

WARP



WEAVE A REAL PEACE

Volume 10, Number 2

Summer 2003

afghans For Afghans: Providing Support, Friendship, Warm Clothes

Donna Druchunas and Ann Rubin

afghans for Afghans, a humanitarian and educational people-to-people project, was launched in late 2001 to help the beleaguered people of Afghanistan by providing them blankets and other warm garments. The organization also promotes appreciation of the country's rich textile heritage.

After learning more about Afghanistan through media reports and images, generous Americans and Canadians have been knitting and crocheting warm and colorful blankets, sweaters, vests, hats, mittens, and socks as tangible expressions of concern and a desire to extend friendship. In the last 18 months, several thousand gifts have been delivered to displaced Afghan women, men, and children.

The need remains tremendous; all are invited to participate. If you're short on time, consider making a group afghan or whipping up a quick hat or pair of mittens in a chunky yarn. Every item is valued. Your gift will bring comfort to Afghan families who continue to suffer from war, oppression, hunger, poverty, and sickness.

Our grassroots initiative works with the San Francisco office of the American Friends Service Committee to collect and sort, while World Concern handles the overseas transportation. For distribution, World Concern partners with local agencies in Central Asia. Generally, shipments are delivered to the northern part of the country.

Last December, *afghans for Afghans* partnered with Airline Ambassadors, a humanitarian group of airline staff who delivered handmade items to a childrens' rehabilitation center in Kabul. There are photos of the kids wearing the garments at <http://www.afghansforafghans.org/kabul1202.html>. Seeing the childrens' faces makes this all much more real. The Web site



Afghan boy wearing his new handknit sweater and cap stands under a mine safety poster at a rehab center in Kabul. December 2002.

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

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From the WARP Office....

Cheryl Musch, Administrative Coordinator

WARP members attending the annual meeting in North Carolina shared that the meeting gave them new energy and ideas. To give WARP members a more direct connection to textile communities-in-need, WARP is starting new programs to enhance our network. Read about our new sister-member program to bring more international members the benefits of WARP's network on page 11. And if you want to share funding needs for textile groups or to assist groups with the funds they need, you can participate through WARP's new Funding Connections column (page 6).

We are also excited about having a presence at Convergence 2004 in Denver. Thanks to Deborah Chandler who is coordinating this effort. For more information, see page 12.

WARP Seeks Board Nominees

Would you be a good candidate to serve on the board of WARP? This exciting opportunity can be yours! Mary Kelly and Donna Duke will complete their board terms in the spring of 2004 and we are seeking one or two new board members for three year terms beginning in May of 2004.

Many nonprofit organizations expect their board members to approve policy, give money, and leave the day-to-day running of the organization to an executive director. Since we don't have an executive director, WARP's board is able to play a more hands-on role. Cheryl Musch, WARP's administrative coordinator, very ably handles the mail and maintains the membership database, produces the directory, keeps the financial records, and coordinates on-going activities. However, she is only paid for six hours a week to do all of this. WARP's board members actually share the work that would be done by an executive director--making decisions and carrying out any projects they decide to implement. It is a wonderful way to directly shape WARP's future. If you have good ideas, enjoy networking and discussion with other members, want to get to know WARP better, and are willing to commit time and energy to the organization, this is a great opportunity for you!

Minimum requirements for being a WARP board member are 1) to have attended at least one annual meeting and 2) to be able and willing to use email on a daily basis, as this is the primary way the board communicates and does business. Previous nonprofit and/or board experience is preferred. Good organizational skills are an asset. Board members are also expected to attend the annual meetings, where the Board normally meets a few days prior to the member meeting.

If you are qualified and interested in being an active participant for this rewarding and fun opportunity we would love to hear from you! Please contact either Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland (upavim-mayanhands@starpower.net/301/972-5494) or Eileen Hallman (ehallman@buncombe.main.nc.us). We would like to hear from you by July 15th if you are interested. Nominees will be presented at the 2004 annual meeting.

WARP Governing Board

Marcia Bellas
23 Marcell Avenue
Barre, VT 05641
802/476-2320

marciabellas@juno.com

Term expires 2005

Donna Duke
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Term expires 2004

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Term expires 2004

Cheryl Musch
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warp@yachana.org

Term expires 2006

Sarah Saulson
105 Crawford Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13224
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Term expires 2005

Hope Thomas
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hthomas@conknet.com

Term expires 2005

From the beginning, WARP members have realized that we could not DO all that needed to be done to support the “self-empowerment and betterment of women and communities-in-need through textile arts.” However, we envisioned a role for a networking organization “to serve as a clearinghouse for information, resources, and technical assistance within the international textile community.”

There was a great deal of discussion about the mission of WARP at the recent Annual Meeting, and the Board decided there was a need to emphasize this networking role during the coming year. To highlight this theme, we will present a series of articles about how WARP members use networking to get things done, find information, and help themselves and others. The first article features the experiences of two members who participate in WARP’s listserv, Fred’s Threads, to interact with other members.

The Power Of Networking - Information Sharing In The Information Age

Mary B. Kelly

Giving and getting support and information is what WARP is all about. Many of our members interact with each other many times throughout the year, helping to clarify their work, goals, travel plans, and ideas. We hope you will enjoy the “testimonials” we elicited from some of the WARP members attending the recent annual meeting. As many of you know, the meeting begins with an introduction and sharing session by all of those attending. On that first evening, several identified themselves as networkers who use the Internet to find resources and email to contact one another.

Geri Forkner, of Weaving Arts Studio in Sweetwater, TN, is an accomplished weaving teacher who recently had the opportunity to travel to Thailand. Initially she was interested in visiting weavers who were designated as “national treasures” by the Thai government. Finding them and making the contacts was the difficult part.

Geri sent out a call for help to Fred’s Threads, WARP’s listserv, and was astonished by the many responses she received. Armed with the initial data, she followed up some of the suggestions on her arrival. Accompanied by her son, who was in Thailand as a university professor, and a translator, Geri traveled by train and stayed overnight so that it would be possible to visit weaving studios and interview an innovative weaving group. This particular group has changed the orientation of ikat weft to ikat warp so that it was possible to weave the patterns faster.

As a result of this trip, Geri was asked by the university to return and teach a workshop. Geri is interested in new directions in contemporary weaving and she was asked to share her weaving experience in the U.S. fashion industry with Thai students. Her three-day workshop was a great success. Once again, during this second visit, she visited weavers whose names and addresses she had obtained from WARP listserv members before she left. And again she was impressed by the quality and completeness of the information.

Apologies to

Sarah Saulson, whose name was inadvertently omitted from the board list in the Membership Directory. Sarah’s term began in 2002 and ends in 2005.

Take Note: WARP’s 2004 Annual Meeting

The 2004 Annual Meeting will be held April 23-25 at the Presentation Center in the Santa Cruz Mountains, outside of San Jose, California. More information will be forthcoming as details are confirmed. Anne Dunham is chairing the planning committee. If you can help, or have ideas to contribute, please contact Anne at 19090 Bohlman Road, Saratoga, CA 95070; 408/867-0133 (phone); annedunham@earthlink.net (email)

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Editor: Linda Temple

Send address corrections to:
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PMB 249
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

The deadline for contribu-
tions to the Fall WARP
newsletter is **August 29**. The
Fall newsletter will be mailed
in mid-September.

Send articles and copies of
correspondence for
the newsletter to:
Linda Temple
1230 NE 70
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
lgtemple@juno.com
(email)
405/478-4936 (phone)
413/622-1504 (fax)

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.

Fred's Threads - A Listserv

WARP's listserv, known as Fred's Threads ("Fred" means "peace" in Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish. Hence the name Fred's Threads - Threads of Peace), was established by Beth Davis as a Yahoo! Group in 2000. The list is unmoderated; all entries are automatically posted. Only WARP members can participate on the list.

To sign up for the list, go to Fred's Thread's Main Page on the Internet at: <http://www.yahogroups.com/list/WeaveARealPeace> and complete the requested information to register for YahooGroups! Don't forget your Password! Add the site to your 'bookmark' or 'favorites' list so you can find it again.

To access Fred's Threads on the web in the future, go to the main page, click on **Sign In**, enter your email address and password. Once on the site you can choose how you wish to receive messages (individual messages delivered directly to your mailbox, a daily "digest" of all emails delivered to your mailbox, or by reading the messages on the website). You can also post messages from this site, access archived message, and find a list of WARP members who participate on the listserv. Other options allow egroup members to start polls or to upload pictures. Remember, as on all listservs, messages go to ALL members. If you wish to communicate with one person on the list, you must address the message to that person's personal email address.

Networking: What WARP is About ***continued from page 3***

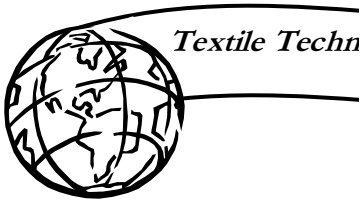
Thru networking, Geri learned about Thai weavers, made contact with them, and shared weaving techniques of U.S. weavers with students and weavers in Asia. She feels that the listserv is a good way to obtain information from members and hopes to use it again.

Another member, Adrienne Sloane, of Watertown, MA also networked through Fred's Threads. Adrienne is interested in Bolivian knitting and providing technical assistance to knitters. She says "WARP is a wonderful networking resource which I drew on for my recent trip to Bolivia, where I did some designing for a women's empowerment project."

A machine knitter, Adrienne wanted to experience another culture as a consultant. Initially, she contacted the WARP listserv and got LOTS of suggestions - what to take, who to see, what was important for her research. She also emailed other members in the United States about her project and received more suggestions. This allowed her to select a group of Bolivian weavers to help. She traveled to their town, conducted a three day workshop on knitting and shared many design ideas and techniques with the Bolivians. Networking is a way of life for Adrienne. She says, "I am looking to do more design work in the future."



Adrienne Sloane



Scottish Tartans

Unlike most other traditional textiles, the tartan tradition has not only survived in the western world, but has in fact grown and spread.

Prior to 1746, tartan designs were influenced by geographical location leading to district tartans rather than clan tartans. During the proscription days of 1746 to 1782, wearing tartans was unlawful. In all likelihood, the Proscription Act is responsible for the survival and continued popularity of the tartan, by turning it into an important symbol for the Highland clans, and inducing the birth of clan tartans as we know them.

The building-block of traditional tartans is a two-color undercheck, with overchecks of narrower bands of contrasting colors. The weave is a 2/2 (plain) twill, which yields fine diagonal ribs. Where bands of the same color in the warp and weft cross, the ribs form a block of solid color, whereas when the crossing bands are of two different colors, the ribs alternate in color. The tartan is formed by repeating the colored bands in the same order in the warp and weft.

While only locally obtained natural dyes were used originally, the colors varied in shade depending on availability. In the early 1800's, mass-production necessitated importation of natural dyes, and the colors became more uniform. The introduction of synthetic dyes in the 1850's, led to harsher and brighter colors. Nowadays, the softer, more faded looking "reproduction" colors are popular.

Traditionally, the yarn is a fine worsted wool, in order to produce a dense, weather-proof fabric. Using 2/20 or 2/16 worsted set at around 40 ends per inch is certainly considered acceptable for weaving your own "traditional" tartan.

Resources: "The Tartan Weaver's Guide" by James D. Scarlett; "The Weaver's Book of Scottish Tartans" by Harriet Tidball; <http://www.tartans.scotland.net>; <http://www.tartansauthority.com/>

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

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.

Weave A Real Peace

Membership Information

2003 Annual Dues

\$10 (simple living)

\$20 (U.S. and Canada)

\$25 (international;
sister memberships)

\$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
PMB 249
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Advertise with us!

Perhaps you've noticed that WARP has had a few paid advertisements in the newsletter since we started providing this service earlier this year. Please consider purchasing an ad to announce upcoming tours and workshops, and to publicize books and other items that you want to sell. The modest cost of the advertisements helps pay for the escalating postage and printing costs.

Ad rates are on page 5.

Funding Connections

Cheryl Musch

WARP members have asked the Board about giving grants to weavers, spinners, and knitters around the world to meet their needs for equipment or training. Although WARP, as a networking organization, does not provide direct funding, we want to introduce this new column as a way to share needs that some of you may be able to meet. This forum will provide a person-to-person or group-to-group connection to get funding or other support to textile artisans who need it. The WARP office will facilitate the communication process, but the funding will go directly from funders to the groups in need. We do not endorse any of the projects listed, and space for project listings is limited.

If you have a funding request or can meet these needs, contact Cheryl Musch at the WARP office (see page 2). We request that you contact the listed groups directly, but please keep the office informed of any funding or other support you may be able to provide.

The **Nanyuki Spinners & Weavers in Kenya** are in need of \$608 to repair a solar heater used for washing and dyeing wool. Spinning and weaving are the sole income for this group of 100 women weavers who live in the largest slums of East Africa. Contact Annah Warutere, Project Director, Nanyuki Spinners & Weavers, PO Box 25, Nanyuki, Kenya; email: pceansw@gt.co.ke; phone: 011-254-62-32062.

The **Leprosy Rural Rehabilitation Center** is in need of \$160 each for 6 looms (\$960). The looms at the project are old and broken down. They have been able to temporarily recondition three of the six broken looms, but are in need of new looms for the 15 artisans who do production weaving for income generation. Contact Dr. V. Purushothaman (VeePee), International Foundation for Fair Trade & Development (IFFAD), W-124 (2nd floor) III Avenue, Anna Nagar, Chennai, 600 040, Tamil Nadu, India; email: iffad@vsnl.com; phone: 011-9144-2628-0575; fax: 011-9144-2620-4949.



Most of the WARP Board relaxing on the veranda during the 2003 Annual Meeting at Black Mountain, NC. From left to right: Hope Thomas, Sarah Saulson, Marcia Bellas, Donna Duke, and Cheryl Musch.

photo by Mary Kelly

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)

Special Section: 2002 Annual Report/
2003 Annual Meeting



2002: The Year in Review

Membership - WARP's total membership in 2002 was 258, up from 221 in 2001. WARP has experienced slow and steady growth for the last several years. The board decided to raise membership fees for the first time in WARP's history effective in 2003. New membership rates are listed on page 5.

Annual Meeting - Our 10th anniversary annual meeting was held May 10-12 at the Black Forest Camp in Colorado Springs. In 1992, WARP was founded in Colorado, and for our 10th anniversary, we returned to our roots.

Auction - WARP's first-ever online auction made more than \$1700 for WARP. Thanks to the 25 donors and 17 buyers, as well as Marcia Bellas and Mary Kelly who did a great job planning and managing the auction.

Newsletter - Our newsletter continues to be a highly-praised and visible means of communicating with members. Thanks to newsletter editor Linda Temple who produced four outstanding issues in 2002.

Directory - 2002 brought another great member directory full of fascinating information about WARP members.

Slide Show - After being updated by Marcia Bellas, the slide show was used by 18 groups in 2002. Three of those showings were in Canada. Thanks to Marcia for the updates and to Carole Pierce for coordinating the scheduling and mailing of the show.

WARP on the Web - Thanks again to Janis Saunders for maintaining WARP's web site at www.weavershand.com/warp.html. From our site there are links to WARP's education web site and to related textile projects.

Fred's Threads - WARP's e-list Fred's Threads has continued to thrive with member discussion. About 175 WARP members are subscribed to this e-list.

Governing Board - The year began with a Governing Board that included Marcia Bellas, Donna Duke, Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland, Mary Kelly, and Cheryl Musch. At the annual meeting in March, Mary Joan completed her board term, and Sarah Saulson and Hope Thomas were elected to the board.

Administrative Coordinator - Cheryl Musch has continued as WARP's administrative coordinator. Cheryl has been in this position since June 2000.

*2003 Annual Meeting Continues
Tradition of Learning, Networking*

Twenty-nine WARP members gathered in Black Mountain, North Carolina for the Eleventh Annual WARP Meeting from April 24-26. The theme of the conference was craft development in the Southern Appalachian area.

Several guest speakers spoke about current activities to promote craft activities in the region, including Becky Anderson, Handmade In America; Ginny Daley, Southern Highland Craft Guild; Susan Leveille, Oaks Gallery; Beth Allison, Penland School; Jeff Brown, Arrowmont School; and Catharine Ellis, Haywood Community College. Slides and films from various craft schools—Arrowmont, Haywood Community College, John Campbell Folk School, and Penland Craft School—clarified the differences in mission and focus of these institutions.

As the speakers and the films described the early organizations of Southern Appalachian crafts, the parallels with other community development were obvious. These early leaders had shoestring funding (and the weavers had even less), but their faith in the mission kept them moving forward. After first acceptance of their products, the workers saw that marketing had to be a primary focus. The

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Special Section: 2002 Annual Report/
2003 Annual Meeting



WARP Business Meeting - 6/6/2003

minutes by Marcia Bellas

WARP's annual business meeting took place on Sunday morning, April 6, 2003. After members approved the minutes from last year's meeting, Marcia Bellas reviewed WARP's accomplishments in 2002. These include the annual meeting at Black Forest Camp in New Hampshire, four editions of the newsletter, and our member directory. We also made significant progress on a new WARP brochure. The WARP slide show was shown 18 times during the year, and we had a successful year of fundraising. UPAVIM sales continue to be an important source of revenue for WARP, generating \$3,400 last year, and we held our first online textile auction, which raised \$1,700. Our membership grew by 37 people. We accomplished much in 2002, and thank all who made these things possible.

Meeting attendees next reviewed the financial report presented by Cheryl Musch. Expenses totaled \$15,149.62 and income totaled \$17,225.15. Cheryl announced that the Board voted to permanently move \$5,000 to the endowment fund (savings). Consequently, our endowment fund now stands at around \$15,000. Next on the meeting agenda was election of new board members. The term of one board member, Cheryl Musch, expired. Cheryl agreed to fill a second three-year term, and was enthusiastically re-elected.

Mary Kelly outlined WARP's goals for the coming year. In addition to continuing our established activities of producing newsletters and an annual membership directory, we plan to hold a membership drive after the new brochure is complete. In conjunction with this, we are starting a "Sister Member" program through which current WARP members can sponsor a new international member (see article on page 11). We will continue fundraising activities via UPAVIM sales and another online auction to be held in October.

We also discussed producing a WARP video from the existing slide show. Members endorsed this effort to increase media options for those interested in learning more about WARP. WARP will have a commercial booth at Convergence in 2004, coordinated by Deborah Chandler. Thanks to Anne Dunham, plans are underway for WARP's 2004 annual meeting, which will be held in Northern California. To emphasize WARP's function as a networking organization, the theme for the meeting and the coming year is "The Power of Networking."

2003 Annual Meeting
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customers had to be considered in the development of new products, and more importantly, the producers had to travel to major markets for exposure. This familiar scenario quickly shifted in the listeners' minds from Southern Appalachia to the countries and programs many WARP members are concerned with.

Marketplace, the International Market held at each WARP meeting, was once again a success, with a dozen vendors selling crafts and books from all over the world. Vendor contributions to WARP totalled \$220.

What impressions did folks have of the weekend? Many mentioned that the diversity of WARP members is stimulating, inspiring, and energizing. Barbara Bergman learned of a way to achieve non-profit status for the work she does with Shipibo Indians. Karen Piegorsch remarked that the speakers "related so directly to resources I need that it seemed the program had been designed just for me."

The 2003 Annual Meeting planning committee--Philis Alvic, Sandi Basel, Eileen Hallman, Mary Kelly and Donna Duke--did an excellent job of making the WARP meeting another memorable event.

Special Section: 2002 Annual Report/
2003 Annual Meeting



Weave A Real Peace
2002 Financial Report

WARP Checking Account
1/1/02-12/31/02

Income

2002 Due	\$4,288.00
2003 and beyond Dues	782.00
2002 Meeting Fees	4,615.00
Annual Meeting Vendor Income	353.20
Online auction	1,727.50
Donations - general	1,540.00
Donations from slide show	175.00
Strengthening the WARP	340.00
UPAVIM/Mayan Hands sales	3,404.45

Total Income **\$17,225.15**

Expenses

2002 Annual Meeting	\$4,227.71
2002 Board Meeting	703.86
2003 Annual Meeting	600.00
Staff salary	5,100.00
Member Directory	1,353.01
Newsletter	1,946.59
Mail Service	300.00
Auction refund	21.00
Office supplies	21.92
Postage	232.85
Slide show	103.84
Copies	31.84
Deposit to Endowment Fund	507.00

Total Expenses \$15,149.62

Total Income/Expenses **\$2,075.53**

Summary of Checking Account

1/1/02 Balance	\$10,070.94
Income/Expenses	\$2,075.53
12/31/02 Balance	\$12,146.47

**WARP Money Market Account/
Endowment Fund - 1/1/02-12/31/02**

Income

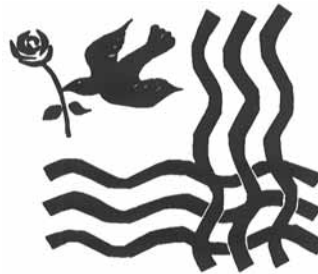
Endowment - 10% membership	\$507.00
Endowment - donations	2,100.00
Interest earned	147.20
Net Income	\$2,754.20

1/1/02 Balance	\$12,551.42
Net Income	2,754.20
12/31/02 Balance	\$15,305.62

In early 2003, \$5,000 from general fund which had been held in the endowment fund was permanently transferred to the endowment fund. These numbers reflect that \$5,000 that had been held in the endowment fund which now are a permanent part of that fund.

Cumulative Totals for FY2002

Checking balance 12/31/02	\$12,146.47
Endowment balance 12/31/02	15,305.62
Total cash on hand 12/31/02	\$27,451.83



**SERRV Seeks
Volunteer for
Spinning & Weaving
Project in Kenya**

SERRV International is seeking a volunteer for a two-month project with the Nanyuki Spinners & Weavers in northern Kenya. The ideal candidate will be able to work with women to improve all aspects of production including washing, spinning, dyeing, and weaving wool. Product development skills are essential. SERRV covers expenses (including transportation) and the volunteer lives on-site at the project. Seeking volunteer for two consecutive months in October - December, 2003. For more information, contact Cheryl Musch, Producer Relations Coordinator, SERRV International, 122 State St., Suite 600, Madison, WI 53703; 608/255-0440 (phone); 608/255-0451 (fax); cherylserrv@aol.com (email)

Recent Survey Gives WARP Board Valuable Input From Members

Marcia Bellas

Forty-two people responded to the member survey that was printed in the last newsletter and distributed at the annual meeting. Those who completed the survey were eligible to participate in a drawing for a package of Marilyn Anderson's note cards. The winner was Carlona Coker. The survey asked for feedback on the mechanics of the organization, annual meetings, priorities, and future directions.

Mechanics of the Organization. Asked to indicate on a scale of 1-4 (with 1 being "not at all" and 4 being "very much") the extent to which the newsletter, membership directory, and e-mail listserve meets their needs, average responses were 3.8 for the newsletter, 3.4 for the membership directory, and 2.6 for the listserve. Many people had suggestions for newsletter articles or regular features, which have been passed on to the newsletter editor and to Board members. Seventeen respondents indicated that they had shown WARP's slide show (contact Carole Pierce if you are interested in doing so or would like more information).

Annual Meeting. The survey asked those who were WARP members, but had not been to an annual meeting during the past two years, to share their reasons for not attending. Sixteen respondents indicated that expense was a factor, nine said that they could not take time away from work or family, two said they were not interested, and two indicated some other reason. A number of people expressed interest in helping to arrange an annual meeting, although most did not want to assume primary responsibility.

Priorities. Asked to indicate the extent to which WARP carries out its mission of "empowering women and communities-in-need through textile arts," the average response was 3.4 on the same 1-4 scale, with 1 being "not at all" and 4 being "very much." All but two respondents thought WARP should increase its membership size and therefore its networking capabilities. Suggested ideal membership numbers were 300 (2 respondents); less than 500 (1); 500 (6); 1000 (1); 2000 (1); and unlimited (12). Thus, the consensus among respondents seems to be that the WARP membership should continue to grow, something that will likely increase administrative costs in time. Respondents offered many suggestions for increasing WARP's membership, including advertising in magazines, at Convergence and other textile shows, in fiber and fabric stores, college and university textile departments, and among guilds and friends. Your help is needed to make these things happen! See the article on page 11 about WARP's new Sister Member program, designed to increase our international membership.

Asked to indicate the extent of their agreement with the Board's priority of providing a solid financial foundation for WARP by building its endowment (a savings account of which only the interest is used as income so that we can reduce the

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Sisterhood is Powerful! WARP Initiates Sister-Member Program

Sarah Saulson

At this year's annual meeting WARP's new Sister-Member program made its debut. By purchasing a Sister-Membership for an international textile cooperative or individual, WARP members can help provide those groups a link to our supportive, knowledgeable, connected community. We think they will find the newsletter as inspiring as we do, and articles about other producer groups may be especially empowering to sister-members. If you would like to participate, and don't have a personal contact already, don't worry! Cheryl Musch, WARP's administrative coordinator, can help. As Producer Relations Manager at SERRV International, she can suggest groups that would benefit from a WARP membership. Contact her if you would like her help with selecting a sister member (contact information page 2).

To support the Sister-Member program, we now have an International Membership category of \$25. This is \$5 more than a regular membership, to cover the additional costs of mailing the newsletter and directory overseas.

Many WARP members are interested in providing direct assistance to textile artisans in the developing world. The Sister-Member program provides an opportunity to help artisans while strengthening, expanding, and diversifying the WARP network as well.

Member Survey Results

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need for fundraising), responses averaged 3.3 on a scale of 1 ("strongly disagree") to 4 ("strongly agree").

Three questions dealt specifically with WARP's first on-line auction, and responses will be used to improve this year's auction (see article and advertisement on pages 12 and 14).

Finally, some respondents made suggestions for future directions, including a scholarship/grants program, regional meetings, more cross-cultural exchange, exhibits, and shows and sales with WARP sponsorship. Additional suggestions dealt specifically with the annual meeting. The Board discussed some of these suggestions at its meeting in Asheville, and has already implemented several of them. It became clear from the survey that the organization needs to provide more orientation materials to new members (Cheryl Musch is currently working on this), and to continually reinforce our mission and purpose to avoid misunderstandings among the membership.

Updated WARP slide show keeps moving..

The WARP slide show continues to travel. It will be going to Berkeley, CA, Lake Orion, MI, and Wallingford, PA through July. **Reserve now for fall meetings.**

There are new slides of a group of weavers from Chinchero, Peru. The slides show the whole process, from spinning to dyeing, weaving, and the finished product. These weavers are a group that Nilda Callanaupa is working with to help preserve traditional weaving techniques.

The show comes to you 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 user (instructions are included).

To make the slide show experience even better, consider having a sale of unique items from Guatemala (see page 13). To request the slide show, contact Carole Pierce, 200 Peach Bloom Hill, Berea, KY 40403; 859/986-8666; cpierce@mis.net

WARP on the Web

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

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

www.warpeducation.homestead.com/

*Off the beaten track
textiles and fiberarts of
Oaxaca, Mexico*

Trips this summer:

ZAPOTEC FIBER
TRADITIONS
The Sierra Madre and Great
Valley of Oaxaca,
August 16-24

MIXTEC FIBER
TRADITIONS
The Ancient Realms of the
Oaxacan Cloud People,
September 28-October 5th

For more information
about any of these journeys
see www.manos-de-oaxaca.com or write
Eric Mindling at
rayeric@RNET.com.mx;
Apto Postal 1452
Oaxaca, Oax.
cp 68000
Mexico
011 52/951/547-4534
(phone)
011 52/951/521-4186 (fax)

Second Textile Auction in October!

Marcia Bellas

We were pleased with the results of WARP's first online textile auction, which raised \$1700, so we're going to do it again! The second textile auction will be held October 11-26, 2003 to raise money for operating expenses (dues cover only the expense of newsletters and the membership directory, not the administrative coordinator's modest salary). We plan to improve the mechanics of the auction this year by posting high bids daily on the web site. Note that the auction does not require (or accept) credit cards. You simply email your bid to Marcia Bellas, and then send a check if you are the high bidder at the auction's end.

We are currently soliciting donations for the auction. Last year, international textiles sold better than items woven by members, but we are grateful for either. Donations are tax-deductible. Please let Marcia Bellas know if you will have an item to donate (contact information on page 2). You will need to send a picture, a short description, and a minimum bid for the item to Mary Kelly by September 30 (contact information on page 2). Mary will post the picture and description on the auction website.

We hope that you will not only donate an item and/or participate in the bidding, but also help us advertise this event. Last year 25 people placed bids, and we would like to increase that number substantially this year. Please let guild members, friends, family, fiber and fabric stores, and anyone else you can think of know about this event. You can make copies of the ad in this issue of WARP's newsletter, or contact Mary Kelly if you would like an electronic copy of the ad. **Thank you for helping to make our next auction a success!**

WARP To Have Commercial Exhibit Space at Convergence 2004 in Denver

WARP is planning to have a commercial exhibit booth at Convergence 2004, a biennial international fiber conference sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America. Convergence 2004, to be held in Denver, Colorado from June 30 - July 3, features "world class fiber instructors and artists, the largest and most varied selection of choices in workshops, tours, classes and exhibits of any fiber conference to date." Although the learning opportunities are extraordinary, many Convergence participants agree that the commercial exhibits are their favorite part of the conference. Generally, about 2,000 participants from all over the world attend this event.

Participants in the WARP booth at Convergence 2000 sold over \$13,000 in goods. WARP receives a small commission from each sale, and sales at Convergence 2000 netted the organization over \$1600. This is a fantastic opportunity for WARP members to sell items from the artisan groups with whom they are working. And it is great fun besides!

The cost per participant will be determined after we know how many will be involved. WARP members who are interested in participating in the booth can contact Deborah Chandler, PO Box 591828/M131, Miami, FL 33159-1828; deborahwf@aol.com (email).

UPAVIM and Mayan Hands Will Continue Partnership to Help Artisans and WARP

As you will notice in the 2002 Financial Report, UPAVIM Crafts and Mayan Hands sales netted WARP over \$3400 last year. These two groups have generously agreed to continue 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.

afghans for Afghans

continued from page 1

also has due dates, shipping addresses, and program details. Please note that used items cannot be accepted.

afghans for Afghans is also delighted to present Afghan-themed knitting patterns to promote Afghan culture and to raise funds for the *afghans for Afghans* project and to support literacy classes for widows in Kabul. Currently, patterns for traditional Afghan socks, a handsome vest for men, and the interpretive 'Friday Mosque at Herat' sweater for children are available. Working the patterns brings knitters closer together in spirit with Afghan women and reminds us that the Afghan people have a rich culture and magnificent textile traditions. Patterns may be purchased from the *afghans for Afghans* Web site.

We extend our gratitude to all who have been involved, and eagerly welcome new participants. We also invite you to help spread the word to others – we have a handy downloadable PDF flyer linked from the left side of our home page.

We will not forget the Afghan people as long as volunteers continue to send in handmade blankets and garments. Please email afghans4Afghans@aol.com if you have questions after reviewing our website (<http://www.afghansforafghans.org>).

New Sister-Member

Vanna Bujalter
Beruti 3538 - 7th 20
(1425) Ciudad Autonoma
de Buenos Aires
Argentina
vaninabujalter@ciudad.com.ar

Navajo Weaving Classes in Arizona

Navajo Weaving at Canyon
de Chelley National
Monument, Chinle, AZ,
June 21-July 2, 2003.

Twelve-day class by a
Navajo family who shares
their skills with interested
learners. Contact Bonnie
Julson, 719/783-0600 for
more information.

Making and Using Ritual Cloths



Mary B. Kelly

Just Published... this how-to book gives you many photos, charts and ideas for creating powerful and beautiful cloths for ritual gatherings. Practical advice on transfer and stitching as well as a general history of how ritual cloths have been used in traditional cultures round out this 100 page book.

***Now available for WARP members at \$5. off. \$25.00 postpaid.
Send check to: STUDIOBOOKS BOX 23, MCLEAN, NY 13102***

paid advertisement

Letters

I am working with a women's empowerment NGO in Northern Ghana, called CENSUDI (Center for Sustainable Development). Madame Lawrencia is running a weaving studio where she trains teen-aged girls forced to leave school to weave. Some of her young apprentices have finished the program in her studio and are now setting up their own weaving studios. They are very much in need of 18-dent reeds. If anyone has reeds they would be willing to donate, I would be most grateful if you would contact me. Sarah Saulson, 105 Crawford Ave.; Syracuse, NY 13224; sfsaulson@aol.com (email); 315/449-9423 (phone).

I have updated and published my book, *Maya Hair Sashes Backstrap Woven in Jacaltenango/Cintas mayas tejidas con el telar de cintura en Jacaltenango, Guatemala*, as a paperback and am trying to get the word out about it. There is more information on my web page at <http://plato.ess.tntech.edu/cventura/hairsashes.html>

Maya Hair Sashes Backstrap Woven in Jacaltenango/Cintas mayas tejidas con el telar de cintura en Jacaltenango, Guatemala, is a bilingual book (English and Spanish) that features the Jakalteek backstrap loom, backstrap weaving, and the beautiful hair sashes of the Jakalteek women, from both anthropological and artistic perspectives. The 176 page paperback book includes 38 illustrations, 116 black and white photographs, and 15 color photographs. *Maya Hair Sashes* is available through Amazon.com or you may order a signed copy by sending a check or money order for \$30 (free shipping in the U.S.) to me: Carol Ventura, 163 Big Spring Circle, Cookeville, TN 38501

To see artists from Poland, Cameroon, Mexico and Canada, please look at my web page at: <http://plato.ess.tntech.edu/cventura/>

New members

Margaret C. Burleigh
2050 E. Edgewood Dr.
I-57
Lakeland, FL 33803
863/665-7267

Julie Anne Green
4600 Old State Road
McKean, PA 16426

Ruth Polishuk
348 Sam Stokes Rd.
Starksboro, VT 05487
802/453-5849
starkraven@gmavt.net

Denise Richards
224 Meadow Lane
Orangeville, PA 17859

Rebekah Robson-May
418 Goldeneye Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80526
970/226-3590
rerobson@mtholyoke.edu

Mark Your Calendars!

The Second Annual WARP online

auction of ethnic textiles

donated by members will be held

October 11 - 26th, 2003

Visit the auction website during those dates at

www.warpeducation.homestead.com

and click on the auction button

Auction items priced for all budgets.

No credit card purchases - successful bidders pay by check

Member Profiles...

Sue Caskey

Philis Alvic: Emphasizes Good Quality, Good Design in Handcraft Consultations

Philis Alvic lives in Lexington, Kentucky, and has been a member of WARP since 1999. As a crafts marketing consultant, she has worked in Peru, Morocco, Nepal, India, and Armenia. She decided to join WARP after a trip to Nepal with Hope Thomas, during which Philis provided marketing assistance to rabbit farmers.

Philis studied art education at the Art Institute of Chicago, and also began studying weaving. She started her international marketing efforts when the International Executive Service Corps called her to go to Peru as a technical advisor for weaving. She also provided consulting to the Moroccan handicraft bureau on marketing for export.

Philis has been a weaver primarily since the 1960's. In addition to making wall pieces for display and shows, she also writes on weaving and weaving techniques. She has recently finished a book about weaving centers in Appalachia entitled *Weavers of the Southern Highlands*. The book focuses on weaving centers started over 100 years ago with the purpose of helping women earn income from their crafts.

She has worked internationally as a volunteer consultant on craft marketing through two agencies, Winrock International (the Farmer to Farmer program) and the International Executive Service Corps. In the past several years, Philis has been to Armenia for four projects, including work with rug cooperatives, planning and developing a book on Armenia crafts, and helping with tourism development.

Philis' focus is assisting people in development of the tourist market in their own countries, as in the projects where she has provided her marketing expertise to rabbit farmers in both Nepal and India. "Textile products are agricultural products, but are only beneficial if there is a need for the fibers," she says. She likes to emphasize: "Good quality, good design."

WARP has been instrumental to her through access to knowledgeable members who have freely provided information and personal contacts in countries where Philis has worked. She also notes that WARP members have provided inspiration and encouragement for all of her work.

Philis can be reached by email at philisalvic@prodigy.net, or by snail mail at 2815 Phoenix Road, Lexington Kentucky, 40503.



Philis Alvic

More New Members

Trisha Terwilliger
715 Coastal Road
Brooksville, ME 04617
207/326-0713
innerscapes@downeast.net

LuAnne Thompson
5159 Lakeside Dr.
Greendale, WI 53129
414/421-0663
luannethompson@mac.com

Kimberley Joy Turner
125 Joe Jenkins Rd.
Fairview, NC 28730
828/628-4862

Kathleen H. Waln
211 E. Virginia Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741-2106
626/963-7192
khwaln@hotmail.com

Karen Watkins
204 Sang Branch Rd.
Burnsville, NC 28714
828/682-9263

Nina Suntzeff Zagaris
Indianapolis Art Center
820 E. 67th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46220
317/255-2464 x256
nzagaris@indplsartcenter.org

Welcome Back!

Marjory Rea
PO Box 6111
Sheridan, WY 82801
307/672-2796
snowinsummer@vcn.com

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.



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

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