

WARP



WEAVE A REAL PEACE

Volume 18, Number 4

Winter 2011

WARP's 2012 Annual Meeting Celebrates 20th Year!

Editor's Note: WARP was founded in 1992 because Deborah Chandler, then working for Pueblo to People, wanted to "have her own conference," to gather together people to "listen, share ideas, learn from each other, see how we can take some next steps together. The general subject is weavers here," she wrote, "weavers in developing countries, other craftswomen (and men), starting projects, etc." Deborah did, in fact, organize such a gathering at Convergence 1992 in Washington, DC.



Under the rainbow - attendees at first WARP meeting in 1992. From left: Anne Murray, Linda Temple, Janis Downs, Deborah Chandler, Beth Davis, Margie Rea



Elizabeth Harvat's cabin, north of Denver, was site of first WARP meeting. Elizabeth is sitting in the

That original group decided to meet again in August to talk some more. We met at Elizabeth Harvat's cabin in the mountains north of Denver, and decided that getting together once a year, while

fabulous, wasn't enough. WARP was born.

The annual meeting is still one of the most important functions of the organization and realizes several of WARP's core values:

- *Networking and sharing information [to] create an environment for constructive action*
- *Making connections among textile artisans worldwide [to] promote positive social change*
- *Interacting with people who have similar values [to] enrich our lives.*

Cindy Lair

The 2012 meeting promises to be another great opportunity to meet these goals. Reflection and Renewal, WARP's 20th Anniversary Meeting, will take place May 17th through 20th in Boulder, CO, at the Outlook Hotel and Conference Center.

This conference will strive to meet specific requests made by members over the last several years: less driving, in a city, in Colorado for the 20th anniversary, more time, and with a focus on networking within the membership.

In order to fulfill these requests the conference for this year will have a registration fee of \$125, while members will be responsible for their lodging and majority of meals. The Outlook Hotel, www.outlookhotel.com, has agreed to charge \$89.00 per room with two double beds, and includes breakfast. The hotel is centrally located in Boulder. Please contact me if you have questions, laircowgirl@msn.com.

The opportunity arose to partner with the Colorado Weaver's Day, since at least two of our members were coming to speak. It simply made sense to include this dynamic program for our conference attendees. The speakers include Deborah Chandler, Sarah Saulson, Anita Luvera Mayer, and Edwina Bringle. You must register separately at www.rmweaversguild.org/index.html to attend Weavers' Day. The cost is \$45.00

continued on page 10

Mission

WARP serves as a catalyst for improving the quality of life of textile artisans in communities-in-need. We provide information and networking opportunities to individuals and organizations who value the social, cultural, historic, and artistic importance of textiles around the world.

Core Values

Textiles are an important component of the human experience.

Providing support to textile artisans from communities-in-need gives them tools to shape their own destinies.

Networking and sharing information creates an environment for constructive action.

Making connections among textile artisans worldwide promotes positive social change.

Interacting with people who have similar values enriches our lives.



WARP Newsletter

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Editor: Linda Temple

Send address corrections to:

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or mail to
WARP

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The deadline for
contributions to the
Spring issue of the WARP
newsletter is
March 9, 2012.

Send articles and
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the newsletter to:

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edited or shortened at the
discretion of the editor.

WARP Accepting Applicants for Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship

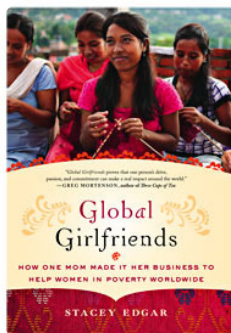
Each year WARP awards at least one Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship for students to attend our annual meeting. Alice Brown was a generous WARP member who had the foresight to donate the funds to establish the scholarship. Now, other members are helping to make the fund both sustainable and greater in scope (registration form on page 11 provides donation opportunity, even if you can't attend the meeting). Those of you who have attended meetings since 2008 know how much these special young people have added to the event. The scholarship covers meeting registration fee, hotel, and a small food stipend. Please also help by spreading the word that it is time to apply

again! The recipients should be 35 years old or under and be pursuing a career path related to textiles. The ideal candidates should be either a full or part-time student, or a recent graduate. The committee will also consider applicants pursuing non-traditional career paths. The application can be downloaded from the WARP website (www.weavearealpeace.org). Go to the main menu at the top of the page, click on About, and then click on Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship to download a copy of the application. Interested professors and students can also e-mail Sarah Saulson with questions or to receive the application (sfsaulson@twcny.rr.com). The application deadline is March 1, 2012.

Book Review...*Global Girlfriends*, by Stacey Edgar

reviewed by Kate Keegan

Global Girlfriends deserves a place on your bookshelf. In this inspirational book, Stacey Edgar relates her personal story of



building a base-
ment business into
a multi-million dol-
lar global enterprise.
Fueled by a passion
to make a difference,
she knew the only
way to promote real
change in the world
was to change eco-
nomic opportunities

for women. Of the 1.3 billion people living worldwide on less than \$1 a day, 70% or 900 million are women. In 2003 she parlayed a \$2,000 tax refund into a socially conscious business that supported women on five continents within eight years.

She calls women helping women through commerce 'she-economy.' "When women have an income, they reinvest it in their children's health, nutrition, and education, creating stronger families and communities over time. I wanted to help women earn that income." Knowing that in the US more than

half of all purchases are controlled by women, Edgar recognized that she needed to connect these American women with women in need. "Global Girlfriends was created to be a conduit, connecting talented but poor women artisans with conscious and compassionate women customers in the US."

Edgar bases her business on three values: women-made, fair trade, eco-friendly products. To insure the success of these business arrangements, she equips the groups she buys from with basic business skills and development strategies. Her objective is to create long-range partnerships that benefit both partners.

If we want to change the world, Stacey Edgar challenges us to acknowledge our passion and jump in. She gives five suggestions to start: learn about women in poverty, stop learning and just do it, start local, go global, be you. Her book ends with "You are what the world needs now. Together we can make a difference – with a little help from our girlfriends, of course."

Global Girlfriends is available for purchase at www.globalgirlfriends.com for \$15.00.

Hand to Hand Seeks Input from Membership



The Hand to Hand committee (Jackie Abrams, Susan Davis, Candy Meacham, and Cindy Lair) have been working on various aspects of the program.

Our original concept of Hand to Hand (H2H) was as a WARP initiative that attempts to link textile groups in the US to textile groups in other countries for mutual support and learning. While some WARP members do this as individuals, the Board thought H2H would give more people and/or guilds an opportunity for hands-on experience with textile groups outside the US. The Newsletter has profiled two overseas groups that would like to interact with WARP members, but to date no one has come forward. One member said that when she saw the help requested, for example with marketing and design, she was intimidated and felt she and her group did not have those skills to share. In conversations with her and one overseas group, both said they felt it would be good to start with basic things like an exchange of letters or emails and some photos, of their homes, families, and textile products...and see where the relationship goes from there.

The committee has also come up with an expanded concept of H2H, which is that it could work with refugee groups in the US who are involved with textiles. While dis-

tance, language, and technology can make it difficult to communicate with overseas groups, refugee groups will have some members who know English, and they are much closer and thus easier to meet and communicate with. If the relationship were to evolve in that direction, members could help market their work without customs problems.

We have considered reaching out to two types of groups in a large way: using a 65 page list of US guilds on one hand, and contacting a large number of refugee groups through their newsletters on the other. However given the limited response to H2H so far, we are concerned that by soliciting interest from refugee groups we could be overwhelmed with participation requests and might not have an equal number of guilds who would be interested in H2H. Because of this concern we have not moved forward. We are at a point when we really need to hear members' opinions on this initiative.

The committee would like to hear from YOU and what you think about the H2H initiative. Is there a particular way you would like to interact with textile groups from other cultures? Would working with refugees in the US interest you? Let us know by emailing Susan Davis at sdavis@uslink.net with the subject line 'H2H reply.' We'd love to have your input and will include it in our next column here.

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Weave A Real Peace

www.weavearealpeace.org
Membership Information

2012 Annual Dues

- * \$35 - Individual, U.S. and Canada
- * \$40 - Individual, international and sister memberships
- * Simple living - Choose an amount you can live with
- * \$50 - Group/supporting
- * \$100+ - Patron/donor

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

Members receive an annual Membership Directory, a quarterly newsletter, and can participate in the WARP listserv.

Dues are used for printing, mailing, and office expenses. Weave A Real Peace (WARP) is designated a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. All donations to WARP are tax deductible in the United States.

For membership or additional information, please send your name, address, telephone number, and email address with appropriate check, money order, or Paypal information in [US funds](#) payable to WARP to:

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

or join online at
www.weavearealpeace.org

From the WARP Office...

Judy Allen, Administrative Coordinator

The year is drawing to a close and for WARP members that means our membership year is coming to an end as well. We hope you have benefited from stories in the newsletter, contacts you made on one of the social networks, new friends you met at the annual meeting, information you exchanged on the WARP Yahoo Discussion Group, or the members with similar interests you discovered in the Interests Index to the latest edition of the on-line WARP membership directory. And most of all we hope you have increased your network of like-minded people who are committed to supporting artisans in communities in need around the world. If you have experienced the value of your WARP membership, please renew promptly for 2012.

By the time you read this newsletter, you will have received a membership renewal letter in the mail. You may choose to renew by returning the membership form with any changes and your check, or you may renew through the membership page of the WARP web site and pay through PayPal. Whatever method you choose, please respond as

soon as possible so you won't experience an interruption in your WARP benefits. Your early response saves WARP from incurring the additional costs of reminder mailings.

A reminder, that starting with the 2011 Membership Directory this year, we discontinued sending a paper edition to all members in favor of an on-line version. The on-line Membership Directory is available in a secure "members only" section of the WARP web site. Members can still obtain a paper version of the Spring edition of the Directory each year by requesting it at time of membership renewal and paying \$5.00.

With the 2011 Fall edition, we have added a new feature, an Interests Index. You may now look members up by the eight interest categories they check off on the Membership Form: Ethnic Textiles, Technical Assistance, Materials & Equipment, Museum/History Studies, Teaching, Marketing, Research, and Producing Goods. The additional access should increase the usefulness of the directory. We welcome your feedback on how you are using the Interests Index.

I hope to see many of you at the 20th Annual Meeting in Boulder May 17th to 20th.

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Plan Now for Morocco in May

Join WARP member and anthropologist Susan Schaefer Davis and her travel organizer friend Joan Noble to explore exotic Morocco. Fabulous crafts and textiles, perfumed markets, and delicious food are just a few of the experiences you'll enjoy! But the truly unique feature of these trips is meeting many local people in their homes and villages. We will visit weavers in their village homes, as well as women social activists, a noted woman author, and just ordinary women. We travel over the Atlas Mountains, ride a camel into the dunes of the Sahara, stay in comfortable hotels in Marrakech, Fes, Rabat and the charming seaside town of Essaouira. And in a tent in the Saharal

You can see the full itinerary of the trip on Susan's website at www.marrakeshexpress.org, then click on "Travel" at the bottom of the home page.

Dates and costs: May 19-June 2, 2012; \$3175 per person, based on 11-14 travelers, not including international airfare. It's first come, first served, and to reserve a place you need to pay a deposit of \$500, which you can do now with no risk. If you cancel in writing more than 60 days before departure, you receive a full refund. If you would like more information, or wish to discuss the trip further, please contact Susan Davis at sdavis@uslink.net or Joan Noble, trip organizer and escort, at 800/566-9228 or jungljoan@yahoo.com.

This trip does overlap with part of WARP's annual meeting; Susan is planning to fly direct from CO to NYC to catch an evening flight on the 19th.

For a shorter trip, designed especially for WARP members, please see additional information on page 5.

Member Profiles

Eric Mindling: Creating Awareness in Mexico

Candy Meacham

Far away and long ago (as they say) Eric Mindling was the only male in his weaving classes in college. Prompted to sign up for weaving by what he saw during his college travels in Latin America, Eric got someone to loan him a spinning wheel, bought wool, taught himself to felt, and made shoes with tire soles. During his youthful travels, seeing people making baskets, saddle blankets, rope from sisal, and felted wool hats as well as spinning cotton and wool, dyeing, and weaving interesting clothing on backstrap looms, caught his attention.

Now Eric spends his down time between Oaxaca, Mexico and Ashland, OR. Since his early efforts as a spinner, weaver, and shoemaker, Eric has been more focused on learning about fiber arts and the people behind them in Southern Mexico where he lives. He makes his living running a small cultural tourism company called Traditions Mexico – Hands on Tours. He also earns some income through photography and writing about fiber arts and pottery.

Insatiably curious, Eric has looked deeply into the story of the last sericulturists in Oaxaca, has made true friends among them and now takes people to visit them. Like-

wise with the last of the shell dyers along the Pacific coast. He also worked with the last wool hat felter, trying to find more markets for his beautiful hats until he died a few years ago. Eric feels fortunate that his inquiring mind and work has surrounded his life with traditional weavers from the Mayan highlands to the far reaches of the Guerrero coast; with wool fullers, fine brocade weavers, cotton spinners, flyer shuttle loom jockeys; palm hat and basket plaiters and more.

Eric hopes to continue to introduce people to the amazing world of traditional arts and the rich cultures behind it in Mexico. At the same time he works to create awareness in a broader public about the arts and people of Mexico through media and photography.

Perhaps not quite so long ago Deborah Chandler went on a Traditions Mexico Tour with Eric and told him about WARP. He was thrilled to learn of a community of people who seemed to bring a similar sense to their textile interest.

Contact Eric Mindling at erixmex@yahoo.com; www.traditionsmexico.com

Candy Meacham is an educator, a weaver, and a former WARP board member. She can be reached at candy.meacham@earthlink.net.

WARP Turns 20!

2012 will mark WARP's 20th birthday! Founded in 1992, the organization has grown and matured over the last twenty years, but is no less vigorous and vibrant. Newsletters next year will celebrate with articles about WARP's early history, return visits to projects and people featured in past issues, and stories of how WARP has impacted members.

The WARP Board is also planning several special events, including a 'return to our roots' annual meeting in 2012 in Colorado.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please get in touch with Editor Linda Temple, lgtemple@juno.com. As always, with our focus on networking, the more the merrier! Thanks,

And a Morocco Trip especially for WARP Members!

Let WARP member and anthropologist Susan Schaefer Davis show you her Morocco, the one she's been praising for years – and where she buys those fabulous textiles! Meet her friends and colleagues, enjoy weaving demonstrations and hands-on opportunities, visit women's co-ops and have delicious lunches prepared by local women in tiny villages. All this, along with seeing the beautiful cities and sights of Fes and Marrakech with a superb Moroccan guide; comfortable hotels, private coach, and tasty cuisine, combine to make this truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

The trip is from June 2-10. You can see the full itinerary on Susan's website (www.marrakeshexpress.org); click on 'Travel' at the bottom of the first page, then on 'WARP Trip' on the next page.

Dates and cost: June 2-10, 2012 - \$1,995 per person, based on 15-20 people in double accommodation; \$1,795 per person, based on 21-25 people in double accommodation; single supplement: \$480; does not include international airfare

To reserve a place you need to pay a deposit of \$500, which you can do now with no risk. If you cancel in writing more than 60 days before departure, you receive a full refund; you must pay in full at least 50 days before departure. If you would like more information, or wish to discuss the trip further, please contact Susan Davis at sdavis@uslink.net or Joan Noble, trip organizer and escort, at 800/566-9228 or jungljoan@yahoo.com.

For a longer trip, please see additional information on page 4.

Proposals Sought for Annual Meeting Presentations

Philis Alvic, Chair, Presentation Day Committee

There's still time to register....

Get Hooked on Guatemala:

A textile-focused Rug Hooking Tour from February 17–26, 2012.

This intimate 10-day tour is limited to just twelve participants. All proceeds benefit Thirteen Threads, a non-profit indigenous women's empowerment and non-formal education organization working throughout Guatemala since 2004. \$1695 + airfare (Price is based on double occupancy hotel accommodations. Single occupancy available).

To view the brochure, Google "Get Hooked on Guatemala." To register or for more information, contact Jody Slocum at 715/643-3603 or email the Guatemalan hosts: thirteenthreads@gmail.com

We are seeking proposals for 15 minute presentations about something you experienced that you would like to share with WARP members at our annual meeting. This could be tales of working with a group in the US or an exotic remote place, the trials of selling beautiful expensive textiles, or any topic that you feel that members who like textiles and international places would be interested in hearing more about. We encourage visuals and we love samples to touch.

We are also going to schedule plenty of time for discussion after the presentations. Moderators will be needed. So, if you have the ability to keep an orderly conversation going, please volunteer.

If you have a great idea for a presentation, please write about 200 words describing what you would like to do. Also,

write about 50 words about yourself because some of us might not be aware of your background. Please, also, let me know your technology or space needs. If you have additional questions, contact me at philis@philisalvic.info or 859/276-0356, and I will be happy to answer.

The presentation day will be Friday, May 18, 2012 at the Boulder, CO meeting.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is February 1, 2012, although I would be really happy if you submit something before that.

I'll be happy to receive electronic submissions at my e-mail address, philis@philisalvic.info. Or if you want to do the paper with words and the envelope and stamp thing, I can be found at 2815 Phoenix Road, Lexington, KY 40503.

ClothRoads Launches Online Marketplace

ClothRoads, an online global textile marketplace, is dedicated to supporting makers across the globe who want to preserve their cultural cloth-making heritage while adapting it to the modern global marketplace.

Every product has a story. Each is made by artisans who have a tradition of expressing their fine craft through the making of cloth and other products. In villages and cooperatives across Africa, Asia, and Latin America, on homesteads in Eastern Europe or the Middle East, ClothRoads seeks out handmade textiles, handspun yarns from locally-sourced fibers, and maker's tools and supplies.

Learn about indigo and other natural dyes, the many approaches to backstrap

weaving, intricate braiding, and colorful knitting. Meet the artisans, hear their stories, and visit their villages. Cloth Roads: beautiful artisan-made cloth and goods to wear, to adorn your home, to give as gifts, and to cherish.

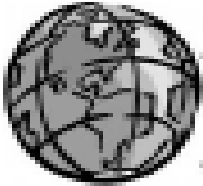
Marilyn Murphy and four partners are journeying down this road together. If you are interested in knowing more, visit www.clothroads.com or contact Marilyn at murphy@clothroads.com.

Marilyn Murphy is the former president of Interweave Press, the former owner of the Weaving Workshop and founder of the Textile Arts Centre in Chicago. Since her retirement from Interweave in May 2010, she's been able to pursue her life's passion of textiles in a very different way.

Share WARP with a CD or slide show!

Carole Pierce reports that the WARP CD is on its way to St. Paul, MN.

There is also a showing scheduled for April 2012. If you are interested in reserving either the slide show or CD, perhaps to accompany your UPAVIM/Mayan Hands sale, contact Carole at cpierce@mis.net.



Morocco: Berber Rugs

Part 2: Flatweave of the Middle Atlas Mountains

The Berbers of the High Atlas are settled farmers, as opposed to the tribes of the Middle Atlas, who are traditionally nomads or semi-nomads. Both groups have strong weaving traditions, in flatweave as well as pile-weave. Possibly due to differences in lifestyle and environment their textiles are quite distinct in technique, patterns, and embellishment.

The High Atlas flatwoven textiles are weft-faced and reversible, whereas those of the Middle Atlas have floats in the back, which are created with a technique referred to as skip plain weave. In order to avoid the use of overly-long floats, the Middle Atlas flatweave sometimes incorporates tapestry techniques for the larger motifs that include colors that do not run across the entire width; only the background color runs from selvedge to selvedge, and each of the other colors are woven only in the small area of the pattern where it is wanted.

In both the High Atlas and the Middle Atlas, the traditional patterns are based on simple geometric designs—diamonds, triangles, herringbones, zigzags, and checker boards. But there are regional differences in how these motifs are arranged. In particular, the rugs made by the farmers of the High Atlas have clear centers and well defined borders or frames. On the other hand, the nomads' traditional rugs are, more often than not, patterned in selvedge-to-selvedge stripes, and are neither centered, nor with clear borders.

The simplest designs incorporate single-colored strips only. The more complex pieces alternate single-colored bands with patterned bands. One can still identify the tribal affiliation of the weaver by studying the combination of colors used, percentage and width of the patterned stripes, and the complexity and intricacy of the designs.

For example, the patterns in the Zemmour flatweave are dense and intricate, and their rugs can often be identified from afar by the abundant use of various shades of red. The Zayan pieces are similar to the Zemmour, but they are more colorful, the stripes are wider, the patterned stripes are farther apart, and their designs are larger and bolder. The Beni Ouarain use flatweave for the women's shawls, where the single color stripes are relatively sparse, and are often white. Most of the stripes are finely patterned in black and white, and usually no two patterned stripes are alike.

Many of the Middle Atlas flatwoven pieces, whether they are rugs, pillows, or shawls are embellished with bands of knotted tufts of wool. But of all the distinguishing features of Middle Atlas flatwoven textiles the glitter of the sequins is by far the most eye-catching—many Berber weavers of the Middle Atlas sew sequins onto their handwoven pieces, which add life and sparkle to the textiles.

Resources:

Susan Schaeffer Davis, anthropologist,
WARP member

The Maker's Hand: A Close Look at Textile Structures, by Peter Collingwood, Bellew Publishing, London.

The Fabric of Moroccan Life, edited by Niloo Imami Paydar and Ivo Grammet, Indianapolis Museum of Art

From the Far West: Carpets and Textiles of Morocco, edited by Patricia L. Fiske, W. Russell Pickering, and Ralph Y. Yosse, The Textile Museum, Washington, DC.

<http://tinyurl.com/3qo66jf>

<http://d2ssd.com/www-source/index.htm>

<http://tinyurl.com/446wjr7>

<http://tinyurl.com/44wt44m>

Deborah Brandon is a multi-talented mathematician and former board member. She can be reached at 412/963-7416 or at brandon@andrew.cmu.edu

Please consider making an end-of-year donation to Weave A Real Peace. WARP is designated a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service, and all donations are tax deductible in the US. If you wish, you can designate your donation be added to the Scholarship Fund, the Endowment Fund, or the General Fund. Mail donations to WARP 3102 Classen Blvd. PMB 249 Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Return of the Corn Mothers Exhibition Travels to Denver

Judy Newland

Textile Museum Celebrates African Craft and Culture

The Textile Museum in Washington, DC, is hosting six multi-sensory experiences around African craft, culture, food, and dance from November 2011 through February 2012. The richness of the arts of Africa will be explored through this multi-faceted series of programs. Based around the exhibition *Weaving Abstraction: Kuba Textiles and the Woven Art of Central Africa*, which showcases the rich tradition of raffia weaving and embroidery from the region, each program opens a window into broader cultural understanding. For more information, visit the Museum's website at www.textilemuseum.org

The story continues... this award winning photographic exhibition features the stories and portraits of multigenerational and multi-cultural women of the Southwest. It is based on the Pueblo myth of the Corn Mother, a legendary entity synonymous with Mother Earth, who represents growth, life, creativity, and the feminine aspects of the world.

From Taos, NM to the Hopi mesas of AZ, the oral traditions of storytelling continue to shape the living culture of the Pueblo peoples. Historically, one central figure in these traditions has been the Corn Mother, the giver of life. Although her influence diminished with the coming of the Spanish conquest and the introduction of Christianity, Pueblo communities still preserve their knowledge of the Corn Mother. Some legends say that she will return one day to bring harmony and enlightenment.

Today's Corn Mothers are women who live, study, and work in the Southwest: AZ, CO, NM, and northern TX. Some are native, indigenous to this region. Others have journeyed here, as thousands have done for centuries, from other places. They share an ability to pull from the past all that is sacred and holy, and to create a future that is filled with promise.

The exhibition's focus is on contemporary Corn Mothers, women who have earned accolades for community activism and creative endeavors. Each photographic portrait features the biography and philosophies of one woman, as well

as a story about her own Corn Mother, a woman who influenced and helped mentor and mold her into the woman she is today.

After opening in Denver in 2007, we hosted the exhibition at the ASU Museum of Anthropology in the fall of 2010. I became part of the ongoing project and wrote my story, which I presented in video format at the 2011 WARP annual meeting. In August 2012 the exhibit returns to Denver and will open at the Denver Center for the Visual Arts, Metro State College.

The exhibition evolves as it adds new Corn Mother stories along with art created by some of the participants. Renee Fajardo, the curator, invited me to exhibit my woven people along with my video story during this next iteration. I visited the space in May and it promises to be an exciting venue. I will also be teaching a workshop on natural dyeing with indigo and an eco-dyeing process. I am encouraging Renee to include in the Corn Mother group two of my young graduate students from Latina and Native American backgrounds who are a positive force in their Southwest communities. This is how the exhibition evolves, grows and continues.

Renee Fajardo, the curator and artistic creator of the project, dreamed for over a decade of recording the magic of these women. She is currently coordinator at Metropolitan State College of Denver Journey Through Our Heritage Program where she continues to find ways to share the Corn Mother stories with multiple audiences.

Reminder: *WARP's membership year comes to an end 12/31.*

Early in November, you received, by surface mail, a membership form to return if there are changes to your personal information, as well as a reminder of dues categories/amounts and the three types of tax deductible donations you can make to WARP: the general fund, the Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship fund, or the endowment fund, and an addressed envelope. Please return your dues and donations as quickly as possible to prevent costs of future mailings. Thanks!

WARP is Expanding into New Social Networks

Katie Simmons

Communication and seeking out like-minded individuals have always been important aspects of WARP. Social networks are a perfect medium for us to expand our membership, communicate effectively, and get our message out there. The two most popular social networks are Facebook and Twitter. With the growth of smart phones, iPads, and other mobile devices, usage of social media sites is skyrocketing. Think about how often you see the familiar blue bird from Twitter or the "Find us on Facebook!" message in advertising each day! Businesses and organizations can benefit greatly from a strong presence on these sites, as it is a way to freely and effectively cultivate fans, friends, and have fun doing it.

You can easily find us on Facebook, just search "weave a real peace, facebook" on your favorite search engine (or link from WARP's website). One of the major benefits of Facebook is that members are able to communicate with non-members in an open forum (not to mention that it has a web presence world-wide and over 800 million active users). Feel free to post updates on the Facebook wall with ideas and events you would like to share.

Twitter is our newest venture. Twitter is like an online message board that allows interaction by using key words. Hashtags (#) are placed at the beginning of your topi-

cal word, such as #WARP and anyone then searching for that word on Twitter will automatically see your post! For example, you may want to advertise an event, so you could type: #WARP 2012, our annual meeting, will be held 17-20 May at the Boulder Outlook Hotel in Boulder, CO. Join us! #weaving

On Twitter you're able to "follow" peoples' posts and others can "follow" yours. As of publication we have thirteen people following us and we are following fifty-four other 'tweeters.' Although relatively new on the site, those who are following us have others following them which helps to expand our network. Though not as prolific as Facebook, Twitter maintains strong user growth and a diverse member base. If you are interested in following us, the address is <http://twitter.com/#!/WeaveARealPeace>.

Of course WARP continues to have a presence on other more interest specific social networks such as the WARP Yahoo Discussion Group, which is for members exclusively. We are also on Ravelry and Weaveolution. Check us out at ravelry.com/account/login. Sign in and click on groups. From there look up Weave a Real Peace. The same steps go for Weaveolution at <http://www.weaveolution.com> (be sure to scroll all of the way down to find us). If you haven't dipped your toes into the latest social media waters, dive on in, there's a lot to see, share, and enjoy!
Katie can be reached at ktd26@hotmail.com.

New Members

Wendy Craytor
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574/299-0888 (h)
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Host a Fair Trade After-Christmas Sale

Plan a fair trade After Christmas Sale to support fair trade and help Guatemalan textile artisans and WARP all at once. Host a sale of Guatemalan crafts from UPAVIM (www.upavim.org) and Mayan Hands (www.mayanhands.org)! You can do it with your guild, your church, your friends, or at work,

Here's how you do it: contact UPAVIM Crafts and Mayan Hands via Kathleen Balogh, Consignment Coordinator for UPAVIM and MH at 301/515-5911 or Kathleen@upavim-mayanhands.org. Tell Kathleen you want to set up a sale, giving your date and approximate number of people

expected to attend. Kathleen will send you a box of priced crafts. You sell them. Then pack up what is left with a check for the total amount you took in and contact Kathleen by email for a shipping label (to be e-mailed to you). Get the return package to a UPS store and ship it back. That's all there is to it!

UPAVIM and Mayan Hands will give 40% of the profits after shipping expenses back to WARP! The products sell themselves and a sale is a great way to bring people together. By selling fair trade products you make a huge difference in people's lives and help WARP at the same time.

GoodWeave Seeks Partners in Afghanistan

Following the model the organization has honed over more than 15 years in South Asia, GoodWeave is expanding its operations into Afghanistan. GoodWeave's programs will include locally managed inspection and monitoring as well as social initiatives focused on children's education.

The organization will help improve the country's access to international rug markets, reduce child labor and put more adults back to work.

GoodWeave estimates the first child-labor-free certified rugs produced in Afghanistan to be available by early 2012. GoodWeave will work with a wide range of local partners

in Afghanistan's carpet-weaving regions to ensure a sustainable, comprehensive approach to supporting weaving communities. In particular, GoodWeave is seeking non-governmental organizations as well as exporters, importers and other stakeholders operating in the region, interested in working with the organization. For more information on partnership opportunities, contact GoodWeave's program manager for Afghanistan, Beth Huber, beth@goodweave.org

20th Annual WARP Conference & Celebration Reflection and Renewal

2012 WARP Annual Meeting - May 17th-20th, 2012 - Boulder, CO

Thursday

Tour: Schacht Spindle Co

Shop: Shuttles, Spindles, and Skeins, Bead for Life, MomentuM,
Dushanbe Tea House

Introductions

Friday

Presentations and Discussions about your projects

(Contact Philis Alvic, philis@philisalvic.info)

Saturday

Colorado Weavers Day (separate registration) www.rmweaversguild.org

\$45 before April 1, 2012; \$50 after April 1, 2012. Registration includes lunch.

Speakers: Deborah Chandler, Sarah Saulson, Anita Luvera Mayer, Edwina Bringle

Sunday

WARP Annual Business Meeting

Boulder Outlook Hotel

book your room now at www.boulderoutlook.com

special rate \$89.00 per room, breakfast included

WARP's 2012 Annual Meeting Celebrates 20th Year!

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if you register before April 1, 2012, \$50 after this date. The registration fee includes lunch. Registration opens January 1, 2012. Check out their website for special events surrounding Colorado Weavers Day.

Optional activities include visiting Schacht Spindle Company (www.schachtspindle.com) for a tour; shopping at Shuttles, Spindles, and Skeins (www.shuttlesspindlesandskeins.com), at Bead for Life shop/headquarters in Boulder (www.beadforlife.org), and at MomentuM, a wonderful fair trade shop (www.ourmomentum.com); and possibly having dinner

at the Dushanbe Tea House, a stunning gift to the City of Boulder from the City of Dushanbe, Tashikistan (www.boulder-teahouse.com). All of these are conveniently located within 10 minutes of the hotel.

Please see Philis Alvic's article on page 6 requesting presentations of your projects. We would like to hear from you and there will be plenty of time for discussion.

The marketplace, auction, and seeing wonderful friends will also be included at this spectacular 20th anniversary meeting in Boulder, CO. Please join us in celebrating our organization.

The new **full color WARP brochure** is now available from Sarah Saulson (sfsaulson@twcny.rr.com). Gail Mathews at Schacht Spindle donated her services to update the design of the brochure. Mary Kelly found the color version of her photograph that had been used previously. Jane Patrick graciously photographed her rug.

We would like to thank each of them on behalf of WARP.

2012 WARP Annual Meeting Registration

May 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th
Boulder, CO - Outlook Hotel

Registration form with payment due to WARP by 3/1/2012

(Registrations will be accepted after March 1, with a \$25 late fee)

Accommodations: You must book your own hotel room, @www.boulderoutlook.com, \$89.00 per room includes breakfast; to share costs with a roommate/s, post a request on the WARP discussion group, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WeaveARealPeace>. If you are not currently a member of the discussion group, you can join from that page. This group is only available to WARP members.

Meals: Friday lunch will be included in your registration;
all other meals will be at your discretion.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

____ YES, sign me up for 2012 WARP ANNUAL MEETING for \$125

____ Yes, I plan to attend Colorado Weavers Day on May 19th and I understand I must register online at www.rmweaversguild.org after January 1 and before April 1, 2012

____ I plan to participate in the Marketplace

____ I would like to contribute to WARP's scholarship fund to help pay for students to attend the meeting. \$_____ (add donation amount to registration fee.)

Special Needs: _____

Questions? Please email: laircowgirl@msn.com

Complete this form and send it, with your check or money order (US funds) made out to WARP to

Jackie Abrams

21 Howard St.

Brattleboro, VT 05301

IMPORTANT

If you plan to attend the 2012 WARP Annual Meeting, please

- 1) complete the form at left and send before March 1, 2012, with \$125 registration fee to Jackie Abrams;
- 2) register online at rmweaversguild.org after January 1 and before April 1, 2012, to attend the Colorado Weaver's Day event; and
- 3) make reservations for your room for either/both of the above events by contacting the Boulder Outlook Hotel at www.boulderoutlook.com



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

It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

Exhibit in LA inspired by *Women Hold Up Half the Sky*

The Skirball Cultural Center, in Los Angeles, presents the original exhibition **Women Hold Up Half the Sky** from October 27, 2011 through March 11, 2012. Inspired by the critically acclaimed book *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* (Knopf, 2009), by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, the exhibition addresses the worldwide oppression of women and girls as the human rights cause of our time. Stories of women from around the globe who have changed their lives through education, economics, and self-determination are told through documentary photographs, visual art, sound installations, and interactive gallery experiences, including the opportunity to provide a micro-loan to a woman entrepreneur. Celebrating the individual's role in workable solutions, **Women Hold Up Half the Sky** is an uplifting call to action.

For those of us not able to attend, the exhibit web site (<http://www.skirball.org/half-the-sky>) is excellent, provid-

ing photos, videos, and audios about the exhibit. Perhaps most helpful are the resources provided to “take action” and to “take a stand.” Included are links to A Window Between Worlds (AWBW), a nonprofit organization dedicated to using art to help end domestic violence (<http://www.awbw.org/awbw>); the International Museum of Women (<http://www.imow.org/home/index>), a groundbreaking social change museum that inspires global action, connects people across borders and transforms hearts and minds by amplifying the voices of women worldwide through global online exhibitions, history, the arts and cultural programs. Also Women for Women International (<http://www.womenforwomen.org/help-women/half-the-sky.php>), who works with socially excluded women in eight countries where war and conflict have devastated lives and communities, providing women access to both knowledge and resources.



Photos by Les Stone