**[NOBO - my notes from the July 26th meeting](http://mail.yahoo.com/)**

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**FROM:**

* Edward Gent

**TO:**

* Kathie Kelleher Margaret Russell Shattuck, Mary

Message flagged

Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:03 PM

For your editing and approval - Kathie please post to Nobo when all OK -- ted

Subject: NOBO Meeting July 26, 2012

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Old Business

Location

  - Newbury Library is the venue for this meeting located in Byfield.

New Members

  - none this evening

Mary - on the Haverhill Pop Up Shop

  Mass is the only state in the USA that is supporting the creative

  economy. There were 50 artisans around the table and then there were

  support people and a lot of energy was generated.

  Margaret had suggested the Boston Weavers Guild go into the "Pop Up

  Shop". It does not sound as if the pop up shop has generated that

  much interest in NOBO. Margaret at a meeting with David had a

  suggestion about a artist collaborative. One has been started in

  Lowell, now working in Lawrence and then will move to

  Haverhill. Currently the funding for Haverhill has not been secured

  but "it will come".

  Mary found that there were a lot of people interested in

  weaving. There was interest in the guild, loom sizes. Haverhill has

  a lot of buzz. Mary has the paperwork from the presentation and the

  contact list. There was felt to be a need to have weaving as part of

  the fiber arts.

  Betsy - a counterpoint is that weaving tends to be a solitary

          operation.

  ? Question how does a collaborative work?

  Mary: Has the paperwork but unsure how it works. Each collaborative

        has a different model.

  ? Do they sell?

  Mary: Yes - in general, each collaborative has a somewhat different

        business model. The concensus among the artists was that they

        felt the meeting was productive and wanted to continue to

        meet and discuss other possibilities.

  Margaret: We need to understand how much interest is there in guild

            members.

  Sandra: What is being looked for.

  Mary: One piece is the pop up shop

>>> Mary: Please pull together a presentation and bring in

          David. Associating this with a "show and share" would be an

          opportunity to show off the strengths of the guild.

Snack List

>>> Please add your contact information to a list which will be

    published in a PDF.

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New Business

Fiber Revival at Spencer Pierce Little farm

  Experimenting this year with a series of hour long demonstrations

  and they are listed on the web site:

    <http://www.fiberrevival.com/> -- Saturday August 11

  Last year Nobo had a display of table runners.

  Need to bring more weavers in to the event.

  There will be a pop up tent.

  Betsy - Sheep to Shawl demonstration

  "Bring whatever you want to bring"

Next Meeting Location

  Newbury Library in Byfield, MA

Future Meetings

  August: Show and Share and David from Creative Haverhill

  September: Patricia Morton: Bead Leno

  October: Show and Share

  November: Holiday Celebration

Presentation by Stephanie Muscat

  DBI mission is to restore the balance between the Navajo sheep

  culture. The presentation will include sheep to loom

  Stephanie has been involved for 5 years and is now on the board of

  DBI. There is a website that is dedicated to agriculture. Stefanie

  has now started a new project on sheep to document the black canyon

  sheep which ranges throughout Arizona.

  There are two parts to the presentation:

    A gift from Talking God, a 25minute video of the sheep.

      The Navajo kept a "hidden" child to learn the traditional

      methods.

    Slides of weaving

    Video of the Sheep

    Navajo Churro sheep

    Slides

    Chelly Canyon (Canyon de Chelly pronounced shay)

    Crow Canyon in New Mexico

    Humming Bird themed weaving

    Petroglyph inspired weaving

    Weaving is more a female oriented activity.

    Mesa Weaving in Phoenix museum

    Spider Rock in Chelly Canyon

    Cross representative of spider woman in traditional Navajo

    weaving. Spiral means a source of water and the migration.

    Blanket Chief's cloak

    Stephanie circulated some wool from Churro lamb and sheep

    Book: Navajo Weaving Way

    Website: <http://arizonaexperience.org/>

              www.navajolifeway.org

Q&A

  What articles do they weave?

  A. rugs, bags, garments, blanket

  Cross is a female symbol?

  A. Not necessarily in Navajo traditions

  Use of dogs?

  A. Not been successful herding sheep - no more sheep herding with

    dogs

  Do they breed for the white?

  A. Yes in order to allow for dyeing.

  Would the sheep do well here?

  A. There are some unregistered Churro sheep in Vermont but they

    don't function well.

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Show and Share

  Martha showed a rug from a course Martha took in Utah.

  Comment that Churro wool is very hard to weave with.

  Is there any significance to the corner tassles?

  A. That is the way it is put on the loom.

    The border on the top is larger than on the bottom. This pays

    homage to the N,S,E,W.

    Tradition not to pass anything through the loom.

  Any reluctance in a white sister being with them?

  A. Stephanie has been working for 5 years and only in the last year

    or two felt more apart of Navaho tribe.

tg