

FIBERCATIONS ---April 2016

Note from our President for FTWG – Jan Beasley

Our Mini Class conference was so much fun!! Marilyn Frew did a marvelous job of getting all of the ducks in a row. We had a lovely fashion show complete with fascinators. The guild tables were amazing and we had a large variety of vendors and door prizes. Many thanks to all the folks who made this conference a success.

Elections were held and all of the positions were filled. Cynthia Starr will continue as our Treasurer. Ellen Turner will be the Conference Coordinator Elect. (Jody Cosby and Cynthia Starr will be the Conference Coordinators for 2017.) Michele Belson will be the Vice President/Programs. Betty Ann Wyman served as our scholarship chair this year. She is stepping down and Lois Mittleman will be taking over that position.

Scholarship News

The FTWG Board is happy to announce our 2016 winners as Heather Greene for the \$100 scholarship and Jennifer Williams for the \$700 scholarship. Please watch your newsletter for reports from these lucky winners about where they went and what they learned.

FTWG is offering \$100 annual scholarships. The scholarship recipients may be reimbursed, up to \$100.00, for a Florida Guild sponsored workshop; an FTWG Conference workshop; or to take an instructional class in Florida to upgrade or learn a new fiber arts related skill. Scholarship will not exceed \$100. Also offered is a \$700 scholarship covering tuition and travel for a fiber related class. Check our [scholarship page](#) for details and form.

SOCIAL MEDIA FANS *-- you can now link directly to our groups on Facebook and Ravelry. Go to our web page and click on the direct links, make us one of your groups and let's get some chatter and photos up. Remember to always REFRESH the web page to get the newest info.

Looking for a wheel or a loom? Check the **Market Place on our web site**, items are added often.

Children's Exhibit

Sidsele Moreb's students made baskets on a cardboard Box form. They had to weave 4 sides and the bottom. Boy! That was a lot of work. Certificates were given.

SCE sent his back-strap loom and his tapestry loom for us to see what he was doing.

Pam Weldon's Art Club students at Avalon Elementary School wove hand bags.

They used a rigid loom and covered both sides. Then they sewed a fabric liner inside.

Ribbons were given to each. See how cute the foxes look inside.

Publicity

I had so much fun taking pictures this year. The energy was overflowing. I have almost 65 photos and I still didn't get everyone or everything. So, if you have a favorite photo or two send it to me. We'll see how many photos the web site can handle. bbtavel@cfl.rr.com

FTWG offers a \$700.00 scholarship yearly to an FTWG member in good standing for one year. Tuition must be for a 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: you must display the skills you acquired at the FTWG Conference after your award. You may teach a mini session, set up an informative table/display, or pass your knowledge along in another way at Conference. Additionally, you will submit an informative article about the class for the FTWG newsletter.

FTWG is also offering four (4) \$100 annual scholarships, which can be used to attend a workshop of a local Florida guild. If awarded, they must be used within 18 months. In return, you are required to submit an article to the FTWG newsletter within 2 months of receiving the scholarship.

The winners of the 2015 100 scholarship were Berna Lowenstein and Mary Schmutte.

The winners of the 2016 scholarships were Jennifer Williams for the \$700 scholarship and Karen Greene for the \$100 scholarship.

If you would like to apply for a scholarship PLEASE REVIEW THE GUIDELINES AND COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE SCHOLARSHIP FORM and return to [Lois Mettleman](#) (see address on the forms).

Application deadline is **February 15, 2017**

FLORIDA TROPICAL WEAVERS GUILD TUITION SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION \$700.00

Name of school or group presenting the workshop: Class or Workshop:

Brief Description:

Total amount requested:

In return for receiving the Scholarship funds, I understand that I am required to do the following:

1. I will submit an informative article for the newsletter about the class attended before the next FTWG conference. (Mail to Scholarship Chair)
2. At the next FTWG Conference I will display the skills acquired at the class, including samples and information on the class attended.

Personal: Do not identify yourself, but briefly give us (the Board) information that will help us choose the best candidate. On a separate sheet, please provide the following: 1. Education and/or experience in your field of fiber arts (weaving, spinning, basketry, etc.). 2. Education and/or experience in leading groups, teaching classes, making presentations, etc. 3. The Board is not doing personal interviews, so please tell us (200 words or less) anything about yourself you think might be relevant to our decision. For example, you may include awards won, participation on the Board of local guilds, community volunteerism promoting fiber arts, etc.; or you may choose to state your case, as you would if you were able to speak before the Board, explaining why you desire the workshop/class you have chosen.

Send both completed forms to:

[Lois Mittleman, 1634 Ficius Point Drive, Melbourne, FL 32940](#) OR email to: loismail@gmail.com

Questions should be addressed to the Scholarship Chair or your FTWG District Representative

On the last day of Conference someone left a blue plastic bag with their purchase from Al Carr's wood booth and a receipt for \$32 but no name. If you identify the contents, Marilyn Frew will return it to you. mlfrew@earthlink.net

A Note from the Conference Coordinator for 2016:

Wow! Did all of you come through for our “Mini-Workshop” Extravaganza at Lake Yale! From Fonda Haddad who found and scheduled all the instructors to Jody Cosby’s “Lucy unclad” for our yarn bombing experiment, everyone contributed and made my job so much easier. Special thanks go out to Caroline Tacker who handled our complicated registration records, Margarett Griffiths who recruited and planned the wonderful vendors, Alice Martin who arranged for terrific door prize providers and “goodie bags,” Cynthia Starr who acted as liaison with Lake Yale staff and kept our finances on track, Sara James and her helpers, Cindy Koedoot and Diane Drutowski, who handled the registration desk, Bev Tavel with John Gilbert for innovative publicity, Karen Simpson who oversaw our informal fiber exhibit and Peggy DiNegro who handled both the ribbons for the exhibit and the Handwoven Towel exchange. I also am very grateful to Sidsel Moreb and Ginger Clark for an entertaining (and “fascinating”) Fashion Show, Susan Hedge for coordinating some spectacular guild tables, members of the Jacksonville guild for beautiful name tags, Betty Ann Wyman handing out two much appreciated

Scholarship awards, and all those others who worked behind the scenes as “helpers” (you know who you are!). And, of course, the Queen of Purple, our President Jan Beasley, who shepherded us all. Thank you everyone, from my heart. Next year promises to be even better! ---Marilyn Frew

Florida Guild Tables

Many thanks goes to the Guilds that set up exhibits at the 2016 Conference. This year we had five guilds that participated. The tables are always exciting to see and we encourage every guild to consider reserving a table for next year. It certainly isn’t difficult and is so inspiring to see what everyone is doing. Next year we will be judging the guild exhibits so put your on your creative hats and begin planning. Here are some suggestions.

1. Try to avoid using any kind of tape on the walls as it may take off paint. The small removable sticky hooks seem to work well and can be removed at the end of the show.
2. Better still, design a free standing back drop for your display. One guild used shutters which were painted black and made a lovely back drop on which the members work was exhibited.
3. Tables are 6 feet by 2 and 1/2 feet long so measure table covers accordingly.
4. You might consider a theme. As your year progresses a theme will probably present itself. (This was my first year doing an exhibit so my suggestions come from my own mistakes. Other suggestions are welcome; feel free to pass them along for sharing.)

Later I will send out forms for reserving tables to the Guild contacts that I collected this year. Feel free to send me appropriate names for contact persons at this email address. I want to send information to the appropriate person and hopefully we will have more Guilds participating next year. Susan Hedge susanhedge@me.com

Towel Exchange

Michele Belson (mbelson@fsu.edu) is handling the towel exchange next year. Please email her if you want to participate. I believe we are making 12 x 18 towels. She will let you know the exact details.

Brief summary of 2016 conference evaluations:

Most heard about the conference through their guild or friends, some are members and have been coming for years, and a few found it online. Fiber arts interests included: weaving, spinning, dyeing, felting, rug hooking, embroidery, baskets, tapestry weaving, knit and crochet and almost any other fiber arts you could think of.

Over 50% registered before January 1, 2016. Favorite things included: meeting old friends and making some new ones; the classes; fiber exhibit; fashion show; vendors; no cooking or cleaning.

Non-favorite things were: too cold; poor lighting in vendor hall and of course, the old standby- the food.

Most would return to conference. For future classes there were requests for all the fiber arts, particularly longer and more advanced classes in inkle, weaving, and tapestry. Some classes in paper arts were suggested.

As to the use of credit cards, 65% of the returned forms indicated yes, 5% said no and 30% were neutral about the use of the credit cards. Some indicated they did not want to pay the assessment fee for the use of a credit card.

Remaining at Lake Yale: 60% indicated they wanted to remain, 5% said no, please change the venue; the rest did not make any comments about the location of conference.

FTWG Board 6-1-16 thru 5-31-17

President- Jan Beasley (queenofpurple@windstream.net)

Conference Coordinators- Jody Cosby (jcosby001@cfl.rr.com)

Cynthia Starr (chstrr@gmail.com)

VP Conference Coordinator Elect- Ellen Turner (ellenlturner@gmail.com)

VP Programs- Michele Belson (mbelson@fsu.edu)

Secretary- Nancy Reed (knittynancy@yahoo.com)

Treasurer- Cynthia Starr` (chstrr@gmail.com)

Scholarship- Lois Mittleman (lois.mittleman@gmail.com)

Outreach- Carol Turner (carturn5@gmail.com)

Historian-Open

Membership- Ann Pierson (aepierson@mac.com)

Newsletter- Gail Ratliff (gratliff52@gmail.com)

Appointed Committee Publicity- Beverly Tavel (bbtavel@cfl.rr.com)

District Representatives:

District 1&7: DOOR PRIZES/GOODIE BAGS/MINI CLASSES

Alice Martin

dolfuns@bellsouth.net/thespinningseahorse@gmail.com

District 2: FASHION SHOW/RIBBONS/AWARDS

Ginger Clark/Peggy DiNegro

gingrclark@gmail.com/mrpegdinegro@earthlink.net

District 3: HOST/REGISTRATION Sara James (sara@saranorine.com)

District 4: WORKSHOP ASSISTANCE/ANGELS /NAMETAGS

Berna Lowenstein/Nancy Reach

bernaweaves@cfl.rr.com/nancyknits@me.com

District 5: VENDORS Margarete Griffiths

margaretegriffiths@me.com

MEMBERS MARKET/ GUILD TABLES Susan Hedge(susanhedge@me.com)

District 6: FIBER EXHIBIT Marilyn Frew (mlfrew@earthlink.net)

Note from editor I apologize to all who got their information in quickly. I have a new program on my laptop and at home. Both are giving me all kinds of problems. Please go to the web site for the fabulous pics, I didn't want to even try those this time. This is the third time I've pulled this together. We also have another new granddaughter born April 5th which complicated things. Thanks for your understanding.