

WARP



WEAVE A REAL PEACE

Volume 10, Number 1

Spring 2003

Crafts Development in Appalachia: A Brief History

Philis Alvic

Crafts development came to Appalachia over 100 years ago, shortly after settlement workers came into the mountains to educate children, serve as examples of healthful living, and be responsive to the needs of the people. Crafts, especially weaving, became the way for women to make some 'cash' income while working at home in between raising children and doing household chores.



Lucy Morgan took the Penland Weavers and Potters to the Century of Progress in 1933.

Credit for the beginning of the Appalachian Craft Revival in the very late nineteenth century depends on what side of the mountain chain the commentator hales from. Those on the eastern face credit Frances Goodrich, a Presbyterian missionary, with first selling crafts from her Allanstand Cottage Industries located near Asheville. Those from the western side of the mountains, point to the pioneering work of President William Goodell Frost with the Fireside Industries of Berea College in Kentucky. Both developed programs that decided on product type and design, supplied materials bought in bulk, maintained quality, and marketed the finished items. These early centers served as models for dozens of other crafts businesses. In 1912 the women of the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity opened a school in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and soon after began selling baskets and coverlets to their friends. By 1926 their efforts had grown into a shop and weaving program named Arrowcraft under the direction of Wingogene Redding. By 1924 Lucy Morgan had abandoned teaching children and established a weaving center for area women at the Appalachian School in Penland, North Carolina. The 1920's saw the flourishing of centers including the Matheny Weavers at Berea, The Spinning Wheel at Asheville, the Weaving Room at Crossnore School in Crossnore, North Carolina, the Shuttle Crafters at Morristown, Tennessee, and the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina, to name just a few of the larger centers.

Mission Statement

To facilitate self-empowerment and betterment of women and communities-in-need through textile arts.

Goals

To foster dialogue and support within the organization

To serve as a clearinghouse for information, resources, and technical assistance within the international textile community

To provide cross-cultural education and support within the textile community

To provide guidance in the realities of appropriate assistance

To promote appreciation of textiles which reflect a community's culture

To enrich the lives of individuals in the global textile community through cross-cultural exchange

Continued on page 11

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From the WARP Office....

Cheryl Musch

I always enjoy getting your renewals in the mail. Your small notes about how you love WARP and think the newsletter is fantastic keep those of us working on WARP projects going. We're glad you've joined us for another year. You'll be receiving your 2003 WARP Annual Membership Directory in the mail soon. As always, it's fascinating reading. I hope to see many of you at the annual meeting in April in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

Last Minute Registration Might Be Possible

As the newsletter goes to press, there are still a few openings for the WARP Annual Meeting, to be held April 4-6 at Black Mountain, North Carolina. To check on current registration status, contact Eileen Hallman immediately at cotton@charkha.biz (email) or 828/669-1870 (phone).

2003 WARP Annual Meeting
YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly
Black Mountain, North Carolina

Friday, April 4
Afternoon - Field trip to downtown Asheville and Biltmore Village.
5:00-5:30 - Opening reception
YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina
5:30-6:30 - Dinner
6:30 - Introductions and sharing of projects

Saturday, April 5
8:00-9:00 - Breakfast
10:00-4:00 - Folk Art Center, Blue Ridge Parkway
Seminar on the history of crafts in Appalachia: *Economic Development and Education*.
4:00-5:30 - Marketplace and break
5:30-7:00 - Dinner
7:00 Mini workshops

Sunday, April 6
8:00 - 9:00 - Breakfast
9:00 - 11:00 - Annual meeting
11:00 - noon - Marketplace

Editor's Note

Linda Temple

I'm delighted to welcome two new column editors in this newsletter. **Sue Caskey**, an attorney, a knitter, and a seamstress, has volunteered to continue the popular **Member Profiles** column. If you have ideas or suggestions for future profiles, let her know. And if she calls you, please tell all...

Deborah Brandon will explore a different textile technique in a new **Textile Techniques From Around the World** column. In the most recent WARP member directory, Deborah describes herself as a "mathematician, mother of two, and wife to one. I mainly weave and knit, but also spin, felt, and mess around with other textile arts."

Contact information for both editors is at the end of their columns.

Member Profiles...

Sue Caskey

Iris Springflower: Dedicated to Helping People

In planning to contact WARP members about doing a profile, the name Iris Springflower came up frequently. Iris, a WARP member for the past few years, has apparently touched many of our members with her dedication to charitable causes and the donation of her work, as well as her thoughtful comments on the WARP discussion list. Iris joined WARP because of its goal of reaching out to others through fiber craft. "I like the idea of empowering women and communities in need through the textile arts," Iris says.

Iris, a weaver and knitter who lives in Wisconsin, prefers hand weaving using small looms and frame looms of different sizes. Some of the items she makes from her weaving are cloth for bags, scarves, belts/bands, wall hangings, small tapestries, and triangle weavings, as well as making sections of cloth that can be pieced together. She has also been knitting on circular knitting looms, which are simply a larger version of the knitting spools many of us are familiar with from childhood.

Many of the hats, vests, and other woven or knitted items Iris makes find their way to those in need. It's clear from her wonderful web sites (links appear at the bottom of this article) that she is devoted to charity knitting. Iris sends her woven and knitted items to homeless and domestic violence shelters, and also contributes to charities focusing on babies, children, and teenagers. "Due to my postage restraints," she says, "I usually give to charities in the US, but I also donate my craft items to charities which assist people overseas and out of the USA who have US addresses, like Afghans For Afghans (<http://www.afghansforafghans.org/>)." She notes the four great reasons to contribute handcrafts to charities: "A warm feeling inside that you helped others; knowing that every stitch and every pick you make will make others feel happy and cared for; contributing to a worthy cause(s); and showing others that hand-made fiber crafts/arts are still happening today."

Since she gives away much of her work, finding affordable materials is always a challenge. "I go to thrift stores, garage sales, flea markets, and I also go the yarn sales at the yarn stores, the crafts stores and at the large discount chain stores," she says. Iris will also "happily accept donations of yarn," either natural or synthetic yarn. Iris' mailing address can be found below or in the Member Directory.

Iris' websites have some wonderful links to the art and craft of weaving and knitting, along with charity websites and discussion lists. You can see her charity-focused website at <http://community.webtv.net/Weavergal56/WEAVERGALS>, and her site for knitting looms at <http://community.webtv.net/sari56/IrisKnittingLoomand.Iris>' email address is iris756@yahoo.com, or write her at PO Box 54, Gays Mills, WI 54631.

If you have suggestions for future columns, please contact Sue Caskey at 1477 Autumn Road, Rydal, PA 19046 or by email at scaskey@comcast.net.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Sunday, April 6, 2003

YMCA Blue Ridge

Assembly

Black Mountain,

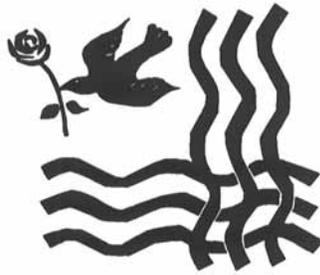
North Carolina

- Discussion of last year's activities
- Financial report
- Election of board member
- Plans for the coming year, including the 2004 annual meeting
- Other business

Your input for agenda items is requested. Please send suggestions to Cheryl Musch as soon as possible. Contact information for Cheryl is on page 2.

Great Marketplace

There may still be time to participate in the great International Marketplace at the 2003 WARP Annual Meeting. Marcia Bellas is coordinating this event, so please let her know immediately if you want to reserve a table or would like to have more information about the event. Contact information for Marcia is on page 2.



WARP Newsletter

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The deadline for contribu-
tions to the Summer WARP
newsletter is **May 8**. The
Summer newsletter will be
mailed in mid-May.

Send articles and copies of
correspondence for
the newsletter to:
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Information about an
organization or service in
this newsletter does not
constitute an endorsement
by WARP.

Correspondence may be
edited or shortened at the
discretion of the editor.

Many WARP members are working to help artisans in other parts of the world by selling their handwork. In this issue of the newsletter, several WARP members talk about how they are addressing this issue. Please continue to send your thoughts and suggestions.

Partnering to Support a Good Cause

Nicole McGrath

“Peri Dar Inc., a Canadian fair trade textiles company, is helping to raise awareness about the critical situation of women in Afghanistan, and about the benefits for women artisans participating in Fair Trade with a special event: Starting on International Women’s Day (March 8th) until International Fair Trade Day (May 17th) 2003, Peri Dar will be donating 10% of sales to CARE Canada to help women and children in Afghanistan through its Kabul Widows Project. Visit www.peridar.com to participate and learn more about Peri Dar Inc, fair trade, and our partnership with CARE Canada. Visit www.care.ca to learn more about CARE Canada and The Kabul Widows Emergency Feeding Project.”

This is Peri Dar’s announcement for a campaign in partnership with CARE Canada. Yes, it is a marketing strategy, one that allows us to speak for women who are victims of war. A marketing strategy helps to build a company’s image, and this one is in line



photo courtesy of CARE Canada

with our commitment to ethical business practices and fair trade principles. While employment opportunities are very limited for women around the world, there is a high participation of women in artisan cooperatives. The responsibility for families is given mostly to women, and a larger portion of their earnings goes towards taking care of their families. In support of their social strengthening, the majority of products purchased by Peri Dar are made by women. By partnering with a like-minded non-profit organisation like CARE Canada for a fundraising campaign, we can help women caught in the current crisis situation in Afghanistan.

An event such as this allows both Peri Dar and CARE to be visible in new networks, to reach new publics, make new customers and find new donors. Both partners can use this promotion to speak of women in Afghanistan and women in

Continued on page 10

WARP Newsletter Ad Rates

For WARP members:

Business card - \$6/issue; \$22 for 4 issues;

1/4 page - \$11/issue; \$40 for 4 issues;

1/2 page - \$18/issue; \$65 for 4 issues;

Full page - \$30/issue; \$108 for 4 issues;

Classified - \$1.50 per line for members (50 spaces)

Rates for non-WARP members will be double the above figures.

All rates are for camera-ready copy.

The Challenge of Marketing Handcrafts

Cheryl Musch

What does it take to get textiles from groups in developing countries to market in North America? A lot of good people who have connections with groups they support or have met in other countries believe it just takes a link—a link to a group that already markets handcrafts—like SERRV International or Ten Thousand Villages. The reality is quite different. At SERRV we are approached by hundreds of groups each year. Because we have long-term partnerships with the artisans with whom we are already working and want to help those groups grow and develop, we establish new relationships with very few new artisan groups each year. Many people who are searching for an existing conduit find their initial excitement waning as they work the circuit in search of a place to plug into the market.

People in search of markets often create other options. Some, like WARP members Morris and Ruth Johnson, sell products directly to customers. After serving in the Peace Corps in Lesotho where they helped a group of women form a company for weaving handspun mohair tapestries and rugs, they returned to the U.S. and have taken on import and distribution of products themselves (a big job for anyone). Other groups find a representative to sell their goods in the U.S. WARP member Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland serves as a U.S. representative for sales for UPAVIM Crafts and Mayan Hands, both groups based in Guatemala.

In the competitive North American market, a group doesn't just need a product to sell, it needs a product that has been designed for the market. A lot of things that seem great while visiting a country may make great souvenirs, but might not be in a style and at a price that would sell on a scale that would provide economic development to a rural weaving cooperative. Other factors also come into play. Is the group ready to export? Do they have products that will work in the export market? Will their prices be competitive at the 5-10 times mark-up common in the U.S. market? Do they have the knowledge and experience to export? Is packaging and packing good? What about shipping? If they did get an order, do they have the production capacity to fill that order? Many groups with whom we work need development assistance to reach the point of readiness for export.

Looking at the limitations of the existing market, there is certainly a need for market expansion. One solution is to create more markets for artisan groups. WARP member Nicole McGrath recently launched Peri Dar, an online fair trade venue for textile products from nearly 20 artisan cooperatives (see article on page 4). Others have noted that we must become market savvy enough to enter the commercial market since the fair trade venues are not large enough to address the level of need among artisans.

We must continue to think creatively about new ways to assist textile artisans with marketing and economic development.

Cheryl Musch is Producer Relations Manager at SERRV International, a nonprofit alternative trade and development organization, and Administrative Coordinator for WARP. Contact information appears on page 2.

Weave A Real Peace

Membership Information

2003 Annual Dues

\$10 (simple living)

\$20 (regular)

\$30 (group/supporting)

\$100+ (patron/donor)

All memberships are based on the calendar year and expire on December 31. Members receive all publications for the year joined.

Members receive an annual Membership Directory with information on members' interests and activities, and a quarterly newsletter.

Dues and donations are tax deductible and are used for printing, mailing, and office expenses.

For membership or additional information, please send your name, address, and telephone number with appropriate check or money order in U.S. funds payable to

WARP to:

Weave A Real Peace
3102 Classen Boulevard
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**“Solar Energy:
Powering Craft and
Communities”**

by WARP member Louise Meyer, is the cover story in the Fall 2002 issue of Crafts News. As many of you know, Louise is a specialist in West African textiles. She is also the founder of Solar Household Energy, a non-profit organization that promotes passive solar energy for community development.

This issue of Crafts News (Volume 13, Issue 53) can be ordered for \$5.00 from The Crafts Center (1001 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1035, Washington, DC 20036).

For more information on solar cooking and Solar Household Energy, Inc., visit www.she-inc.org.

***Textile Techniques From Around The World:
Palestinian Embroidery***

Deborah Brandon

Palestinian embroidery is a form of cross-stitch that involves prominent use of red threads, where many of the patterns are geometric in nature. In addition, the majority of the traditional embroidery has a black background.

Traditionally, embroidery was used to decorate rural Palestinian women's dresses called "thoubs." The colors, and designs reflected social standing, marital status, and local identity. Thoubs are full and long sleeved, with embroidery on the chest, arm, or hem areas. Thoub panels were embroidered separately, and then pieced together with sections of silk or linen.

The colors used and the pattern arrangement depended on regional style. In Ramallah, for example, the embroidery was done on white linen dresses for summer, and black linen for winter, with distinctive wine-red thread. Bedouin thoubs, on the other hand, were always black, and the color of the embroidery depended on marital status: a bride used red threads for her dress, while a widow used blue, if still in mourning, and a mix of red and blue if ready to re-marry.

Although color and pattern arrangement varied by region, the patterns themselves consist of a limited number of shapes: stars, trees, flowers, birds, squares, triangles, etc. Embroidery patterns are derived from sources that range from daily life in the village to Canaanite mythology.

In modern Palestinian embroidery regional styles have blended together to a large extent. In addition, since the traditional, embroidered thoub is no longer worn on a daily basis, most embroidery nowadays is used for home decorating: pillows, tablecloths, and wall hangings.

Resources: "The Art of Palestinian Embroidery" by Leila El-Khalidi; <http://www.usaid.gov/wbg/asalah/2/index.htm>; <http://palestinianembroider.tripod.com/>

Deborah Brandon can be reached at 412/967-1578 (phone); or at brandon@asd6.math.cmu.edu(email).



Linda Temple ties a "To Bali With Love" prayer scarf to the fence surrounding the Oklahoma City National Memorial following a Spiritual Walk for Peace on January 18. The scarf was made by Threads

of Life artisans to honor those who died in the Kuta bombing in Bali in October. The theme of the Oklahoma City walk, which drew more than 1,000 participants, was "We Know That One Bomb is Too Many."

For more information about the prayer scarves made by Threads of Life see the Winter 2002 issue of the WARP Newsletter.

Textiles of West Timor are Focus of Recent Publication by WARP Member

Ruth Yeager

Textiles of Western Timor: Regional Variations in Historical Perspective, by Ruth Marie Yeager and Mark Ivan Jacobson. Bangkok: White Lotus Press, 2000. 324pp.

This is the first comprehensive study of the varied textile traditions of the people of western Timor. It provides historical, geographical, and cultural background in order to help explain regional variations and the important role of textiles within Timorese society. The chapters are accompanied by nearly 150 black and white photographs of people and textiles, 33 maps, and 26 figures showing comparative motifs by type or location. There are 240 color photographs of textiles from museums and private collections illustrating the rich variety of cloth woven in western Timor.

This labor of love began in 1990, when we were living in Jakarta and my husband Mark first started doing geologic fieldwork in West Timor. Mark became intrigued by the way the local people could tell a man's origin based on the cloth he was wearing. Soon he was photographing each new pattern he saw and collecting as much information as he could from the men wearing them. I took my first trip there in 1992 to visit a few areas he had not been able to reach. I fell in love with the people, took my first serious look at what Mark had written, and started to fill in the gaps--women's cloths, weaving techniques, and the historic role of textiles and weaving in Timorese society. Mark went on to add all he could about Timorese local history.

Our study area includes Indonesian Timor, informally known as West Timor, and the East Timorese district of Ambenu, which is an enclave within West Timor. My last trip there was in 1995, at a time when West Timor was calm and relatively prosperous. I had hoped to make a return trip after we moved to Australia in 1999, but problems with East Timor and violence in the refugee camps in West Timor made travel in this area inadvisable. It appears that the future of Timor, as well as its past, will be filled with turbulence and hardships. I hope that the resilience of the Timorese people--both West and East--will prove equal to the challenge.

To purchase the book, contact publisher Diethard Ande at ande@loxinfo.co.th or visit the website at <http://thailine.com/lotus>. The price is US\$48.50 plus shipping; a 40% discount is available to anyone ordering five or more books.

Contact Ruth Yeager at Perth Pouch, PO Box 6046, San Ramon, CA 94583, 61-8-927/2-8792 (phone); or RMYeager@bigpond.com (email)

Congratulations

to Lolli Jacobsen on her surprise marriage to Ron Bloomquist on January 1, 2003!
(For more details check out Ron's website http://www.mcn.org/b/roadcow/02~03_getting_married2.html)
Beth Davis writes: "A drive-through wedding at high noon in Las Vegas, classic Lolli!"

Please send contributions for the Summer issue of the WARP Newsletter by May 8. Contact information on page 4.

Medium-Tech Marketing

Deborah Chandler

This is the marketing story of a very young and very small business selling from Guatemala to the US and Canada.

Our three products are simple: pens wrapped in nylon thread, beaded bracelets, and tapestry woven bracelets. All three come with words, a choice of: PEACE, PEACE NOW, PAZ, WAGE PEACE, or NO WAR. We are working with ten artisans and sharing their stories is an important part of our work.

Since our initial intention was to facilitate discussions of alternatives to the Iraq war, our marketing has all been designed to spread the word person-to-person. We started by sending letters explaining the project to people on my email mailing list. As we are in Guatemala, paper mailings are not a feasible, and since we are working with fairly inexpensive products, normal print or broadcast advertising is also out of reach. A website might be the obvious way to go, but not until we feel we are on solid ground, with both reliable delivery from the makers and a known system of shipping and delivery.

Every pen and bracelet that goes out has a small tag (made on a copier) telling a tiny bit about the project and its aims, and how to reach us by email or fax. That way, when the person who orders them passes them on (as gifts or via sales), the eventual recipient will also know how to get more—and why.

Since we know they are supporters, we occasionally send out updates to everyone who has ordered, and ask them to pass the word on to anyone they think might be interested. We are not interested in being junk mail, but we do know that within the peace movement there are, we all now know, literally millions of people who ARE interested. They are the ones we want to reach.

Eventually, one way or the other, the war—or threat of it—will be history. At that point we still want to support these hard working artisans. For that reason, we are also pushing custom orders. So far we've sent out orders with names of family members, conferences, reunions, businesses, churches, etc. The marketing of custom orders is far more individual, of course. We suggest the idea to current customers and we make up samples and send them to businesses we think would be interested.

That's a quick sketch of our marketing strategy. Lots of email, and product labels with information and our email address. If you'd like to know more, please write to us: WeavingFutures@aol.com. And if you don't have access to email, you can write to my forwarding address in the US: Deborah Chandler, PO Box 591828/M131, Miami, FL 33159. We'd love to hear from you.

American Textile History Museum Hosts Fiber Art Weekend April 11 - 13

A group of internationally recognized figures in American fiber art will offer fiber art enthusiasts an up close and personal look at the medium's past, present, and future at a Fiber Art Weekend presented by the American Textile History Museum from April 11 to 13 in Lowell, Massachusetts.

The weekend celebrates the opening of the Museum's newest special exhibition, **Generations/Transformations: American Fiber Art**, and gathers together 12 of the artists whose works are showcased in the new exhibit to participate in artistic dialogue, workshops and a two-day symposium.

For more information about Fiber Art Weekend:
978/441.0400, ext. 244
(phone);
tgreen@athm.org (email);
www.athm.org

Tours and Workshops

Textile Traditions of Old Europe: July 8 - 22

Mary Kelly, WARP Board Member and textile writer, will be the Study Tour Leader for a trip this summer to Romania and Hungary for the Textile Museum in Washington, DC. Titled "Textile Traditions of Old Europe," the tour begins in Bucharest, Romania on July 8 and ends on July 22.

Highlights of the trip are visits to the medieval cities of Sibiu and Cluj to visit ethnographic centers and outdoor museums, then on through the Carpathian mountain passes of Maramures and Bukovina. These highly carved and painted village houses reflect motifs that are found in ancient textile traditions. We will see traditional carpets being woven and wool being spun.

For more information and a brochure, contact Educational Travel Resources, who are running the tour at 800/548-0025 or email Mary Kelly at kellym13@juno.com.

Papermaking In Oaxaca, Mexico: July 23-August 3

WARP member Laura Strand, along with Judi Ross, will lead a 12 day tour to visit and work in two paper talleres (studios) in the valley of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico. Both paper talleres are in the barrio Vista Hermosa in San Agustin Etla, twenty minutes outside of Oaxaca.

The cost of the 12 day workshop is \$1150.00 with single occupancy accommodation, or \$925.00 with double occupancy. This includes accommodation, six days tuition in the talleres and guided tours with English speaking guide. Enrollment deadline is May 1, 2003.

Laura and Judi are both artists who have worked and taught in the Oaxaca region for the past eight years. For more information and detailed itinerary please contact: Judi Ross, 217/485-5621, 217/649-4555 (phone); judiross11@hotmail.com (email); Laura Strand, 618/650-2812 (phone); lstrand@siue.edu (email).

Moroccan Textiles Online

WARP member Susan Schaefer Davis has a website on which she sells Moroccan textiles (www.marrakeshexpress.org). Last fall she was based in Morocco and was able to expand the section which features photos and brief bios of the women who have woven some of the pieces. These can be seen by clicking "Women Weavers OnLine" at the bottom of the first page of her site, or by entering <http://www.uslink.net/ddavis/weaversoverview.html>. This project is an experiment in helping isolated artisans market their products world-wide, and avoiding the profits taken by middlemen. On these pieces Susan takes no profit: she asks the women the price they want, then adds shipping and handling to determine the final price. She's also training literate local people to take over her role. To date several of the women's pieces have sold, encouraging them to continue weaving in one of the locations where they were discouraged by the low prices they usually got. Contact Susan at 4 College Lane, Haverford, PA 19041; 610/649-7717 (phone); sdavis@uslink.net (email)

Mark These Dates...

March 29-31

Fair Trade Federation
annual conference in
Madison, WI
Visit their website at
www.fairtradefederation.org
for more information.

April 4-6

WARP Annual Meeting
Black Mountain, NC

May 17

World Fair Trade Day
Visit www.wftday.org for
events around the world.

June 23-28

Sheep Is Life
Main Events - June 27-28
No admission fee or
registration required.

Pre-Conference
Workshops, Monday -
Friday, June 23- 27.
Registration required.

Diné College, Tsaile, AZ,
Navajo Nation

For more information:
928/755-6448 (phone);
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Partnering to support a good cause

Continued from page 4

the developing world, with the help of International Women's Day and International Fair Trade Day intended to raise awareness about women's issues and about the importance of fairer trade. Activities are published online in the calendars of national and international organisations, and efforts are made to attract the attention of the media, encourage related activities, and share these for free with the public. They are excellent ways to reach people without resorting to high advertising expenditures.

Peri Dar chose to help women in Afghanistan because of their rich history in textiles and years of artistic influence all over Asia and the Mediterranean, because fair trade may help them and their families in the future as it does



photo courtesy of CARE Canada

many women artisans around the world, and because they are the victims of war, a terrible consequence too often ignored. Women account for 70% Afghanistan's current population; the majority have not been allowed to work for the last decade and have three to eight children to feed. Four years of drought add to this challenge. When we hear of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran, mostly women and children, and imagine potentially more refugees from Iraq in exodus to these same countries, we know it can only be terrible. Returning to their homeland after war is also a struggle for survival, as we can see with the millions of Afghan refugees coming home to an uninhabitable place.

Women are too often the forgotten victims of war. While our governments are busy voting on yet another war, we best give them a hand. A good marketing strategy for your business, a world of difference for women.

Nicole McGrath launched Peri Dar Inc. online in November 2002 at www.peridar.com. Peri Dar, a member of the Fair Trade Federation, offers textile products for the home from 18 artisan cooperatives in 12 countries. For information, contact Nicole at PO Box 126, La Peche, Quebec J0X 2W0; nicole@peridar.com (email); 819/456-4724 (phone); 819/456-2111 (fax).

Letters

I am now offering a new workshop called "Weaving Peace," teaching students to weave letters in double-faced tablet weaving. The workshop description reads in part, "Weave peace and other inspirational words; the names of loved ones; or any words that are meaningful to you...create lovely bookmarks, a peace banner, or a personalized inscription band." I have found it comforting to meditate on peaceful words as I weave them. Linda Hendrickson, 140 SE 39th Avenue, Portland, OR 97214; 503/239-5016 (phone), or www.lindahendrickson.com (website).

Letters

Thanks to WARP (and Deborah Chandler AND the miracle of email), one of the highlights of the hiking trip my partner and I took to Patagonia (southern Argentina and Chile) was the day we spent in Buenos Aires. Looking for information on weavers in Argentina, Deborah provided a connection to Mimi Bujelter and her daughter, Vanina. Both are weavers; Mimi is a well-known tapestry artist whose work has been widely shown at home and abroad. Vanina is also an accomplished weaver who is changing professions and spending more time at the loom. We spent a wonderful day with them. They took us to yarn stores we would never have found on our own; we visited Mimi's studio and a museum where her students' work was on display. They also treated us to a wonderful meal.

Not only did this introduction (which would never have occurred without WARP) give us the opportunity to meet two wonderful women who are also wonderful weavers, it also gave us a chance to learn and understand more about the terrible economic crisis being experienced in Argentina and meet two women who, with some colleagues, are trying to do something to help. Mimi and Vanina are involved in an organization that is beginning to market textiles of the indigenous peoples of Argentina; their model is Manos de Uruguay. This is, of course, an enormous and valuable undertaking. At the same time, Vanina is applying for a grant to enable herself to spend some time in the U.S. developing her knowledge of weaving. WARP members will hear more from us when this is closer to reality as we look for the best place for her to study and work.

Susan Weltman, 109 S. Adelaide Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904; 732/846-3139 (phone); sweltwoman@aol.com (email).

Crafts Development in Appalachia: A Brief History

Continued from page 1

In 1913 John C. and Olive Dame Campbell gathered all of the mountain social service organizations together to form the Conference of Southern Mountain Workers, which met annually in Knoxville. Many of the schools and other institutions that sponsored crafts programs began talking to each other and finally came together in 1930 to form the Southern Highland Handicraft Guild.

Crafts education became increasingly important, beginning with Penland opening the Weaving Institute to people outside the mountains in 1929 and later adding other crafts to become the Penland School of Crafts. J.C. Campbell's program concentrated more on crafts and the Pi Phi's rededicated their facilities and built Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts.

Today the Appalachian Mountains provide a home to hundreds of independent craftspeople. They no longer sell through centers, but market their own work regionally, nationally, and internationally with the help of several organizations including the Southern Highland Craft Guild, Hand Made in America, Kentucky Craft Marketing, and several state craft guilds.

Philis Alvic can be reached at 2815 Phoenix Road, Lexington, KY 40503; 859-276-0356 (phone); philisalvic@prodigy.net (email)

More New Members

Margaret Langdon
2621 Redwood St.
Anchorage, AK
99508-3972
907/277-5751
langdon@alaska.net

Iris Nunley
1360 W. Prairie Lake Rd.
Hastings, NE 68901

Mother Lode Weavers &
Spinners Guild
PO Box 1012
Sonora, CA 95370

Karen Pardee
2559 Nunnery Rd.
Skaneateles, NY 13152
315/673-0954
kbpardee@aol.com

Pinellas Weavers' Guild
Contact: Blythe Batten,
President
6157 29th Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
727/345-5384
abbatten@juno.com

Ann Rubin
afghans for Afghans
PO Box 47843
San Francisco, CA 94147
afghans4Afghans@aol.com

Andrea Sapon
6202 Oak Hollow Dr.
Oregon, WI 53575-3700

More New Members

Tryon Weavers Guild
Contact: Betsy Liljeberg
183 McKinley Rd.
Palatine Bridge, NY 13428
518/673-8057
pandbl@telenet.net

Weavers Guild
of St. Louis
Contact: Shanna Suttner
626 Sunbridge Dr.
Chesterfield, MO
63017-2617
314/453-9754
Dsner@aol.com

Welcome Back

Glenna Harris
Weavers Guild
Elaine Hill, Treasurer
381 Bluefield Dr.
San Jose, CA 95136-2106

Rocky Mountain
Weavers Guild
Leslie Parker, Treasurer
PO Box 22687
Denver, CO 80222

Updates

RUGMARK Foundation e-News

The following topics were addressed in the most recent issue of RUGMARK Foundation e-News.

1. Rugmark Exhibits At Atlanta International Area Rug Market
2. Rugmark International Offices Meet In Germany
3. Krishna Dong Lama: From Illiterate Child Weaver To Skilled Artist
4. Rugmark Nepal Prevents Child Weaving With Education Program
5. Rugmark Importers Launch New Websites
6. Rugmark Media Coverage
7. New U.S. Labor Department Report Released
8. Global March Celebrates Fifth Anniversary
9. Afghan Refugee Children Weave Rugs In Pakistan
10. Indian State Of Bihar Strives To Be "Child Labor-Free"

To read these articles, or to subscribe to the newsletter, contact the RUGMARK Foundation, 733 15th Street, Suite 912, Washington, DC 20005; 202/347-4205 (phone); 202/347-4885 (fax); www.rugmark.org (website). RUGMARK is a nonprofit organization working to end illegal child labor in the carpet industry and offer educational opportunities to children in India, Nepal, and Pakistan. The RUGMARK label is your best assurance that no illegal child labor was used in the manufacture of a carpet or rug.

Crafts Center e-News

The January Crafts Center e-newsletter contains a wealth of information, including

Job/Market/Funding Opportunities:

- Crafts Buyer Looking for Peruvian Products;
- Yarn Producers Needed;
- SERRV Looking for Consultants;
- Market Opportunity for Textiles, Jewelry;
- Foundation Seeks Artisan Grant Applicants;

Trade Shows/Events:

- Museum Store Association Annual Conference;
- Sixth Annual Fiber Arts Festival;

New Resources:

"10 Ways to Use Your Website to Promote Your Art";
and more.

For more information about these and other topics contact The Crafts Center at 1001 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1035, Washington, DC 20036-5528; 202/728-9603 (phone); 202/296-2452 (fax); info@craftscenter.org (email); www.craftscenter.org (website).

WARP on the Web

<http://www.weavershand.com/warp.html>

Education site: *[http://](http://www.warpeducation.homestead.com/)*

www.warpeducation.homestead.com/

MEMBER SURVEY - Please detach and mail today

Dear WARP Members:

Because only about 20 percent of WARP members attend our annual meetings in any given year, Board Members are interested in soliciting feedback from all members about WARP's activities and future goals. We will discuss the survey results at the annual meeting and summarize them in the next newsletter. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey, and **return it by MARCH 17 to: Marcia Bellas, 23 Marcell Ave., Barre, VT 05641.**

Those who complete the survey will be eligible to win an item from the International Marketplace at WARP's annual meeting! We will draw a name at the meeting from the names of those who complete the survey. You need not be present to win. Thank you!

The WARP Board (Cheryl, Donna, Hope, Mary, Sarah and Marcia)

Part I. Mechanics of the Organization

1. To what extent does WARP's newsletter meet your needs or interests?
(not at all) 1 2 3 4 (very much)

2. Can you suggest specific topics for newsletter articles or regular features?

3. To what extent does WARP's membership directory meet your needs or interests?
(not at all) 1 2 3 4 (very much)

4. To what extent does WARP's email listserve meet your needs or interests?
(not at all) 1 2 3 4 (very much)

5. Have you ever shown the WARP slide show to a group?
___ yes; ___ no;
___ I would like more information (name _____)

Part II. Annual Meetings

6. If you have been a WARP member for at least two years but have not attended a WARP meeting, please share your reasons with us (check all that apply):
___ expense; ___ cannot take time away from work or family;
___ not interested; ___ other—please specify

7. Are you interested in helping to arrange an annual meeting in your geographic area?
___ yes; ___ no;
I would like more information (name _____)

8. Can you suggest a theme or focus for a future annual meeting and for newsletters during that year?

Part III. Priorities

9. To what extent does WARP carry out its mission of “empowering women and communities-in-need through textile arts”?

(not at all) 1 2 3 4 (very much)

10. One of WARP’s purposes is to provide a network for those interested in, and those working toward, empowering women and communities-in-need through textile arts. To that end, the Board views increasing WARP’s size (network) as a goal. What do you see as WARP’s optimal size (current membership is around 225)? _____

11. If you think WARP should continue to increase its membership, can you suggest ways to accomplish this?

12. The Board is striving to provide a solid financial foundation for WARP by building an endowment (i.e., savings, from which we use only the interest). To what extent do you agree that this should be a priority for WARP?

(strongly disagree) 1 2 3 4 (strongly agree)

13. This year the Board introduced an on-line auction as a fundraising event. About 35 people donated items, 25 people placed bids. If you did not participate, please share your reasons with us.

Reason(s) did not donate item:

- ___ not a WARP member then
- ___ WARP member, but didn’t know about auction
- ___ did not have item to donate
- ___ not interested
- ___ other; specify _____

Reason(s) did not bid:

- ___ did not know about auction
- ___ not interested
- ___ financial constraints
- ___ nothing I wanted
- ___ did not have internet access
- ___ had internet access, but could not access auction website:
- type of computer _____
- internet software _____
- ___ other; specify _____

14. Would you be interested in donating an item to a future auction?

___ yes; ___ no; ___ maybe

15. Do you have suggestions for publicizing or otherwise increasing the success of the auction if it were to become an annual event?

16. In keeping with WARP’s mission and goals, are there any new directions you think the Board and Members should pursue?

17. Additional comments or suggestions (use another piece of paper if needed):

Unless you wish to remain anonymous, complete below for drawing.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Detach survey and return it by MARCH 17 to: Marcia Bellas, 23 Marcell Ave., Barre, VT 05641

Slide Show Keeps Moving...

Carole Pierce

The WARP slide show certainly did some traveling in 2002. It was shown at least 18 times, three of those times in Canada.

In 2003, the slide show has been to Florida, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin. It is scheduled for a showing in Ohio and two in California. Many groups have decided to join WARP because of the slide show.

If you haven't yet done so, plan now to show the slides to your church, civic organization, or textile guild. To make your slide show presentation even more interesting, consider having an UPAVIM sale (more information below) and "Help WARP, Guatemalan artisans, and your local community ...," while having a great deal of fun as well.

The slide show comes in a Kodak carousel, with an informative narrative, writings by WARP members, brochures, and WARP handouts. You are requested to pay for shipping to the next area (instructions are included).

To schedule the slide show in your community, contact Carole Pierce, 200 Peach Bloom Hill, Berea, KY 40403; 859/986-8666 (phone); cpierce@mis.net (email).

Host A Sale For Warp

UPAVIM Crafts and Mayan Hands make it easy to hold a sales event at your local church, office, home, or guild meeting. These two groups have generously offered to consign pre-priced fairly traded handcrafts from Guatemala to WARP members who wish to host a sale to benefit WARP. You get a box of handcrafted items, sell what you can, and return what is left with the income from the sale. All the profits, above wholesale cost (and minus shipping), will go to WARP. Help WARP, Guatemalan artisans, and your local community by having a consignment sale. Contact Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland (upavim-mayanhands@starpower.net or 301/515-5911) for more details.

Mayan Clothing Collection Display On The Web

A virtual exhibition of dozens of brightly colored Mayan textiles are now available for viewing in the first-ever online exhibition by the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. ***The Fabric of Mayan Life: An Exhibit of Textiles*** is a Web exhibition showcasing the museum's extensive collection of hand-made Mayan clothing, bags, and other textiles. The exhibit can be accessed at <http://www.snomnh.ou.edu/mediarelations/mayan.html>.

WARP Informational Fliers Available

If you would like copies of the WARP informational fliers to distribute to your guild or at local conferences, please contact the WARP office: Cheryl Musch, 3209 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI 53704; 608/244-7817 (phone); 305/768-8470 (fax); warp@yachana.org (email)

Heartfelt thanks to...

Ella Baker
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Stu & Babbie Cameron
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San Jose, California

...for their generous
donations to WARP.

Thanks to Judith Curby
and Gayle Smalley for
their donation in honor
of WARP member Cathy
Curby of Fairbanks,
Alaska.



Weave a Real Peace
 3102 Classen Boulevard
 PMB 249
 Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Please Complete Member Survey Today

What's in this newsletter ...

Crafts Development in Appalachia: A Brief History	1
From the WARP Office	2
It Might Not be Too Late to Register	2
Annual Meeting Schedule	2
Editor's Note	2
Member Profile - Iris Springflower: Dedicated to Helping People	3
Annual Meeting Agenda	3
Marketplace Reminder	3
Partnering to Support a Good Cause	4
The Challenge of Marketing Handcrafts	5
"Solar Energy: Powering Craft and Communities"	6
Textiles Techniques from Around the World: Palestinian Embroidery	6
<i>Textiles of Western Timor</i> now available, by Ruth Marie Yeager and Mark Ivan Jacobson	7
Congratulations to Lolli Jacobsen!	7
Medium Tech Marketing	8
Tours and Workshops led by WARP members	
Textile Traditions of Old Europe with Mary Kelly	9
Papermaking in Oaxaca, Mexico with Laura Strand	9
Moroccan Textiles Online	9
Dates to Remember	9
New Members and Welcome Back!	10, 11, 12
Letters	10, 11
Updates	
RUGMARK Foundation e-News	12
Crafts Center e-News	12
MEMBER SURVEY	13-14
Slide Show Keeps Moving	15
Host a Sale for WARP	15
Virtual Exhibit of Mayan Textiles	15