the Fiber Exhibit", not only by members, but the instructors as well. Some of the ideas we have personally taken home have come from those exhibits. Some of the workshops guilds have participated in have been repeated by other guilds who "want to know how to do that". If your guild is considering not entering, please re-consider. We love to see your members' work and get to know you. We do have new fiber artists who attend our conferences that find their way to a guild thru seeing work done by you.

- **GUEST SPEAKER**

Joan Ruane has offered to give a 30 minute lecture, Saturday night, on the subject of "Where Has Hemp Gone!! Her talk will emphasize the importance of hemp through the centuries and how valuable it is to our world's environment. We don't want to give away too much about the lecture but the words "cover-up" should stir some interest. Join us for this event.

- **SIT 'N SPIN**

Bring your wheel and set it up in a corner of the Auditorium where we will have a designated area next to Joan Ruane's vendor booth for Southwest Corner. When you have no classes or are ready to "sit a spell," join us in creating your own luscious yarn from roving from home or a hank of fiber bought from a vendor. You may even learn a new skill or teach someone else.

- **FIBER EXHIBIT**

No formal judging this year; just members showing everyone what has stirred their creative juices this past year. Display your fiber creations proudly in categories reduced to Weaving, Spinning, Basketry, Jewelry, Knitting, Crochet, Jewelry and Mixed Media". We will have covered tables and a hanging rack, but if you wish a special 'display' please bring the props yourself, since we are not bringing ours out of storage. There will be "awards" however, and they will be voted on by conference attendees. Compete for the "What Was She Thinking?" or "How Did She Do That?" awards and the "I Wish I'd Thought of That" recognition. Or just show us what keeps you happily creating fiber objects, year after year.

- ***FASHION SHOW***

The Fashion Show will be an impromptu event this year. Bring your "to wear" pieces--jewelry, shawls, wearable garments, and anything else you wish to model for us. Remember we want to know how you did it and what you used to create your piece. A suggestion would be to have the information written up before coming so it's ready to hand over to the moderator to read. Use an index card that is easily handled and large enough for all your information. It has to be read by someone else, so please print or write clearly. This is always a highlight event and we love seeing your creativity.

FOR SALE: My grandmother asked me to sell one of her looms for her. I have a LeClerc 45" loom, 6 treadles, 4 shafts, comes with 3 steel reeds. The loom is used but in great shape. Delivery available in Dade or Broward Counties (Florida). \$1,050.00 I am in Southwest Miami Dade County. Contact Don at donmacwau3@hotmail.com for questions.



Check out the website at **ftwg.org** to see the pictures & info from the 2011 Fall Retreat that just happened in Cocoa Beach area. I hear they will be back there again next year if you missed this one. It is a laid back get together of members doing their own thing, sharing ideas, learning from each other, & having a relaxed time.