

Weave A Real Peace

Annual Report - 1997



1997 proved that WARP members play a dynamic role in textile communities around the globe. Members have devoted their time, technical expertise, and fundraising skills in response to Hurricane Pauline in Mexico, civil rights issues in Guatemala, the demise of the ATO Pueblo to People, and to the continuing struggles of Bosnian refugees. As an organization committed to bettering the lives of women and the communities in which they live, we are challenged to adequately respond to numerous requests for assistance. Meeting the needs of indigenous artisans in Chiapas, Nicaragua, Ivory Coast, and Indonesia has motivated WARP members to make a difference in a world which may often seem complacent. It is this spirit, we'd like to think, that invites new members and assures renewing members that what we do is vitally important to the well-being of others.

From the President:

Spring. Renewal. Rebirth. Each year at this time we take another look at WARP and ask the same questions: what were our plans and goals for the past year, how many did we meet, and what do we want to do in the year ahead? And every year the answers are the same: we met some, we wish we could have accomplished more, and we have new ideas for how to be more effective in the next year. Sounds simple enough.

But in thinking about all that, I've stumbled onto a paradox. At first glance it seems merely a matter of semantics, but I think it actually reaches deeper, into our understanding of what we want WARP to be. From time to time one of us on the board will say, "How about if we do ____?", always some great, if perhaps unrealistic, idea. And often the response is, "Remember, WARP doesn't DO anything, it exists to share information about what its members do." Oh, yeah. I knew that.

But is that really true? Even if the only things we did were the newsletter and the annual conference/meeting, those are things we are doing. But only for sharing information, so that's okay. The membership directory: for sharing. Marketplace: well, exposure for members' projects, so that's still sharing of info---in 3D. The slide show: definitely sharing. Publishing pamphlets on topics of interest to members or others needing education: certainly within our mission, education. But researching, writing, and publishing new material is a big "do," way beyond sharing of what already exists. And what about our dream of helping create a high quality ethnic textile program? Certainly within our mission, and just as certainly "doing something."

Those of us who have been with WARP awhile have repeatedly had to face the yo-yo reality of an infinite supply of great (and appropriate!) ideas, perpetually pulled up short by a finite supply of resources. Since there is no reason to think that this dichotomy is going to ease up any time soon, maybe we need to back up a step and take a harder look at the earlier question: where is the necessary line between sharing information about what exists, on the one hand, and on the other hand creating new and valuable goods (like publications) and services (like the ethnic textile program). Sharing what exists vs. creating new.

Put another way, is WARP to be passive or active? Many of our members are active individually. Is there enough more energy available to make WARP active too? All WARP members (who choose to) have an equal say in what goes on. What do you think? Which should we be aiming for? And what can you do to help move us in that direction, whichever you vote for?

Shalom,
Deborah
Summary of 1997 activities:

- Funding** Gage Evans, with help from Peggy Whitehead, Jeanne Nash, and Carol Kelly, raised over \$400 for WARP from t-shirt and textile sales at the Intermountain Weavers Conference in Ft. Collins, CO in August. Also, as we dream of providing a salary for an Executive Director and initiating new textile projects, as well as maintaining current WARP activities, Linda Temple officially began working on a grant request, and hopes to proceed toward achieving this goal in 1998.
- Donations** Once again, WARP has benefited in 1997 from several generous donations. A \$1000 donation to the WARP Endowment Fund was received from Bill Green (Deborah Chandler's father). Additional donations brought the combined total to \$2800 (which included \$1000 designated for a photocopy machine). Thus, tax exempt donations significantly increased this year. Rocio Vasquez, affiliated with AMACUP in Mexico, initiated a campaign to assist artisans affected by Hurricane Pauline on the Pacific coast. Deborah Chandler directed a second fundraising effort on behalf of Latin American producer groups when Pueblo to People operations folded this year.
- Education** With critique, revised text, and new photographs, the WARP slide show officially began its U.S. tour in July. Textile classes, weaving guilds, and workshops in Seattle; Brookings, SD; Winfield, PA; San Diego; and San Francisco applauded our efforts to provide cross-cultural education and appreciation of textiles. The program is booked through October 1998 with stops from Texas to Canada. Debbie Durham is the contact for loans of this engaging one-hour show.
- Publications** The Education Committee, composed of Sandra Neissen, Kate Bobrow-Strain, and Marilyn Anderson, are working to develop "A Directory of Instructional Resources on Cross-Cultural Textiles". Sandra will be distributing a questionnaire in 1998 among international organizations which offer textile courses and workshops.

An initiative by Deborah Chandler to publish a guide on "Starting an Alternative Trading Organization" is on hold as of this writing. Deborah received a lot of good feedback which she appreciated.

- Member Outreach** WARP members have really been working hard! A 1997 goal to publish the newsletter quarterly (as originally intended) was achieved thanks to Editor Sarah Beyer. Carol Kelly did an expert job getting the newsletter printed and distributed in a timely manner. Carol is also responsible for membership renewals, general inquiries, and for creating an E-mail network of WARP members. Again this year, Beth Davis and Carol Pierce compiled the 1997-98 Annual Membership Directory, an enormous organizational task! Donna Duke has been taking care of our IRS responsibilities, a major relief for the rest of us.

Former WARP newsletter editor Gage Evans devoted a great deal of energy to the sale of WARP T-shirts made from 100% recycled cotton, complete with our logo and "Dare to Share" inscribed on the back. Design and production assistance was contributed by Carol Kelly and Lolli Jacobson respectively. Ann Adams organized and promoted *Christmas Shopping With WARP*, featured in the November newsletter. Despite the tenacious efforts of Candy Meacham, Convergence '98 organizers did not accept WARP's offer to source handwoven conference bags from Latin American artisan groups. WARP members are scheduled, however, to lead a seminar at the Atlanta conference. Deborah Chandler organized the 1998 Annual Meeting to be held in New Windsor, Maryland with an expected attendance of 32! Deborah is also introducing WARP at the Iowa Federation of Handweavers and Spinners all day event on May 2, 1998 in Ames, Iowa. The program will include slide presentations and workshops presented by Karen Searle, Chris Switzer, Wendy Weiss, and Ruth and Morris Johnson. Debbie Durham will serve as local host and coordinate the International Marketplace at the meeting. There's lots happening!

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1997 Revenue/Expense Summary

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Newsletters (4@\$300; postage, fax expenses/ proofing, professional print)	\$1200.00	1040.14	\$159.86
Directory (includes postage)	600.00	667.07	-67.07
Bank Charges	-0-	-0-	-0-
Brochure printing	1000.00	-0-	1000.00
Phone (includes 3 Board conference calls)	250.00	120.94	129.06
Governing Board Travel/Meeting	500.00	-0-	500.00
Electronic Bulletin Board	-0-	-0-	-0-
Office Supplies (includes Software)	300.00	902.91 ¹	-602.91
General postage	400.00	365.23	34.77
General printing	150.00	316.27	-166.27
Fundraising	-0-	-0-	-0-
To endowment	300.00	see below ²	300.00 (see below)
Miscellaneous	100.00	367.05 ³	-267.05
1997 Annual Meeting	200.00	-0-	200.00
	<u>\$5000.00</u>	<u>\$3779.61</u>	<u>\$1220.39</u>
<u>Revenue</u>			
1997 Memberships (200@\$15)	3000.00	2839.00	-161.00
1998 Dues	-0-	1111.00	1111.00
1998 Meeting	-0-	500.00	500.00
1999 Dues	-0-	15.00	15.00
Fundraising	500.00	-0-	-500.00
Donations, Grants, Inc.	1200.00	1430.00	230.00
Hurricane Fund	-0-	150.00	150.00
Sales	-0-	414.14	414.14
1997 Annual Meeting	200.00	190.84	-9.16
Journal articles, presentations, etc. (10% of receipts)	100.00	-0-	-100.00
	<u>\$5000.00</u>	<u>\$6649.98</u>	<u>\$1649.98</u>

Balance Sheet

Assets	
Cash and Bank Accounts (checking)	\$4178.59
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	4178.59
Other Assets	
WARP endowment	2608.60 ⁴
Total Assets	\$6787.19
Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	0.00
Equity	\$6787.19
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$6787.19

¹Includes \$780.39 for a copier; \$1000 donation received for same.

²A transfer of \$1186 was made to the endowment fund from 1996 funds: \$1000 donation (\$500 for endowment, \$500 for education) and \$186 from 10% of 1996 due.

³Includes membership dues to FTF, legal consults, slide show expenses.

⁴\$1186 as explained in #2 above, plus \$1400 donation directly to endowment fund and interest (\$22.60).

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Weave A Real Peace was organized as a resource for the sharing of ideas and information, with a mission to facilitate empowerment and betterment of women and communities-in-need through textile arts. The goals of the organization are:

1. To foster dialogue and support within the organization
2. To serve as a clearinghouse for information, resources, and technical assistance within the international textile community
3. To provide cross-cultural education and support within the textile community
4. To provide guidance in the realities of appropriate assistance
5. To promote appreciation of textiles which reflect a community's culture or tradition
6. To enrich the lives of individuals in the global textile community through cross-cultural exchange

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